Kristin Cangemi ’09 is exactly the kind of student who finds success at University College—smart, experienced, and determined. Thirteen years after graduating from Valley Stream High School and pursuing a career in the financial industry, Ms. Cangemi earned her bachelor’s degree in literature from University College and is working on her master’s in secondary education at Adelphi’s Ruth S. Ammon School of Education.

After high school, Ms. Cangemi entered Wagner College as a theatre major. “The school had high expectations, higher than I had for myself…and I don’t think I was ready to compete,” she says. Deciding to withdraw from college, Ms. Cangemi got a job on Wall Street as a sales assistant at Lehman Brothers. “It ended up being something that I loved…I got sucked into the financial world,” she says. In April 2002, she decided to leave the company, preferring to live and work on Long Island. For the next five years, she worked as a sales assistant at Great Eastern Securities, a smaller brokerage firm.

Since 2007, she has worked at Rossetti & Associates, Woodbury, New York.

Ms. Cangemi found out about University College and decided to go back to school largely because of the influence of her good friend Kristen Puccio, who was getting her master’s degree in ESL and was also working in Adelphi’s Office of University Admissions.

“Teaching was something that was always in the back of my head…but I was scared because I thought I was going to have to start over. When I spoke to a representative from University College, they said the timeline to graduation was two years and it was—I was able to get transfer credits and life experience credits too,” says Ms. Cangemi.

Scheduling was a big part of Ms. Cangemi’s success at University College. She was able to earn her degree, taking two or three classes a semester plus summer classes, and continue working full time. “They don’t set up their classes until 6:45 p.m. and it makes it possible to go home to eat. You don’t have to rush.”

Ms. Cangemi still keeps in touch with her professors from University College, stating “It was the professors that kept me going. There was never a time that I needed something that they wouldn’t offer me. You never went into something blind. I can’t say enough about them. They were unbelievable.”
New Programs at University College

Accelerated Degree Completion (ADC)

University College has launched Accelerated Degree Completion (ADC) programs at both its Hauppauge and Manhattan locations. ADC courses feature intensive instruction over a shorter period of time than the traditional semester-based courses. ADC courses feature a blended course format, mixing live and online instruction, over a nine-week period. ADC allows students to complete three semesters of coursework over two weekends or one weekend day, in the time it would take to complete two semesters in a traditional schedule. Call (516) 877-3412 or visit uc.adelphi.edu for more information.

Online English-to-Spanish Translation Studies Certificate

University College offers this unique program completely online to students interested in pursuing careers in English-to-Spanish translation. This noncredit certificate program runs in six five-week course modules that take eight months to complete. The program is conducted online using Adelphi’s Moodle course delivery system. Students must be fluent in English and Spanish and must pass an exam to enroll. Translation careers continue to be one of the fastest growing job opportunities in the metro area. Call (516) 877-3412 or visit uc.adelphi.edu for more information.

Summer Pre-College Programs for High School Students

University College now partners with several Adelphi academic units to offer pre-college programs for high school students. In the summer of 2009, the first pre-college dance program was offered to great success. High school students from around the country came to study and perform with Adelphi’s Dance Program in Dance last summer, offered our first Career Kick-Off event last August, hired our first full-time faculty member this spring, and launched our new Accelerated Degree Completion (ADC) programs at the Hauppauge and Manhattan Centers.

In the coming academic year, we will launch new degree programs, specialized certificate programs, noncredit and professional development programs, host alumni networking events, and broaden our distance education offerings. It’s an exciting time to be part of the University College family, and we hope that this newsletter helps you stay connected with the staff, faculty, and students of University College.

I want to make a special appeal to our University College alumni to stay connected with us after you’ve completed your studies. We are working on several new alumni initiatives to help you stay involved with Adelphi and our current University College students. There can be no better role models for our current students than the many interesting, successful, and talented graduates who have used their University College degrees to further their life, career, and educational goals. We hope that you can play a part in the continued growth of University College.

Best Regards,
Shawn O’Riley,
Executive Director
oriley@adelphi.edu

New University College Alumni and Student Advisory Boards

University College is set to benefit from the input of two new advisory boards. The University College Student Advisory Board (UCSAB) serves as an avenue for student representatives to advocate on behalf of all students in the college. The UCSAB will ensure that courses are relevant and student services are effective.

Members of the 2009–10 University College Student Advisory Board include:
- Nidia Abreu, business major
- Silvia Baez, business major
- Mark Bent, business major
- Nikiyah Blackman, business major
- Nancy Braun, liberal arts major
- Kimberly Daniels, social science
- Maureen Davis, undeclared
- Christopher Daza, social science
- Helen Helkowski, business major
- Michelle Morse, business major
- Margaret Zeiser, literature major

The mission of the new Alumni and External Community Advisory Board is to assist University College in enhancing its position as a leader in adult higher education by providing critical and supportive advice. The board aims to foster a sense of community among alumni and assist in promoting University College through academic, professional, and social events.

Contact University College Director Shawn O’Riley at oriley@adelphi.edu, if you are interested in joining a University College Advisory Committee.

UC Current Student Profiles

Anthony Pellicone, emergency services administration major

As a family man and director of emergency services at a hospital, Anthony Pellicone’s schedule is hectic. That’s why the University College online Bachelor of Science in Emergency Services Administration program was a perfect match. As a resident of Suffolk County, he’s also taken classes at the Hauppauge Center.

Having a variety of course delivery methods and campuses has allowed Mr. Pellicone to take classes every semester without interfering with his work or family life. And, his experience as a critical care paramedic, volunteer firefighter, and captain meant he was able to earn the maximum of 60 prior learning credits. He’s currently considering continuing on for an M.S. in emergency management.

Vanessa Velluci, social science major

Vanessa Velluci-Argism works full time and wanted to complete her B.A. in business as quickly as possible. “I plan to look for a job that allows for a quality of life that has been lost over the years,” she says. Ms. Argism enrolled at University College in August 2008 and graduated in January 2010. One of the main attractions to Adelphi was her ability to receive Prior Learning Credits and the availability of evening, weekend, and summer courses. “University College afforded me the opportunity to reach my goal and get my degree faster,” says Ms. Velluci-Argism.

Susan Villegas-Argism, business major

Susan Villegas-Argism worked full time and wanted to complete her B.A. in business as quickly as possible. “I would love nothing more but to help children reach their fullest potential and watch them succeed at everything they do. Currently the special education program assistant at ACDS (Association for Children with Down Syndrome), her extensive work experience and fluency in Spanish allowed her to earn Prior Learning Credits so that she entered University College in spring 2009 with a head start on her degree. When she graduates in August 2010, she plans to pursue a dual master’s degree in childhood education and special education at Adelphi’s Ruth S. Ammon School of Education.

Susan Villegas-Argism

Vanessa Velluci

*University College has made my goal of being a teacher an arm’s reach away!* says Vanessa Velluci. *I would love nothing more but to help children reach their fullest potential and watch them succeed at everything they do. Currently the special education program assistant at ACDS (Association for Children with Down Syndrome), her extensive work experience and fluency in Spanish allowed her to earn Prior Learning Credits so that she entered University College in spring 2009 with a head start on her degree. When she graduates in August 2010, she plans to pursue a dual master’s degree in childhood education and special education at Adelphi’s Ruth S. Ammon School of Education.