



Supporting justice — David Cutler found a career in the justice system after graduating from Oswego and, with Catherine Lovell, has donated \$100,000 to support the college's public justice department.

Colorado couple endows fund for public justice

An alumni husband and wife who have helped turn people's lives around in the state of Colorado have returned to their roots to help students in SUNY Oswego's public justice program.

David Cutler, who graduated from Oswego in 1974, and Catherine Lovell, who graduated in 1976, have donated \$100,000 through their ACTC Foundation to create an "excellence fund" for the public justice department.

The foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Arapahoe Community Treatment Center, a community corrections facility for adult male felony offenders that Cutler founded more than two decades ago.

"Excellence funds such as this provide a margin of excellence for our academic programs that is extremely important to us," said President Deborah F. Stanley. "David and Catherine's generosity will have a direct impact on our students and faculty in public justice, and we are honored that their alma mater is the first recipient of a grant from their new foundation."

Lovell is president of the foundation. "When thinking of the gift, Oswego was in the forefront for it," she said. Cutler concurred. "You try to think of what's important in your life," he said of the philanthropic process. "We both thought Oswego changed our lives for the better."

Though there was no public justice major when Cutler graduated from Oswego, the program reflects his life's work.

"This gift has the potential to be the catalyst for some important new initiatives in the public justice department," said Arts and Sciences Dean Sara Varhus. "It might be used to support undergraduate projects or special internships students might not be able to afford or collaborative projects between students and faculty." She added that the funds might be used for student participation in professional conferences and meetings, collaborative projects in the community, a speaker series or professional-in-residence, or a prize for a student paper.

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New science facility opens 'really hot field' to students, faculty

The move among the sciences at SUNY Oswego to collaborate and think across disciplines got a big boost from the National Science Foundation this month. The federal agency funded nearly \$250,000 of equipment that can be used in biology and chemistry classes as well as in the current research of two biology and four chemistry professors.

Anthony Ouellette, who joined the biology faculty a year ago, is the principal investigator on the NSF grant. He said that the new facility consisting of a mass spectrometer and associated proteomics equipment could be operational in Snygg Hall as early as January.

Ouellette's colleagues on the project are Webe Kadima, Martha Bruch, Casey Raymond and Kestutis Bendinskas from the chemistry department and Al Lackey of the biology department.

The new proteomics and mass spectrometry facility will open up opportunities for faculty and students in the growing field of proteomics — the study of all the proteins in a cell at any given time, Ouellette said.

"It's a really hot, important field right now and becoming more and more important," he said. "This is a good time to get this facility."

Following the completion of the human genome project, proteomics has become a focus of medical and pharmaceutical research, with career opportunities for today's students, he noted.

"To fully understand what's going on in a cell, you need to be able to look at the proteins," Ouellette said. "Most genes encode for proteins. Proteins are really the key."

Diversity of applications

The mass spectrometer is a tool that helps to identify and analyze many kinds of molecules — biological, organic and inorganic. At Oswego, it will be used in biology, chemistry and biochemistry courses, in research by undergraduate students in these fields and graduate students in chemistry, and in research by faculty members.

Among the research projects first to use the new facility will be Ouellette's study of cyanotoxins in local waterways, including Fulton's Lake Neahtawanta, Bendinskas' efforts to develop a simple test for the

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Faculty to provide expertise to Wayne County history teaching project

More than 100,000 students throughout the Finger Lakes region may learn history in a different way, thanks to the efforts of Oswego faculty members.

History and curriculum and instruction professors from SUNY Oswego will provide professional and curriculum development under a federal Teaching American History grant received by the Eastern Wayne County Rural Public Schools Consortium. The North Rose-Wolcott Central School District received the \$779,000 U.S. Department of Education grant in partnership with three other Wayne County districts that serve mostly rural populations.

Out of 122 grants awarded in 2004, 17 of them came to New York state, but few support rural districts like the one that involves Oswego.

"It's a good example of a partnership between the college and K through 12 teachers in American history," said Douglas Deal, professor and chair of history. "We hope everyone involved will learn something

about what the others are doing and establish some long-lasting ties in the process."

SUNY Oswego's participation includes organizing and leading summer on-campus institutes for scholastic history teachers in 2005, 2006 and 2007. Around 75 teachers who serve 5,000 students in a 300-square-mile radius in Wayne County are expected to participate each year in the summer institutes.

Trying to enhance teaching efforts by making the process of learning more engaging and concrete to students is a major goal. For example, when teachers have their students engage in role-playing or hypothesizing different results, learners can gain a deeper understanding of historical events, Deal said. Finding human-interest angles is an example of one approach that works for all levels, he added.

"The themes include focusing on understanding certain episodes in our nation's history and finding different routes to common ground," Deal explained.

This will include examining how different perspectives influence the recording and teaching of history.

For instance, the historical record of the War of 1812 would look different from Iroquois or Canadian perspectives compared to what is normally taught in U.S. schools, Deal noted.

"There are a lot of complexities to historic events, and the pictures developed after the facts are often worked into a simplified master narrative," he added.

The weeklong institutes at Oswego will each tackle different periods of history. The summer 2005 session will cover early America through 1812, the next year growth and change in 20th century America, the third year late 19th into early 20th century.

Plans call for teachers who attend the summer institutes at Oswego to mentor and instruct 300 other elementary and secondary teachers within a four-county Finger Lakes region. This second wave of

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College trends

Accountability or else

“Public and private colleges should disclose more information about their academic policies and financial practices, and should make themselves more accountable to the public, Carol T. Christ, president of Smith College, said [in July] at the annual meeting of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. As the cost of higher education rises, and as institutions continue to diversify their income streams, the demand for increased accountability from the public will grow — and colleges and universities must put into place their own standards before the government does it for them, Ms. Christ said. . . . ‘When people see a good, a product, as at once critically important and expensive, they become concerned about who has access to it, how it is distributed, and why it costs what it does,’ Ms. Christ said. . . . Ms. Christ . . . said that private colleges should strive for the same disclosure standards as their public counterparts, which must reveal salaries, budget information, and admission criteria. . . . Ms. Christ also called on fund raisers to take a look at the conditions they accept with gifts and grants, and examine their relationships with corporations and with donors who seek to advance political agendas through donations. . . . Ms. Christ said, a candid discussion of how colleges and universities assess academic quality is also important. . . . Ms. Christ suggested the creation of a national databank that would allow institutions to benchmark themselves and their performance against one another. Such a system, she said, would provide the information to help students and parents make better decisions and ‘deflect legislative initiatives to impose misguided accountability requirements.’ . . . ‘Once you enter a climate dominated by demands for accountability, you have already experienced an erosion of public trust,’ Ms. Christ said.”

— *Academe Today, The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 13, 2004

Technology and learning

“Colleges have spent a lot of money putting technology in the classroom, and while the innovations have made courses more convenient, the spending has yet to have a large impact on learning, according to a new survey of students. The survey, of 4,374 freshmen and seniors at 13 colleges of all types, was conducted this year by the Educause Center for Applied Research, a group supported by 300 colleges and several corporate sponsors interested in academic technology. According to a draft report on the survey, 48.5 percent of respondents said the biggest benefit of classroom technology is convenience, such as the ability to check grades online. Only 12.7 percent of the students said improved learning was the greatest benefit, and 3.7 percent said technology provided no benefit at all in the classroom.”

— *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Aug. 4, 2004

Distance learning plods ahead

“Five years ago e-learning was everybody’s buzz, offering the promise of a trillion-dollar market wrapped around the prospect of learning anytime, anywhere. All that is gone, replaced by a pervading sense of disappointment. . . . For e-learning to come closer to fulfilling its potential, those who promote and support it should talk less and deliver more. . . . E-learning requires a dominant design. . . . For a dominant design to emerge will probably require one or more of the principal vendors of course-management systems to make a substantial investment in standardization. . . . Over the next decade, advancement in e-learning is likely to be slow, probably best described as plodding. . . . E-learning is still alive and kicking. . . . Ultimately, the lure of learning anytime anywhere will prove irresistible.”

— *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 9, 2004

People in action



Quarter-century service — A number of college employees were honored for their years of service during Oswego’s annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony. Among those celebrating 25 years on campus were, from left, Charles Haws of physical plant, Daniel Fitzpatrick of University Police, Janet Ormsby of the curriculum and instruction department and Edward McMahon of physical plant. Also honored but not available for the photo were Dean Baker of Campus Technology Services; and David Falanga, William Lawton, Kenneth Millar, James Sweet and Norbert Woodard, all from the physical plant.

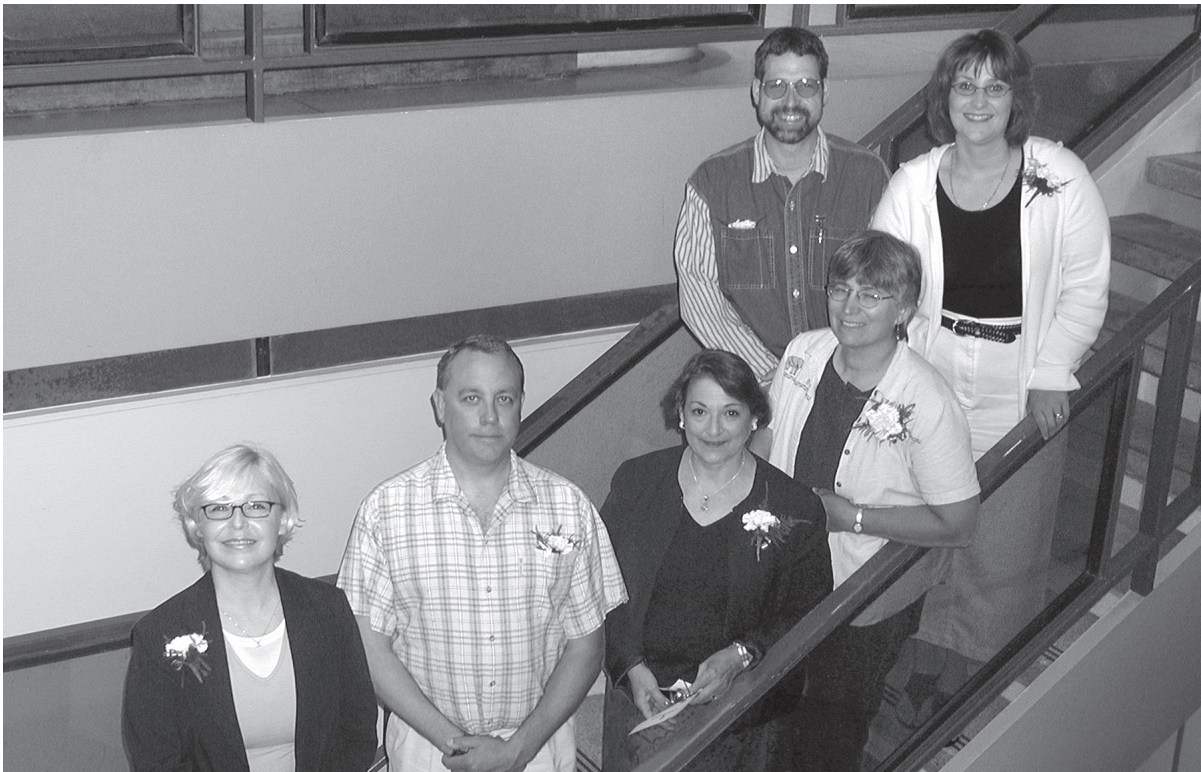
Eight students studying German at Oswego earned internationally recognized certificates of their German language skills by passing the Goethe Institute’s prestigious Zertifikat Deutsch examination. Students who received Goethe Institute certificates attesting to their competencies in speaking, reading, writing and understanding spoken German were **Angela Barnes, Luce Brunier, Laurent Gauthier, Heather Lynch, Marilyn Pollet, Melissa Sierson, Marie Vargo and Steven White**. Oswego’s German program earned a 100 percent score, with all of its students who signed up to take the examination passing it. White did so well on the examination that he was invited to take a higher-level examination, the Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung, normally given to graduate students. He achieved a superior rating on that examination as well. The Goethe Institute is an arm of the Federal Republic of Germany that is charged with promoting the study of German language and culture worldwide.

David King has agreed to serve as interim dean of graduate students. **Jack Narayan** has stepped down from the combined position of dean of gradu-

ate students and director of research and sponsored programs to return to the faculty. The deanship, now separated from the role of director of research and sponsored programs, is a half-time position responsible for coordinating graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, and the School of Education. King is now also half-time special assistant to the president for institutional planning, facilitating the college’s comprehensive strategic planning process. A member of the college’s faculty and administrative staff since 1966, King was interim provost for about 18 months until the appointment of **Susan Coultrap-McQuin** as vice president for academic affairs and provost in July. Coultrap-McQuin expects to make an interim appointment in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

In Memoriam

Michael C. Payne, 45, a university police officer, died July 25, at his home after a long illness.
Lee B. Winet, 68, a longtime instructor of communication studies, died unexpectedly Aug. 9, in Syracuse. □



Two dedicated decades — Among those thanked for 20 years on campus during Oswego’s annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony were, from left, Cindy Adam and John Jackson, University Police; Carol Jadus of the Admissions Office; Carl Foults and Nancy Townsend of physical plant; and April Tuttle of the Publications Office. Also honored, but not present for the photo, were Timothy Dixon, Carl Neadle and Robert Sharkey, from physical plant; Elizabeth Ewing-Burns of Walker Health Center; Christine Finnegan of the chemistry department; and Laurie Seguin of the mathematics department.

Opening Weekend activities welcome students to SUNY Oswego

Entertainment, games, getting-acquainted activities and the traditional Torchlight Ceremony will be among the events welcoming students to campus for Opening Weekend, beginning Friday.

The programs, appealing to the more than 8,500 students and other members of the campus community, are admission free.

After students move into their residence halls Friday, they will have an opportunity to meet their peers, faculty members and other campus community members at an afternoon Welcoming Picnic in the academic quad.

The 15th Welcoming Torchlight Ceremony, starting at 9 p.m. in Sheldon Park, will celebrate the traditional



Summer tour — Jaime Sisman (right), a senior English writing arts major and admissions tour guide from Burlington, Ontario, details the Lake Effect Café at Penfield Library to prospective students and their family members. The café, the library and other spaces around campus will begin bustling with activity when thousands of residential students move in later this week.

Spotlight

Paestella strives to bolster student involvement

The Campus Update Spotlight shines on Mike Paestella this week. The assistant director of campus life for student organizational services since August 2001, Paestella took a breather from working on Opening Weekend activities to answer a few questions.

Q. How would you describe your job and responsibilities?

Vast and varied. The primary role is to be the home and contact for all student organizations for the campus. I work with their offices and leaders on everything from starting a club to organizing activities to any questions they may have. Opening Weekend is a major endeavor that I coordinate, although there are hundreds of people involved. I also facilitate risk management training for the student organizations that require it. My whole job is pretty much dedicated to student involvement on one level or another.

Q. What is your favorite part of working at Oswego?

There are a lot of things I like. Because of the complexity of the office and because it didn't exist in its current form before I came here, we're continuously blazing new trails. It has been rewarding to develop relationships with all the student organizations and other campus offices.

Q. What is your impression of Oswego's students?

I think their technological savvy and their willingness to try new things are really cool. Sometimes they need a nudge in the right direction, but then they're ready to think outside of the box and accomplish great things.

Q. What is your educational background?

I earned a B.A. in philosophy, with a concentration in geology, from SUNY Potsdam, and an M.A. in student affairs and higher education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Q. What achievement are you most proud of?

Being an undergrad in SUNY, being a first-generation traditional college student and being so involved in student activities back then ... and then coming 180 degrees to help students who were like me. I'm



happy to be able to open doors for current students the way people opened doors for me.

Q. Do you have any hobbies?

I love sports, particularly the St. Louis Rams of the NFL. I'm very involved in fantasy sports, watching sports. I really enjoy the outdoors. I'm an avid hiker, hunter and fisherman, and I'm happy that you can do those things right here in Oswego County.

Q. What can you tell us about your family?

I'm married to Melissa Paestella, who works in campus life operations. We are the proud "parents" of Brewer, our cocker spaniel, and live in Oswego. Working in student affairs, with the hours we keep and having moved among a few campuses, I'm proud of how well our marriage works. Having two professionals working in student affairs and maintaining a successful marriage is wonderful. □

passing of the torch of knowledge. Music from State Singers, the college jazz vocal ensemble, will begin at 8:30 p.m. to precede the ceremony.

Students can interact through a number of Hewitt Union Night activities starting at 9:30 p.m. Friday. The union will host such events as indoor roller skating, carnival games and inflatable sumo wrestling.

A Student Association fair and a nationally touring "Blizzard of Bucks" game show will unfold on the academic quad from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday. The fair will feature representatives of campus organizations encouraging student involvement. The game show will pit participants in trivia and physical contests, with the winner earning time in a phone booth to gather money being blown around.

Comedy night

Nationally known comedian Tiny Glover and the college's Shawn Cassidy Fan Club Improv Comedy Troupe will headline "The O-Show" from 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday in the Hewitt Union ballroom. The Oswego Jugglers and breakdance troupe Lost Boys Break Crew will also entertain.

Project Play — an annual event pitting residence halls against each other in friendly competition — will run from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday in Lee Hall and on neighboring fields. Students can participate in basketball, kickball, dodgeball or an obstacle course. Sunday will feature a volleyball tournament starting at 11 a.m. behind Cayuga and Seneca residence halls.

A DWI simulator, on hand from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday in the Hewitt Union main lounge, represents one of the educational aspects of the weekend, organizers noted. Participants will sit in a Ford Taurus driver's seat and look at big screens that simulate how perception changes with increased alcohol consumption.

For more information on Opening Weekend, call the Office of Campus Life at 312-2301 or visit the Web site www.oswego.edu/student/services/campus_life/sos/openingweekend.html. □

Corporate sponsors support Fall Classic

The 15th annual Oswego State Fall Classic will take place Sept. 9 and 10 on campus and in the community. Constellation Energy, Sithe, GE Energy and the New York State Laborers' Employers' Cooperation and Education Trust Fund are Presidential level sponsors supporting the fund-raising effort.

Since 1996, all proceeds from the Fall Classic have helped to fund the Presidential Scholars program, an initiative designed to attract academically accomplished students to SUNY Oswego.

Oswego's Presidential Scholars rank in the top 10 percent of their high school classes. Last year 150 Presidential Scholarships of \$4,400 per year for four years were awarded to students with average SAT scores of 1230 and average GPAs of 93 percent; 65 Deans Scholarships of \$1,250 per year for four years were awarded to students with average SAT scores of 1135 and average GPAs of 92 percent.

Since fall 1997, the Fall Classic has provided over \$1 million in scholarship money for more than 1,000 Presidential Scholars.

The fund-raiser has generated gross receipts of over \$2.6 million since 1990.

For more information, call the Office of Alumni and University Development at 312-3003 or visit the Fall Classic Web site at <http://www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/classic>. □

American history grant

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teachers instructs around 100,000 additional students.

The grant will pay for services provided by Oswego faculty members and incidental costs like supplies. It also will fund seminars during the school year led by Oswego professors, as well as visits to such interpretive attractions as Genesee Country Village and the National Women's Hall of Fame. □ — **Tim Nekritz**

Announcements



Jazz lessons — Instructor and renowned band leader Kerry Strayer leads a jazz improvisation session at the recent first-ever Summer Jazz Institute at SUNY Oswego. High-school performers from several states attended the week-long residential institute. Attendees included Jason Schneider, right foreground, an incoming freshman at Oswego majoring in music and business.

WRVO to host NPR’s ‘Don’t Tell Me’

SUNY Oswego’s own WRVO Stations and National Public Radio will host a live performance of “Wait, Wait . . . Don’t Tell Me!” The NPR news quiz will tape a live-for-broadcast performance on Thursday evening, Sept. 16, at the Mulvoy Civic Center at OnCenter in Syracuse.

Tickets for the show are on sale now at the OnCenter box office at 435-2121 or by calling TicketMaster at 472-0700. Tickets are going fast. Tickets range in price from \$11 to \$26.

“Wait, Wait . . . Don’t Tell Me!” is hosted by NPR’s Peter Sagal and features “Morning Edition” newscaster Carl Kasell as judge and scorekeeper. The show is heard on more than 290 NPR affiliates across the country and boasts more than 1.5 million listeners weekly.

The live performance in Syracuse will be recorded and edited for national broadcast on Saturday, Sept. 18. WRVO airs “Wait, Wait . . .” Saturdays at 11 a.m. with an encore presentation Sundays at 7 p.m.

The Sept. 16 performance will celebrate WRVO’s 35 years. The public station first signed on the air in 1969. Proceeds from this event will benefit WRVO’s New Sound for a New Century Campaign to renovate outdated broadcast equipment. □

Oswego repeats in U.S. News

U.S. News and World Report once again included SUNY Oswego among the Best Universities-Master’s in the North in rankings released on the Web last Friday and in the college guide book it publishes, *America’s Best Colleges*, on Monday. The third-tier ranking is the same as last year for Oswego.

The widely cited but somewhat controversial U.S. News rankings are based on indicators that include peer assessment, student retention, class sizes, faculty resources, student selectivity and alumni giving.

Oswego is joined in the third tier this year by Brockport, Cortland, Oneonta, Potsdam, Plattsburgh and Purchase and about 30 other northern colleges and universities, most of them public or Catholic. □



Piecing together — Abby Haessig, a fifth grader at Oswego’s Kingsford Park Elementary School, works on an exercise during the “Computer-Assisted Design for Kids: Puzzlemania” session at the first-ever Technology Camp at SUNY Oswego. The camp, held on campus this month, was designed to give fifth-through eighth-grade students knowledge and confidence working with technology. Another goal was to interest more girls, like Haessig, in entering this field.

Proteomics facility

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date rape drug GHB, Kadima’s study of the molecular mechanism of anti-diabetes compounds obtained from medicinal plants, Raymond’s investigation of clusters of the metallic element molybdenum, Bruch’s analysis of how an antibiotic works, and Lackey’s study of the genetic relatedness of deer mice populations from Manitoba to Tennessee.

Ouellette plans to make the facility available to high school teachers and students, too. “We can devise cool experiments to drive home science concepts and techniques and excite high school students about becoming scientists,” he said. “I’d like to see high school classes come out here to meet us and to see some really cool instrumentation.”

The mass spectrometer will be the most significant equipment acquisition in the sciences at Oswego since the chemistry department purchased a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer with the aid of a \$100,000 NSF grant nine years ago.

The College of Arts and Sciences and Office of Research and Sponsored Programs are funding four years worth of expendable materials, including reagents, that the equipment uses in the process of analyzing molecules. They are also funding the imminent renovation of Rooms 329 to 331 of Snygg Hall to accommodate the new equipment. □

— Julie Harrison Blissert

Excellence fund

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Cutler began his college career studying economics and ended up majoring in social sciences. But his ultimate career goal was never far from Cutler’s mind.

“I wanted to work with people my whole career, and that’s what I did,” he said. “I believed that if we had enough time and money, we could change everything. We change people; we save people’s lives. I really believe that.”

The belief in his possibilities started at Oswego’s lakeside campus. “I left Oswego with a feeling of confidence that I would succeed in life,” he said.

Although he thought he wanted to work in juvenile probation, Cutler ended up working in a community corrections facility with a federal contract. In 1982, he opened ACTC, which treats criminals under a state contract. He is president and executive director.

Lovell, a psychology major, took a different career path. She made her mark in the insurance field, working on claims, underwriting and systems analysis. Now she devotes her time to the foundation and the couple’s other business interests.

The couple ended up in Colorado after Cutler and three Oswego college buddies set out for a Western road trip. They flipped a coin to see where to stay and Denver won. Three of the men are still there. Lovell joined Cutler in Denver in 1978 and the two recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They have one daughter, Katie.

But they remain close to their Oswego roots, returning every summer to visit Cutler’s family in Syracuse and travel in the area. Now the couple has another reason for returning: to see the good their gift is doing in the lives of Oswego students. □

Calendar highlights

- New faculty orientation, Aug. 26 and 27
- Welcoming picnic, Aug. 27
- Welcoming Torchlight Ceremony, Aug. 27
- Student Association Fair, Aug. 28
- President’s Opening Breakfast, Aug. 30
- Fall classes begin, Aug. 30
- Labor Day, no classes, Sept. 6
- Fall Classic fund-raiser, Sept. 9 and 10
- Cross Country Invitational, Sept. 11

For a more complete calendar, see SUNY Oswego Events online at www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/. □