

## Oswego forms School of Communication, Media and the Arts

SUNY Oswego is adding its fourth school as it launches the School of Communication, Media and the Arts this semester.

The new school combines the departments of art, communication, music and theatre to create greater connection and collaboration in fields that are becoming increasingly interwoven and innovative, said Provost Susan Coultrap-McQuin.

The new college will foster “innovative thinking, dynamic collaboration, and scholarly and artistic achievement through a balanced study of history, theory and application,” according to its initial mission statement.

“This opens the opportunities for more collaboration with disciplines within the school for cutting-edge programs,” Coultrap-McQuin said. “We can see that down the road these disciplines are going to become more and more integrated, sharing knowledge and applications with each other. This positions us ahead of the curve.”

With New York state demographic trends poised

to make attracting top-quality students increasingly competitive, the new school positions Oswego well among SUNY and other colleges in a growing — and ever-merging — field, she noted.

“In terms of new students, it places us in an exciting niche and makes the statement that this configuration of disciplines is a strength of our campus and will provide top-notch programs for students coming to Oswego,” Coultrap-McQuin said. “If students are interested in media in whatever forms, this identifies that we’re invested in this field.”

The new school collects programs with strong credentials: The communications department is renowned for its alumni and facilities, while Oswego is among the few colleges that has nationally accredited art, music and theatre departments. At the same time, those departments would maintain connections to complementary programs outside the new school, such as cinema and screen studies, human-computer interaction and creative writing.

Collaborating on resources and expertise could lead

to team-teaching initiatives and even new academic programs. One potential example would be sound technology, which could draw on traditional strengths in broadcasting and music, Coultrap-McQuin said.

The new school also offers an opportunity to establish a greater connection with students as well as alumni, some of whom double-majored or minored within those disciplines, the provost said. Greater alumni involvement could lead to additional internships and mentoring opportunities, she added.

Administrators also envision synergy among established and popular performing and visual arts programs and broadcasting outlets that could open the door to further enhancing the cultural and intellectual life of the campus and greater community.

Earlier this week, faculty from all four departments participated in a retreat led by Geoffrey W. Newman, dean of Montclair State University’s College of the Arts, which consists of a collection of departments similar to Oswego’s new school.

“Because of all the work by department chairs in consultation with their departments, we have a good concept and now we need to get it fleshed out as we move toward establishing a dean for this school,” Coultrap-McQuin said.

She named communication studies chair Fritz Messere interim dean and music chair Julie Pretzat interim associate dean earlier this week. They will lead initial work to bring the departments closer together, affirm the mission and goals, initiate outreach to students and alumni, and start to explore opportunities.

A search for a permanent founding dean will commence in the fall. Coultrap-McQuin said she foresees having a full administrative staff and offices in place over the course of the next 18 months.

The addition of the School of Communication, Media and the Arts represents SUNY Oswego’s biggest change in academic organization since it was reorganized into the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education and School of Business in 1992. □

## McHugh secures funds for new energy center at Oswego campus

A \$300,000 federal earmark secured by Congressman John M. McHugh will fund projects and help create the Center for Energy Education and Economic Solutions at SUNY Oswego. The center is a collaboration of Oswego, Morrisville State, Cayuga Community College, the Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology and other development groups.

“With energy issues, especially in alternative energy, becoming increasingly important, we want to play a leadership role, and the center will allow Oswego and our partners to do that,” SUNY Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley said. “This represents pooling resources, research opportunities and education to make tomorrow’s leaders more aware and engaged in energy issues.”

The three colleges and the IAGT have already partnered on a variety of efforts, and the funding allows the groups to coordinate and broaden their work, said Provost Susan Coultrap-McQuin. Since energy generation is a major industry in Central New York, the center also could play a key economic development role, she added.

“Especially with the increased interest in, and need for, alternative energy, this partnership will support economic development as well as promote

*See ‘Energy center,’ page 4*



**New school** — With the start of the spring semester, courses like Mary Pierce’s “Western Heritage II: Survey of Art” class will be part of Oswego’s newest college — the School of Communication, Media and the Arts. Pierce (center) is joined by students in her Winter Session class (from left) Rebecca Fisher, Tim Bond, David Widrick and Minh Le.

## Metro Center to open at Atrium in Syracuse

SUNY Oswego has leased 11,700 square feet in the Atrium, 2 Clinton Square in Syracuse, with plans to open the SUNY Oswego Metro Center in late March, college officials announced.

“Now that the lease is settled, the landlord will start the renovation process for the build-out of our space,” said Vice President for Administration and Finance Nicholas Lyons.

The college is in the process of hiring a director for the center, which will be a site for graduate courses and training and professional development opportunities for professionals working in downtown Syracuse, said Yvonne Petrella, director of Oswego’s Division of Continuing Education.

Among the initial graduate courses now planned for the new center are “International Business,” “Introduction to Play Therapy,” “Introduction to Gerontology” and “History of Organized Crime,” she said.

Petrella said the college began exploring the possibility of operating a site in the Syracuse area more

than two years ago. “We had many discussions with business and industry leaders in Central New York to discuss the feasibility so that the college could better understand their workforce needs and future opportunities,” she said.

The college began looking for a downtown location last year, settling on the Atrium building. The lease with Atrium Associates, LLC, needed approval from the State University of New York, the New York State Attorney General’s Office and the Office of the State Comptroller.

SUNY Oswego offers off-campus courses at many locations around Central New York and beyond. The college has operated the Oswego State Education Center in Phoenix at Oswego County’s industrial park since 1994.

Petrella said a grand opening for the SUNY Oswego Metro Center is tentatively planned for late spring or early summer. □

— Julie Harrison Blissert

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## College trends

### National teach-in

“As part of a national effort to promote environmental activism on campus, professors at more than 1,100 colleges have agreed to discuss issues relating to global warming in their classes on January 31 or take part in panels running throughout the day. Focus the Nation, a project of the non-profit Green House Network, is being organized on the macro level by a handful of recent college graduates with the help of professors and students who plan events on their campus.” (See page 3 for Oswego’s program.)

— *Inside Higher Ed*, Jan. 17, 2008

### Assumptions challenged

“More than 60 percent of all American students attend institutions where average tuition and fees total less than \$4,750 per year, according to a Government Accountability Office report released in December. . . . On average, institutions imposing the highest tuition increases matched or exceeded the increases in institutional education expenditures. The findings, based on U.S. Department of Education data spanning the school years 1995-1996 and 2005-2006, seem to contradict two popular perceptions: that a majority of students are facing skyrocketing tuition costs at their colleges and universities, and that colleges and universities raise tuition without making commensurate expenditures that benefit students.”

— *BriefCASE*, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, Jan. 15, 2008

### Outsourcing e-mail

“Frantic troubleshooting by an overworked staff versus someone else fixing problems smoothly. A sliver of server space per person versus a five-gigabyte chunk. Half a million dollars versus free. That’s what colleges are faced with as they decide whether to continue running their own e-mail services or outsource them to a professional service like Google Apps Education Edition or Microsoft Live@edu. It seems like a no-brainer. More than 1,000 colleges have signed up with those two companies because, college administrators say, it makes sense to let professionals take over. After all, colleges are educational institutions, not technology enterprises. With heavyweights like Google and Microsoft offering their already-popular services to colleges for free, the officials figure this is one sweet deal.

. . . Many colleges decided to outsource their e-mail after pressure from students who already used Gmail or Hotmail on their own and persuaded administrators to go with one or the other. But not everyone has jumped on the outsourcing bandwagon, and others are looking carefully before they leap. Information-technology administrators worry whether the commercial enterprises will protect students’ privacy. Colleges have legal obligations to do so, but companies are bound largely by their stated privacy policies, which can be changed. And the companies plainly say they want the college market because it translates into business opportunities, which might involve sharing data with advertisers. . . . Colleges that have made the switch report significant cost savings, upwards of \$500,000 per year.”

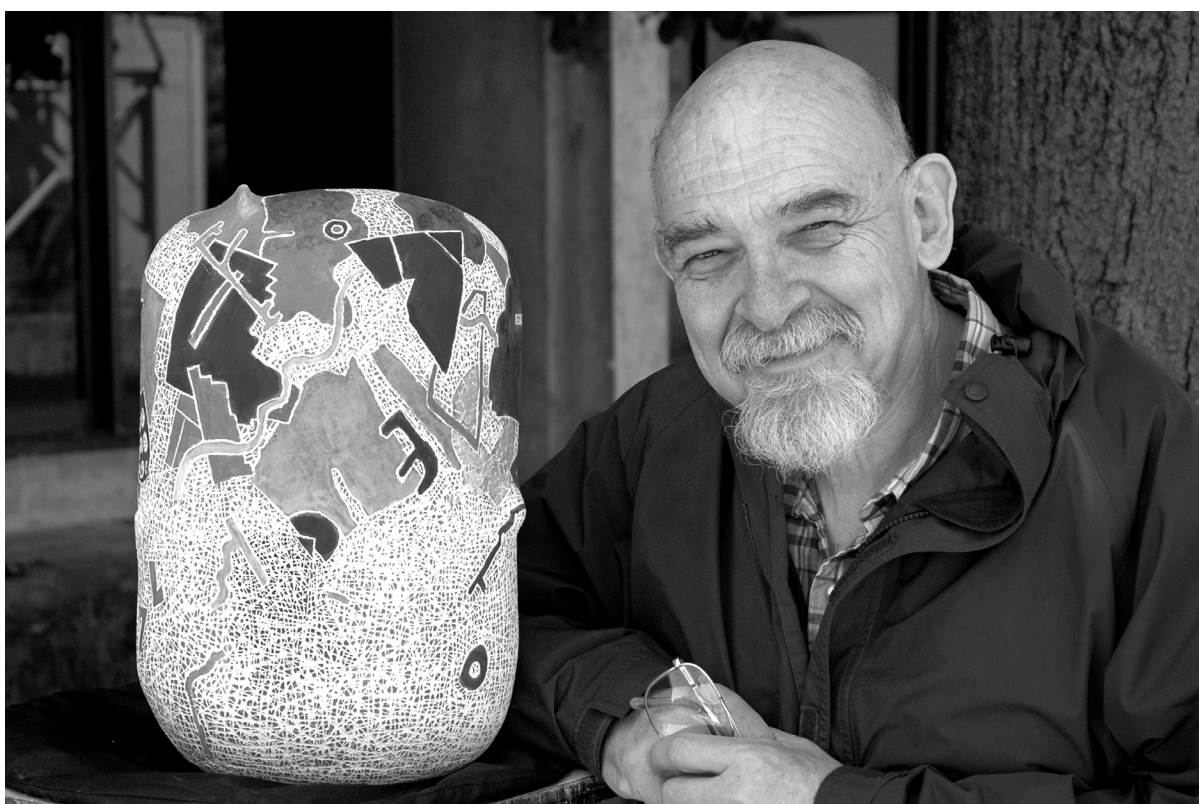
— *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Jan. 11, 2008

### Study abroad squeezed

“As the dollar dips to all-time lows, study-abroad programs are feeling financial pressure, forcing colleges to cut costs, tap reserve funds, or increase charges to students. In the last year alone, the dollar’s value has tumbled 5 percent against the pound, 7 percent against the yen, 10 percent against the euro, and 14 percent against the Canadian dollar. . . . the dollar’s recent deterioration comes amid efforts to encourage more students to study abroad.”

— *Academe Today*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Dec. 6, 2007

## People in action



**Retrospective look** — The work of ceramic artist and expert Richard Zakin, a professor of art, will be the subject of “Retrospective Reflections,” an exhibition of ceramics and works on paper that will run Feb. 1 to March 12 in Tyler Art Gallery. An opening reception, with live music, will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1, in the gallery. Zakin will speak at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 312-2113.

**Bruce Altschuler**, professor of political science, presented a paper, “Selecting Presidential Nominees by National Primary: An Idea Whose Time Has Come,” at the American Politics Group at the University of London on Jan. 4. The article was published in *The Forum* and is available online at [www.bepress.com/forum/vol5/iss4/art5](http://www.bepress.com/forum/vol5/iss4/art5). It was the subject of an item on *The Chronicle of Higher Education’s* Campaign U. Web page Jan. 10 ([chronicle.com/blogs/election/1387/ultra-tuesday-scholar-calls-for-national-primary](http://chronicle.com/blogs/election/1387/ultra-tuesday-scholar-calls-for-national-primary)).

**Fehmi Damkaci**, assistant professor of chemistry, was scheduled to give three invited seminars titled “Total Synthesis of Natural Products” in Turkey during winter recess: Jan. 4 at Izmir Institute of Technology and Jan. 17 at Aegean University, both in Izmir, and Jan. 23 at Fatih University in Istanbul. He also planned to talk to chemistry faculty about possible collaboration on some projects. With the support of the Office of International Education and Programs, he planned to meet with administrators of universities in Turkey — five in Istanbul and one in Izmir, on the Mediterranean coast — to talk about the possibility of having a student-exchange programs with Oswego.

**Bruce Frassinelli**, adjunct instructor of journalism, has been elected president of the Professional Journalists and Communicators of Oswego County for one year starting Jan. 1. Frassinelli served as publisher of the Oswego Palladium-Times between 1992 and 1999. In his 47th year of media-related affiliations, he writes a bi-monthly column for *Oswego County Business* magazine. Re-elected as PJC officers from the campus community were **Fred Vigeant**, program director at WRVO-FM as secretary, and **Matt Seubert**, assistant station manager at WRVO-FM as treasurer. The PJC, which has a membership of more than 50, presents an annual scholarship to a graduating Oswego County high school senior who plans a career in journalism, public relations or a related field. Known formerly as the Oswego County Press Club, the organization, which is observing its 35th anniversary, changed its name in 2006 to reflect its broader membership.

**Shashi M. Kanbur** of the departments of physics and earth sciences gave an invited seminar, “The NonLinear Cepheid PL relation: pulsation, evolution and distance scale implications,” on Nov. 26 to the Fundamental Theory Group in the Syracuse University physics department. On Jan 8, he gave the same seminar at the Tata Institute for Fundamental Research in Mumbai, India. A paper with the same title will be published in the refereed journal *Memoire*

*della Societa Astronomica Italiana*, edited by Santi Cassisi and Maurizio Salaris.

**James Seago** of the biological sciences department was an invited speaker and visitor in the biological sciences department at the University of North Texas, Denton, from Nov. 7 to 10. While there, he gave one presentation to the wetlands biology lab group of faculty, undergraduates, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows on the “Structural Adaptations of Wetland Plants to their Habitats” and a major departmental seminar on “The Root Apical Meristem of Angiosperms from a Developmental and Phylogenetic Perspective.” He also worked with faculty and students on developing ways for the university’s undergraduates to explore graduate studies at other universities and for faculty to search for future graduate students from colleges like Oswego, where undergraduate students do not know about the universities like University of North Texas, whose specific graduate programs and courses of available study might be appealing to Oswego students.

**Lawrence Spizman** of the economics department presented a paper “When, Why and How the Forensic Economist Should Employ the Geometric Mean” at the Allied Social Sciences Association annual conference in New Orleans. This paper extended research in a recent publication of Spizman’s that examined the misunderstanding in litigation of a basic mathematical concept of averages that can miscalculate economic damages in personal injury and wrongful death litigation. Spizman demonstrated mathematically why the geometric mean should be used rather than the arithmetic mean and provided an extended set of examples. He also discussed the perception of bias while testifying when the arithmetic mean is used even when the difference between the two means is small. This intuitive concept was never examined with respect to litigation.

Cleveland State University Library has established an online archive dedicated to the work of **Lewis Turco**, emeritus professor of English at Oswego. The Lewis Turco Collection in Cleveland Memory went live Dec. 18 at [www.clevelandmemory.org/turco/](http://www.clevelandmemory.org/turco/).

**K. Brad Wray**, associate professor in philosophy and director of the Interdisciplinary Programs and Activities Center, has published a letter in the Dec. 7 issue of *Science*, titled “The Age-Old Question of Researcher Innovation.” His letter is published with a response from Jeremy Berg, director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

# Richard Skolnik to lead School of Business

Richard Skolnik was named dean of the School of Business last month. A faculty member at Oswego since 1998, Skolnik was chair of the accounting, finance and law department and director of the master's in business administration program. He had served as interim dean since July.

"One of my main areas of focus will be external," the new dean said. "We will be bringing together local businesses and alumni with students and faculty, and creating an environment of engagement."

Skolnik, who worked in Malaysia at an earlier job, said he would like to increase diversity and global awareness among business students. A glance around his office gives a sense of his commitment to these goals. A globe sits atop his bookcase and a world atlas is within reach, just under a painting by a Dominican artist who is a friend of his.

In announcing Skolnik's appointment, Provost Susan Coultrap-McQuin praised him for his "thoughtful, collaborative leadership style." As interim dean, she noted, he engaged faculty in accreditation activities, collaborated with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations on several projects and built new connections with external groups.

"The dean can be a facilitator to bring people



Richard Skolnik

together for good things to happen," Skolnik said. "When local industry leaders have an opportunity to meet our students, they can offer them positions. When faculty get together with business people, there can be consulting and exchange of ideas. Alumni and potential donors will be able to hear about what activities are going on here and further potential for development and the creation of partnerships."

Skolnik said he is excited about reaching across campus to create collaborations. As interim dean, he oversaw the launch of Oswego's five-year psychology/MBA program, and he'd like to see other such programs created that will build upon Oswego's strengths.

The new dean is committed to building a larger awareness for SUNY Oswego outside of the local area, whether it be internationally or in Central New York. He is "very excited" about the Metro Center and the MBA program's new focus on Syracuse. "It will raise our level of involvement in the fabric of Central New York," he said.

Skolnik said he has an "enthusiasm for possibilities" and hopes to be a positive element in moving the institution forward. "I believe in Oswego's vision," he said. "I have confidence in the direction that SUNY Oswego is going."

A native of Michigan, Skolnik earned his two bachelor's degrees at the University of Michigan and master's degree and doctorate at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. □

— Michele Reed

# Festa Fellowships give graduate students opportunity for leadership experience

The deadline for graduate students to apply for the second round of Festa Graduate Leadership Fellowships is Feb. 15. The program will place the winning applicants in leadership experiences with mentors as early as this summer.

Fellows receive a stipend of \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a semester or a summer of full-time work with a senior executive in their field.

"The purpose of the Festa Fellowship is to provide a unique, professional leadership experience in a field of interest chosen by the graduate students who are selected for the award," said Dean of Graduate Studies David King.

The first six Festa fellows completed their leadership experience last summer. They came from diverse disciplines — art, business administration, educational administration, history and human-computer interaction.

Three worked with the John Fieschko, executive director of the nascent Central New York Biotechnology Research Center, as their mentor. "They assisted me in several ways, including a comparative evaluation of related biotech centers and creation of a brochure and a Web site," Fieschko said. He said he would like

to continue as a mentor in the program this year. Last year fellows also worked with the president of Med Tech in Syracuse, the director of Fort Ontario and the principal of the Frazer School.

Christine Walsh, studying educational administration, spent a lot of her time at the Frazer School working on its school improvement plan. "Working so extensively with piles of quantitative data stretched my comfort zone," she said. "I wanted to learn new skills and be challenged, and I was."

Fred Festa, president and chief executive officer of W. R. Grace Co. and a 1981 graduate of Oswego in finance, and his wife MaryLynn Festa, a 1982 Oswego graduate, established the fellowship program in 2006.

W. R. Grace Co. is a global supplier of catalysts, specialty chemicals and specialty materials used in industry, including petroleum refining, manufacture of plastics, and construction. It has annual sales of more than \$2.5 billion.

For more information on the Festa Fellowship program, contact the Graduate Studies Office at 312-3692 or gradoff@oswego.edu. □

— Julie Harrison Blissert



**Sharing 'Notes'** — Paul Rajeckas will present workshops and lead a panel presentation in addition to two performances of his one-man tragicomic tale "Notes to the Motherland" Feb. 5 and 6 in Waterman Theatre. For reservations, contact Tyler box office at 312-2141 or tickets@oswego.edu.

## Announcements

### SUNY Oswego to take part in Focus the Nation Jan. 31

SUNY Oswego will be one of more than 1,100 institutions participating in Focus the Nation, a national global warming teach-in and symposium on Jan. 31.

Focus the Nation aims to create dialogue and connect students and communities directly with local, state and federal decision-makers in discussion about climate change.

The day's agenda at Oswego will include an address by SUNY Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley; speaker, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus Peter Black of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; a panel discussion of the science behind global warming and its impacts; a panel highlighting the college's own green programs and projects; and a town hall meeting with local representatives, including former state Sen. Jim Wright, Oswego County Administrator Phil Church and Oswego Common Council member Connie Cosemento.

At 3:45 p.m. in the Campus Center auditorium, Stanley will speak and introduce Black. A professor of water and related land resources, he has taught and conducted research at ESF since 1965. A regularly featured commentator on WRVO through his "Water Drops" program, he will discuss "Natural Resources' Universal Pattern, and Sustainability."

Auxiliary Services will highlight environmentally friendly menu items at dining facilities that day. A poster display and other information will be on view explaining the challenge of climate change.

Local activities of Focus the Nation are sponsored by SUNY Oswego and its Civic Engagement Coalition. All events are free and open to the campus and community. For the most updated schedule, visit [oswego.edu/academics/opportunities/civic\\_engagement/focusthenation.html](http://oswego.edu/academics/opportunities/civic_engagement/focusthenation.html). For more information, contact Thad Mantaro, coordinator for civic engagement, at 312-5648 or [tmantaro@oswego.edu](mailto:tmantaro@oswego.edu). □

### Annual King celebration slated

The 19th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration will be held in the Campus Center auditorium at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Richard V. Rice, associate pastor of Peace Baptist Church in Rochester. It will be open to the public.

The event is sponsored by the Sigma Omicron chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee. For more information, call Tony Henderson, chair of the celebration committee, at 312-2701. □

### Grants, awards deadlines near

The deadline is Feb. 4 for the next round of campus grants for scholarly and creative projects by faculty and by faculty and students in collaboration. For information, see [www.oswego.edu/administration/provost/faculty\\_grants.html](http://www.oswego.edu/administration/provost/faculty_grants.html).

Nominations for the President's Award for Scholarly and Creative Activity (senior faculty) and the Provost's Award for Scholarly and Creative Activity (junior faculty) are due Jan. 31.

The review process is conducted by the Committee on Learning and Teaching (COLT) and the Scholarly and Creative Activity Committee (SCAC). For full information on these grants and awards, see [oswego.edu/administration/provost/faculty\\_awards.html](http://oswego.edu/administration/provost/faculty_awards.html). □

### Graduating seniors face deadlines

Seniors who expect to graduate in May and August should file to graduate by Feb. 15 for their names to be listed in the May commencement program. Degree forms are filed online via myOswego or in the Registrar's Office, Room 307 of Culkin Hall. Senior check forms are also mandatory for graduation. These forms are generated by filing to graduate and are sent to students' advisers. Seniors who have filed to graduate should next meet with their advisers to do the senior check form. For students graduating in May, senior check forms are due to the Registrar by March 1. For students graduating in August, they are due July 1. □

# 26 scholarly, creative projects by students receive campus funding

Twenty-six student scholarly and creative projects have received more than \$19,000 in campus grants this year. Each student works with a faculty sponsor. Seven students in psychology received funding, including three working with faculty sponsor Brooks Gump on the effects of the environmental toxicant triclosan. Amy Dumas, a graduate student, is studying its effect on sleep quality; Christie Turenchalk, also a graduate student, on heart rate variability; and Keri Favreau, a junior, on cardiac output.

Also in psychology, Sabrina Narad, a junior, is studying “Relational Aggression in College Women” with faculty sponsor Laura Brown. Leslie Anne Graves’ project “Sex Typing Among Young Girls: Can Disney Intensify Society’s Gender Roles?” is sponsored by Andrew Smiler. Paul Stewart of the Oswego Children’s Study is supervising Steven D’Ambrosio and Danielle Koskey on their projects, “The Effects of Social Desirability on the Relationship between Implicit and Explicit Homophobia” and “Sleep Restriction and Its Effects on Eating,” respectively.

### Five in literature, cinema

Five funded projects are in English. Jessica Skeldon, a senior, will work on “Test Driving a Feminist Analysis of the Girl Gang in Joyce Carol Oates’ *Foxfire*: An Examination of Encoded Girlhood Solidarity on Campus and Across the Web,” with her sponsor, Maureen Curtin. Curtin also sponsors junior Katharine Spano’s project, “The Sexes of Rape: Theoretical and Cultural Commentary in Rape Narrative by Men and Women.” Jeremy Magnan, a junior, is working on “Allegories of Vampire Cinema” with faculty sponsor Amy Shore.

Neelika Jayawardane sponsors two student projects on South African writers. Graduate student Kaitlin Daniels is working on “Truth Commissions and the Divided Selves in the Damaged Nation: Southern African Writers Ishtiyah Shukri and Morabo Morojele’s Depiction of Secrecy, Ceremonial Truth-Telling,

and the Schizophrenic Self,” while senior Allison Wende’s project is “South African Writer Ishtiyah Shukri’s *The Silent Minaret*: Intersections Between the Historical Ventures of the Dutch East India Company and the Current Pursuits of the U.S. in Its War on Terror.”

### Group projects in CPS

In counseling and psychological services, James McDougal is supervising three projects by groups of graduate students. Amy Barrette is working with Lindsey Russell on “Brief Experimental Analysis as an Effective RTI Intervention.” Lindsay King’s project is “The Use of Paired Reading as a Feasible and Effective Tier II RTI Intervention,” and she is working with Beth Farwell. Jessica Marshall is heading a project called “Illustration in RTI: Integrating Academic and Behavioral Supports for Comprehensive Student-Centered Intervention,” joined by Kim Sterling-Austin, Meg Gautier and Melissa Norton.

James MacKenzie in biological sciences is the faculty sponsor of three projects: “The Nitrosylation of Plasma Proteins Due to Lead Exposure” by junior Thea Hassan, “An Examination of Oxidative Stress Markers in a Pediatric Population with Sub-clinical Exposure to Lead” by junior Gregory Miller, and “Lead Exposure and Cardiovascular Disease: The Effects of Lead on Blood Aldosterone Level” by senior Kristen Roosa.

Of three projects in chemistry, Fehmi Damkaci sponsors two: “Synthesis of Analogs of Natural Product Pterocelline A” by senior Drew Camelio and senior Tim Humeston’s “Total Synthesis of Natural Product Cinachyramine.” Robert Birdsall is working on “The Proteomic Study of Blood and Lead Exposure” with faculty sponsor Kestas Bendinskas.

Graduate art student Matthew Rogers will work on “Way of the Warrior: A Modern Reproduction of Samurai Armor” with his sponsor, Lisa Langlois. In math, Dylan Wallace is working with sponsor

Sue Fettes on “The New Language of Data Analysis.” Senior Frank Ripple’s project is “A Study of Infra-Red LMC Cepheids,” sponsored by Shashi Kanbur of physics and earth sciences. Junior Meghan McTiernan, sponsored by Steve Rosow of political science, is studying modern food practices in “Eating Unconsciously: The Impact of Politics, Global Trade Policy, and Factory Farming Methods on the Food Americans Consume.”

In technology, sophomore Brandon Fromm and Dan Braun are working on “Boat-building for High School Transportation Systems,” sponsored by Richard Bush and Dan Tryon.

A subcommittee of the Scholarly and Creative Activity Committee reviews proposals for Student Scholarly and Creative Activity Grants and makes recommendations for funding. Individual grants ranged from \$250 to \$1,000 this year. □

## Energy center

*Continued from page 1*  
energy independence,” Coultrap-McQuin said. An educational emphasis will focus on identifying best practices in the energy industry and creating training modules on topics that could range from employing global-positioning technology for alternative-energy site selection to using biofuels for economic progress to mapping regional energy options and opportunities to optimizing use of methane digesters. In addition, an energy institute will be offered at SUNY Oswego for teachers this summer, she said. The center will leverage the specialties of various partners and other groups depending on the project expertise required, Coultrap-McQuin said. Also, an advisory board will expand to include members of local industry and other entities interested in pertinent issues.

### Coordinating body

“We foresee this center being a coordinating body for submitting grant proposals for our existing partners or for new partners who may step forward and express an interest,” Coultrap-McQuin said. For Oswego, the effort dovetails with President Stanley signing the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which pledges to promote sustainability and develop a long-range plan to reduce and ultimately neutralize greenhouse gas emissions on the campus. The center would also tie into the college strategic plan’s emphasis on developing solutions for problems facing the world. “The partnership we’ve had with Morrisville, Cayuga Community College, the IAGT and our other partners has really been wonderful, and it helps us do things more successfully than we can on our own,” Coultrap-McQuin said. “This funding secured by Congressman McHugh will allow us to continue our work and to develop new projects in energy education and solutions.” □ — Tim Nekritz

## Police report

Since Nov. 20, University Police have made two arrests, both for driving while intoxicated and violations. In one case, officers charged an Oswego man with felony counts of both DWI and driving with a blood alcohol content above .08. □

## Calendar highlights

- Spring semester classes begin, Jan. 24
- Rice Creek Ramble, Jan. 26
- Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, Jan. 29
- College Council meeting, Jan. 30
- Global warming symposium, Jan. 31
- Tyler Art Gallery opening, Feb. 1
- “Notes to the Motherland,” Feb. 5 and 6

For a more complete calendar, see SUNY Oswego Events online at [www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/](http://www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/). □

## Spotlight

### Harrison offers winning attitude with campus recreation

*This week’s Campus Update Spotlight shines on Scott Harrison, assistant director of campus recreation, who has worked on campus since 2004.*

**Q. How would you describe your job and responsibilities?**  
A. I would describe it as a support role for more than 50 student employees — hiring, training and supervising them to provide the services we offer to the campus. I deal with intramurals mostly and, in a support and administrative role, club sports. It’s fun, interactive and challenging — no two days are alike. I emphasize the word “support” because our students really run the programs, and it’s great hands-on experience for them.

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

A. It sounds cliché, but working with the students. I enjoy seeing the students develop, and last May was especially exciting because that particular graduating class was the first I had the chance to see develop over all four years. Students are very eager and excited to learn, and I find that extremely energizing.

**Q. What is your impression of Oswego’s students?**

A. They are very open-minded. They have strong principles and opinions, but are still very accepting of others and their differences. I think our students are genuinely motivated and have a real eagerness to learn.

**Q. What is your educational background?**  
A. I graduated from Cortland with a degree in sports management. I’m currently taking classes in the counseling and psychological services program here at Oswego. I definitely see myself staying in student affairs or other social services in the future.

**Q. What achievement are you most proud of?**  
A. Probably things I’ve done in collaboration with other departments that contribute to student learning and positive outcomes. Working with the campus and



community on 10Kan activities last year is one example. Another is an upcoming Biggest Loser weight-loss challenge.

**Q. What can you tell us about your family?**  
A. We have a very close-knit family. Many people know my older sister here on campus, Christy Huynh, and I have a younger sister, Shannon. We have two wonderful parents. My family spends a lot of time together celebrating life. I grew up in Ontario, which is in Wayne County, and now I live in Oswego.

**Q. Do you have any hobbies?**  
A. I enjoy playing basketball and golf. I officiate high school football. I enjoy being outdoors — hiking, camping, fishing, hunting. I also enjoy community involvement and volunteering. □