

Dear Parents of College at Oneonta Alumni:
 If your son or daughter no longer lives at the address below, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (607) 436-2526, with his/her present address so that we may update our records. *Thank you!*

Mark your calendar

FEBRUARY 2007

- 8 Senior Class of 2007 – 100 Days Until Graduation Celebration – Oneonta
- 15 All-SUNY Alumni of Atlanta Gathering – Atlanta
- 17 Young Alumni Council Meeting – Oneonta



MARCH 2007

- 3 Alumni Theatre Event – *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* – Schenectady
- 23-24 20th Annual Student Leadership Institute – Oneonta

APRIL 2007

- 14 Accepted Students Open House – Oneonta
- 19 Senior Class of 2007 – 30 Days Until Graduation Celebration – Oneonta

MAY 2007

- 4 Earth Sciences Department Annual Picnic at College Camp – Oneonta
- 9 Senior Class of 2007 – Pass Through the Pillars – Oneonta
- 18 Senior Class of 2007 – Alumni Eve Reception – Oneonta
- 19 Commencement – Oneonta

JUNE 2007

- 1-3 Reunion Weekend – Oneonta
- 1 Alumni Association Annual Meeting – Oneonta
- 1 Young Alumni Council Meeting – Oneonta

For the most current calendar and event details and to register for events online, please visit us at www.oneontaalumni.com.



Save the date:
Reunion Weekend
June 1-3, 2007

Reunion Weekend is the premier alumni event when hundreds of alumni return to campus to reminisce about their times together when they were students. Reunion Weekend is always the first weekend in June. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!** This year, Reunion Weekend will include a Top Ten Celebration with special events for alumni who have graduated in the past ten years, 1997–2007.

Please plan to come back to campus and celebrate good times with fellow alumni. As we get closer to the date, Reunion Weekend details will be available online at www.oneontaalumni.com.

Campaign Update

On June 30, 2007, the College will conclude its five-year comprehensive campaign, Changing Lives Since 1889, with the goal of raising \$10 million to support scholarships, endowment, Milne Library, and science programs. We are happy to report that we have reached the \$10 million dollar goal six months ahead of schedule!

Many thanks to all who have participated in the Campaign through the support of the Senior Class Gift Campaigns, the Alumni Annual Fund, or other gifts. We are still working hard to reach our alumni percent participation goal of 20%. If you have not yet made a gift to the College this year, please participate and help take us over the top! Gifts can be made electronically at www.oneontaalumni.com.



CHANGING LIVES SINCE 1889
 CAMPAIGN FOR THE
 COLLEGE AT ONEONTA

DRAGON DAYS

A publication for recent graduates • Winter 2007



Become a Mentor and Win Some Brooks' Bar-B-Q Sauce

Being a mentor is a great way to help out fellow College at Oneonta alumni. Once you register on the alumni website, you can sign up to become a mentor. Just click on Career Networking, and you can see all the mentors already there. Join them!

All alumni who sign up to be mentors during February 2007 will be entered into a drawing to win a bottle of Brooks' House of Bar-B-Q sauce.

Congratulations to Eric Barnes '03. He is the winner of a "Taste of Oneonta"—a multi-pack of Brooks' House of Bar-B-Q's sauces, from the Fall-06 Dragon Days!



See what graduates from 2000–2005 had to say about their College at Oneonta experience.

RISING STAR



Michael Valinoti '06

Oneonta Graduate Performing in Broadway Play

Michael Valinoti began performing in November with the 24-member national touring company of the Broadway play *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Michael says, "Getting the double role of Jacob (Joseph's father) and Potiphar (a rich Egyptian) is a dream come true. It's an incredible thrill, and incredible feeling." Joseph is Michael's first show since he graduated from the College and his first big break as a performer in the theater.

As a senior at the College, Michael served as President of Mask & Hammer. Earlier, he had served on the group's executive board as secretary and vice president. In 2005, he directed a performance of Neil Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs* at the College. In 2006, Mask & Hammer honored him as its "best actor" for his performance in *Urinetown, the Musical* and voted him "most likely to succeed." Michael was also a student worker in the Office of Alumni Affairs.

Michael is scheduled to appear in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the Proctor Theatre in Schenectady and The Stanley in Utica in March. For more information, visit www.oneontaalumni.com.



Members of the Young Alumni Council gather during Homecoming and Family Weekend.

The Young Alumni Council Celebrates Its First Year!

The Young Alumni Council was founded in February 2006. Now 40 members strong, this leadership group is very active with three meetings and other assistance at alumni events throughout the year. They contribute their ideas, time, talents, and money. They are helping to shape the relationship and events that young alumni have with their alma matter. The Young Alumni Council is a great way to stay connected and make a difference. If you are interested in learning more about serving on the Young Alumni Council, please e-mail Becky J. Dostie '94, '98G, at dostiebj@oneonta.edu.

Roster of Young Alumni Council Members as of January 2007:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ryan Butler '04 | Katie Greene '06 | Meagan Kestler '06 | Sarah Marks '05 | Walter Romero '02 |
| Kristen Copeland '05 | Stephanie Gross '05 | Lisa Kingsbury '05 | Kevin Myers '03 | Anna Schleicher '05 |
| Allyson Dougherty '05 | Paul Habernig '04 | Jennifer Knapp '05 | Michael Pastore '00 | Cassie Sklarz '04, '06G |
| Kate Fisher '02 | Rachele Hall '06 | Bryan Kurtz '01 | Justin Peltier '03 | Jason Swift '03 |
| Richardo Francis '04 | Ryan Harrington '04 | Debbie Kilpatrick Landry '01 | David Pio '03 | Oxana Darmogray Swift '03 |
| Josh Gandara '06 | Greg Isaacs '04 | Sarah Lanese '01 | Maureen McCaffrey Pio '01 | Andy Toczydlowski '06 |
| Lori Glubiak '02 | Karen Kelly '05 | Edmond Lugo '01 | Evan Rakowski '05 | Mary Waring '05 |
| Allison Green '99 | Matt Kelly '02 | Scott Margalit '02 | Amy Rietschel '00 | Jonathan Winnicki '06 |

Alumni Services Expanding

As costs of higher education continue to increase, borrowing money to finance a college education has become a fact of life for many students and their families.

Each year, billions of dollars are borrowed to fund higher education, including more than \$50 billion in federal student loans. According to the U.S. Department of Education, two-thirds of undergraduates graduate with student-loan debt — and the average graduating student owes nearly \$20,000.

The Alumni Association is looking into expanding the services offered to alumni to include a **debt consolidation program**. Stay tuned for more information about this new service. Other services offered by the alumni association include...



- **Credit Card** — Show your Red Dragon Pride with a special Alumni Credit Card. You choose the design and the reward program that works for you. It is easy and convenient to apply on-line by clicking on the logo at www.oneontaalumni.com.
- **Auto / Home / Renters Insurance** — College at Oneonta alumni receive group discounts with Liberty Mutual. For more information, go to the alumni website and click on Services.
- **Career Services** — Looking for a job? Need students for an internship? Looking to hire some dynamic employees? Check out the alumni website.
- **Alumni Updates** — Have you recently been married or had a child? Changed positions or received a promotion? Moved? You can now update the College and/or submit a class note for *Reflections* electronically. E-mail alumniupdate@oneonta.edu and let us know of your changes. It is a very easy and quick way to update your information.



20 Years of Defining Leadership for the College at Oneonta

Celebrating the 20th Annual Student Leadership Institute

This year, the College at Oneonta will celebrate 20 years of its capstone leadership training for students on Friday–Saturday, March 23–24, at the Hunt College Union. Every year, alumni participate via presentations, panel discussions, etc. If you are interested in participating in this special anniversary year of the Leadership Institute, please contact Becky J. Dostie '94, '98G, at dostiebj@oneonta.edu.



We recently conducted a survey of College at Oneonta alumni, including those who graduated from the classes of 2000 – 2005. Responses from that group to every inquiry were very positive. Each mean response was well above the scale's median of four, as seen in Table 41 and Table 42 below. Respondents were most positive about instruction within their major. We're pleased by the positive feelings that recent graduates have towards their Oneonta education, and we hope those positive opinions continue in their new role as a community of Oneonta graduates.

E. Academic Inquiries

ADEQUACY OF THE COLLEGE CURRICULUM

Questions from Academic Affairs

Rate the adequacy of the College at Oneonta curriculum with respect to the following items: 2000s

(scale: 1 = poor, 7 = excellent)	Mean	s.d.	n
Helped me to write clearly and effectively	5.63	1.063	202
Helped me to acquire and process information, ideas and concepts	5.81	0.887	203
Improved my interpersonal skills for living in a diverse, multicultural environment	5.88	1.178	202
Improved my critical/analytical skills	5.7	1.063	203

Table 41

(scale: 1 = poor, 7 = excellent)	Mean	s.d.	n
Quality of instruction in your General Education courses at the College at Oneonta	5.63	1.067	202
Quality of instruction in your major at the College at Oneonta	6.14	1.027	202

Table 42

Source: 2006 SUNY College at Oneonta Alumni Survey.

If you would like to see the full results of the survey, please contact Tim Hayes in the Center for Economic and Community Development at (607) 436-2186.

Oneonta By The Numbers

Listed below are a collection of facts and figures about the College, which reveal some of the sources of pride that we share in the College at Oneonta community:

- 40 winners of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, including 5 in 2005–06.
- 89 recipients of SUNY Distinguished Professorships and Chancellor's Awards for Excellence, including 6 in the past year.
- A gain of nearly 9 points in the mean high school GPA of the freshman class in the past 10 years.
- 1,089 students named to the Spring 2006 Dean's List and 99 to the Provost's List.
- 4 Academic All-Americans and 3 SUNYAC Chancellor's Student-Athlete selections in 2005–06.
- 18.1% of alumni contributing to the College in 2005–06, ranking Oneonta #1 among its SUNY peers for the fifth successive year.
- More than 700 scholarship awards to students for 2006–07, totaling over \$1.25 million.
- Over \$70,000,000 in capital improvements to campus since 1998, including over \$5,000,000 in 2005–06.

We hope you will come back to campus to see these wonderful changes during Reunion Weekend, June 1–3, 2007!



(L-R Senior Class Officers: Matthew Kurz, Meghan McGarvey, Stephanie Mercurio and Frank Filipo)

Congratulations December Grads

The Senior Class Officers extend sincere CONGRATULATIONS to those who recently graduated. We wish you all the best and invite you to come back to campus to visit us or join us at upcoming alumni events. We encourage you to stay connected by registering on the alumni website at www.oneontaalumni.com or joining the Young Alumni Council and attending Oneonta alumni events. We hope to see you at Reunion Weekend, June 1–3, 2007.