

OSWEGO

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT OSWEGO VOLUME 1 ■ WINTER 2009



Inspiring Stories:
The Impact of Philanthropy

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OSWEGO

Alumni
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at Oswego
Vol. 35, No. 1



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With philanthropic support, **Mike Kiley '09** teamed up with Professors Webe Kadima and Kestutis Bendinskas to research an African plant that may hold the key to defeating diabetes.

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'Unbounded' 16

Ashley Rath '07 sees a world without boundaries. Her study-abroad trip to Japan was just the beginning of her journey.

Sweet Sounds 20

Oswego gives **Tim Lanigan '10** an opportunity to explore many genres and forms of music. The college's campaign provided the funding to get him here.

Moving Forward 22

The new Compass in the Campus Center is helping students find their way to success in many different directions.

Seeds of Hope 24

What started with a vigil on Sept. 11, 2001, eventually became a lasting tribute to 12 alumni who perished in the attacks. Many gifts grew the seeds of hope into a 9/11 Memorial Garden that has become a campus destination.

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ON THE COVER: President Deborah F. Stanley sits with students in the Campus Center auditorium. Clockwise, from top center: **Steven DiMarzo '10**, **Amy Lalonde '10**, **Ryan Pregent '09**, **Alma Hidalgo '10**, **Cameron E. Jones '09**, **Ashley White '10**, **Latasha Jackson '09**, **Meghan Upson '10** and **Stephanie Mondella '09**.



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President's Desk



President Deborah F. Stanley

Inspiring Horizons: The Campaign for Oswego has been a major force on campus for six years. I've written in this space about the promise of a future made brighter by your generosity, about the wonders we could accomplish — together — with your support. Now I write to invite you to see for yourself some of those promises fulfilled, and to thank you for your generous aid.

Gifts to *Inspiring Horizons* support scholarships, fund guest lecturers, provide state-of-the-art classroom technology and create new spaces in which to learn.

Philanthropy is a powerful thing. Right now, on the Oswego campus, it is transforming lives. Read about some of our inspiring stories, made possible through your donations, in the pages of this magazine. Or go to www.oswego.edu/giving/campaign to watch a video of your gifts in action.

Your generosity came in the midst of challenging economic times. Just as many of you review and hash out family finances around the kitchen table, we too are delibera-

tively managing today's challenges as we plan a solid and stable future for our college. We do know this: In tough fiscal times, one sure investment is public higher education.

At Oswego, your support helps provide the margin of excellence, so that citizens of New York State and beyond can fulfill their dreams and contribute in all aspects of life, lifting themselves and our society to great heights. Our students — with their passions nurtured in our learner-centered environment, their knowledge expanded in our classrooms, their self-confidence raised in faculty-student collaborations — graduate and go on to forge extraordinarily productive lives around the globe.

Now more than ever, the world needs citizens more capable of replenishing ideas and know-how. Now more than ever, we need the help of generous donors to fulfill the mission of higher education. On behalf of a grateful campus, I extend to you our sincere appreciation for the success of *Inspiring Horizons*. Your support was stunning.

Deborah F. Stanley
President

FROM

the Editor's Pen

Ah, winter — the season that defines the Oswego experience came early to campus this year. By mid-November, we were battling lake-effect storms, plowing our way into parking spaces and bundling up against the bitter winds. But this winter is a bit different — Now we can walk from Poucher Hall to just east of Penfield Library, sheltered from winter's gusts in the Wiley Alumni Concourse of the Campus Center. During class changes it's great to see students chatting and comparing notes, hear them laughing and talking, to feel warmth from sunlight streaming through a wall of windows and coming up from a heated floor, and to smell the aroma of freshly brewed coffee. The Wiley Concourse, named for **Charles L. Wiley '22**, who bequeathed \$2.2 million to Oswego, is just one of the many donor-supported spaces

in the Campus Center that have changed the campus culture. Add to that scholarships, lectureships, an endowed professorship and support for everyday needs of the college, and you get a feel for just how *Inspiring Horizons: The Campaign for Oswego* has transformed our campus. As you read in this issue about the profound affect your generosity has had on Oswego, I hope it gives you as warm a feeling as the Wiley Concourse gives to those of us who battle Oswego's wind and cold each winter.

Michele A. Reed
Oswego editor

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