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Syracuse University Magazine (USPS 009-049, ISSN 1065-884X) Volume 20, Number 4, is an official bulletin of Syracuse University and is published four times yearly: spring, summer, fall, and winter by Syracuse University, Syracuse NY 13244. It is distributed free of charge to alumni, friends, faculty, and staff. Periodical postage paid at Syracuse, NY, and additional mailing offices.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ONLY: Advancement Services, 820 Comstock Avenue, Room 009, Syracuse NY 13244-5040. Telephone: 315-443-3904. Fax: 315-443-5169. E-mail: alafranc@sy.edu. For duplicate mailings, send both mailing labels to the address above.

OTHER MAGAZINE BUSINESS: *Syracuse University Magazine*, 820 Comstock Avenue, Room 308, Syracuse NY 13244-5040. Telephone: 315-443-2233; Fax: 315-443-5425. E-mail: jacox@sy.edu. Web site: sumagazine.syr.edu.

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POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to 820 Comstock Avenue, Room 009, Syracuse NY 13244-5040.

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To promote learning through teaching, research, scholarship, creative accomplishment, and service.

• UNIVERSITY VISION •

To be the leading student-centered research university with faculty, students, and staff sharing responsibility and working together for academic, professional, and personal growth.

Opening Remarks

The Roots of Support

Whether you're a member of the Class of '54 looking forward to celebrating your 50th reunion, or a member of the Class of '04 getting ready to graduate, you have one thing in common: You're part of a Syracuse University community that stretches around the globe and across generations.

And it's likely you hold fond memories of the place that helped shape who you are today.

As you comb through this issue, you may be struck by the recollections of alumni who cite the University for having a profound impact on their lives. JoAnn Hefferman Heisen '72 says Syracuse changed her life and notes that her experience with

the Division of International Programs Abroad in Florence gave her a "whole new perspective on the world." José Cruz '99 credits the University with providing him enough scholarship support so that he didn't "struggle financially" here or once he entered the working world. Wall Street legend Marty Whitman '49 recently gave SU one of its largest gifts ever. Like thousands of others from his generation, he attended SU on the GI Bill and is thankful to SU for giving him his start and sparking his lifelong interest in learning and business. Joe Lampe '53, G'55, retiring chair of the SU Board of Trustees, speaks of SU with great affection and recalls the enduring friendships that he established and the positive influence that faculty had on him. He has dedicated countless hours to working on behalf of the University.

Along with their devotion to SU, the alumni featured in this issue, as well as thousands more, never forgot their Syracuse roots and have passed on their enthusiasm. They established scholar-

ships, donated money, taught seminars, provided students with internships, volunteered on advisory boards, and participated in other SU-related activities. No matter where they have gone in life, Syracuse has remained a part of them. This reflects positively on SU and also

shows a strong connection to the Hill that, in some cases, has flourished for more than a half-century. Ultimately, it is their generosity that helps keep the University on track. Without their support, SU would be a different place. There would be no new buildings going up on campus; there would be little thought of endowing

professorships to attract premiere faculty; and there would be few opportunities for students with limited financial means to enroll here.

As all of you know, a college education isn't cheap. It would be nice if receiving a college education today was a given. But it's not. Instead, it remains a privilege. So whatever members of the SU community do to enhance the education of today's students should be considered blessings. It's also important to remember that, more than anything, SU's tradition of support and generosity continually creates positive experiences for students. And one day these students, in turn, will lend a hand to the next generation studying on the Hill, carrying on a tradition of giving that leads to the experiences of a lifetime.



James Yang

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