

# OSWEGO Parents

A Publication of the  
Office of Alumni and  
Parent Relations

F A L L 2 0 0 1

## First Choice Aims to Boost Student Success

*Several programs open to Oswego's first-year students based on their interests and abilities*

First-year students at SUNY Oswego now have a jump start to a successful college career in FirstChoice. The new initiative will launch for students entering this fall.

FirstChoice is an umbrella that includes several programs available to first-year students at Oswego based on their interests and abilities. Three are new this fall.

"All the courses are designed to introduce students to college and provide skills we think are necessary to succeed," says Kathy Evans, director of the Student Advisement Center.

What makes FirstChoice unique is the element of choice, she says. "At other colleges it's 'one size fits all.' This is based on what your interests are and whether you're coming to us with any previous experience."

Most of the programs under the FirstChoice umbrella were already in place: the Honors Program; Champs Life Skills for student athletes; Preceptor Program, which incorporates first-year success skills into academic courses; Gateway to Business; and First-Year Select.

Three courses debut in fall 2001. "Leadership in Action" will help students develop a personal philosophy of leadership as they learn social responsibility.



Kathy Evans, right, director of the Student Advisement Center, talks with parents at Summer Orientation in July. They are, from left, Don and Alice Fishlinger of Bethpage, whose daughter Christine will attend Oswego, and Susan McGuigun of Pulaski, whose daughter Erin will also be a new student at Oswego.

A "Service Learning" course will center on volunteering in the community. The First-Year Seminar Experience is designed to help students learn strategies and develop skills they will need to be successful at college.

"FirstChoice integrates the elements that we know are related to student success: small class size, forming a cohort, presenting information about study skills and academic success, introducing resources like clubs, organizations and support services," Associate Provost Rhonda Mandel says. "And it's doing these in the context of a real course."

For more information about the FirstChoice programs, call Evans at 315-312-2240.

## Welcome from the President

I am happy to extend a warm welcome to the parents and families of Oswego students as we begin the 2001-2002 academic year. Every autumn is an exciting new beginning for the college; it is a time to welcome students back and to look forward to a year of study, growth and camaraderie.

As we look ahead, we also look back at our rich heritage. This year is our college's 140th anniversary. In 1861, Edward Austin Sheldon founded this college as a "normal school," using the latest in educational innovations to teach the young people of New York state. We carry on Sheldon's legacy as we continue to explore new ideas, renew our physical campus, and embrace the technological advances of the 21st century.

We invite you, our extended Oswego family, to take part in the rich life of the college.

You can help us accomplish our educational mission by recruiting students, developing internships and creating job opportunities for graduates. You also can support *The Fund for Oswego*, which provides many of the day-to-day enrichment opportunities not covered by tuition.

Please urge your sons and daughters to make the most of their time here at Oswego, taking full advantage of opportunities in the classrooms, residence halls, cultural programs and volunteer opportunities.

And be sure to visit us on campus. I look forward to meeting you at Parents, Family and Friends Weekend, Oct. 19 to 21.

President Deborah F. Stanley

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

- A Calendar of Fall Events
- Scholarships Available
- Students Reach Out to Kids in Community
- Undergrads and Alumni Get Down to Business

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## Giving a Way of Life for Busheys

In the Bushey household, giving is a way of life. That's why Jim and Kris Bushey, both graduates of Oswego and parents of two children who chose to attend the college, give generously to support *The Fund for Oswego*.

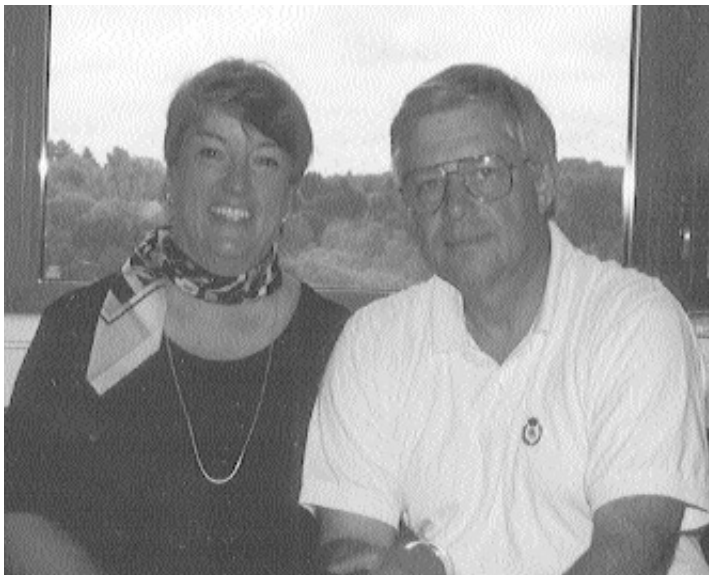
Jim and Kris didn't tell their children they had to go to Oswego. Elaine and Michael picked the college after looking at several other campuses. But now all four members of the Bushey family are part of the SUNY Oswego family. Elaine, who graduated in 2000, majored in business with a minor in art history. She is now an assistant hall director at Western Kentucky University, working on a graduate degree in student personnel services. That is directly related to her experience with the Residence Life and Housing Department at Oswego, says her mom.

Michael chose Oswego because of its baseball program. A junior political science major, he is a pitcher on the Oswego Lakers baseball team.

Although attending Oswego meant staying close to home — the Busheys live on the very edge of campus — Jim and Kris insisted that their son and daughter spend at least two years in the residence halls. "We felt very strongly they had to live on campus," says Jim. Kris agrees. "It's not just about learning in the classroom," says Kris. "It's about personal growth and development." She likes the fact that at Oswego, staff deal with the whole person, not just the student. "It's education on so many different levels."

Jim, who graduated from Oswego in 1971, came to the college after earning a two-year degree and serving in the military. He studied technology education and is now traffic supervisor for the city of Oswego. Kris, who studied education and graduated in 1972, is now the secretary to Oswego's student affairs division.

"Giving in general is something we do," says Jim.



Kris and Jim Bushey, parents of Oswego students and graduates themselves, give generously to *The Fund for Oswego*.

He remembers what a professor at his junior college said. "He told us the reputation of the institution will only be as good as the people who support it."

The Busheys give their gift as unrestricted funds. "We felt it was important to give and trust that those who receive it will use it for the benefit of students," says Kris.

As an Oswego staff member, Kris is grateful for the support she has received in pursuing her own education, taking graduate courses and secretarial training.

The Busheys believe in giving of themselves and not just their resources. Jim, an active Rotarian, has chaired Oswego's Independence Day celebration for 15 years and helped organize it for nearly three decades. A long-time member of Zonta, Kris is active in church and civic activities as well. Both were active for years in the Jaycees, and can still quote their favorite part of the Jaycee creed, "Service to humanity is the best work of life."

It's a philosophy they live by, and hope to inspire in their children and all the students who benefit from their generosity.

## Career Services Office Applies Technology to Job Search

A new job for Oswego graduates can be just a mouse click away, with state-of-the-art technology available through the college's Career Services Office.

All Oswego students now have access to a personalized online account on the Web-based career system, eRecruiting. The Web site allows all students and alumni to customize a career profile. This spring, Career Services staff worked with more than 100 companies to collect over 1,700 resumes from Oswego seniors. Students can also search Experience-Based Education's entire internship database through this system.

The Career Services Web site, [www.oswego.edu/careerservices](http://www.oswego.edu/careerservices), averages over a quarter million hits per year, and is packed with information to assist students at all class levels, right through their alumni years.

The *Careers-osw-l* listserv provides automatic e-mail to over 3,000 subscribers, who receive announcements of programs, job fairs, job openings and graduate school information. Students may sub-

scribe at the Career Services Web site.

The Discover computer-based career decision-making system is a corner stone of the Career Services Resource Center in Culkin Hall. Discover is a personal self-assessment career exploration system. Online assessments include interests, abilities and values. Results can be linked to career options and academic programs for further investigation.

Electronic job fairs are one of the newest ways to search for a job online. The New York State Virtual Job Fair will use flash technology to train candidates and employers how to use the site and will permit candidates to upload their resumes for forwarding to employers. At the Virtual Teacher Recruitment Days from May 1 to Sept. 7, employers will post teaching openings and graduating seniors will be able to view the openings and apply online. There is no charge for candidate registration at [www.edjobfair.org](http://www.edjobfair.org).

For more information about Career Services Office opportunities, call 315-312-2255 or visit the Web site at [www.oswego.edu/careerservices](http://www.oswego.edu/careerservices).

## Scholarships Available

Your son or daughter may qualify for one of the more than 240 scholarships available through the Oswego College Foundation. Scholarships are funded through the generosity of Oswego alumni, faculty, staff, emeriti and friends of the college. While some are awarded according to academic performance, others are based on financial need, course of study or area of special interest.

Scholarship booklets will be available in December and can be picked up in academic departments, the Financial Aid Office and Admissions Office in Culkin Hall, Penfield Library and King Alumni Hall. The scholarship book can also be accessed online at [www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/scholarships](http://www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/scholarships).

For more information call 315-312-3003 or e-mail [manwarin@oswego.edu](mailto:manwarin@oswego.edu).

## They Went to Disney World!

For 20 Oswego students, summer meant a learning experience in the East Coast's biggest playground. They were Oswego's largest internship class ever at Walt Disney World in Florida.

In January Disney held a campus presentation attended by over 100 students. They interviewed 80 students and chose 20 for the coveted internships.

This year was Oswego's best ever — usually about three students are offered Disney internships.

"It's quite an honor for Oswego to have so many students accepted," said Dr. Paul Roodin, director of the Experience-Based Education Program.

Nationwide about 1,000 apply and 800 are chosen.

## Parents:

When you receive a call from an Oswego student, please take that opportunity to ask questions and share your thoughts about SUNY Oswego.

And please consider making a gift to *The Fund for Oswego* in whatever amount you feel best suits your circumstances at this time.

## OSWEGO PARENTS

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## Undergrads and Alumni Get Down to Business

An event "by students and for students" brought School of Business alumni who have been out in the workforce for a decade back to campus to network and offer advice to current business majors.

Graduates working for firms like PricewaterhouseCoopers, Xerox, Pepsi-Cola and Agway met with business students in a networking social and a busy schedule of classroom visits in April. Attendees included an alumnus working to plan the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in 2002.

"We had a very positive response in the classroom, tons of questions," said Adrienne Beers, a junior marketing major from Buffalo and one of the key organizers of the event.

The Student Advisory Council to the Dean conceived of the get-together. Beers and Tiffany Whittaker, a sophomore business administration major from Weedsport, fine-tuned and planned the event, working with Professor James Molinari and staff of the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations. Senior accounting major Charla Blum and sophomore business administration major Andrea Litwak were also part of the organizing team.

They focused on alumni who had been in the workforce for 10 years. "It was a good time frame, they have good careers and are well established," Whittaker said. "And we decided on a reception because we wanted to mingle on a personal level."



J. Russell Findlay, a 1989 graduate of Oswego's School of Business and now an executive at Pepsi-Cola, chats with a current student at a networking social.

The strategy worked. "We came up with an icebreaker game, but we didn't need it," said Whittaker. "There was good participation, a lot of networking."

The alumni all brought business cards and offered internships, jobs and tours with their companies' human resources departments, said Beers.

Working on the program was a learning experience, too. "It definitely put everything into a real-life perspective," said Beers.

"I enjoyed meeting a wide range of people on campus," Whittaker said.

Despite the rigors of putting on a major campus event, the students are willing to do it again. "We hope to make it an annual event," Beers said.

## Frogs and Snakes and Savings — Oh My!

When students arrive on campus this fall, they will be greeted by frogs and snakes — not the creepy crawly kind, but cartoon characters reminding them to conserve energy.



The creatures are part of a promotional campaign developed by the Energy Conservation Working Group and were drawn by Alexandra Sorbello of the Publications Office.

During the last fiscal year, SUNY Oswego saw energy costs increase nearly 20 percent. The Energy Conservation Working Group aims to promote conservation across campus in a "grass roots effort," according to John Moore, director of facilities operations.

The group's goal is to reduce energy use by 10 percent through individual conservation efforts alone. At current energy costs, that would save about \$300,000 per year. The dollar amount will go up along with energy prices.

One way to achieve those savings may be as easy as replacing a light bulb. In a pilot project at Waterbury Hall, incandescent bulbs in student lamps will be replaced with fluorescent ones. That is projected to save two-thirds of the energy typically used, or \$2,900. If those projections prove true, bulbs will be replaced in all residence halls.

Another way to save will be a contest to reward the residence hall using the least amount of energy per student.

A typical student room has two people each using a computer, television, refrigerator, stereo, lamp, clocks, games and other appliances, and uses 10 amps per day. Sharing appliances and turning them off when not in use could save tens of thousands of dollars per year, said Moore.

"We want to save without making people uncomfortable," said Moore. "We're not telling people 'don't use it,' but when you're not using it, 'turn it off.'"

The campus is also pursuing capital improvements that will save energy, exploring co-generation and buying Energy Star label equipment and appliances, among other efforts.

Moore invites parents and students to share suggestions or concerns by e-mailing him at [jmoore3@oswego.edu](mailto:jmoore3@oswego.edu).

## Students Reach Out to Kids in Community

A program on the Oswego campus links students with community schools, giving them a chance to help others and get valuable job experience at the same time.

The Liberty Partnership Program supports Oswego County students at risk of dropping out of school by giving them academic assistance and counseling, and offering them career exploration and recreational activities. SUNY Oswego students help deliver many of these services.

"It has been a great experience to get out and see the local schools," said student Julie Bednar. "Not only does it make me feel more a part of the actual community rather than just the college, but it also gives me a feel for schools other than the one I went to.

"It hasn't always been easy, because the kids who most need our help aren't necessarily the easiest to teach, but it's been fun overall and I look forward to doing it again next year," she said.

Hundreds of high school and middle school

students have benefited from the program, said Kate Mayo, assistant superintendent of the Hannibal Central Schools.

One of those young students commented, "They helped me so that I was more confident in myself."

Another, who benefited from Liberty Partnership counseling, said, "Being able to talk really made me feel better."

The diversity of experience for both the SUNY Oswego students and their young pupils is one of the strengths of Liberty Partnership, according to Victoria Monroe, who directed the program until this summer. "Each semester, I am impressed and touched by the number of college students who want to share their skills and experience with young people in our local schools," she said.

For more information about the Liberty Partnership Program on campus, visit the Web site at [www.oswego.edu/~llp](http://www.oswego.edu/~llp) or call Lori Perrault, the new director, at 315-312-2121.

## Give the Gift of the Arts

Artswego serves up a diverse menu of artist performances right on campus, from Joanne Shenandoah Sept. 22 and Bobby Sanabria and Quarteto Ache Oct. 5 to Squonk's BigSmorgasbordwonderwerk Feb. 14 and Bob Walsh and the Allard String Quartet March 15. Also on the platter are John Abercrombie Trio Nov. 3 and Betty Nov. 17.

For less than the cost of a movie, your son or daughter can attend Artswego performances. Subscribe for \$20 and your son or daughter can choose to attend any four of the performances in this year's series. Send your check to Tyler Hall Box Office or e-mail [tylerbxo@oswego.edu](mailto:tylerbxo@oswego.edu) and Artswego will notify your child of your special gift. You can also call the box office at 315-312-2141 to charge your gift. Better yet, buy two subscriptions and your child can invite another SUNY Oswego student.



Bobby Sanabria

# Campus Clips



**THE TORCH IS PASSED** Oswego opens the academic year with a moving Torchlight Ceremony, welcoming students to campus and passing the torch of learning to first-year students. This year's event will take place Friday, Aug. 24.



**... AND PASSED AGAIN** Graduating seniors and their families are invited to join faculty, staff and alumni in the symbolic passing of the light from the torch of learning during Commencement Eve ceremonies.

Oswego's traditional Torchlight Ceremony follows an elegant sit-down dinner in the Hewitt Union ballroom. Events are free except for dinner, which is by reservation only. Watch for the spring issue of this newsletter and a brochure sent to seniors' homes for details.



**HAVEN MAVEN HONORED** At SUNY Oswego's 2001 commencement, Ruth Gruber was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Gruber shepherded 982 refugees from Europe during World War II to a haven at Fort Ontario in Oswego, the only wartime refugee camp in the United States. Her book "Haven" chronicles the refugees' journey to America and was the basis for last winter's CBS mini-series.



**PRESIDENT TO HOST OPEN HOURS** Students who have a message for President Deborah F. Stanley can deliver it in person. The president will open her office doors to members of the Oswego campus community again this year.

She held regular afternoon Open Hours most weeks last spring and said she was looking forward to hearing from students in the coming academic year.



**HERE'S A SWEET THOUGHT** Surprise your son or daughter with something yummy through Sweet Occasions. Mark a special occasion or just show you care by calling 315-312-2331 to order baked goods, baskets of fruit or goodies, or a complete pizza party.



**DEGREE FORMS DUE** Students are required to file for graduation. Degree forms for May and August 2002 were mailed to students' local addresses in April. Those forms are due in the Registrar's Office, Room 301 of Culklin Hall no later than Sept. 15 for students graduating at the Dec. 16 ceremony and Feb. 1 for the May 18 ceremony honoring December 2001, and May and August 2002 graduates.



**A WEEKEND JUST FOR YOU** Parents, Family and Friends Weekend is scheduled for Oct. 19 to 21. The weekend includes tours, concerts and other fun stuff. For more information, call 315-312-2301. The Oswego Alumni Association invites you to join faculty and staff for a free breakfast buffet in Hewitt Union Saturday, Oct. 20 at 10:30 a.m. as part of the festivities.



**SURF FOR INFO** The Oswego Alumni Association Web site invites you to visit at [www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu](http://www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu). Find information about courses, graduation requirements and deadlines at the Registrar's Web site, <http://www.oswego.edu/~registra/>.



**OSWEGO RANKS HIGH IN FULL-TIME FACULTY** Your son or daughter is more likely to be taught by a full-time faculty member at Oswego. In a fall 2000 survey of SUNY campuses, Oswego ranked highest with 81.6 percent full-time faculty and 18.4 part-timers. The average for university colleges in SUNY was 57.8 percent full-time and 42.2 percent part time.



**SUMMER WORK IMPROVES CAMPUS** Summer was a busy time on campus with capital projects ranging from the design stage to near completion. Visitors entering via the main entrance will see a newly refurbished Culklin Hall. Windows of the administration building were replaced and the lobby was renovated. In July, work began on the renovation of Johnson Hall, the campus's oldest lakeside residence hall. Other projects are in the construction, design and planning stages.

## Calendar Fall 2001

Aug. 24 Welcoming Torchlight Ceremony

Aug. 27 Classes begin

Sept. 3 Labor Day, no classes

Sept. 18 Rosh Hashanah, no classes

Sept. 20-23 ALANA Conference

Sept. 22 Joanne Shenandoah, Artswego

Sept. 27 Yom Kippur, no classes

Sept. 29 International Food Fest, Fallbrook Recreation Center

Oct. 4-7 Alumni of Color Reunion Weekend

Oct. 5 Bobby Sanabria and Quarteto Ache! Artswego

Oct. 12 -13, 19-21 "Macbeth," Waterman Theater, Tyler Hall

Oct. 19-21 Parents, Family and Friends Weekend

Nov. 3 John Abercrombie Trio, Artswego

Nov. 14-18 "The House of Yes," Lab Theatre, Tyler Hall

Nov. 17 Betty, Artswego

Nov. 21-25 Thanksgiving Recess

Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 Renaissance Madrigal Banquet, Forum Restaurant

Dec. 10 Last day of classes

Dec. 16 Commencement

## Spring 2002

Jan. 23 Spring Semester classes begin

March 25-29 Spring Recess

April 8 College Open House

April 24 Quest '02, no classes

May 10 Last day of classes

May 17 Torchlight Ceremony and Dinner

May 18 Commencement



Joanne Morici, left, a 1980 graduate of Oswego, visits with students after a class presentation this spring. A managing editor for *Family Circle* magazine, she shared her experiences in the publishing field with students in journalism and communication studies classes. Her return to campus was part of the Alumni in Residence program.