Reasons to Swagge

Chuck D ’84, ’13 (Hon.), Public Enemy founder and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member, addresses the Class of 2013 and receives an honorary doctorate.
Congratulations to this year’s 10 Under 10.

10 Under 10 celebrates young alumni who have achieved exceptional careers and personal accomplishments before reaching their 10-year reunion. Each year, Adelphi will select 10 graduates to honor.

- Jill Forie ’11
- Joan Drabczyk ’05
- Louis Coraggio ’04
- Pranay Bobby Lanigan ’12
- Matthew Jordan ’07
- Lisa Michael Berthel ’08, M.F.T.
- Katherine Herrera ’06
- Anna Annaitha ’09
- Michael Santoro
- Zoulaika Khristanne Corro

For more information, call 516.877.4319.

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- 2013 Commencement
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- An Adelphi Word Search by Marilyn Huret ’61

A Look Back: Radio Days
My motto is that "Adelphi is small enough to care, yet large enough to count." I say this to new freshmen when I greet them at Orientation.

When I say "small enough to care," I mean that our size allows us to get to know students by name and to know their interests—whether they are undergraduates or graduate students—and that we educators are known to them. They know we care about their success. Yes, we have a challenging intellectual environment, but we also offer a strong support system so that students can succeed.

Adelphi is also "large enough to count," to have clout, as do the offices of alumni and friends to see different work environments and by bringing speakers to campus to talk about different career fields and paths. The Center for Career Development calls upon graduates, as do the Adelphi Alumni receptions are another opportunity to connect recent graduates and seasoned alumni, as I have done on numerous occasions. I recall with fondness a reception in Los Angeles where I introduced a recent graduate, aspiring to be a screenwriter, to an experienced alumnus with great success in that field. These are among the benefits of Adelphi's network of nearly 100,000 alumni.

There are other stories of similar connections: Paul Taylor, who became a star for more than a dozen years; the chair of a corporate board's audit committee working with the CFO, also an alumnus. Such stories abound.

On campus, we wear our Adelphi lapel pin with pride. We urge you, our alumni, to do the same, because that simple lapel pin or other signal of Adelphi can easily start conversations that lead to still more connections. Stay connected, both on and off campus.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Scott, Ph.D.

President
Mrs. Whatsit’s Wisdom

This past summer, I reread, with my son, Madeleine L’Engle’s A Wrinkle in Time. He loved the descriptions of life on distant planets and how the characters journeyed through space by wrinkling time. I liked all that stuff too, but, this time, I drank in the author’s railings against conformity and her messages about the importance of love and fashioning a meaningful life.

Toward the end of the book, one of the characters (the wise Mrs. Whatsit, serving as a stand-in for Ms. L’Engle) likens life to a sonnet. “You’re given the form, but you have to write the sonnet yourself,” she says. “What you say is completely up to you.”

I wish I could write you a sonnet on the chilling messages of these lines, which encapsulate why we’re here and what we can do with the lives that we’re given. I’ll resort instead to prose, but, hopefully, you’ll get the point.

The individuals profiled in this issue of Adelphi University Magazine have composed, or are starting to compose, lyrical sonnets, and none is writing alone. Collaboration is just as vital to them as inspiration.

Chuck d ’84, ’13 (Hon.), and fellow alumnus Bill Stephney, with others, created Public Enemy and changed music and culture. Harry Allen, another fellow alumnus who befriended Chuck d and later became Public Enemy’s “media assassin,” photographed the heady days of hip-hop at Adelphi’s radio station, WBAU, and his images keep those days alive.

Al Trautwig ’78 teamed up with his roommate Howard Freshman ’79 to broadcast play-by-play of every New York Apollo soccer team game on WBAU. Two radio careers subsequently took off.

The alumnae profiled in our feature story, “What Leaning in Looks Like for Adelphi Women,” talk about pursuing ambitious careers and having families and the vital roles of collaboration and determination in both.

Former New York Jet Kevin Mawae, M.A. ’06, came to Adelphi to ensure that he’d have a meaningful professional life beyond the football field and, soon after, was elected president of the NFL Players Association.

While at Adelphi, Janae Cummings ’13 led 15 fellow students to New Orleans to assist the residents of the city’s Lower Ninth Ward in coping with the ongoing aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Ms. Cummings intends to go to law school and will, no doubt, find new ways to lead and serve.

I could go on but, instead, I invite you to read on in the pages that follow. And, as always, please share your stories with us.

Bonnie Eissner
Editor-in-Chief

Celebrating 70 years of Nursing at Adelphi

Last June, about 100 Adelphi nursing alumni gathered on campus with friends and family to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Adelphi’s historic founding of the first Central Collegiate School of Nursing, which became one of the largest units of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

At the reunion, which featured a display of photos from all seven decades, as well as displays of memorabilia including nursing uniforms from the 1940s to the present, the School of Nursing unveiled its new name—the College of Nursing and Public Health.

President Robert A. Scott, Ph.D., and Dean Patrick Coonan ’78, Ed.D., also recognized the seven original cadets who were in attendance—Loretta (Holman) Cabral ’46, Ann Callahan Dick ’47, Kathleen (Lotwis) Dizano ’47, Corinne (Hirschfeld) Freeman ’47, Elaine (Koppel) Hamburg ’47, Eleanor (Zeitluft) Pipsa ’47 and Barbara (Caffrey) Wading ’48, G.C. ’96.

by Bonnie Eissner
New Board Members for a New Age

In less than a year, Philip DiSanto ’12 experienced two very different sides of Adelphi. In the spring of 2012, he was an undergraduate Honors College student mapping in political science and serving as president of the Student Government Association. In the spring of 2013, he was back on campus as an Adelphi trustee, helping set University policy and strategy. “It was an extraordinary honor to be elected to the board just a few months after my own graduation,” Mr. DiSanto says.

Two fellow recent graduates and former campus leaders, Chantal Hamlin ’07 and Adaeze Udoji ’08, joined Mr. DiSanto on the board a few months later, in April 2013. Ms. Hamlin says that she welcomes “the opportunity to ensure that my alma mater continues on the right path and operates at its full potential.”

All three alumni are trustees with full voting rights, says Trustee Noreen Harrington ’81, who, as chair of the Trustee Affairs Committee, helped guide efforts to diversify the board with younger members as well as more women and minorities.

In a first-ever assessment survey, Ms. Harrington and her committee members learned from fellow trustees that they wanted the board to better reflect the diversity and age of the Adelphi student body. Given these priorities, the board proposed electing recent graduates as full trustees.

Mr. DiSanto, Ms. Hamlin and Ms. Udoji are serving three-year terms, and the board expects to elect a new group of recent graduates as full trustees.

Mr. DiSanto says, “I am constantly in contact with agents in our New York City office. Retailers, such as Kohl’s, Macy’s, Sears and Walmart, usually come to us with specific requests for their stores. Our entire team consists of 14 people. There are two other designers for adult watches, and we help each other out. We design licensed adult watches for Sanrio (Hello Kitty). Every season, I watch for trends and create new concepts and designs. I am constantly in contact with agents in our Hong Kong office who help with manufacturing samples and products.

I spend most of the workweek in our Long Island City office. Retailers, such as Kohl’s, Macy’s, Sears and Walmart, usually come to us with specific requests for their stores. Once the designs are finished and approved in house, I send them to Sanrio’s office in Los Angeles for approval and then for sampling. The styles are shown to the retailers and, hopefully, orders get placed.

We invited recent Adelphi graduates to describe how they are faring in their first career positions post-college. Here is what former graphic design major Lana Belasic ’10 wrote.

The labor market is radically different today from what it was even five years ago. As best-selling author Thomas Friedman, who spoke at Adelphi in October 2012, points out, in today’s hyper-connected, hyper-competitive world, “Average is over.”

In the showroom, I switch out old samples, rearrange collections and change the wall displays.

Our entire team consists of 14 people. There are two other designers for adult watches, and we each work on different licenses, including Disney and Mattel. When some licenses or projects need immediate attention, we help each other out.

My office is pretty laid back. I am very fortunate to have a boss who knows how to balance a fun and creative environment with getting work done efficiently. Some days can be very intense with deadlines and orders, but there are slower moments as well. When something has to get done, we can be at the office until nighttime. We don’t just clock out at 5:30 p.m. every day.

I got this job by searching websites that are specific to careers in the creative field. It took about six months of really looking and submitting résumés everywhere just to get an interview.

Adelphi has a great art program with caring and inspiring professors. They help you build a solid art foundation that prepares you for any challenge you have to tackle. I had an amazing internship with Cosmopolitan magazine while at Adelphi. I learned from that experience that I didn’t want to do editorial design. It helped me decide where I wanted to go instead.

I hope to stay in the field of industrial design and continue designing products and packaging. My ultimate goal is to become an art director. 
They can never take this [YOUR DIPLOMA] away from you, so this is a beautiful beginning.

— Chuck D. ’84, ’13 (Hon.)

2013 COMMENCEMENT

The weather outside of Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on May 19, 2013, was a dreary, wet mess. But, inside, Adelphi held a spirited 117th Commencement, giving the Class of 2013 a heartfelt send-off.

Adelphi President Robert A. Scott, Ph.D., the Commencement speaker, reflected on the challenges and changes of the past four years—from Hurricane Sandy to the Arab Spring—and offered the graduates guidance for the road ahead.

“You are the author of your life, revising and improving your script even as you live it, and now step onto a new stage,” he said. “Even if you stay in the job you have held, you are different, and your expectations of yourself, of time itself and of others will be different.”

Joining the graduates were four honorary degree recipients: Doreen Downs Miller, M.B.A. ’86, a parent educator specializing in early childhood development; Bert N. Mitchell, founder and chairman emeritus of Mitchell & Titus, the nation’s largest minority-controlled CPA firm; the actor Burt Young, celebrated for his portrayal of Paulie Pennino in the Rocky movies; and Carlton Douglas Ridenhour ’84, better known as Chuck D, the founder of the hip-hop group Public Enemy.

Chuck D, who was also invited to speak, gave a rousing address. “In a time when celebrity has become the virtual drug of America, you students, and especially graduates, have everything they have, but even more,” he said. “They can never take this”—your diploma—“away from you, so this is a beautiful beginning.”

by Bonnie Eissner
FLEETING IMAGES, \textbf{LASTING IMPRESSIONS}

Sand, trash and a dumpster are more readily associated with beach cleanups than with art or fashion. Yet, this past spring, a series of Adelphi exhibits and programs proved that such items can, in fact, be used in artful ways.

\textbf{Now You See It, Now You Don’t}

Ephemeral art, while in vogue, is hardly new, as Joe Mangrum, a sand artist who came to campus on April 17, 2012, for the kickoff of Adelphi’s year-long ephemeral art celebration noted. Whether drawing in dirt, sawdust, rice flour or sand, artists throughout the centuries and across cultures have created temporary masterpieces. Artists participating in Adelphi’s ephemeral art project use media both ancient and modern for their works.

Carson Fox, Adelphi associate professor of art and art history, who dreamed up the exhibition, says, “I am most excited to bring together a group of inspiring works to Adelphi’s campus and to show them to our students.”

The same day that Mr. Mangrum created his sand installation, Ariana Page Russell distributed a specially designed temporary tattoo to the Adelphi population, and Mac Premo’s exhibit Dumpster Project opened. The exhibition is continuing through the fall of 2013, and faculty members in a variety of disciplines have been incorporating ephemeral art themes into their classes.

\textbf{Art for a Change}

In other campus initiatives, art and design have been harnessed to provoke social change.

Last spring, Cindy Maguire, Ph.D., an assistant professor of art and art history, galvanized Adelphi students, faculty and administrators to participate in One Million Bones—a nationwide initiative to raise awareness of genocide. More than 500 sculptures of bones were made on campus and collected from students at area K-12 schools. In early June, the bones were brought to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as part of a three-day installation event. Dr. Maguire points out that several art education students brought the project to their respective student teaching sites, including Uniondale High School and P.S. 266 in Queens. “As an artist and educator, I’m very interested in community engagement and service learning, and this project was ideal for linking with our community,” Dr. Maguire says.

Other student-led social art initiatives included the ABC (Anything But Clothes) Fashion Show, held in late March by the Green Community club. The couture, which was constructed from recycled trash, was intended to inspire greater reuse of refuse. \textbf{\small by Bonnie Eisner}
People making News

We could have devoted an article to Adelphi’s coverage in the largest media outlets, such as The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. Rather, we share with you here smaller news stories—the ones that resonated with us because of the incredible people behind them.

Last May, Newsday reported that Anagnostis Agelarakis, Ph.D., chair of the Adelphi Department of Anthropology and Sociology, transported the remains of a fourth-century B.C. Greek warrior, wounded by an arrow, to Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park, New York, to be X-rayed. The X-rays confirmed Dr. Agelarakis’ theory that a portion of the arrowhead was barbed and hooked and still remained in the bone 2,500 years later.

How many high school students can claim to have composed a piece he titled “Change at Jamaica,” a tribute to the Long Island Rail Road—a common link among the students. Mr. Moravec worked with wind ensemble members from each of the high schools and shared his experience with reporters from Newsday and News 12. CBS 2 New York, the Fox5-Ballyhoo Leader and Garden City News also covered the story. Watch a video of the project on Adelphi’s YouTube channel at YOUTUBE.COM/USER/ ADELPHI-HUNY

Last spring, when the New York Yankees drafted Adelphi pitcher Dillon McNamara, a native of Staten Island, they placed him in the rotation for their Class A affiliate, the Staten Island Yankees. Not only does Mr. McNamara get to play in his hometown, but his career is being followed closely by his local paper, the Staten Island Advance. Adelphi freshman Richard Bedard, who has cerebral palsy, was chosen by the New York Mets and National Grid as the first honoree in their Amazin’ Calls program. He was selected based on his academic record and acceptance by every college to which he applied. Mets first baseman Daniel Murphy called Mr. Bedard to congratulate him on choosing Adelphi, and invited him to batting practice at Citi Field. The television segment about Mr. Bedard appeared on SportsNet New York, and the story was covered by the New York Daily News. At a home game on Friday, June 14, 2013, the Mets broadcast Mr. Murphy’s congratulatory call on the stadium’s large-screen television for thousands of fans to see.

by Erin Donohue

1 Former Adelphi pitcher Dillon McNamara was drafted by the New York Yankees last June.
2 University Professor Paul Moravec was commissioned to compose a piece he titled “Change at Jamaica” for eight Nassau County high schools.
3 Freshman Richard Bedard with Kim Albrect, ’90, a teacher at the Henry Viscardi School. Mr. Bedard was chosen by the New York Mets and National Grid as the first honoree in their Amazin’ Calls program.
4 Anagnostis Agelarakis, Ph.D., chair of the Adelphi Department of Anthropology and Sociology, with Helise Coopersmith, M.D., of North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System and Argle Agelarakis, an Adelphi adjunct professor, examine the arm bone of an ancient Greek warrior.

Adelphi is celebrating a few major milestones this year. The Robert B. Willumstad School of Business turns 50, and the College of Nursing and Public Health (formerly the School of Nursing) is celebrating its 70th year.

TRUSTEES WITH AU DEGREES

24 of Adelphi’s 29 trustees are Adelphi graduates, including 4 trustees who have 2 degrees from the University. Board Chairman Robert B. Willumstad received an honorary doctorate from the University in 2005.

LONG DISTANCE ED

15 students from Western Sahara traveled more than 3,500 miles (virtually) to collaborate with Adelphi students in The Arts and Human Rights, a course co-taught by 3 Adelphi faculty members and 4 art faculty members from New York University and Seville, Spain.

CENTURIES OF SERVICE

13 valued members of Adelphi’s faculty retired in 2013. The professors served for a combined total of 4,966 years, including Professor Stanley Windrow’s 41 years of teaching chemistry, and Professor of Psychology Coleman Paul’s 40 years.
As knowledge moves online and becomes increasingly accessible, students are looking for rich college experiences that will set them apart and advance their careers. In short, they want to learn by doing, which is known in educational parlance as experiential learning.

We are not talking about mere unpaid internships where corporations take advantage of free labor (as has been asserted in recent lawsuits). Rather, experiential learning encompasses an array of high-impact, hands-on practices ranging from study abroad to community service projects to collaborative assignments. Gayle D. Insel, Ph.D., Adelphi provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, says that such experiences typically improve student retention and graduation rates and, most importantly, enhance students’ professional opportunities.

Meet four Adelphi students who illustrate the power of experiential learning in its many forms.

Reaz Khan ’13 fashioned his Adelphi education as a springboard into the world. He was selected for Adelphi’s Levermore Global Scholars Program, which fosters civic engagement and global learning through a variety of experiential programs.

In less than four years, Mr. Khan, who completed a major in International Studies with a minor in Latin American Studies and a concentration in Spanish, traveled to Turkey, South Korea, India and Pakistan.

While logging all those miles, he preferred staying in hostels and “traveling like a nomad.” He says the experience immersed him in the culture of the place he was visiting. His travels also informed his senior thesis on South Asia and its diasporas.

In the summer of 2011, Mr. Khan was selected to intern at the International Center of Photography in New York as part of Adelphi’s Community Fellows Program. Through the program, launched in 2010, Adelphi has provided funding for undergraduates to pursue paid summer internships at local nonprofits.

A summer 2012 visit to the Interfaith Youth Core in Philadelphia inspired Mr. Khan to create an interfaith service program at Adelphi. Last spring, he was named a Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact for his leadership in and commitment to addressing challenges facing communities throughout the country.

Janae Cummings ’13 assisted residents of New York as part of Adelphi’s Community Fellows Program. Through the program, launched in 2010, Adelphi has provided funding for undergraduates to help the area’s residents grow their own food. The students assisted in harvesting vegetables, cleaned up yards and helped maintain neighborhoods. In daily workshops, the students shared their individual experiences.

“My [peers] really appreciated the experience and the model they created,” Ms. Cummings says. She is especially proud of the fact that each student she led had a different academic background.

Dr. Thornburg believes Ms. Cummings’ experiences in New Orleans will become even more valuable as she continues her studies. She is hoping to attend Brooklyn Law School in 2014.

Hilda Perez ’11, a former Levermore Global Scholars student who is now in graduate school, has already seen how her Adelphi experiences have enriched her career and postgraduate study.

Deepening her language skills at Adelphi enabled Ms. Perez to excel in her family’s business. Today she’s fluent in English, Spanish, French and Italian. A mere two years after graduation, Ms. Perez had worked her way up to becoming the acting vice president of her family’s business—Sadak Para Toques, Inc.—which focuses on health and wellness.

Ms. Perez’s Adelphi experiences taught her the value of hard work. As a sophomore, she traveled to Costa Rica as part of Adelphi’s alternative spring break program. While she was there, she and her fellow Adelphi students built bunk beds for families, conducted drawing workshops for local children and helped build a road within the community.

In an essay written shortly after the trip, Ms. Perez and Alysha Rashid ’11 reflected on the difficult work and extraordinary camaraderie among the students. As a member of Adelphi’s first group of Community Fellows in summer 2010, Ms. Perez interned at the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro New York and Western New York, where she helped the organization with its mission of granting wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Her language skills helped her with many aspects of the position, including interviewing families and arranging travel.

In 2010, Ms. Perez also took part in the first U.S. Summit for Global Citizen Diplomacy. “Since I hope to pursue a nonprofit career, this is the perfect way to get introduced to the inner workings of the sector,” she said at the time.

Ms. Perez is now getting back to that career plan by pursuing a Master of Social Entrepreneurship degree at Hult International Business School in San Francisco, which, according to the Hult website, is “a practical program focused on how to apply business skills to important global social problems.”

“Experiential learning is a necessity,” Ms. Perez says. It’s a philosophy that Emmanuel Hector ’10 would likely agree with. He, too, has sought high-impact, hands-on learning experiences in pursuing his career goals. And, just last spring, he landed his dream job as a specialist at the U.S. Department of State.

“This is the work I am passionate about…working for policy change,” Mr. Hector says. But it didn’t come without a plan.

Born in Haiti, Mr. Hector was a Gates Millennium Scholar while at Adelphi. In his sophomore year, he participated in the Semester at Sea program, which gave him the opportunity to circumnavigate the globe and, in the process, travel in 11 countries.

Following the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti in 2009, Mr. Hector worked with his church, the American Red Cross and the New York Disaster Interfaith Services to enable members of the Haitian community in Brooklyn to find family members, send survival items and cope with immigration and mental health issues.

After Adelphi, he attended graduate school at Columbia University, studying climate science, and began working with the U.N. World Food Programme and the Natural Resources Defense Council throughout 2011–2012 for its practicum requirements.

by Bonnie Issner and Jordan Chapman
A New Nexus Emerges

A

delphi's Garden City campus is about to become even more user-friendly for busy, technologically savvy students and alumni. Due to open in 2015, the new Nexus Building and Welcome Center will offer a needed new home for the College of Nursing and Public Health (formerly the School of Nursing) and the Center for Health Innovation, and will unite a number of student and alumni services which are currently dispersed across campus.

The three-story L-shaped building, to stand on the north side of Swirbul Library, will house nursing classrooms, faculty offices, seminar rooms and several ultramodern simulation labs, or examination rooms, including an intensive care room, a delivery room and a home-care lab.

Student services, including the Learning Center, the Writing Center, Disability Support Services and Bridges to Adelphi, will be brought together in the new building. The Welcome Center will encompass the Center for Career Development, the Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of University Advancement. The Office of University Admissions will be located on the first floor.

Other building amenities include classrooms for all Adelphi students and a number of conference rooms. A below-ground lot will provide parking spaces for more than 300 cars.

by Anustha Shrestha '15

The Nexus Building and Welcome Center

By the Numbers

- 99,600 square feet
- 3 floors
- 11 nursing exam rooms
- 5 nursing seminar rooms
- 4 nursing labs
- 8 general-use classrooms
- 9 conference rooms
- 300+ cars accommodated by underground lot

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An Adelphi Magazine FALL 2013 Issue

Three New Faces, Three New Visions

This past spring and summer, Adelphi welcomed three new senior administrators. In brief interviews, they shared with Adelphi University Magazine their vision and goals for their respective areas.

Lauren Mounty, Ph.D.
VP for Enrollment Management and Student Success

Dr. Mounty is embarking on her 28th year in higher education, having previously served in enrollment, student success and leadership roles at Marist College and Fordham University. Prior to starting the position at Adelphi, she oversaw Marist’s adult and nontraditional programs as dean of its School of Global & Professional Programs.

What most appealed to you about Adelphi?

The excellent academic programs that Adelphi provides to its students, with small class sizes and personalized attention, coupled with a warm, caring environment and superb career and graduate school outcomes. Adelphi is hard to beat!

What is your vision for your area?

To further enhance the personalized approach that is a signature of the Adelphi community at all levels of the student experience. From the moment a prospective student thinks about Adelphi, he or she will receive the highest level of service from us. This is what sets us apart from so many other schools in the region, and I hope to further enhance this experience.

What are your top goals?

To enhance our Panther spirit, expand our relationships with employer-based partnerships and develop further summer and intersession options.

by Bonnie Issenauer

Brian Lym, M.S., M.L.I.S.
Dean of University Libraries

Mr. Lym most recently served as interim chief librarian and professor at CUNY’s Medgar Evers College, while on leave from his position as head of Instruction and Research Services at Hunter College.

What most appealed to you about Adelphi?

I came here because I saw it as a very student-centered institution, committed to student excellence and success. Also, the library support for students here is excellent, in terms of resource allocation, compared to other institutions… And the Adelphi campus is beautiful. This is a gem in the New York metro region.

What is your vision for the library and what changes do you foresee?

Expanding the boundaries of the library. We have to engage ourselves by placing our resources, our instruction into communities outside the library, into networks, and a lot of those networks are online.

We have a phenomenal archive that has documents, memorabilia and special collections related to the history of this university, and that is a collection that is a jewel here, and I feel very strongly that it will be getting increasing prominence and use.

I want to engage with campus partners, including students, in terms of most effectively using the library spaces for collaborative group work and individual study—rethinking the library facility as a learning and knowledge-creation space.

The foundation is so strong here, and what I'm doing is starting a process of improvement that started under the last dean.

Danny McCabe, M.B.A.
Director of Athletics and Campus Recreation

Mr. McCabe previously served as the executive associate athletic director at Hofstra University, where he played a key role in the day-to-day operation of the department. He also helped develop and implement Hofstra’s five-year strategic plan for athletics and spearheaded its NCAA certification process.

What most appealed to you about Adelphi?

Growing up in Rockville Centre, I’ve always known about the great academic reputation of Adelphi, and it also has a very strong and rich tradition and history of success in athletics.

What is your vision for athletics?

I think our goals are to, one, provide positive publicity for the University. Many times, folks will hear about a university through the athletics department. We also want to achieve increased attendance at games from our students, from our alumni, from the local community. And then, thirdly, to provide a great recreational experience for the students, for the student-athletes, for the faculty, the staff, the local community.

What are your top goals for Adelphi athletics?

For the student-athletes themselves, I have three goals that I talk about. The first is for the student-athletes to earn their degree. Secondly, for the student-athletes to be leaders on campus and in the community, and, thirdly for the student-athletes to compete in their sport at the highest level possible.
For decades, some of the world’s top scientists have warned us that increasing levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases would have a devastating effect on our planet. But just as Cassandra in Greek mythology was cursed with the power to foretell the future but never be believed, so predictions of climate change were met with a mixture of support, dispute and outright denial. At international climate summits, the United States failed to take up the mantle of global leadership, even as wildfires blazed, glaciers melted and Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans.

Forecast

Fire, Floods and a Strong Chance of Storms

by Ela Schwartz
hen Hurricane Sandy rolled up the East Coast and developed into something so far beyond a typical hurricane that the media dubbed it a superstorm. We’re listening now. Climate change is not something that’s going to happen in the far distant future. It’s here. Environmental advocates even say we’re on an altered planet and in a new era. Author Bill McKibben titled one of his books *Earth*, saying our current term, Earth, no longer suits our altered planet. In *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*, Pulitzer Prize–winning author and journalist Thomas Friedman (who spoke at Adelphi on October 3, 2012) says we’ve moved from the Common Era (C.E., or A.D., as it was formerly termed) to the Energy-Climata Era, Joseph Romm, physicist, author and former acting assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, derides the terms global warming and climate change as euphemisms and prefers the more apt Hell and High Water, the title of his 2006 book. Even the Geological Society of America is considering adopting the term Anthropocene (the Age of Man) to describe a new geologic epoch, one defined by massive human impact.

What changes will we see? Is there anything we, as U.S. and global citizens, can do? Do we have the wherewithal to address what many believe to be the most pressing problem facing humanity and life on Earth? Or will we emulate the Roman Emperor Nero and fiddle while fires burn and cities sink beneath the waves?

**Forecast**

The nations of the world identified the threat and took action and we are beginning to see the beneficial environmental impacts of that.

—Jack Kaye ’76, Ph.D.

Storms and flooding will damage infrastructure. Heaver rains and droughts will affect agriculture and possibly result in escalating food prices or even shortages. As some species struggle to survive, other, less desirable ones such as mosquitoes and mold will happily adjust to a hotter, more humid climate. Our most vulnerable citizens—children, low income, the elderly or disabled—are also the ones most likely to bear the brunt of climate change.

Dr. Kaye doesn’t have any easy solutions to our self-imposed dilemma. He emphasizes that he’s a scientist, not a politician, economist or businessperson. “Science is good at helping look at a scenario,” he says. “If you want to achieve a certain aim, what do you have to do? Or if you continue on the present course of action, what are the implications likely to be? But [science] doesn’t tell you what to do. Ultimately that’s a value judgment society has to make.”

Just as it took centuries for us to create this climatic cataclysm, it will take us as long—or even longer—to return to our preindustrial-era atmosphere “because carbon dioxide has a very long lifetime,” he explains. “But there are things you can do to minimize the damage you inflict on the global environment. The phrase used is you want to ‘avoid the unreasonable and manage the unavoidable.’”

Avoiding the unreasonable—or mitigation—means preventing the worst-case scenario from happening. The obvious answer is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Dr. Kaye mentions carbon capping (providing economic incentives to reduce emissions), better fuel efficiency for vehicles, as well as more hybrid cars. “Buildings are some of the biggest users of fossil fuels for heating and cooling,” he adds. “You can retrofit buildings and design urban areas in ways that require less use of energy,” which will be crucial in an urbanizing world—seven billion people projected to increase to approximately nine billion by 2050.

What about technology? Will someone invent a high-tech magic bullet that will really mitigate the greenhouse effect? Dr. Kaye mentions carbon sequestration (removing carbon dioxide from the air and sequestering it in aquifers or geologic formations). Other researchers, he says, are looking into geoenengineering, which involves modifying the environment on a large scale, such as shading the Earth from the sun’s rays by either sending giant reflectors into orbit or injecting reflective particles into the atmosphere. He emphasizes, however, that playing with a planet can have unforeseen consequences, “So we have to be careful.”

The second challenge of climate change is adaptation, or managing the unavoidable changes that are already occurring. Answers include rebuilding infrastructure to withstand predicted changes or even moving people out of coastal areas—an issue that came into play post-Sandy.

Dr. Kaye credits New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg for the level of effort that went into his $20 billion storm protection plan. “New York City has been pretty aggressive in recognizing the vulnerability and beginning to think what some of the implications are,” he says. “He’s not so sure about Long Island. ‘It’s low and flat and close to sea level,’ he says. ‘People should understand that Long Island needs to take this seriously too. It’s hard but you don’t sit there and do nothing.’ When faced with a challenge, you’ve got to work that much harder.”

For years, world leaders have met everywhere from Rio de Janeiro to Kyoto to Copenhagen, discussing how to deal with climate change. The developed world, particularly the United States, is responsible for the highest amounts of greenhouse-gas emissions. Ironically, we have the ability and resources to adapt or recoup after a major disaster. This is not so elsewhere in the world. “And as the rest of the world suffers, we will feel the effects indirectly,” Dr. Kaye says. “We can’t shut it out. From a humanitarian, ethical, moral and religious point of view, when we’re dealing with things that have disproportionate impacts on those that are the least able to deal with them, in some cases aren’t responsible for them, that’s the right thing to do.”

That’s not to say we can’t make it happen. Dr. Kaye refers to when governments came together in 1987 to sign the Montreal Protocol to phase out ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons. “The nations of the world identified the threat and took action and we are beginning to see the beneficial environmental impacts of that,” he says. “So that’s not to say the world can’t stop and deal with these things, but it’s hard, especially when we’re dealing with something as central to the economy as fuel consumption. It’s not easy, but that doesn’t mean you don’t try.”

**A View from Above**

Jack Kaye ’76, Ph.D., grew up in Malverne, New York, earned his B.S. in Chemistry at Adelphi, then continued to Caltech for his Ph.D. in Theoretical Physical Chemistry. In his current role as associate director of research at NASA’s Earth Sciences Division, he manages a team of scientists with access to an enormous array of data about the Earth, thanks to a foliotia of satellites that circle pole to pole, 16 times a day, year after year, in what Dr. Kaye calls a "marvelous scientific and engineering accomplishment." Working in what are termed constellations, these satellites scan oceans, mountains, rain forests—even volcanoes—and supply scientists with information on sea temperatures, hurricanes, biology, oceans and groundwater, the atmosphere and clouds. Dr. Kaye’s team analyzes and interprets the data from years of observations. The findings are then input to produce computer models projecting what the Earth will be like in the future.

According to a draft of NASA’s report “Responding to the Challenge of Climate and Environmental Change: NASA’s Plan for a Climate-Centric Architecture for Earth Observations and Applications from Space” (January 2013), increased levels of greenhouse gases will have the following effects on the Northeastern United States:

- A greater number of heat waves, with the effect more pronounced in New York City, which will become what is termed an “urban heat island.”
- The Northeast will experience heavier rains and flooding, while, globally, dry areas will become drier and experience droughts.
- Melting sea ice will contribute to a rise in global sea levels, projected to rise between one and four feet by 2100. Sea level rise in the Northeast is expected to exceed the global average by up to about four inches per century.
- More intense storms, meaning that Sandy will most likely not be the storm of the century.
Feature Story  Fall 2013
Fire, Floods and a strong chance of storms

Forecast

There’s a very good chance that something like this will happen again.

— Beth Christensen, Ph.D.

Helping Sandy Victims Find Hope

Radha Hettiarachchi ’10 had no way of knowing that she would get a chance to practice her psychology and social work skills even before receiving her M.S.W. from Fordham University. She was with her family in their home in Midland Beach, Staten Island, about a mile and a half from the water, the night Sandy hit. Water flowed down her block, began filling the basement and then the first floor. Mrs. Hettiarachchi and her family headed to the second floor, “trying to grab as much as we could,” she describes. They were rescued the next day by a New York City Police Department boat but had to spend a week in a shelter and then stay with an aunt until their house became livable again in mid-January.

It was an experience she sums up as “two women, eight men and two weeks of striny boats.” The team used sophisticated sonar instruments to image the seafloor so they could distinguish beach sand from mud. Equipment then scooped up sediment samples that were scraped into bags for Dr. Christensen to examine further in her lab at Adelphi. She, Assistant Professor Jessica A. Dutton, Ph.D. and Adjunct Professor Christine O’Connell have been mapping debris “to understand how the surge behaved when it pushed into the New Jersey coast and Long Island,” she says.

Storms don’t just shake up sand, they wash away the trappings of modern life—everything from soda machines to outdoor decks—and stir up torrents that sink to the seafloor. Dr. Christensen points out that densely populated Long Island is home to utilities such as power plants and sewage treatment facilities that can “impact the health of the sediments” by depositing poisons such as mercury and arsenic. She adds that copper from boat-bottom paint also “sinks to the seafloor and kills everything.”

Prior to Sandy, Dr. Christensen and her team had collected data on the toxic levels in the bays. As they analyze the toxic levels in the sand and mud collected post-Sandy, they can evaluate where sediment originated and where it traveled with the storm. “It’s all part of learning from this horrible event,” she says. “There’s a very good chance that something like this will happen again. One of the saddest aspects of this storm is how it impacted vulnerable populations.”

Dr. Christensen’s uncle was among those who perished in the storm’s aftermath. Years of heart problems were exacerbated by the stress of the storm, and Dr. Christensen feels this contributed to his death months after Sandy.

Long Beach resident Frances Akrie, M.S.W. ’05, saw her community decimated by Sandy. Then she lost her job as a substance abuse counselor for the Long Beach Medical Center when the building had to close due to storm damage. Ms. Akrie quickly found a position as a team leader at another Project Hope agency, South Shore Association for Independent Living, Inc. (SAIL), which serves residents in Long Beach and the Five Towns in Nassau County. She is joined by fellow alumni Ricky Demirakos, M.A. ’12, project coordinator, and Jacquelyn Dolan ’08, M.S.W. ’09, team leader.

All four alumni bear witness every day not just to the physical devastation of houses and infrastructure, but to the often invisible and continuing trauma that can leave people psychologically adrift after a disaster. “Many people are stagnant,” says Mr. Demirakos. “Some are suffering from anxiety or depression. Many were just keeping to themselves. We’ve set out there, knocking on doors and reaching out to the community.” Project Hope offers support groups that teach residents management and coping skills.

IT COMES DOWN TO HUMAN WISHES

Spend some time outdoors on Adelphi’s Garden City campus with Department of Biology Professor George K. Russell, Ph.D. and you become aware of the natural world around you. He’ll tell you the best time of day to see rabbits grazing and about how he took his students to search the campus for bird nests or inspired his assistant to seek a wildflower he told her about. Dr. Russell is adept at linking humanities and nature, spirituality with the natural world, to make the sciences accessible to non-science majors. In addition to teaching, he served as editor-in-chief of Orion magazine for 20 years and has written and lectured on the ethics of animal use in teaching biology. He is a proponent of Waldorf Education, which advises limiting the use of computers and electronics in favor of getting children outdoors.

Does he attribute our lack of concern over climate, ecological disasters and extinction as a result of our disconnect from nature? “Absolutely,” he says. “If you don’t cherish something, how can you be expected to protect it? If children aren’t connected, I worry that one day that disconnect will have a consequence. And that consequence is apathy and indifference.”

“It’s like we’re asleep, somehow,” he continues. “Climate change is as daunting an issue as you can possibly imagine. But there is something in us that doesn’t want to hear these messages because there’s not a whole lot we can do. So we wall ourselves off from it, almost in self-preservation.”

Despite the dire odds against us, he sees hope. He cites the teachings of Jane Goodall, Ph.D. (the primatologist spoke at Adelphi on April 6, 2012) who believes that people do make a difference; “If the chimpanzees can learn to forage by themselves when food is hard to get, then it’s possible that people can learn to do that as well.”

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It all comes down to people. “We made these things that are destroying the world,” Dr. Russell observes. “In the solution, we will have to address the question of why we did it. And it comes down to human wishes, in order to make change, we have to want things to change.”

— George K. Russell, Ph.D.

Caring about the Coasts

Beth Christensen, Ph.D., associate professor and director of the Environmental Studies program at Adelphi, doesn’t look at the earth from a satellite’s view; her head is more in the sand, so to speak—as in dune and beach sand that Sandy’s surge swept somewhere out to the bays. Dr. Christensen wants to know the whereabouts of this sand to understand the processes associated with major storms and the implications for beach replenishment and rebuilding the barrier islands that form a natural protection for our coastal communities.

In January 2013, supported by a University of Texas Rapid Response Grant, Dr. Christensen teamed up with researchers from the University of Texas and Stony Brook University to board an 80-foot boat that plied the waters off Fire Island and Long Beach.

While a student in the Levermore Global Scholars Program at Adelphi, Ms. Hettiarachchi interned with the Staten Island Mental Health Society. After Sandy, she contacted her former supervisor and was hired as a crisis counselor for Project Hope. Created by the New York State Office of Mental Health and funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide counseling for Sandy victims, Project Hope is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to agencies in New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester and Rockland counties.

In the solution, we will have to address the question of why did we do it. And it comes down to human wishes, in order to make change, we have to want things to change.”

— George K. Russell, Ph.D.
A few years ago, Ewa Sobczynska ’04 received a call from a former manager, suggesting that she apply for a position that had just opened up at The World Bank in Washington, D.C., the international financial institution that provides loans to projects that are intended to improve the lives of the poor in developing countries.

The job, operations officer for the bank’s Sustainable Development unit, sounded perfect for Ms. Sobczynska, who was working at a nonprofit international development organization after earning a degree in international studies from Adelphi’s Honors College and a master’s degree in human rights and international development from Georgetown University.

Ms. Sobczynska has a passion for development work, having grown up in Poland during the years the country was transitioning from communism to democracy. There, she saw how economic and political change can improve lives. “The job I was in was interesting, but I was doing mostly research, and I didn’t find I was using all the skills I’d acquired,” she says. “I wanted to be pushed.”

Ms. Sobczynska’s leap of faith that she could figure out how to do both sets her apart from the many working women who start scaling back on time-intensive projects and passing on challenging job opportunities once they anticipate having children.

Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg calls this phenomenon “leaving before you leave.” In Lean In, her new book about how to do both, she talks about several factors that prevent women from reaching top positions in companies and institutions. The lack of women in the highest-level jobs is striking. For Adelphi Women, however, hold only about 14 percent of executive officer positions in companies and lead just 21 of the Fortune 500 firms. Women occupy only 18 percent of seats in the U.S. Congress. Women lag behind in compensation too; making just 77 cents for every dollar men make.

During the feminist movement of the 1960s, ’70s and ’80s, when the institutional barriers holding women back from equal participation in the workforce were being dismantled, it seemed as if it was only a matter of time before women would be running half our companies. As a director of human resources at DuPont in the 1980s, Faith Wohl ’57 was on the frontlines of that fight, introducing policies and programs that made it easier for women to climb the ladder at the chemical company, including on-site child care, family leave and flexible work practices. Later, she overseeing 100 child care centers in federal buildings across 21 states as director of the Clinton administration’s Office of Workplace Initiatives and advocated for universal prekindergarten as president of the Child Care Action Campaign.

But today, Ms. Wohl says, progress on building up services for working parents because, she says, “Life is unplanned. You need support when something happens; whether it’s a sick child or a work emergency that requires you and your team to stay late in the office. Today, in the absence of social structures, she says, “Everyone has to work it out for themselves.”

Given this landscape, what can be done to help more women rise to the top of their professions? We asked Adelphi alumnae and academics who study workplace and family issues to share their best strategies for getting ahead.

It hasn’t been easy, but Ms. Sobczynska’s happy to be working and parenting at the same time. “I’m following my passion,” she says. “And having a family is an amazing experience. You really grow as a person when you become a parent.”

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It’s not a lack of ambition that causes women to scale back or ultimately drop out of the workforce, says Beverly Greene, M.A. ’77, Ph.D. ’83, a psychology professor at St. John’s University and a clinical psychologist.

**IGNORE THE NAYSAIERS**

“Women live in a sexist society, and there are realistic negative consequences to pursuing leadership positions in certain environments that women have to be prepared to tolerate,” she says. “If some people would choose not to tolerate that, it’s unfair to suggest they lack ambition. It’s actually healthy for people who are in no-win situations to get out if they can.”

Women are presumed to be incompetent, Dr. Greene says. “So there’s a way that one has to go in and prove oneself, even more than your male counterparts, which basically means you have to do more work.”

Gordon F. Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies Professor Janice Steil notes that problems arise for women when they deviate from expected female behavior. Unfortunately, the stereotypical traits women are expected to display, like being warm and nurturing, are not the behaviors most prized in the workplace.

Dr. Steil did a study that examined what happened when men and women used direct and indirect strategies to accomplish tasks at work. In the workplace, direct strategies, like giving orders and confrontation, are considered more effective at getting business done than indirect strategies like smiling, suggesting or avoiding confrontation. Direct strategies are stereotypically associated with men and indirect strategies with women.

“What we found was men were the most rewarded for using direct strategies in the workplace,” Dr. Steil says. “Women didn’t have negative outcomes for using direct strategies, but they didn’t have positive ones. They did have negative outcomes for indirect strategies. If you’re just smiling and suggesting, how are you going to demonize leadership? How are you going to get promoted? You can be indirect sometimes, but you’re not going to be perceived as a leader if you rely on that.”

Women of color and low-income women have to battle additional stereotypes, making it even more difficult to get ahead. Dr. Greene says, “If you are a member of a marginalized group, you are working harder because part of the work is neutralizing the reactions you elicit in people based on their belief of who you are.”

The struggle is reflected in the statistics. Women of color hold just 4 percent of executive officer jobs and 5 percent of congressional seats.

Simply being aware that our culture typically punishes women for being successful in the workplace can help women dismiss self-doubt and keep pushing toward ambitious professional goals, both Dr. Steil and Dr. Greene say.

“People who belong to a marginalized group have to understand that members of the dominant group may make problems for you, but you are not the problem,” says Dr. Greene. “Don’t let someone else’s limited view define what you’re going to be in your life. Having grown up as an African American in the middle of the last century, I learned to expect that if I made choices that crossed certain lines, there were going to be people who didn’t like it,” Dr. Greene adds. “I want to be liked as much as anybody, but I decided I wasn’t going to organize my life around only doing what other people thought was okay.”

LeeAnn Black ’83 took a finance and accounting job in the New York office of international law firm Latham & Watkins LLP a few years after earning her B.B.A. at the Robert B. Willumstad School of Business. She became chief operating officer of the entire firm before she hit 40, with three kids under age 8.

Today, she leads a team responsible for strategic leadership, financial management, technology integration, marketing and general administration at Latham, one of the world’s biggest law firms, with 2,100 lawyers and offices in 14 countries. It’s an exciting job, she says. “As COO, basically you’re running a business. You’re leveraging many people and trying to improve client service, internally and externally.”

So what’s the secret to her success? Ms. Black says she was helped by bosses who were supportive of her ambition and willing to give a younger woman opportunities to prove herself. “In the legal industry, there are many firms where individuals don’t have a seat at the table, and I worked for somebody who was extremely inclusive,” she observes.

To be successful in business, “You need mentors, people to look up to, people who are going to advocate for you,” she says. “But it’s a two-way street. You have to be high quality and put in the time and really deliver. You can’t be afraid to work hard, and you can’t make excuses.”

With three children, Ms. Black took steps to arrange her life so that she wouldn’t need to make excuses. She and her husband chose to live in Manhattan so it was easier to take the children to dentist appointments or watch them play sports than if they lived farther away from work. They found an extremely responsible sitter who was never late and then made sure she was happy with the job and was happy to work. They had an extremely responsible sitter who was never late and then made sure she was happy enough to stay and look after their kids for 15 years. And if Ms. Black had to step away to attend to her children before the day’s work was done, she logged back into her computer after hours to finish it.

“IT’s a lot of coming home at night and making sure homework is done, then you’re back on and you’re working,” Ms. Black says.

"Women didn't have negative outcomes for using direct strategies, but they didn't have positive ones. They did have negative outcomes for indirect strategies. If you're just smiling and suggesting, how are you going to demonize leadership? How are you going to get promoted? You can be indirect sometimes, but you're not going to be perceived as a leader if you rely on that."
FIND A SUPPORTIVE PARTNER

A 2011 study by Richard Zweigenhaft of Guilford College and G. William Domhoff of the University of California, Santa Cruz, found that of 28 women who had recently or currently held the job of CEO at a Fortune 500 company, 26 were married. (The 27th was divorced and the 28th never married.) Many of the female CEOs said they would not have succeeded if their husbands had not helped take care of the children, shared the household chores and showed a willingness to move. Clearly, the person a woman picks as a partner can help her climb the career ladder—or derail her advancement.

Faith Wohl's husband, who was 17 years older, volunteered to stay home with their two sons at a critical moment in her career, which allowed her to take necessary business trips. "He was my pillar," she says. The person whom "you marry is critical," she adds.

Ms. Black agrees. "If you don't have support at home, it's a problem, because it's just one more battle you're dealing with," she says.

Ms. Black says her husband's belief that she could climb the career ladder—or derail her advancement—was a toddler.

When asked what's helped propel her career, she says, "I worked hard, and when I felt that I had an idea. I spoke up. I didn't sit in the back and let the men monopolize the conversation." She also married the right person, she adds. "He's always considered my career as important as his, and he doesn't begrudge my time away from the house," she says.

Two years after Ms. Kotkin became a mother of twin girls, she was named general counsel for Citicorp Card Services, established in 1979. Her husband, Lawrence Kotkin, Ph.D., is a psychologist whose office was attached to their house. His willingness to share housework and check in with the kids—who were also looked after by a sitter on weekdays—allowed her to put in long hours in the office "without angst," she says.

Dr. Kotkin says he was happy to take on a more equal share of the domestic work than many men of his generation because his wife's success sent the right message to their three children. "What she represents is that you are only limited by your imagination and drive," he says. "That persistence wins, that you are only limited by your imagination and drive." He also believes she deserves to go as far as she wants to go in her career. "She's really smart," he says.

It's important for career-oriented parents to work out a way to give their young children enough time, because developing relationships with one or two primary caregivers before ages 3 to 5 is critical for a child's healthy development, says Marcy Sayfer, director of Adelphi's Institute for Parenting.

"Historically, it was easy," she says. "The men went out and women stayed home. Now we know it doesn't have to be that way, but everybody can't go out and work from seven a.m. to ten p.m."

On the positive side, increased sharing of home and child care tasks not only supports women's employment, but it improves marriages, according to the Derner Institute's Dr. Stein. "The research is consistent—the more equal say you have in decision making, the more equally domestic tasks are shared, the better the relationship," she says. Dr. Stein's own research has shown that the more equal the relationship, the more intimate the relationship. "Women tend to do more of the work that creates intimacy—for example, they listen and ask questions to elicit conversation," she explains. "When men are primary caretakers and the women aren't there, they become just as competent at child care, and they become better listeners to their wives as well."

What advice do you have for women just starting their careers?

"Intelligent women with lots of degrees who progress well in their careers tend to overthink things. Sometimes you just have to jump in and see where it takes you."

—Ewa Solczynak, 04, Operations Officer, Sustainable Development, The World Bank

"Be willing to receive good advice. Don't take it as criticism but as an opportunity to change a little to get where you want to be. If everyone tells you you're great, there's nothing to improve."

—LawAnn Black ’93, CDO, Latham & Watkins LLP

"You have to be able to take a risk on your own and take the consequences on your own, and not rely on your co-workers to stand by you when the going gets tough. I got knocked down a couple times early in my career, and I was dumbstruck when colleagues who said they were going to support me let me down. Take one hundred percent responsibility when you're being assessed and evaluate whether you're willing to take those risks."

—Roberta Kotkin ’74, M.B.A. ’81, General Counsel, COO and Corporate Secretary, New York Bankers Association

"These are paths that somebody has walked before. If they've done it successfully, you can do it successfully. Get hold of people who've been doing whatever it is you want to do, to help you understand the hidden language of the terrain. It's important to have networks you can ask, 'Is it me—what's going on here?' in places where it's not going to be used against you."

—Beverly Greene P.A. ’77, PhD. ’83, Psychology Professor, St. John's University
Norma Melendez ’76 has had an important and busy career. The first in her family to go to college, she worked as a prosecuting attorney for the Manhattan district attorney’s office after graduating from Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey, and then moved to the Bronx D.A.’s office, where she developed its community affairs initiative. Today she’s a principal court attorney for New York State, working for its Appellate Division First Departmental Disciplinary Committee, which investigates and prosecutes charges of unethical conduct committed by attorneys in the Bronx and Manhattan.

But she doesn’t want her 28-year-old daughter, a 2012 law school graduate, to do what she did—she wants her to dream bigger.

“The ambition for me was to get to college, get through college, get to law school, pass the bar and get a legal job. I accomplished it,” she says. But she believes she could have gone farther if she had simply had a bigger vision. “As opposed to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who decided she wanted to be a federal court judge while she was at Princeton, getting a job was my end-all,” she says.

The ambition gap between men and women is a real problem, Ms. Melendez says. “Women don’t tend to think of themselves as leaders; we think of ourselves as foot soldiers,” she says. “We’re happy showing we can follow orders well.” In order for more women to move into leadership positions, she says, “We have to change our mindset.” And once you decide to go after that director’s spot, you have to make a plan and work the steps, Ms. Melendez says.

Choose where you work based on promotion possibilities and continually assess if you are on track.

When women do this, the sky’s the limit on what they can accomplish, she says.

Without national policies ensuring workplace benefits like paid time off or flexible work arrangements, the ability of employees to balance their work and home lives is very much dependent on their employers. That means picking the right employer is a critical step in getting ahead, observes MaryAnne Hyland, Ph.D., an associate professor of management, marketing and decision sciences at the Robert B. Willumstad School of Business.

**NEGOTIATE WITH EMPLOYERS**

“Research shows a link between supervisor support and reduced work-life conflict,” Dr. Hyland, who studies work-life balance, says. Therefore, ambitious women would be wise to seek work on teams led by managers who aren’t put off by flexible work arrangements, she says. “They might be ‘people who’ve dealt with work-life matters and so understand what employees might need or managers who are outcome-focused rather than face time—focused,’ she says.

Some companies are willing to negotiate flexible work schedules for employees if the employees can make a good business case for the arrangement and show how they will accomplish the work. “If a company wants to have the right talent in place, and it has an employee who wants to work flexibly, it’s in these best interest to implement the flexibility, at least on a trial basis,” she says.

But not all jobs are flexible. Dr. Hyland cautions. “Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer is discouraging telecommuting because it doesn’t promote collaboration,” she notes.

Roberta Kotkin ran into that wall one summer when she was drawn into some mergers and acquisitions work at her company. “My twins were five or six, and I wasn’t home almost the whole summer,” she recalls. “It was the worst summer of my life, and I said, ‘This is not going to be my career path.’”

Struggling with the culture of a particular company or specialization doesn’t mean you have to scale back your ambitions, Ms. Kotkin notes. “There are lots of jobs out there, and you can find a successful position that fits your needs. If you can’t be an executive vice president in one firm, it doesn’t mean you have to settle for being a manager. Maybe you can be an EVP in another firm. If you look around, you can find jobs that suit you.”

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Roberta Kotkin ran into that wall one summer when she was drawn into some mergers and acquisitions work at her company. “My twins were five or six, and I wasn’t home almost the whole summer,” she recalls. “It was the worst summer of my life, and I said, ‘This is not going to be my career path.’”

Struggling with the culture of a particular company or specialization doesn’t mean you have to scale back your ambitions, Ms. Kotkin notes. “There are lots of jobs out there, and you can find a successful position that fits your needs. If you can’t be an executive vice president in one firm, it doesn’t mean you have to settle for being a manager. Maybe you can be an EVP in another firm. If you look around, you can find jobs that suit you.”

Norma Melendez ’76 has had an important and busy career. The first in her family to go to college, she worked as a prosecuting attorney for the Manhattan district attorney’s office after graduating from Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey, and then moved to the Bronx D.A.’s office, where she developed its community affairs initiative. Today she’s a principal court attorney for New York State, working for its Appellate Division First Departmental Disciplinary Committee, which investigates and prosecutes charges of unethical conduct committed by attorneys in the Bronx and Manhattan.

But she doesn’t want her 28-year-old daughter, a 2012 law school graduate, to do what she did—she wants her to dream bigger.

“The ambition for me was to get to college, get through college, get to law school, pass the bar and get a legal job. I accomplished it,” she says. But she believes she could have gone farther if she had simply had a bigger vision. “As opposed to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who decided she wanted to be a federal court judge while she was at Princeton, getting a job was my end-all,” she says.

The ambition gap between men and women is a real problem, Ms. Melendez says. “Women don’t tend to think of themselves as leaders; we think of ourselves as foot soldiers,” she says. “We’re happy showing we can follow orders well.” In order for more women to move into leadership positions, she says, “We have to change our mindset.” And once you decide to go after that director’s spot, you have to make a plan and work the steps, Ms. Melendez says.

Choose where you work based on promotion possibilities and continually assess if you are on track.

When women do this, the sky’s the limit on what they can accomplish, she says.
It’s a picture to melt even the most jaded heart: a baby harp seal, still with its fuzzy white coat, staring endearingly up into the camera in dark-eyed innocence. For Heather Liwanag, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, these marine mammals are more than adorable looks and amusing antics—they’re a major focus of her research, which she hopes will help these creatures survive if their North Atlantic and Arctic habitat becomes warmer.

Let other scientists measure seal populations or study their behavior or environment. Dr. Liwanag’s concern is fur and blubber, energy expended and something called upper and lower critical temperature, which refers to the maximum temperature an organism can tolerate before having to adjust its physiology by, for example, perspiring or panting to dissipate heat or shivering to generate heat in the cold.

Dr. Liwanag is part of what she calls the “up-and-coming field of conservation physiology,” or how these animals can adapt to temperature changes over time. “Marine mammals are so important to the ecosystem, and a lot of them are in trouble,” she says, due to warming global temperatures and melting sea ice. “Understanding the physiology of these animals would supply an important piece of the puzzle to help us manage them.”

Dr. Liwanag is collaborating with Linnea Pearson, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Alaska Anchorage, to study insulation in harp seals from birth to adult and how this relates to environmental temperature changes. She explains that harp seals develop in stages, from white-coated babies to adults who have shed their baby fur in favor of a sleek pelage with the distinctive harplike marking that gives this species its name.

As they nurse, they gain the blubber that will insulate them from the icy water. “However, if there isn’t enough ice for them to sit on, they’ll be forced to go into the water before they’re physiologically ready,” Dr. Liwanag says.

In addition, if the waters the seals inhabit become warmer, mature seals, well insulated for the cold, will need to lower their body temperatures. “It’s a little paradoxical, but it costs energy to dissipate heat,” she describes. “The need for more energy requires them to increase food intake. If food sources are no longer plentiful [due to climate change], they must expend energy to forage. So it’s a downward spiral.”

Ms. Pearson is focusing on the blubber and brown adipose tissue of the harp seal, while, under Dr. Liwanag at Adelphi, graduate student Candice Marcos and undergraduate researcher Natalia Gmuca are looking at fur in the harp seal to complete the picture. Dr. Liwanag and Ms. Pearson are also in the process of submitting proposals that would enable them to study ice seals in both the Arctic and the Antarctic.

In the future, Dr. Liwanag hopes to apply her research to polar bears. “We know a lot about their thermal capabilities on land, but their insulation—they’re not functional in water,” she explains. “And with sea ice receding at rates not predicted in even the most liberal of climate models, polar bears are spending more time swimming. If we want to save them, we need to know how they function in their environment, in order to keep them with us, and not just in zoos.”

by Ela Schwartz
A Quantum Leap in Laser Applications

The detection of trace gases by sophisticated lasers is becoming increasingly important in fields ranging from medicine to security to manufacturing. With three secured patents and another one pending, Gottiopathy N. Rao, Ph.D., the chairman of Adelphi’s Physics Department, has dedicated the last decade to improving how lasers detect trace gases.

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Trace gas detection promises to make medicine even less invasive. Patients with diabetes, for example, can have their blood sugar levels analyzed without having a single drop of blood drawn. Instead, lasers can capture trace gases from a person’s breath, which are then analyzed to determine the amount of glucose in the blood. Breath diagnostics is especially appealing because the skill level required for the analysis is minimal.

In airports and other places that rely on top-of-the-line security, highly specialized lasers are able to distinguish traces of explosives which were previously undetectable by standard airport sensors.

Manufacturing semiconductors, such as computer chips and transistors, requires an ultrapure environment. Sophisticated lasers that detect trace levels of impurities can make semiconductor factories more efficient and effective.

The mechanism works much like a lock and key. Lasers are specific to the trace gas that is being examined. For example, nitrogen dioxide is particularly in how it absorbs lasers, thus allowing the corresponding laser to detect nitrogen dioxide but none of the molecules around it. “It’s like picking up a small pen in a huge haystack,” Dr. Rao says. “But when we match up the wavelength of the laser to the molecule, only that molecule absorbs and nothing else.”

Dr. Rao’s patents are for extremely sensitive new techniques to detect low concentrations of gases with high specificity and selectivity. The three patents he has already secured improve the sensitivity of detection by an order of magnitude or more over the existing technologies. A fourth patent, for use with diode lasers, which are more affordable to construct than quantum cascade lasers, is pending. Dr. Rao thanks and greatly appreciates the technical support offered by Andreas Karpf, M.A. ’94, in developing the technology.

Physicist Dr. Gottiopathy N. Rao, chairman of the Physics Department, has dedicated the last decade to improving how lasers detect trace gases.

Fact or Fiction?

Adelphi professors weigh in on fads and popular notions.

THE ASSERTION

Brain games, such as the widely advertised Lumosity.com, improve cognitive function.

According to Dr. Ermer’s advice? “Engaging in novel, cognitively demanding tasks is probably good for you, but it is doubtful that there is anything special about ‘brain games’ in this regard versus doing crosswords or whatever else someone might enjoy.”

In March 2013, Dr. Surie won a Fulbright Fellowship to address this disparity. She is using the funds from the prestigious program to study ways—through the use of renewable biofuel, wind or solar energies—to bring utilities to villages that lack electricity.

She conducted the first half of her research in the summer of 2013, splitting her time between the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi and the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore.

Much of her time was spent talking to experts in the field, she says, essentially gathering information from regional professors, electrical companies and non-governmental organizations while visiting villages to see what they do or don’t have. “The thing that really struck me the most…was how really rudimentary these [places] are. Even just one or two lights in a home can make a huge difference,” Dr. Surie says.

“There’s no clear solution at this point in time,” she says, explaining that in rural India, to solve a problem, one must first address many other problems. For instance, although the technology the region needs exists, and the biofuel needed to run that technology is readily available, getting that product to a sustainable level for a long period of time is an expensive and difficult challenge. “It requires much more than creating a product and trying to sell it.”

She will return to finish her studies next summer, again dividing her time between Delhi and Bangalore. In the meantime, she will scour her notes for ideas and check for updates on the region while watching for government policy changes.

She hopes to write about and publish her findings before she returns to continue her research. “The idea is to disseminate all of this knowledge and see how those models can be applied in other developing countries,” Dr. Surie says, noting that there may even be applications for areas of the United States that are off the electricity grid. “I’m sure there are many applications [where this technology can be used] in remote locations…or places that want to be energy efficient,” she adds.

Dr. Surie also plans to publish some of her findings in her second book, tentatively titled Ecologies of Innovation, which focuses on technologies that can make a huge difference.

While Indian cities are attracting global investment and spawning new high-tech businesses, millions of Indian citizens are still in the dark, literally. “There are more than 600,000 villages in India, many of them without power or lights,” says Gita Surie, Ph.D., an associate professor in the Robert B. Willamstad School of Business.

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Panther Pride

Last spring, Robert Hartwell, Adelphi’s assistant vice president and director of intercollegiate athletics, announced his retirement after more than 25 years of service to the University. “I think it’s just wrapping your arms around something you love,” he says of his role. Adelphi athletics excelled under his direction, with teams seizing NCAA championships and benefitting from new facilities and top-tier coaches. Mr. Hartwell also set clear priorities that Adelphi athletes perform in the classroom, as well as on the field and court, and he established meaningful community service programs. He urged athletes to “make the University proud.” Here, we celebrate a few of the many times Mr. Hartwell and the Panthers enhanced Adelphi pride.

1. Adelphi men’s basketball went all the way to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight, playing in Bakersfield, California, in 2001 and Indianapolis, Indiana, in 2002.
2. 2007-2012: During Mr. Hartwell’s tenure, Adelphi athletics opened five new practice and competition venues, including the Center for Recreation and Sports, Motamed Field, William J. Bonomo Memorial Field and Ficke Field.
3. Adelphi athletics initiated the Janet L. Ficke Golf Classic to benefit women’s athletics. Named for the former coach and administrator, the annual fundraiser has raised more than $120,000 for women’s athletics.
4. Adelphi men’s lacrosse has won seven NCAA Division II titles, including five during Mr. Hartwell’s tenure, the latest one in 2001.
5. In 2003, Adelphi athletics inaugurated an annual Black History Month celebration, featuring a noted speaker and a reception.
6. 2008: Adelphi presented Winthrop University Hospital Cancer Center for Kids with the money raised from Adelphi’s annual Cars for Cancer fundraiser. Since 2004, Adelphi athletics have raised nearly $150,000 for the hospital.
7. 2012: Members of the Panther Club Executive Board presented Mr. Hartwell a check for $70,000 for a statue that is being constructed and will be on campus in spring 2014. The Panther Club was created in 2001 as a way for alumni and parents to stay involved in Adelphi athletics.
8. 2012: The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) presented the inaugural Hartwell Cup to the members of the women’s volleyball team, in recognition of their athletic success, academic performance and commitment to community service.
9. Mr. Hartwell’s commitment to student-athletes was constant and made him widely admired.
10. In 2000 and 2001, coach Kim Barnes Arico led the Panthers women’s basketball team to its first two NCAA appearances in program history, before taking the team of teams at St. John’s University and the University of Michigan.
11. Adelphi athletics won the 2013 Northeast-10 (NE-10) Presidents’ Cup given annually to the top athletic department in the NE-10 conference. Adelphi, which was previously part of the East Coast Conference, joined the larger NE-10 in 2009.
12. Started in 2001, the Adelphi women’s lacrosse team has captured five NCAA Division II championships, a record for the division.
At over six feet tall, Lisa Laurencin-Tunstall ’76 is suited for basketball. But until her junior year of high school, she shied away from playing on a school team. Even as a freshman at Adelphi, she skipped trying out for the team. Only with the coaxing of an influential coach did she change her mind and, ultimately, her life trajectory.

With an assist from basketball coach, Lisa Laurencin-Tunstall was offered a spot on the team. Unbeknownst to both, along with donning the Brown and Gold, potential in her size and athleticism promised to teach her the game. She played for one year before passing on the chance to return to the team because she doubted her abilities.

In the fall of 1972, as an Adelphi undergraduate, she once again caught the eye of a coach. Janet Ficke ’59, then head women’s basketball coach, approached her after seeing her shooting around in Woodruff Hall, and offered her a spot on the team. Unbeknownst to both, along with donning the Brown and Gold, that offer also meant stepping into history.

Two years later, Title IX was voted into law and, for the first time, national legislation mandated that women’s sports be given equal consideration with men’s and allowed colleges and universities to award athletic scholarships to women. Ms. Laurencin-Tunstall recalls being summoned into a meet-up when she was in her sophomore year, and being told that she was offered the first female athletics scholarships in Adelphi’s history. She was among just a handful of women nationwide to receive the scholarships enabled by Title IX.

“History has to start somewhere, but, at the time, you can’t be fully aware of the future impact of that moment,” Ms. Laurencin-Tunstall says. “To look back now, after 40 years, it is overwhelming to think that I was part of something that has been such a force in the lives of so many young women.”

With Title IX and a full scholarship behind her, Ms. Laurencin-Tunstall excelled, as did her team. She helped the Panthers secure berths in multiple New York State Association of Intercollegiate Athletics For Women (AIAW) tournaments, where, in 1976, she led all scorers and rebounders and was named an AIAW All-Star.

Today, as a teacher of the deaf in the Philadelphia public schools, she is part coach, part advocate and part mentor, and, several years ago, when she saw that her daughter couldn’t find a basketball program to join in their community, she and a few colleagues organized their own league.

She now serves as head of coaches for that league—the South Jersey Biltz AAU basketball program. For many years, she coached her daughter’s team, which allowed her to watch over the players as they grew from year to year. In June 2013, the girls on the team graduated from high school, and Ms. Laurencin-Tunstall says, smiling with pride, that every one of them is attending college, many on basketball scholarships at Division I and II schools.

Ms. Laurencin-Tunstall, who was inducted into the Adelphi Athletic Hall of Fame this past spring, says she learned to play basketball as a high school junior when a coach who saw potential in her size and athleticism promised to teach her the game. She played for one year before passing on the chance to return to the team because she doubted her abilities.

With the coaching of an influential coach did she change her mind and, ultimately, her life trajectory.

Last May, Steve Clifford signed on as the new head coach of the Charlotte Bobcats, the National Basketball Association team owned by Michael Jordan. On his way to sign the contract, Mr. Clifford called his former boss, Robert Hartwell, who has since retired from his longtime post as Adelphi’s assistant vice president and director of intercollegiate athletics and recreation.

Mr. Hartwell remembers the morning vividly. He was in his office at 6:30 a.m., reading the news stories about Mr. Clifford, when the phone rang. Mr. Hartwell recognized the familiar voice, calling him Mr. Hartwell, and then Mr. Clifford said, “I’m sitting at the airport and I’m thinking, ‘Who gave me the opportunity to move in this direction? So I called you. I want to thank you.’”

Mr. Hartwell, not one prone to tears, choked up when he tells the story. Anyone would. In 1995, Mr. Hartwell was the first to hire Mr. Clifford as head coach of a collegiate men’s basketball team. Prior to coaching the Panthers, Mr. Clifford had been an assistant basketball coach for three NCAA Division I teams. “I wanted the challenge of being a head coach in college,” he recalls.

He rose to the occasion. In his four years at Adelphi, Mr. Clifford led the team to four consecutive seasons with 20 or more wins, setting a school record. The Panthers played in the NCAA Division II tournament all four years and won the conference twice.

With characteristic modesty, Mr. Clifford attributes his success at Adelphi to the students and coaches. “I had the best team in the world,” he says. “I can’t remember when I didn’t think I wanted to be a coach.”

For Mr. Clifford, becoming an NBA head coach is a dream realized. In the years after Adelphi, he was an assistant coach with the New York Knicks, the Houston Rockets, the Orlando Magic and the Los Angeles Lakers. The son of a high school basketball coach, he says, “I can’t remember when I didn’t think I wanted to be a coach.”

Mr. Clifford says he’ll use the same approach with the Bobcats as he did with the Panthers. “Coaching is going to come back to people—people who have the confidence in themselves, their teammates and the confidence in the system of play and knowing you have to do things right,” he says. “They have to know that ‘Hey, I don’t always do the way you want me to do it, but he wants me to do well.’”

by Bonnie Eisner and Maggie Youn

Grader ’98, M.A. ’08

“Demanding and fair” is how Michael Longabardi, a former Panthers and Celtics assistant coach, and now an assistant coach with the Phoenix Suns, describes Mr. Clifford, whom he served under at Adelphi. “He would not be afraid to let you know what you need to improve to develop as a coach to help you reach your potential.”

Chris Bernard ’89 played under Mr. Clifford for three years, serving as team captain for two of them. Mr. Bernard has since been inducted into the Adelphi Athletic Hall of Fame and is now vice president for player development, marketing and team operations for the New York Knicks. “Steve Clifford is one of the greatest human beings I’ve ever come to know,” Mr. Bernard says. “He’s a great leader, coach and mentor. Coach Cliff’s dedication not only motivated me on the court, but it carried over to me achieving success off the court.”

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by Bonnie Eisner and Maggie Youn

Grader ’98, M.A. ’08
Class of 1963 50th Reunion
Florida Alumni Reception in Boca Raton
Florida Alumni Reception in Port St. Lucie
Subway Series: Mets vs. Yankees
Legends Reception, Celebrating the Languages
Mixology Boot Camp event
New York Botanical Gardens and Arthur Avenue event
ODK Reunion
Florida Alumni Reception in Tampa
Florida Alumni Reception in Fort Myers

To see more photos from recent alumni events, visit ADELPHI.EDU/ALUMNI.php

THE STORY CONTINUES...
Follow Adelphi University Alumni
Reunion Weekend

Thanks to the nearly 1,000 alumni, family members and friends who came to Reunion Weekend 2013 last June, the event was a huge success. But don’t just take our word for it, see for yourself.

“I came to Reunion for the people, the atmosphere. I had a really good experience at Adelphi for my bachelor’s and master’s degrees.”
— Michelle Hamilton ’10, M.S. ’11

“I came last year and had a blast so I wasn’t going to miss it this year!”
— Samantha Dolley ’12, M.A. ’13

“She and I met at Adelphi in Professor Waters’ Business Law class and got married in 2009. It has been 10 years since we graduated, so we decided to come out and see what everyone else is up to.”
— Marlon A. Clarke ’03

“I came back to Adelphi for Reunion because Adelphi is home. As I sat and had dinner with former classmates in the music department, it felt like we were still students. It may have been 10 years since I attended a class but I will always identify myself as an AU Panther.”
— Aaron Harper ’03

Save the date for next year’s Reunion Weekend, June 21–22, 2014
Alumni and friends gathered at the Garden City Hotel last April for the Thirteenth Annual President’s Gala, raising close to $454,000 for student scholarships. Adelphi honored LeeAnn Black ’88, chief operating officer at Latham & Watkins LLP, as Outstanding Alumna; Mark W. Harris, president, and CEO of the Berlitz Corporation, as Outstanding Executive; and Eileen C. McDonnell, M.B.A. ’88, chairman, president and CEO of Penn Mutual, for Outstanding Service to Adelphi.

President Robert A. Scott, Ph.D., served as event co-chair, along with Tina F. Bolton and Trustee Jeffrey Bolton ’61, Trustee Emeritus Leon M. Pollack ’63 and Trustee Patrick S. Smalley ’86.

Save the date for next year’s President’s Gala on Saturday, March 22, 2014, at the Garden City Hotel. For reservations or more information, please contact Christine Spina at 516.877.3155 or cspina@adelphi.edu.

Alumni and Friends Giving
Susan Rosone ’70, M.A. ’73

PROFESSION  I taught physical education for 37 years in the Herricks Public School System. During my career, I taught the children of students I had in my class years earlier.

AS AN ADELPHI ATHLETE BEFORE TITLE IX, I played on the softball, basketball and field hockey teams. It’s been satisfying to witness such an evolution and see the opportunities women athletes have today.

JANET L. FICKE ’59 HAS BEEN giving me advice ever since she coached me in basketball my junior and senior years at Adelphi. Now, we play golf two times a week. She fits the roles of mentor and friend and the older sister I never had.

RECENT GIVING $250 toward the Janet L. Ficke Golf Classic, which supports women’s athletics.

WHY I GIVE  It’s important to give back to where you came from. Adelphi gave me an education, my life. It makes me feel good to know that I’m doing what I can to help Adelphi athletics.

Why I Give: Susan Rosone '70, M.A. '73

Gave $250 toward the Janet L. Ficke Golf Classic, which supports women’s athletics.

WHY I GIVE: It's important to give back to where you came from. Adelphi gave me an education, my life. It makes me feel good to know that I'm doing what I can to help Adelphi athletics.

Allen Louissaint ’09, M.A. ’11

TEN UNDER 10 Allen Louissaint was named to Adelphi’s 10 Under 10. Read his full profile at ALUMNI.ADELPHI.EDU/10UNDER10

I AM  A middle school history teacher.

I TEACH HISTORY BECAUSE to create our future, we need to understand our past.

I TELL MY STUDENTS to be respectful. Don’t attack the person, attack the ideas.

I JUST READ The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch, with Jeffrey Zaslow.

IF I COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER I would be a sense of empathy, a sense of truly understanding someone else’s point of view.

THE BEST ADVICE I ever received was from my dad. If you know how to read, you’re a rich man, but if you understand what you read, then you’re a millionaire.

RECENT GIVING $75 to the 2012–2013 Annual Fund.

WHY I GIVE: We may not know who is truly depending on us right now. Whatever amount we have to offer can end up providing an Adelphi student access to opportunities he or she might not have without our help.
WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON, DISCOVERY FOLLOWS.

FLIP THE SWITCH. SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND.

VISIT GIVING.ADELPHI.EDU
Kevin Mawae, M.A. ’06, pursued a master’s degree at Adelphi while starring for the Jets.

Kevin Mawae, M.A. ’06, with his wife, Tracy, and teenaged children, Kirkland and Abigail.

“Each man that dons a football uniform must ask himself if the potential rewards are worth the inherent risks,” says Mr. Mawae. “For me, the answer was and still is yes.”

As a center, Mr. Mawae took hits and dished them out on every play. Eight times he was voted All-Pro—the best in the NFL at his position—and he is likely to be enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame when he’s eligible in 2015. Mr. Mawae, 42, proved to be an atypical athlete on the field and off in 2004, while starring for the jets, he decided to prepare for life after football by pursuing a master’s degree at Adelphi. (He received his bachelor’s degree from Louisiana State University.) Along with his master’s, Mr. Mawae earned the Jack-Foley Award as the outstanding student in Adelphi’s Sport Management program.

“Students enjoyed his intelligent and entertaining answers from real-life situations in the world of sports,” says Daniel Bedard, a clinical assistant professor, who was Mr. Mawae’s academic adviser. “His passion was always trying to help others.”

Mr. Mawae’s ability to make esoteric labor-management issues understandable to other players made him ideally suited to be the players’ representative. After six years in that role, Mr. Mawae was elected president of the NFL Players Association—the voice for nearly 1,700 players—in 2008 and re-elected in 2010. NFL owners locked out the players before the 2011 season in a dispute concerning how to distribute the league’s annual revenue of $9 billion. Under the leadership of Mr. Mawae and executive director DeMaurice Smith, the NFLPA decertified itself as the players’ representative—a tactic that allowed players to sue the NFL, settled with the players. The NFLPA then re-certified, reflecting on the benefit of his Adelphi education during those intense negotiations, Mr. Mawae says, “My master’s degree gave me credibility. When I stood in front of the microphones and talked, guys would say, ‘He’s not a dumb jock. He’s very educated.’ I think that helped me set a good example for younger players.”

Mr. Mawae’s willingness to speak out on issues affecting players past and present also sets a good example. In the last two years, former NFL stars Junior Seau, 43, and Dave Duerson, 50, both of whom had struggled with the impact of concussions after retirement, committed suicide by shooting themselves in the chest—so their brains could be analyzed by a Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy at the Boston University School of Medicine. Although Mr. Mawae is not a plaintiff in a lawsuit involving former players who filed against the NFL, he wonders if the league has been forthright with players about the long-term effect of head injuries.

“If the league did know, was there a level of responsibility for the players? The league had an obligation to make them aware of the risks,” he asks. Mr. Mawae, a sought-after public speaker, lives comfortably in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with his wife, Tracy, and teenaged children, Kirkland and Abigail. While some former players say they don’t want their sons to play football, Mr. Mawae put no such restrictions on Kirkland. “He played two years of flag football and one year of tackle, but, because of weight restrictions, they wanted him to play on the offensive or defensive line instead of at wide receiver, so he chose not to continue,” Mr. Mawae says. Instead, his kids compete in swimming and Irish dance.

Because of their education during those intense negotiations, Mr. Mawae says, “My master’s degree gave me credibility. When I stood in front of the microphones and talked, guys would say, ‘He’s not a dumb jock. He’s very educated.’ I think that helped me set a good example for younger players.”

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Kevin Mawae, M.A. ’06, with his wife, Tracy, and teenaged children, Kirkland and Abigail.

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For Public Enemy founder Carlton D. Ridenhour ’84, ’13 (Hon.), better known as Chuck D, the induction was a favorite moment in a career that’s rich in milestones. Momentously, he chose Harry Belafonte and Spike Lee to do the honors.

Just over a month later, Chuck D was at Adelphi’s commencement to collect another accolade—an honorary doctorate from his alma mater. Gracie, gratitude and panache abounded in his short and much-tweeted address to the Class of 2013. “I truly, truly, from the bottom of my heart, salute the Class of 2013,” Chuck D said. “You have the potential to change the world.”

Chuck D credits Mr. Stephney as “the first person to incorporate radio, but was stymied. “I thought rap was nascent by the music,” he said at Commencement. First, there were the Thursday Night Throwdowns at the Ruth S. Harley University Center where DJs would play hip-hop. “They used to have an open mic,” Chuck D recalls. “I would get on the microphone and start rocking the house.”

Chuck D came to Commencement with his mother, Judy Ridenhour, by his side. He envisioned creating art for record labels, until he “was a phenom in my department. I treated my foundation art classes he had skipped, Mr. Vaux says, he “was a total tortured, he was a serious student.”

In the words of Chuck D, “I was a phenom in my department. I treated it like a business.” He points to his cartoon series for The Delphian, Tales of the Stand. He envisioned creating art for record labels, until his avocation became his vocation.

Chuck D is especially fond of his WBAU days. “We did the best radio shows ever,” he re -called. He says. “But radio was just such a tied-up industry.” Ultimately, Mr. Stephney, who had started working for Def Jam Recordings (and would rise to become president of the label), convinced Chuck D to cut a record. “I turned Def Jam down for like a year because I just didn’t see it working,” Chuck D recalls.

Eventually, he relented and, according to Mr. Stephney, Chuck D came on as an artist with the flamboyant Flavor Flav. Hank Shocklee was a co-producer, and Mr. Stephney was a producer. Together they formed Public Enemy. Later, Chuck D brought on the other eclectic and iconic Public Enemy members—such as the martial arts-loving Professor Griff and the intimidating DJ Terminator X.

Much of the rest of Public Enemy’s rise is, as Chuck D says, public record. The group’s debut album, released in 1987, Yo! Bum Rush the Show, achieved some critical acclaim, especially in Europe. The group truly broke through, but, according to Chuck D, it just snowballed…Of course, they were the hype surrounding Public Enemy’s music broke through the hype of the Right Wing about racists. The song, which is referenced Louis Farrakhan’s anti-Semitic stance. “We have the potential to change the world,” Chuck D says. “We have the potential to change the world.”

Today, Chuck D continues to tour internationally and cut albums with Public Enemy. He sees himself as “a ‘raptivist’ or ‘artcademic’ and regularly preaches the importance of education, particularly in speeches he has made at hundreds of colleges. A former board member of the advocacy group TransAfrica, he has more than 250,000 Twitter followers (@MrChuckD). “We have the potential to make change, just like Bob Marley and Bob Dylan, so why not?” he says. 

by Bonnie Eisner
For more information, please contact Adelphi at bequest or planned gift to Adelphi. Define your legacy and create a lasting gift to the University.

Mary Jane “M.J.” (Viaggio) Hayes, B.A. ’70, from St. Augustine, Florida, has authored Emma’s House of Steam and Emma’s Franky Sneakers and was interviewed on June 31, 2013, on Flagler College Radio 88.3 by Don Runk, underwriting director. She was asked an array of questions regarding her writing career in the children’s book arena and shared news about the upcoming publication of A Darf Choi’s Silent Concert.

Robert Dankic, B.A. ’71, is the author of Amedeo and Talisman: Simple Techniques for Creating Meaningful Jewelry, which mixes stories about ancient amulets with instructions on how to make modern versions. The book is available at Amazon.

Jerry Alterman, M.A. ’73, a nonprofit industry veteran, joined The Safe Center LI in the newly created position of associate director of development.

Frances (Belfiore) Hilliard, B.S. ’73, M.S. ’79, is a retired faculty member of the nursing department at Nassau Community College. She currently is a New York State United Teachers volunteer doing community presentations for Seniors Out Speaking, a program sponsored by the Medicare Rights Center that is designed to help people on Medicare get the most from their coverage by educating them on topics such as coverage options, benefits, and changes.

Joe Gontadou, B.A. ’74, M.B.A. ’80, retired from the Elmont Union Free School District on June 28, 2013, after 28 years in education. He will not be moving, but enjoying Long Island, his home, more than ever.

David Praver, B.A. ’74, was named one of the top attorneys in Southern California from 2010 through 2013 by Super Lawyers Magazine. He has moderated the national business institute seminar, ‘What Family Law Judges Want You to Know,’ served as Ventura County Superior Court Settlement Officer since 2012, and authored ‘Ventura County Guidelines on Professional Conduct and Civility.’ He is the member of the Ventura County Concert Band—second clarinet.

Chuck Snow, B.A. ’69, received an M.A. in mathematics from Queens College. He taught advanced placement calculus at Central High School in Valley Stream, New York. His students dedicated the 1978 class yearbook to him. Subsequently, he worked as a software engineer, and published technical articles in Creative Computing, Tidbyth and Dr. Dobb’s Journal. Since 2002, he has been pursuing independent research in science and politics. In 2008, he published The Case Against Islam, which chronicles Iran’s killing of Americans and analyses Iran’s nuclear weapons program. He also wrote a rebuttal of the Central Intelligence Agency’s November 2007 National Intelligence Estimate (about Iran’s nuclear weapons program) to Congress. Jacob Akindele, M.A. ’79, has played, taught, written about and administered tennis within and outside Nigeria. As a reporter, he won the tennis round at the US Open in 1998 and 1999. The former chairman of the Ogun State Lawn Tennis Association, he also served as manager of Nigeria’s Davis Cup team and tournament director, Lagos ATP Tennis Classic from 1983 to 1988. The founding member of the United States Tennis Writers Association, he has been accredited to cover Wimbledon Tennis Championships every year since 1985 and filed reports for Daily Times, The Guardian, The Crest and West African News based in New York City. A father of two, he still plays competitive tennis.

William Knock, B.A. ’75, Ph.D. ’84, was appointed chair of the Department of Psychology at the State University of New York College at Old Westbury. He continues to serve on the Executive Board of Directors of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence/Watchtower, Inc. and maintains a private practice in Chappaqua, New York.

Jerry Nolan, B.A. ’78, has recently been recognized by Strathmore’s register for his contributions to American Registries of Outstanding Professionals also recognized her for her contributions and achievements in the field of psychology.

Peter Nolan, M.S. ’66, Ph.D. ’74, is 79 years old and still teaching physics at Farmingdale State College, which he has been doing for 46 years and still loves. Dr. Nolan says that Dr. Anthony Lemos of Adelphi’s Physics Department was the best teacher and a source of great inspiration, and Dr. Nolan says he owes so much of his teaching life to him.

Betty Steinberg, M.S. ’64, has recently been recognized by Strathmore’s Who’s Who Registry for her outstanding contributions and achievements in the field of medical research. America’s Registry of Outstanding Professionals also recognized her for her contributions and achievements in the field of psychology.

David Miller, B.B.A. ’67, has been the varsity softball coach at Smithtown West High School for 32 years. On April 20, 2013, the school’s softball field was named in his honor.

Tolstii “T.N.” Shakapba, B.A. ’67, has written 10 books of poetry following a career in banking that included positions such as senior vice president of Republic National Bank of New York and chairman and president of a Texas investment bank.

Betty (Jagoda) Murphy, B.A. ’68, performed with her mother, Florly Jagoda, on September 21, 2013, at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., as a concert celebrating her mother’s international recognized career as singer, composer and teacher of Sephardic song. Other family members and talented musicians performed the songs that Florly Jagoda has taught.

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With her mother a breast cancer survivor and her father living 20 years with HIV, Hamidah Sharif-Harris ’98, Ed.D., has had a firsthand look at the lifelong marathon that health and wellness can be. The successful entrepreneur, consultant and health education expert is now the president and CEO of the Thrive Well Company, LLC, which assists healthcare providers and employers in determining what employees need to lead healthier lives and provides the tools that produce results.

Beginning with a health assessment—a very detailed, comprehensive and lengthy process—Dr. Sharif-Harris and her team evaluate employee medical claims and examine employee social patterns, determining how these are affected by cultural and economic environments. In the everyday choices that an employee makes, no matter how routine they might seem, Dr. Sharif-Harris gains more insight. She might ask: Do you make the stairs or the elevator at your workplace? How often do you make a trip to the vending machine? Do you order lunch every day and, if so, what types of foods are on your takeout menu?

After an assessment, Thrive Well creates wellness campaigns from beginning to end, from conducting focus groups and producing the marketing materials and informational brochures, to publicizing and hosting on-site wellness events. “We’ve been told we make wellness taste like chocolate, and I love that,” Dr. Sharif-Harris says. But her journey to helping others help themselves has not been as sweet.

As a teen in Harlem, New York, she helped her best friend through a pregnancy that remained a secret to everyone else for seven months. “I remember sneaking her pieces of fruit and consulting my stepfather’s [an obstetrician] medical school textbooks to find ways to keep her healthy,” she says. Luckily, her friend delivered a healthy baby, but the experience cemented Dr. Sharif-Harris’s desire to one day be an advocate for pregnant teens.

When Dr. Sharif-Harris came to Adelphi as a General Studies student, she intended to study biology and pre-med, but found that the social sciences were her calling. She eventually switched tracks and earned a social science degree through the ABL disabilities program (now University College) while working full-time. Her career in health and wellness began upon her return to New York City—to help her mother face a breast cancer diagnosis—to serve as health educator at the Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership Inc. (NMPP), a practice that specializes in hearing testing, and hosting on-site wellness events. “We’ve been told we make wellness taste like chocolate, and I love that,” Dr. Sharif-Harris says. But her journey to helping others help themselves has not been as sweet.

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Andrew Bloom, B.S. ’91, author of A Blandings Boner, delivered an impactful, educational and encouraging interview with Len Saunders for the online magazine, Yar Heat-Heard.

Christine McGrade, B.S. ’91, was named vice president of manufacturing operations at Northrop Grumman at the St. Augustine, Florida, site. She is responsible for managing and integrating all manufacturing and support operations at the site in coordination with the company’s various aircraft programs and other functional organizations.

Peg (Bigwood) Merckatz, B.A. ’91, enjoyed a career at Catholic Charities working with mentally ill substance abusers after graduating from Adelphi. She went on to become a supervisor of the care team at an adult home, before moving to New Jersey and working in the detumetal health impatient unit at a large city hospital in Trenton. Her own di-

agosis with multiple sclerosis motivated her to become a disability advocate. About two years ago, she began to develop Esperanza Enterprises through which she will provide advocacy and support services. Her life’s goal is to improve the life of adults, ages 18 to 64, who, like her, have chronic illnesses and phys-

cial disabilities.

Kim Petry-Deleos, B.B.A. ’91, joined BBM/Parents Inc.—The Responsible Teen Spending Company—as chief financial officer. Jordan Herzlich, M.B.A. ’92, an assistant vice president at Teachers Federal Credit Union, was recognized as one of the Ones to Watch. Banking and Finance by Long Island Business New-

Francis David Batchelor, M.B.A. ’94, recently published Why Should Yes Be Yes?: A Legal Foundation for Faith. The book, which illustrates the many ways in which science points to the existence of a creator, is avail-

able at Amazon.com.

Sharon Klugewicz, M.S. ’94, was appoint-
ed COO of Chembio Diagnostics, Inc. In this newly created position, Ms. Klugewicz is responsible for all of the company’s op-

erational activities, working closely with the functional areas of the company, including research and development, manufacturing, regulatory affairs and sales and marketing.

Lorraine T. Frankel, M.B.A. ’90, and her partner Mary Lindesworth are pleased to announce the opening of their new boutique of Touching Hearts at Home, a non-med-

ical home care company, in Sterling, N.J. This new venture will enable them to help seniors and people with disabilities or illness live independently for as long as possible, while bringing peace of mind to their families. Touching Hearts at Home is a national company, expanding to meet the increasing demand across the country for care and companionship, delivered at home. Caregivers give a helping band with every-

thing from light housekeeping, shopping and meal preparation to transportation, medication reminders, companionship and more.

Darryl Conway, M.A. ’96, was named as-

sociate athletic director of student-athlete health and wellness at Michigan University.

Lee Anne Nippolito, Ph.D. ’96, dean of the Stony Brook University School of Nursing, received the Community Service Award from the Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk County in recognition of her efforts to es-

ablish the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Center at Stony Brook University Hospital.

Mark W. Cleary, M.B.A. ’97, a 34-year Northrop Grumman veteran, was appointed vice president of supply chain management for the company’s electronic systems sector. In his new role, he oversees sector supply chain operations such as strategic planning and tactical execution.

2000s

Kristy Chabos, B.A. ’01, a Long Beach resi-

dent, organized a fundraising event. Retail F-

or, on January 26, 2013, at Adelphi to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Amy Connell, M.S.W. ’01, works in private practice providing psychotherapy to children, adults, couples and families. She uses cogni-

tive behavioral therapy to provide short-term, goal-focused therapy. Her office is located in Bethpage. New York. Learn more at

gonelpsychotherapy.com.

Sherrie S. (Thorpe) Clarke, B.B.A. ’02, and Marlon A. Clarke, B.B.A. ’03, met in Associate Professor Writers’ Business Law class at Adelphi. They got married in 2009. Mr. Clarke has been working at the finance company ICOn Capital for more than seven years, and Mrs. Clarke is an accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, where she has worked for more than 10 years. They have two children, Madelyn and Marlon Jr.

Doug Hicker, B.S. ’02, was a minor league baseball player for the Red Sox and now works in real estate at Robert Frost Middle School in Deer Park, New York.

Tracy (Kristanis) Johnston, B.A. ’02, married Chris Johnston on July 20, 2013.

Andrew Bertola, B.F.A. ’01, directed a pro-

duction of The Vagina Monologues in February 2013, which marked the 15th anniversary of V-Day, the global activist movement to end

violence against women. And on February 18 and 19, her sold-out V-Day benefit produc-

tion was produced at HERE Arts Center in New York City, where the award-winning play was first produced. A handful of Adelphi theatre alumni joined the all-female cast and production team. Sue Day, B.F.A. ’04, Jaclyn L. Ramos, B.F.A. ’01, Darlene Heller, B.F.A. ’02, and Katie Perpall, B.F.A. ’12.

Tanille Edwards, B.A.B. ’01, M.B.A. ’04, a pop and R&B signer and songwriter, sang a soundtrack for Cars, a teen novel that she wrote. Cars’s music can be added to playlists on Google Play, iTunes Radio and Spotify, and purchased online.

Haruto Imamura, B.A. ’03, who studied theatre at Adelphi, is now a working artist in New York City and Washington, D.C. Visit his website at www.haruto.us.

Jainne Sesa-Santoro, M.A. ’03, was award-

ed a New York State Outstanding Social Studies Classroom Teacher Award for the elementary school level. She was honored at the 75th Annual Convention of the New York State Council for the Social Studies and the New York State Social Studies Supervisory Association annual awards luncheon held on March 2, 2013, at the Hilton Westchester in Rye, New York. Ms. Sesa-Santoro is a fourth-grade teacher at Thomas J. Leachy Elementary School in Greenlawn, New York. She is also actively involved with Habitat For Humanity and Women for Women International.

Jeanine Storm, B.S. ’03, is currently teaching orchestra to grades 4 through 12 in Martinsburg, West Virginia. She is pub-

lished in the Journal of Historical Research in Music Education (October 2011, String and Music Education Association of Long Island, NY, 1950–60). She holds degrees from Stony Brook University (advanced graduate certificate, higher education administration, 2018). The University of Arizona (Ph.D. in Music Education, 2012), Hofstra University (M.S.Ed. in Music Education, 2007) and Long Island University-C.W. Post (M.A. in Music History and Literature, 2003).
self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED talk-like experience. Mr. Beaugrand’s talk was titled “To Get Death Right: A Smile.”

Candice Edwards, B.A. ’07, M.S. ’09, is a sixth-grade science teacher in Hempstead, New York.

Jared Jokl, B.B.A. ’07, works as an office clerk in Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office.

Matthew Jordan, B.S. ’07, was honored with the prestigious Bronze Medal Award of the highest honorary recognition awarded by the U.S. Census Bureau. The award is given for superior performance of assigned tasks and for significant contributions affecting major programs within the U.S. Census Bureau, including the demonstration of unusual initiative in the development and improvement of methods and procedures. In fall 2018, he was named to Adelphi’s 10 Under 10.


Lauren Flanagan, B.B.A. ’09, has been promoted to director of marketing and public relations at T. Weiss Realty Corp.

Michael Hammond, M.S. ’08, A.A. ’13, is working as a clinical audiologist performing hearing tests on populations spanning from newborns to seniors.

Sherry Ana Santarina, B.S. ’08, works as a registered nurse in the neurosurgical intensive care unit at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, New York, and is a reservist for the United States Navy Nurse Corps.

Courtney Barry, B.A. ’09, M.A. ’12, has joined Interact International to investigate in Westminster, New York, as director of operations.

Jennifer Buglioli, G.C. ’09, co-interim director of Adelphi’s Office of Alumni Relations, was named one of the Ones to Watch: Education and Careers in Long Island Business News.

Jonathan Eisenkraft, B.A. ’09, M.A. ’10, who graduated magna cum laude from Adelphi, is teaching at the Hebrew Academy in Nassau County, New York.

Kimberly Grey, M.S. ’09, a Stegner Fellow in poetry at Stanford University, had her poem “What We Have Lost” published in the spring 2013 Columbia Poetry Review and “We Are Mostly Albert” in the winter 2015 of The Paris American Review. Her work has also appeared on Vena Daily and Paty Daily as well as in the Paris-American and other journals.

Patsy Anne Joindesse, M.A. ’10, felt compelled to help other cancer patients as a result of her own battle with cancer. In June 2012, six months after her own life-altering surgery, she launched iTouch1 Inc. a 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to provide individuals requiring long-term hospital stays, chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy the ability to stay connected with family and friends through the use of iPads and other electronic devices. To date, eTouch has donated a total of 20 iPads for patient use. For more information, visit www.iTouch1CHARITIES.org or email info@iTouch1CHARITIES.org.

Christine Steiger, B.S. ’09, says that after graduating from Adelphi’s College of Nursing and Public Health (formerly the School of Nursing), the institution she had worked at for more than 25 years took her on as a medical surgical nurse. She worked on that unit for two years and switched over to what she believes may be her niche: plastic nursing.

2010s

Brian Michael Hoyte, B.A. ’10, M.A. ’11, finished his second year teaching English in the fifth grade, and also served as the lead science teacher and coordinator at Minnewaska Elementary School in Northern Virginia. He recently accepted a new position at another school, and has begun pursuing administrative leadership within Prince William County, Virginia. He recently purchased his first home in Washington, D.C., where he loves spending his free time taking in the history and culture.

Rebecca Benson, B.A. ’11, recently started a new job as a digital media project manager for Thomas Publishing Company. For two years prior, she had been an editor and media relations pro for PR.com. She also frequently writes guest blogs about new media and public relations, and freelance for Adelphi publications.

Jessica Carlatsos, B.A. ’11, graduated from Illinois State University on May 10, 2011, with a master’s in math and actuarial science. In June, she began working as an actuary with Humana in Louisville, Kentucky.

Charles Eickelberg, B.A. ’11, took first place in the Muttuck Lighthouse Sprint Triathlon for the third year in a row with a time of 1:05:16. He had set the course record with a time of 1:02:33 in 2011.

Kate Fallon, B.F.A. ’11, sang music of the Rat Pack era and Broadway melodies with her 82-year-old uncle George on August 5, 2013. The program was part of a free concert series sponsored by the Stafford Township Historical Society at the pavilion in New Jersey’s Manahawkin Lake Park. A classically trained soprano, Ms. Fallon has appeared with various theatre shows in the New York area including Cosi Fan Tutte, Operas, Roman and Juliet, Tannheims, Magic Flute, The Parting of the Shores, The Other Boleyn Girl, Caro Nome and The Merry Widow. With the touring Hampshire Stage Company, she appeared in Revs Hasid and Eve Psych.

Jill Fordie, B.A. ’11, has been an art teacher in Carle Place, New York, since August 2011, and absolutely loves it. While at Adelphi, she started her own company, Sink or Swim Custom Kicks, customizing canvas sneakers. Since 2009, she has customized more than 400 pairs of shoes, shipped them all over the world, been in numerous publications (online and in print), and worked with celebrities, large corporations and charitable organizations. Last spring, she traveled with the organization Soles 4 Souls, Inc. to Haiti to distribute shoes to children in need. She started a charity called “First Step,” and aims to help Haiti through which she will donate art supplies and shoes to Fermathe, Haiti, where there is a community center at which she teaches art classes. In fall 2013, she was named to Adelphi’s 10 Under 10.

Jill S.I. Asheld, B.S. ’12, has completed her first year at New York University College of Dentistry.

Bobby Lanigan, B.A. ’12, agreed to a minor league contract with the Boston Red Sox, the third year he has signed with the Boston Red Sox and joined the Class A Portland Sea Dogs of the Eastern League. In fall 2013, he was named to Adelphi’s 10 Under 10.

Shivonne C. Mickey, M.A. ’12, co-author of a book titled Becoming A Woman Like Ruth. The book is intended for those women who are bold enough to accept their flaws, yet strong enough to endure their healing formation. The national release date of the book was July 23, 2013, and it can be purchased through BECOMINGAVERONALADY.COM.

Scott Gordon, B.S. ’13, was interviewed by Rater Guzman, Newsday movie critic and WYNYC movie podcast host, to discuss his Adelphi Honors College thesis on another, “Revelation of the Dead: The Zombie Apocalypse.”

Emily Ladau, B.A. ’13, is intensifying for The American Association of People with Disabilities.

Justin Magaldi, B.A. ’13, wrote, directed and shot A Man Named Bob, which was accepted into the Long Island International Film Expo.

Patrick O’Shaughnessy, M.B.A. ’13, was named vice president for medical affairs and chief medical officer at Catholic Health Services.

Kristen Sears, B.A. ’13, is a part-time hunting in Boston, where she will be attending the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions for speech-language pathology with a concentration in voice.

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How far can a student-run radio station reach? For WBAU, Adelphi’s radio station, at 90.3 on the FM dial for 23 years, there’s an easy answer. The signal reached almost all of Long Island and into New York City, an exciting market for any college station. But in truth, WBAU’s reach was far greater than anything that could be measured in miles or markets.

The station launched the careers of a number of media greats, among them Public Enemy’s Chuck D, sports broadcasters Al Trautwig and Richard Neer, and The Howard Stern Show executive producer Gary Dell’Abate. It introduced other artists, like Run DMC and LL Cool J, to listeners. Above all, it changed lives by offering a generation of students the chance to learn by doing—from production and publicity to broadcasting and engineering.

Before WBAU hit the FM dial in 1972, the Adelphi radio station was called WALI, and its broadcast range was significantly more limited—the simple AM carrier current cut out as soon as you passed through the south gates of the campus. But as Richard Neer ’70, recalls, the small station offered surprising opportunities. One day after class, he knocked on the WALI door, hoping to ask for an audition. It turned out the sports reporter hadn’t shown up, and that was all it took for Mr. Neer to get his chance. He’d dreamed of being a DJ as well, and soon he and his roommate, George Yulis ’69, also began hosting a music show.

“We thought there were maybe nine people out there listening to us,” Mr. Yulis remembers. They even hosted a giveaway of old 45s, just to see how many people they could get to call in and were shocked when a whole box of records flew out the door. But, once again, the small station had its benefits. “The real learning was being allowed to experiment,” says Mr. Neer.

For Joanne Ventura ’75, the transition from a campus-only station to an FM station during her sophomore year was an exciting one. She served as WBAU’s educational producer, news director and, eventually, public affairs director and director of informational programming. Among the highlights of her work were covering local elections, interviewing candidates and offering analysis, not just for Adelphi students, but for the community at large. She and her news team also covered the entire Watergate scandal, and, memorably, she was on air the night Nixon resigned.

Ms. Ventura pursued law, not radio journalism, but that doesn’t mean WBAU didn’t affect her course in life. “In law school, I was a lot more confident,” she says. “I had learned how to prepare to speak.” And that’s not all. “It also helped me lose my New York accent!” she says.

For Al Trautwig ’78, a career as a sports commentator for NBC, USA and the MSG Network began at WBAU. At the time, WBAU broadcast only in the evenings. This meant the sports talk shows for all the games during the day were recorded on cassettes. “The engineer had to make sure he played the cassettes in the right order, and that didn’t always happen,” Mr. Trautwig recalls, laughing.

Howard Freshman ’79, now the marketing director for two radio stations in California, started his career alongside Mr. Trautwig. “I always wanted to be a radio guy,” Mr. Freshman says. “I grew up in Brooklyn, and I actually chose Adelphi because I was already a WBAU listener.”

For both men, the summer of 1978 was transformative. That summer, they convinced the New York Apollo soccer team to let them broadcast the play-by-play of every game on WBAU, an experience which led each of them directly to their first jobs. “It was all thanks to WBAU,” says Mr. Trautwig.

Joanne Ventura ’75 served as WBAU’s educational producer, news director and, eventually, public affairs director and director of informational programming.
Mr. Dell’Abate’s focus at WBAU was news, but like many others, he spent countless weekends and evenings hanging out at the station and was there for the news shows, the trivia and comedy shows and the music shows. “One of the links was Bill Stephney,” says Mr. Dell’Abate. “He seemed to have a foot in all those worlds.”

Mr. Stephney, who entered Adelphi as a freshman in 1980, was the recipient of a unique full scholarship sponsored by the University, the Long Island Urban League and another local radio station, WURL. He started as a newscaster at WBAU, then became business manager of the station. At the end of his sophomore year, he also began programming his own music show.

The first rap records had come out in 1979, and there were still relatively few places you could hear the music broadcast, explains Mr. Stephney. “WBAU was the campus radio station. But even as far as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Sadly, WBAU went dark in 1995 (Adelphi now has an Internet radio station). But even so, the reverberations from the station are still felt in the world of radio, in the lives and careers of WBAU alumni and even as far as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.”

by Charity Shumway
CAN THEY TAKE THE HEAT?

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