

# EOP VOICE



SUNY College at Oneonta

Fall 2009, No. 3

Student Newsletter of the Educational Opportunity Program

## The Value of Money

What is the real value of money? The paper that a one dollar bill is technically “worth” is exactly the same as a one thousand dollar bill, but clearly, one has more “value” than the other. Money is a symbol for something else. For example, a check has no actual value, but rather represents a promise to pay for something later from your bank account. But on a deeper level, money represents other things too. Money and wealth mean different things to each of us. For some, having money means having security; for others, it represents power or success. For some people, it might mean that we are better able to help others.

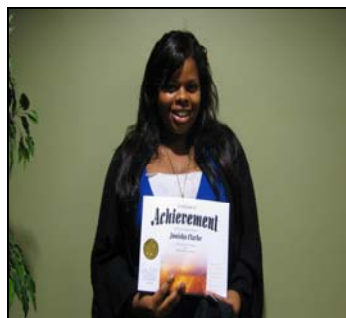
Our relationship with money and how we spend our money says a lot about us. It is a physical manifestation of our lives as they are at this moment. Student loans say that we value our education and are investing in our future. Paying bills on time says that we are responsible and honor our commitments. What do large amounts of credit card debt or expensive cell phone plans that we cannot really afford say about us? Do they represent a lack of personal discipline or responsibility?

Look honestly at your own financial health. It will always represent externally your condition internally. Your personal situation may seem pretty grim at the moment, but looking at things honestly and then taking steps to learn how to pay off your debt, simplify your spending, and manage your finances well means that you have power in the present and hope for the future.

JoAnne Murphy, EOP Academic Specialist

## Student Leader of the Month Junisha Clarke

Junisha is a freshman majoring in Business Economics. She was elected Treasurer of the EOP Freshman Class during her Summer Academy experience, but earned the role of Vice President by exhibiting the key qualities of a leader. She is responsible, consistent and true to her word. As a bonus, Junisha set a new EOP record for Hallogram sales (the SOC fall fundraiser) by 21 over the previous record set in 2008. Given she will continue to build on her determination, skills, and leadership experiences; Junisha is destined for a bright and prosperous future. Congratulations Junisha!



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### Who Are We?

The *EOP Voice* is:

Jessica Oliveira

Rilwan Ameen

Amanda Bohorquez

JoAnne Murphy

Cheryl Peeters

**We are always looking for interested, creative students to work on the newsletter. If you would like to participate, or submit an article, poem, artwork, etc. please email us at: [EOPVOICE](mailto:EOPVOICE)**

**Or contact us at:**  
607-436-2407  
607-436-2471  
332B Netzer Admin.  
115 Alumni Hall



## Spotlight on Excellence

*From Beta Eta Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon*

Meet Lorena Figuero Roman:

Lorena Figueroa is the current President of the *Beta Eta Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society* and a senior majoring in Business Economics. Throughout her years as a student, Lorena has taken seriously her responsibility to excel academically, engage in personal development and participate in community service. Lorena served as Chapter Secretary in AY 2007-08 when she also helped to represent the *Beta Eta Chapter* at the Spring 2008 Biennial XAE National Conference. She has been an integral part of an active executive board that has accomplished successful fundraisers as well as service projects for local charities.

Lorena enjoys serving as Mentor for the College Assistance Migrant Program and as an intern with the Foundation Office at A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital. Her numerous activities include Club Secretary for HOLA (Hispanic Organization for Learning Advancement), PASS Academy Teacher Assistant/English Immersion Program, and participation in Project Aide NY Migrant Education Program. She is also a member of the American Marketing Association and of two Student Association clubs.

As a scholar, Lorena earned recognition by achieving Honor Scroll status as well as the Office of Special Programs' Academic Achievement Award. In addition, she earned the Paso Fino Foundation Scholarship in her freshman year. Lorena is fluent in both English and Spanish and anticipates graduation this December 2009.

When you see Lorena, congratulate her on a record of excellence!

### EOP Computer Lab Alumni Hall 101 K Drop-In Tutorial Schedule Effective 11-9-09

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
4:00 – 6:30 PM	Yan Garcia	Alyssa Beha	Yan Garcia	Alyssa Beha
	Sakshi Bajaj	Luke D'Imperio	Adrienne Seccia	Luke D'Imperio
6:30 – 9:00 PM	Lyndsey DeSarbo	Ada Ukonu	Ada Ukonu	Kayla Reinstein
	Rebecca Shea	Rebecca Shea	Adrienne Seccia	Sakshi Bajaj

**“Accept the challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory.”**

*- General George S. Patton*

## TUTORIAL TESTIMONIAL

Every semester we send out an e-mail asking you to participate in our online Tutorial Satisfaction Survey. From that survey, we get very important feedback from you about our services and how we can improve them. Here's some information from last semester's survey:

- Last year, 138 students took advantage of EOP Tutorial Services
- 94% said their understanding of the subject matter increased as a result of working with an EOP tutor
- 88% said that the tutor helped them with study strategies
- 94% said that the tutor made an effort to understand their questions and needs
- 81% said that tutorial helped increase their grades

With numbers like that, why wouldn't you take advantage of this wonderful resource? It's never too late to request a tutor and remember, tutorial is not for struggling students, it's for students who are committed to their success. So when you get an e-mail from me with a link to the Tutorial Survey in a couple of weeks, PLEASE fill it out and let us know how we're doing. It's important to us to be helpful to you.

Thanks, JoAnne Murphy

# Creative Corner

## From the Director...

EOP Students & Grads Building Network

The Educational Opportunity Program at SUNY Oneonta has graduated hundreds of students since it began 40 years ago. A significant majority of those graduates hold professional and/or entrepreneurial positions that constitute a network of connected individuals that are available to recent graduates building careers as well as savvy current students planning for job searches. On Saturday, Oct. 24th, EOP hosted the annual "Survivor Rules for the Real World" during Homecoming/Parents Weekend. The activity is designed to introduce current students to alumni in order to foster mentoring relationships and/or make network connections to be used as resources for future opportunities. Isaac, a current EOP accounting major, connected with a representative seeking applicants for positions with the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance. As follow-up, two additional resumes were forwarded from a current senior and from a recent graduate. And there were more opportunities for students to connect with alumni from other professional careers. In the end, students who did not attend truly missed a unique and important opportunity.

It is incumbent upon you as a student who is responsible for developing your future to take advantage of all opportunities. Those who embrace what is offered will excel; those who sit and wait will be last in line. For example, a 2008 EOP graduate stopped by yesterday to visit with us in EOP. He was grateful to receive information about connecting with an EOP alumnus resource that could lead to a position when he is ready—now, or down the road. In parting, he told me, "I was foolish when I was a student. I didn't use my resources—thinking I could do it all on my own. I wish I had taken advantage of all the resources available to me, then. I know better now."



*"Two Sisters"*

Oil on canvas painting by Shamal Matthews '07  
On display in 2nd floor lobby—Netzer Administration Building

### Six months

*By Lucrezia Meduri*

Six months is such a long time.  
For one to even fathom  
The thought of losing a treasure  
For six months is almost  
impossible...

But I am there.  
Just when my paragon of perfection  
Was so close to me...  
It was expeditiously removed  
From my limits and from my  
"feast for the eyes."

For six months...  
Six months is such a long time.  
For one to even fathom  
The thought of losing a treasure  
For six months is almost  
impossible...

But I was there.  
Everyday, I would count down.  
Hoping... Wondering... Wishing  
Asking that the days go faster.  
But I found that the more I  
thought, the worse it got.

## Alumni Connection

Did you miss a valuable opportunity to meet EOP alumni during Homecoming Weekend? Every year, EOP invites alumni to campus to share their wisdom with our students. Many of the alumni have successful careers and they would like to provide assistance to the EOP students. As a result, some students were in direct contact with the alumni and forwarded their resumes for job applications. We hope you will take advantage of every opportunity and look forward to seeing you at future EOP alumni and student interaction events.



October 2009 Homecoming Weekend  
(l to r) Randy McGough-Steering Committee Secretary, Val Hampton-Committee President, Bo Whaley-Events Specialist, Lynda Bassette-EOP Director, Glenn Pichardo-Alumni Board, Nancy Kleniewski-College President, and Savannah Bao-EOP Counselor

### Expanding the Network

Thanks to Glenn Pichardo (Summer '98/ Class of 2002) and Jaysen Murphy '07 for creating Facebook connections for alumni and friends of EOP alumni to expand our network reach. Search SUNY Oneonta EOP Alumni Network to find this forum for informal communication, events planning, and networking. Jaysen is our EOP recruiter and counselor, while Glenn is a member of the Oneonta College Alumni Board and has been a voice for EOP both on campus and in Albany.

## WHAT'S GOING ON:

**Nov 20**

- College closes after last evening class
- Last day to make up Incomplete & Pending grades from Spring & Summer 2009 or to file the extension of time form

**Nov 30**

- Classes Resume
- Last day to withdraw from the College

**Dec 4—EOP Holiday Party, 12:30-3:30pm, 101G Alumni Hall**

**Dec 9—Follow Monday class schedule**

**Dec 10—Follow Tuesday class schedule**

**Dec 14-18—Finals Week**

**Jan 17—New Student Arrival & Orientation**

**Jan 19—3pm, EOP Meeting, Waterfront Café**

**Jan 20**

- 4 pm, EOP Meeting, Waterfront Café
- Classes Begin

## Message from EOP Counselors

Do you know there are only 3 weeks left of classes for this semester plus the week of Thanksgiving and final exam week? It is time to reflect on the past and plan ahead. Meet with your EOP counselor, talk about course selection for next semester, and talk about the obstacles in your personal and academic life. EOP counselors are looking forward to seeing you.

Thank you, Savannah Bao

## ***Greetings!***

**~from the Chair of the  
Student Opportunities Committee**

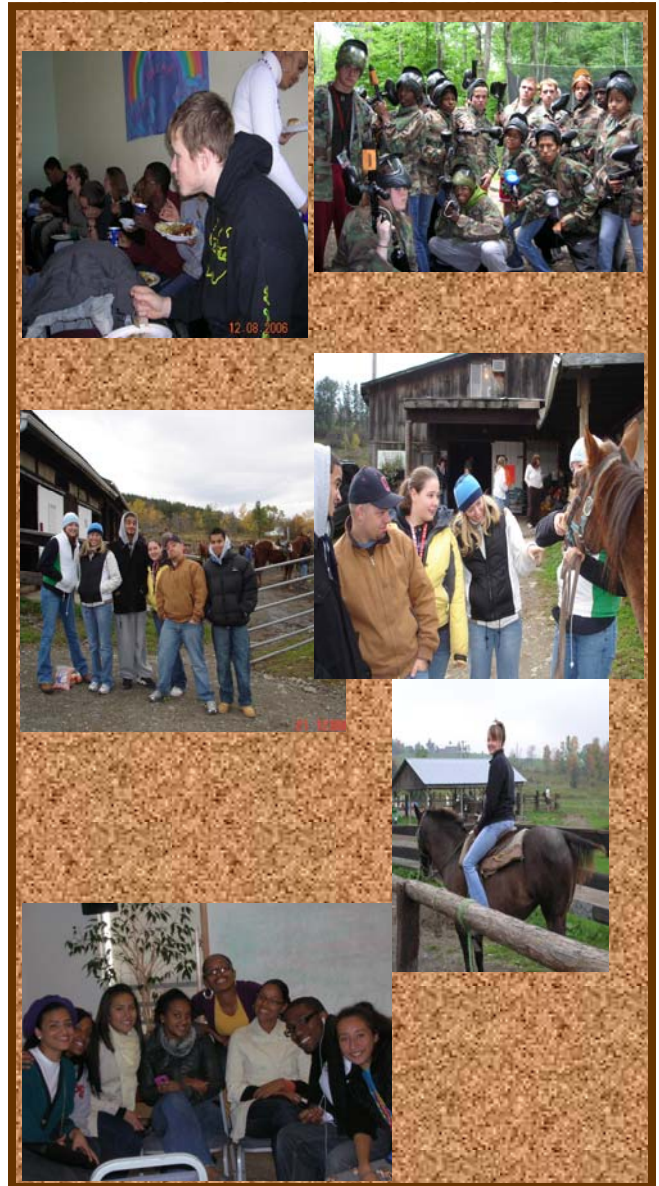
*What IS the Student Opportunities Committee?*

We call ourselves the SOC and we are a committee within the EOP department. Our sole mission is to provide educational, social and cultural opportunities for EOP students. Each year Freshman Class Officers (FCOs) are elected by their peers during Summer Academy to help raise money and to organize various events and workshops held throughout the year.

*DID YOU KNOW?*

- There are FIVE FCOs plus FOUR EOP staff members on the SOC committee who are all dedicated to making sure you have the opportunity to have fun and learn new things.
- If you see an event, concert, art show, presentation... the list goes on... and would like to attend, you can bring your idea to the committee and we can potentially help pay for all or part of the cost.
- If you want to go on a whale watch or hiking with the Outdoor Resource Club, SOC can help pay for your ticket.
- There are many local theatre companies right here in Oneonta. SOC can help pay for your ticket!
- There are art galleries on our campus and at Hartwick College that present many multicultural and beautiful exhibits.
- SOC hosts a holiday party in Alumni Hall! Good food is provided thanks to the money raised from the Hallograms you purchased. This year's party will take place on December 4.
- The SOC is your committee! It can only be as successful as the students who are involved! Bring your ideas, questions, and suggestions to an FCO or to me, Danielle Tonner, in 115D Alumni Hall.

I look forward to seeing you and hope you NOW KNOW what the Student Opportunities Committee can do for you!



### **EOP Mission & Vision**

**Vision:** Through unity of purpose, a diverse and supportive environment will be created that challenges and empowers students to excel academically and to be successful, lifelong learners in a global society.

**Mission:** The mission of the Educational Opportunity Program at Oneonta is to provide leadership, guidance, support, and services that present opportunities and options encouraging and promoting holistic, individual development for students and campus constituencies along with an ongoing commitment to program advocacy.