

Molecular Biology/Biochemistry Interdisciplinary Initiative

Paul Tomascak,
Assistant Professor, Earth Sciences

The current generation of students at SUNY Oswego has extraordinary access to exciting new science as a result of unprecedented collaboration between the Biology and Chemistry Departments. Research that has exploded into international prominence over the past two decades has been keyed by the development of techniques to examine biological materials like never before. Movement on this campus toward the new realm of science at the interface between biology and chemistry has been amazingly rapid and was ushered in by the hiring of Drs. Andy Ouellette (Biology), Jim MacKenzie (Biology), and Kestas Bendinskas (Chemistry) between 2003 and 2004.

The threesome has joined forces to create the Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Center (MBBC), along with Drs. Peter Rosenbaum (Biology) and Webe Kadima (Chemistry). The MBBC, housed on the third floor of Snygg Hall, pools equipment and expertise for the benefit of research and teaching. Currently, seven students actively participate in research activities in the MBBC. The center has helped strengthen the newly initiated Bachelor of Science degree program in Biochemistry.

Another key link in this interdisciplinary chain was forged in 2005 with the acquisition of a state-of-the-art MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer, a device used to identify and study complex organic compounds by their molecular weights, funded by the National Science Foundation's Division of Biological



Cody Spencer (student)
and Kestas Bendinskas

Dean's Column

New Places, New Pathways

Sara B. Varhus, Dean

If you have visited campus recently, you know that the shape of things is changing. A new campus center is rising between Swetman and Penfield. The Departments of English and Modern Languages have moved into the stylishly renovated Poucher Hall. The lower level of Lanigan, which has also been given a postmodern look, is now home to Graphics as well as Communications, Broadcasting, and Journalism. The School of Business is fully settled in Rich Hall, and faculty in the School of Education are in the process of moving to Wilbur Hall. The renovations of historic Sheldon Hall have been completed and it now houses Admissions, Development, and the Children's Center, as well as several grand classrooms.

Because of these changes, the patterns of work for students and faculty have changed: the east end of campus is once again a hub of activity, and the corner between the new campus center and Penfield will be a crossroads. And just as departments and offices have moved into new physical configurations, the shape of academic programs in Arts and Sciences is changing.

The past ten years have seen the evolution of pairs and clusters of programs that have connected or converged, through shared courses, projects and degree programs. The academic "herd paths" are changing too!

At the heart of the cluster of programs in Lanigan is a computer facility that we call the Center for Communication and Information Technology, where students and faculty in graphics, television and radio broadcasting, and journalism can collaborate on projects. This work relates to what students and faculty in Information Science and in our new graduate program in Human-Computer Interaction are doing, and the English Department has developed a program in Cinema and Screen studies in which students will do both interpretation and production of cinema. Adding to the excitement of these developments in Lanigan is an all-new digital television and radio broadcasting facility!

... it is in the
nature of academic
inquiry always to
find new pathways.

The fine arts programs are also dynamic. We are proud that this past year Theatre received accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Theatre, joining Music, which has had national accreditation for many years. The Art Department hosted a successful accreditation visit by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and is right now preparing its final report to this organization. A visit to Tyler Hall shows that these programs are linked not only by their excellence, but also by technology. It is not unusual to see installations that include performance, still and moving images, and sound! This fall, freshmen will have the option of participating in a fine arts living and learning community, and faculty and students from all three departments are working on a multimedia production



Dr. Douglas Halliday

Physician, Healer,
Advice Giver, Alumnus

Because of his interest in his alma mater and in our current students who might be thinking about a career in medicine, on October 26, 2005, Syracuse physician Dr. Douglas Halliday had lunch with SUNY Oswego's Premedical Advisory Committee. He also had extensive discussions with a number of our premedical students, answering their questions and sharing valuable advice about undergraduate preparations for medical school and the actual medical school application process. Students were very appreciative of this opportunity.

Following these discussions, Dr. Halliday, who is a 1972 SUNY Oswego graduate and renowned plastic surgeon, spoke about *Applications of Science in Facial Plastic Surgery* as part of the Science Today series. This was a very informative presentation and well attended. (Many women before the presentation had joked about getting advice about cosmetic surgery!)

The entire SUNY Oswego community, including the Premedical Advisory Committee and Oswego's premedical students, is grateful for Dr. Halliday's willingness to share his time and expertise and to give his advice to our students.



Dr. Halliday chats with Premed students after the group meeting (top). Dr. Halliday during *Science Today* presentation (bottom).



Poster baby: brochures, posters and ads were placed in pediatrician's offices and other community sites.

Study on Spontaneous Blinking in Infants

Leigh F. Bacher,
Assistant Professor, Psychology

We may not notice it, but we all blink spontaneously many times a minute. Research on adult humans and adult non-human primates shows that spontaneous blinking is altered by a variety of factors including stress, humidity, cognitive activity, and drugs linked to specific neurochemical systems in the brain such as dopamine. Also, spontaneous eye blinking is altered in some pathological conditions such as Parkinson's. Despite these advances, we know very little about spontaneous blinking during infancy.

Beginning in spring 2005, Leigh F. Bacher, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, began a new study of spontaneous eye blinking in infants with the help of a two-year grant from the National Eye Institute of National Institute of Health (NIH). Bacher's study aims (a) to describe the features of spontaneous eye blinks, (b) to examine relationships between blink-

ing and body movement, measures of cardiac activity, and temperament, and (c) to test whether blinking rate can be altered by different kinds of stimulation (moving objects or social interaction) in order to determine, in the end, whether features of spontaneous eye blinking reflect individual differences in biobehavioral functioning that may be used to enhance the health of human infants."

Bacher distributed and posted brochures, posters and ads in pediatricians' offices and other community sites, inviting parents to bring their healthy, full-term infants for two visits to Mahar Hall for observation. Infants participating in the study will be first observed at four months, then again at twelve months. About one hundred infants are needed to complete the study.

The team assisting Bacher will play a critical role in the success of the project. The members of her research team include four undergraduate research assistants conducting each observation; a full-time lab manager, Kara Wallace (BA in Psychology, Ithaca College) coordinating recruitment, schedules, and data analysis; and Drs. Jacqueline Reihman and Brooks Gump of the Department of Psychology serving as consultants on the project.



Part of the "Blinking Team": Andy Long (Psychology-CS), Lee Bacher, and Lauren Richmond (Psychology graduate)

First Cutler Symposium brings expert on healthcare fraud to campus

Linda Loomis, Director, Journalism

A cross-country trip with classmates following graduation landed David F. Cutler '74 in Colorado, where he built a successful career in criminal justice. Throughout the years, although he was far away, Cutler continued to cherish the place and the experience of his college days. He determined that at some point, he would make a gift to SUNY Oswego that would honor the past by reaching into the future.

That gift was made in 2004, and this year students in the Public Justice department will reap the first benefits from the \$100,000 endowment established by alumni David F. Cutler '74 and Catherine Lovell '76. They made the gift through the Arapahoe Community Treatment Center Foundation (ACTC) which they established in 2003 as a charitable entity.

"We created the foundation, and when it was time to make the first gift, we thought about the most important things in our lives," explains David Cutler, executive Director of Arapahoe Community Treatment Center for adult males. "We have very strong feelings about Oswego and the quality of education that is offered there. It just seemed logical that we would make SUNY Oswego the first recipient of a gift from the foundation."



David F. Cutler

The endowment generates approximately \$4,000 annually that can be used to support faculty and student programs and research.

In October, the money funded the first Cutler Symposium, featuring Stephen Morreale, Ph.D., a recently retired federal agent with the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. He investigated and brought to prosecution doctors, nursing home executives, and others who committed Medicaid fraud. He teaches

part-time at several different universities while in retirement, and provides consulting work investigating health care fraud in different states.

"Thanks to the generosity of Cutler and Lovell, our students and members of the community will learn about the prevalence and challenges of health care fraud," Margaret Ryniker, chair of the Public Justice Department, says. "Dr. Morreale is a dynamic speaker who will offer a first-person perspective on this complex subject."

Students read about the difficult-to-solve white collar crime of health care fraud and studied background material prior to Dr. Morreale's lectures. They learned from him about the obstacles the federal government must overcome to investigate and prosecute criminals.

"The Public Justice Excellence Fund enables faculty members and students to create programming and participate in research that would not be financially feasible within the confines of our annual budget," explains Ryniker. "It is this kind of engagement that can create and sustain a high level of academic



Dr. Stephen Morreale shares insight on health care fraud during the first Cutler Symposium

energy in the department and across campus. We are extremely grateful to David Cutler and Catherine Lovell."

A native of Camillus, David Cutler is one of three children in his family who graduated from Oswego. He earned a B.S. degree in Social Sciences before the college had a Public Justice Department and set out across country with friends after graduation. When two of the buddies wanted to settle in California and two preferred Colorado, they flipped a coin and headed back up the coast to Colorado. David built his career in Englewood and, although he visits his mother in Central New York several times a year, he claims he has no desire to return to winters by Lake Ontario.

"I have fond memories of regular Friday night walks across Rt. 104 to cheer for the Oswego hockey team," he says, "but it sure could get cold walking back after the games."

Cutler encourages other alumni to talk to staff members in the Office of University Development to discuss different options for making a gift to Oswego. "We didn't know exactly what method of giving would be best for us. I talked to Mary Canale (Director of Major Gifts), who suggested we consider an endowment. That made a lot of sense, and everything has gone very smoothly."

David says he will always remember the good friends he made during his years at Oswego and the skills and knowledge he attained as a student that have made it possible for him to pursue the kind of work he loves. He likes to think that through this gift to the Public Justice Department he can help provide current and future students with some of the excitement and sense of purpose that were such a vital part of his experience.

Gift giving is one of the ways in which graduates remember their alma maters. If and when you are so inclined to donate to SUNY Oswego, you might consider designating your donations specifically to the College of Arts and Sciences to assist with the variety of ongoing developments in this area.

For information about donating you can contact the Development Office at King Alumni Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126

Phone 315.312.3033 (Development) or 315.312.2258 (Alumni/Parent Relations)

Or visit the web:
<http://www.oswego.edu/alumni/>

We thank you for your consideration.

Warm Welcomes AND Fond Farewells

■ ■ ■

Art Lisa Langlois

Biology Yan Dong

Communication

Studies Eileen Gilligan
(Journalism)

Jeremy Nickerson
(Journalism)

Marc Sorbello

Earth Sciences Alan Hoffmeister

English Amy Shore

History Mary Bivins
Mary McCune
Michael Spear

Physics Shashi Kanbur
Tenneti Rao

Political Science Dustin Howes
Sondra Venable

Psychology Andrew Smiler

Public Justice William Jones

Sociology Stephanie Bennett
Randall Stetson

Theatre Jerry Bradley
Jessica Hester

The deans, faculty and staff of the College of Arts and Sciences also extend thanks for years of service and best wishes for a rewarding retirement to the Arts & Science faculty who retired from Fall 2004 to December 2005:

Inez Alfors, English
David Conrad, History
Roger Hinrichs, Physics
Joanne Kossegi, Mathematics
Dave Thomas, Earth Science

The deans, faculty and staff of the College of Arts and Sciences also extend our best wishes for a rewarding retirement to Juanita Tschudy, Associate Registrar, with thanks for years of dedication and service.

We also recognize the passing of Betty Brindle, Computer Science.

Accomplishments

Mary Frances Stuck, Assistant Dean, Arts & Sciences

A large number of our Arts & Sciences often in collaboration with faculty n

Medical School Admission

Sarah Dale Mitchell – Uniformed Services Medical School (Bethesda, MD)
Kenneth Dunstone – Upstate Medical University SUNY
Mark der Mesropian – Down State Medical University SUNY
Paul der Mesropian – Down State Medical University SUNY
Ellen Diamant – SABA University School of Medicine

Accomplishments of McNair Scholars

Jose Valdez – Poster presentation at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society hosted by the University of Texas at Austin June 1-5th with faculty mentor Dr. Rebecca Burch.
Michael Smith – Presentation of the results from his research on the effects of common ground on irony comprehension at the McNair conference in Baltimore, MD this year under Kristen Link's supervision.
Ebony Coleman – Paper presentation at Colorado State University at Boulder in March 2005 entitled: *African Americans in the Media*. The same paper was presented at QUEST. Faculty Mentor: Tina Pieracini
Michele Scoville – Artwork on display at SUNY Brockport during the month of November and December. Faculty Mentor: Matthew Friday.
Michael Smith – Paper presentation at the Annual University of Maryland at College Park McNair Conference during March 2005 and QUEST Day. Faculty mentor: Dr. Craig Graci.
Roger Gordon – Has been invited to participate in a research project with Dr. Christopher LaLonde in Albuquerque, New Mexico in June 2005.

McNair Students Attending Graduate School in Fall 2005

Michele Scoville – SUNY Oswego, Art
Michael Smith – SUNY Oswego, Human Interactive Program
Clari Perez – Brooklyn College, School of Education
Sabrina Stilwel – Nazareth College, Geology
Damian Piaschyk – University of Pittsburg (admitted) and Rutgers University (admitted), Geology

Accomplishments of Women's Studies Students

Jennifer Pufky, Communication Studies/Political Science,
Chancellor's Award – Spent spring and summer 2005 in London as an intern for the Labour Party.
Erin Cole, English – Admitted to SUNY Buffalo Law School
Nicole Navratil, Anthropology – SUNY Binghamton School of Biomedicine (Forensics)



of Our Recent Graduates/Alumni

Our students have distinguished themselves in various venues this past year, and our members. Here is a compilation of some of those achievements.

Major Awards Received This Year by Psychology Students or Young Alumni

- Ashley Champion, Human Development major – *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* 2004-2005
Ashley Pierce, Human Development major – *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* 2004-2005

Psychology Students Who Published, Presented, or Displayed Their Work at Professional Conferences

Poster presentations

- Hipp, D., and Burch, R.L. (2005). *What predicts male commitment?* Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Austin, Texas.
Valdez, J., and Burch, R.L. (2005). *The impact of unprotected vaginal, oral and anal sex on depression.* Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Austin, Texas.
Moloney, R., and Burch, R.L. (2005). *Post ejaculatory behavior.* Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Austin, Texas.
Mapes, N., Bordador, J. J., and Burch, R.L. (2005). *Semen displacement behaviors during extra pair copulations.* Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Austin, Texas.
Hipp, D. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *The effect of relatedness and perceived resemblance to family members on sibling rivalry.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Hipp, D. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *The social mirror: Effects of perceived resemblance and resemblance ascription in the treatment of children.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Mapes, N. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *The menstrual cycle and depressive symptoms.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Mapes, N. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *Jealousy and jealousy evocation across the menstrual cycle.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Schultz, K., & Burch, R. L. (2005). *The effect of sexual abuse on body image, sexual orientation, and disorders.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Schultz, K. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *Differences in romantic relationships among heterosexuals, homosexuals and bisexuals in college.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Valdez, J. & Burch, R. L. (2005). *Levels of abuse in heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual relationships in college.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Van Diver, A., & Burch, R. L. (2005). *Sexual orientation and depression in a college sample.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.
Van Diver, A., & Burch, R. L. (2005). *Characteristics of adoptive families and factors in family dynamics.* Eastern Psychological Association. Boston, MA.

Psychology Graduates Admitted to Graduate School and Other Post-baccalaureate Work

- Karen Brown – SUNY Oswego, School Counseling
Lee Baker – Western New England School of Law
Lindsay Chapman – SUNY Oswego, School Counseling
Lindsay Conrow – Traveling to Africa for the PEACE Corps
Sara DeRycke – Syracuse University, Ph.D. Program
Tiphonie Gonzalez – SUNY Oswego, School Counseling
Daniel Hammer – Chicago, Americorp (Applied)
Christie Jacques – Accepted into Long Island University and Pace University
Stacy Kolb – University of Rochester, MA
Stephanie Leibowitz – Syracuse University, School Counseling
Michelle Lepkowski – Albany Rehabilitation and Counseling Masters
Tanya Mahaney – Florida Tech, PsyD
Melinda McCabe – Alfred University, MA, School Psychology
Andrew Nasser – St. John's University, School Counseling
Mindy Priest – SUNY Binghamton, MSW
Lauren Richmond – Northeastern University, MA, School Psychology
Kyle Schultz – Widener University. Psychology (PsyD)
Amy Sharp – Arizona State University, MSW
Julie Silverstein – University of Connecticut
Timothy Van Beveren – SUNY Oswego, School Counseling
Nadine Warrick – Argosy University, AZ, PsyD

We are very proud of these and all of our graduates.

INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVE

Continued from page 1

Infrastructure. The instrument proposal was led by Ouellette and co-authored by Bendinskas and Kadima. Drs. Al Lackey (Biology), Martha Bruch (Chemistry), and Casey Raymond (Chemistry) also contributed to the proposal. The facilities surrounding the mass spectrometer (MaSPeC, the Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics Center) form important components to courses currently instructed at both the introductory (BIO 213L: College Biology II Lab) and advanced (CHE 462L: Biochemistry II Lab) levels. Bendinskas and Ouellette team-taught a new course in Fall 2005, BIO 401/501 and CHE 401/501: Proteomics, which relied on a suite of new instrumentation, including the mass spectrometer. Proteomics, a word that does not appear in pre-1990 dictionaries, refers to the global study of all proteins of a cell, in particular their structures and functionalities.

The expertise available between the MBBC and the MaSPeC encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including bioinformatics, biological forensics, genetic epidemiology, molecular and microbial ecology, nanotechnology, organometallic complexing, physiology, and medicine. The need for enthusiastic students to take on projects is high. In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of both of these centers, the scientists involved encourage participation from all interested SUNY Oswego faculty and students.

Although the MBBC is a recent development, other Biology and Chemistry faculty had visions of a central role for molecular biology and biochemistry at SUNY Oswego years ago. Chiefly, the accumulation of new faculty between the departments needed to reach a critical mass before such visions could reach fruition. Chemistry Chair Dr. Ken Hyde's creative utilization of departmental space for both the MBBC and the MaSPeC labs played a key role in the realization of this interdisciplinary push. The collaboration of all other Chemistry and Biology faculty was essential in making all of this happen. As the sciences move toward new or renovated buildings in the near future, the collaboration between Biology and Chemistry serves as a model of the achievable possibilities.

To learn more about the programs and facilities, go to: www.oswego.edu/academics/colleges_and_departments/departments/biology/facilities/mbbc/index.html and www.oswego.edu/maspec



Paolo Knill



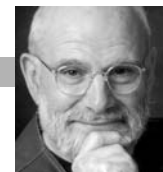
Robert Perkins



Dulcinea Langfelder



Norman Holland



Oliver Sacks

Arts Across the Curriculum

Brooks Gump, Associate Professor, Psychology

The 2005-2006 academic year heralds a new approach to arts programming for the campus community – *Arts Across the Curriculum*. For this initiative, the ARTSwego board established two goals: 1) to create a theme each year for ARTSwego programming, providing a context and unity to each of the events, and 2) to encourage and facilitate integration of ARTSwego events into ongoing courses. This new approach imagines “education that is organized in such a way that it cuts across subject-matter lines, bringing together various aspects of the curriculum into meaningful associations to focus upon broad areas of study. It views learning and teaching in a holistic way and reflects the real world, which is interactive” (Shoemaker 5). Future ARTSwego programming will focus on a broad area of study that combines artistic and other types of experiences, inviting the application of these integrative experiences in the classroom.

To encourage and facilitate integration of ARTSwego events directly into courses, we addressed a few perceived obstacles. First, information regarding ARTSwego events was mailed to faculty over the summer with the hope that faculty could thereby incorporate these events into their syllabi for the coming semester. Second, selected events would be recorded and made available in the library in VHS or DVD format. This makes it possible to require the event as part of a course despite potential scheduling conflicts for the students.

The arts and psychology is the focus of the programming for 2005-2006. With the Oswego Reading Initiative selection at the hub (Elizabeth Moon's novel, *The Speed of Dark*), the events this year revolve around common issues within psychology and the arts such as creativity, autism, Alzheimer's, and psychotherapy. Here are a few of the many events scheduled for this academic year:

Paolo Knill gave a lecture and workshop on November 2. Knill is Provost of the European Graduate School in Switzerland and is recognized and honored as a pioneer and one of the founders of expressive arts therapy. **Robert Perkins** lectured on November 9 and led a discussion and screening of one of his films, *Talking with Angels*, on November 10. Perkins' films are frequently shown on PBS, including a recent airing of a three-part series *One Man's Journey*, by WGBH/Boston. Perkins is also a renowned author. Seamus Heaney (winner of Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995) wrote in reference to the novel *Talking with Angels*, “If I could be a symphony that would cover all the expressible and inexpressible, I'd be up to writing you the letter that I'd like to. The book is out of this world, drawn out of this-worldness and a love of it, drawn towards a point beyond which offers a perspective.” **Dulcinea Langfelder** performed *Victoria* on February 2 and 3. This one-woman theatrical tour de force from Canada navigates life as experienced by a woman with Alzheimer's, exploring the psychological and emotional impact of dementia. **Norman Holland** will lecture on April 4. Through his numerous books and articles, Holland has developed a model for the interaction of literary works with the human mind. Holland is an internationally recognized literature and psychology scholar. **Oliver Sacks** will provide our keynote lecture on April 18. Sacks is a celebrated writer, professor, and practicing physician. As well as being a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books*, his books are used in universities worldwide, in subjects as diverse as medicine, writing, psychology, bioethics, philosophy, chemistry and religion. One of these books, *Awakenings*, was made into an Academy Award Nominated film of the same name starring Robin Williams and Robert De Niro.

Reference: Shoemaker, B. (1989). *Integrative education: A curriculum for the twenty-first century*. Oregon School Study Council, 33.

Alumna, Emerita reflections on SUNY Oswego Experiences

Nancy Seale Osborne, Librarian Emerita

How did my experience as an Oswego student influence my interests, goals, beliefs, and/or general outlook?

I applied to SUNY Oswego in the fall of 1968. I had attended Onondaga Community College seven years, one course at a time. When I told this to the grocery bagger at my store, who was also an OCC student, he said, "No disrespect, ma'am, but it sure is takin' you a long, long time to get through school!"

When I applied to SUNY Oswego, I was denied admission, because, in one course at Syracuse University's University College, I had received a D in Logic. Upon receipt of the letter which declined my application, I gave a call to the college, and somehow was connected with the Registrar, Ms. Dorothy Mott. She asked me to make an appointment with her. Somehow she decided I would be a good candidate as a new student, inasmuch as I had overall accumulated good grades for the seven years of my diligent application to my Thursday night classes, despite my relative failure in Logic.

The first Oswego class that stands out in my mind to this day as the one which I adored, looked forward to, studied hard for, and dreamed of, was Art 101, taught by David Campbell and another professor whose name escapes me. Their slide collection was, to my neophyte art-eyes, superb. I could hardly wait to sit in the dark, with three or four hundred other students, to be introduced to Roman and Greek art and culture.

Despite my being one student among hundreds, I got to know the professors a bit. Though I was exceptionally shy and would never in a million years speak out in class, I shared my out-of-class but germane writing with the professors. At the time Marshall McLuhan was a major cultural hero, and I utilized his conceptual frame to overlay it on the Art 101 curriculum. The professors asked to talk with me out of class. I was astounded.

In time, both of my children were introduced to art; they subsequently graduated from Syracuse University and Alfred University, majoring in sculpture and in lithography. For several years, I ran the family artweek sections of The Methodist Summer Camp at Casawasco.

As a librarian at Penfield in the 1980s, I inherited the acquisition responsibility for the Art Department from Peter Latusek, when he left to go to Stanford University. I greatly enjoyed working with the Art faculty and students, finding the Tyler Hall denizens to be among the most interesting souls on campus.

Now that I am retired, I have chaired our community's Art Committee, am learning to explore varieties of media in my own art, and continue to be interested in the national and international art world. Southwest Florida has its own cadre of interesting, sometimes home-grown, sometimes imported, artists.

I'm intrigued about SUNY Oswego's Catalyst Project, the First Choice course, and the Intellectual Issues course. What a fine conceptual framework to allow the college to strengthen opportunities for integrative learning and to allow students to explore coherency in their academic experiences and become engaged in and responsible for their own learnings!



Nancy Osborne

NEW PLACES, NEW PATHWAYS
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as part of a Squonk Opera performance planned for spring 2007.

Faculty and students in the sciences and mathematics, too, are crossing disciplinary boundaries; in fact, this thinking is central to their plans for the upcoming renovation of Snygg and Piez Halls. Some Biology faculty have already joined a few colleagues in Chemistry in what is now called the Molecular Biology/Biochemistry Center in Snygg. And as part of this exciting planning process, faculty and students are invited to attend a weekly *Science Today* lecture series, which aims to share developments in all areas of the sciences and mathematics. The mission statement for reconfigured spaces and facilities for the sciences also calls for architecture that "invites" the entire campus and members of the surrounding Oswego community into the science buildings.

Certainly digital technology as a tool for analysis, creation, and communication has given many disciplines a common ground that did not exist before, creating a virtual reconfigured space, and inviting collaboration across the community. For example, in online publications journalists can potentially use the skills of digital artists or film makers. Technology has made local questions global (or we see more clearly that many important questions have global significance)—think of the geographical distribution of both our rock music and employment in U.S. corporations—and global issues local in very immediate ways! There is also in our age a recognition that the complexity of many topics demands a variety of approaches and perspectives. The question of global warming calls not only for scientific knowledge, but also political, social and cultural expertise.

It is exciting to participate in reshaping our buildings, and our programs, and to accommodate these changes in the way we think! It is also humbling to know that thirty years from now, faculty and students will almost certainly want to replace the spaces that we are designing now with something more current, more attuned to their academic habits. The well-known stereotype of the stuffy professor with yellowed lecture notes (or a collection of powerpoints!) to the contrary, it is in the nature of academic inquiry always to find new pathways.

ARTS & SCIENCES

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT OSWEGO

Fall 2005

Published annually for SUNY Oswego College of Arts & Sciences alumni, faculty and staff, emeriti and friends.

Editorial Board, 2004–2005

Mary Frances Stuck, Assistant Dean (editor-in-chief); Sara B. Varhus, Dean; Patricia Clark, English; Linda Loomis, English/Journalism; Paul Tomascak, Earth Science; Dorothy Shedlock, Psychology

Thanks

Rose Throop & Jody Longeill, Publications, SUNY Oswego;
Val Todd, Arts & Sciences, Dean's Office

Speak Out

If there are issues that you would like to see addressed in the *Arts & Sciences Newsletter* or articles to which you would like to react, please feel free to address comments to: Dr. M. F. Stuck, Assistant Dean, Arts & Sciences, 601 Culkin Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126, or e-mail to: stuck@oswego.edu

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