

Helping Students Cope: A Campus-Wide Response

As the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were unfolding, so too was SUNY Oswego's response to help a college community understand and cope with the day's tragedies and an uncertain future.



The campus community gathered for a candlelight vigil Sept. 11.

Getting information to students was the first thing that needed to be addressed after the first plane hit the World Trade Center, said James Scharfenberger, associate vice president and dean of students.

"We made the TV coverage very accessible to them," he said.

The Campus Life department moved big screen televisions into a common area in Hewitt Union.

Another top priority was making counseling readily available to students, he said.

"We essentially picked up the counseling center and moved to Hewitt Union," Scharfenberger said, which offered the opportunity for group discussions and individual counseling. A Crisis Response Team, consisting of faculty and staff with counseling backgrounds, was also called upon to talk with students.

Simultaneously, administrators, faculty and Rev. Edward McNally of the Newman Center met to plan a candlelight vigil that night to provide "an opportunity for people at the end of the day to collect their thoughts as a community," he said. The same group planned an interfaith service for later in the week.

Classes were cancelled for the next day and the college posted written notices to let students know that help was available.

Next, the focus was on helping students better understand the horrific events and the implications for the nation and the world.

A series of weekly "teach-ins" was organized in response to the Sept. 11 attacks, sponsored by the Office of International Education and coordinated by Maureen Shanahan, assistant professor of art. The first, "Mourning and Meanings," was held Sept. 12.

Books related to the weekly themes were placed on reserve at Penfield Library.

The teach-ins were organized as a means to help students learn about the complexity of the ongoing crisis, said Shanahan.

"There were so many different kinds of issues that came out of this," she said. "This is a monumental, historic moment and everyone was talking about how this would change the world."

Walter Opello, director of International Education and professor of political science, who served as a teach-in panelist, said it was important for students to put the attacks into a global context.

"I wanted them to get some knowledge and understanding, to put it into a historical perspective so they could decide for themselves what our American foreign policy should be," said Opello.

Patricia Rycraft O'Toole '79

9/11 by the Numbers

- 92 — Pints of blood donated at SUNY Oswego on Sept. 11
- 150 — People turned away when blood drive supplies ran out
- 110 — Units of blood donated at SUNY Oswego in November
- Over \$7,000 — Raised by Oswego students to help Sept. 11 relief funds
- Over \$5,000 — Portion of above raised during a "Miss-a-Meal" project
- Over 2,000 — Students, faculty and staff at a campus candlelight vigil the evening of Sept. 11
- 300 — Attended an interfaith service the following Friday.
- 23 percent — Increase in students seeking counseling following Sept. 11
- 13,074 — Hits to the Oswego Alumni Association Web site listing survivors and victims of Sept. 11 attacks
- 431 — Oswego alumni in New York City area on the "safe" list
- 11 — Alumni lost in the attacks

WTC Memorial Scholarship Set

Anyone who was severely disabled in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks or rescue and recovery efforts, as well as spouses and children of innocent victims who died or were severely disabled, are eligible for financial support to pay the cost of tuition, room and board, fees, books, supplies and transportation at the State University of New York.

The SUNY WTC Memorial Scholarship covers the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 in New York City, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania and the ongoing rescue and recovery efforts.

The scholarship begins with this academic year and includes currently enrolled and new students.

For more information, contact the SUNY Oswego Office of Financial Aid at 315-312-2248 or visit the Web site at www.hesc.com.

S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y O F N E W Y O R K

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O S W E G O Parents



Elisa, daughters Elisa and Celeste, and Mike Treadwell are loyal SUNY Oswego supporters.

Treadwells Continue to Support Daughter's Alma Mater

Though their daughter graduated nearly two years ago and has started her career with a leading international insurance company, Mike Treadwell and his wife, Elisa Navarra-Treadwell, remain committed to supporting SUNY Oswego's mission.

For Mike, donating to SUNY Oswego has been a tangible way to show his family's gratitude for providing his daughter, Celeste Navarra-Treadwell '00, with a "good, solid education." Donating is also important, said Elisa, "so the college continues to survive and is there for everyone else."

The Treadwells began looking at SUNY Oswego for their daughter when Celeste was ready to enter her junior year of college. She wanted to transfer after attending school in Delaware and Florida, and had expressed an interest in communication studies.

"She decided to get into communications and she was ready to come back home," said Mike. The Treadwells, who live in Phoenix, N.Y., discovered that nearby SUNY Oswego had a strong communication studies program.

Before making a final decision, though, Celeste considered two other schools that offered communication studies programs. "When we compared the three, it just made sense for us that Oswego State was the best decision for everyone," said Mike.

While attending Oswego for her junior and senior

years, Celeste was involved with the study abroad program. She completed two internships in London, where she studied and worked at a not-for-profit agency that coordinates art shows and exhibits.

It was in London where she met her husband, Dennis Cenolli, a native of Yugoslavia.

Today, Celeste is an insurance sales representative for AFLAC Insurance, working in Central New York.

Mike's enthusiasm for SUNY Oswego goes beyond his gratitude for Celeste's education and success.

As executive director of Operation Oswego County, he plays a professional role in the economic development of Oswego County.

"I have some very strong connections and working relationships with a number of people at the college," he said. "We think of the college as an ally in our economic development efforts."

Also, the couple's younger daughter, Elisa, is 14 years old and in just a few years will have to choose a college. SUNY Oswego, Mike said, is "a good candidate for her."

The Treadwells were impressed with the education and experience Celeste received for the cost of attending SUNY Oswego. Elisa, who teaches French at Emerson J. Dillon Middle School in Phoenix, said, "For the money, Oswego is a very good buy."

Patricia Rycraft O'Toole '79

Awareness Efforts Applauded

Oswego's LifeStyles Center recently won a nationwide honor — for the sixth year in a row — called the National College Alcohol Awareness Week award. But the recognition comes because the campus views discouraging alcohol abuse as a year-round priority, said Kimberly Bowman, LifeStyles Center coordinator and assistant dean of students.

The judging criteria include yearlong approach, creativity and breadth of participation. Only 10 schools are selected from colleges and universities of all sizes across the country.

Social marketing and social norming are important parts of Oswego's program. The center promotes survey information showing 70 percent of Oswego students choose not to consume alcohol on a given night and 71 percent choose not to smoke.

The LifeStyles Center starts early with messages discouraging activities such as alcohol abuse, illegal

drug use and unhealthy sexual behavior. Incoming freshmen and their families see such issues addressed by an acting troupe, The Melodramatics, during orientation.

Numerous social events throughout the year continue to reinforce the message that students can have fun without using alcohol.

Is the message working? Bowman points to a 20 percent reduction in binge drinking among Oswego students over the past six years as one piece of evidence.

Ultimately, the success of the program is not measured by awards as much as by victories in encouraging healthier behavior among the campus community, the coordinator said.

"Obviously, when you make healthier choices — with alcohol or sexual behavior, for example — it helps other parts of your life," Bowman said.

Students to Check Grades by Internet

Beginning this May, Oswego students won't be waiting anxiously by the mailbox for their grades. Grade reports will not be mailed to the majority of students. Instead, they can check their grades on the Web. The move is being made to save money and to follow a trend among Oswego students toward seeking information on the Web.

In spring 2000, about 72 percent of students checked the college's Webreg Internet page or the phone system NICE for their grades. By spring 2001, the figure had increased to 76 percent. By reducing the mailings, Oswego will save between \$8,000 and \$10,000 per year.

Students who wish to receive a grade report by mail can request one at the Registrar's Office in Room 302A of Culkin Hall or by calling 315-312-3614. Students who are in academic difficulty will receive a paper grade report, along with a letter from their dean.

Other SUNY schools are also reducing their mailings. Eight more SUNY schools are considering a reduction in mailings. For more information, call 315-312-3614. To access grade reports, students can click on webreg.oswego.edu and follow the directions.

Scholarships Available

Applications for scholarships and awards for the 2002-2003 academic year are now being accepted with deadlines for some of the scholarships being as early as Jan. 31. Your student may qualify for one or more of over 240 scholarships available through the Oswego College Foundation. Scholarships are awarded based on course of study or areas of special interest, academic performance, and/or financial need. Find the listing of scholarships and awards along with instructions for applying and application forms on line at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/scholarships. Scholarships are funded through the generosity of Oswego State alumni, faculty, staff, emeriti, and friends of the college. For additional information call 315-312-3003 or email manwarin@oswego.edu.

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Etiquette Dinners Help Students in Job Search

Dining with a potential employer can be a nerve-racking experience without knowing the proper etiquette. Some students have no clue how to act or even what fork to use.

Etiquette dinners, sponsored by the Career Services Center and Auxiliary Services, give students useful, practical experience in dining with a potential employer. For students who need such lessons — and you know who they are — feel free to call and make reservations.

The next dinner will be held April 11 in the Forum in Hewitt Union. The guest speaker will be Brian Earle of Cornell University, who spoke at the fall dinner to a Forum packed with people from a wide range of ages.

He explains everything from where to sit to knowing what the unusual food you just ordered is and when it is polite to send something back.

For ticket prices and to make reservations, call the Career Services Center at 315-312-2255.

Tanya Beers '02



Guest speaker Brian Earle, right, chats with students at the last etiquette dinner in Hewitt Union.

New Staff Member Aims To Help Organizations Succeed

Helping the nearly 100 student organizations at Oswego to succeed is the mission of Mike Paestella, newly named assistant director of campus life for student organization services.

Around 2,000 of Oswego's roughly 8,000 students are involved in organizations, so his impact is far-reaching.

Paestella takes a "widespread approach," which includes advising, teaching and student development events.

"Maybe a student group just had an election, and a valuable member lost the election and isn't taking it well," he says of the type of advice he

can offer. He also helps with officer transition, team building and the role of faculty advisers. "Often it's just a matter of communication."

"He has been helpful with sorority problems and questions," says Monica Jones, a senior secondary education major from Berlin, N.Y., and president of Phi Lambda Phi sorority.

She was among nearly 20 student leaders who attended a leadership program Paestella organized in December.

He is planning another event from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 9. For more information, call Paestella at 315-312-5744.

Newsroom Becomes Summer Classroom

Students in an introductory journalism course became reporters for a few weeks last summer. Through the "Classroom to Newsroom" project in an entry level course taught by Linda Loomis, students wrote stories that were published in the Oswego County Weeklies, in nearby Mexico, N.Y.

Working with Executive Editor RoseAnn Parsons, Loomis devoted the first four weeks of the class to intense instruction in basic news reporting and writing. The final two weeks of the course were reserved for field work.

Students, at first hesitant about the thought of writing for the public, embraced the idea as they built confidence.

Parsons' reaction was positive and encouraging. "I was really impressed with the quality of the work. Students were well trained."

Journalism Major has Summer Internship in Israel

From her dorm room at SUNY Oswego, journalism major Corinne Heller sees the usual: Students walking to class, hanging outside Hewitt Union, or lounging by the sundial. But from her home in Maccabim, Israel, the view is quite different. Outside her window lies the outskirts of the West Bank.

For the 19-year-old Israel native, journalism is a way of life. When she turned 12, Heller and her family returned to Israel where her father was appointed editor-in-charge of the Jerusalem news bureau of the British-based Reuters news wire. Since childhood, Heller and her family lived where her father was assigned: Five years in London and a year-long stint in Cyprus.

Soon after the family's return to Israel, Heller, like her father, decided that journalism was her calling. "I want to report on the news that impacts everybody on a major scale," Heller says of her professional aspirations. So in 10th grade, she decided that she would help out her father in the Jerusalem newsroom. "I've been interning

there unofficially since I was in high school," Heller says.

But last summer, Heller's internship at the bureau became official. With a pen and notepad in hand and government-issued press card hanging from her neck, Heller ventured out into the city of Jerusalem. "I'd go to a bus station and interview people about a certain subject or issue." Sort of like "man on the streets," Heller says.

Major reporting on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was left up to her more experienced Reuters colleagues. "They would let me cover little things they knew I could handle," Heller says. But one by-lined "man on the street" story that dealt with the conflict was picked up by *USA Today* — her most notable achievement.

According to Heller, working for a wire service — besides its physically and emotionally draining nature — provided a clear picture of how "a real newsroom works."

"I saw them deal with the most disastrous situations: a bombing, shootings. And, if you're on

duty, you're on top of it," she says, adding that "many times, we pulled all-nighters." But for Heller, it's worth it. "I love the truth and I hate it when people embellish it, and I'm out to set things straight."

Joshua Hurwit '03

SUMMER INTERNSHIP: Author Joshua Hurwit completed a 2000-2001 New York Press Association-sponsored summer internship at *The Business Review*, a weekly business newspaper serving New York's Capital Region. "The internship strengthened my writing, reporting and communication skills, and showcased a realistic perspective of the newspaper profession," he says. This summer, Hurwit will again work at *The Business Review*; this time under the sponsorship of the newspapers' corporate chain — American City Business Journals — an honor given each year to 10 college students from across the country.



For more information about internships, contact the Office of Experience-Based Education at 315-312-2151.

Campus Clips



SURVEY SHOWS GROWTH Results of the SUNY Oswego Career Services Office survey of the class of 2000 show higher salaries, higher employment rate and job searches concluded closer to home. Salaries for class of 2000 graduates averaged about \$30,000 for the first time. The complete report, "Beyond Oswego," may be downloaded from the Career Services Web site: www.oswego.edu/careerservices.



PLAN NOW FOR GRADUATION It's not too early to make your plans for May commencement. The annual Torchlight dinner and ceremony are scheduled for Friday evening, May 17. To make reservations for families and graduates, call the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 315-312-2258.



DEGREE FORMS DUE Students are required to file for graduation. Degree forms for May and August 2002 were mailed to students in April 2001.

Those forms are due in the Registrar's Office, Room 301 of Culkin Hall no later than Feb. 1 for the May 18 ceremony honoring December 2001, and May and August 2002 graduates.



AUXILIARY SERVICES HELPS When Auxiliary Services makes its annual rent and utilities payment to SUNY Oswego, the money ends up supporting the college experience of high-achieving students here. That's because the \$490,000 Auxiliary Services paid last year and the \$510,000 it paid this year underwrites half of the \$1 million Presidential Scholars Program. Auxiliary Services is a not-for-profit corporation allied with SUNY Oswego that runs such campus operations as the College Bookstore, all dining services, vending machines and Fallbrook Recreation Center. The sponsorship of the Presidential Scholars Program is just one way Auxiliary Services supports campus. Grants help fund many other programs including alumni career seminars and mini reunions, torchlight ceremonies, senior class events and the Alumni-in-Residence program.



EDUCATION ACCREDITED With roots stretching back to its founding 140 years ago as a teacher training school, SUNY Oswego this fall received national accreditation for its School of Education through the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. Only six other schools in New York state have earned this national accreditation. The state Department of Education requires that, by 2004, the more than 100 teacher education programs in the state be accredited by a professional accrediting body such as NCATE.



LOOKING FOR RAs The spring recruitment process for Resident Assistants (RAs) and Resident Mentors (RMs) for the 2002-2003 academic year will begin soon. RAs and RMs are student leaders who live on residential floors to provide guidance, advisement, mentoring and other assistance to residential students. They play an integral role in the development of positive communities, thereby helping students achieve a sense of belonging in their residence hall environment. If you think your student might make a good RA or RM, encourage him or her to apply. Applications will be available beginning Jan. 31, and are due no later than Feb. 12.



SKATING TEAM TAKES THE ICE The SUNY Oswego Synchronized Skating Team is currently training for the United States National Synchronized Skating Championships to be held in Lake Placid in February. Oswego has one of only a small number of college teams across the country. In its third year of existence, the team is made up of skaters who come from many different areas of New York state and as far away as Minnesota and Wisconsin. New skaters are always welcome. Call coach Marie Shuman at 315-312-2246.



STUDENTS AND SERVICE Local not-for-profit agencies often need volunteers. For more information on the Volunteer Oswego County program, call the Center for Service Learning and Community Services at 312-5360 or the Oswego AmeriCorps Program at 349-3451.



Two Oswego alumni from the class of 1991 came back to share their experiences in the magazine publishing business through the Alumni-in-Residence program, one of the many student programs funded by the alumni fee on the fall student bill. The two editors spoke in several classes during their visit this fall and shared their insights with hundreds of students. (Left to right) Christene Barberich of *City NY* magazine, Tanya Beers '02, Leigh Flayton of *City AZ* magazine.

Calendar Spring 2002

- Jan. 23 Spring Semester classes begin

- Feb. 1 - March 3 New York State Craft Biennial and "Two Viewpoints: Brazilian Photography," Tyler Art Gallery

- Feb. 12 Final date to drop a course

- Feb. 14 Squonk: Big Smorgasbord Wonder Werk, Artswego

- March 1-10 "The Beat and The City," Waterman Theatre, Tyler Hall

- March 8 - April 7 "One Hand Washes the Other: Sue Coe Restospective 1985-2001" and "Interpreting the American Scene of the '30s: Lithographs from the Grant Arnold Collection of Fine Prints," Tyler Art Gallery

- March 15 Bob Walsh and the Allard String Quartet, Artswego

- March 16, 17 "New Voices 2002," Lab Theatre, Tyler Hall

- March 25-29 Spring Recess

- April 1 Classes resume

- April 8 College Open House

- April 12 - May 5 39th Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Master of Arts Thesis Exhibition, Tyler Art Gallery

- April 24 Quest '02, no classes

- April 26, 27, "The Apple Tree," May 4, 5 Waterman Theatre, Tyler Hall

- May 3 43rd Annual High School Drama Festival

- May 10 Last day of classes

- May 10 - July 25 Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition, Tyler Art Gallery

- May 13-17 Final Exams

- May 17 Torchlight Ceremony and Dinner

- May 18 Commencement