

UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT

# KNIGHTLINES

VOL. 1, NO. 3 SPRING 2002

## INSIDE



**President's Message**  
- Page 2 -



**Dr. Mulcahy Honored**  
- Page 2 -



**Capstone Stars**  
- Page 3 -



**Top Scorer**  
- Page 5 -



**Memorial Scholarship**  
- Page 8 -

## UB: Safest Residential Campus

**T**he University of Bridgeport is the safest residential campus in Connecticut.

As one who has been away for 10 years and recently returned to campus, this writer is impressed by the remarkable change from years back. No one has fear walking about campus, going to parking lots or remote or dark places, or being in class buildings, dormitories or offices when there aren't many others about.

"We really get out there," said April Vournelis, chief of campus security, provided by Burns International. "We work hard on patrols. And we work closely with the residential life staff, the Bridgeport police and our community."

Vournelis said there were many specific factors involved in bringing crime down. Security officers promptly challenge strangers on campus. "If they don't belong, they're sent off," she said.

"The key is, our security officers have a lot of heart. This is not just a job. They really care," she said.

The security force also holds many programs with students, instructing them on what to watch for and what to do to protect themselves. As a result, students, faculty and staff are quick to report suspicious behavior. "That gives us a chance to intervene before anything happens," she said.

The security chief also credited the Bridgeport Police and Park Police for their help. "We have very close ties. They are so good



in responding to our needs. They're great, and that has impact on our campus."

The UB security force has foot and bicycle patrols, as well as motor vehicles. They are out where they are visible, so their presence is always felt, and comforting.

Every student also has a personal alarm device, much like the little key chain electronic beeper you may have to open your car door. If a student is in or fears a security situation, a press of the beeper sends the alarm signal into headquarters.

The security officers' response time to these alarms is under a minute and in many cases quite a bit less.

That's because the device includes a locator that pinpoints exactly where the alarm was signaled. And it tracks the signal if a student had to run or move away from the original spot.

As added security, the beeper-owner's photo comes up on a screen at headquarters. That allows security officers to be sure they are helping the right person, and that the beeper is not in the hands of an attacker.

This year dorm identification has been added to student ID cards to provide an extra ounce of security in controlling entry into the dormitories.

College	Aggravated assaults			Sex offenses			Burglaries			Liquor violations			Drug violations		
	98	99	00	98	99	00	98	99	00	98	99	00	98	99	00
Fairfield U.	1	2	2	4	0	1	24	33	47	594	383	718	33	32	67
Quinnipiac U.	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	212	523	0	59	28
Sacred Heart U.	0	1	0	0	0	4	25	33	31	0	517	508	0	12	10
Southern C. S. U.	2	7	0	1	1	1	30	7	7	15	37	53	10	10	22
<b>UB</b>	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	5
U. Conn.	2	10	4	2	2	6	73	67	47	34	32	6	42	31	35
U. New Haven	0	0	5	0	0	1	3	2	17	69	62	73	37	31	34
Yale U.	3	2	1	1	1	1	57	66	39	23	34	3	1	1	0

College criminal offenses for the calendar years 1998, 1999 and 2000.  
(Source: U.S. Department of Education)

— J.J.D.



Neil Albert Salonen  
UB President

## From the President...

**T**he winter has been mild. The campus is humming with activity as the UB community returns to its focus after the arresting

events of the fall.

Many good things have been happening. Another 88 students joined the teaching intern program, and 255 new UB students are teaching in schools throughout the region. The School of Engineering is nearly 800 students strong, and is preparing application to establish its first Ph.D. program in computer science and engineering. The fall Capstone presenters were spectacular, and everyone is looking forward to an even stronger spring display of scholarship. Senior Tanisha Hubbard scored her 1,000<sup>th</sup> point for the UB women's basketball team — a rare feat for a collegiate athlete. The ovation for her achievement thundered through Harvey Hubbell Gymnasium. Beyond campus, you'll see UB alumnu Kenichi Ebina won the amateur night at Harlem's famed Apollo Theater.

There's more. UB is now the safest residential college in Connecticut. We're also one of the fastest growing colleges in the state. Our job placements and graduate school acceptances are sterling. UB's alumni and friends are bringing new energy to fund-raising efforts.

Is there more to do? Of course. There are strong programs to expand, new ones to start, and buildings to renovate. More scholarship funds are needed to help make sure every worthy student can afford to enroll here. And building our endowments will be critical to secure UB's future.

This May we begin our diamond jubilee celebrations. Our genesis, The Junior College of Connecticut, was incorporated on May 5, 1927. The first class graduated two years later, in May of 1929. We will commemorate our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a series of events and programs that will run from May 2002 to May 2004.

The first event, 2002 Commencement, will be held in the new, nearby Arena at Harbor Yard. That location will allow for a larger, memorable ceremony, regardless of the weather. We will focus on honoring some of our most successful alumni — both as a celebration of what a UB education has meant "in the real world" and as an inspiration to our current students. We'd love to have you join us on that occasion.

More jubilee events are being planned. We hope you will join in as many of the anniversary celebrations as possible. Together, we can keep making the UB difference!

# Campus Report

## Engineering students in competitions

**A** team from the University's School of Engineering is being honored as one of only 80 throughout the world to be selected to compete in the IEEE Computer Society's annual International Design Competition. Students are challenged to design a computer application that can change people's lives. Students from UB engineering and computer science/engineering will compete in May in the semifinals. The World Finals will be held in Washington in late June.

UB engineering students are in another competition in April. They'll be entering their projects in the American Society of Engineering Education's New England Section competition at West Point Military Academy. UB students have won first place in that event two years in a row and in 2000 also took third place in the competition.

## UB sponsors international conference

**T**he University of Bridgeport was one of three major sponsors of a very successful International Conference on Industrial Electronics, Technology and Automation in Cairo, Egypt, in December. The Industrial Electronics Society (IEEE) and the Electronics Research Institute of Egypt were cosponsors. Some 200 scientists and engineers from around the world participated. Dean Tarek M. Sobh of UB's School of Engineering was co-chairman of the conference and a primary organizer. Some 97 papers were presented on subjects ranging from advance control and intelligent systems to automation, robotics and mechatronics. The conference alternates between national and international sites every other year. Sobh said the 2002 conference will be held in the United States.

## Iona honors Mulcahy

**I**ona College will honor UB's Dr. John W. Mulcahy with an honorary doctorate degree at its May commencement. Mulcahy, director of the education doctorate program at the UB School of Education and Human Resources, is a graduate school alumnus of Iona. He holds master's degrees in business and in English from Iona. The college is celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding community, the Congregation of Christian Brothers. "Your ministry of teaching teachers and of continued scholarship in the field of education serves as a model of leadership for all people who believe that the vocation of teaching is indeed a blessed one," Brother James A. Liguori, president of the college, said of Mulcahy in a letter informing him of the honor.

## Engineering gets grants

**T**he faculty of the School of Engineering has received a number of recent grants. Dean Tarek M. Sobh was awarded a \$3,500 United Nations Development Program grant to perform research on rapid prototyping in support of manufacturing and automation. Sobh also received a \$7,500 grant from the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst Fund to explore academic and industrial opportunities in Germany for student placements and research.

Khaled M. Elleithy, a professor in computer science and engineering, received a \$3,500 grant from the United Nations Development Program to investigate web agents.

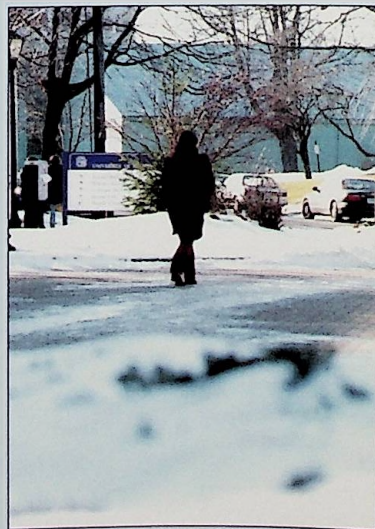
## Internet courses growing

**T**he Distance Education program — courses, certificate and degree programs UB offers over the Internet — is expanding.

The university received a \$40,000 grant from the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium to develop an online program leading to a Master of Science degree in Instructional Technology. Dr. Jerald Cole of the School of Education and Human Resources will develop the program. Dr. Cole is a well-known expert on learning technologies and has developed a number of courses on the Internet.

A four-course program leading to a Certificate in Marriage Education is being initiated and will begin in the summer. It is designed by Dr. Josie Hauer for counselors, therapists, clergy and others in related fields.

A second four-course certificate program, designed by Professor Jonatan Jelen, will be on "Managing the Digital Enterprise." It will prepare current and future leaders, executives and managers with the essential knowledge on how to combine the internetworking technologies and information economics with business applications.



Snow does fall on this UB paradise on the Sound. Here's a glimpse of a recent day when we became a winter wonderland. It was one of the few times we've had snow this winter.

## Capstone's brightest stars shine over UB

Several hundred people crammed into the art gallery on Nov. 29. They came for the university's show of shows, the Capstone Plenary. They were there to see the best and the brightest of UB's talented students. And they weren't disappointed. It was a show that brought everyone to their feet in applause and cheers as the curtain went down.

It was the first Capstone Plenary of the year. It is more than a showcase for student talent. UB's global attraction has given it the largest percentage of international students of any college in America. So these same students are, in effect, the future leaders not just of America but of the world.

The Capstone theme this year is civilization. The presenters came from three continents and four countries: Bulgaria, Nigeria, India and Russia. But if there was a thread to their presentations, it was the essential elements of humanity that bind us so tightly together that we are one.

The titles of their talks were awesome, but the students spoke directly to their points and let their emotions show, to underscore how much they care.

Olatokunbo Olaleye assessed the social and cultural distances between blacks here and in Africa in his presentation "No Longer Brothers."

Yaroslavna K. Kadulina took listeners back to her native Russia and the tragedy of a nuclear plant meltdown in "Biological, Social and Economic Effects of Human-Caused Radiation."



The fall Capstone presenters, foreground from left, Galya I. Iankova, Yaroslavina K. Kadulina, Jaspreet S. Shahpuri and Olatokunbo Olaleye. Associate Provost Hans van der Giessen, moderator, is in background.

Jaspreet S. Shahpuri looked at the toll growth and development is taking on virgin forests and mountains in "Environmental Impact on the Himalayan Mountains."

Galya I. Iankova told how our perceptions can be distorted in "A Vision of Human Nature Distorted by Perceptions of Dualities."

Four other students received honors for their work in Capstone, though they did not make presentations. They are: Boyan Andreev for "The Ethics of Human Cloning," Courtney Hibbard for "Should Gay and Lesbian Couples Have the Right to Marriage?" Melissa Hill for "Parental Leave: To Save the American Family," and Francis Okonkwo for "The Civilizations of Ugarit and the Bible Compared."

Capstone is the name of the seminar all UB

students must take to complete requirements for an undergraduate degree. They usually take it as seniors. Everyone in Capstone focuses on the same general theme. The students research some aspect of, or influence on, the topic, and produce a 20-page research paper on their work.

The plenary presenters are selected on the basis of their scholarship in Capstone. There'll be more chosen for a presentation later in this semester. And in May, the end of the school year, the very best of the Capstone participants will be awarded the Capstone Writing Prize.

Stephen E. Healey, director of general studies, is chairman of the Capstone Seminar. Jennifer F. Sanchez, professor of science and mathematics, chaired the Plenary. Hans van der Giessen, associate provost, led the discussion.



It was standing-room only at December's Capstone Plenary as the crowd filled the gallery to hear the student presentations.



Sumita Butani, graduate of the College of Naturopathic Medicine, is all smiles after receiving her degree at December's commencement.

## 27 new doctors have lots to shout about

For 27 men and women, it was the dream of a lifetime come true as they marched on stage in the Mertens Theater to receive their doctorate degrees in December. Parents, husbands or wives, brothers or sisters, friends and classmates cheered, and some hollered, as the graduates' names were announced. For each one, it marked the opening of a door and the beginning of a career as a chiropractor or doctor of naturopathic medicine.

Valedictorian Stephanie Elizabeth Lord told of the sacrifices the students and their families had made on the hard climb to the degree.

Dr. Robert M. Murphy, chairman of the Connecticut State Board of Naturopathic Medicine, and David O'Bryon, executive director of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges, addressed the graduates. Both received honorary degrees.

The graduates at the joint ceremony were:

College of Naturopathic Medicine: Brian John Henninger, Bronner M. Handwerker, Sumita D. Butani and George R. Savastio.

College of Chiropractic: Shija Abraham, Mohammed Agyemang,\*\* Lillian Youssef Awad, Mark A. Carrano, Elizabeth Marjorie Conlon, Wayne Greyaufmiller, Alexander Anthony Esposito Jr., Angelo Giovanni Ferrieri, Daryl Barrett Gioffre\* and Zinaida Goldshteyn.\*\*

Joo Hyun Ham, Jen-Chieh Hsieh, Victoria Pagano-Hummel, Raymond Riad Kayume, Dennis J. Lanni,\*\* Stephanie Elizabeth Lord,\*\* Roseann McCauley and Thomas M. Paravino.

Vincent Quarato,\*\* Greg William Rocchio,\*\* Valerie Delosreyes Silverstein, Andrew H. Tscheppe\* and Yasaman Vafai.\*\*

\* Summa Cum Laude \*\* Cum Laude

## 22 "Pillars of UB" honored

The university honored 22 faculty and staff members for their services to the UB community recently.

"This is our special way to thank you for all that you have done for all these years to make this such an outstanding university," President Neil Albert Salonen said in presenting the awards.

"The collective knowledge and wisdom in this room is a treasure for this university," he told the gathering. "Our past is here, as is our present. And we are drawing on that resource, your talents, to shape our future."

"The other part of this is that your years of service attest that you have something important to offer the university. Your length of service also means your contributions have been recognized and appreciated by UB."

The honorees were:

35 years: Eugene J. Bizewski Jr., Facilities Management Department; Thomas Juliusburger, professor of history and director of the Modern Languages Program, School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Jeddeo Paul, professor of health sciences in the School of Arts and Sciences, Nutrition Institute, College of Chiropractic and College of Naturopathic Medicine; Robert A. Shaff, professor of marketing and director of the Institute for the Study of Ethics and Values; and James V. Tucci, professor and chairman of the Physics Department in the School of Arts and Science.

30 years: Rose A. Galiger, professor of biology in the College of Chiropractic, and John H. Taylor, housekeeping staff in the Facilities Management Department.

25 years: Janet S. Albert, Fashion

Merchandising professor.

20 years: Sandra Batsu, Wheeler Recreation staff; Julia P. Cipu, Admissions Department; Joanne C. D'Agostino, dean's executive secretary, School of Education and Human Resources; Claudette L. Evarts, Nutrition Institute; and Edith C. Swarney, IDEAL program.

15 years: Virginia R. Bedat, secretary for the Fones School of Dental Hygiene; David John Davidowski, carpenter in the Facilities Management Department; Edward Geist, professor of English and singer of the National Anthem and UB's Alma Mater at all convocations; James E. Robinson, boilerman in the Facilities Management Department; and Patricia A. Varvella, Accounting Department.

10 years: Marjorie A. Bernard, director of Educational Talent Search; John G. Polascik, bursar; Frances O. Roberts of the Wheeler Recreation Center staff; and Dean Francis A. Zolli of the College of Chiropractic.



Thomas Juliusburger, left, a professor of history and head of the Modern Languages Program, is greeted by President Neil Albert Salonen on receiving an award for 35 years of service to the university.

## Donors give boost to Naturopathic College

The College of Naturopathic Medicine received a number of significant contributions recently to strengthen its programs. Warren Adelson, president of Adelson Galleries in Manhattan, donated \$7,200 to partially fund a faculty clinician to help support the establishment of an outreach clinic program. Through the post-graduate medical education committee of the National College of Naturopathic Medicine, a pledge of \$24,000 was also made by Mr. Adelson

in support of a new residency position at UB's college.

A contribution of \$3,600 was received from Rosetto Raso, president of Seroyal USA Inc., in support of an adjunct faculty clinician. Significant in-kind contributions of natural medicines were received from Anne Mitchel, N.D., and the natural Health Associates of Hamden; from Pure Encapsulations; Emerson Ecologies; Seroyal USA; and Vital Nutrients.

# UB athletes hit books hard, run up high scores in classrooms

**T**hey can hit the shots, shoot the goals, race the winds in their uniforms. But UB's athletes can also hit the books as well as anyone when they're out of uniform.

That result was evident at the end of fall semester, when the grades came out. Twenty-three athletes made the Dean's List (3.4 GPA out of a possible 4.0), 15 of them with grades high enough to make the President's List (3.7 GPA).

And right on their heels, another 14 athletes had GPAs of 3.0 to 3.39.

That's 37 athletes, a third of those in varsity sports, who are high scorers in the classroom as well as on the playing fields and courts.

"Our coaches have done a wonderful job recruiting student athletes," said John Pizzi, UB's assistant athletic director, who monitors the athletes' academic performance. "The word 'student' is the key here. Because these students are here for the academics. They're here to learn first, and then to play sports."

"Our students are focused on doing well in academics," he said. "They take pride in their schoolwork. And there's a competition among

the teams as to who can get the best GPAs."

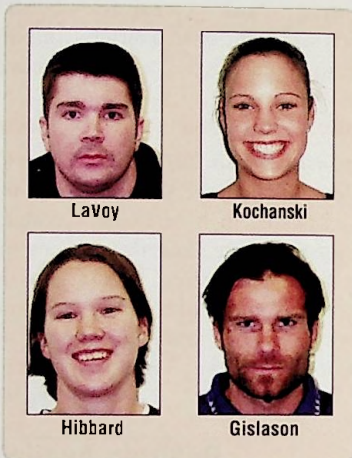
The results are in for the fall semester. The women's gymnastics team scored highest with a team GPA of 3.313. Women's soccer was second with a team GPA of 3.156.

So hats off to these scholar-athletes who are setting the example, and particularly to Brian LaVoy, baseball; Joey Marie Kochanski, gymnastics; Courtney Hibbard, softball; and Steindor Gislason, men's soccer, each of whom scored a perfect 4.0 — straight A's — in their fall grades.

Also on the President's List (3.7 plus) were: Korrine Powelski and Kate Warner, gymnastics; Nachele Adler, softball; Brendon Boyce,

men's basketball; Anna Henriksson and Andrea Mason, volleyball; Mark Ventura, men's soccer; Thea Andrews, Lillie Kirkley, Sara Page and Diana Silivnova, women's soccer.

Others on the Dean's List (3.4-3.69) included: Lee Foo, baseball; Rebecca Caravetta and Carolyn Hill, gymnastics; Sara Osborne, softball; Shalonda Hill, women's basketball; Sofie Adolfsson, Ashley Maki and Kolburn Sveinsdottir, women's soccer.



**Perfect 4.0s**



Tanisha Hubbard



Talynzia Cook

## Hubbard exceeds 1,000-point mark

**T**he women's basketball team is currently 2-24 overall and 2-20 in the NYCAC. Senior Tanisha Hubbard is tops in the NYCAC in scoring with an average of 21.9 points per game, while junior Talynzia Cook is sixth in the league with 14.9 points per game.

Hubbard recorded the 1,000<sup>th</sup> point of her career at UB, with a career-high 42-point performance against Concordia College on January 12, 2002 at Harvey Hubbell Gymnasium.

# Men's team going to playoffs



**T**he men's basketball team is 13-13 overall and 11-11 in the New York Collegiate Athletic Conference (NYCAC). The Purple Knights were ranked as high as 8th in the Northeast Region, starting out the season with a 7-4 record, with good wins over Philadelphia University, Dowling College, Molloy College, Mercy College, and St. Vincent College.

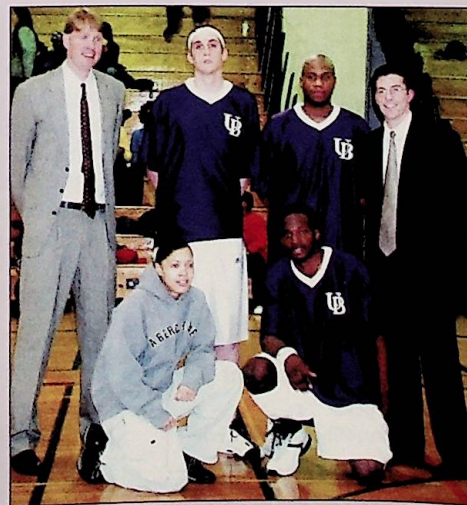
UB ranks 7<sup>th</sup> among the 12 teams in the NYCAC, with the top 8 teams making the conference playoffs. With a couple of wins down the stretch, UB could move into the 6th spot.

The Purple Knights have six players averaging over 8 points per game: Akil Moody (12.1), Bryan Evans (11.3), Brett Kindelmann (9.6), Laverne Gouldburne (9.4), Brendon Boyce (8.6), and Abdul Smith (8.0).

Abdul Smith is leading the NYCAC in assists with 5.71 assists per game, while Bryan Evans is sixth in the league in assists, with 3.89 per game. Brendon Boyce is third in the conference in blocked shots and 7th in the conference in rebounding, at 7.4 rebounds per game.

Brendon recorded career highs in points and rebounds in a 22-point, 22-rebound effort in a home win over Southampton College. Southampton was 11-4 in the conference before the loss to UB.

## Senior Night



UB basketball held Senior Night in late February. Seniors honored and their coaches were: Kneeling, Tanisha Hubbard, left, and Akil Moody. Standing, from left: Head Women's Coach Greg Butler, Brett Kindelmann, Brendon Boyce and Head Men's Coach Mike Ruane.

## Area Representatives

### Connecticut

Dr. Kristine DeMarco '00  
Family Holistic Health Care  
of Fairfield  
(203) 576-1993  
email: Drkddc@aol.com

Ulises E. Battala '91  
(203) 338-7019  
email: ubattala@hotmail.com

### Long Island

Larry Wanser '87  
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email: admin@  
investorrealstate.com

### Massachusetts

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email: djstevek@aol.com

### New York

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email: gstier@aol.com

### New Jersey

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David Gereb '93  
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### Delaware

Gregg Wheeler '84  
(302) 345-9800  
email: ghtravel@msn.com

## International Representative

### Jordan

Amer Hadidi '91  
email: ahadidi@jusbp.org

### Director of Development

Sonya Kelepez  
email: alumni@bridgeport.edu

## LET US KNOW YOUR NEWS!!

We want to hear about what's going on. Promotions, weddings, babies, reunions, anything you want to share. Let us spread the word! Send any notices to the University of Bridgeport Alumni Association, c/o Sonya Kelepez, 219 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06601.  
email: alumni@bridgeport.edu

# Hats off to UB Alumni

## History published

**William C. Bader '59** has published a history of Washington Depot, CT. An arborist since graduating in 1959, Mr. Bader has also served as a historian, writing a column in the Foothills paper called "Reminiscences." The book is titled *An American Village: The Light at the North End of the Tunnel*.

## Engaged

**Louise Casinelli, '89**, announces her engagement to Mortimer Ryon, Jr. of Stamford. A wedding is planned for May 2002 at the First United Methodist Church of Greenwich. Ms. Casinelli is a permanent placement consultant at Judlind Employment Services of Stamford. She is a volunteer public relations director and event coordinator at Southern Connecticut Animal Trust, SCAT, a non-profit animal welfare group.

## Film in works

**Harris F.B. Salomon, '81** has formed a new company, Manhattan Filmworks. He is producing his first feature film this year, "The Masterpiece," drawn from the novel by Emile Zola, who based his main character on his close friend, Impressionist Paul Cezanne. Production is set for the third quarter of this year, in Prague.

## Small business award

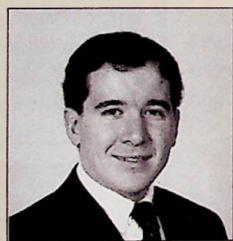
**Laurie (Sepanski) Walsh, '66** and her husband, **Tom, '77** own the Vermont Fleece Co., Located in Morrisville, VT. They manufacture Polarfleece outerwear and accessories, specializing in added embroidery. The company was recently nominated as Small Business of the Year in Vermont.

## Book on fatigue

Smart Publications announces the release of a very significant and topical new book, *Adrenal Fatigue: the 21st Century Stress Syndrome*, by **Dr. James L. Wilson, '84**. This new book shows not only how stress can cause many common health problems but, more importantly, how to overcome and recover from them.

## Woman of substance

The *Connecticut Post* recently paid tribute to a woman who has continually made a difference in our community. **Phyllis Gustafson, '62** was honored with a Woman of Substance feature article for her work not only in the Bridgeport school system, but in her own Black Rock neighborhood as well.



## ALUMNI FEATURE

Larry Wanser is the president of VII International Realty located in St. James, N.Y. Larry works with investors who choose to allocate funds to purchase commercial investment real estate. His company is a specialist in marketing single tenant retail, office and industrial properties that are net leased to quality tenants, such as Walgreens and Circuit City. VII has property listings across the United States, and looks forward to helping UB alumni who are interested in investing in commercial real estate. The company's web site is located at [www.investorsrealstate.com](http://www.investorsrealstate.com). Larry is also the executive vice president of Tommy-Pads, Inc., which produces and sells a revolutionary ankle pad for ice skaters, skiers, and hockey players.

## - Position Available -

### Director, Alumni Relations

Directs and coordinates activities of the university alumni organization:

- Communicates with alumni and former students.
- Organizes and directs alumni organizational functions, regional alumni meetings, and production of alumni publications.
- Coordinates activities of clerical and publications staff.
- Promotes alumni involvement in institutional activities and enlists alumni aid in recruiting students and participating in fund-raising.
- Secures publicity for alumni functions.

Please respond to University of Bridgeport Office of Development, 219 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604.

## CLASSIFIED

Theta Epsilon Sisters. We will be reviving memories and renewing friendships at a reunion to be scheduled. Please contact Patti Wiseman Chapman ('70) at [tc88050@aol.com](mailto:tc88050@aol.com)



President and Mrs. Salonen, far left and far right, were pleased to welcome back to campus Ted and Beverly Orenstein '64, center, as well as Al Attas, '64, and wife Florence. The happy alumni had a get-together at Waldemere Hall, followed by a campus tour.

## Alumni Receptions

### New York

Wednesday, March 21 6-8pm  
Cafe Centro  
Metlife Building, New York, NY

### Connecticut

Thursday, April 3 6-8pm  
The Loft Sono  
South Norwalk, CT

### Distinguished Alumni Awards

Wednesday, June 12 5:30pm  
University Art Gallery  
Arnold Bernhard Arts & Humanities Center  
University of Bridgeport

# UB student wins famed Apollo Theater talent show

By HARUMI KAWAMURA, CLASS OF 2002

**A**fter establishing his reputation at UB as the founder of SOUL BEAT, and as the director of the award-winning Japanese performances at UB's annual International Festival, Kenichi Ebina has moved on to New York, where he established BiTriP (Bi-Triangle Performance) with two other Japanese hip-hop dancers. Their biggest accomplishment took place on Dec. 26, when they won first place at the Apollo Theatre Amateur Night. With that win, they join the ranks of performers such as Ella Fitzgerald, Jackson 5, and Lauren Hill, who all won the Apollo Amateur Night

Ebina recounted that he and the other two members of BiTriP, Karuki Kai and Atsushi Suzuki, "felt we had to win rather than want to [win the competition]." To reach their goal they recruited four other hip-hop dancers, all Japanese, to make a dance troupe of seven. Together, they created a dance routine that eventually nabbed first place.

The result was what senior Tadami Yoshida, among more than twenty Japanese UB students who drove to Harlem to view the performance, described as "well-thought and well-organized." As the Apollo Theatre Amateur Night chooses the winner according to audience response, Yoshida reflected that "the audience was

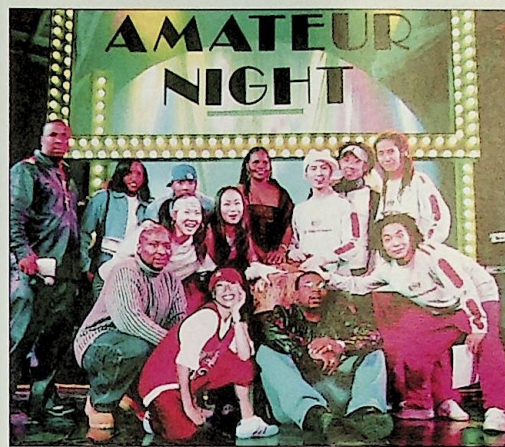
definitely for Ebina's group." Senior Koji Okamoto added that BiTriP was by far the best performer because "almost everyone was copying people like Michael Jackson or Whitney Houston, but BiTriP were the only original dancers."

As winners of the competition, BiTriP received \$1,000 and free domestic flight tickets from Continental Airlines. Although the Dec. 26 performance will not air on television, Ebina plans to shoot for TV's "Showcase" in August, to be aired in September or October.

Despite initial nervousness, Ebina said, "We enjoyed performing, and we were so happy after the show because we are the first Japanese performers to win first prize."

Holding a mass communications degree from UB, Ebina said he uses his knowledge of advertising to promote BiTriP. It has definitely paid off, as BiTriP continues to climb the ladder of success with such events as the one at the Apollo Theatre as well as performing for KRS-One and BET-sponsored emcee battles.

Ebina, who graduated in May 2000, emphasized that the UB experience was integral to his current success. "Without the UB experience," Ebina said, "I would not be where



Kenichi Ebina, right foreground, a UB graduate and leader of the BiTriP hip-hop dancers, joins other members of BiTriP and cast members of the show after his troupe won Amateur Night at the Apollo Theater in Harlem in late December.

I am. I started dancing after I went to UB, and without events like the International Festival, directing the Japanese performance and the Soul Beat performances, I would not be dancing." Ebina professed he had never taken dance classes but simply learned dancing by watching and imitating dancers on videos and at clubs.

Ebina currently works and performs with a variety of dance companies, such as the Conservatory of Dance in Georgetown and the Connecticut Ballet, CHALASA Dance Theater, and Double G Productions, as well as at various middle and high schools.

## UB alumni hold key New York roles

**U**B grads are at the right hand of New York's mayor.

Brian J. Thomson, '73, was deputy commissioner in the Office of the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit for Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks put Brian front and center in the whole rescue, relief and assistance effort. Thomson is being honored by UB alumni on March 21 at the Café Centro, 6-8 p.m. reception, in New York's MetLife Building.

Dennis Walcott, with his bachelor's and master's degrees from UB in the early 1970s, is Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's deputy mayor for policy. Walcott was president of the New York Urban League before joining Bloomberg.

## 2 of UB's international students are interns with legislature in Hartford

**T**wo UB students are among this year's crop of legislative interns with the Connecticut General Assembly in Hartford, and they stand out. They are Jee-Eun Lee, a senior from South Korea, and Shisir Khanal, a senior from Nepal. They are the only international students among the 90 legislative interns at the State Capitol. Both are majoring in International Political Economy and Diplomacy in UB's International College.

Both students completed a general orientation before taking on assignments. Lee is working for Rep. Christel Truglia, a Stamford Democrat and



Jee-Eun Lee



Shisir Khanal

assistant majority leader. "We work for the representative, doing research or helping with constituents," Lee said. She said interns also work for the committees their legislator serves on. In Lee's case, it's Appropriations, Aging and Children.

Khanal is working for Rep. Robert W. Megna, a Democrat from New Haven, and with Megna's committees, Energy and Technology, Environment and Aging. "I'm pretty excited about it," Khanal said.

Lee and Khanal are interns on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They drive up to Hartford together, leaving at 7:30 a.m. and not getting back until well after 6 p.m.

## In the heart of job opportunity country

**U**B is in a perfect location for students who are mapping out their careers. Our slogan is "Education for the Real World," but what we mean is, we not only offer the education that's a step-up in a career, but we have access to the real world. Here's a sampling of that access — where UB students as interns or on co-op, work:

General Electric Power Systems in Schenectady, N.Y., has 18 UB students majoring in business, computer science, or mechanical engineering.

UBS (United Bank of Switzerland) Warburg has eight students in placement, seven majoring in business and the eighth in mathematics.

Bristol-Myers Squibb has five students, two business majors and three in computer engineering. PriceWaterhouseCoopers has three, all business majors.

People's Bank has two business majors, and Citibank, four. GE Capital has two business majors. UB students also intern with companies including Chase Manhattan Bank, Pitney Bowes, CIGNA, IBM, Remington Products, the Neurogen Corporation and others.

## Woman who strived for best leaves inspiring legacy

**E**ileen D'Angelo loved life. She was committed to her profession as a nurse anesthetist; her services were in demand at several hospitals. She had published two professional articles in peer-reviewed journals. She had a deep respect for education. She was always a student, always wanting to learn.



Eileen D'Angelo

Eileen was a registered nurse (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) and a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA). She received her first master's degree (Central Connecticut State University) in biology along with her CRNA and completed the course work for her second master's degree, this time in nutrition, at the University of Bridgeport in April 2000.

When she was not working or studying, she was outdoors. She loved physical challenges. She bicycled, skied, scuba dived, camped, rock climbed and kayaked. And she loved to travel — she'd been all over the United States, Canada and Europe, even to Iceland and New Zealand. She wanted to see the whole world.

Eileen's dream was to become financially independent by age 50, so that she would "have more time for travel and recreation activities," her brother John D'Angelo said.

Life sometimes intrudes on dreams. It did, tragically, in Eileen's case shortly after she completed her work on her master's at UB. She went west to Idaho to kayak on the Salmon River. She was out on May 31 when her kayak overturned and she drowned. She was only 44.

"She was a strong swimmer as well as a scuba diver," John D'Angelo recalls. "It makes her death ... that much harder to understand. She may have been an adventure seeker, but she was never reckless. She was big on both safety equipment and on training."

How we remember loved ones has meaning to those who live on. At universities, memorials often come as living testaments in scholarships that go on year after year, making it possible for many students to achieve the goal, opportunity, or career that was important to the person memorialized.

John A. D'Angelo and Eileen's husband, John Montillio, recently established the Eileen M. D'Angelo Scholarship in her memory at the university.

The endowed scholarship will provide an annual award to a deserving student in the College of Naturopathic Medicine. Both Mr. D'Angelo and Mr. Montillio believe that naturopathic medicine was closely aligned with Eileen's own interests.

An award of a minimum of \$2,000 and up to full tuition will be made each year.

"We wanted to do something that would

capture Eileen's interests, her zest for life, her drive to achieve goals," John D'Angelo said. "The scholarship does that."

D'Angelo continued: "Eileen, considered objectively, was a remarkable woman. I never considered her objectively, though. To me she was simply 'Eileen.' It never occurred to me to compare my sister to anyone else. She was who and what she was. I didn't wonder about it or marvel at it. I just accepted it."

Contributions are being accepted in support of the scholarship. The Mountaineering Committee of the Appalachian Mountain Club is one of the supporters of the fund. Contributions may be sent to the university and designated for the Eileen M. D'Angelo Scholarship.

For more details on this or on how to establish a scholarship in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact George H. Mihalakos, vice president for institutional advancement, (203) 576-4696.

### Ralph H. Pickett, retired history professor, dies

Ralph Hall Pickett, a former UB history professor who taught from 1947 to 1972, died Nov. 28. Pickett held his Ph.D. in history from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a native of Glen Elder, KS, and received his bachelor's degree from Penn College in Iowa. He lived in Fairfield, CT, for more than 30 years and was an active Quaker, involved with the Wilton Friends Meeting. He leaves a daughter, Margaret P. Roeske — '65 M. Ed. from UB who met her husband, Donald '60, while they were students — of Somerset, NJ, and a son, John E. Pickett of Wallingford, PA.

### Rubenstein honored

Richard L. Rubenstein, UB's president emeritus and distinguished professor of religion, was one of the honorees saluted for 50 years as rabbis at the Rabbinical Assembly of America in Washington in February. Rubenstein received his master's degree in Hebrew literature and ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1952. He went on to get a master's in theology from the Harvard University Divinity School and obtained his doctorate in the history of religion from Harvard University.

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