SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

HOMEPAGE

SUMMER/FALL 2007 • VOL. 10, NO. 1

School of Information Studies
THE ORIGINAL INFORMATION SCHOOL

EDITOR'S NOTE: As this issue was being sent to print, the School of Information Studies received word of Dean Emeritus Raymond F. von Dran's untimely death. Most of the content, including Dean von Dran's last column, is running as it was originally intended to appear. However, a two-page spread (pages 8-9) initially created as a tribute to our retiring dean has been transformed into a remembrance of our esteemed leader.

Liddy Named Interim Dean

SARA MORTIMER, CONTRIBUTOR

Elizabeth D. Liddy G'77, Ph.D. '88, Trustee Professor of Information Studies at Syracuse University, was appointed interim dean of SU's School of Information Studies (iSchool) effective July 15, according to SU Vice Chancellor and Provost Eric F. Spina.

Liddy will administer the school as a national search continues for a successor to former dean, Raymond von Dran, who stepped down July 15 to begin a year of administrative leave before intending to return to the faculty in fall 2008. He died unexpectedly July 23, 2007, after a short illness.

"Liz is highly respected in her field as well as by the iSchool faculty and staff," Spina says. "She is held in equally high regard across campus for her scholarship, teaching, and selfless service. I have the deepest confidence in Liz to lead the iSchool during this important period."

Spina says the iSchool dean search committee is continuing its efforts to identify and evaluate appropriate candidates to become the school's permanent dean.

"I am delighted that Liz Liddy has agreed to lead our school," von Dran said. "She has served as a faculty leader since I came to SU. She knows our faculty, students, and curriculum more than anyone—but more importantly she embodies the school's values and understands our culture and our soul. Although she will serve in an interim capacity, I am sure she will propel the school forward to yet an even higher level of leadership and stature."

"I am deeply honored to be selected as interim dean of the iSchool at Syracuse," Liddy says. "My broad exposure to other iSchools reinforces my strong belief in the superior education provided our students and the high quality of the research done here."

"…I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, and other units on campus to continue our growth and prestige in this era when information is so centrally important to all endeavors."

—Elizabeth D. Liddy



Elizabeth D. Liddy

Liddy began at SU in 1983 as a visiting assistant professor/research associate. She became an assistant professor in 1987, associate professor in 1993, and professor in 1998. She was named Trustee Professor of Information Studies in 2004.

Since 1999 until her recent appointment as interim dean, she served as director of SU's Center for Natural Language Processing, which is now headed by interim director and assistant research professor Anne Diekema. The center's mission is to advance the development of human-like language understanding software capabilities for government, commercial, and consumer applications.

Liddy's main academic focus is natural language processing (NLP), an area of research in which she has been active since her award-winning dissertation in 1988, one of the first to prove the utility of NLP for information science. She has led 65 research projects, with the support of numerous government agencies and commercial enterprises and all based on the use of NLP for improved information access and analytics. She is the co-inventor on five patents dealing with NLP and has authored more than 110 research papers and given hundreds of conference presentations on her work.

Liddy teaches graduate courses in information retrieval, natural language processing, and data mining. She is also the faculty advisor of Women in Information Technology, a student group that supports and mentors female IT students.

Among her many honors, Liddy is recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Tibbetts Award (1998), the Enterprise Award for Technology from the Upstate New York Technology Business Forum (1998), the Outstanding Alumni Award from SU (2000), and The Post-Standard & Syracuse Federation of Women's Clubs Achievement Award (2005). She is a member of Beta Phi Mu, the library and information studies honor society, and Sigma Xi, the international honor society of scientific and engineering research.

She holds a bachelor's degree in English language and literature from Daemen College (1966) and an M.L.S. in information studies (1977) and a Ph.D. in information transfer (1988), both from SU. •

Heckman and Stanton Named Associate Deans

MARGARET COSTELLO, EDITOR

Interim Dean Elizabeth D. Liddy of the School of Information Studies has named Robert Heckman and Jeff Stanton associate deans at the school. Former associate dean Bruce Kingma was recently named associate provost for entrepreneurship and innovation at the University (see page 7).

"I am thrilled that Bob and Jeff have agreed to assume these important administrative roles," Liddy says. "They are both very accomplished scholars and the iSchool is grateful that they have agreed to dedicate much of their time and skills to academic administration for the continued development and evolvement of an already excellent school."

Liddy decided to create two associate deans because of the increased opportunity for information schools on both the teaching and scholarship fronts. "This is such a propitious time for both education and research focused on information that we should grasp the full range of opportunities presented to us," she says. "To do so fully, requires dedicated individuals for each."

Heckman is serving as associate dean for academic affairs, and key responsibilities will include curriculum planning and delivery, teaching, faculty mentoring and evaluation, and enrollment management, as well as the development of new curricular endeavors.

Heckman came to the school in 1992 with more than 20 years experience in the information services industry as a senior manager

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DEAN'S COLUMN



DOUGLAS LLOYD PHOTOGRAPHY

Dean von Dran's Last Column

It's been 12 years of innovation and change in our school. It has also been a dozen years of constant commitment to people-focused core values, forged in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and renewed in the twenty-first.

I have considered it a privilege and honor to serve as your dean. I look forward to continuing to work with the school as professor and dean emeritus, and to help address the new challenges and opportunities ahead.



Raymond F. von Dran
Dean, 1995-2007

Acronym-ity—The Confusing History of "IST"

MARGARET COSTELLO, EDITOR

To many of our alumni, the three letters—I-S-T—signify their beloved alma mater, the School of Information Studies. But to visitors and newcomers to the school, the letters present an interesting code, which they struggle to decipher. What do those letters stand for? Information Science and Technology? Information Studies and Technology? Why IST? Why not SIS?

"I remember when I came here in 1995 wondering what the heck 'IST' was," Dean Raymond F. von Dran said. "Everybody kept saying 'IST this or that.' It took me a while to realize they were talking about the school. I've wanted to change the name of the school to fit the acronym or to drop the acronym ever since."

Now, in one of his final acts as dean, von Dran hopes to clear the confusion once and for all. In an effort to build a stronger, more accurate representation of our school, Dean von Dran announced we will be removing "IST" from our marketing and recruitment materials, web and e-mail addresses, and all other areas where it is possible. In informal references, we will now use iSchool at Syracuse. Our formal name will remain the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University.

Keep in mind, there is no change in the name of the school. Our new building will soon display: Hinds Hall School of Information Studies. "But as shorthand, we can refer to ourselves as an iSchool (like business schools are often called "B" schools)," von Dran said. "Don't like iSchool? How about information school—or simply our school name: information studies."

By using iSchool, we now have tied our school into a larger movement involving information schools across the country. There are efforts underway in the iSchools Group (a group of academic deans of information schools across the country) to create a universal brand for the field and adopt the designation "iSchool." The group has hired a national marketing firm, MBS Associates, to develop a consistent brand and to publicize the field through a national awareness campaign.

"Give us a hand by using our new designation at the iSchool at Syracuse," von Dran said. "I appreciate your willingness to try to make this linguistic slip, because we all know that labels have power. While this may not seem too important, I believe it will ultimately help not only the school, but the information field as well."

Oh yeah, and for those of you still interested in tracking the roots of IST: A historical search revealed its origins in the three-letter academic course prefix created to identify Information Studies courses for registration (the "I" pulled from information and the "ST" from studies).

Send us a note or an e-mail about your thoughts on the matter. Make sure it's addressed to the School of Information Studies.

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Faculty, Staff, Student NEWS

Information School Plugs the IT Enterprise Technology Brain Drain

DAVID AND SUSAN DISCHIAVE

In 1964 a young Bob Dylan sang "The times they are a changing." In that same year IBM announced a new generation of computers, the System 360, or what some IT professionals affectionately referred to as the mainframe. We can all agree that indeed the times did change. Or did they?

The IBM 360 was not the only mainframe computer system on the market, but as it turned out, it became the most successful. It was designed to serve as the backbone of enterprise computing environments where these systems were used to solve very large complex problems. And indeed it did. It did this so well, that in spite of the small computer revolution in the 1980s and 1990s; these large mainframe computers never went completely away.

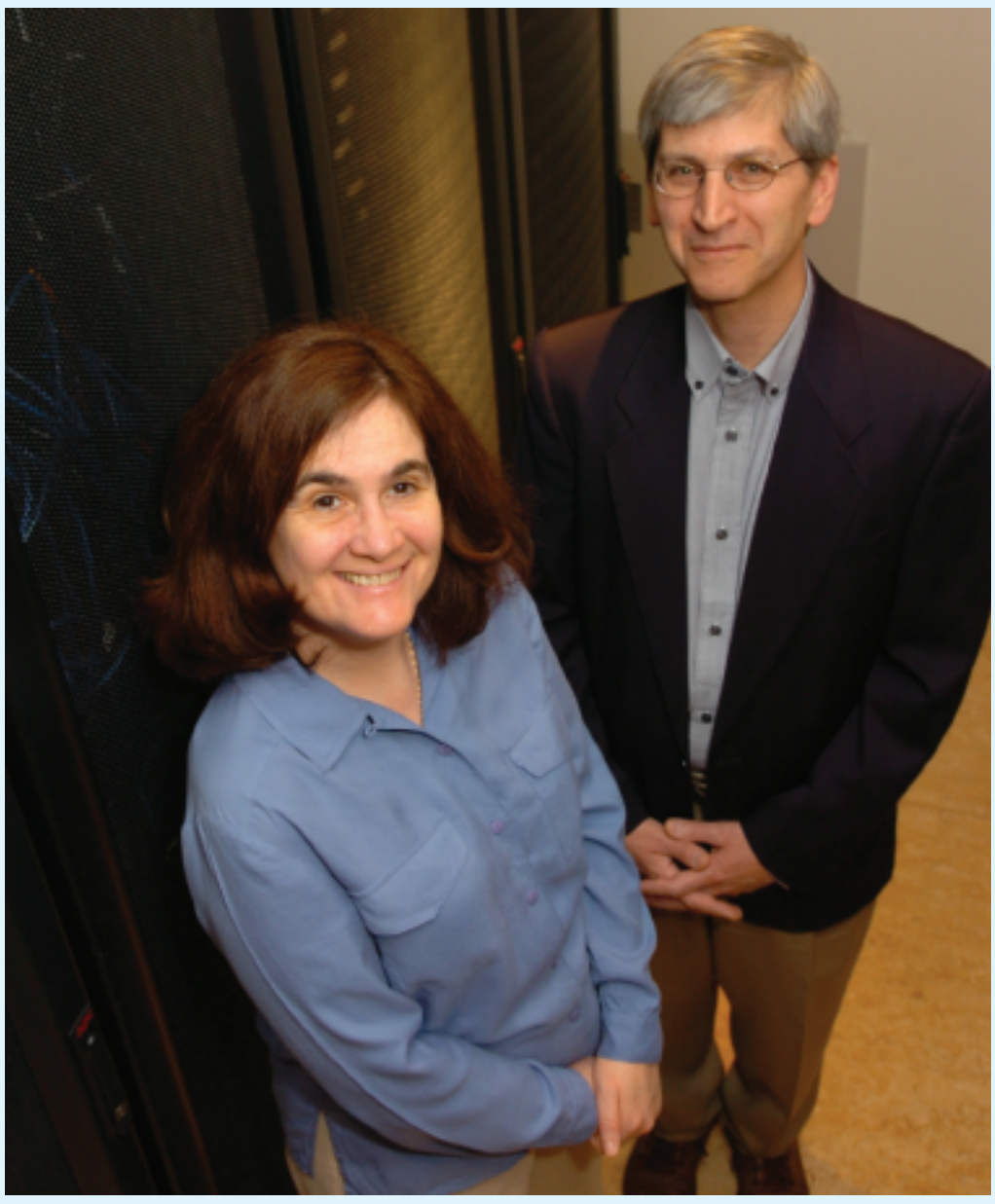
Despite the industry pundits with their proclamations that the "big iron" was dead, obsolete, and never to return, you may be surprised to learn that "80 percent of the world's mission critical data is stored and accessed by mainframes," according to the Clipper Group's Mike Kahn. In fact, in 2006, mainframe sales rose by 10.8 percent, according to the Gardner Group. Today, mainframes continue to serve as the workhorses behind many of the application systems we take for granted; systems that include airline reservations, banking, and weather forecasting; and such common transactions as the ubiquitous credit processing and automated teller machine withdrawals. So not only did mainframes survive, they thrived.

Since these application systems and the mainframe computers that support them didn't disappear; who then is developing new applications for them and who is supporting the underlying computing environment? If you guessed that generation of folks who listened to Bob Dylan—that generation called the baby boomers, you'd be correct.

Which brings us to the main issue, in the near future who will continue solving large complex problems? Who will be supporting the airline reservation, banking, credit card authorization, and other large complex systems when the boomers retire to the beaches in Maui sipping cool drinks with tiny umbrellas in them? If not the "boomers," then who?

This is the very question large organizations like United Parcel Service, Goldman Sachs, and Verizon were asking at a June 2006 meeting held on the campus of Stevens Institute of Technology. At the 2006 SHARE, an IBM users group, meeting held in Seattle, it was reported that more than 90 percent of the members are over the age of 40, giving credence to the fact that the labor shortage will become acute unless universities help. What can an information school do about this problem? Well, develop a course in enterprise technologies, of course.

As technology instructors, we saw a recurring theme in our curriculum. We expose our students to small problems that can be solved on small computer systems. There wasn't an opportunity for students to solve large complex problems and to implement their solutions on large computing platforms designed specifically for these problems.



David and Susan Dischiave

Last summer, we started developing an enterprise technology course collaborating with researchers from IBM, member companies from SHARE, and colleagues from other universities. IBM Academic Initiative provided the systems and databases that are more indicative of enterprise computing to create a more realistic teaching environment. The idea was to prevent the "carpenter with only a hammer, seeing all problems as nails" syndrome. We want our students to have many tools in their technology toolkit; especially those that complex organizations covet.

Unlike many of the other academic institutions participating in the IBM Academic Initiative, particularly the computer science programs, we are not taking a purely technical approach. Our enterprise technologies course is not exclusively designed to teach students how to work on mainframe computers. It is designed to give students an enterprise perspective where they can identify complex problems, solve problems of sufficient magnitude, and then consider all computing platforms. These platforms range from PDAs, laptops, desktops, and departmental servers to enterprise servers. Then our students can integrate them to solve an organization's largest, most complex, and stickiest problems.

The course is expected to debut this fall, with all of the teaching materials made available to other IBM Academic Initiative university members through IBM's Academic Initiative web site: *https://www-304.ibm.com/jct09002c/us/en/university/scholars/academicinitiative/*

David and Susan Dischiave are professors at the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, and are winners of IBM's 2006 Faculty Award for innovating new curriculum to address the shortage of large-scale computing professionals.

Faculty, Staff, Student NEWS



Professor Robert Benjamin Receives Medal for Distinguished Service

Then Dean Raymond F. von Dran presents Professor Robert Benjamin with the school's first ever Medal for Distinguished Service during a reception in Washington, D.C., on June 25. Benjamin was honored for his exceptional academic accomplishments as well as his unwavering commitment to the school. "His special regard for both junior and senior faculty members, his capacity to help younger people find their voice and be successful, and his genuinely caring regard for their welfare are evident in his work in and out of the classroom," von Dran said. "In so many ways, Bob made us who we are today."

MARILYN P. ARNONE, research associate professor, published with R. Small and T. Hardy "From Front-End Analysis to Evaluation: Developing an Information Literacy Resource for Educators" in *Educational Media and Technology Yearbook*, Greenwood Publishing, 2007. She published a new issue of *Educators Spotlight Digest*, an online publication for S.O.S. for Information Literacy of which she is the editor, in February 2007. The issue featured guest writer Nancy Everhart on the topic of information literacy assessment. Arnone presented "From Research to Practice: The Case of Curiosity Creek" at the Center for Digital Literacy's 2006 Institute on Digital Empowerment: Inquiry, Imagination, and Invention in the Digital Age.

SCOTT BERNARD, assistant professor, returned as director of Washington, D.C., graduate programs.

In November 2006, he began serving on the Federal CIO Council Architecture and Infrastructure Committee as co-chair of the Federal Enterprise Architecture's Security and Privacy Profile. He became the University's principal investigator for the Scholarship for Service Program and completed his fifth year as principal investigator for the Information Assurance Scholarship Program with the National Security Agency. He completed his second year as chief editor of the *Journal of Enterprise Architecture*.

During 2006, he lectured on enterprise architecture at conferences and seminars in Singapore, Seoul, Washington, D.C., San Diego, and Orlando.

DIANA BURLEY, assistant professor, published with K. Wei and J. Siow "Implementing Service-Learning to the Information Systems and Technology Management Program: A Study of an Undergraduate Capstone Course" in the *Journal of Information Systems Education*, April, 18(1).

In January 2007, she received a certificate of achievement from the Federal Chief Information Officers Council signed by Karen Evans, administrator, Office of E-Government and Information Technology, and David Wennergren, vice chair, CIO Council, for extraordinary work on behalf of the IT workforce. She was nominated for a 2007 Federal 100 Award.

DERRICK L. COGBURN, assistant professor, was elected co-program chair and vice president elect for the International Communication Section (ICOMM) of the International Studies Association. He will serve as the section program co-chair for the 2008 annual meeting in San Francisco and as vice president at the 2009 annual meeting in New York City.

KEVIN CROWSTON, professor, published with J. Howison, C. Masango, and U.Y. Eseryel "The Role of Face-to-Face Meetings in Technology Supported Self-Organizing Distributed Teams" in *IEEE Transactions on Professional Communications*; with R. Heckman, U.Y. Eseryel, J. Howison, E. Allen, and Q. Lie "Emergent Decision-Making Practices in Free/Libre Open Sources Software (FLOSS) Development Teams" in *Proceedings of the IFIP 3rd International Conference on Open Source Software*, Limerick, Ireland, June 10-14l; and "The Bug-Fixing Process in Proprietary and Free/Libre Open Source Software: A Coordination Theory Analysis" in M.L. Markus and V. Grover (eds.) *Business Process Transformation*, M. E. Sharpe Inc. He presented with B. Fitzgerald, E. Berdou, S. Koch, G. Madley, and W. Scacchi "Data and Analyses Sharing to Support FLOSS Research: A Debate" at a panel session at the IFIP 3rd International Conference on Open Source Software, Limerick, Ireland, in June.

He received $29,488 in supplementary funding to support international travel for students, specifically Ph.D. students Qing Li and Yeliz Eseryel, who is spending the summer working with colleague B. Scozzi at the Polytechnic of Bari in Italy.

MARTHA GARCÍA-MURILLO, associate professor, published three chapters in a book in Spanish on Internet convergence. It will be published this spring in electronic form on the web site of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The book will subsequently be translated into English and published by Elsevier.

She served as the program chair of the Telecommunications Policy Research Conference, which gathers top U.S. information policy researchers at its annual conference in Washington, D.C. She was invited by the State Department and the U.S. Trade and Development Agency to speak about universal service to telecommunication ministers, regulators, and operators of Central Asia in Kazakhstan.

R. DAVID LANKES, associate professor, wrote with J. Silverstein and S. Nicholson the technology brief "Participatory Networks: The Library as Conversation" for the American Library Association. He presented the brief at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, January 2007, and as a virtual lecture on Information Island, Second Life. He also presented "The K-12 Environment: A Compromised Setting for Studying" at the ALISE Annual Conference, Seattle, January 2007; and "Using Virtual Reference to Rule the World" at the Information Online Satellite Workshop, "Technology as Conversation" at the TAFE New South Wales Meeting, and "The Changing Face of Reference" at the Information Online Conference," all in Sydney, Australia, January-February 2007. In the coming months, he will speak to ASIDIC in Orlando, AMIGOS in Dallas, the Regione Toscana-Servizi Bibliografici in Florence, and the Connecticut Library Association's Annual Conference.

ELIZABETH LIDDY, interim dean and professor, presented "Modeling Reference Interviews as a Basis for Improving Automatic QA Systems" at the Workshop on Interactive Question-Answering and the poster "Illuminating Trouble Tickets with Sublanguage Theory" at the Human Language Technology Conference, Brooklyn, N.Y., June 2006; "Searching the Long Tail" at the iSchool Conference: Research Frontiers in Information, Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 2006; "Understanding the Connotative Meaning of Text: A Blue Sky Project" at the IARPA AQUAINT Program Kick-Off Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico, October 2006; and "Text Categorization for Aligning Educational Standards" at the 40th HICCS Conference, Waiklola, Hawaii, January 2007.

She led the Natural Language Processing Team in laying out the next generation research idea for Human Language Technology government funding at the MINDS Workshops, Washington, D.C., November 2006 and Los Angeles, February 2007.

JOON PARK, assistant professor, will publish in 2007 with G. An and D. Chandra "Trusted P2P Computing Environments with Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)" in *IET Information Security*; and with P. Chandramohan, A.T. Suresh, and J. Giordano "Component Survivability for Mission-Critical Distributed Systems" in the *Journal of Automatic and Trusted Computing*. He presented with L. Boral, M. Disla, S. Patil, and J. Williams the invited poster "Countering Insider Threats in Personal Devices" at the IEEE International

Heckman and Stanton *continued from page 1*

of data processing operations, systems development, and information systems marketing in the financial world. Most recently, he served as program director of the M.S. in information management (IM) and the Executive IM programs, which will now be headed up by Professor Dave Dischiave.

As a professor, Heckman promotes learning in three distinct communities: scholars, students, and professionals. His research has focused on strategy and planning for information resources and teaching and learning strategies for information professionals. He holds a Ph.D. in information systems from the Katz Graduate School of Business, University of Pittsburgh.

Stanton was named the associate dean for research and doctoral studies, and will remain the director of the Ph.D. in information science and technology program. He will be responsible for further increasing the iSchool's research portfolio, with particular emphases on creating linkages between the faculty and other schools and colleges on campus, and extending the iSchool's research contribution to interests of the local community, to fully demonstrate our commitment to Scholarship in Action.



Robert Heckman



Jeff Stanton

Stanton's research interest lies at the intersection of organizational behavior and technology, with the most recent projects examining how behavior affects information security and privacy within an organization. He also has extensive experience in business and securing grants from a variety of funding agencies. He earned a Ph.D. in information studies in 1997 from the University of Connecticut.

Devoted to Digital Inclusion

AMY SPEACH SHIRES, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Professor Murali Venkatesh believes in the transformative power of information technology—especially when practiced by enlightened, ethical, and socially responsible professionals. A dedicated teacher and compassionate citizen, he has been engaging School of Information Studies students in active learning experiences that benefit the community since he first arrived at SU. "I'm happy to say that, since spring of 1991, my classes have done 300 to 400 telecommunications projects, probably 98 percent of them with nonprofit organizations," says Venkatesh, who came to the United States from Southern India in 1986 to pursue a Ph.D. at Indiana University. "These projects are enormously important and rewarding. Whether they are implementing new systems or serving as planning and design consultants, my students appreciate the opportunity to be good citizens and exercise their skills to help those without access to those abilities."

Venkatesh is enthusiastic about several ongoing projects involving his students. Working in Syracuse's South Side neighborhood, student teams installed a local area network (LAN) at the Beauchamp Library, as well as two community wireless hotspots. The LAN gives residents access to a broadband Internet connection through the library's access to the Syracuse MetroNet, a high-speed multimedia network that connects schools, hospitals, and nonprofit institutions in Syracuse. The hotspots provide free wireless Internet access to residents who are using laptops.

In November, a Digital Access Day was held at the library to celebrate and create public awareness of these technological strides within the community. In addition, the library's MetroNet connection now serves as a launching off point for area businesses, potentially stimulating economic growth and enlivening the neighborhood. "The broad idea behind this project is to establish what we call the Salina Electronic Village," says Venkatesh who received the school's 2007 Jeffrey Katzer Faculty of the Year Award at Convocation. "We want to infuse the area with connectivity, which, hopefully, will encourage people to put up a little café or things of that nature. This is a small start. But over time, we are really confident this can help change the texture and character of the South Side, and people's perceptions about what is possible there."

A second project focuses on using the Internet to improve access to American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting services for people with hearing impairments by developing video-delivered ASL services at health care facilities. "Under New York State law, health care facilities must provide language assistance services to patients within 20 minutes during outpatient visits and within 10 minutes during emergencies," says Venkatesh, who received a $5,000 Innovation Grant from the University's Burton Blatt Institute to support research related to the project. "The Internet promises an entirely new capacity to broaden social inclusion with access to ASL services such as interpreting, mental health counseling, and emergency preparedness and disaster response."

Two teams of Venkatesh's students are working on developing this project with Aurora of Central New York Inc., a nonprofit provider of ASL interpretation and other services, again using the MetroNet to connect Aurora to area hospitals and other health facilities. "This is just so beautiful," Venkatesh says. "The deaf population gets access to services they might not otherwise have, and Aurora adds potentially new service clients, which leads to more revenue and a broader menu of services. It works to everyone's advantage."

Venkatesh believes the field of information technology is rich with similar possibilities for healing social divides by bringing technological skills and access to marginalized populations. "Digital inclusion is a civil right," he says. "There is just no other way to put it. I can access anything I want from my laptop with the click of a mouse. I think it is terrible that this convenience isn't available to vast sections of the population." The School of Information Studies, he says, is "beautifully placed to be leading a new paradigm of information technology professionals who are fully aware of the ethical implications of what they do." He envisions a complete rethinking of the profession of information systems. "Essentially, what I have in mind is that any of our graduates would go out not only with skills, of which they have plenty, but also with a distinctive world view that places a very high valuation on ethical and socially responsible practice," he says. "The skills are the cornerstones of our professional identity, but we also have to train our students to ask, 'Who are we using these skills for?'" ●



Professor Murali Venkatesh with a local student at Digital Access Day at the Beauchamp Library in Syracuse.

Conference on Intelligence and Security informatics (ISI) May 2006, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

He was invited to sit on the editorial boards of *The Handbook of Research on Information Security and Assurance*, Idea Publishing Group; and *Computer Standards & Interfaces*, Elsevier. He received with S. Bernard, J. Stanton, S.K. Chin, S. Thorson, S. Olderand, H. Fu, and A. Kumar the NSF Federal Cyber Service Scholarship for Service, which awards $749,352 over a period of three years.

He will serve in 2007 as a program committee member for the 23rd IEEE Annual Computer Security Applications conference (ACSAC); the 12th ACM Symposium on Access Control Models and Technologies (SACMAT), 2007; the 21st Annual IFIP WG 11.3 Working Conference on Data and Application Security (DAS); the IEEE International Conference on Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI); the 4th International Conference on Autonomic and Trusted Computing (ATC); and the IEEE Workshop on Information Assurance (WIA).

JOANNE SILVERSTEIN, assistant research professor, published the book chapter "Digital Reference Services: Recommendations for Supporting Children's Informal Learning" in M.K. Chelton and C. Cool (Eds.) *Youth Information-Seeking Behavior II: Context, Theories, Models, and Issues*, Scarecrow Press Inc., 2007.

RUTH V. SMALL, Laura J. and Douglas Meredith Professor, hosted the third annual Institute on Digital Empowerment for the Center for Digital Literacy on December 1-2, 2006. She served as a consultant to the Center for Leadership in Technology Integration & Critical Literacies at Florida State University. She presented on a faculty panel at the Wireless Grids Consortium Meeting, Syracuse University, December 2006.

She was invited to join the editorial board of *Educational Technology Research and Development*, the premier instructional design journal, as a consulting editor for the development section; and was invited to join an international advisory board to identify the top 20 articles, significant books, and monographs that should be included in a text on the classics of school librarianship.

PING ZHANG, associate professor, served as a visiting fellow of the Department of Information Systems, Faculty of Business, at City University of Hong Kong from June to August 2006. That summer, she also visited several institutions in China, including Peking and Tsinghua universities and the Institute of Psychology at Chinese Academy of Sciences.

In fall 2006, she guest edited with F.F. Nah, S. McCoy, and M. Yi a special issue of the *International Journal of Human-Computer Studies*, September, 64(9), for which they wrote "HCI Studies in the MIS Discipline." She published with H. Sun "Causal Direction Between Perceived Enjoyment and Perceived Ease of Use: An Alternative Approach" in the *Journal of the Association for Information Systems*, September, 7(8). She presented with K. Parker "Examining Applications of Motivational Theories to the IT Field" at the Annual Conference of the American Society for Information Science and Technology November 2006, Austin, Texas; and with H. Sun and N. Li "Affective Reactions to ICT: A Theory-Based Analysis of Affective Constructs" at the Post-ICIS JAIS Theory Development Workshop, December 2006, Milwaukee. She published a book review of "Wired for Speech: How Voice Activates and Advances the Human-Computer Relationship" by C. Nass and S. Brave in *Information Processing and Management: An International Journal*, September, 42(5).

Zhang served as track co-chair, human-computer interaction track, for the International Conference on information Systems, December 2006, Milwaukee; on the advisory committee of the Fifth Annual Pre-ICIS Workshop on HCI Research in MIS, December 2006, Milwaukee; and on the program committee of the Annual Conference of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, November 2006, Austin, Texas.

In spring 2007, she published "Designing Motivating Information and Communication Technology," in M. Avital, R. Bolland, and D. Cooperrider (eds.) *Designing Information and Organizations with a Positive Lens*, a volume of *Advances in Appreciative Inquiry*, Elsevier. She will publish with S. Aikman "Attitudes in ICT Acceptance and Use" in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Human Computer Interaction*, July 2007, Beijing; with R. Benjamin "Understanding Information Related Fields: A Conceptual Framework," in the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*; and with H. Sun "Applying Markus and Robey's Causal Structure to Examine User Technology Acceptance Research: A New Perspective" in the *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application*. She presented with X. Liu and R. Benjamin "Re-Examining IT Enabled Change with a New Model of the Information Field: The Tiger Creek Case" at the Hawaii International Conference System Sciences in January 2007.

Zhang will serve on the program committee for the First China Summer Workshop on Information Management, July 22-23, Shanghai; and act as the Track/Session Co-Chair for the International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, July 22-27, Beijing. ●

Faculty, Staff, Student NEWS

News Briefs

New Scholarship Funds Library and Information Science Grad Students

The School of Information Studies announced the establishment of the Ellen G. Shay Library Science Scholarship in October. The $1,000 annual scholarship will be awarded to a graduate student pursuing an advanced degree in library and information science, with preference given to students interested in becoming school librarians. The scholarship was created in memory of Ellen Griffiths Shay, a 1957 alumna of the school's master's degree program in library science, through an estate gift of her late husband, Dr. Ralph S. Shay.

Ping Zhang Named Top Information Systems Researcher in CAIS Study

Professor Ping Zhang was named a top information systems researcher in a study published December 2006 in *Communications of the Association for Information Systems (CAIS)*. The article identified all researchers who had published five or more articles in any of the seven leading information systems journals between 2001 and 2005. Zhang published five articles during that time, including four in *CAIS* and one in the *Journal of the Association of Information Systems*.

WISE Consortium Honored for Excellence in Online Teaching and Learning

The Sloan Consortium, an association of more than 1,000 institutions and organizations of higher education engaged in online learning, named the Web-Based Information Science Education (WISE) Consortium a winner of its 2006 Effective Practice Award. Founded in 2004 by Syracuse University's School of Information Studies and the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, WISE offers unique distance education courses to students at its 12 member schools.

WISE (*wiseeducation.org*) has reached a total of 198 students through 133 courses in the past two years, and works continuously to increase the quality, access, and diversity of online education opportunities in library and information science.

Three Faculty Honored for Teaching Excellence

Three School of Information Studies professors were honored with Excellence in Online Teaching Awards at the 2007 Association of Library and Information Science Educators (ALISE) annual conference in Seattle in January. The awards, presented by the Web-Based Information Science Education (WISE) Consortium, recognize leaders in online information science as defined by excellence in WISE quality metrics, such as training and mentoring, meeting the needs of a diverse student population, and providing communication and feedback.

The winners were professor Barbara Kwasnik, adjunct professor Jennifer Hendzlik, and adjunct professor Robert Emborski.

Center for Digital Literacy to Study 8th Graders Information-Seeking Abilities

Researchers at the School of Information Studies' Center for Digital Literacy (CDL) began a study last fall that focuses on how eighth-graders find information when given a research project.

Funded by a $200,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Professor Marilyn Arnone, principal investigator of the study and director of educational media at CDL, and her team of scholars, including Ph.D. candidate Rebecca Reynolds and consulting associate dean Jeff Stanton, will survey at least 1,000 students, as well as library media specialists, at 50 U.S. middle schools from low-, middle-, and high-needs districts. Their hope is to assess the students' technical digital literacy and their information literacy, as well as evaluate the gap between students' perceived confidence and their actual skill level and between the students' perceived confidence and their teachers' confidence in the value of digital and information literacy lessons.

Faculty Briefs

Nicholson Named New LIS Director


Scott Nicholson

Scott Nicholson, associate professor, was chosen as the new director of the library and information science program at the School of Information Studies. He assumed the position upon the retirement of the previous director, Gisela von Dran, in December 2006.

Nicholson has focused his research on ways to improve the evaluation of library services for decision-makers through bibliomining, or data mining for librarians. His secondary research interests include web search tools and new methods for distance education. He serves on the editorial board for *Information Technology and Libraries* and is active in the American Library Association, for which he is the faculty sponsor for the iSchool's student chapter. He holds a Ph.D. in information science from the University of North Texas.

New Certificate Course Offered

In January, **Arthur Thomas**, adjunct professor, began teaching Fiber-Optic Data Networks: Concepts, Installation, and Testing, a new technician certification course, at Syracuse University's Center for Business Information Technologies (CBIT). Thomas and his business partner, Deborah Landowski, developed the course in collaboration with the 3M Company during the last two years as part of a contract between 3M and their consulting firm, LightYear Institute. The contract allows them to use 3M technical information and intellectual property in the development of instructional materials for entry-level training in fiber-optics technology.

The course spans a full semester and involves lectures on fiber-optics principles, installation, and testing, as well as hands-on supervised lab sessions, which provide students practice in installing connectors, splicing cables, and using test equipment. All students who pass the course will receive certificates from both CBIT and 3M Company.

Staff Announcements

Brenner Promoted to Assistant Dean


Paul Brenner

Paul Brenner was named assistant dean for advancement during the spring semester. He serves as the chief development officer primarily responsible for developing and implementing major gift and gift planning programs for the School of Information Studies and heads the school's external relations team. Under Brenner's guidance, the school received its first million dollar gift from alumna Estelle Wilhelm '38, '39 in fall 2006.

Brenner came to the School of Information Studies as executive director of development in July 2002. Previously, he worked as director of development for SU's School of Management, in corporate relations roles for Cornell University, and as a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch. He earned an M.B.A. in 1979 from Cornell's Johnson Graduate School of Management.

Stewart Joins Staff as Executive Assistant to Dean


Iris Stewart

Iris Stewart was named executive assistant to the dean in February. She is responsible for coordinating the dean's schedule, organizing some school-wide events, and providing administrative support to priority projects for the dean and the school.

Most recently, she worked as an IT support specialist at Bond, Schoeneck, and King, where she managed application and hardware for more than 400 users. She also has experience as a legal assistant with three law firms in Central New York. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in information science at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Derrick Cogburn Receives NSF Grant to Develop Virtual Workspace



Derrick L. Cogburn

Supported by a two-year, $188,200 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Professor Derrick L. Cogburn, director of the Collaboratory on Technology Enhanced Learning Communities (Cotelco), began work this fall on a project to create a collaboratory that will improve communications and efficiency among the members of the Central New York-Puerto Rico Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (CNY-PR AGEP). "A collaboratory—a blending of the words 'collaborate' and 'laboratory'—is an innovative, networked organizational structure that provides the social and technical infrastructure to allow faculty, students, and staff to collaborate in real time across multiple campuses, time zones, and institutions without being constrained to the technological tools available at any one campus," Cogburn says.

The project, Enhancing the Cyberinfrastructure of National AGE Integration: Rapid Prototyping and Evaluation of Pilot AGEP Collaboratory, aims not only to aid the CNY-PR AGEP, but also all of the New York and East Coast AGEP alliances and their institutional partners across the country. AGEP alliances promote a collaborative institutional culture that supports graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in pursuing academic careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

School of Information Studies Garners National Attention for Its Scholarly Productivity

An article in the autumn 2006 issue of *Library & Information Science Research* ranked the Syracuse University School of Information Studies fourth in the nation for programs with the most journal articles.

The School of Information Studies ranked seventh for the program with the most citations to faculty members' works, with Professor Robert Benjamin receiving individual honors as the 22nd most commonly cited researcher. Also, Professor R. David Lankes and Associate Dean Jeff Stanton were ranked in the top 12 most productive library and information science (LIS) faculty members in terms of journal publications.

These findings showed a marked increase in scholarly productivity rankings for the School of Information Studies since the previous study in 2000. ●

Kingma Named Associate Provost, Steps Down as Associate Dean

MARGARET COSTELLO, EDITOR

Bruce Kingma, professor in Syracuse University's School of Information Studies (iSchool), has been appointed to the new position of SU associate provost for entrepreneurship and innovation, and has stepped down as associate dean in the school.

As associate provost, Kingma will provide leadership for the Syracuse Campus-Community Entrepreneurship Initiative—a collaborative partnership made possible by a five-year, $3 million grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. The grant will provide funding to faculty members interested in using courses to inspire and educate students in entrepreneurship involving to the community, arts and culture, or technology.

The Kauffman project will contribute to the continued changes in the Central New York region, including the formation of new ventures, improved entrepreneurial skills in the local business community and key not-for-profit organizations, and revitalization of inner-city neighborhoods by fostering entrepreneurship.



Kingma will work with SU and partner institutions to develop new curricula and curricular elements, enable research, and facilitate experiential learning that builds on the excellence of the Martin J. Whitman School of Management's No.1-ranked entrepreneurship program and that integrates the concept of entrepreneurship and innovation across disciplines. ●

School Partners with Industry to Study Wireless Grids

KRISTEN BLAKE, CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Lee McKnight

Have your ever wished you could combine all the best features of your electronic gadgets? At the Wireless Grids Corporation, headed by School of Information Studies Professor Lee McKnight and located on the Syracuse University campus, engineers are developing applications that might allow you to do just that. "For example, your phone has a display and it also has a camera," says David Grandinetti, senior architect at Wireless Grids, "but the camera produces pictures that are far better than what the little display can show. Now, say you're at a club with a big screen. If a wireless grid was in place, you could take pictures with your phone and use that big screen to display your photos, maybe even in sync with the music."

To promote research into technologies that will make networking and resource sharing easy for users, the Wireless Grids Corporation, *wgrids.com*, has announced the creation of a research consortium to develop applications like the one Grandinetti describes. The consortium will bring together academic, research, and business partners to explore the social and commercial uses of applications that integrate networked PCs and consumer electronics into wireless grids, where hardware, software, and content resources can be shared with little or no manual configuration.

Late last year, the emerging consortium received a $50,000 grant from the Nokia Research Center (NRC) in Palo Alto, Calif., which has named the study of wireless grids and collaborative services one of its top research priorities. NRC hopes to see wireless grids gain a foothold in a world that increasingly relies on a variety of wireless communications devices. McKnight says he and his colleagues plan to use the gift for research and development, as well as organizational growth. "In active partnership with Nokia and other global industry and academic leaders, we are planning a variety of social experiments with this new technology, here in Syracuse as well as in Silicon Valley," he says. "We are working with Nokia Research Center to develop plans for a wireless grids research consortium to be launched by fall 2007 to further our understanding of this important new area of research."

Among the experimental products Wireless Grids has created with its technology are a prototype of a digital video recording system that will allow users to record television shows on their computers using their own cable subscriptions and those of friends around the globe; a distributed audio recording system that will let people mix sound files from small recording devices to create stereo sound; and Home Grid, a suite of small programs that work together to manage and optimize home networks. "A big part of our approach is that technology is nice, but we need to solve the problems of how people use it," Grandinetti says. "We don't share things with other computers, we share with other people." ●



CDL Conference

The Center for Digital Literacy's two-day symposium—Inquiry, Imagination, and Invention in the Digital Age—encouraged student participants to explore the creative process and its development using emerging digital technologies. During the conference, the center inaugurated its new Curiosity and Imagination Lab in Hinds Hall.

IN MEMORIAM

Raymond F. von Dran

JULY 31, 1946— JULY 23, 2007



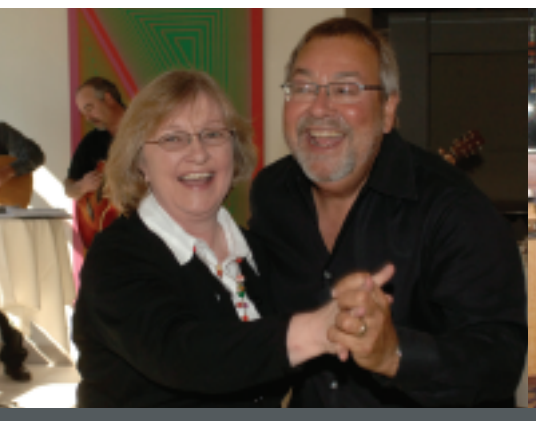
Obituary

Adoring husband and father, esteemed professor and dean emeritus of the Syracuse University School of Information Studies, pioneering leader in the field of information, innovative thinker and academic, beloved friend and mentor, nurturer of and believer in young talent, art and music aficionado, and bearer of a child-like spirit, Raymond F. von Dran passed away Monday, July 23 at New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. He was 60. Born on July 31, 1946, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Ray grew up a single child, learning from his father the value of an education. He instilled in Ray the love for reading, including his favorite book, *Tootle*. Ray presented copies of the book to May 2007 graduates of the iSchool at Syracuse as a reminder to lay down their own tracks in life. Throughout his career, Ray broke new ground to help bring library and information science schools into the Information Age. A founding member of the I-Schools Group—a national consortium of academic institutions focused on the relationship between information and people—Ray was among a core group of visionaries who helped define the newly emerging academic field of information studies, examining how information, in all its forms, expands human capabilities. He led the iSchool at Syracuse through a 12-year period of unprecedented productivity (1995-2007), during which the number of faculty and students nearly tripled, sponsored research increased five-fold, and four of the school's programs earned top-four rankings from *U.S. News and World Report*, including the top-ranked master's in information systems. All seven of the school's research centers were launched under his leadership, and several academic degree programs were instituted. Ray was also instrumental in increasing the school's endowment, recently helping to secure the largest gift in its 110-year history. Among his most striking legacies at the school is the notion of a "faculty of one" that has no traditional departments or divisions between the various degree programs and that encourages faculty to teach across disciplines. This unique culture supports innovative collaboration and a family-like environment for school members to teach and learn from each other. Syracuse often served as a model for other schools to emulate, and Ray advised them on how to establish such a collegial and productive workplace. Prior to joining SU, Ray served as dean of the information schools at The Catholic University of America and the University of North Texas. He received a Ph.D. in information science and master's degrees in library science and French intellectual history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and bachelor's degrees in foreign languages and history from Seton Hall University. One of his greatest skills and accomplishments in life was making every person he encountered feel special and like an invaluable contributor to whatever task was at hand. He was unabashedly devoted to his wife and daughter, whom he looked to for support and inspiration. He is survived by wife, Gisela von Dran, of Syracuse, N.Y., and daughter, Beth von Dran, of Austin, Texas.

Raymond F. von Dran Memorial Fund

A memorial fund has been established to honor the legacy and carry on the pioneering work of Raymond F. von Dran at the School of Information Studies. Donations can be directed to:

The SU Raymond F. von Dran Fund
School of Information Studies
Syracuse University
343 Hinds Hall
Syracuse NY 13244






Remembering Ray

The following are excerpts taken from the Raymond F. von Dran Remembrance web site: ***ischool.syr.edu/ray.*** We invite you to visit the site and share your own remembrance and photos of Ray. All of the submissions will be compiled and given to Ray's family at a later date.

"Ray was many things to me—my dean, a very good friend, a supporter of my work and of my family. I had the joyous pleasure of spending two weeks just recently being tutored by Ray for my new role as interim dean. Ray had prepared so well to ensure that whomever was next in the dean's chair was well prepared to lead the school. As with many other acts, this conveyed Ray's love and care for our school. I will miss him terribly. We will all go forth to make him proud of what he created."

—Liz Liddy, Interim Dean, iSchool at Syracuse University

"Ray, we will miss you. You brought a life, spirit, and energy to Syracuse and to the iSchool community that enabled us all to succeed.

"God loves you Ray, and so do we."

—Bruce Kingma, Associate Provost for Entrepreneurship, Syracuse University

"As chairman of the School's Board of Visitors I had many opportunities to discuss strategy, curriculum, faculty, and resources with Ray. He always listened and always responded thoughfully with his ideas, his programs, and yes his disagreements.

"He was indeed a leader of leaders in the information world. He fashioned the consortium of the country's leading iSchools.

"Our fondness and respect for him will be reflected in our dedication to, and pursuit of, his vision of how information and iSchools contribute in growing measure to people's knowledge, understanding, and behavior."

—Herb Brinberg, Chairman, Board of Visitors, iSchool

"We at Michigan see Syracuse as a pioneer in the Information Schools movement, and Ray von Dran as a guiding force among the pioneers. We shared Ray's vision and we felt a part of a larger community Ray helped forge to make that vision real. We were encouraged by Ray's entrepreneurial spirit and his focus on fundamental changes within the information professions.

"As our schools at Syracuse and Michigan evolved, we came to admire each other's accomplishments. We were co-conspirators in bold plans that advanced our schools and the broader information school concept. We enjoyed a collegial competition, a friendly and constructive rivalry

"Ray's friendship, companionship, and fun-loving spirit made our challenges seem easier. His view was summed in this line: 'We owe it to our schools and our profession to strategize about where we're heading and how to best support one another. We need more and better information schools, so let's think about how we can collaborate better—not compete.'

"Ray's lasting legacy was foreshadowed in a talk he gave several years ago to faculty and students at Michigan. He was talking about our shared purpose, and said, 'Information schools are advancing a common notion that it's information, and not simply the technology, that is the driver, and the information field must harness a number of disciplines and approaches that critically affect the relevance, timeliness, accessibility, and quality of information … These schools bring together the various aspects of technology, management, policy, and usability, among others, for the benefit of people.'

"That's what Ray saw as the iSchools' mission: exploring how information can be harnessed to benefit people. We miss his leadership, his energy, and his brilliant smile."

—Univ. of Michigan School of Information Deans and Faculty

"Ray was one-of-a-kind—the perfect blend of intellect, leadership, kindness, and zaniness. I have so many wonderful memories of Ray but the one that stands out today is the dayI was inducted as a Meredith Professor. I'll never forget how Ray arrived at my office door to escort me to the ceremony and promptly presented me with a beautiful corsage. I felt like I was being escorted to the prom! I was the only one who had two corsages that day.

"Ray was our greatest cheerleader and supporter. Words cannot express how much he will be missed."

—Ruth Small, Professor, iSchool

"Ray and I were in a Texas restaurant being silly and insufferable boys one night when our waitress asked if we were brothers. We looked at each other, and at the waitress, and decided that we were long lost brothers. What started as a joke many years ago in Texas could not have become more real for me. Ray did become the brother I didn't have growing up.

"In an email Ray sent to me just before he went into the hospital, after I expressed concern about his 'shortness of breath' complaint, he replied, 'Don't worry bro, I'm OK.' Ray, I hope you were trying to tell me more than I realized at the time and that you are 'OK' where your never-ending spiritual journey has taken you."

—Paul Gandel, Vice President/CIO, Syracuse University

"Ray was a dear friend. Saying goodbye will be a long process that will never quite be finished. There are so many memories of Ray…but for now, 'bear hugs,' that conveyed so much of what this gifted leader with the buttery, kind insides, was all about."

—Bob Benjamin, Professor, iSchool

"Apart from his curious and witty eyes, and his smiling face, one of the first things I noticed about Ray was the way he used to introduce himself, even when the audience was from the school (he made no assumptions): 'I'm Raymond von Dran and it is my honor and privilege to be the Dean of the School of Information Studies...' The signature was right there, at the beginning, with style, just like him. That also speaks to his commitment to the school, and that makes you want, or love, to be there.

"The 'wine and cheese' receptions will no longer have the same taste without you, Ray."

—Mawaki Chango, Ph.D. student, iSchool

"We will all miss you, Ray. Your sense of humor, leadership, and vision will be impossible to replace.

"I have many fond memories of you, but what stands out the most was your final graduation speech, where you exhorted all of the graduates not to be afraid to get off of Life's tracks in the pursuit of true excellence.

"It did not need to be said on that day that you had already blazed this trail for us, and showed us all the wonderful things that happen when you are not afraid to be different."

—Joe Ryan, 2007 Alumnus, Digital Projects Librarian, North Carolina State University

"Ray is more than just the best boss I ever had. He was an important person in my life, and in many other people's lives. He had so much love for his wife Gisela and daughter Beth, as well as for his colleagues, students, and friends. It is too hard to accept the fact that he is gone, and he will never be gone from my heart. I can still hear him whistling and laughing, see his various facial expressions, see his figure in black, and hear his footsteps… Ray, you make us miss you so terribly."

—Ping Zhang, Professor, iSchool






2007 Convocation Awards

Congratulations to the following graduates and faculty members who were recognized at the 2007 Commencement ceremonies in May.

MASTER'S DEGREE PRIZES

M.S. in Information Management
Lukasz Boral of Poznan, Poland

M.S. in Library and Information Science
Joseph Ryan of Madison, Wis.

M.S. in Library and Information Science—School Media Specialization
Elizabeth Hartnett of Manlius, N.Y.

M.S. in Telecommunications and Network Management
Divya Kurup of Mumbai, India

DOCTORAL PRIZE
Anuradha Mundkur of Syracuse

ANTJE LEMKE BOOK AWARD
Jonathan Jackson of Syracuse

GRADUATE LEADERSHIP AWARD
Fatima Espinoza Vasquez of Stamford, Conn.

WEITZEL AWARD FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS RESEARCH
Graduate
Jose Colon of Cayey, Puerto Rico

Undergraduate
Carissa Smith of Cincinnatus, N.Y.

DONALD A. AND JOYCE P. MARCHAND AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
Matthew Longo of Bernardsville, N.J.

UNDERGRADUATE LEADERSHIP AWARD
Eric Hansen of Petaluma, Calif.

DEAN'S SCHOLAR AWARD
Lauren Galliford of Batavia, N.Y.
Richard Levy of Leominster, Mass.
Xiao Yuo of Brookline, Mass.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR AWARD
Eric Hansen of Petaluma, Calif.
Carissa Smith of Cincinnatus, N.Y.

OUTSTANDING PART-TIME FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD
Barbara Wall

JEFFREY KATZER PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
Murali Venkatesh

CLASS MARSHALS
Menotti Minutillo Jr. of Farmingdale, N.Y.
Ashish Mittal of Lower Gwynedd, Pa.

ALUMNI CLASS LEADERS
Ranjan Chandiramani G'07 of Pune, India, Information Management
Minesh Gadhia G'07 of Mumbai, India, Information Management
Amit Goyal G'07 of Kishangarh, India, Information Management
David Harrison G'07 of Rochester, N.Y., Library and Information Science
Divya Kurup G'07 of Mumbai, India, Telecommunications and Network Management
Lisandra LaShomb '07 of Syracuse, Information Management and Technology
Joseph Ryan G'07 of Madison, Wis., Library and Information Science
Simon Sjogren '06 (Dec.) of Midlothian, Va., Information Management and Technology
Jasmine Thompson '07 of Chicago, Information Management and Technology
Susan Yoo G'07 of Cambridge, Mass., Library and Information Science

Student News

Ph.D. Student Selected to Participate as a 2007 Focus Fellow

Chingning Wang, a Ph.D. student in information science and technology, was selected as a Georgia Institute of Technology 2007 Focus Fellow, a competitive program for minority doctoral students that introduces them to academic careers. As part of the program, Wang traveled to Atlanta for a week-long visit to the Georgia Institute of Technology campus, where she spoke with current faculty members and key administrators within her research area, toured academic units and research laboratories, and received tips from faculty members about successfully navigating a career in academia.

Three iSchool Students Win Competition, Collections of Books for Organizations

Three students enrolled in the master's degree in library and information science program at the School of Information Studies successfully submitted a proposal to the We the People Bookshelf on the Pursuit of Happiness competition sponsored by the American Library Associations (ALA) Public Programs Office and the National Endowment for the Humanities. **Kori Gerbig G'07**, **Sara Kipp G'08**, and **Peg Mauer G'07** each entered her own plan to promote the We the People Bookshelf collection and this year's theme, the Pursuit of Happiness. In return, they each won a collection of books for an organization of their choosing.

iSchool Students Honored with Athletic Awards

Three iSchool students received awards during the University's inaugural Cuse Awards ceremony held this spring at the Carrier Dome.

Luk Boral '06, G'07, a recent graduate of the M.S. in information management program at the iSchool, received the Soladay Award, the most prestigious honor bestowed upon a student-athlete at Syracuse University. Boral earned All-BIG EAST accolades in six events and was the BIG EAST Champion in the 200 breaststroke in 2004 and 2005. Boral was also named this year's male MVP of the swimming and diving team.

Academically, Boral was just as outstanding. He graduated with a degree in information management and technology in three years and completed his master's degree this past season. During the school's 2007 Convocation, he was honored as the top student in the master's degree in information management program.

Other iSchool students receiving student-athlete awards include juniors **Dowayne Davis '08**, who won the Orange Distinction Award for football, and **Vaida Sipaviciute '08**, who won the women's basketball Coaches Award.

iSchool Students Named Semi-Finalists in the 2007 Panasci Business Plan Competition

Three students on two different teams were among the eight teams selected as winners in Syracuse University's Panasci Business Plan Competition held at the Whitman School of Management. As participants in the competition, they were invited to attend 11 help sessions to learn the ins and outs of putting together an effective business plan. The semi-finalists also had the opportunity to present their plans before successful high-profile venture capitalists and entrepreneurs who served as judges and offered advice to the students.

Xiao Yu '07 was on a six-person multidisciplinary team made up of students from biology, chemical engineering, biomedical engineering, and entrepreneurship and emerging enterprises. Their plans for Dynamic Tint System earned the group fourth place overall.

Information management graduate students **Miriam Haile** and **Ran Liu** presented their plans for Impression LLC, an e-portfolio service, and won the Entrepreneurial Spirit Award for their efforts.

The Panasci Business Plan Competition is designed to spur the entrepreneurial spirit of graduate and undergraduate students in creating growth-oriented business models at Syracuse University.

STUDENT PROFILE

Merging Two Academic Interests

KRISTEN BLAKE, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a dual major at the School of Information Studies and the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Eric Hansen '07 was often mistaken for a graduate student by faculty members and classmates alike. That's not surprising. Driven and highly independent, Hansen navigated the often uncertain territory of his unusual studies much like someone enrolled in a Ph.D. program: finding his own meaning in an undefined academic field, crafting ambitious projects from the ground up, and emerging as a leader among his peers.

A transfer student from Petaluma, California, Hansen arrived at SU as a junior in a program without many conventions or borders. He faced the daunting task of figuring out exactly how the worlds of information science and public relations could intersect — a quest that left him questioning his role as a student. "Where do I belong?" he would ask himself. "I really love the School of Information Studies, and I believe in its mission. I believe in the power of what we're doing. But sometimes I wondered, what does a person do with this dual degree?"

Hansen began to answer that question in spring when he put together the Newhouse New Media Series, an independent study project of his own design. He spoke to audiences about the role of blogs, podcasts, YouTube, and RSS readers in traditional public relations endeavors, peppering his lectures with real-world examples like that of a young intern who got Dell in trouble by posting incendiary comments on a blog critical of the company. "That whole story was a misunderstanding of technology," Hansen explains. "A person would have no place to learn about a situation like that in a traditional PR or information studies curriculum." He has come to identify the focus of his studies as the examination of unmet needs in both of his degree programs. "Everything I learned that I put into this series, I taught myself," he says. "That's the dirty little secret. There's no model for the intersection of a dual major like this."

While struggling to make sense of his own place within the University, Hansen says he sensed a similar disconnect between his peers and the School of Information Studies. In an attempt to bring undergraduates together, Hansen founded IST-UA, *www.ist-ua.syr.edu*, the School of Information Studies Undergraduate Alliance. The group is designed to help students organize extracurricular projects, but more importantly, according to Hansen, it gives them a chance to meet face to face and talk shop. "Technology is not the glue," he says. "It's getting in a room and talking and having it out. Humans are constantly looking for opportunities to get together." Since the group's inception last fall, IST-UA has organized academic and social events for its members, such as an all-access tour of the Carrier Dome, and workshops for the greater campus community, including a series called IST for Dummies.



Eric Hansen '07

"There is no question that IST-UA would not exist if not for Eric, but that's obvious," says Josh Frost '08, a member of the group's executive board. "What isn't obvious is how Eric drives the people in IST-UA. What's so amazing to me about Eric is that he doesn't necessarily create the idea or 'invent the wheel,' but puts people in place to create the great idea." IST-UA uses its web site, as well as a wiki, to post opportunities and ideas that members are encouraged to pick up and run with. Hansen hopes that the structure the group has created will allow new students to get involved well after the founding members have graduated.

Hansen, who was named a University Scholar, calls his work with IST-UA and the New Media Series the most powerful experiences of his academic career. After graduating in May and getting married in July, he plans to seek work at a public relations firm that will allow him to continue focusing his attention on trends in new media and information technology. "I feel privileged to understand both technology and public relations," Hansen says. "Everything is driven by technology. If you can understand it, then you have the ability to make sense out of a changing environment. It may be scary, but it's not incomprehensible." ●

Student Group Unites iSchool Undergraduates

BY MARGARET COSTELLO, EDITOR

When Eric Hansen '07 transferred to Syracuse University as a junior dual major in information management and technology at the School of Information Studies (iSchool) and public relations at the Newhouse School of Public Communications, he remembers feeling a disconnect from his peers in the iSchool. He took his information studies courses in four different buildings while the school's new home in Hinds Hall was being renovated. "I wanted to create a community of undergraduates who could start to build connections with each other through activities of mutual interest," says Hansen, a native of Petaluma, California. "I talked to a bunch of people who thought it was a great idea."



From those conversations emerged the School of Information Studies Undergraduate Alliance (IST-UA). Open to all University undergraduates, the student organization officially formed this fall and has already attracted a crowd of more than 20 students at its first event—an all-access tour of the Carrier Dome, including stops in the locker room, media boxes, and VIP rooms. Professor Jeffrey Rubin, whose consulting business provides technical support at Dome events for SU Athletics, described the wireless features of the press box and the closed circuit system within the Dome. Other events this semester have included movie nights and a behind-the-scenes look at AirOrange, the University's wireless network.

"I decided to get involved because I felt that the group would have an exceedingly positive influence on the undergraduate community in the school," says iSchool student Alana Edmunds '08, who helped the organization receive formal recognition from the University. "IST-UA is a collaborative effort of an eclectic mix of iSchool students, each with different strengths and abilities who come together for the benefit of all."

Hansen developed the group to have a "flat" organizational structure so that every member would have leadership opportunities and an equal say in the brainstorming and planning of group activities and events. "We try to create an atmosphere of shared leadership and responsibilities so each of us feels a personal stake in the group's success," he says. His hope in building such a structure is to empower first-year and second-year students so that the organization will continue strong after the juniors and seniors graduate.

"We have a lot of really motivated, bright, and energetic students in this school, and this organization is a great outlet for them," says Professor Susan Bonzi, who directs the undergraduate degree program. "Grassroots organizations do much better than ones imposed upon students. This group gives students a stronger sense of community, allows them to organize events that are of interest to them, and lets them come to the faculty with a larger voice." ●

HOME PAGE

ALUMNI NEWS



ALUMNI VOICES

Alumni Making a Difference in Our Students' Lives

BARBARA SETTEL, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS AND ANNUAL GIVING

As I gather the alumni news for each issue of this newsletter, I am always impressed by the positions our graduates have obtained. The list of titles and employers is tangible evidence of their success and accomplishments. But this list doesn't tell you about the wonderful ways our alumni are building on their success to connect with each other and with current students. Here are just a few examples of how some alumni have reached out to help others in our school community.

Each semester, 10 alumni from Central New York speak about their careers to students in the introductory class for the library and information science program. They offer students opportunities to do internships with them, and encourage students to attend professional conferences and network with other alumni.

Five alumnae participated in the Women in Information Technology (WIT) alumni career panel this April. They represented all of the school's degree programs and gave students valuable advice about preparing to enter the job market.

Twenty-five alumni gathered in February at the Capitol City Brewing Company in Washington, D.C., to meet with a group of master's degree students who were visiting the city. In addition to socializing, alumni provided students with contacts for their career development.

Alumni from the Metropolitan Museum, ABC News, and the New York Public Library served as tour guides and hosts to a group of graduate students who were visiting New York City in October.

A current distance student in the library and information science master's degree program was looking for an internship in a stimulating public library environment, near Westchester County or southern Connecticut. Our office connected her successfully with an alumna at Wilton Public Library, where she is now working on teen programs, grant writing, and fine-tuning the cataloging interface.

A recent graduate, who was relocating from Michigan to New York City, contacted my office for advice on her job search. After contacting a handful of alumni, all of whom responded immediately with offers to help, she applied to several organizations and was offered a position as a consultant.

Members of our Board of Visitors have assisted students and alumni with placements in their organizations. Board members have also spoken on panels about entrepreneurship and careers.

Hannah King MLS '88 wanted to honor her advisor Marta Dosa, by establishing a class gift to support the naming of the Marta Dosa Collaboratory. Hannah wrote a letter to all of her classmates from 1987 and 1988, saying "I am reminded every day of how much I learned from Marta. Her courses on national and international information policy and government information have made me uncomfortably aware that as a nation we have failed to manage our most valuable resource—information. Helping to build a meeting place where faculty and students can meet to discuss, share ideas, and work creatively together would be a perfect way to honor Marta." Several classmates have donated and pledged gifts in support of the collaboratory, but we still need more of you to meet the $5,000 goal.

In February, alumni and employers from the School of Information Studies joined with their counterparts in the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science for an event in Syracuse. "Beyond Networking" brought students together with graduates in the fields of science and technology, where they made connections for internships, jobs, and career mentoring.

There is no limit to the ways our alumni can make a difference. By staying connected and engaging in alumni activities, you certainly can have a huge influence on a student's career path. And you never know, you may be in the right place at the right time to change your own life. ●

Your News

PLEASE

use the enclosed envelope to let us know about your professional and personal accomplishments so we can include them as news items in future issues of *Home Page*. Also, please inform us of any address changes.

YOU MAY ALSO

visit the alumni web site at *ischool.syr.edu/alumni* to update your address, make a gift to the school, or join the online alumni community. You can now submit class notes online.

OR CONTACT

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B.S. in Information Management and Technology

Bret Stoffer '92 is an executive producer with Anode in Nashville, Tenn.

David McGarry '93 is senior vice president of product management for Incisent Technologies in Chicago.

Alisha Miles Mitchell '94 is director of instructional design at Donatos Pizza in Columbus, Ohio.

Bagus Pramudito '94; MS IM '97 is an information systems planning manager for Indonesian Railways in Bandung, Indonesia.

Christopher Westpoint '95 is a critical infrastructure engineer with Goldman, Sachs & Co.'s Critical Identity Group in Jersey City, N.J.

Daniel Marino '97 is director at Acai Solutions in New York City.

Sarah Durling '00 is a state agency service specialist with the New York State Archives in Albany, N.Y.

Brian Matiash '00 is an implementation consultant with Omgeo in Boston.

Robert March '01; MS IM '04 is a fiber network technician with Verizon in Syracuse.

Gregory Hauser '02 is a senior corporate recruiter for Broadcom in Irvine, Calif.

Jerry Raphaelson '02 is a corporate marketing administrator with MGM Mirage International in Las Vegas.

Joel Dowling '03 is completing his last year of law school at St. John's University in New York City. He recently completed a year-long externship with the presiding judge of the Appellate Division in Manhattan. He was the first extern to ever serve at the Appeals Court, the second highest court in the state.

Read Eudicone '03 is an underwriter at Travelers Insurance in Hartford, Conn.

Isang Linchwe '03 is a project/change manager with Barclays Bank in Gaborone, Botswana.

Kathy Rivera '03 is a business analyst at Morgan Stanley in New York City.

Kristen Schnoebelen '03; MS IM '06 is a quality assurance analyst at AXA Equitable in Syracuse.

Nathifa Charles '05 is pursuing a master's degree in information systems with a database concentration at Drexel University.

Lukasz Boral '06; MS IM '07 is an IT/risk auditor with JP Morgan Chase in New York City.

Jackson Eng '06 is an operations management trainee at Ferguson Enterprises Inc. in Lakewood, N.J.

Christopher Scobell '06 is working for Goldman Sachs in Options and Derivatives Operations in Jersey City, N.J.

Debra Shoenfeld '06 is attending law school at New England School of Law in Boston.

Simon Sjogren '06 is a technical support expert specialist at the CBORD Group Inc. in Ithaca, N.Y.

Justin Smith '06 is a programmer with Affiliated Central Inc. in Sheepshead Bay, N.Y.

Michelle Duquette '07 is a software engineer associate with Lockheed Martin Transportation and Security Solutions in Rockville, Md.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Panning Out from the Traditional Library Science Field

BY KRISTEN BLAKE, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Maxine Davis G'73 applied for admission at Syracuse University expecting to pursue a career as a librarian. Instead, she found herself entranced by the school's revolutionary approach to information science. "They floored me with this idea that information could be anywhere, not just in a library," she says. "I just knew that was the way I was going to go." That revelation led Davis into a professional life that has encompassed an array of jobs seemingly unrelated, but in reality strung together by an understanding of the importance of information in every facet of life. From the information sector, to the film industry, and back to historical research, Davis credits her respect for the information field as the force behind a successful and surprising career.

After graduating with a master's degree in library science, Davis took her skills into uncharted territory, setting up shop as an information broker in Central New York. Her company, Information Access, offered a product that very few businesses did at the time: independent research for corporations, Ph.D. students, or anyone who needed it. Davis dug up information about everything from the intricacies of pizza for an ill-fated new product by a national fast-food chain to a mysterious information blockage at a small non-profit organization. "It was a confusing time regarding information," she says. "There was no Google. It was all on paper or in people's heads. It was my job to find information and pass it on to the people who needed it."

As Information Access grew, Davis realized that she liked being in the thick of things, not hiring and managing employees to keep up with her expanding workload, as she had been forced to do. Seeking another information-based career, she went back to her hometown of Minneapolis, where she made forays into television news production and marketing. While managing public relations for Minnesota Outward Bound, the educational wilderness organization, Davis ran into a director making a short film about her employer. Later, he was looking for someone to coordinate another film's production, and Davis volunteered for the job, assuming that her skills as an information manager would carry the day. They did, and after learning the ropes on her first production, Davis embarked on a long career in the film business, finding a mentor in Jeff Hayes, a future executive producer of *Law and Order*, and serving as production manager on Prince's film, *Purple Rain*.

In the 1980s, Davis made a name for herself as the Minneapolis area's only freelance film coordinator, but more than two decades of 18-hour days left her seeking yet another career change. The opportunity for a new venture beckoned when Davis made a 20-minute video biography about her mother. She showed friends and family the film, and they were soon asking her to make similar videos about their loved ones. Davis also made a biography of Dr. Raymond Scallen, a respected local physician and war veteran, and the film, only the fourth biographical short Davis had done, won an award from the Minnesota Historical Society. Drawing on these successes, Davis started Every Life is a Story LLC, *www.tellyourhistory.com*, in April 2005. The company crafts personal documentaries using interviews, photographs, and family film, along with historical photos, music, and original narration. "For me, the technical making of the film must be professional, but it's the research that's really interesting, which of course goes back to my degree," she says. "Whether it's looking at archival materials or interviewing someone about their mom, I find it all fascinating. I think personal histories are very important."

Now, Davis aims to unite her new career with its foundations. Last year, she shot a video interview of Antje Lemke, one of her Syracuse professors who most influenced her. She remains in touch with Lemke, as well as former professor Marta Dosa, for whom Davis' daughter is named. She credits the women's intellectual prowess, as well as the generosity they showed in inviting classes into their homes, for the lasting impression made by her years as a graduate student. "I'll always feel that my intellectual life started at the School of Information Studies," she says. "It was such a personable place, and they never said no to new ideas. It was an exciting time for all of us." ●



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ROBB LONG / SOUTHWEST JOURNAL

Maxine Davis G'73

Argenis Fernandez '07 is an IT auditor for PricewaterhouseCoopers in Stamford, Conn.

Michael McDade '07 is in the Information Management Leadership Program (IMLP) at General Electric. For his first six-month rotation, he will work in the infrastructure section in Trevose, Pa.

M.S. in Library and Information Science

M. Wahiduzzaman '64 retired as director of the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre and now is a full-time travel writer. He recently published a novel, *The Romantic*, published by Crane Books, Dhaka, India.

Paul Adalian Jr. '71 is founding librarian and dean of the new California State University Channel Islands Library.

Maxine W. Davis '73 received an award from the Minnesota Historical Society given for the "Best Exploration of an Intergeneration Legacy" as part of its moving pictures competition. She has worked as a film producer for 23 years and her new company, Every Life is a Story LLC, produces broadcast-quality family and business video documentaries (*www.tellyourhistory.com*).

Suzy Palmer '78 (BA A&S '76) is associate dean for collections, preservation, and digital initiatives at University of Louisville Library in Louisville, Ky.

Fred Stoss '82, associate librarian in the Science and Engineering Library at the SUNY University at Buffalo and co-chair of the American Library Association's Task Force on the Environment, is now officially a "climate change messenger." He was chosen from among several thousand applicants to participate in a three-day training workshop in January, led by Al Gore and the Climate Project, in Nashville. The training provided attendees with the information and skills needed to present their customized versions of Gore's global warming slide show, *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Mega Adams Brooks '95 is manager of the research and instruction group at Wellesley College Library, Wellesley, Mass.

William Turner '96 is assistant branch manager at the Colorado Springs Public Library.

Robert Weiner '99 is electronic services librarian at Syracuse University's Barclay Law Library.

Takashi Koga '02 was appointed as a standing committee member of the Government Information and Official Publications Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. His term runs from August 2007 through August 2011. He is an assistant professor at the National Institute of Informatics in Tokyo.

Karin Wikoff '02 is electronic and technical services librarian at Ithaca College Library in Ithaca, N.Y.

Greta (Braungard) Andrusyszyn '03 is a reference librarian at Barr Memorial Library in Fort Knox, Ky.

Sue Kowalski '03 is the winner of the 2007 Scholastic Library Publishing National Library Week Grant. The $5,000 grant, administered by the American Library Association (ALA) Public Awareness Committee, is awarded annually for the best public awareness campaign in support of National Library Week. Minoa (N.Y.) Elementary School library will partner with several local businesses and municipal agencies to promote reading and libraries using the "Come together @ your library" theme. Previously with Minoa elementary, she recently moved to a new position as



DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Real Rewards: Mi casa, "SU" casa!

PAUL BRENNER,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Many of our alumni tell us that the School of Information Studies was a second home to them during their studies here on the Hill, and that our "faculty of one" truly treated them like part of the school family. Today, those same alumni have the opportunity to open their homes to the school and share with us the other places that are most dear to them.

As the University prepares to announce a major campaign in support of Chancellor Cantor's Scholarship in Action initiatives, Syracuse University has begun accepting real estate gifts to broaden the ways our alumni and friends can make transformational gifts to the schools and programs they believe in.

A valuable and relatively "inexpensive" gift of undeveloped land, farm, vacation home, or primary residence offers you the joy of knowing you are providing the gift of knowledge *and* receiving a significant income tax benefit. Gifts of real estate secure a charitable income tax deduction for you—based on the fair market value of the property—with no capital gains liability for the transfer to the University. You may direct your gift of real estate to our school and fund an initiative or name a place, program, or position that is of special interest to you.

You can gift your property outright or use it to create lifetime income for you and your loved ones. Or you may decide to give the property to the University, yet continue using it during your lifetime. Such a gift is a simple and financially painless way to make a major naming or other gift to our school, and realize immediate tax benefits as well. By entering into a Retained Life Estate arrangement, you deed the property to Syracuse now and retain the right to life occupancy for yourself, spouse, or other beneficiaries. You continue to live in, care for, and manage your home as you do currently. Upon your death, the University handles the sale of your home and the proceeds go to the school for the purpose you have already specified and for which you have been recognized since establishing the gift. For example, you may be a librarian with no children and live in a home that has appreciated greatly. You could currently name a room or space in Hinds Hall in your name or that of a loved one, while remaining comfortably in your home for your lifetime. Your gift will also reduce your taxes, help ensure a bright future for our school, and eliminate the worrying over the eventual disposition of your home.

For more information about supporting the iSchool at Syracuse with a gift of real estate or other form of planned gift, contact Paul Brenner, assistant dean for advancement at 315-443-6139 or *pbrenner@syr.edu*. Or you can also call SU's gift planning office toll free at 1-888-352-9535. ●

middle school librarian in the East Syracuse/Minoa school district.

Alicia Naab '03 is assistant head of acquisitions at Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library.

Daniel Neville '03 is GIS/systems librarian at the Massachusetts State Library in Boston. He is the specialist for geospatial data for the House, Senate, and Executive offices at the State House as well as a systems administrator for the State Library.

Laura Schlueter '04 is a digital services librarian at the University of Maryland in Adelphia, Md.

Qinghua Xu '05 is a technical services librarian at the Art Institute of California in San Diego.

Donna Martellotto Boyce '06 is a school media specialist at Berea Elementary School in Montgomery, N.Y.

Anne Chernaik '06 has been accepted into the American Library Association 2007 Emerging Leader's Program. This national program selects 110 librarians from across the country to participate in workshops and leadership projects. She is a reference librarian at College of Lake County in Grayslake, Ill.

Eric Ikenouye '06 is a learning resource specialist at Western Governor's University in Salt Lake City.

S. Rebecca Lubin '06 is branch librarian at the Albany (N.Y.) Public Library Delaware Branch.

Tina Wilfeard '06 is a school media specialist at Lyons Junior-Senior High School in Lyons, N.Y.

M.S. in Information Management

Joo-Hyung Lee '87 is an executive with Accenture in San Francisco.

Stephen Andersen '98 is a Peace Corps volunteer in Bamako, Mali.

Yeliz Eseryel '02 is currently enrolled in the doctorate program at Syracuse University School of Information Studies. She teaches ERP Implementation courses in the master's degree programs in Syracuse and Washington, D.C. This summer, she is going to Italy for two months on an National Science Foundation-funded research project for open source software developers.

Robert Sauro '02 is director of educational technology for the Onondaga Central School District in Nedrow, N.Y.

Monique Rizer '03 is a development associate with the National Military Family Association in Alexandria, Va. She also does freelance writing and is working with the Gates Millennium Scholarship Program in Fairfax, Va.

Edward Roberts '03 is a software development engineer for Real Networks in Seattle.

Yannis Komninakidis '04 is a senior business analyst at INFOTE in Athens, Greece.

Amy Wilhite '04 is a systems coordinator with Princeton Health Care System in Princeton, N.J.

Joshua Leglor '05 is data manager for the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, Utah Department of Health in Salt Lake City.

Fatima Espinosa '06 is a web site developer for Education Through Music, a nonprofit corporation in New York City. The corporation promotes the sustainable integration of music into the curricula of elementary and middle schools in disadvantaged areas in order to enhance students' academic performance and general development.

Manish Kumar Gupta '06 is a consultant with enterprise risk services at Deloitte & Touche in New York City.

Hirofumi Suetake '06 is an associate in systems and process assurance at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Tokyo.

Rajiv Alexander '07 is a security services consultant with the audit and enterprise risk services group at Deloitte and Touche in New York City.

Kevin Chan '07 is a performance improvement security consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers advisory department in New York City.

Amit Goyal '07 is a consultant with Ernst & Young in technology and security risk services in New York City.

Kiran Nagaraj '07 is a security services consultant with the audit and enterprise risk services group at Deloitte and Touche in New York City.

M.S. in Telecommunications and Network Management

Keith Costello '04 (MS IM '04; CAS '04) is associate director of business development and strategy for Wireless Grids Corporation in Syracuse.

Mounir Maurice Doumani '04 is a consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton in Beirut, Lebanon.

Todd Collins '05 is a network administrator for the American Red Cross, Dayton Area Chapter, in Dayton, Ohio.

Derek DiGiacomo '05 is director of information technology and network operations for the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers in Exton, Pa.

Asim Hasan '05 is a technical support engineer at McAfee Inc. in Santa Clara, Calif.

Gayatri Kotoor '06 is a network engineer at McAfee Inc. in Santa Clara, Calif.

Edmund Dwight Williams Sr. '06 is a consultant with ManTech International in Falls Church, Va.

Prachi Bhide '07 is a business analyst in the technology risk division at Goldman Sachs in Jersey City, N.J.

Terry Shumaker '07 is a systems administrator at the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y.

Certificate of Advanced Study in Information Systems and Telecommunications Management

Tonya Franklin '05 is an IT project manager/scheduler with the Los Angeles Unified School District's IT Project Management Office in Los Angeles.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Tuning In to Radio's Future

COURTNEY ALLEN, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Since graduating with a master's degree in telecommunications and network management, Tim O'Shea '98, G'00 has been helping public radio stake out its spot in the digital world. As senior manager of distribution for Public Radio International (PRI) at the company's headquarters in Minneapolis, he develops strategies for the nonprofit organization to successfully distribute its content to the public in all media forms. "Frame it in the same perspective as how music and video distribution are evolving with our digital reality," O'Shea says. "You can now download a wealth of media options on-demand and program your own listening and viewing preferences through a variety of devices. The goal is to find ways for public broadcasters to adapt to these opportunities while maintaining such core values as substance, credibility, and service."

In a world where technology is constantly changing, O'Shea believes the shift from traditional broadcasting is challenging radio to maintain an intimate connection with the public market. "With so many media choices and pre-programmed formats, our audience is searching for relevancy," he says. "Public radio presents a unique voice and connection to the listener. The challenge with emerging technology is to maintain these qualities."

O'Shea got his start in public radio building a technological framework for Public Interactive, a leading web services company owned by PRI in Boston. There, he designed and implemented a systems framework to support web services for nearly 200 public broadcasting affiliates. Now, he's transitioned into a new role as a liaison between Public Interactive and PRI, a job he says he was fortunate to come by through connections with fellow iSchool alumni.

Encountering ingenious minds as a student has proven beneficial for O'Shea. He still keeps in touch with peers and professors to share information about the tech world. "If you really look for it," he says, "you can find people doing really creative things they're passionate about." O'Shea has struck up a connection with Lee McKnight, a professor at the iSchool and founder of the Wireless Grids Corporation, a start-up venture that works with emerging home networking technology. McKnight says O'Shea's engineering advice and insights are a great source for a fresh intellectual perspective.

In November 2006, O'Shea returned to the iSchool as a luncheon speaker for the Wireless Grids Research Consortium and Future Industry Standards Meeting. Paul Brenner, assistant dean for advancement at the iSchool, attended the meeting and came away impressed by O'Shea's presentation. "He is very well informed and knowledgeable," Brenner says. "He's at the forefront of exploring new media and is in the position to help the direction of not-for-profit radio. He's definitely someone to watch."

O'Shea says having such a huge impact on the future of public radio is an empowering challenge, and it's one he's increasingly passionate about. "I am enamored with the non-profit sector of my work," he says. "It feels good to leave things a great deal better than you found them. I'm making a difference in some respect and maintaining those things I care about." ●



Tim O'Shea '98, G'00

Professor, Alumnus Endows Two Rooms at the School of Information Studies





Professor Scott Bernard has earned degrees from four academic institutions, but none holds a closer place in his heart than the School of Information Studies, where he received a master's degree in information management in 1998 and has been teaching since 1999. Bernard recently expressed his gratitude with a substantial gift to the school to name the Bonnie Lou Harman Collaboratory, a multi-use classroom and meeting space in honor of his mother, and the adjacent Bernard Family Faculty Office, in honor of his entire family, including his father, Ralph Bernard.

The gift will benefit the Technology Endowment Campaign for Hinds Hall (TECHH), an effort to ensure that the school's new home on the Quad will always have the latest technology in its classrooms and research labs.

iSchool Mourns the Loss of a Faculty Member

We are sad to report that adjunct faculty member and alumnus Paul McKenzie MS '99 died suddenly on February 21. Paul was an instructor in the school's summer institute and at the Washington, D.C., campus, where he taught Project Management. Paul was a Peace Corps volunteer in Africa, and worked for the Peace Corps, Army Corps of Engineers, and most recently, the U.S. Department of the Navy, where he was deputy director for technology integration for the Naval Surface Warfare Center. Paul was a beloved member of the Washington, D.C., community, where he was active in politics, the Masons, and projects to beautify the city. He was passionate about hockey (he grew up playing in Canada) and founded and coached a high school team. He was full of energy, idealism, and hope. Paul worked to make this world a better place. He will be dearly missed.

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iSchool Offers New Executive Degree Program for Information Professionals

MARGARET COSTELLO, EDITOR

Over the past several decades information technologies have become more integral to conducting core business functions. Today, there are more than 327,000 top-tier executives holding such titles as chief information officer (CIO), chief technical officer (CTO), and vice president of information systems. These powerful and versatile executives have combined expertise in information technology and business management. These complimentary areas of knowledge allow them to envision and implement information architectures that support key business processes and achieve strategic goals, often on a global basis.

The top-ranked School of Information Studies (iSchool) has recognized the growing need for this new type of information-savvy leader and responded by establishing an executive version of the Master of Science in Information Management (MSIM) degree. Mid-level managers hoping to step up their careers can now enroll in the executive master's degree program in information management at the iSchool for classes that began this fall. The program allows students with six or more years of appropriate full-time professional experience to earn the MSIM degree in 30 credit hours.

"This program is really intended for mid-career information managers who want to fill knowledge gaps or develop a specialty that will put them on the fast-track for advancement within their organization," says Associate Dean Robert Heckman. "They're looking to add to their resumes a degree from the No. 1 ranked program in information systems in the country. We're very excited to be able to offer this program in a flexible format to help these busy professionals incorporate graduate courses into their schedules."

Students accepted into the executive program can complete the degree completely online, take classes on campus, or combine the two learning formats. They take classes from the same accomplished faculty who teach in the original MSIM program, and they can access all the University academic resources and the same high-quality faculty advising and support that is offered to other students.

"The career outlook for people with an information management degree is very good," says Professor Scott Bernard. "Our MSIM graduates will continue to be in high demand for the foreseeable future because they understand how to deal with the growth and importance of information technology as a key business and government service enabler."

For more information, visit *http://ischool.syr.edu/academics/graduate/execim/index.asp*.



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