



# ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

M A G A Z I N E

Fall 2011

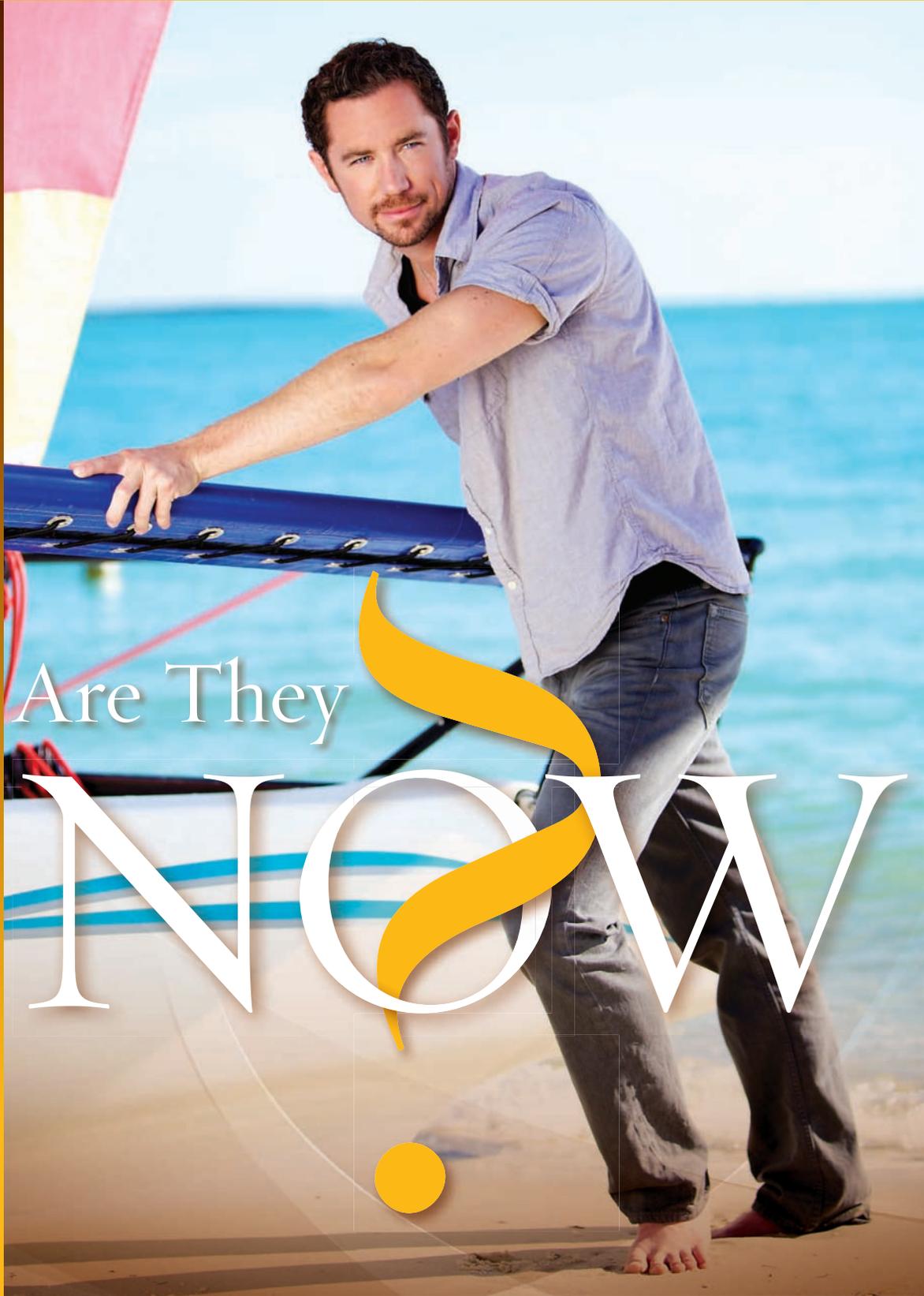
FEATURE STORY  
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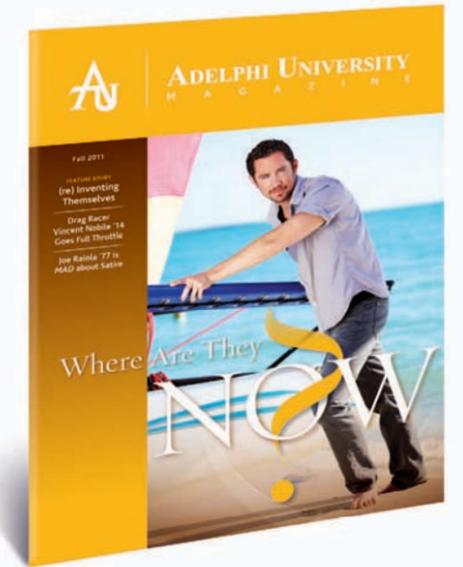
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Many of those who visit campus for the first time in many years comment on the new facilities, the beautiful grounds, the outdoor sculpture exhibit, and then talk about Adelphi as being "reinvented." They comment on the transformation in terms of enrollment, recognition, and spaces as if the University has been made over completely, or brought back into existence.

I protest, exclaiming that Adelphi has a rich history of beautiful facilities, students engaged in the community, high quality academic programs, and student success in athletics.

After all, the first five buildings on the Garden City campus were designed by the prestigious firm of McKim, Mead & White, and even the plans for a new facility in Brooklyn were designed by the same prominent firm. So, while all that is new is certainly reimagined and refreshing, it is based on a historical foundation.

This is true not only for the new LEED-certified Performing Arts Center and Center for Recreation and Sports, as well as Motamed Field and the Alice Brown Early Learning Center, but also for academic programming. Throughout the College of Arts and Sciences and professional programs, faculty are working together to develop the Center for Health Innovation, built on a strong foundation of historic programs related to physical and mental health.

In similar fashion, the enormous success of our student-athletes, including the third consecutive NCAA National Championship garnered by our women's lacrosse team, is the latest manifestation of a long tradition of student competition in sport.

This commitment to student success and progress at Adelphi has been recognized by *The Fiske Guide to Colleges*—which included Adelphi as one of the two dozen institutions designated a "Best Buy" for the sixth year—and by *The Princeton Review's Guide to 311 Green Colleges*.

You'll read in these pages about Adelphi alumni and students who have reinvented their careers or even their industries, based on changing circumstances and ambitions. We've renewed and reinvigorated their *alma mater*, but, I'd argue, not reinvented it. The "new" Adelphi is based on a historic foundation which provides the launching pad for future success. It is this reimagining that has charted the path for Adelphi's renewal in the past dozen years, and will do so for the future. **A**

Sincerely,

Robert A. Scott



- 1 North Hempstead Councilwoman Viviana Russell, former NYS Assemblywoman and former Supervisor of North Hempstead May Newburger '64, Hempstead Town Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby M.B.A. '82, Nassau County Legislator Denise Ford, North Hempstead Town Clerk Leslie Gross, North Hempstead Town Councilwoman Maria-Christina Poons, Nassau County Clerk Maureen O'Connell, Nassau County Legislator Judi Bosworth, NYS Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, Adelphi Vice President for Communications Lori Duggan Gold G.C. '08, and Adelphi Director of Media Relations Kali Chan attend Women in Government: Encouraging the Next Generation, on March 11, 2011.
- 2 Angelo B. Proto M.B.A. '70, vice president for administration and student services, at Commencement 2011
- 3 Phyllis Angello and Adelphi Board of Trustees Secretary Frank Angello '77 celebrate the graduation of their son Peter Angello '11.
- 4 Carole Artigiani Scott with novelist Edwidge Danticat '11 (Hon.) at Commencement 2011
- 5 John Lim '13, Dean of the School of Business Rakesh Gupta, James Riley, Jr., Dr. Scott, Adelphi Visiting Professor and Senior Executive-in-Residence Michael J. Driscoll M.B.A. '89, and Cara Bloncourt '11 unveil the James Riley, Jr. Trading Room.
- 6 Sheila Nevins, president of HBO Documentary Films, introduces the film, *Triangle: Remembering the Fire*, at Adelphi's March 2011 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Remembrance Project event.
- 7 Dr. Scott presents a resolution dedicating Motamed Field to Adelphi Trustee Thomas F. Motamed '71 and Christine Motamed. They are joined by former Head Men's Lacrosse Coach Paul Doherty '62 and Adelphi Trustee John J. Gutleber '68, M.B.A. '70 (far right).
- 8 JR Ritcherson '11 in Adelphi's production of *The Laramie Project*
- 9 Isiah Hall '06, Chantal Hamlin '02, Abi Browne '10, and Heather Wildenberger '06 at Adelphi's 2011 Accepted Students Day
- 10 Adelphi employees, their families, and friends of the University volunteer at Hobbs Farm.
- 11 Members of the Kappa Sigma fraternity donate to Island Harvest as part of Super Hunger Fest.
- 12 Stephanie Montgomery (left) with her mother, Jennifer Montgomery, wife of former Men's Soccer Coach Bob Montgomery '75, M.A. '84, and sister Jessica Montgomery '05 at the 2011 Creative Cups event

# University News



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### Faculty/Student Academic Travels Abroad

Adelphi University faculty and students travel the country and the world to expand their knowledge, interact with faculty from other schools, conduct research, and engage in study abroad activities.

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Adelphi Locations: Main Garden City Campus Hauppauge Center Manhattan Center Hudson Valley Center

What's New:

- The Campaign for Adelphi
- 2011 Alumni Reunions
- Upcoming Admissions Events
- Getting Started at Adelphi
- University News

It's no secret that websites are a vital communications tool for any organization, and Adelphi's website is no exception. Working with the firm Ologie (pronounced Ol-oh-gee), the Adelphi communications and information technology teams kicked off a major website redesign project in fall 2010.

Adelphi unveiled the first phase of the project in June 2011 with the launch of a new homepage and a revised Ruth S. Ammon School of Education website. In early November, a revised alumni relations/advancement section of the site was released. Further academic site updates began in fall 2011 and will continue through 2012.

Tell us what you think about the changes by emailing [PUBLICAFFAIRS@ADELPHI.EDU](mailto:PUBLICAFFAIRS@ADELPHI.EDU), or by taking our Facebook poll (find us at [FACEBOOK.COM/ADELPHIU](https://www.facebook.com/adelphi)).

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### Editor's Note

## Behind the Scenes

*Adelphi University Magazine* covers the people—the alumni, students, faculty, and administrative leaders—who make Adelphi great. In this issue, you'll meet drag racing prodigy Vincent Nobile '14. You'll see that Adelphi alumni are making significant, if different, contributions to media. We profile Steve Jones '89, vice president and general manager of ABC News Radio, and *MAD* magazine editor Joe Raiola '77. In our feature story, you'll read about four alumni—Anita D'Amico Ph.D. '84, Robert Kavner '65, Alice Psirakis Diacosavvas '98, and Anita Thompkins M.B.A. '11—who have found that career reinvention is not only possible, but also fulfilling and profitable.

Working on this magazine, I see the passion that makes Adelphi hum. It's the passion that professors, such as History Professor Patrick Kelly, who recently published his long toiled-over biography, *Tirpitz and the Imperial German Navy* (Indiana University Press), have for research and teaching. It's the passion that students, such as Romina Kazandjian '11, founder of ACTION: Ghana, have for making a difference in the world.

And, of course, it's the passion of our alumni, as evidenced in the spirited photos of past alumni gatherings, as well as in the fundraising support, such as the gift from Horace G. McDonell '52, '02 (Hon.), which has invigorated undergraduate science research. These stories and many others are covered in this issue of the magazine.

A story that is not covered, but hopefully is apparent nonetheless, is that of the passion and dedication of the people—including alumni and students—who work on the magazine. One person who particularly stands out for her utter commitment is our senior photography editor, Kali Chan. Kali balances the demands of her role as Adelphi's director of media relations with orchestrating and overseeing all of the magazine photo shoots. When feasible, she is on location with the photographers, offering guidance and ensuring that her vision is carried out. She has braved bugs (Look at the photos on page 46 of Carolyn Trietsch '12 collecting insects for her research.) and dirt (Adelphi's new softball field was full of fresh and easily kicked up clay when Kali was on hand for



the shoot for our "Did You Know" story on page 15.). Kali puts her subjects at ease, even as she puts them and our photographers through their paces. In the end, her vision makes our stories come to life.

I am ever grateful to work with Kali and all of our passionate and talented writers, photographers, designers, and editors. It makes covering Adelphi's vibrant stories even more fun.

Happy reading and continue to share with us your thoughts and news.

**Bonnie Eissner**  
Editor-in-Chief



Experience Bruce Hornsby and other major artists from Broadway, television, and stages around the globe at AU PAC this year.

Check out our video preview, full schedule of events, and ticket information at [AUPAC.ADELPHI.EDU](http://AUPAC.ADELPHI.EDU) or call 516.877.4000 for details or to join the mailing list.



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# Adelphi Students Aim High with Prestigious Scholarships

Adelphi students are making their mark across academic fields and country borders. This year, Justin Dove '12, an Honors College student double majoring in physics and mathematics, became the pioneer Adelphi recipient of the Goldwater Scholarship. Awarded to about 300 students pursuing careers in mathematics, natural sciences, or engineering nationwide annually, this government award will cover up to \$7,500 of Mr. Dove's senior year tuition expenses. Gina Giambanco M.A. '11, who graduated in May with a degree in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) received a Fulbright Scholarship to finance her year-long position as English teaching assistant at the University of Malta and a Maltese high school.

Mr. Dove lives and breathes quantum mechanics. "I find myself thinking about these things," he says. His independent research enabled him to write a successful proposal for the Goldwater Scholarship application. "Because I'm so involved in the research I'm doing independently, I was fortunately prepared.

"Pretty much my first week [at Adelphi], I went into Dr. [Sean] Bentley's office and told him I was interested in quantum physics," he says. Professor Bentley invited him to assist in conducting experiments in quantum optics. Mr. Dove also gained the support of Assistant Professor of Mathematics Lee Stemkoski, who urged him to conduct a National Science Foundation-sponsored Research Experience for Undergraduates, usually meant for juniors and seniors. His first summer as a college student, Mr. Dove worked closely on matters of quantum mechanics with renowned mathematician Alexander Wilce.

Summer is the busiest time of the year for Mr. Dove, who conducted his first Massachusetts Institute of Technology Quantum Information Science for Undergraduates summer program in 2010. "No answers from Justin," one MIT professor joked, hinting at the Adelphi student's wealth of knowledge. That same summer, Mr. Dove completed a program at

the Institute for Quantum Computing in Waterloo, Canada. He also interned for a defense contractor where he worked on a sensor measurement device applicable to aerospace technology. In summer 2011, Mr. Dove conducted research on quantum computation in MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory with Dr. Scott Aaronson of MIT's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

"I have an extreme passion for quantum physics and quantum computation," says Mr. Dove. "My primary goal is to make lasting contributions to those fields." But life as an academic also appeals to him. "I've tutored quantum mechanics before, and I've found that I really enjoy teaching," he says. "I'm often the person other people like to grab to ask questions. It makes me happy when I'm able to provide the answers they're looking for."

For Ms. Giambanco, whose father's side is Italian, Sicilian blood runs thick. Come October, she will begin a year-long Fulbright-sponsored position as an English teaching assistant at the University of Malta and in a Maltese high school. "I've always wanted to go abroad and live in another country for a short period of time," Ms. Giambanco says. "It's a good opportunity for me to learn about myself."

Aside from teaching English, learning Italian, and delving into the culture of Malta, a country heavily

"I'm often the person other people like to grab to ask questions. It makes me happy when I'm able to provide the answers they're looking for."

—Justin Dove '12

"I feel that my work makes a difference in others' lives and that I can...have a positive effect on each individual that I teach."

—Gina Giambanco M.A. '11

Follow Ms. Giambanco's Malta experiences on her blog, *Fulbright in Malta*, [BLOGS.ADELPHI.EDU/FULBRIGHT/](http://BLOGS.ADELPHI.EDU/FULBRIGHT/).

influenced by Italian history, Ms. Giambanco will create an after-school English language program. It will teach American culture through activities related to the body, mind, and soul, including meditative yoga and basketball. "People yearn to learn about American culture just as I have an interest in theirs," she says. "It will be a great opportunity to share my background and knowledge of the United States, while at the same time fulfilling my curiosity of how other people live and work in other parts of the world."

While in Malta, Ms. Giambanco plans to organize an interactive classroom with elementary school children facilitated by her former supervising teacher Miguel Perez at Northern Parkway School in Uniondale, New York. Also in the works

is a pen pal cultural exchange program with TESOL classmate Laura Connor M.A. '11, who is starting an ESL program at New World Preparatory Charter School in Staten Island.

Ms. Giambanco's heart has been set on TESOL since she taught refugees at St. Rita's Immigration Center in the Bronx while she was a Fordham University student. "Often, people desire to learn English in order to get a better job and have a better life," she says. "I feel that my work makes a difference in others' lives and that I can...have a positive effect on each individual that I teach." 

By Ana Barbu '10

Class of 2011 representatives present the Senior Legacy Campaign gift to Dr. Scott.



## Class of 2011 Sets Giving Record

Even before graduating, Adelphi's Class of 2011 demonstrated the power of participation. Last year, 200 seniors banded together to raise more than \$2,400 as a part of the Senior Legacy Campaign—an annual fundraising effort in which members of Adelphi's graduating class leave their mark through a class gift. The Class of 2011 achieved Adelphi's highest participation rate to date for senior giving, with 15.7 percent of the senior class contributing to the campaign.

While senior giving is a tradition at Adelphi, the Class of 2011 left a unique legacy, welcoming the incoming freshmen with their generosity. "Our idea was to help make Adelphi's newest class comfortable on campus," says Senior Class President Felicia Singh '11. At orientation, the Class of 2011 received their gifts, copies of *The Naked Roommate: And 107 Other Issues You Might Run Into in College*, a book which tackles real-life questions and provides personal stories and insightful advice about college life. "This book is a resource that they can turn to throughout their years at Adelphi," says Ms. Singh.

In addition to funding the book purchase, the class gift was used to establish the Senior Legacy Endowment Fund. 

SENIOR  
LEGACY  
CAMPAIGN  
2011

For more information about the Senior Legacy Campaign, visit [GIVING.ADELPHI.EDU/WAYS-TO-GIVE/SENIOR-GIFT/](http://GIVING.ADELPHI.EDU/WAYS-TO-GIVE/SENIOR-GIFT/).

# TALK ISN'T CHEAP

The New York State Department of Education has enlisted Adelphi's expertise to improve the preschool education of children with disabilities who are non-native speakers of English.



Eva Roca, director of Adelphi's TESOL/Bilingual Program, secured close to \$500,000 over five years to train bilingual/ESOL preschool professionals in New York City.

"These children need very special instruction that will help them with their needs and challenges as well as language development," says Eva Roca, director of Adelphi's Teaching English as a Second Language/Bilingual Program. Ms. Roca helped Adelphi secure a grant of \$478,939 over five years to operate a New York City Bilingual/English as a Second Language Preschool Technical Assistance Center at Adelphi's Manhattan Center.

Preschool teachers, paraprofessionals, speech pathologists, bilingual psychologists, social workers, and interpreters are being recruited from all five boroughs of New York City to participate in a series of six- to eight-day workshops. According to Ms. Roca, Adelphi will serve between 330 and 775 professionals annually.

The curriculum, designed by Adelphi faculty along with qualified alumni and professionals, covers strategies for bilingual education as well as those of the English as Second Language, or ESL, approach. ESL involves teaching English to students who typically speak different first languages. Bilingual education, by contrast, is instruction in both the student's first language and English, in which the development of one complements the other.

"We believe that a student's language and culture must be acknowledged in order for him or her to be successful in upper grade levels," says Ms. Roca.

"We will give all options to candidates, one of which is the advantage of reinforcing and developing the home language first as the preschooler transitions to the English language. If they don't have personnel who can do this in the child's language, then only ESL strategies will have to do," says Ms. Roca.

An important workshop component is helping education professionals understand what Ms. Roca calls "cultural and linguistic diversity"—different expectations that parents have for their children based on their own cultural backgrounds and experiences.

The program will also help educators distinguish between the normal challenges of foreign language acquisition and a true disability. "You see a lot of children misclassified in early childhood or elementary school [as disabled] because they don't have a solid foundation in the English language, not because they truly have a disability," Ms. Roca says.

The center will disseminate information to the participants about applicable certifications in their fields. Participating teachers may be eligible for New York State financial assistance to pursue ESL certification or a bilingual extension to their existing certification. 

By Hannah Groves '14



## Robert B. Willumstad '05 (Hon.) ELECTED BOARD CHAIRMAN

In June 2011, Robert B. Willumstad '05 (Hon.) (pictured left), cofounder and partner at Brysam Global Partners, was elected chairman of the Adelphi University Board of Trustees, succeeding Thomas F. Motamed '71. Mr. Willumstad has been an Adelphi Trustee since 2005 and was previously vice-chair of the Board. In 2008, he served as the chief executive officer at American International Group, Inc. He retired from his position as president and chief operating officer at Citigroup in 2005.

Adelphi Trustee Helene Sullivan '79, formerly the chief financial officer at Save the Children, was elected vice-chair of the Adelphi Board. She is a trustee of both Save the Children and Save the Children International. The Board's new secretary is Frank Angello '77, father of Peter Angello '11. Mr. Angello is the senior vice president and chief financial officer at Lighthouse International. Previously, he was chief financial officer of the Treasury and Securities Services Division of JPMorgan Chase. 

## Psychologist Grace C. Pilcer M.A. '79, Ph.D. '84 ELECTED AN ADELPHI TRUSTEE

In March, Adelphi elected alumna Grace C. Pilcer M.A. '79, Ph.D. '84 (pictured left) to its Board of Trustees. Dr. Pilcer has been a psychologist in private practice since 1984 and has been a consulting psychologist to several private schools in Manhattan. Since 2002, she has served on the board at Notre Dame School in Manhattan and as chair of the School Life Committee. She also served on the National Parents Committee at the Johns Hopkins University from 2005 to 2010 and was on the fundraising board of The Dalton School in Manhattan from 2002 to 2007.

Dr. Pilcer holds a master's degree and a doctorate in clinical psychology from Adelphi's Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies. She has been a member of Adelphi's President's Advisory Group and has supported the University's fundraising efforts since 1985. 



## DR. JACQUES P. BARBER A NEW DEAN FOR DERNER

In August, Jacques P. Barber, Ph.D., ABPP (pictured right), formerly a professor of psychology in psychiatry and the associate director of the Center for Psychotherapy Research in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, assumed his new role as dean of the Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies.

Dr. Barber has published more than 180 papers, chapters, and books in the field of psychotherapy and personality. He has collaborated on research examining the most pressing health issues to help patients with depression, panic disorders, personality disorders, substance dependence, and interpersonal problems. He recently began a research project on post-traumatic stress disorder with the

Department of Defense and Veterans Administration Medical Center.

A faculty member in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Psychiatry since 1989, Dr. Barber was involved in the clinical training of psychology graduate students, medical students, and residents in psychiatry, as well as post-doctoral trainees. He has mentored post-doctorate and junior faculty in the United States and abroad, and is a former president of the Society for Psychotherapy Research. He also is a diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology and a fellow of both the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society. 

By Bradley Warshauer M.F.A. '11





# WOMEN'S LACROSSE



## Bringing Home a Fifth National Title

Sunday, May 22, 2011, an unseasonably cool and overcast day and the second day of the NCAA Division II Women's Lacrosse Championship tournament, marked a historic moment for Adelphi athletics. For the first time, Adelphi was hosting a national women's championship. And for the fifth time, the Panthers women's lacrosse team won the national title and secured their place as the most decorated team in Division II history.

Women's lacrosse had been on fire all season, entering the tournament undefeated, the second time in three years that the Panthers entered tournament play with a spotless record. The team was 18-0 heading into the Final Four, having captured the Northeast-10 regular season and tournament crowns for the second year in a row.

The players' skill, preparation, and teamwork were evident from the start. In the second goal of the game, Elizabeth Fey '11 and Claire Petersen executed flawless behind-the-back

passes before Erica Devito '12 slammed home the ball. The Adelphi goals quickly mounted. Adelphi led 8-1 at the half and kept the pressure on in the second half, pushing the final score to 17-4. The winning margin was the largest in Division II championship history, eclipsing Adelphi's own mark of 16-4 against Lock Haven in the 2009 National Championship.

With the triumph, Adelphi became the only Division II school to win three consecutive titles. The Panthers have won all five Division II championship games they've played in.

Five Panthers were honored with inclusion on the Final Four All-Tournament Team, led by Ms. Petersen, who was named Most Valuable Player of the Final Four. She was joined by Ms. Fey, Marissa Mills '12, Demmianne Cook, and Frankie Caridi.

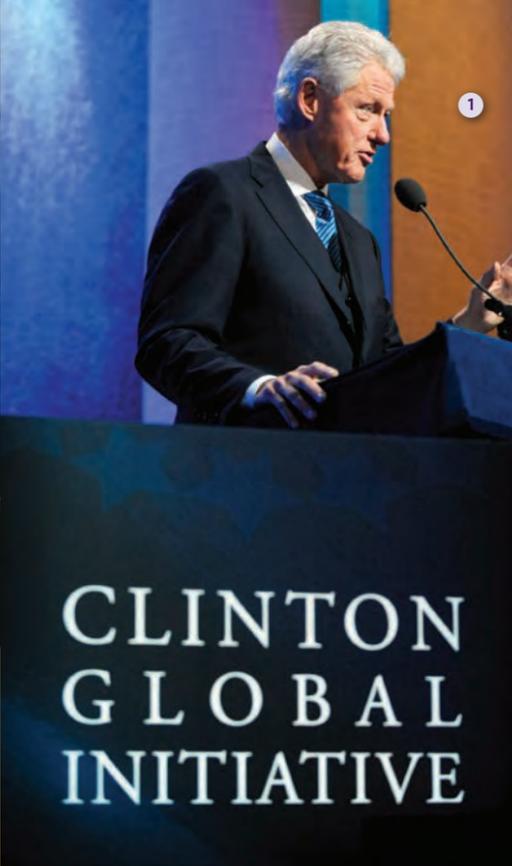
At the press conference following the game, coach Joe Spallina '96 credited the team's



- 1 The Panthers celebrate their historic championship.
- 2 Hard-earned hardware: Frankie Caridi (left) and Kristin Jones '11 with the championship trophy
- 3 Adelphi women's lacrosse players (left to right) Erica Devito '12, Elizabeth Fey '11, and Claire Petersen
- 4 At the press conference: (front row, left to right) Coach Joe Spallina '96, Elizabeth Fey '11, Frankie Caridi; (back row, left to right) Marissa Mills '12, Erica Devito '12, and Jacqueline Williams '14

camaraderie and dedication with its tremendous success. "This group genuinely cares about each other," he says. "When you have that, and you can translate the high skill level that we have, it makes it fun. It allows them to play outside the box... We bring in good [players] and make them great. We challenge them on a day-in and day-out basis."

By Adam Siepiola



- 1 President Clinton initiated the Clinton Global Initiative University conferences to "engage the next generation of leaders."
- 2 Romina Kazandjian '11 (left) and the ACTION: Ghana cofounders were invited to attend the Clinton Global Initiative University conferences in 2010 and 2011.
- 3 The students at St. Joseph's Agbogba Anglican Primary School who inspired the founding of ACTION: Ghana

Many students study abroad to change their own lives and perspectives. For Romina Kazandjian '11, a semester spent studying abroad in Ghana, Africa, compelled her to seek change for others—specifically the young people in the community of Agbogba in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

# Teach Your Children Well

While studying at the University of Ghana in spring 2009, Ms. Kazandjian befriended Margaret Plaskey from Grand Valley State University in Michigan and Cari Dighton from the University of Idaho. Ms. Plaskey and Ms. Dighton were volunteering at a local school, St. Joseph's Agbogba Anglican Primary School, where they were struck by the lack of technology. The 500 students in the school were taught to use computers by following sketches drawn on the school's battered and worn-down blackboards.

Inspired to action, Ms. Plaskey and Ms. Dighton cofounded Agbogba Computers, The Innovation of a Nation—ACTION: Ghana. In late 2009, Ms. Kazandjian joined the initiative as its fundraising director. "At the time, we had little more concrete than our passion and enthusiasm [for the project]," says Ms. Kazandjian.

Looking for ways to jump-start their project, the three applied for and were selected to attend the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) conference at the University of Miami in 2010, and then again at the University of San Diego in

2011, where students and young leaders convene to discuss and find solutions to a multitude of global issues. Through workshops and skills sessions, Ms. Kazandjian and her partners learned how to set up a non-governmental organization, obtain a fiscal status, solicit funding, and network with members of the philanthropic community.

"At the CGIU conferences, we met so many people from Ghana who were willing to provide us with contacts, as well as with people who were willing to take part with us," says Ms. Kazandjian. The group also received additional coverage at this year's CGIU conference by being selected to discuss their project on *The Dean's List*, a television series featured on the Peabody and Emmy Award-winning college network, mtvU, as part of the top 10 Clinton Global Initiatives.

As a result, ACTION: Ghana formed partnerships with its sponsor, Volunteer Africa, as well as with the not-for-profit organizations Iveneo and IVILLAGE, which specialize in bringing communications technologies to remote and rural areas of Africa.

With strategies now in place, ACTION: Ghana plans to create a computer lab with 15 energy-efficient and sustainable computers, all with built-in Internet access, a printer, and a projector. A battery bank will also be installed to allow for up to eight hours of use in the event of a power shortage.

Once the computer lab is complete, ACTION: Ghana hopes to launch a mentorship program between students from the University of Ghana and students of St. Joseph's Agbogba Anglican Primary School.

"The children and citizens of Ghana have inspired me with their kindness, openness, and generosity," Ms. Kazandjian says. "Their lifestyle reminds me that instead of being constantly preoccupied with and striving toward the things that we lack, we should appreciate the things that we absolutely cannot live without: love, family, community, and happiness."

By Leslie Fazin '10

Learn more about ACTION: Ghana at [WWW.VAFRICA.ORG/ACTIONGHANA.HTML](http://WWW.VAFRICA.ORG/ACTIONGHANA.HTML).



In one second, Vincent Nobile '14 drives his NAPA/Mountain View Tires Dodge Avenger from 0 to 100 miles per hour; a street car reaches 60 miles per hour in four seconds. It takes him 6.5 seconds to finish a drag race on a quarter-mile track.



2

## PURSuing A BUSINESS DEGREE

# FULL THROTTLE

"The hardest part of the race is doing a good burnout," says Mr. Nobile, who won his first race in Houston, Texas, in May. He had been racing for less than three months. "You need to make sure you heat up your tires good and burn over a specific spot on the starting line to lay down rubber for when you launch."

To slow down before reaching the finish line, Mr. Nobile pulls a lever that releases two parachutes on each side of his car. He drives another quarter mile to stop.

"Everything happens so fast," Mr. Nobile says. "Me and my opponent were neck and neck at the finish line and I won the race by .016 of [a] second, which equates to three inches. It was an indescribable feeling considering I am the youngest to ever win a national race event," says Mr. Nobile, referring to his first place in the factory hot rod category at the National Hot Rod Association's Spring Nationals, held in Houston last May.

It was a touching victory for Mr. Nobile and his team of five mechanic experts, led by Nick Mitsos, who make the Dodge run smoothly. "I got out of the car and was still in shock," Mr. Nobile says. "It took about a minute for my dad and crew to get to the finish line. As soon as I saw them, I broke down in tears of happiness." Mr. Nobile learned the secrets of drag racing from his father, John, owner of Nobile Trucking, Inc. "My dad is definitely my role model," he says.

1 Vincent Nobile '14 triumphs at the NHRA 2011 Spring Nationals.

2 Vincent Nobile '14 is the youngest driver to win an NHRA drag race.

In pursuit of an Adelphi business degree, which would enable him to take over his father's business or start his own, Mr. Nobile balances classes and racing. "I'm a full-time student, so I haven't been able to practice [racing]," he says. "It gets a little tough at times." Long Island has no drag racing tracks and the nearest practice space is Atco, New Jersey.

During his freshman spring semester, he arranged his schedule so that he had no courses on Fridays. Every other weekend, he'd fly to California, Florida, Nevada, Texas, Georgia, or wherever his next race took him, after his last class on Thursday. He'd return Sunday nights, in time for his first class, Monday afternoon. Only a few classmates knew that Mr. Nobile's weekends were filled with a little more adrenaline than those of other college students. Those who did, admired him for being on ESPN 2 and NHRA.com. He's also been covered by *Newsday* and the *New York Times*.

Drag racing is costly. You need a sponsorship of about \$1 million to become a professional drag racer, according to Mr. Nobile. And the sport is dangerous. Mr. Nobile wears a fire suit and helmet during races. "I try not to think about the danger," he says. "I just try to go as fast as I can."

Mr. Nobile wants to beat the world record speed for drag racing, 6.49 seconds per 215 mph; with a personal record of 6.5 seconds per 214 mph, he's almost there. He'd also like to win the Rookie of the Year award in the NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series in Pomona, California, in November. In June, he won his second NHRA event in Norwalk, Ohio, becoming the first rookie to win two pro stock events in one season.

"I love the competition and the speed," Mr. Nobile says. "I'd much rather it [drag racing] became my profession." 

By Ana Barbu '10

# DID YOU KNOW

## New, New Hall

In September, Adelphi opened its new 53,000 square-foot residence hall, which features an airy atrium and three lounges overlooking the baseball field.

The building houses 171 beds in 67 rooms, each with an en-suite bathroom. Energy-efficient geothermal technology is used for heating and cooling.

## Can You Dig It?

Three Adelphi students kicked off their summer with the first 4-credit "Field and Lab Techniques in Archeology and Physical Anthropology" class, led by Assistant Professor Brian Wygal, which ran from May 27 to June 24 near Talkeenta, Alaska. Students aided in a three-month initiative to understand the shift from a big game hunting economy 8,000–14,000 years ago to the

contemporary economy based on harvesting seasonal salmon. Discoveries will appear in noteworthy academic publications. Students camped and worked in a wilderness area inhabited only by wildlife. Bear behavioral safety training was mandatory for all participants. Temperatures ranged from the 40s to the 60s, and, by mid-June, daylight lasted from 2:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

## From Brown and Gold to the Silver Screen

M.F.A. candidate David Rodriguez '09 earned notice for his screenplay, *Please Spell D-E-A-T-H*,—a mystery-thriller about a young man trying to unravel the secret surrounding his father's departure. The piece was selected as one of 240 finalists, out of 3,000 contenders, for the 2011 International Beverly Hills Film Festival,

a competition for up-and-coming independent filmmakers. More than 20,000 people attended the five-day festival. Mr. Rodriguez's initial draft took three months to complete and underwent five subsequent rewrites. The final version is 120 pages long. He plans to enter it in the 2012 Slamdance Film Festival.

## New Look, Same Panther Pride

Janet L. Ficke Softball Field—named after the former softball and women's basketball head coach and Adelphi alumna, Class of '59—received a \$1 million facelift in spring 2011. Today, 40,000 square feet of artificial

turf cover the renewed field, which features new bleachers, dugouts, and a press box, as well as improved drainage. Last season, Adelphi's softball team had 65 double plays and won 29 games.

## A Bigger, Better Prepared Freshman Class

With 979 full-time students, Adelphi's fall 2011 freshman class is 7 percent larger than last year's class. Several programs, in particular, experienced significant growth. The School of Business saw a 61 percent growth in its freshman class, while new student enrollment in the School of Nursing jumped

37 percent, and the Honors College freshman class grew by 15 percent. The average SAT score rose from 1633 to 1642, and the mean GPA was 3.40. Interest in living on campus also rose among students. Demand remained high for on-campus housing even with added living space in the new residence hall. 

By Michelle Consorte '12



Adelphi's newest residence hall



Adelphi students excavate a site near Talkeenta, Alaska.



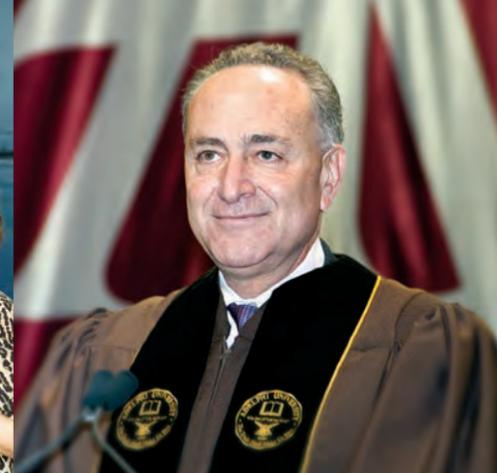
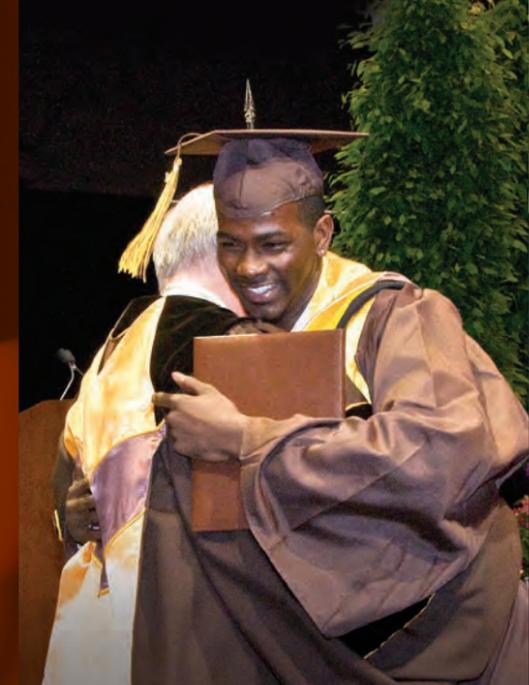
Academy Award-winning actor Jon Voight with David Rodriguez '09 at the Beverly Hills Film Festival



Cheering on their teammates from the dugouts of the renovated Janet L. Ficke Softball Field



Dr. Scott welcomes Olivia Balboni '15 (center) and (from left) her sister, Michaela, brother, Nicholas, mother, Stephanie, and her father, former Senator Michael Balboni '81.



# WORDS TO LIVE BY

At its 115<sup>th</sup> Commencement at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Friday, May 20, 2011, Adelphi confirmed the degrees of more than 2,700 graduates and gave honorary degrees to The Honorable Ruth C. Balkin '73, novelist Edwidge Danticat, and ballerina Suzanne Farrell. Members of the Class of '61 also gathered in golden robes to share in the day's joys and commemorate their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.

Before formally graduating, the eager candidates were offered parting guidance from the day's speakers, including President Robert A. Scott, who gave the official address. Here are some of the stories and suggestions they shared.

You are to be the leader of your life, the 'captain of your soul,' playing the role you create, not one created by another's voice. Achievement carries responsibility, but also joy and the challenge of continuing to grow, develop, and to live life to the fullest. You have secured your footing; now extend your reach.

— ADELPHI UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT ROBERT A. SCOTT  
*Commencement speaker*

My father...is a New York City taxi driver who starts his day at 4:00 a.m., ends it around 2:00 in the afternoon, works seven days a week, and comes home just to be welcomed by a stack of bills waiting to be paid. You can substitute my father for your mother or your grandparents. Either way, they made our lives easier and although they are easier, we are now in a 21st century where we are facing different obstacles, but they are obstacles just the same.

— FELICIA SINGH '11 *President of the Class of 2011*

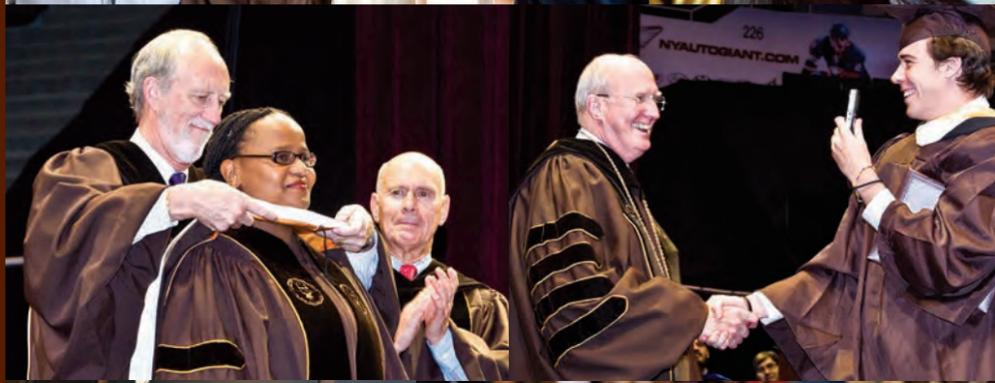


You are about to embark on a long journey, an exciting one, an ever-changing one. We hope you realize that you are...a member of the world, a world that is also ever changing. What happens in Japan, Alabama, Iowa, North Korea, Israel, Kenya, Syria, Germany, Pakistan, and Iraq impacts you. And you have the potential to impact the world.

— PROFESSOR RONALD S. FEINGOLD  
*Chairman of the Department of Health Studies, Physical Education, and Human Performance Science and Chairman of the Faculty Senate*

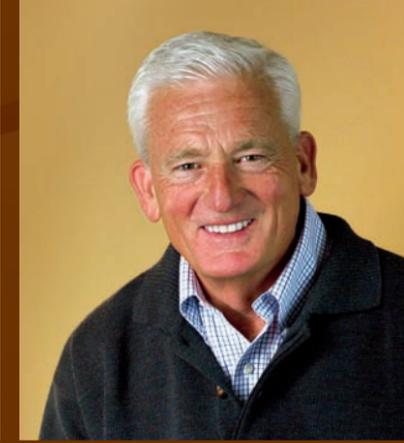
At the wonderful age of 42, I began Adelphi University's weekend M.B.A. program. The best lesson I learned from this experience was not in the curriculum...it was the life lessons that I learned from my fellow students and the faculty...I learned to recognize my strengths and my weaknesses and realized that it was OK to acknowledge both of them. We all bring different strengths and weaknesses to the table, and it is our job, as future leaders and CEOs, to capitalize on the strengths of every single person.

— ANITA THOMPSON M.B.A. '11



2011 COMMENCEMENT

By Samantha Stainburn



# (re) inventing THEMSELVES

Martha Stewart was a stockbroker  
*(before she was a media mogul).*

Al Franken was a comedian on *Saturday Night Live*  
*(before he became a U.S. Senator).*

Barack Obama was a community organizer  
*(before he became U.S. President).*

## Four Alumni Find Their Calling in New Careers

Americans are known for taking advantage of the opportunity to reinvent themselves when faced with a challenge or in need of a new one. A 2010 study from the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that young baby boomers—Americans born between 1957 and 1964—had changed jobs 11 times, on average, by the time they were 44. In recent years, as high as 9.6 percent of laid-off corporate executives have chosen to start their own businesses rather than continue with their previous careers, according to outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. And a

second act is becoming more common as people live longer, and find 65 is too young to retire. For some, reinvention is a necessity, as old jobs have disappeared in the economic crisis, or investments have taken a hit.

The following Adelphi alumni hit it out of the park when they reinvented their careers. But no transformation is easy, and each of them had to dig deep, contemplate what they really wanted, and even draw on lessons they learned while in Garden City.



Robert Kavner B.B.A. '65

When I started my career, I was naïve to the world, but Adelphi put out this sponge, and I kept absorbing.

## The Roots of Change

### Robert Kavner B.B.A. '65

While reinvention implies replacing the old with the new, a second or third act often has roots in an earlier career. That's the case with Pebble Beach, California-based venture capitalist Robert Kavner B.B.A. '65, who invests in early stage technology companies like Internet radio company Pandora Media and electric car manufacturer Atera Motors.

The son of a factory worker, Mr. Kavner grew up near Adelphi in Franklin Square, New York, and was the first in his family to go to college. "In Franklin Square, the two people who wore ties were the optometrist and the accountant," he recalls. "So I said, 'I'll be an accountant.'"

During his senior year, his advanced accounting instructor got him an interview with Coopers & Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP), one of the eight largest accounting firms at the time. After he completed an internship there, the firm offered him a position. While the connection the professor made opened the door to his corporate job, Mr. Kavner says the real value of his Adelphi education was that the academic experience made him a learning machine. "Even though I was in the business school, we still had a heavy requirement of liberal arts courses, and I got a good grounding in sociology, philosophy, the classics, math, and science," he recalls. "When I started my career, I was naïve to the world, but Adelphi put out this sponge, and I kept absorbing."

Mr. Kavner rose quickly through the ranks at Coopers & Lybrand, emulating managers he admired and learning how businesses operate through his work auditing companies. "I used accounting as my platform for discovering the rest of the world," he says. He became a partner at the firm by his mid-thirties, with clients like AT&T, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Columbia University. When the partner in charge of the AT&T account retired, the chief financial officer at AT&T suggested Mr. Kavner step into the role. In 1982, AT&T agreed to split into seven regional phone companies plus a long-distance company to comply with anti-trust laws while developing its computer business, and Mr. Kavner gave up his other clients to help the company with the transformation. When the project was completed in 1984, AT&T Chairman Charlie Brown asked the 41-year-old executive to join his company as CFO.

Moving to AT&T placed Mr. Kavner in the center of a technology revolution: Over the next decade, the office and the home became computerized and connected through digital networks, and AT&T began selling modems and networking equipment as well as telephone service. After a few years as CFO, Mr. Kavner took on operating responsibilities for several business units, then was named CEO of AT&T's Multimedia Products and Services Group and a member of AT&T's Executive Committee. These positions came with luxurious perks—a chauffeured car, a private jet, and helicopter rides from Manhattan to the AT&T office in Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

Then in 1994, Mr. Kavner lost an internal debate over strategy at AT&T. The company was facing a major decision: The Internet looked like it was going to be serious, and not just a toy, so what should AT&T do in this new world? Mr. Kavner proposed that AT&T launch a service like

AOL on the back of its long-distance network; others argued that the company needed to concentrate on its core business of providing long-distance telephone service. The long-distance supporters won, and Mr. Kavner decided to leave the company.

Mr. Kavner says today that that was a wrong decision. "A mature Bob Kavner would have taken his defeat at that meeting and realized that sometimes you don't get what you want," he says. "If you're right, there'll be another opportunity. Maybe I could have helped AT&T reinvent itself later." He did, however, exit the company, and not ready to retire in his early 50s, with young children, he needed to find something else to do. Mr. Kavner had spent his entire career working for global firms with deep pockets; now he tried striking out on his own. He helped launch Idealab, a Pasadena-based technology-company incubator founded by software entrepreneur Bill Gross in 1996. Since its start, Idealab has created and operated more than 75 companies, including online community guide CitySearch, Internet provider EarthLink, and digital photo organizer Picasa, leading to 30 initial public offerings (IPOs) and acquisitions.

Mr. Kavner generally plays the role of mentor to the CEO of the companies he works with, advising them on everything from raising funds and conserving money to finding market opportunities, testing products, and getting employees to work well together. He also helps pick the companies Idealab chooses to incubate, looking for businesses that have "a unique, defensible source of competitive advantage," whether it's first to market with the idea or has improved upon an existing idea.

While Mr. Kavner's new world is quite different from the life he left behind, he's able to help early stage innovators because of the years he put in as an East Coast company man. "Auditing companies [at Coopers & Lybrand] was my first exposure to seeing how whole businesses operate, how a product is developed, marketed, and distributed and how financing is connected to that," he says. He also picked up valuable insights into what makes companies successful by serving on the boards of Sun Microsystems, Olivetti, Philips Telecommunications, and Duracell while at AT&T.

This spring, as a member of Pandora's board of directors, Mr. Kavner helped usher the online radio service to a successful IPO where its shares sold at nearly double their initial target range. "Pandora has lots of wonderful ingredients—world-class management, decisions based on good analysis—and we're going to give it all we have to make it an enduring company," he says. "How fortunate I am that, late in life, I could have something like this."

The key to his successful reinvention? Knowing what was important to him, Mr. Kavner says. "I'm highly adaptable," he says. "Even though I had the corporate jet, I didn't need it, so I didn't feel a sense of remorse giving it up. What I appreciate is highly stimulating environments, and there's no better place for that than Silicon Valley."

Read more of Mr. Kavner's story (in his own words) at [EVENTS.ADELPHI.EDU/NEWS](http://EVENTS.ADELPHI.EDU/NEWS).

## The Detour That Wasn't

### Alice Psirakis Diacosavvas B.S. '98

In 2004, Alice Psirakis Diacosavvas B.S. '98 had a job she loved—working with low-income women at MIC Women's Health Services, a family planning and prenatal program in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn. But that summer, her career took an unexpected detour—a turn that would ultimately lead her to a whole new area of social work.

Ms. Diacosavvas had earned a bachelor's degree in social work, with a minor in Spanish, from Adelphi (in the Honors College) in 1998 and an M.S.W. from Columbia University in 1999. In her multifaceted job, she counseled women, often in Spanish, about HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, helped pregnant teenagers prepare for the arrival of their children while continuing with school, and visited schools and shelters to teach women and girls about STD prevention and birth control. "A lot of them were vulnerable, and I felt like I was able to help them and connect with them on this intimate level," she recalls. The job also reinforced her commitment to the core social worker values of being empathetic and nonjudgmental. "There are very few people who are more despised than a pregnant teenager," she says. "I'm traditional. I think it's best if you get married and are financially stable, then have a baby, not the other way around. But I got to understand that pregnancy was sometimes the most attention these teenagers had ever gotten in their whole lives."

Ms. Diacosavvas had also been a member of the Army Reserve since graduate school. In June 2004, the Army notified her that it was putting her on active duty to support troops being deployed to and returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. She was ordered to leave her job and report to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to run the base's mental health clinic, supervising a small team of military and civilian personnel—two mental health assistants, a psychologist, a psychiatrist, another social worker, and an administrative assistant.

The daughter of Greek immigrants who ran a shoe repair business in Manhattan, Ms. Diacosavvas had joined the Reserves almost on a whim in 1999, intrigued by the flyers that regularly arrived at her Queens home. "The idea of being a woman in that man's world fascinated me; I knew it would be a physical and psychological challenge," she says. "So I walked into a recruiter's office and said, 'I'm a social worker. What can I do?'" The Army Reserves assigned her to its medical services corps, which includes social workers as well as doctors and nurses. After surviving a two-week boot camp, Ms. Diacosavvas became a first lieutenant and part of a 300-person medical unit attached to the 344<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital in Fort Totten, Queens. She enjoyed her one-weekend-a-month, two-weeks-a-year commitment. "I loved the camaraderie and being part of a big and prestigious institution," she says. "And it was a way of giving back for all the freedom we have in this country."

But living on a military base during the week and being the fulltime director of its mental health clinic was a huge change. For one, she was now working with mostly men. And they had psychological issues that she hadn't dealt with before. "Not everyone who comes back from war has post-traumatic stress disorder, but everyone has some sort of adjustment issues," she says. "When you're not in war, you move forward,

in your jobs and relationships. Time stands still for people who are in a combat zone. Then they come back and everyone else has moved forward, and that's hard to adjust to. Sometimes they're having a spiritual crisis. The core tenant of humanity is 'don't kill.' You've maybe had to kill or you've witnessed atrocities, and it doesn't make sense."

But the job grew on Ms. Diacosavvas. "The soldiers mourn the loss of their old selves because their perspective on life changed, and they didn't want it to," Ms. Diacosavvas says. "But that change can be positive as well as negative. One of the things I worked on was identifying the positive things that wartime experience taught them: maturity, pride, knowing how to make good decisions quickly, being appreciative of what you have." And Ms. Diacosavvas came to believe that this work was essential. "The two wars we've been involved in for the past 10 years have been fought by half a percent of the American population," she notes. "It made me angry and sad that the American public was totally unaware of the impact the war was having on these veterans and their families."

After three years on active duty, and a total of eight years in the Reserves, Ms. Diacosavvas was discharged from the Army as a captain in 2007. But she realized she couldn't return to the women's health center. She had a new calling now—helping veterans move beyond their trauma. "These soldiers are way too young to have their lives messed up, and if we can get to them quickly enough, they won't have chronic, long-term psychological issues," she says.

After spending a year developing a veterans' mental health program for the Jewish Board of Family and Children Services, she joined the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in 2009 as a social worker at the Nassau Vet Center, an outpatient mental health clinic in Hicksville, New York. These days, she counsels veterans from the Vietnam War and other eras and their families who are struggling with post-war life. She displays a photo of herself in uniform and a plaque with her rank on it in her office to encourage returned soldiers to open up to her. "They have huge trust issues," she says. "A lot of them don't talk to their spouse or children about their war experiences because they feel they wouldn't understand. The picture of me in uniform lets them know I get military culture." It takes years to change behavior, and Ms. Diacosavvas doesn't always see results from her work, but, she says, "I believe that people have the potential and capacity to change, and I have faith that the process will ultimately yield a positive result."

Ms. Diacosavvas is keenly aware that she would have missed out on her new career, which also includes teaching an introductory social work course at St. John's University and a graduate-level elective on veterans' issues at the New York University School of Social Work, if she had ignored the feeling in her gut. "I took a risk by not returning to my stable job at the women's health center," she says. "But you're never going to know if this is something that's going to nurture your soul if you don't try it out. What's the worst that can happen? You can always go back to doing what you were doing before."



Alice Psirakis Diacosavvas B.S. '98

I believe that people have the potential and capacity to change, and I have faith that the process will ultimately yield a positive result.



Anita D'Amico Ph.D. '84

I like envisioning something that doesn't exist and then, sometimes years later, seeing it happen.

## Reinvention as a Way of Life Anita D'Amico Ph.D. '84

It can be daunting to start again and have to learn the business, culture, and rules of a new field. But that's never prevented cybersecurity expert Anita D'Amico Ph.D. '84 from jumping into a new career. "Ignorance has never stopped me from success," she says, laughing.

As director of Secure Decisions, the cyber-security division of visual software development firm Applied Visions in Northport, Long Island, Ms. D'Amico's current business is information warfare. Companies and governments are constantly under attack online, as cyber criminals attempt to steal credit card information, plans for new products, and state secrets or try to compromise national security. To help potential victims fight back, Ms. D'Amico and her team develop systems that enable clients to visualize their attackers and the security status of critical infrastructure. In a typical week, she'll meet with clients to whiteboard new software ideas; write a research proposal for funding from an agency like the Air Force National Laboratory or the Department of Homeland Security for a new type of software; reach out to universities, defense contractors, and small businesses to staff teams for new projects; and present her firm's latest research at a conference.

Ms. D'Amico loves her job. "I like envisioning something that doesn't exist and then, sometimes years later, seeing it happen," she says. "And the work is important." But where she is now is worlds away from where she started—as a research psychologist with an undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania, a master's from Old Dominion University, and a Ph.D. in human behavior research from Adelphi. While working on her Ph.D., she needed an income, so she took a job as a research assistant with a private research firm that worked with the U.S. Merchant Marine in nearby Kings Point, New York. Within four years, she became director of the Academy's Computer-Aided Operations Research Facility, running a ship simulator that studied bridge layout, navigational aids, harbor design, watch-standing fatigue, and work scheduling, among other topics. A study she conducted on the assimilation of women into the U.S. merchant fleet caught the eye of a recruiter for Grumman Corp., and the aerospace contractor hired her to assist on an upcoming project on women's hygiene in space. When that project didn't materialize, they assigned her to work on the displays and controls for the Space Shuttle's robotic arm, followed by the automation of Joint STARS surveillance aircraft.

Ms. D'Amico impressed Grumman executives with her ability to learn quickly and conduct research projects even when she wasn't an expert in the subject, so they asked her to start a Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (C3I) research program. Then they asked her to oversee research into digital maps and charts. In 1994, after Grumman was acquired by Northrop Corp., Ms. D'Amico wrote a memo to Northrop executives noting that the company conducted little significant research into information warfare. The result: Northrop Grumman, the fourth largest defense contractor in the country, made her head of its first information warfare division, which launched new projects to develop technology to counter the growing threat.

"I used to be frustrated that I was constantly in the mode of not knowing what I was doing," says Ms. D'Amico. "When I started meeting with astronauts, for example, I didn't even know all the acronyms they used, like RMS (remote manipulator system) and EVA (extra-vehicular activity). Then I realized, this is what I'm good at. No matter where I went, the people in charge would say, 'We need to study this new area. Who's going to do it? Oh, Anita can do it.'" In other words, Ms. D'Amico's work wasn't really maritime issues or space travel or battle management; it was reinvention itself.

Ms. D'Amico believes her ability to walk in cold and grasp concepts quickly stems from her psychology training. "Psychologists are accustomed to dealing with variables," she says. "Human beings are somewhat unpredictable, so no matter what you study, there will be people who don't follow the rules exactly. Also, you never have the whole picture, and you never will. And you have to be comfortable with that in order to be successful." The experimental method helps psychologists deal with these situations, she explains: "I'll say, 'I don't understand everything, but let me understand the first layer.' Then let me zoom down a little bit more." She also credits her Ph.D. work at Adelphi for strengthening her ability to speak and write clearly, an essential skill for explaining brand-new concepts to colleagues and clients.

Ms. D'Amico joined Applied Visions in 1999, but she's still learning. "I was just at a conference last week, and I heard some 3-D visualization terms I didn't know," she says. "But I'm used to it. It's the nature of working in a dynamic and emerging field. And you can always learn."

## The Master Plan

### Anita Thompkins M.B.A. '11

Changing direction can be challenging even when it's part of a master plan. That's what Anita Thompkins M.B.A. '11 discovered when she switched careers not once, but twice. Both times the disciplined U.S. Air Force Academy graduate planned for it. But, as her story shows, she still needed focus and determination to get where she wanted to go.

Excelling at her Washington, D.C.-area high school and on the SATs, Ms. Thompkins had chosen to attend the competitive Air Force Academy mostly because it was free, with students committing five years to military service after they graduated. At the time, the U.S. military was shrinking, and there were more jobs available for engineers than in other areas she was interested in, so she majored in civil engineering and joined the Air Force's bioenvironmental engineering division, which manages public health and environmental issues on Air Force bases. After two years as an environmental engineering consultant at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, the military sent her to Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany to run the bioenvironmental engineering office. She managed a team of 25 that made sure the drinking water and waste treatment plants at the base—which included housing, a medical clinic, a childcare facility, and industrial shops for aircraft maintenance—were functioning properly in addition to monitoring air, noise, and occupational safety. "It was exciting because there was a lot of responsibility and there was always something going on," Ms. Thompkins recalls. She also made time for her other passion, fitness training, teaching group classes before work at 6:00 a.m. and training clients after work and on the weekend.

In 1996, after seven years in the military, Ms. Thompkins decided to leave the Air Force and pursue a long-held dream of opening up her own fitness center. She knew she needed to learn more about running a business first, so she answered an ad from a fitness center in Bermuda that was looking for a director who could turn around a struggling club. She got the job, and spent the next year and a half solving problems like members not paying their dues (she introduced automatic checking account deductions) and revitalizing classes (she brought in a trainer from California for three months to launch a spin program, the first in Bermuda). Knowing that she needed a hook to convince people to train with her when she eventually opened up her own business, she also competed in body-building competitions while living on the island, so future clients "could see photos of what this girl could do," she says. Her marketing research suggested New York City would be the best location for her business, and in 1999, she returned to the U.S. and opened a personal training studio in Chelsea.

The business took off, and over the next eight years, Ms. Thompkins grew it into a complete wellness center that offered cardio and weight training, yoga, Pilates, and nutritional counseling. When she turned 40, however, she decided that the long hours and constant hustling for new business would burn her out eventually, and it was time for another switch—a return to environmental work. There was one catch: she couldn't get the kind of job she wanted.

A headhunter told her that she'd been out of the industry for too long and that she needed to upgrade her professional certifications. So Ms. Thompkins took a job as a fire protection specialist at a construction company to get back in the game. "It was a hard pill to swallow," she recalls. She'd been the director of an important bioenvironmental office before, "and now I was working for a construction company wearing a hard hat and steel-toed boots. But I gave it my all." She also enrolled in Adelphi's weekend M.B.A. program to sharpen her management skills.

Her biggest challenge was "being open to how change happens," she says. "It often comes in a different way than you pictured. You're looking at the final goal and sometimes you have to do some steps in between." But she kept her eye on the prize and, when faced with decisions, would ask herself, "Will this step help me get there?" She turned down a job in Seattle that was in her field but would not move her forward and, instead, took a position at an industrial acoustics manufacturer in the Bronx that would help her acquire LEED certification, for example.

Halfway through her M.B.A. program, her resolve paid off: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hired her to be chief of its drinking water and municipal branch for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2010. Ms. Thompkins now manages a staff of 26 that gives out \$6.8 billion in loans and grants a year to agencies to build and repair water infrastructure and makes sure that drinking water plants, including the New York City water supply, comply with environmental laws.

The fact that she couldn't reinvent her life instantly turned out to be a plus, she says: "All the jobs I had along the way have made me a better manager. And the M.B.A. program taught me how to figure out the strengths of people on a team and use them." Ms. Thompkins's main takeaway from her career evolution: "You're always going to have fear," she says. "I don't let the fear win. I want to live a great life, a life that I create for myself, and I know if I don't go after it, I won't have it." 



Anita Thompkins M.B.A. '11

I don't let the fear win. I want to live a great life, a life that I create for myself, and I know if I don't go after it, I won't have it.

# Faculty Focus



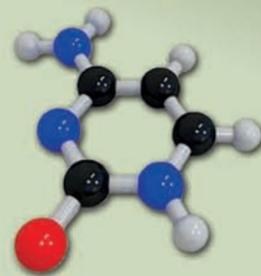
## Just Do IT

### [information technology]

Information technology is transforming how we live, work, and learn. A goal of *Adelphi 2015*, the University's strategic plan, is to "enhance Adelphi's information technology capabilities to meet student and faculty needs and expectations." In keeping with this goal, Adelphi initiated Information Technology Grants for faculty. Last spring, the University awarded a total of \$32,000 to 15 faculty members to fund their innovative uses of information technology in support of teaching.

The projects employ an array of technologies in disciplines ranging from archaeology to business. They include: introducing teachers to Lego robotics; evaluating the use of electronic health records in Adelphi's nursing simulation lab; using molecular visualization and presentation software to help students interpret three-dimensional molecular structures; and allowing education graduate students to use Second Life to design a virtual "Freedom Center" to address bullying and promote tolerance. 

 Learn more about the winning proposals at [ADMINISTRATION.ADELPHI.EDU/OSP/TECHNOLOGY-GRANTS.PHP](http://ADMINISTRATION.ADELPHI.EDU/OSP/TECHNOLOGY-GRANTS.PHP).



## Adelphi's Prescription for Better Healthcare: New Programs in Public Health and Health Information Technology

An influenza pandemic that sickens millions. Rising obesity rates and spikes in associated diseases, such as type 2 diabetes. Thousands sickened from contaminated food. An aging population with new mental and physical health challenges. These are just a few of the public health issues that have made headlines in recent years, and they illustrate the importance of having trained public health professionals who can monitor and address community health needs.

According to Adelphi Associate Professor of Nursing Joan Valas, the local public health workforce is below what is needed, and "we don't have enough schools of public health." Ms. Valas is overseeing Adelphi's planned new master's program in public health, which aims to enroll its first class in spring 2012. Diverse areas of study, such as biostatistics, environmental health sciences, epidemiology, social and behavioral sciences, and health policy management will give students an array of professional opportunities.

"A lot of the focus today is on prevention," says Dr. Valas. "Prevention and health are the emphasis of a public health degree."

The new public health master's and separate master's and certificate programs in health information technology (HIT) are part of Adelphi's new Center for Health Innovation (CHI). "The Adelphi Center for Health Innovation develops leaders who will solve the region's most challenging social health, public health, and healthcare problems," says School of Nursing Dean and CHI Acting Director Patrick R. Coonan '78. "Using expert knowledge, dynamic education programs, thought leadership, and community engagement, CHI will be the trusted resource for health services organizations."

New federal expectations for electronic medical records and the associated patient privacy issues have created greater demand for information technology professionals in the healthcare field. Adelphi's new HIT master's and certificate programs will prepare candidates for this burgeoning field. 

 For more information about CHI, visit [ADELPHI.EDU/CHI](http://ADELPHI.EDU/CHI).

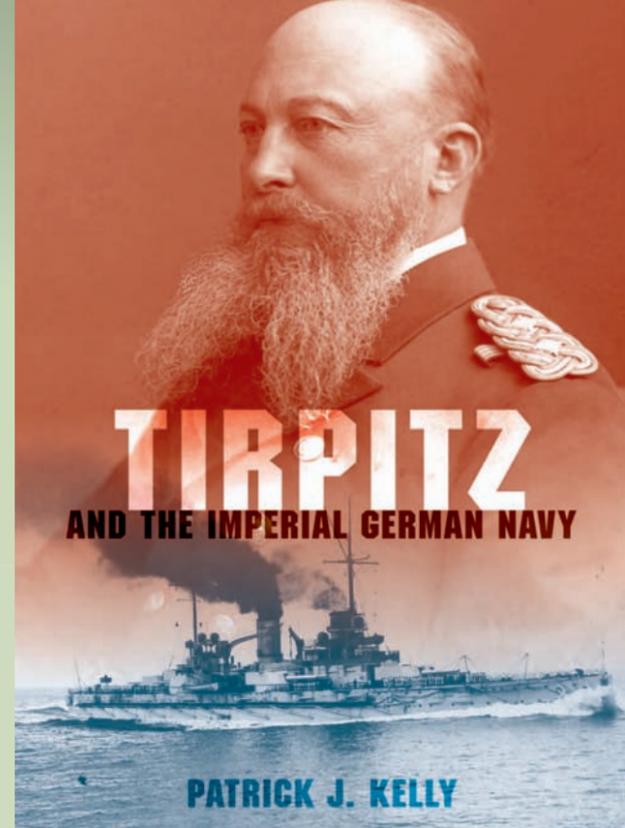
By Ana Barbu '10

"Prevention and health are the emphasis of a public health degree."

– Dr. Joan Valas  
Associate Professor of Nursing



Just as nuclear armaments were the measure of power in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, naval power was the standard by which a country's might was measured in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. And Britain, at the dawn of the century, was virtually unrivaled in its command of the seas. That imbalance would soon be addressed by Germany and its ambitious Grand Admiral Alfred Von Tirpitz, who, with the emperor's blessing, masterminded the explosive growth of the German Imperial Navy—a buildup so aggressive that it would ultimately trigger World War I.



## LESSONS IN THE LIFE OF Grand Admiral Alfred Von Tirpitz

### MASTERMIND OF THE FIRST 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ARMS RACE

Despite his historical prominence, Tirpitz, until recently, has lacked a biography. *Tirpitz and the Imperial German Navy* (Indiana University Press, 2011), a biography by Adelphi Professor Patrick Kelly, has filled the void.

One reason for the scarcity of scholarship on Tirpitz, according to Dr. Kelly, is that the material has been difficult to access. Dr. Kelly waded through about 40,000 pages of material in handwritten Gothic German script—a form of writing that is virtually unknown today, even in Germany. He not only mastered the esoteric form of writing, but also had to interpret it in about 75 different hands. Dr. Kelly, devoted more than 20 years to the project and conducted research in 10 archives in three countries.

In spite of the obscurity of the material, Dr. Kelly found studying Tirpitz fascinating. "He's a really interesting man, and he was one of the central people in pre-World War I Germany."

Dr. Kelly, in his book, challenges the widely accepted orthodoxy that Tirpitz, who served as secretary of state of the German Imperial Naval Office from 1897 to 1916, aimed to weaken and even destroy the German parliament. Rather, Dr. Kelly argues, Tirpitz, unlike others in the German armed forces, treated parliament with respect and worked with its members to achieve

his ends. "That didn't make him into a democrat," says Dr. Kelly. "It made him very effective...He was probably the second most successful politician in Germany after Bismarck."

Ironically, World War I proved to be Tirpitz's undoing. When war came, he was marginalized. According to Dr. Kelly, Tirpitz was a genius at building a navy, but far less talented at leading it, especially in a time of battle. And, Dr. Kelly says that from the beginning, "He was actually terrified of war with the British because he knew that Germany would lose." Just as the Pentagon had once used the size and potential threat of the Soviet Union to justify its expenditures, Tirpitz used Britain and its hulking naval power as a yardstick to spur a massive ramp up of the German navy.

Tirpitz's life and times still hold lessons for us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Despite the end of the Cold War, Dr. Kelly says, "The U.S. spends more on armaments than the entire rest of the world together...and I think there is a parallel in the sense that you have a bureaucracy out of control...What people are going to have to do is ask what do we really need and what can we afford." 

By Bonnie Eissner

## FACT OR FICTION: Bein' Green



Kermit the Frog was prophetic when he first sang in 1970, "It ain't easy bein' green." We asked Adelphi Professor Mariano Torras to evaluate two new, purportedly green technologies, and here's what he said.

### Electric cars versus fossil fuel-burning models

While it is generally assumed that electric cars produce less adverse environmental impacts than traditional fossil fuel-burning cars, it is in fact difficult to prove.

The most important consideration is whether or not a renewable energy source is used to generate the electricity to charge the car's battery. Most experts agree that if hydroelectric, solar, or wind were used, the electric car would be a cleaner alternative. If, however, coal—by far our greatest source for electricity production—were the source, electric cars may (perversely) be less green than regular cars.

Another factor is the substantial environmental impact that would arise from mass battery disposal if we were to switch to a predominantly electric fleet of cars.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we should be focusing much more attention on the question of public versus private. There can be little doubt that reducing dependence on private automobiles—whether electric or gas burning—is a "greener"

choice than merely switching to a more environmentally efficient car. It is therefore important not to misguidedly regard electric cars as an environmental panacea,

at least until the country makes far greater progress in substituting renewable energy sources for fossil fuel-based energy. 



### Tablets and e-readers versus traditional paper publishing

The greatest appeal of e-readers is the ability to easily carry and transport a large quantity of books. But are these devices "greener" than traditional books? Not in terms of energy use.

An e-reader requires more energy than a book both in production and disposal. Also, a book does not require energy to be read, while an e-reader uses electricity. E-readers have a decided energy advantage when it comes to transportation, however. While traditional books are often shipped to customers, e-books are mostly just downloaded, requiring a minuscule fraction of the energy per book. In terms of usage, it is generally accepted that the

more books one reads per year, the greener the e-reader looks compared to the printed book. The breakeven point is not clear; the Sierra Club, for example, claims that the e-reader is a good choice only if you read at least 40 books a year, but other estimates are lower.

Nevertheless, the "greenest" choice is undoubtedly a reused book. Going to the library for one's books, or passing them along a chain of family or friends, offsets past emissions and avoids much future resource use. Private ownership of books—be they print or electronic—is far less efficient from an environmental perspective. 



# Student Life



## (L)EARNING *for* good

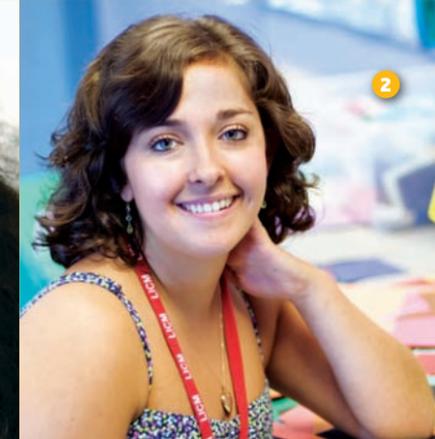
Last summer, 39 students got paid (by Adelphi) to work at 39 local not-for-profit organizations as part of the University's Community Fellows Program. The program, started in 2010, has burgeoned. In just one year, the number of participating students and organizations has nearly doubled (there had been 20 of each). At a time of slashed payrolls and fierce competition for the few jobs available, particularly in the not-for-profit sector, Community Fellows fills a void. The innovative program, supported in part through alumni philanthropy, is a manifestation of Adelphi's dual commitments to addressing community needs and creating the experiential learning opportunities that set its students apart.

Students reported that Community Fellows gave them the practical experience to make informed career choices. A busy, hands-on internship at Citizens Campaign for the Environment opened up new career possibilities for psychology major Lauren Pastolove '13. "I was thinking of going into law," she says. "Now, I can go into environmental law and combine both things that I like."

Kaitlynn Henn '12, a business management major, had set her sights on a career in human resources. Her summer internship in the recruiting office at SCO Family of Services helped her further refine her goals. "[The internship] helped me realize that I like HR, but I couldn't do recruitment every day," she says. Ms. Henn says she is now interested in compensation management.

Derek Porter '12, an interdisciplinary studies major, applied his diverse interests and skills to his internship at YES Community Counseling Center. He redesigned the organization's website, upgraded its computer software, and introduced a new corporate Gmail system. YES subsequently hired him part-time. "It was a great experience for me," Mr. Porter says of the internship. "Not only did I experience on a small scale what nonprofits do and what effect they can have on the community, [but]...I was actually doing the work." 

 In the photos on the next page, we capture six more students on the job. To learn more about the Community Fellows Program, visit [STUDENTS.ADELPHI.EDU/CAREER](http://STUDENTS.ADELPHI.EDU/CAREER).



- 1 Gridiane Pygeol '12 interned at Girl Scouts of Nassau County, where she worked in the finance department and with its outreach programs.
- 2 Julianne Zegers '12 was a museum educator and prepared and delivered lessons for the Long Island Children's Museum Summer Art Series.
- 3 Akeem Hamilton '12 worked with Music & Memory, loading music onto the iPods of Cobble Hill Health Center residents to help them experience the therapeutic benefits of music.
- 4 Steven Michelman '13 assisted with the summer camp program at the Cradle of Aviation Museum.
- 5 Reaz Khan '13 sold tickets and led gallery talks at the International Center of Photography.
- 6 Jessica Rossi '12 applied her editing and producing skills at Public Access TV.



# Athletics

## Defying the Odds

The Adelphi men's lacrosse team had last played in the NCAA Division II championship a decade ago, in 2001, and, according to the early 2011 rankings, there was no expectation that Adelphi would return anytime soon.

In fact, Adelphi was not even ranked at the beginning of the season and lost its first game against Dowling College, 13-10.

But, on May 29, 2011, after defying expectations all season, the Panthers were at the vast M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland—home of the Baltimore Ravens—about to take on Mercyhurst College for the NCAA Division II title. The fifth-ranked Panthers came out strong, scoring just 28 seconds into the game. Ultimately, though, the Panthers fell just short of the championship, losing by one goal, 9-8.

According to *Inside Lacrosse* writer Zach Babo, Adelphi went down fighting. “[Coach] Purdie and his Panthers play an up tempo, go for broke style, pressing when they can on offense, extending when they can on defense, and not being scared to try to make things happen,” writes Mr. Babo.

The mere fact that Adelphi was contending for the title was a feat in itself. Unranked and losing the first game hardly made for a propitious start to the season. But the team quickly picked up steam, winning a program record, 10 consecutive games by mid-April and moving up to 10<sup>th</sup> place in the rankings. One loss in April proved a small setback as the wins continued to mount, and the Panthers ultimately secured the program's first Northeast-10 championship.

A trip to the NCAA Division II Final Four was next, and Adelphi again beat the odds, defeating Limestone College on the road and earning the right to contend for the championship.

The team set a program record for wins in a season with 16, and five players were named United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association All-Americans, marking the first time in three years that an Adelphi player had earned the honor. Joe Vitale '12 was a first-team pick, while Danny Blau '12, Daniel Gill '11, and Eric Janssen '12 received second-team nods. Honorable mention recognition went to Shane Wynn '12.

Going into 2012, Adelphi men's lacrosse is seen as a team to beat. **A**

By Adam Siepiola



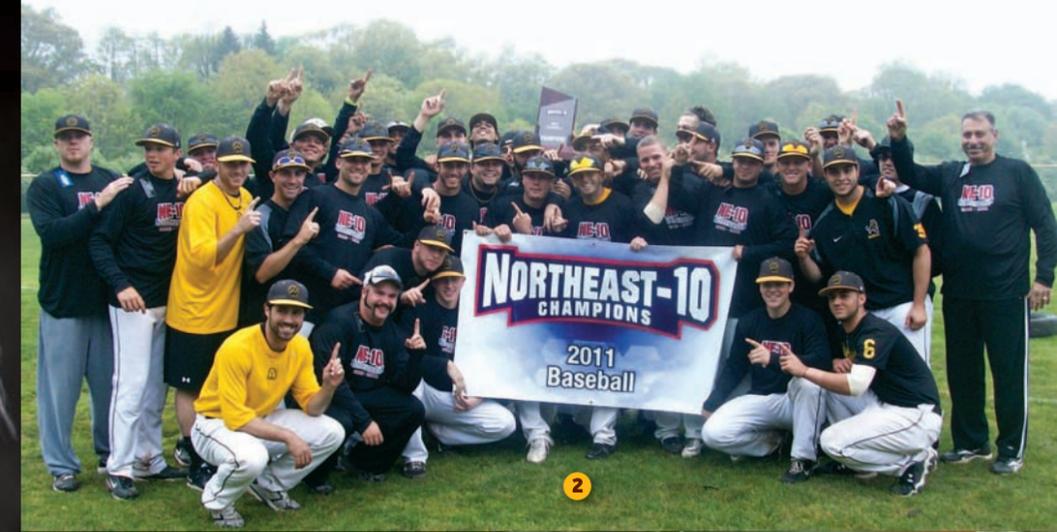
- 1 Michael Rossi '13 (#12) and Captain Joe Vitale '12 celebrate after a goal in the 2011 NCAA Division II men's lacrosse championship.
- 2 Panther fans unite at Baltimore's M&T Bank Stadium.
- 3 Members of Adelphi's 1979 championship men's lacrosse team reunite.
- 4 Adelphi's 1979 championship men's lacrosse team was honored at the 2011 national championship.

Last spring, five of Adelphi's nine competing teams qualified for NCAA Division II regional or national championships. Adelphi, as a result, leaped from 125<sup>th</sup> to 45<sup>th</sup> in the Learfield Sports Director's Cup, a national ranking of every Division II athletic program.

# PANTHERS LEAP AHEAD IN SPRING SPORTS

The women's lacrosse team made history with its third consecutive national championship, a feat never before seen in NCAA Division II. The men's lacrosse team narrowly missed a national championship with a fall to Mercyhurst College in the NCAA Division II title game, 9–8.

The Panther's baseball squad wrapped up the season as an NCAA Division II East Regional finalist. In the East Regional tournament, the Panthers won the first three games and stood one victory away from a trip to the College World Series. Adelphi captured the Northeast-10 Tournament title, after finishing second during the regular season. Coach Dom Scala was named Northeast-10 Coach of The Year, and one player was named an All-American.



The women's tennis team continued to thrive, earning its second straight appearance in the NCAA Division II East Regional after finishing 9–2 in Northeast-10 competition and 18–5 overall. The Panthers advanced to the semifinals of the Northeast-10 Tournament and bowed out of the NCAA Regional in the first round.

The Adelphi golf team rounded out its spring season at the NCAA Division II East/Atlantic Super Regional. The Panthers earned their spot in the event by capturing the 2010 Northeast-10 Tournament championship. The Northeast-10 title was the second in a row for the golf team, which placed 18<sup>th</sup> overall at the Super Regional. Coach Jantzen Vargas '08, M.B.A. '10 was recognized by his peers as a Northeast-10 coach of the year. **A**

By Adam Siepiola



- 1** Adelphi women's tennis team member Maria Toft '13
- 2** Adelphi men's baseball team wins the 2011 Northeast-10 championship.
- 3** Adelphi men's golf team claims 2010 Northeast-10 Tournament victory.

## Adelphi Celebrates Legendary Athletes



**ADELPHI**  
UNIVERSITY  
**PANTHERS**

Six former Panthers were inducted into the Adelphi University Athletic Hall of Fame last April at the 41<sup>st</sup> annual Hall of Fame Dinner. The event, which marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hall of Fame's founding, also celebrated the achievements of Adelphi's 2000–2001 men's basketball team.

The 2011 inductees were: Josephine Coiro '05 (women's soccer/lacrosse); Russ Huber '69 (men's soccer, baseball, squash); Ryan McCormack '01 (men's basketball); Robert Ricciardi '76 (men's lacrosse); Alexis Seeley '02 (women's basketball); and Eddie Williams '02 (men's basketball).

Adelphi awarded the Legendary Team Award to the 2000–2001 men's basketball team, coached

by Jim Ferry. The team won 31 straight games, achieved the first top national ranking in program history, and advanced to the NCAA Division II "Elite Eight," leading the NCAA in winning percentage (.969). A video shown at the dinner captured that magical season.

Long-time athletics supporter, Mary Ann Mearini '05, Adelphi's senior associate director of alumni relations, was presented with the Frank Cassell Memorial Award. National basketball champion, former Stony Brook University head men's basketball coach, and current Northwood University head coach Rollie Massimino was honored with the Woodruff Award. **A**

By Adam Siepiola



- 1** (from left) Tom Pecora '83, Anthony Bonomo, Ed Kelly, and Woodruff Award-winner Rollie Massimino
- 2** Adelphi University Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2011: (from left) Robert Ricciardi '76, Alexis Seeley '02, Ryan McCormack '01, Eddie Williams '02, Josephine Coiro '05, and Russ Huber '69
- 3** Frank Cassell Memorial Award winner Mary Ann Mearini '05, Adelphi senior associate director of alumni relations, with Robert Hartwell, Adelphi assistant vice president and director of intercollegiate athletics
- 4** Legendary Team: The Adelphi 2000–2001 men's basketball team, coached by Jim Ferry, won 31 straight games and played in the NCAA Division II "Elite Eight."



# No Grass Growing



## UNDER THEIR FEET

Meet three athletes who've leveraged their Adelphi experiences to excel on and off the field.

### 1 Robert Nixon

Joining Bobby Lanigan and Keith Couch, starting pitcher Robert Nixon is the third Panther to participate in a Major League Baseball draft in the past four years. In an experience he describes as both nerve-racking and exhilarating, he was selected by the Cleveland Indians in the 46th round this past June.

The three-day process seemed like an eternity to Mr. Nixon. "Since I was drafted so late, I was wondering if it was ever going to happen," he

says. "But then I saw my name, and it was such a relief."

Mr. Nixon, who studied criminal justice at Adelphi, has had his eye on baseball since childhood. An Ontario native, he joined the local T-Ball team when he was about seven, played baseball at the varsity level in high school, and followed his passion at Adelphi.

In the 2010–2011 season, Mr. Nixon became Adelphi's all-time leader in career strikeouts

and wins, with 28 wins and 256 strikeouts, as well as the holder of a single-season record of 104 strikeouts. In 2011, Rawlings/American Baseball Coaches Association named him a Second-Team All-American. He was also named to the All-Tournament Team at the NCAA East Regional Tournament and to the All Northeast-10 First Team.

Mr. Nixon says work and play (pun intended) have been key to his success thus far. "Good things will happen" when you pursue both, he says.

### 2 Erika Loomer '12

Exceeding expectations on and off the volleyball court is a skill Erika Loomer '12 acquired from her mother, a former athlete and volleyball coach who travels 380 miles round trip from Massachusetts to attend every game.

Ms. Loomer believes academics complement athletics and vice versa. "As athletes, we have such a great opportunity to use what we learn in the classroom on the court, and what we learn on the court in the classroom," she says. "They go hand in hand."

She credits her academic drive and athletic passion to former assistant athletic director

Suzette McQueen, who encouraged her to apply for the NCAA Sports and Entertainment Summit held last March in Los Angeles. "She was my mentor for three years, and someone who was always there for me," says Ms. Loomer. "She opened up so many opportunities."

With Ms. McQueen's support, Ms. Loomer was selected as one of 100 student-athletes from around the country to attend the summit, where she learned about social media, sports management, and sports journalism from leading industry professionals, such as Gregg

Champion, founder of Champion Media, ESPN reporter Shelley Smith, and *Sports Illustrated* writer Lee Jenkins.

"It was such a great networking opportunity," says Ms. Loomer. "It taught me so much about myself, about my peers, about the business, and about my surroundings."

As a member of the Adelphi volleyball team, Ms. Loomer recorded three kills, 92 assists, and 11 digs during the 2010 season. She was also named copresident of the Student Athlete Advisory Board for the 2011–2012 academic year.

### 3 Thorne Holder

Going pro. It's the dream of nearly every student-athlete. And it's what Thorne Holder, former goalkeeper on the Adelphi men's soccer team, not only dreamed about, but also achieved earlier this year.

Mr. Holder signed a professional Major League Soccer (MLS) contract with the Philadelphia Union, marking him as the sixth former Adelphi athlete to be involved with an MLS club and the first from a Tri-State-area college

or university to be awarded an MLS contract in the past three years.

Hailing from Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Holder spent three seasons on the field as an Adelphi Panther where he earned two National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-Region honors and three All-Atlantic Soccer Conference (ASC) recognitions. In 2010, he was also named ASC Tournament co-defensive

most valuable player with his teammate Mauricio Mora '12.

Although Mr. Holder now shines in the spotlight as one of 48 MLS goalkeepers, he hasn't forgotten his former colors: brown and gold. "I represented Adelphi for three years," he says, "so every time I'm out on the field, I think about what I've learned." 

By Leslie Fazin '10



# Alumni Events

- 1 Alumni gather at Citi Field to watch the Mets vs. the Phillies.
- 2 Class of '61 celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion.
- 3 Adelphi Trustee Noreen Harrington '81 (right) joins fellow graduates at Molino's Ristorante in Bonita Springs, Florida.
- 4 Multicultural Chapter Reunion at Alumni House
- 5 Alumni gather for the Cruise to the Ellis Island Immigration Museum and the Statue of Liberty National Monument.
- 6 A Day at the Races at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Florida
- 7 Men's Soccer Reunion
- 8 Florida Regional Alumni Reception in Tampa at the George M. Steinbrenner Field
- 9 The Dali Museum and dinner at The Hangar Restaurant & Flight Lounge in St. Petersburg, Florida
- 10 Legends Series with Performing Arts Department Chair Nicholas Petron M.A. '70 and Associate Professor Maggie Lally '82
- 11 Class of '51 celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion at Alumni House.

To see more photos from recent alumni events, visit [WWW.ADELPHI.EDU/PHOTOGALLERY/ALUMNI.PHP](http://WWW.ADELPHI.EDU/PHOTOGALLERY/ALUMNI.PHP).

**f** THE STORY CONTINUES...  
Follow Adelphi University Alumni.



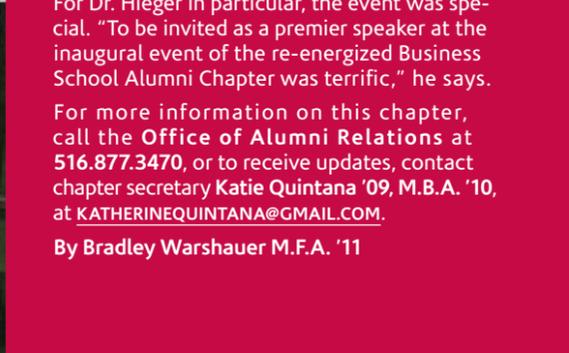
**Back to Business**

On Thursday, March 24, 2011, the School of Business Alumni Chapter gathered an enthusiastic crowd for an evening of networking. Dr. Eric D. Hieger '92 spoke to a packed room about "Networking for Dummies (with College Degrees!)." An experienced entrepreneur and corporate executive, Dr. Hieger regularly speaks on organizational development and leadership topics. His platinum rule for networking: It's who knows you.

For Dr. Hieger in particular, the event was special. "To be invited as a premier speaker at the inaugural event of the re-energized Business School Alumni Chapter was terrific," he says.

For more information on this chapter, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 516.877.3470, or to receive updates, contact chapter secretary Katie Quintana '09, M.B.A. '10, at [KATHERINEQUINTANA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KATHERINEQUINTANA@GMAIL.COM).

By Bradley Warshauer M.F.A. '11





# Alumni and Friends Giving



11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# PRESIDENT'S GALA

Adelphi held a festive Eleventh Annual President's Gala last spring. With the support of hundreds of alumni and friends, Adelphi raised more than \$450,000 for student scholarships and celebrated four honorees.

Trustee Marjorie Weinberg-Berman M.S. '61 received the 2011 Lifetime Service to Adelphi award, Thomas D. Croci, vice president and treasurer of the Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Inc., was honored with the 2011 Outstanding Service to Adelphi award, Maria A. Grasso M.B.A. '89, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Flushing Savings Bank, was named 2011 Outstanding Executive, and Paul J. Salerno '76, Long Island managing partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, received the 2011 Outstanding Alumnus award.

President Robert A. Scott served as event cochair, along with Anthony Bonomo, Robert A. Isaksen, Erna S. Lovely M.A. '65, Trustee Christopher D. Saridakis '90, and Adele C. Smithers.

Save the date for next year's Gala on Saturday, March 24, 2012. For reservations or more information, please contact Jaime Farrell, associate director of leadership annual giving, at 516.877.4689 or [FARRELL@ADELPHI.EDU](mailto:FARRELL@ADELPHI.EDU).



- 1 Gala honoree Marjorie Weinberg-Berman M.S. '61 (center) and friends
- 2 Dr. Scott with 2011 honorees (left to right): Thomas D. Croci, Adelphi Trustee Marjorie Weinberg-Berman M.S. '61, Maria A. Grasso M.B.A. '89, and Paul J. Salerno '76
- 3 Dancing the night away
- 4 2010 Golf Classic honoree Richard McKenna, wife Suzanne, son Rich, and Candace Covelli
- 5 Adelphi Trustee Robert G. Darling '81 with (from left) daughter Katrina, wife Shari, and daughter Brianna
- 6 Enjoying the cocktail reception

# WHO'S GIVING



Robert Tricaro B.S. '59, M.A. '61, M.S. '66

**PROFESSION** Retired professor and officer of a medical management firm

**MOST PROUD OF** I was a basement chemist and wannabe biologist as a teenager, so graduating from college with a degree in science was the fulfillment of a dream. I was the first in my family to graduate from college, and that made my parents proud. Later, my desire to write seriously began to resurface. When it did, a new direction emerged.

**AUTHOR OF** Two published books of poetry, *Letting Go* (2006) and *Let It Be Now* (2011), as well as poetry that has appeared in 21 literary journals

**MEMBER OF** Adelphi's Ruth S. Harley Planned Giving Society

**RECENT GIVING** Established the Robert Tricaro Fund of Preservation, Annual Fund supporter

**WHY I CREATED AN ENDOWED FUND** The Robert Tricaro Fund of Preservation will be used to preserve the structural and architectural integrity and upkeep of Adelphi's three original Garden City buildings. These structures were designed by McKim, Mead & White, a world-renowned architectural firm. I spent long hours in Blodgett, Levermore, and Woodruff. I hope that other alumni of

this period will join me in electing to give something toward the maintenance of what was then Adelphi College's campus.

**WHY I GIVE** I had a great love for teaching and the pure sciences; Adelphi made it possible for me to engage the two. I wanted to give back to Adelphi, which opened so many doors for me.

**The Ruth S. Harley Society** honors alumni and friends who have decided to make a powerful impact at Adelphi by including the University in their estate plans. For more information about planned giving, please call 516.877.3098 or email [PLANNEDGIVING@ADELPHI.EDU](mailto:PLANNEDGIVING@ADELPHI.EDU).

## John Ulin B.B.A. '06, M.B.A. '07

**PROFESSION** Sales Producer for Allstate Insurance, pursuing a master's degree in divinity

**FIVE YEARS FROM NOW** I would love to go into full-time vocational ministry. Right now, I lead the men's Bible study at my church. I believe I could make an even greater impact if I had more time to dedicate to this ministry each week.

**BEST ADVICE** Read as much as possible. If you're in the doctor's office and there's a magazine there, read it. If you're on the bus, take a book along. Read anything you can get your hands on because that may be what enables you to make a connection with someone.

**IN THREE WORDS, I AM** Driven. Ambitious. Personable.

**RECENT GIVING** \$250 to the Annual Fund through the 2010–2011 Phone Program on the occasion of his fifth reunion

**YOUNG ALUMNI SHOULD KNOW** Adelphi's career resources and networking opportunities are head and shoulders above most of the other programs on Long Island, if not across New York.

**WHY I GIVE** I never felt like just a number at Adelphi. I was always treated like someone that the University wanted to succeed.

**Members of the Classes of 2001 and 2006 celebrated their reunions this summer.** For photos from last summer's event or information about upcoming Adelphi Reunion festivities, visit [ADELPHI.EDU/REUNION](http://ADELPHI.EDU/REUNION) or [FACEBOOK.COM/ADELPHIALUMNI](https://FACEBOOK.COM/ADELPHIALUMNI).



## THE CAMPAIGN FOR ADELPHI >

### We're in the last year!

Since the launch of the Campaign for Adelphi in 2003, thousands of alumni and friends have provided tremendous support, and the impact of such collective generosity is already evident across campus.

All who support Adelphi's first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign are making history and, at the same time, ensuring a vibrant future for our University and its students. Thanks to the ongoing commitment and contributions of the University community, Adelphi is within reach of completing the Campaign in 2012.

While the close of the Campaign is in sight, the impact of each gift is never-ending. Campaign contributions enable Adelphi to better prepare students for fulfilling lives and careers—ones in which they make a difference in their communities, across the nation, and around the world.

Make your gift to the Campaign today and help the University realize its vision for enhanced teaching and learning experiences. 

### GOAL

> \$56 MILLION

### MONEY RAISED

> \$48.7 MILLION

### DONORS

> 18,000+

### GIFTS MADE

> 58,500+

For more information, please visit [ADELPHI.EDU/CAMPAIGN](http://ADELPHI.EDU/CAMPAIGN) or call 516.877.3250.

For many college students, earning money in the summer involves manual or menial labor—mowing lawns, bussing tables, painting houses, and the like. But, thanks to **Horace G. McDonell, Jr. '52, '02 (Hon.)**, a former Adelphi Trustee and a retired chairman and CEO of PerkinElmer Inc., a scientific instrument company, seven Adelphi students who are passionate about science spent the summer of 2011 conducting full-time research for 10 weeks, and getting paid for it.

For **McDonell Fellows**, [ **Summer Means** ]

# Hard Core Science Research

"Throughout my career, I have enjoyed the benefits of the four years I spent at Adelphi," says Mr. McDonell. "Put simply, this is my way of paying back part of those benefits." The purpose of the science fund, according to Mr. McDonell, is to help Adelphi prepare "a stream of highly qualified bachelor graduates in the natural sciences, as good as those from the best competing institutions."

Associate Provost for Administration Lawrence Hobbie, who formerly chaired the Department of Biology, Professor of Chemistry Joseph Landesberg, and Professor and Chair of the Physics Department Gottipaty Rao set the framework for the McDonell Fellowship pilot program. "We thought that something that might have the most impact on the students and the faculty was for people to support summer research," Dr. Hobbie says.

Once the students received the chairs' approvals on project proposals they had developed with their faculty mentors, they immersed themselves in hands-on research and experimentation. "The primary goal of the fellowship is to offer intellectual and state-of-the-art training to students," Dr. Rao says.

Each student received a \$4,000 research stipend and \$1,000 for equipment and research supplies. "It's very hard to do science on a part-time basis," Dr. Hobbie says. "[The fellowship] allows students to do science full-time. When you're doing that kind of an intensive experience, you develop a mastery of technique."

Mijael Damian '13 collaborated with Associate Professor of Physics Sean Bentley to study the uncertainty principle, a major principle in quantum mechanics, and the reaction that occurs when sending entangled photons through space and time obstacles. A blue laser passing

through a crystal, a prism, and a beam splitter, the latter of which polarized the incoming light, and detectors that provided the number of entangled photons, were part of his experiments. "[The McDonell Fellowship] is going to help students," Mr. Damian says. "Some... students don't get their hands on equipment until their senior year. Even then, they don't get to do anything as exciting and fun as this." Mr. Damian shared the physics lab with Danielle Sofferman '13, who conducted a nonlinear optics project. "It's very exciting to be actually doing the research," she says. "To see everything falling together, see how enthusiastic my professor is about it. That's inspirational."

Ililochi Onwuzu '12 researched nitrogen dioxide concentrations in the environment using a quantum cascade laser-based technique featured in national physics publication, *Physics Today*, and developed by Dr. Rao and Physics Department Research Coordinator Andreas Karpf. The research is salient to the Environmental Protection Agency and other organizations involved in trace-gas detection, according to Ms. Onwuzu. "It's a great experience to learn the [research] techniques," she says. "I'll probably need them for different work I'm going to do in the future," which may involve alternative energy sources. Meanwhile, physics major Sajan Shrestha '13 worked on developing sensors to detect industrial improvised explosive devices.

Chemistry student Lendelle Raymond '12, under the guidance of Assistant Professor of Chemistry Melissa Van Alstine, experimented with two enzymes: CYP1A1, which detoxifies environmental carcinogens and is important in the metabolic activation of dietary compounds with cancer-preventive character, and CYP1A2,

which oxidizes structurally dissimilar compounds, including steroids and fatty acids, according to Ms. Raymond. Her study entailed finding out whether Letrozole, an inhibitor of CYP19A1 (aromatase) used in the treatment of estrogen-dependent breast cancer, inhibits the two enzymes. "For me, [the most exciting part of the project] is when you get the data," she says. "When you see if the drug Letrozole will inhibit the enzyme, and you get pretty good results...It's fantastic."

Biology student Carolyn Trietsch '12, who was mentored by Assistant Professor of Biology Matthias Foellmer, studied food webs in the South Shore salt marshes focusing on wolf spiders, a link between marine and terrestrial food webs. Ms. Trietsch set up traps in Freeport, Oceanside, and Point Lookout and observed insects in the field. She focused on each insect community in the sampling sites to see how their food webs differ and how they are affected by heavy metal pollution. "I don't have to look for a [summer] job," she says. "I can basically do what I am interested in and still get paid for it."

Meanwhile, biology student Claire Flynn '12, under the direction of Assistant Professor of Biology Andrea Ward, continued her research on the two startle responses of South American lungfish to discover why they evolved to perform both responses, while most aquatic species perform one. She implanted six electrodes—three on each side of a fish's body—which translated its muscle reactions to visual records, a process called electromyography. While performing this process on several lungfish, she observed their muscle activation patterns during the two startle responses.

In the fall, the seven students showcased the projects they conducted last summer to help promote their work and the fellowship, according to Dr. Hobbie.

"This is the best of both worlds because you actually get paid to do your experiments in a research lab," Dr. Bentley says. 

By Ana Barbu '10



- 1 Lendelle Raymond '12 studied the breast cancer drug Letrozole.
- 2 Carolyn Trietsch '12 with her faculty mentor Assistant Professor of Biology Matthias Foellmer collected insect samples in order to study the impact of heavy metal pollution.
- 3 Ililochi Onwuzu '12 used lasers to study nitrogen dioxide concentrations in the environment.

# Class Notes



## 1940s

**Sheila (Frackman) Schwartz B.A. '46** will publish her 19<sup>th</sup> book, *F. Scott Fitzgerald*, in January 2012, through Haus Publishing, London.

## 1950s

**Seth Purdy B.A. '52** is curator at Amityville Historical Society & Lauder Museum.

**Ruth (Weisbrod) Brown B.S. '54** and her husband, **Albert Brown B.A. '56, M.B.A. '66**, were wildlife photographers and have authored numerous articles on travel and marine history. The couple has visited Labrador, Newfoundland, Alaska, Columbia, Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and the Galapagos.

**Jean Ceglowski B.A. '58, M.S. '60** and her husband Gene practice veterinary medicine in Vermont. Two of her four children are veterinarians, one is a lawyer, and one is a teacher.

## 1960s

**Alice Byrne M.S.W. '63** led a workshop, *The Mourning After*, at the Annual Conference of the American Group Psychotherapy Association.

**Barbara Lyso B.S. '63** is semi-retired and spends three to four months in the summer living in Norway, home to her five grandchildren. The last 22 years she worked on her own business as a disability management specialist and geriatric care manager in Florida.

**Joseph Battaglia B.S. '65, M.S. '69** is president and CEO of Telephonics Corporation. In April 2011, he received the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz award from the Navy League of the United States, which is presented to an individual or organization that has made an exemplary contribution to the enhancement of U.S. maritime strength and, in turn, to the national security of the United States.

**Emanuel Di Pasquale B.A. '65**, a professor of English at Middlesex County College in New Jersey, has four books coming out this year.

**William Greenhut B.A. '66** joined the faculty at Sanford Brown Institute of White Plains as an instructor of diagnostic medical sonography. He also delivers an annual lecture, *Ultrasound of the Neonatal Brain*, at the SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, New York.

**Loren Rosenthal B.A. '66** is a neurologist at St. Francis Hospital.

**Ronald Bruder B.S. '68**, founder of the Education for Employment Foundation, was named to *TIME* magazine's 2011 *TIME* 100 list of the most influential people in the world.



Jeffrey Pepper '72, M.S.W. '73 may not have found the fountain of youth, but he has found a way to feel younger: judge dog shows. "It does keep you young because you're up on your feet all day long and you're working, so you're exercising," says the American Kennel Club judge. "It can be very tiring mentally because you're constantly making comparisons and decisions based on those comparisons."

In the past year, Mr. Pepper says he has flown 125,000 miles, judging about 45 shows in places as varied as Korea, China, Australia, New Zealand, and Brazil. He is a past president of the Dog Judges Association of America and has judged at the sport's most prestigious events, including the famed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. He has also bred more than 100 champion dogs, mostly golden retrievers and Petit Basset Griffon Vendéens.

Breeding and showing golden retrievers began as a sideline, a hobby that kept him busy while he pursued a career in social work, working largely with youth inpatient treatment centers. By 1978, he was the director of an emergency shelter for abused

to verbalize what was going on with them internally, having the dog there to pet or even to talk to."

By the early 1980s, the shelter was defunded and Mr. Pepper was out of work. "My staff was basically snapped up by other agencies within a week or so, but I was overqualified for what was available," he says. "I wound up opening a boarding kennel, and my life became full-time dogs." He founded and, for more than 18 years, ran the Woods End Kennel, providing boarding and grooming services for dogs in the metropolitan New York area.

After years as a successful breeder (at times, he'd have about 20 dogs at once from two litters), Mr. Pepper began judging in 1984.

In 1993, he helped start the Take the Lead Charity, which has since distributed more than \$3 million to animal trainers with terminal illnesses.

He has advice for prospective dog owners. Buy a purebred. "There is a major distinct advantage to a purebred dog versus a random bred dog, and that is with a purebred dog, you know what the dog will look like, how big it will be, what kind of coat it will have, what colors it will be, and what its temperament will be like," he says. The best way to research a breed? Head to a dog show, he says.

Mr. Pepper says his career was a lucky accident. "Years ago, would I have considered myself someone who would be an authority on golden retrievers

## He's Behind the BEST in Show

Jeffrey Pepper '72, M.S.W. '73 with Chaos, Best in Show winner at the 2009 Golden Retriever National Specialty

children, ages 5 to 17, in Tarrytown, New York. There, he began involving his dogs in his work. "Therapy dogs were not something common, nor did they have a label at that point, but these dogs functioned as therapy dogs without any training," says Mr. Pepper. "It was easier for them [the kids]...to relate to the dogs and

He especially enjoys the camaraderie and challenge of his volunteer pastime. "It's given me the opportunity to meet people literally all over the world," he says.

He has written five books on dog breeds and writes columns for *Dog World*, *American Kennel Club Gazette*, and *Dogs in Review*.

worldwide? Hell, no. Did I think I'd be out there judging and doing all the writing that I'm doing? Nah, it never occurred to me. I didn't know I had the talent to do it." 

By Bonnie Eissner

**Theodore Schiffman M.A. '68**, who, earlier in his career, studied with world-renowned father of wildlife photography Ansel Adams, had his own photography show, "Animal Images: Portraits of the Wild," exhibited in Adelphi's Swirbul Library. He has photos published and in the collections of The National Geographic Society, the Smithsonian Institution, and the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan.

**Judith Werner B.S. '69, M.S. '74** is currently a nursing educator at Southside Hospital, where she has worked for 20 years. Previously, she was an assistant adjunct professor at Adelphi, who taught for two decades. In 2010, she received the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System Zuckerberg Award for Nursing Excellence and first prize for the presentation of her poster, "Reducing Pressure Ulcers with Wound Care Champions," at the North Shore-LIJ Research Conference. She has two grandchildren, Rolf and Bonnie Rae, who live in London, and is married to her Adelphi College sweetheart, Rich Werner '69.

## 1970s

**Mary Jane Hayes M.A. '70**, author of *Emma's House of Sound* and *Emma's Freaky Sneakers*, was one of the 20 featured authors at the September 2011 Florida Heritage Book Festival at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine.

**Angelo (Bill) Proto M.B.A. '70** was honored by the Garden City Chamber of Commerce with the Community Achievement Award in recognition of his record of outstanding professionalism and major contributions to the Village of Garden City.

**Martin Eisenberg M.A. '71**, who has been involved as an adult in scouting for 30 years, is director of the William H. Pouch Scout Camp's summer day camp. He and his wife of 42 years have three children, all of whom were involved in scouting, and six grandchildren.

**Edward Quinlan B.S. '71**, adjunct professor in Nassau Community College's Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, was inducted into the charter class of the Nassau Community College Athletic Hall of Fame for cross-country and track and field in October 2010.

**Diane (Badagliacca) Powell B.S. '72, M.B.A. '89, G.C. '98**, case manager at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, was selected for the Case Manager of the Year Award for Long Island Jewish Medical Center by the Hofstra North Shore-Long Island Jewish Residency Program at the Internal Medicine Graduation Ceremony in May 2011. A nationally certified case manager, she is also a New York State licensed health insurance agent specializing in long-term care planning.

**Enid Borden M.A. '73**, president and chief executive officer of the Meals On Wheels Association of America, the oldest and largest organization in the United States representing those who provide meal services to people in need, was recognized in *Who's Who in the Media and Communications*.

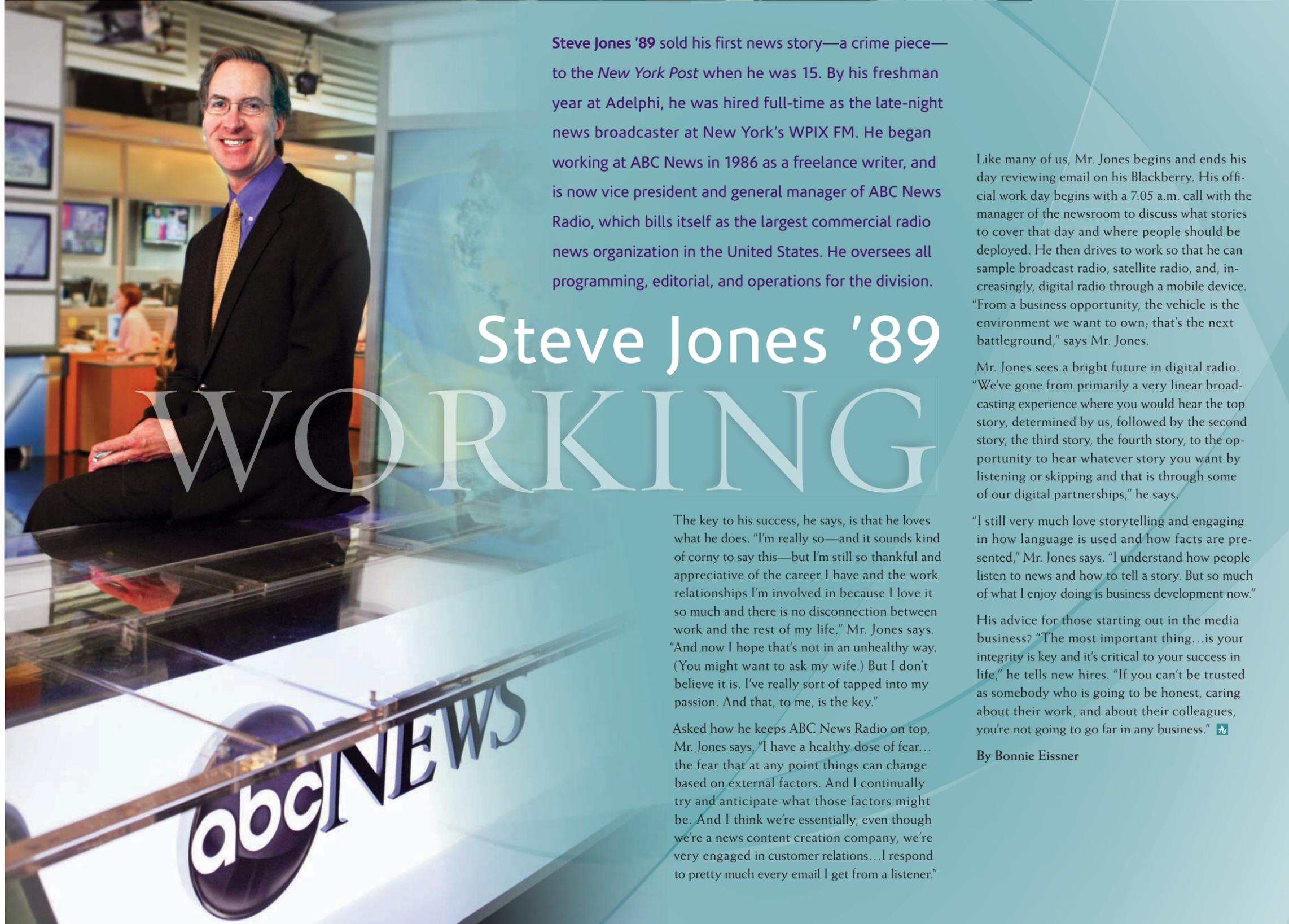
**Karen (Potwora) Desmond B.S. '74** completed her Master of Public Health in epidemiology—her second master's degree—at New York Medical College in May 2011. She is currently a professor of nursing at Dutchess Community College and, in June 2011, was appointed to the Dutchess County Board of Health for a six-year term.

**Naphtali "Jimi" Bruce B.A. '75** released a new book, *He's In A Meeting... Adventures In Getting Past Gatekeepers*. For more information, visit [WWW.CREATESPACE.COM/3563928](http://WWW.CREATESPACE.COM/3563928).

**Valerie Ribaro B.A. '75** is project manager at Honeywell International with the Federal Systems Group.



Steve Jones '89 oversees all programming, content, and operations for ABC News Radio.



Steve Jones '89 sold his first news story—a crime piece—to the *New York Post* when he was 15. By his freshman year at Adelphi, he was hired full-time as the late-night news broadcaster at New York's WPIX FM. He began working at ABC News in 1986 as a freelance writer, and is now vice president and general manager of ABC News Radio, which bills itself as the largest commercial radio news organization in the United States. He oversees all programming, editorial, and operations for the division.

# Steve Jones '89 WORKING

The key to his success, he says, is that he loves what he does. "I'm really so—and it sounds kind of corny to say this—but I'm still so thankful and appreciative of the career I have and the work relationships I'm involved in because I love it so much and there is no disconnection between work and the rest of my life," Mr. Jones says. "And now I hope that's not in an unhealthy way. (You might want to ask my wife.) But I don't believe it is. I've really sort of tapped into my passion. And that, to me, is the key."

Asked how he keeps ABC News Radio on top, Mr. Jones says, "I have a healthy dose of fear... the fear that at any point things can change based on external factors. And I continually try and anticipate what those factors might be. And I think we're essentially, even though we're a news content creation company, we're very engaged in customer relations... I respond to pretty much every email I get from a listener."

Like many of us, Mr. Jones begins and ends his day reviewing email on his Blackberry. His official work day begins with a 7:05 a.m. call with the manager of the newsroom to discuss what stories to cover that day and where people should be deployed. He then drives to work so that he can sample broadcast radio, satellite radio, and, increasingly, digital radio through a mobile device. "From a business opportunity, the vehicle is the environment we want to own; that's the next battleground," says Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones sees a bright future in digital radio. "We've gone from primarily a very linear broadcasting experience where you would hear the top story, determined by us, followed by the second story, the third story, the fourth story, to the opportunity to hear whatever story you want by listening or skipping and that is through some of our digital partnerships," he says.

"I still very much love storytelling and engaging in how language is used and how facts are presented," Mr. Jones says. "I understand how people listen to news and how to tell a story. But so much of what I enjoy doing is business development now."

His advice for those starting out in the media business? "The most important thing... is your integrity is key and it's critical to your success in life," he tells new hires. "If you can't be trusted as somebody who is going to be honest, caring about their work, and about their colleagues, you're not going to go far in any business." 

By Bonnie Eissner

**Barbara Schmidt B.A. '75, M.S. '84**, professor and assistant dean of speech-language pathology at Molloy College, was honored with the Faculty Achievement award for her professional contributions.

**Karen Andreone M.A. '76**, athletic director at Our Lady of Mercy Academy, was inducted into Nassau Community College's Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2010 and the Diocese of Brooklyn Girls Catholic High School Athletic Association's Hall of Fame in April 2011.

**John Benfield M.B.A. '76** is the CEO of The Brainy Brands Company, Inc.

**Henry DeGeneste B.A. '76** was named to the KeyPoint Government Solutions Advisory Board.

**Patrick Downey B.A. '76** has published *Pacific Wiretap* (IUNIVERSE.COM, 2011), an action-adventure novel involving an engineering graduate student who, during a summer internship in the telecommunications industry, uncovers a massive wiretap scam. Mr. Downey, himself, has 37 years of experience in the telecommunications industry. The book is available at [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM).

**Steven Mandel B.A. '76**, founder of The Mandel Law Firm, which specializes in family law, was awarded the Martindale Hubbell BV Distinguished Rating, the highest possible peer review rating for those that have been recognized by their peers to be the best in both legal ability and ethical practice. Mr. Mandel is a regular analyst on Court TV and NBC's *Celebrity Justice*. He's also appeared in national feature stories on *Dateline NBC*, *CBS's 48 Hours*, *Geraldo*, and *MSNBC's On The Money*.

**Melinda Staiger B.S. '76** has 27 years of experience as a breast imager/diagnostician in academic and community medical centers and private practices in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

**Stuart Goldfarb B.A. '77** was named president and CEO of Atrinsic, Inc.

**Neil Berger M.A. '78, Ph.D. '81, G.C. '91** is executive director of The Kolburne School in New Marlborough, Massachusetts, a private, residential therapeutic school for students ages 8 to 22 with a range of emotional, psychiatric, learning, and behavioral disabilities.

**William Cavagnaro M.S. '78** is an executive vice president of the real estate investment banking team of Chicago-based Jones Lang LaSalle, a financial and professional services firm.

**Torin Finser M.A. '78** has just published her sixth book, *Initiative: A Rosicrucian Path of Leadership*.

**Richard J. Bressler B.B.A. '79** is a managing director of Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P.

**Marcy Horowitz B.S. '79, M.S.W. '80** is responsible for supervising nine social workers in both inpatient and outpatient settings, including the pediatric intensive care unit.

**Marianne (Springer) Scannura B.S. '79** has been the clinical instructor for Mennonite College of Nursing for 18 years and Illinois State University for six years. She has also worked for 25 years at Memorial Medical Center, in Springfield, Illinois, and is currently employed at one of the hospital's Express Care Clinics. She is married to Louis Scannura, and they have four children.

## 1980s

**Amy (Kornfeld) Elias M.S. '80** is a lifestyle educational consultant and the founder of WHIP It, where wisdom, health, integrity, and passion merge. She is also an Anusara yoga teacher.

**Daniel Greene B.B.A. '80** has been appointed executive vice president and director of Amalgamated Bank's Commercial Banking Division.

**Franca Lippi Mills B.A. '80** has published her first novel, *Strangers and Memories* (Publish America 2011), which follows the lives of several strangers who passed the Axis frontline in 1945 and were united for 37 days in a struggle for survival. The book aims to shed light on the plight of millions of Italian families following Italy's surrender in World War II. Ms. Mills says, "I am in my 80s, and this is my first book. It is never too late to learn, or to start a new chapter in our lives." The book is available at [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM).

**Brian Follweiler B.A. '81** is the director of programs and community outreach for the Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida.

**Michael Henchy M.S. '81** has been elected president and chief operating officer by First Central Savings Bank.

**Michael Kennedy B.S. '81** opened an expert medical care sports medicine practice.



Over the years, we've written about Adelphi students and newly minted alumni who've stood out in some way, whether for writing a novel or starting a novel student club. When we plan for new magazine issues, we think about the people we've already covered and wonder what they're up to. Here, we catch up with four recent alumni who were previously featured in *Adelphi University Magazine*.

# WHERE ARE THEY Now?

## 1 THE LAWYER Chantal Hamlin '07

**SIX YEARS AGO** Ms. Hamlin was a political science major who revitalized Adelphi's defunct Circle K chapter, spearheading numerous community outreach and service programs. She was featured in the spring 2005 *Adelphi University Magazine* for promoting V.O.T.E.R., Adelphi's massive voter education and registration drive.

**TODAY** The Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law graduate is an agency attorney intern with the New York City Administration for Children's Services, a position that she says, "fits into my overall plan of practicing family law." She adds, "Adelphi gave me confidence and a great base on which to build in law school." Ms. Hamlin is actively involved with her church, serving with the prayer and young adult ministries.

## 2 THE MUSIC MAN Scott Dimig '06

**FIVE YEARS AGO** Mr. Dimig was in the radio promotion department of Sony's New York office and was profiled in the fall 2006 issue of *Adelphi University Magazine* for his support of the Adelphi Annual Fund.

**TODAY** He is southeast regional promotion manager for Sony Music Epic Records, living in Miami Beach, Florida. He handles the radio promotions for Epic's artists in the southeast, including The Script, Incubus, Sean Kingston, Shakira, The Fray, Chevelle, and Natasha Bedingfield. He plays lead guitar for a musical trio that supports Musicians On Call in the South Florida region, an organization that brings live and recorded music to patients in healthcare facilities across South Florida. He is still a dedicated surfer and sailor and was recently married to Elissa Markowitz, director of media at CGM Talent Agency.

## 3 THE DOCTOR David Chau '07, M.S. '08

**SIX YEARS AGO** Mr. Chau, who was profiled in the fall 2005 issue of *Adelphi University Magazine*, was pursuing a degree in biology, intending to be a doctor. He was the first in his family to attend and, ultimately, graduate from college.

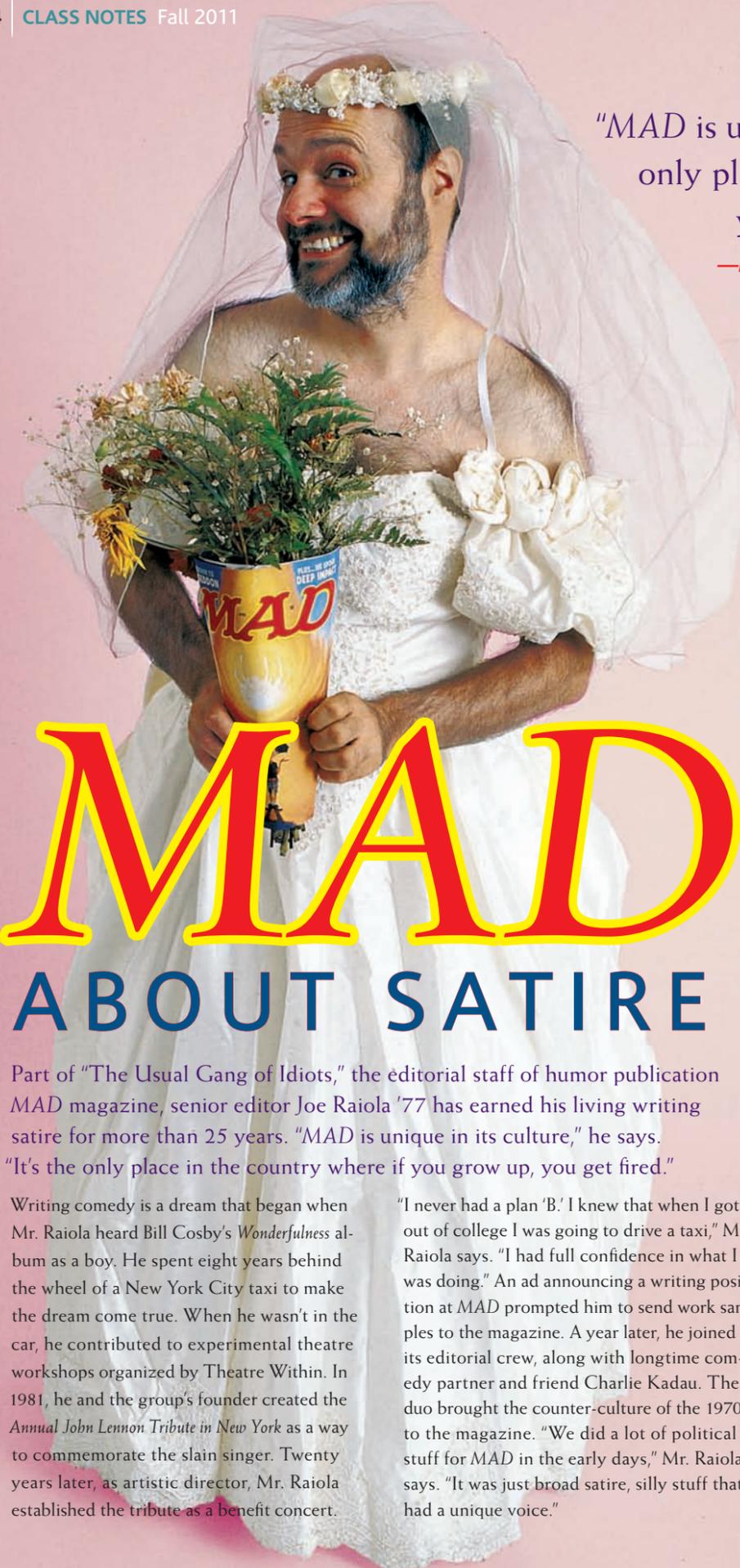
**TODAY** He is about to graduate from the University of Houston College of Optometry. He intends to return to the Tri-State area and go into private practice. He has also taken up running and working out. He's completed some Warrior Dashes—five-kilometer running races with obstacles, including jumping over fire, scaling walls, and running through mud and water—and intends to run a half-marathon or marathon.

## 4 THE WRITER Tiara Rey '06

**FIVE YEARS AGO** Ms. Rey had just graduated from Adelphi's Honors College and was featured in the fall 2006 issue of *Adelphi University Magazine* for writing a novel for her senior thesis.

**TODAY** She is living in California and working as a DealPro, under the guise, *sarkeydeals*, at the coupon website, [SAVINGS.COM](http://SAVINGS.COM). She says, "I scour the Internet for deals from Dell, HP, NewEgg, gaming websites, and that sort of thing and add them to [SAVINGS.COM](http://SAVINGS.COM) for consumers to find, print, and use online." She also writes weekly entries for the [SAVINGS.COM](http://SAVINGS.COM) blog. In her spare time, she is penning a novel that "combines the young adult and science fiction genres with the gay fiction genre." She has taken up biking, hiking, and yoga. [A](#)

By Bonnie Eissner



"MAD is unique in its culture. It's the only place in the country where if you grow up, you get fired."

—MAD magazine senior editor Joe Raiola '77

# MAD

## ABOUT SATIRE

Part of "The Usual Gang of Idiots," the editorial staff of humor publication MAD magazine, senior editor Joe Raiola '77 has earned his living writing satire for more than 25 years. "MAD is unique in its culture," he says. "It's the only place in the country where if you grow up, you get fired."

Writing comedy is a dream that began when Mr. Raiola heard Bill Cosby's *Wonderfulness* album as a boy. He spent eight years behind the wheel of a New York City taxi to make the dream come true. When he wasn't in the car, he contributed to experimental theatre workshops organized by Theatre Within. In 1981, he and the group's founder created the *Annual John Lennon Tribute in New York* as a way to commemorate the slain singer. Twenty years later, as artistic director, Mr. Raiola established the tribute as a benefit concert.

"I never had a plan 'B.' I knew that when I got out of college I was going to drive a taxi," Mr. Raiola says. "I had full confidence in what I was doing." An ad announcing a writing position at MAD prompted him to send work samples to the magazine. A year later, he joined its editorial crew, along with longtime comedy partner and friend Charlie Kadau. The duo brought the counter-culture of the 1970s to the magazine. "We did a lot of political stuff for MAD in the early days," Mr. Raiola says. "It was just broad satire, silly stuff that had a unique voice."

Inspired by American life, they wrote about sports, politics, and culture. Some of their pieces, including *The Belching Dragon*, a spoof on takeout menus of ubiquitous Chinese restaurants, became MAD classics.

Mr. Raiola first engaged in political activism as president of Adelphi's Student Political Association (S.P.A.), organizing protests to protect student rights. Once, S.P.A. members brought a coffin—signifying the death of the Adelphi student voice—to a secret faculty and admissions meeting, which lacked student representatives.

Adelphi was Mr. Raiola's training ground. "I grew at Adelphi," he says. "I was very confident that [comedy] was what I was going to be doing for the rest of my life. I had my opportunities in print, on stage, in radio." Enrolled in the Pride Program (today's General Studies Program), Mr. Raiola cast his net across the broad liberal arts spectrum. "It's really important to find out what you're excited about and go for it," he says.

Mr. Raiola carefully selected his English, philosophy, communications, and theatre classes. "I was only taking subjects I was interested in so I was naturally a good student," he says. "I read and wrote a lot." He also honed his artistic abilities through campus activities, including writing and directing a cabaret, "Penguins and Bagpipes," staged by Adelphi's Theatre Department, hosting a WBAU radio show, "Chowder Hotel," and penning a satirical column, "The Chopping Block," for the *Delphian*.

As an established comedian, Mr. Raiola developed a repertoire featuring serious matters, such as freedom of speech. For more than two decades, he has toured the country performing *Joy of Censorship*, a satirical look at First Amendment issues. His piece, *Almost Obscene*, highlights the impact of 9/11 on free speech.

At MAD, his voice has maintained its resonance. "Right now, I probably give it [MAD] a sharp political edge," he says. "MAD still does great political satire." 

By Ana Barbu '10

**Leon Diamond M.S. '82** hopes to retire after 31 years in the education system. He has two children, ages 23 and 28.

**Alan Fluger M.A. '82** established Brea Chiropractic and Wellness Center in Brea, California. For more information, visit [WWW.BREACHIROPRACTIC.COM](http://WWW.BREACHIROPRACTIC.COM). He is also the author of *Dying to Heal*, which is available on [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM).

**Kathleen Arena M.A. '83** is retired, however, she volunteers at a health clinic for the uninsured and recently started working as a substitute school nurse.

**Anne Bochicchio B.B.A. '83** joined Prudential Connecticut Realty.

**Fred Lichtenberg M.S. '83** is the author of *Hunter's World*, a murder mystery set on Long Island, which was released in May 2011. For more information, please visit: [FREDLICHTENBERG.COM](http://FREDLICHTENBERG.COM). He has also completed another murder mystery, *Double Trouble*, and wrote and directed a one-act play, *The Second Time Around... Again*, at the Lake Worth Playhouse in South Florida. He is a member of Mystery Writers of America and the International Thriller Writers, and currently lives with his wife in Jupiter, Florida, and has one son.

**Louis Ferrari M.B.A. '84** joined Savient Pharmaceuticals, Inc. as senior vice president, North America Commercial.

**Karen Klein B.S. '84** has been published in five of the Kaplan Voices: Nurses Book series: *Reflections on Doctors*, *Meditations on Hope*, *Final Moments*, *New Lives*, and *Lives in the Balance*.

**Kevin O'Connor B.B.A. '84** is president and chief executive officer of Bridge Bancorp, Inc., and its wholly owned subsidiary, The Bridgehampton National Bank.

**Margaret Rapp M.S.W. '84** received her Ph.D. in 2009 from New York University.

**Michelle (Deal) Winfield M.S. '84** and her family were honored by local New York City newspaper, *Our Town*, which celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by featuring families who have helped rebuild the East Side of Manhattan.

**Mark Fogel M.P.S. '85** has joined Marcum LLP, one of the largest independent public accounting and advisory services firms in the nation, as chief human resources officer.

**John (Jack) Rohan, Jr. M.S. '85** has been promoted to senior vice president of finance for Hearst Magazines.

**Kathleen Sherman B.S. '85** is currently seeking an M.S.N. degree in leadership at Franklin Pierce University. She has completed 20 years of active and reserve duty as a Navy Nurse Corps Officer.

**Christine Spletzer B.A. '85** has been appointed of counsel by Winston & Strawn LLP.

**Steven Cliadakis M.B.A. '86** has joined Spin Transfer Technologies as general manager.

**Mary-Ellen Cocchi B.S. '86** is marketing director of Lizardos Engineering Associates, P.C. in Mineola, New York.

**Terence Hayes M.B.A. '86** was appointed as T-Mobile's first vice president general manager for the New York region, which consists of 138 retail stores and nearly 1,500 partner locations in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, and Long Island.

**Robert Weiss B.S. '86** is an otolaryngologist on the medical staff of Norwalk Hospital, and director of Hearing and Balance Associates of Fairfield County.

**Arvind Kajaria B.B.A. '87** is managing director of Intrasoftware Technologies Ltd.

**Peter Principato B.A. '87**, owner of the Principato-Young talent agency, was profiled in the *New York Times Magazine* story, "Funny=Money," in December 2010. The story is available online at [HTTP://NYT.M5/EX3K7F](http://NYT.M5/EX3K7F).

**Mary (DiBlasi) Boland B.S. '88** gave birth to twins, Marissa Kate and Joseph Vincent, on June 19, 2010.

**Maureen Gannon M.S. '88** recently received a four-year grant from the Veterans Administration for her research on diabetes and aging.

**James Panzarino B.S. '88** is the executive vice president and chief credit risk officer for Discover Financial Services.

**Joyce Belfour B.B.A. '89** has been promoted to vice president and corporate controller at Patriot Rail Corporation, a privately held short line and regional freight railroad holding company.

**Claudia Galvin B.S. '89** was promoted to assistant sales manager of Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty, one of the nation's leading realtors.

**Barbara Panos-Savicky D.S.W. '89** has been appointed to the staff of the Ridgefield Chiropractic & Wellness Center. A practicing psychotherapist, counselor, designer, and educator, she has more than 25 years of experience. In conjunction with her clinical practice, and as owner of Signature Interior Designs, she

has expanded her work in the area of residential design to help facilitate how people function within their home, especially after having physical, emotional, and medical challenges. She is the past executive director of the Family Counseling and Education Center in Garden City, New York, and has taught as an assistant professor and adjunct educator at Long Island University-C.W. Post Campus and Adelphi University School of Social Work.

**Michele Rodger B.S. '89, M.S.W. '90** is author of *Carole's Story...A Scottish Gem*, in which she shares the life story of her sister-in-law. Portions of the proceeds of the book will fund research supporting an alternative cancer treatment.

**Geraldine Valencia-Go Ph.D. '89** published "Emerging Populations and Health" in Edelman and Mandel's 7<sup>th</sup> edition of *Health Promotion throughout the Life Span*. She is an associate professor of nursing at the College of New Rochelle School of Nursing and faculty advisor of the Student Nursing Association.

## 1990s

**Jeffrey Corliss M.B.A. '90** was named a Five Star Wealth Manager by *Connecticut Magazine*. He joined Barnum Financial Group (BFG) in March 2006 to head up the financial planning department. Prior to joining BFG, he was a vice president for Chase Investment Services Corp., a division of JP Morgan Investments. He is a member of the Estate Planning Council of Lower Fairfield County.

**Donna Hallas B.S. '90, Ph.D. '99** was named the 2010 Nurse Practitioner of the Year by The Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island. She is a clinical associate professor at New York University College of Nursing and the coordinator of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program. She is also a pediatric nurse practitioner whose practice serves at-risk children from birth to 21 years old who receive their primary healthcare in a pediatric ambulatory care center.

**Marlene Klotz B.A. '90** has written *Animal Quackers*, a book of children's poetry, which is available on [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM).

**Tracy Miksell-Branch M.S.W. '90** is owner and director of Dr. Tracy's Counseling Services located in Grimes, Iowa. She provides counseling and psychotherapy to adults suffering from a wide range of problems including depression, grief, addictions, and relationship issues.

**Cheryl White-Leys B.B.A. '90** was appointed to the position of senior risk consultant in the Risk Management Services division of Chernoff Diamond & Co., a New York-based benefits and risk management consulting firm.

**Hector Chavez B.A. '91** has enrolled in the 12-Month Accelerated Basic Baccalaureate Program at the Stony Brook University School of Nursing, where he'll complete his degree in 2012. He is also the recipient of a scholarship through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship program.

**Emily Ann Forhman-Jewell B.S. '91** was appointed executive director of Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children. Spence-Chapin focuses on finding adoptive homes for infants and young children both in the greater New York area and around the world. For the past 11 years, she was executive director of Catholic Big Sisters and Big Brothers, a not-for-profit agency located on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

**Thomas Stiehle M.B.A. '92** joined Ingalls Shipbuilding from Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems and was appointed vice president.

**Ronald Rudaitis B.A. '93** is a three-time Emmy Award-winning filmmaker. His latest biographical documentary, *I Could Write A Book: The Beverly Fite Story*, had its premiere screening at the Cinema Arts Centre in Huntington, New York, in May 2011. He anticipates releasing *Suburban America: Problems & Promise* this fall via American Public Television.

**Susan Iadarola M.B.A. '96** joined the board of the Maurer Foundation, a Long Island-based breast health education non-profit.

**Doreen Mochrie-Tuohy M.B.A. '96** was named new manager of investor relations at Perry Capital.

**Thomas Kane M.A. '97** is the principal of St. Thomas the Apostle School in Delmar, New York.

**Nelly (Alia) Klein B.A. '98**, a scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory, was honored for her accomplishments in science at the Town of Brookhaven's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Recognition Night. She was among 13 women honored for their contributions to various fields at a ceremony celebrating the significant achievements of local women during Women's History Month. Initially trained as a clinical psychologist, with expertise in forensic psychology, she has specialized in neuroimaging, together with DNA and behavior analyses, to study the mechanisms that underlie aggression and violent behavior.

**Jason Merz B.A. '98**, owner of Metamorphosis Landscape Design, based in Melville, New York, was featured in *Newsday*. In 2011, the company was voted "#1 Landscape Design Company on Long Island" in the *Long Island Press's* Best of Long Island poll. To learn more about Metamorphosis Landscape Design, visit [WWW.METALLANDSCAPEDESIGN.COM](http://WWW.METALLANDSCAPEDESIGN.COM).

**Meredith Powell B.F.A. '98** was a cast member for a production of Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *A Delicate Balance*, in Rochester, New York, in June 2011. She has appeared in, or directed, at least 20 shows in the past 10 to 12 years. One of her favorites is *Catholic School Girls*. She also wrote a play titled *The Hill of Victory*.

## 2000s

**John Alfano M.A. '00** was appointed as operations manager of Reed Exhibitions.

**Michael Mirabella B.S. '00**, the athletic trainer at White Plains High School, received the New York State Athletic Trainers' Association's Joseph Abraham Award.

**Dawn Santoriello B.S. '00**, a financial adviser with Wealth Planners Group in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, was named to the Million Dollar Round Table, which represents the top one percent of sales professionals in the financial services industry. She serves on the executive board of the Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors and the Estate Planning Council.

**Christine Moosmann M.S.W. '01** was promoted to director of marketing at Sigma Corporation of America, a leading researcher, developer, manufacturer, and service provider of lenses, cameras, and flashes. In her new role, she is spearheading the company's public relations, marketing, social media, and advertising programs.

**Kimberly Kruger B.S. '02** is the director of clinical services for Access Home Care Inc. She also teaches home health aide courses at the agency.

**Adam Blitz M.B.A. '03** was appointed regional sales director for Great-West Retirement Services, Long Island, New York.

**Thomas Westerman B.A. '03** married Carly Kathleen Fowler on June 17, 2011, in Roswell, Georgia. He is a Ph.D. candidate in history and graduate lecturer at the University of

Connecticut. Adelphi alumni **Mark Ginocchio B.A. '03**, **Timothy Jackson B.A. '03**, **Erin (Hadley) Ginocchio B.S. '01**, and **Daniel Westerman B.S. '08** were members of the wedding party.

**Sarah (Pickwick) Emmel B.A. '04** married David Emmel on September 6, 2009. She is currently employed by an environmental consulting firm in Port Washington, New York.

**Shannon (Young) Shelly B.A. '04** married Matt Shelly on September 18, 2010, at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. She is currently studying with the American Sommelier Association.

**Fayola Williams B.A. '04** is an assistant district attorney at the Kings County Attorney's Office and was appointed as the New York County Lawyers' Association delegate to the American Bar Association.

**Katie Meinholt B.F.A. '05** has moved to the San Francisco Bay area to pursue a career in acting and modeling. She was on episodic TV for the first time in the fall on Investigation Discovery's program, *I (Almost) Got Away With It*, in a lead role. She also did a commercial for the San Francisco Giants, and was photographed by Jesse Goff for a Google Places App advertisement.

**Meaghan Eren B.A. '06** just completed a degree in veterinary medicine at Cornell University.

**David Fuller B.A. '06** is an elected official, serving on the Stratford, Connecticut, town council. He is also working as a graduate assistant at Fairfield University as he works on his thesis topic studying how media representation and stereotyping of immigrant populations shape public conceptions. He is pursuing a Master of Arts in communications at Fairfield University.

**Elvin Ramos B.A. '06, M.A. '07** received his Doctor of Arts from St. John's University in May 2010. He is now the assistant dean of Metropolitan College of New York's Audrey Cohen School for Human Services and Education.

**Heather Senti B.A. '06** became the first woman in Nassau County elected as assistant fire chief by the Lakeview Volunteer Fire Department.

**Lorraine Kennedy B.S. '07** is employed as an R.N. at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, New York. She has worked

there for three years with a core specialty in orthopedics and sports trauma. She is also pursuing a master's degree in nursing education at Molloy College.

**Barbara Snyder M.S.W. '07** received her New York State Social Work license in January 2010. She is a volunteer social worker for the Kings Point Condominium Community, and teaches part-time at a local private high school. She has taught sociology and social work introductory courses at Touro College.

**Suzanne Vizethann M.S.W. '07** has joined the practice of Dr. Winchester-Vega and Associates.

**Elizabeth Castoro B.A. '08** found an internship at JS2 Communications and, within two days, was offered a full-time position at the company. After working there for six months, she was promoted from an account coordinator to an assistant account executive.

**Marie Schwarz B.S. '08** has been working at Pilgrim Psychiatric Center since January 2009. She plans to get her psychiatric nurse practitioner degree at Stony Brook University in the spring of 2012 and has a three-year-old son and one-year-old daughter.

## 2010s

**Matthew Hancock B.F.A. '10** is an actor who was cast in a starring role in his first interactive show in Columbus, Ohio.

**Andrew Zang B.A. '10** is pursuing a dual program in law and a master's in real estate law at New York Law School. He also serves as a liaison between Adelphi University and New York Law School.

**Denise Doris-Brown M.S.W. '11** seeks to empower and advocate for effective social change within the community. She has worked in the foster care system and preventative services. Additionally, she coordinated and facilitated educational outreach projects and seminars on prevention of domestic abuse and violence during her employment at a non-profit agency, as well as within her religious organization. She recently completed Adelphi University's Gold Leadership Certificate Program for alumni. She was invited to speak on domestic violence and the immigrant population at an open panel discussion by keynote speaker, North Hempstead Town Councilwoman Viviana Russell. Ms. Doris-Brown is a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and NASW Nassau County Steering Committee.

## In Memoriam

Marie (Guidi) Carrano B.A. '26

Doris Petersen Smith B.A. '35

Irma (Denker) Trau B.A. '37

Marie (Tota) Castellano B.A. '41

Blanche Perkins Bigelow B.A. '44

Audrey Lisle Pearsall B.A. '44

Roswell Lowell Bigelow B.A. '48

Muriel (Cunningham) Kochendorfer B.S. '48

Daniel Goldstein B.B.A. '49

Jeanne (Garabrant) Schreiber B.S. '50

Martin Weisberg B.B.A. '50

Sam Denoff '51

Marcia (Kuhlke) Shubert B.S. '51

Norma (Singleton) Albertini M.A. '52

Donald Burpee B.A. '52

Wilma (Livingston) Raven B.A. '52

Nancy (Finnan) Buckett B.A. '53

Jean (Pope) Abbey M.A. '55

Stanley Kellner B.S. '57

Edward Paul B.S. '57

Roberta (Yanover) Housman B.S. '58

Sanford Cines M.S. '68

Sandy Haft M.B.A. '68

George Swanson B.A. '68

Joan Cynar M.A. '69

Barbara Ring M.S.W. '70

Glenn Overton B.B.A. '71

Doris Hirsch M.S.W. '74

Roberta (Serden) Ostrower B.A. '74, M.S. '76

Inge (Juttner) Blumenthal M.A. '79

Ruth Anderson B.A. '79

Kay Mack M.A. '81

Crawford Davis B.S. '84

Donald Duerbeck B.A. '85

James Fonseca M.A. '91

David Sims B.S. '95

Nancy Rudolph B.S. '99

Gloria Pollante M.S. '03

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# A Look Back

## From War to Peace to STAGE & SCREEN

They aren't necessarily household names—Norman Hall '48, Sam Denoff '50, Phil Hymes '49, Lee Philips (formerly Leon Friedman), Jo Wilder (nee Joanne Brower), Roswell Bigelow '48, and Fanchon Scheier (nee Miller) '74—but the television, film, and theatre productions these Adelphi alumni contributed to are well known.

Longtime television and theatre director **Norman Hall '48** won an Emmy for direction on *One Life to Live*. **Samuel Denoff '50**, who passed away earlier this year, won four Emmys—two of which were for his writing on *The Dick Van Dyke Show*. **Phil Hymes '49** is still the lighting director for *Saturday Night Live*. **Lee Philips**, who passed away in 1999, became famous for his lead role, alongside Lana Turner, in the 1957 film, *Peyton Place*. He went on to direct scores of television shows, including episodes of *M\*A\*S\*H*. **Jo Wilder**, a former actor, was married to actor Joel Grey and is the mother of actor Jennifer Grey, of *Dirty Dancing* fame. **Roswell Bigelow '48**, who also passed away earlier this year along with his wife of 64 years, alumna **Blanche Bigelow '44**, was a lighting director at NBC and ABC. **Fanchon Scheier '74** continues to teach theatre at Sarah Lawrence College.

They all came to Adelphi just after World War II. Many, such as Mr. Hall, Mr. Hymes, and Mr. Bigelow, were veterans who took advantage of the G.I. Bill. The veterans were older and had gained experiences and skills that served them well in the theatre—both on stage and behind the scenes. *SNL* lighting director Phil Hymes, who worked with Norman Hall to design Adelphi's Little Theatre in 1947, says, "I was a master sergeant in the signal corps in maintenance...I knew a little something about a screwdriver and a hammer." Adelphi's Speech and Drama Department, as it was then known, was intimate and allowed for camaraderie and autonomy. In an essay, "My Time at Adelphi," Mr. Hall writes, "In choosing Adelphi, I felt that I had found a perfect place where I could learn, explore, and initiate creative ideas." With the support of Adelphi President Paul Dawson Eddy, Mr. Hall and Mr. Hymes helped the College acquire and reconfigure a World War II Quonset hut that became Adelphi's Little Theatre—the predecessor to Olmsted Theatre. Even after his graduation in 1948, Mr. Hall continued to direct Adelphi plays.



- 1 A 1950 production of *The Aim of the Game—An Original Musical Revue*, written by Norman Hall '48 and Fred McMorrow '49, with (from left) Fanchon Scheier (nee Miller) '74, Mr. Hall, Gordon Rigsby, Jim McDonald, and Mr. McMorrow
- 2 A 1947 production of *Waiting for Leftie*, directed by Norman Hall '48, with (from left) John Shapiro, Fred McMorrow '49, Ira Lapoff, and Roland Gomez '51
- 3 Adelphi alumnus Lee Philips starred in the 1957 film, *Peyton Place*.
- 4 Creators and cast of *The Dick Van Dyke Show* at Emmy night in May 1966: (from left) writer Bill Persky; the show's creator Carl Reiner; its stars Mary Tyler Moore and Dick Van Dyke; and writer Sam Denoff '50

Fanchon Scheier, who has devoted her career to acting and teaching acting, recalls being in the plays Mr. Hall directed. "Norman was so dynamic," she says. According to Ms. Scheier, "It was a very exciting time [at Adelphi] because of the veterans." She came to Adelphi to study with Jack Thompson, a faculty member who had studied out in Hollywood at the Actors' Laboratory. "He had absolutely revolutionary, exciting training, and I was just thrilled with his classes and his belief in me," says Ms. Scheier.

Following graduation, Mr. Hall and Ms. Scheier, along with others, including Lee Philips, formed the Circle Theater—one of the first arena theatres in New York City—where they produced plays. "We got nice reviews," says Ms. Scheier. "But it never made a profit."

Ms. Scheier fondly recalls seeing her friend, Mr. Philips, starring in *Peyton Place*.

"I remember my friend...and I ran down to...the theatre downtown, and we were just thrilled," she says. "He was a terrific, terrific guy."

Ms. Scheier also remembers performing with Jo Wilder, whom she describes as "a terrific singer." **Lois Kester Jason '53**, who continues to act, says she used to pick Ms. Wilder up in Brooklyn and drive her out to school.

Ms. Jason, who describes her Adelphi days as "exciting times," says she performed a scene from *Born Yesterday* with Sam Denoff. "I was Billie Dawn, and he was, I think, Harry Brock."

Mr. Denoff passed away in July 2011 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. In his obituary in the *New York Times*, Margalit Fox writes, "It was for the acerbic wit that he brought to *The Dick Van Dyke Show* that Mr. Denoff probably remained most celebrated."

What made Adelphi a starting ground for theatre talents such as Mr. Denoff and his fellow alumni is hard to pinpoint. The College's proximity to New York, its appeal to World War II veterans eager to move on with their lives, and its collegial and respected drama department all likely played a role.

Regardless, it was a fruitful time for the performing arts and for those who would make their careers on or near stage. "During those years, I found so many talented and creative actors, stage managers, and technicians, many of whom became lifelong friends," writes Norman Hall. "I have spent my entire professional life in the theatre and television, and I will always be grateful for the unbelievable opportunities afforded me at Adelphi." 

By Bonnie Eissner



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