



**Drawing knowledge** — Kimberly Street shows her work in an exercise on perspective to Nathan Sullivan, who teaches the Summer Session drawing class. Oswego's art department recently earned national accreditation through the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

## Arts accreditation draws recognition to college

Oswego's art department recently received accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, an achievement that puts the college on two select lists.

The latest recognition means that all three of Oswego's creative arts departments — art, music and theatre — are nationally accredited. Oswego joins New Paltz as the only SUNY schools where all three programs hold this distinction, according to data on the Council of Arts Accrediting Associations' Web site. The college is also one of only a half-dozen SUNY institutions with NASAD accreditation.

"I think it gives us external recognition," Dean of Arts and Sciences Sara Varhus said of the NASAD accreditation. "It's a distinction that prospective students and faculty and members of the community can see as indicative of the quality of our program."

The art department's thorough accreditation process started almost five years ago with the initiation of department self-study, said Helen Zakin, professor and chair of art at SUNY Oswego.

"It was a real learning experience," Zakin said. "We were forced to not only learn about ourselves but also how this department functions within the college. That was very positive and helpful."

The self-study was also "a morale-booster, especially when we were able to show the team the student work and what we accomplished," while the observers "were very favorable in their review, by and large," Zakin said.

### 'Student-centered faculty'

A two-person NASAD visiting team, which came to campus in March 2005, offered praise in several areas, Zakin noted. The visitation report cited "a dedicated, productive and student-centered faculty," "enthusiastic and supportive students," "good facilities that are well maintained," "a respected print collection and exhibition program" and "an understanding, supportive administration" dedicated to making whatever enhancements were required.

The NASAD team was also impressed with the student creations, Zakin said. "Specific to art, they wanted to see as much work as possible," she said. When the accreditation team visited, student work was stacked floor to ceiling on the second floor of

Tyler Hall, and the result "was really quite amazing," Zakin noted.

In terms of recommendations, the visiting team wanted to see more interdisciplinary activity in the arts. This suggestion dovetailed with plans in the works like the Squonk Opera project, where students in several disciplines will help create a new theatrical production, and a living-learning arts community.

On top of the accreditation, the research and self-study bring about "a process of improvement," Varhus said.

Oswego's music department earned national accreditation in 1987, with the theatre department gaining this distinction in 2005.

"Having all three programs accredited shows we place an emphasis on creative arts, which I think is very timely," Varhus said. "I hope that with the interdisciplinary work, prospective students will see that if you're interested in working in a variety of activities, then this is a place where you can bring it all together." □

— Tim Nekritz

## NY Senate recognizes Stanley for distinction

Deborah F. Stanley, who has served as the president of SUNY Oswego since 1995, has been selected by the New York State Senate as a 2006 Woman of Distinction. State Sen. Jim Wright nominated her.

"Deborah has exhibited strong leadership as the president of SUNY Oswego," said Wright, a 1971 graduate of SUNY Oswego. "Under her direction, the college has grown with new facilities, technologies and programs. SUNY Oswego is a better place because of her, and I am pleased that she has been selected for this honor."

The board of trustees of the State University of New York appointed Stanley as SUNY Oswego's 10th president on Aug. 1, 1997. She was interim president from 1995 to 1997. Before that time, she held the office of vice president for academic affairs and provost and served as executive assistant to the president.

See 'Woman of Distinction,' page 4

## WRVO FM prepares to double power, sees increase in listeners

WRVO continues to see larger numbers among in its ratings, with figures expected to grow when it more than doubles its signal strength to 50,000 watts next month.

The on-campus National Public Radio affiliate, headquartered in Penfield Library, has come a long way since 1969 when it could barely reach the city of Oswego broadcasting at 10 watts.

"The light bulb in the studio ceiling had more power than our transmitter, and it could probably be noticed farther at night," said John Krauss, general manager of WRVO.

The upgrade from the current 24,000-watt signal and pending switch to digital was completely covered by federal and state grants, Krauss said. A federal grant, through Rep. John McHugh, provided \$139,000, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting contributed \$70,000 and the New York State Education Department dispersed an additional \$62,000.

WRVO has Federal Communications Commission permission to test — and, if all goes well, to subsequently expand — the signal on Aug. 1. The main signal will reach further into Syracuse, better serve that city's eastern suburbs and fill in gaps around the region. People who get spotty coverage of the station should see increased strength in their homes or portable devices, Krauss said.

But WRVO's coverage area is increasing other ways. A new agreement with Colgate University in Hamilton has that college's station, WRCU 90.1 FM, simulcasting WRVO from at least 5 a.m. to noon seven days a week and all the time during Colgate academic breaks.

"A couple years ago, I went and spoke at the Hamilton Rotary Club because a couple of people who listened at higher elevation wanted our signal to come to Hamilton," Krauss said. Through negotiations and an agreement between college presidents, the partnership went into effect in June.

A similar arrangement with SUNY Cortland's WSUC 90.3 FM will resume on Sept. 1. WSUC carried WRVO from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. on weekdays and until noon on weekends until going down for repair. These outlets complement current repeaters in downtown Syracuse, Watertown and Utica.

Even before the increased signal, the number of WRVO listeners has continued to surge, Krauss said.

### Ranked 15th nationally

In the most recent available Arbitron ratings (winter 2006), WRVO gained a 4.2 share of those tuned into radios to rank eighth in the Syracuse market. No other public radio stations are in the top 20 of the 30-station market. The cumulative rating found that 9.9 percent of the local population — around 100,000 listeners — tune into WRVO at some point in an average week.

In terms of share, these figures mean WRVO is ranked 15th nationally (up from 29th in 2005) among public radio stations, with its cumulative ranking 22nd (up from 30th) in the country among public radio outlets.

Still on the horizon is the addition of two high-definition channels that can carry alternate programming, which mainly awaits an electrical upgrade requiring physical and logistical work. HD radio still lags on the consumer end, Krauss said, but may not much longer with digital radios hitting shelves for the holiday season and appearing in 2008 vehicles. □

— Tim Nekritz

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College trends

Pentagon monitors student e-mail

“The Department of Defense monitored e-mail messages from college students who were planning protests against the war in Iraq and against the military’s ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ policy against gay and lesbian members of the armed forces, according to surveillance reports released last month. While the department had previously acknowledged monitoring protests on campuses as national-security threats, it was not until recently that evidence surfaced showing that the department was also monitoring e-mail communications. The surveillance reports — which were released to lawyers for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network on June 15 in response to a Freedom of Information Act request filed by the organization last December — concern government surveillance at the State University of New York at Albany, Southern Connecticut State University, the University of California at Berkeley, and William Paterson University of New Jersey. . . . The reports are part of a government database known as Talon that the Department of Defense established in 2003 to keep track of potential terrorist threats.”

— *Academe Today, The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 6, 2006

Sudan spurs new activism

“The list of colleges that have decided to use their investments to protest the genocide taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan got longer this week, and experts predict that the tally will continue to grow, as students engage in activism of a kind not seen on campuses in nearly 20 years. . . . The current divestment movement got its start last year, when students began organizing campus chapters under national umbrella groups like Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, which began at Georgetown University, and the Sudan Divestment Task Force, which originated at the University of California at Los Angeles. . . . The activist students have taken it upon themselves to become experts on the issue. They have used events like rallies sparingly, opting instead for business suits and negotiations. . . . The divestment groups decided early on that taking a moderate approach, urging colleges to sell off their shares in companies that are most harmful to the people of Sudan, would get them farther than demands for a sell-off of holdings in companies that may actually be providing needed services in the region.”

— *Academe Today, The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 23, 2006

U.S. higher ed falls behind globally

“‘The sole superpower presently on earth may not have lost all of his clothes, but he has lost at least his shirt and probably more.’ That’s how John A. Douglass, a senior research fellow at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California’s Berkeley campus, begins his new research paper, titled ‘The Waning of America’s Higher Education Advantage: International Competitors Are No Longer Number Two and Have Big Plans in the Global Economy.’ He argues that declines in U.S. participation rates in higher education, particularly among younger students, combined with misguided political priorities, have put U.S. higher education in position to fall behind global competitors — perhaps dramatically so. . . . ‘The academic research enterprise remains vibrant,’ writes Douglass. ‘But participation and degree attainment rates have leveled off and are showing signs of decline.’ . . . Douglass says that other nations are using government policy to match or exceed U.S. participation rates and to more fully integrate higher education into national economic and social policy. . . . He notes that for the first time since the late 1800s, America no longer has the world’s highest rate of young students going on to a postsecondary institution.”

— *Inside Higher Ed*, June 12, 2006

People in action



**15-year recognition** — A number of campus employees were honored for their years of service during the college’s annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony. Among those thanked for 15 years of work were, from left, Sharon Duval and Jeffrey Ouder Kirk of physical plant and Roxann Paro of Walker Health Center. Also honored for 15 years of service were physical plant employees Judy Castiglia and Robert Stacy, Sandra Cotter of the computer science department, Janet Horton of the Student Accounts Office and Barbara Riley of the Fort Drum Consortium.

**Thomas Bertonneau** of the English and creative writing department is the author of an essay, “The Senescence of the World: Augustine’s Idea of History and Ibsen’s ‘Emperor Galilean,’” in the recent book *Augustine and Literature*. Published in hardcover and paperback by Lexington Books, the book is edited by Robert P. Kennedy, Kim Paffenroth and John Doody. Bertonneau is also the author of six entries in the new *American Conservatism: An Encyclopedia*, including entries on Ayn Rand, George Wallace and Curtis LeMay. Edited by Bruce Frohnen, Jeremy Beer and Jeffery O. Nelson, that volume was published recently by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, also in hardcover and paperback. In addition, Bertonneau has an article, “‘I, Martian’: The Autopsy of a Science Fiction Addict,” in the current issue of *Praesidium: A Journal of Literate and Literary Analysis*.

**Ximena Castillo-Galvez**, visiting adjunct instructor of Spanish in the department of modern languages and literatures, has accepted a scholarship to pursue doctoral studies at the University of Manchester in England. She will begin her studies in September.

**Ana Djukic-Cocks**, assistant professor of modern languages and literatures, will teach German at Middlebury College’s prestigious German Summer School Institute.

**Tyrone Johnson-Neuland**, assistant director of telecommunications, successfully completed testing after training as a registered communication distribution designer. BICSI, a professional, not-for-profit telecommunications association with members in more than 110 countries, offers the professional registration program for telecommunications distribution designers. Those awarded this designation have demonstrated their knowledge in the design, implementation and integration of information transport systems and related infrastructure. Those passing the exam earn and can advertise the RCDD designation, valid for three years.

The superintendent of Oswego City Schools, David Fischer, and Oswego board of education President Doug Buske presented a certificate of recognition to **Shashi Kanbur** of SUNY Oswego’s physics department at the June 20 board of education meeting. Kanbur was recognized for providing a unique learning opportunity for elementary students in the Oswego City School District. He brought a portable planetarium to the schools and helped students “reach for the stars and beyond.”

**John F. Lalande II**, professor of German, has

been nominated for the office of president-elect of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The election will take place in late summer or early fall. ACTFL is the nation’s largest and most prestigious association of foreign language teaching professionals.

On June 15, history graduate student **Peggy Lynn** presented her research on the Women’s City Club of Oswego. The history department co-sponsored her program with the Heritage Foundation of Oswego and the Women’s City Club.

**Donald Masterson**, associate professor of English, recently represented SUNY Oswego at a national chapter officer training workshop for the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. He is president of Oswego’s chapter. The Partnering for Success Workshop was held June 3 and 4 in St. Louis. The workshop featured advanced skill development in enhancing chapter public relations and communication, recruiting and involving faculty and professional staff, insuring chapter officer succession and continuity and increasing member participation. Representatives of 20 chapters from across the nation participated. Each received financial support from Phi Kappa Phi headquarters to attend. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society.

Work by Oswego student **Sarah Nesbitt** is included in this year’s Best of SUNY Student Art Exhibition on view at the New York State Museum in Albany until Aug. 6. The exhibition includes 61 pieces of student art from 27 SUNY campuses. SUNY’s System Administration coordinates three SUNY-wide art shows each year. The Best of SUNY Student Art Exhibition represents the best artwork from the fall and spring student exhibits held over the past academic year at State University Plaza in Albany, as judged by a panel of artists and art educators. “This year’s exhibit is a breathtaking example of the commendable job SUNY faculty and students are accomplishing,” said SUNY Chancellor John R. Ryan.

**James Pagano**, director of the Environmental Research Center, chaired the “Air Toxics: Sources, Concentrations, and Loadings” platform session at the 49th annual conference of the International Association of Great Lakes Research held May 22 to 26 at the University of Windsor in Ontario. During the session Pagano presented the talk “Lake Ontario Air Deposition Study (LOADS) — Seasonal Trends of Polychlorinated Biphenyls,” describing the preliminary results from three years of air contaminant

See ‘People in action,’ page 4



# Summer biological study includes preserving rare species, habitats

A pair of Oswego naturalists and a dozen students are spending some time this summer working to identify, protect and preserve rare habitats, animals and plants.

Peter Rosenbaum, a professor of biology, and Andrew Nelson, director of Rice Creek Field Station, spearhead the effort to find and track endangered bog turtles in a region of Central and Western New York called the Prairie Peninsula/Lake Plain Recovery Unit of New York State.

The third professional on the investigation team is Alvin R. Breisch, an amphibian and reptile specialist in the state Department of Environmental Conservation’s Endangered Species Unit.

“It’s about supporting rare habitats that support rare species,” Rosenbaum explained. Bog turtles are most visible denizens of the medium-fen habitat that also hosts the hard-to-find bog buckmoth, rare orchids and other uncommon plants and animals, he said.

A \$30,353 grant from the New York State Biodiversity Research Institute supported a recent effort to look for, analyze and mount tracking devices in two Central New York locations. The grant underwrote equipment, logistics and stipends for student help to monitor two sites — one in Oswego County, one in Onondaga County — likely to have bog turtles.

The students — seven from SUNY Oswego, five from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry — put out about 100 traps at each site from May 20 to June 25. They checked the traps daily and any turtles found had their data collected, then were marked and fitted with a radio telemetry device.

**Defining a habitat**

The radio tracking should yield more information about those bog turtles and may lead them to others to better know how many inhabit and thrive in particular locations. Moreover, Rosenbaum said, the process can reveal more information about the environment they are trying to protect.

“We want to learn as much as we can about the habitat,” Rosenbaum said. “The more we know about



**Turtle tracking** — Peter Rosenbaum, a professor in the biological sciences department, and senior biology major William Nichols use radio telemetry equipment to track an eastern box turtle at Rice Creek Field Station. They also are part of a project that uses the process to track the endangered bog turtle in an attempt to preserve the animal, and other rare species, in biodiverse habitats.

it, the better we can protect the rare animals and plants that live there.”

The federal recovery plans for bog turtles require 10 such sites, but only five have been located. “In the past five years, we’ve identified three of these sites in Oswego County unknown to scientists and one in Wayne County. Before that, they only knew of one habitat in Seneca County.”

The federal recovery plan continues to expand and enlist Oswego’s experts. Rosenbaum and Nelson recently received a \$10,758 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to start a preliminary bog turtle

habitat assessment for Cayuga and Wayne counties. This will include chronicling known bog habitats, conducting field surveys and mining available data.

Rosenbaum noted the continuing work with rare turtles and habitats has allowed many students opportunities for field research that may turn into independent study projects or careers. For example, a former honors student of his, Helen Czech, is currently doing her master’s thesis project through SUNY ESF and a New York State Wildlife Grant to try to reduce nesting mortality among spiny softshell turtles. □

— Tim Nekritz

# Professors’ book mines TV science fiction for moral, spiritual insights

“The Truth Is Out There” is not only a recurring line from “The X Files” television series. It is now also the title of a book co-authored by Thomas Bertonneau, a member of Oswego’s English and creative writing department, and Kim Paffenroth, a professor of religious studies at Iona College.

Subtitled “Christian Faith and the Classics of TV Science Fiction,” the new book examines how the stories and themes developed in six television series from the past explore issues of ethics, good and evil, sin and grace. Besides the “The X Files,” the shows that the authors consider in depth are “Dr. Who,” “Star Trek,” “The Prisoner,” “Twilight Zone” and “Babylon 5.”

“Both Kim and I are interested in the moral structure in the stories that we write about,” Bertonneau said.

Those stories typically engage their often complex characters in a moral struggle, whether it is Captain Kirk choosing to exact or forego revenge in the “Arena” episode of “Star Trek” or Agents Scully and Mulder striving to find the truth in a world of cover-ups and deceit in “The X Files.”

The authors maintain that it is the moral struggle that accounts for these shows’ enduring appeal. Of the most popular science fiction series, Paffenroth writes, “‘Star Trek’ became and remains so popular because it does not just entertain but inquires into questions of ultimate meaning and purpose with thoughtfulness, ambiguity, and insight. . . . It teaches us how to be better and inspires us to be so.”

The often heroic if flawed figures in these stories are spiritually inspiring. “We see in ‘The Twilight Zone’ or ‘Babylon 5’ the questing spirit reaching upward from the plane of everyday life into the realms of revelation and redemption,” Bertonneau writes in the book’s conclusion.

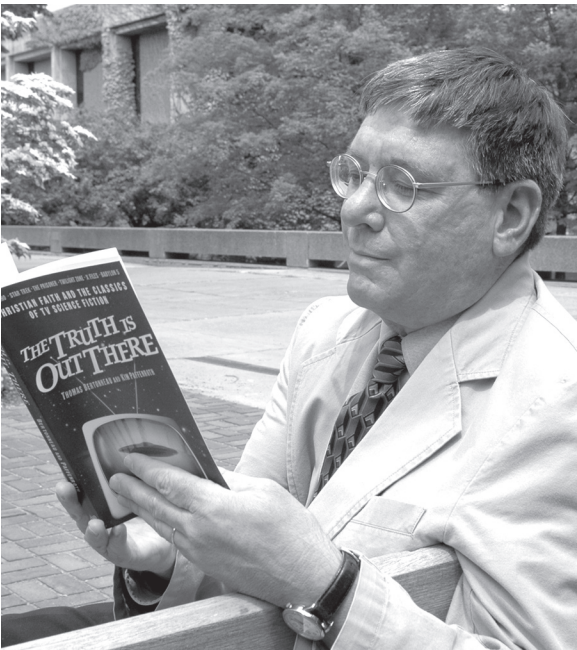
The publisher, Brazos Press, describes *The Truth Is Out There* this way: “Rod Serling, meet St. Au-

gustine.” Brazos is a Christian book publisher, but Bertonneau said he expects the book to appeal also to science fiction fans and readers interested in theologically based cultural studies.

While writing about television, the authors refer to the textual foundation of the storylines and, of course, to Christian scripture. “We bring in the literary basis of science fiction and the stories we write about to nudge people to crack a book,” Bertonneau noted.

The authors met when they were both fellows studying constitutional theory at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., 10 years ago. They found they had interests in common. “We were two science fiction fans who were also interested in religion,” Bertonneau said.

Bertonneau earned his doctorate in comparative literature at the University of California at Los Angeles.



Thomas Bertonneau

He came to Oswego from the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal in Michigan. He previously taught at Central Michigan University and is the author of many articles and essays as well as a couple of books on policy, including *Declining Standards at Michigan Public Universities*.

*The Truth Is Out There* retails for \$18.99. □

— Julie Harrison Blissert

## Joint effort with Entergy piques children’s scientific curiosity

Shashi Kanbur, assistant professor of physics, has received a \$1,000 grant from Entergy Nuclear Operations to continue to work with schoolchildren from Oswego City Schools in the fall.

An astrophysicist, Kanbur works with college students to engage elementary school children in active learning both in the Jerred Planetarium at SUNY Oswego and in a new portable planetarium that he takes to city schools.

Kanbur will target the planetarium program to fifth and sixth graders in Leighton, Kingsford and Riley schools in the fall.

“The goal of this project is to . . . enhance the natural scientific curiosity of school children, while solidifying the understanding and communication skills of college students,” Kanbur said. “We will work with teachers in advance to compile curricular materials which will assist schools in meeting their educational goals.”

They will demonstrate the use of the curricular materials they have developed and leave them with the school for future use, he said.

Kanbur said he expected the program to “increase interest in science and technology in the young school population which can only have benefits to the local community, both now and in the long term.” □

— Julie Harrison Blissert



Announcements

Report wins national award

SUNY Oswego’s 2005 annual report, “p=mv,” has won recognition in the 2006 APEX 18th annual Awards for Publication Excellence competition. Oswego’s publication, produced by the college’s Office of Public Affairs, received an APEX Award of Excellence in the category of four-color printed annual reports. Among other Award of Excellence winners in the same category were Hilton Hotels Corp., Sandia National Laboratories and the World Wildlife Fund. The 2005 annual report was distributed in January to faculty and staff, donors, students’ parents, members of various campus boards, emeriti faculty, and presidents and other officers of northeastern colleges and universities.

The national APEX competition, sponsored by Communications Concepts, recognizes outstanding publication work by professional communicators. “APEX awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content and the ability to achieve overall communications excellence,” wrote John De Lellis of Communications Concepts.

E-mail system to see upgrade

Campus Technology Services with the help of Sun Consulting Services this summer will replace the e-mail system and Rocky file storage system, which includes personal Web pages and other files. Among the changes, SquirrelMail will be replaced with a new, more robust Web-based mail reader, Sun Communications Express. Students, faculty and staff who use a mail client such as Thunderbird, Outlook or Apple Mail will need to make some mail settings configuration changes. Pine users may also need to make some changes. CTS asks that students, faculty and staff delete any mail messages they no longer need or archive them to a desktop or laptop computer hard drive.

CTS will send weekly status e-mails to keep the campus informed, and information workshops will take place later this summer. For more information, see [http://www.oswego.edu/cts/about/projects/email\\_upgrade](http://www.oswego.edu/cts/about/projects/email_upgrade) or call the Technology Support Center at 312-3456.

A first: Season ice hockey tickets

In anticipation of the opening of the Campus Center ice arena in October, the athletics department is selling season tickets to men’s and women’s hockey home games. Tickets will go on sale to the public Aug. 1, but faculty and staff can purchase season tickets at reduced rates beginning this week in Laker Hall. Box office hours are 3 to 6 p.m. weekdays.

Art, theatre institutes next 2 weeks

Summer residential programs for high school students interested in art and theatre will get underway next week on campus. Participants completing either two-week institute will receive three college credits. Now in its 11th year, the Summer Art Institute has attracted aspiring artists from around the state and as far away as California, Arizona and New Mexico. The institute will culminate with participant work exhibited at Tyler Art Gallery on July 29. Workshops on all aspects of acting and performance, as well as a trip to the Shaw Festival in Canada, will highlight the Summer Theatre Institute. This year the program has attracted students from around New York state plus nine other states.

Instructors include Oswego alumni Jennifer Li, who recently choreographed the major movie “American Dreamz” (starring Hugh Grant and Dennis Quaid), and Kevin Kennison, who has done casting for Broadway, touring shows and Disney Theatrical Productions.

Woman of distinction

Continued from page 1 Stanley pledged a commitment to a new level of academic excellence for SUNY Oswego in her first months in office, forging the course for a learner-centered academic environment as a catalyst for campus renewal. Her initiatives have led to innovative programs for first-year students — including First Choice classes with enrollment capped at 19 for all newly admitted students; a new first-year advisement strategy for each new student; and the Oswego Reading Initiative, a focused experience designed for incoming students, now embraced by the entire campus.

Among Stanley’s many significant accomplishments are the Oswego Guarantee — covering costs, class sizes and time-to-degree matters — and a merit scholarship program that includes the Oswego Presidential Scholars Awards, providing almost \$2 million annually to high-performing high school seniors. Under her leadership, Oswego enrolls greater percentages of highly qualified students who persist at higher rates; the number of awards and the total dollar amount of grants awarded to the campus have increased dramatically; and the School of Education and School of Business earned prestigious accreditations. The college is currently seeing the fruits of Stanley’s ambitious campus-wide renewal project.

Stanley is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III-Presidents Council. She has served as a Commissioner for the American Council on Education. She is a member of American Association of State Colleges and Universities Women Presidents group. She is a founding board member of the New York State Campus Compact. She is chairman of the board of directors of Oswego County National Bank, a board member of Metropolitan Development Association and vice president of the Metropolitan Development Foundation of Syracuse.

People in action

Continued from page 2 sampling adjacent to and on Lake Ontario. The Environmental Protection Agency and Great Lakes Commission fund the ongoing research project.

On June 15, Joan Loveridge-Sanbonmatsu, professor emerita of communication studies, read from her new book, *Imperial Valley Nisei Women Transcending Poston* at River’s End Bookstore. The book centers on the oral histories of second-generation Japanese-American women from Imperial Valley, Calif., who were interned at Poston I in Arizona during World War II.

Mary Schoeler, chief technology officer, completed all three steps of the Society for College and University Planning’s Planning Institute and received the institute’s certificate of completion on May 6. The SCUP Planning Institute consists of three seminars that expose its participants to best practices in higher education planning and build their knowledge of different types of campus-based planning through lectures, group discussions and exercises, and case studies.

In Memoriam

Robert C. Nugent, 69, former chair of the earth sciences department, died June 14 in Texas.

Calendar highlights

- Summer Open House, July 14
- Rice Creek Rambles, July 15 and Aug. 5
- Summer art and theatre institutes begin, July 16
- Planetarium shows, July 16, 23 and 30
- Exploring Nature II begins, July 17
- Summer Art Institute exhibit, July 29
- Fourth summer session begins, July 31
- Sheldon Institute begins, July 31

For a more complete calendar, see SUNY Oswego Events online at [www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/](http://www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/).

Spotlight

Maxwell manages first impressions for potential students

The Campus Update Spotlight shines on Katie Maxwell this week. An assistant director of admissions, she has worked on campus since 1999.

**Q. How would you describe your job and responsibilities?**

A. I am the program coordinator, which means I coordinate all of the major campus visitations including campus-wide open houses in the spring, summer (this Friday) and fall, plus Admitted Student Day and other programs. I supervise the student workers in our office, and there are 14 of them. I also have everyday admissions responsibilities, including reviewing applications, credit evaluation, appointments with prospective students and traveling to high schools throughout the state to educate people about Oswego.

**Q. What is your favorite part of working at Oswego?**

A. There are so many things. Most of all, it’s the people, both in my office and all around campus. The Admissions Office is a wonderful place to work and the staff makes every day fun. I also really enjoy working so closely with the students. I’m a proud alumna, so being able to promote the school where I graduated really means a lot to me.

**Q. What is your impression of Oswego’s students?**

A. Oswego students can be just as successful as any college students. It’s not about where you go, it’s about what you do where you go to school. I’ve seen many of my student workers do well after graduating from Oswego. I also think our students can be very personable.

**Q. What is your educational background?**

A. I earned my bachelor’s degree from Oswego in elementary education in 1997. I earned my master’s in reading education here in 2002.

**Q. What achievement are you most proud of?**

A. I would say earning my degrees. I never thought when I graduated high school that I would go to col-



lege. I’m proud of both degrees, but when I received my master’s degree, that was really gratifying. More recently, it was probably buying my own home. That’s a significant accomplishment in my life.

**Q. Do you have any hobbies?**

A. I love making my own cards. Stamping and card-making is a big hobby of mine. Now that I own my own home, I’m into gardening and I’ve done a lot of landscaping.

**Q. What can you tell us about your family?**

A. They’re a big part of my life, and I’m grateful for how close we are. I have two supportive parents, three brothers, two sisters-in-law, a sister and a brother-in-law. I’m also the proud aunt of four nephews and three nieces, and the mother of two spunky cats, Samson and Bailey. I live in Liverpool.