

## Sesquicentennial plan outlines college's goals

**S**UNY Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley unveiled the strategic plan that will guide the college to its 150th anniversary in 2011 as the fall 2007 semester got under way.

"Our goal is to ensure that all our students receive the best education possible," Stanley said. She described the plan as "an ambitious document that takes bold, innovative steps to develop our students as true global citizens."

*Engaging Challenge: The Sesquicentennial Plan* outlines goals in five categories comprising "SUNY Oswego's Views" under the headings Vitality, Intellectual rigor, Engagement, World awareness and Solutions. These five strategic directions specify priorities that will help ensure that SUNY Oswego becomes a stronger college in the future, Stanley said.



President Deborah F. Stanley unveils *Engaging Challenge: The Sesquicentennial Plan* as the academic year opens.

- Vitality involves designing exemplary academic programs, recruiting faculty and staff of distinction, securing robust financial support, and creating a sense of pride.
- Intellectual rigor includes fostering an atmosphere of high expectations, recruiting highly motivated students, and providing transformative learning experiences and expanded scholarly and research opportunities.



Visiting Japan as part of a quarter course, "Global Cities: Tokyo," were, from left, **Adriana Hernandez '07**, faculty member Yoshiku Fujita-Butler, **Stacey Baker '09** and **Ross Perry '09**. Global awareness is one component of the Sesquicentennial Plan.

- Engagement entails broadening the college's service mission and building understanding of civic engagement and a shared sense of community.
- World awareness encompasses promoting appreciation of diversity, expanding multicultural and international experiences, and demonstrating stewardship of the environment, and
- Solutions involve nurturing students' social consciousness, increasing understanding of complicated problems and translating knowledge important to society.

"We're going to have an exciting time going forward with this plan," Stanley told a gathering of faculty and professional staff that kicked off the first day of classes. "We will move this college to a new level."

The plan emerged from hundreds of hours of deliberations by the 30-member Sesquicentennial Planning Advisory Board and focus groups of students, faculty, staff and community members.

Next, the president said, she will charge the college's vice presidents to work toward action plans to implement elements of the plan and then move cross functionally to coordinate them. During implementation, she said, there will be annual updates on progress.

For a copy of the plan, call Oswego's Office of Business and Community Relations at 315-312-3492. ●

— Julie Harrison Blissert



The Sesquicentennial Plan gives priority to finding solutions to the problems of our time.

## Oswego among 'best'

SUNY OSWEGO HAS ACHIEVED top ratings this year by both the Princeton Review and *U.S. News & World Report*.

The Princeton Review's college guide *The Best Northeastern Colleges* has included Oswego in all of its earlier editions. Publisher of the series Robert Franek notes that all of the universities in the guide have exceptional academic programs. The guide grades colleges based on student opinion as well as school data. Previously chosen for its welcoming student body and impressive library, this year Oswego is also celebrated for its "NCAA 2007 National Champion Division III ice hockey team."

The Princeton Review also named SUNY Oswego's School of Business one of the *Best 290 Business Schools*.

Among the criteria for inclusion in the Princeton Review's *Best 290 Business Schools* are AACSB International accreditation and graduate degree programs in business.

Oswego has also been ranked among the Best Universities in the North in the 2008 edition of *America's Best Colleges* by *U.S. News & World Report*. As a master's level institution, SUNY Oswego tied with four other schools, including two private colleges.

President Deborah F. Stanley said that seeking evaluation from outside sources such as the Princeton Review and *U.S. News & World Report* provides assurance that Oswego's programs meet or surpass national standards. ●

## Riggs, Lakeside reopen to rave reviews

**R**iggs Residence Hall and Lakeside Dining Hall reopened last fall after a period of renovation, and the student reception of the new facilities is overwhelmingly positive.

The renovations to Riggs Hall cost \$13 million to complete over a construction period of two years, while Lakeside Dining Hall renovations tallied about \$7.2 million with a construction time of a year and a half, according to Director of Facilities Design and Construction **Tom Simmonds '84, M'88**. The projects were done through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York.

Riggs Hall has spacious rooms, large windows providing a spectacular view of Lake Ontario, and several lounges and common areas for students to gather for study or fun.

"It's colorful, it's new, it's got a lot of gathering space and it takes advantage of the views of the lake," said Simmonds.

Roommates **Lindsay Norton '11**, a zoology major, and **Colleen Czajak '11**, an adolescence education major, interviewed in August, were thrilled with their new home in Riggs Hall.

"There are lots of places to hang out, including one room that has a fireplace. It's great to meet new people, especially the upperclassmen, who have been so helpful," Czajak said.

"The other night we and some friends took candles out and sat on the rocks by the lake. It was beautiful," said Norton.

Perhaps one of the best things about living in Riggs Hall is that it is connected to the newly renovated Lakeside Dining Hall. The dining hall features modern designs, a bright, clean atmosphere and a view like none other.

Windows span the entire north wall from floor to ceiling, providing the perfect setting to enjoy a meal. The sitting area is reminiscent of a café, featuring round tables and booths ideal for large groups, and smaller tall tables and chairs, perfect for a quiet meal for two.

Funky lights and geometric designs hang from the ceiling, while hues of green and tan mimic the natural setting viewed through the windows.

The most unique thing about Lakeside Dining Hall is the serving style. Rather than having students go through one line to select their meals, they receive their food in stations, serving pasta, deli, grilled and vegetarian selections. The dining hall also features Asian cuisine as the dinner specialty. ●

— Kristin Quinn '08



At the Riggs Hall front desk are, from left, Desk Attendant **Patricia Hollister '08** and Resident Assistants **Giselle Guerrero '08** and **Mike Kiley '08**.

## Undergrads do hands-on research

**U**ndergraduate students at SUNY Oswego have the unique opportunity to participate in federally sponsored research projects on campus, gaining valuable hands-on experience and real-world perspective.



**Wes Laurion '10**, majoring in adolescence education and physics at Oswego, works with geographic information system software in the Snygg Hall computer lab last summer. He is one of four Oswego undergraduates currently working on a project funded by the Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology.

Through a \$45,000 grant from the NASA-sponsored Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology, Oswego faculty and staff are working together to create teaching modules that incorporate such new technologies as satellite imaging, visualization technologies and geographic information systems. These modules will be used to teach college science courses and train professionals in upstate New York and across the country.

"We will be able to support eight students over two summers," said director Dr. Jack Gelfund. Students currently assisting in project research include **Wes Laurion '10**, **Steven Smith '08**, **Josh Valentino '10** and **Eric Wenke '08**.

Gelfund's co-directors on the overall project are Alok Kumar of the physics department; David Valentino of the geology department; **Scott Steiger '99**, Robert Ballentine and Steve Skubis of the meteorology faculty; and **Nancy Potter Bellow '78** of the Office of Business and Community Relations.

Two students will also be able to participate in a study sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health con-

cerning the effects of even low levels of lead on cardiovascular functioning in children and how a child's socioeconomic status relates to these effects.

Lead is an environmental pollutant that can find its way into the human body. Children are particularly susceptible to lead poisoning, which can result in damage to the kidneys and nervous system; poor muscle coordination; and speech, language and behavior problems.

Brooks Gump of Oswego's psychology department is the principal investigator on the new \$205,741 two-year project. He is supported by co-principal investigators James MacKenzie of the biological sciences department and Kestas Bendiskas of the chemistry department, as well as area doctors and Oswego Hospital staff.

The research team plans to study blood samples from 100 children ages 9 or 10, with about 25 coming from the Hispanic community. The team will utilize the college's Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Center and the Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics Center to determine if lead has an effect on the hundreds of proteins in the blood. ●

## College launches presence downtown

SUNY OSWEGO OPENED THE DOORS ON its first presence in downtown Oswego in October.

The college has signed a four-year lease for space in the building on the southwest corner of Oswego's historic business center, the intersection of West First and Bridge streets. The college's Auxiliary Services will staff and operate the site, which was a bank for many years and more recently a gallery.

"It really is an anchor for downtown," said Michael Flaherty, Auxiliary Services manager.

He said SUNY Oswego Downtown will sell emblematic merchandise, display art work by faculty and students, host receptions when exhibitions open and provide information about events and programs happening on campus together with parking information. Eventually, it will provide a ticket outlet for a variety of campus events, from intercollegiate ice hockey games to chamber music concerts by visiting musicians to student theatre productions.

The first art exhibition was under the direction of Julieve Jubin of the art department and her students. The students prepared the gallery space, installed the artwork and publicized the exhibition, called "Ready."

The college's arts programming coordinator, Mary Avrakotos, has been part of a campus group meeting to plan the new venture. "The opportunity to have this arm out into the community is really great," she said.

She foresees the site "creating a wonderful synergy" with "our students going downtown for selected projects and activities" and community organizations and businesses finding ways to interact with the new college presence. When the Oswego Film Group shows a movie, it might hold its post-screening discussion there, she suggested. Oswego State Downtown, at 186 W. First St. in Oswego, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. ●



Professor Julieve Jubin of the art department, at left, looks at the artwork on display at Oswego State Downtown with art studio majors in the new professional practices class. **Megan Williams '07** and **Mike Sturdevant '09**. In back [not in order] are **Melinda J. Oeschger '07**, **Rachel Borowski '07**, **Claire Ellsworth '08**, **Rose Bordett '08**, **Alisha Giacona '08**, **Ian Miller '08** and **Nick Alenikov '08**.

## Project Serve puts students in community

**M**ore than 150 Oswego State students volunteered their time Aug. 29 to interact with the Oswego community through various volunteer efforts during Project Serve.

This year marked Oswego State's second Project Serve, which was a success, according to **Caitlin Dorrance '04** of the Center for Community Service and Service Learning. There were significantly more volunteers this year than in the past, with the majority being freshmen and some incoming transfer students.



Orientation leader **Sherrifa Bailey '10** (center) joined a group of Oswego State freshmen serving food in the Salvation Army kitchen, from left: **Tom Boyle, Jessica Fretto, Alicia Pascoe, Catherine Legott, Phil Marcus, Pat Decker, Josh Farrell, Bailey, Jennifer Schoepfel, Brittani Walrath** and **Ashley Donnelly**.

Volunteer work included painting at Camp Hollis and the Oswego YMCA, gardening at Rice Creek Field Station and Fallbrook, voter registration, preparing and serving lunch at the Salvation Army, cleaning the Oswego Community Christian School and working on a Habitat for Humanity home.

Project Serve is a good way for incoming students to learn about both the Oswego community and each other, according to Dorrance.

"I think it's important for students to get involved right when they get to college so that they can learn about the community. It's also a great way for them to explore volunteer options," said Dorrance.

**Cliff Ohrnberger '11** volunteered at the Salvation Army. His job was to work in the pantry, putting food orders together for families in need.

"I learned that there are people in the community that are in need, but also that there are plenty of people in the community willing to help. It felt good to help, and I felt like the usual volunteers really appreciated the extra help we offered. If Project Serve went back to the Salvation Army, I would definitely go," Ohrnberger said.

**Patrick Decker '11** helped cook food at the Salvation Army. "I had fun volunteering. I met some new people and got a day off campus. I would definitely do it again," he said.

Students were well received by the community, according to Dorrance. "From everything that I heard from all the placement sites, they thought the students did a great job and encouraged them to come back again," she said.

Project Serve was a great day and is an effort that the Center for Community Service and Service Learning plans to continue in the future, according to Dorrance. ●

— Kristin Quinn '08

## Izzo honored as volunteer

WHEN BERNIE HENDERSON SPOKE AT Carrie Izzo's 2005 Leadership Oswego County graduation, his speech had a profound influence on her.

"I remember thinking to myself, that's what I want to do, give back and get involved, and make a difference," said Izzo, a program assistant for the master's of business administration program.

When Izzo received the Bernie Henderson Award for Outstanding Volunteerism at Oswego State's Employee Recognition and Award Ceremony in May, Henderson himself presented it to her.

"I feel fortunate to call him a friend," said Izzo.

Izzo's resume of volunteer activities on campus include being building coordinator for SEFA, involvement with the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Fund, board member

for the Employee Assistance Program and involvement with *Inspiring Horizons: The Campaign for Oswego*. She is also a fundraising volunteer for WRVO radio.

In the community, Izzo is a tutor for Literacy Volunteers and a volunteer and park manager for Harborfest.

"My favorite thing about volunteering is being in the company of people from all walks of life with the same goals and objectives, to make this world a better place," said Izzo.

For those who want to be more involved in volunteerism, Izzo offers this advice:

"Whether you're involved a lot or a little, it's all important. Whether you're helping a neighbor, family, a campus or a community, the feeling of being a part of a significant, unselfish, positive act is its own reward." ●

— Kristin Quinn '08



Carrie Izzo, left, receives the Bernie Henderson Award for Outstanding Volunteerism at Oswego State's Employee Recognition and Award Ceremony, presented by Henderson, who is the *Inspiring Horizons* campaign co-chair and served on the College Council for many years.



## Find the Founder!

IN THE SUMMER 2007 ISSUE, the founder could be found seated among the gorgeous flowers in the article "Passion for Produce" on page 25. The grand prize winner of a College Store gift certificate and Sheldon Hall print is **Jan Harris Dudajek '72**. Winning Sheldon Hall prints are **Ruth D. Levy '58**, **Felicia Herrera Wells '89**, **William Welser Jr. '55**, **Bonnie Helfant '91** and **Alex J. Bannerman '64**.

A tiny replica of the Sheldon statue pictured here is hidden somewhere in this issue. Find the Founder and send us a letter with the location and page number, your name, class year and address. We will draw one entry at random from all the correct answers and the winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to the College Store and a print of Sheldon Hall. The next five entries drawn will receive Sheldon Hall prints. Send your entry to Find the Founder, 219 Sheldon Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, N.Y. 13126. Entries must be postmarked by March 1. ●

## Note-worthy Reunion

Nearly 100 alumni returned to Oswego Sept. 7 to 9 for the music department's very first reunion. The weekend kicked off with an alumni discussion panel Friday night followed by a jam session at Patz on the River restaurant featuring the Oswego Jazz Project. On Saturday, graduates attended rehearsals, toured the new Campus Center and caught up with friends. A buffet-style dinner, held in the Forum Restaurant later that evening, brought alumni and their families together to share memories and honor department supporters. The highlight of the weekend — Saturday's reunion concert — featured soloists and ensembles from Oswego's past and present. Department Chair Julie Pretzat-Merchant also unveiled a plaque and framed photograph display honoring Maurice Boyd, James "Doc" Soluri, Paul Rogers, Dorothy Hickock and Sylvia Irwin. The weekend concluded with a "Bon Voyage" breakfast in the Campus Center Activity Court and the anticipation of returning "home" again to Oswego in the very near future. ●

— Meagan Smith '07



KELLY KEMER

Gov. Eliot Spitzer visited the Oswego State campus in September. The governor met with local business and political leaders to discuss environmental and other issues. Prior to his meetings, the governor greeted students and faculty passing through the Student Involvement Fair in the Campus Center. From left are Student Association President **Josh Miller '08**, Gov. Eliot Spitzer and Oswego State President Deborah F. Stanley.

ROBERT J. CLARK '78





Students participate in Project Play, an Opening Week activity held by Intramurals and Recreation at Oswego State. The event was held Aug. 28 at the Lee Hall athletic fields. New freshmen and transfer students came together to compete, make friends and have fun. Resident Assistants volunteered to be team captains of their respective residence halls, gathered up participants and headed to Lee Hall. Students then joined together with their hallmates and captains to take part in various games and competitions against other halls. They competed in basketball games, dodgeball (shown here), an obstacle course and kickball. After the competition, Johnson Hall was named to the Hall of Champions for the third year in a row. Project Play has long been an Opening Week tradition. This year's event saw over 325 participants, according to Assistant Director of Campus Life for Intramurals and Recreation Sandra Keenan Jeffers. ●

— Jessica Skeldon '09

## Events

- April 5** Board Meeting, Oswego Alumni Association, Inc.\*
  - April 7** College Admissions Open House  
Office of Admissions, 315-312-2250
  - May 16** Commencement Eve Dinner and Torchlight Ceremony\*
  - May 17** Commencement
  - June 6-8** Reunion 2008\*
  - June 14** Annual Business Meeting, Oswego Alumni Association, Inc.\*
  - July 24-27** The City of Oswego's fantastic Harborfest! On-campus housing available to alumni, friends and family.\*
  - August 4** Emeriti Luncheon\*\*
  - September 12** 19th Annual Oswego State Fall Classic\*\*
- \* Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 315-312-2258  
\*\*Office of University Development, 315-312-5558

### Check Your Mailbox!

Look for information coming soon on upcoming winter and spring alumni events around the country!

## New programs, more opportunities at Oswego State

**S**UNY Oswego added two new graduate programs last year: play therapy and master of arts in teaching mathematics (MAT-math). The college has also developed a dual degree in business and psychology.

Oswego's play therapy certificate program is offered by only one other college on the East Coast, Johns Hopkins University. Play therapy is a means of communicating with children who cannot verbalize their problems, according to program coordinator **Dr. Jodi Weinstein Mullen '92**. Part of Oswego's counseling and psychological services department, the program prepares graduates to become credentialed play therapists.

Students in the MAT-math degree program will meet a pressing need for math teachers in grades 7 through 12. Dr. Chris Baltus of the math department said the degree will appeal to math majors who don't decide until their senior year that they want

to teach. Since the college had no previous graduate program in math, courses were created just for this curriculum. Ideally, graduates will be able to complete the program in one summer, an academic year and another summer.

The dual degree, possibly the first of its kind, combines a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in business administration. The combination requires fewer credits than doing the programs separately, which means students can complete both degrees in five years. Dr. Richard Skolnik, interim dean of the School of Business and one of the program's creators, says that psychology is a key part of business, so the dual degree will enhance students' marketability.

These new programs offer students an opportunity to study rare and in-demand fields while providing them with the experience needed to start a career. ●



Master's in business administration students, from left, **Sweta Sanyal, Bob Pagano, Chen-Yi Chen** and **Sarah Pickering** discuss a project in their "Marketing Management" course. The class is among the offerings in Oswego's new combined MBA and bachelor's in psychology program, which may be the first dual-degree program of its kind.

## Baseball

The Oswego State baseball team returned to the postseason for the first time in three years by qualifying for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Upstate Tournament with a 14-12 record. Two players earned All-SUNYAC honors as **Nick Perioli '08**, the Lakers' leading hitter, was named to the First Team as an outfielder and **Tom Farrell '07** was named to the Second Team as a utility player. **Brett Shaffer '08** earned a prestigious award, by being named to the Rawlings Gold Glove Team for the New York Region in Division III Baseball.

Other awards rolled in during the season as pitcher **Justin White '08** was named SUNYAC and ECAC Upstate Pitcher of the Week for the week of April 23.

Oswego State turned 27 double plays through its first 26 games, and played a schedule that included nine games against teams that received votes in the national poll during the year.



**Adam Seifts '08** led the Laker golfers with an overall scoring average of 77.94 for the combined seasons.

## Golf

The Oswego State men's golf team turned in three second-place finishes and a third-place finish in 10 invitational events. **Adam Seifts '08** led the team with an overall scoring average of 77.94 for the combined seasons, followed by **Jeff Kattrein '07**, with an average of 80.6 for the spring season.

# SPORTS

The Lakers finished second at the Oswego State Fall and Spring Invitationals, and also at the Elmira College Fall Invitational.

## Men's Lacrosse

The Oswego State men's lacrosse team won its first two games of the year but lost several close games and finished 3-11 on the year. Four of the Lakers' losses were by just one goal and they faced three teams that are nationally ranked. **Mike Strohm '08** led the team in scoring with 20 goals and 35 points. **Steve Tronovitch '07** was second with 26 points.

## Women's Lacrosse

The Lakers defended their home field by winning two out of their three home games on the season, including an exciting 12-10 victory over Fredonia. **Tricia McNeilly '07** became just the seventh player in Oswego State program history to record at least 100 points as she finished her stellar four-year career with 61 goals, 57 assists and 118 points. She also set a school record with seven assists April 11 in a game at Potsdam.

**Rachel Ventresca '09** led the Lakers with 26 goals on the year. Oswego State finished with a 5-9 record despite playing most of its games on the road.

## Softball

The Oswego State softball team finished with a 7-22 overall record and scored its biggest win with a 5-4 extra-inning victory at Geneseo April 24. The Lakers scored two runs in the seventh to force extra innings and won it with two more runs in the eighth.

**Jessica Mills '07** led the team in hitting with a .373 batting average and .478 slugging percentage. Fellow classmates **Ashley Mead '08**, **Mallory Eggert '07**, **Carolyn Agle '07** and **Kaitlyn Thibodeau '07** also finished their careers at Oswego State.



Women's lacrosse star **Tricia McNeilly '07** became just the seventh player in Oswego State program history to record at least 100 points.

## Men's Tennis

The Oswego State men's tennis team finished with a 3-2 record in matches this spring, including 9-0 wins over Utica and Elmira to start the season. The Lakers also defeated St. John Fisher 5-4. **Ryan Thomas '07** had a winning record at first singles and first doubles.

## Track and Field

Under the guidance of new head coach Christian Weigandt, the Laker outdoor track and field team set numerous school records and achieved many personal best performances. **Heidi Armstrong '08** led the way by winning the SUNYAC title and setting the Oswego State record in the javelin. Track newcomer **Andrew Hale '11** set school records in both of the men's hurdle events.

— Joe Gladziszewski,  
Sports Information Director