Is there a **doctor** in the house?
Olympic Spirit!

The Olympics have come and gone with their scandals, commercialism, and drug problems. In spite of the occasional tawdry scene, the spirit of pure athleticism still shone through along with the stories of athletes that devoted much of their lives to preparing for this one moment of supreme effort. Although much of the focus was rightly placed on the winners, there are others that don’t make it to the medal platform whose stories were often just as inspiring as the gold medallists’ tales.

There are two enduring symbols that instantly epitomize the Olympic spirit: the interlocking five rings and the Olympic torch. Both of these could just as well stand for the University of Buffalo and its Honors Program. The five interlocking rings signify the five continents of the world that are represented in the Olympics, athletes drawn to the event from practically every nation. So too, UB attracts students from dozens of countries across the globe; our classrooms look like mini United Nations, and the Honors Program more and more reflects that diversity. And Honors students increasingly choose to spend a semester or year abroad to expand their experiences. This has to be a good thing. Surely, we must gain as much understanding of other people as possible.

The Olympic torch started its journey in Greece and wound its way across the globe carried by dedicated citizens at all hours of the day or night. It came to America this year. It evoked many emotions in those who saw it. It was particularly poignant that it came to this country in the wake of the tragic events of 9/11 for, as always, it symbolized hope. Not only hope for the given personal victories that were to come at Salt Lake City but a grander hope that maybe someday the human race would figure it out and get it right—that we would eventually have peace. As each hand took the torch and carried to the next, there was always this hope. It seemed especially fitting that one of our own Honors Alumni, Steve Turkovich, currently at UB’s medical school, was one of the torch bearers as it passed through Buffalo one winter day.

Educational institutions would seem to have a special role in making this hope a reality. The more that we can do to promote an international view of the world the better chance that this hope will come true.

KIPP HERREID & JOSIE CAPUANA
Academic Director and Administrative Director
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On the Cover:
Steve Turkovich, 1999 Graduate of UB and the Honors Program, carries the 2002 Olympic torch through Buffalo, NY.
In 1923, Frank Aydelotte was the President of Swathmore College. He had studied at Oxford University in England and was very taken with the tutorial method. Aydelotte especially liked the intensive, one to one learning format that occurred between the faculty tutors and students. The tutorial system, which is based on independent study, required students to undertake intensive reading and writing assignments in the subjects they were studying. This was combined with weekly, equally intense discussion sessions between the students and their faculty tutors.

Aydelotte realized the need to improve liberal arts education in American colleges and universities. He saw the tutorial method as the best way to bring this about. So in 1923 under his leadership, Swathmore adopted the tutorial system. With this new method of learning came innovations such as independent study, writing across the curriculum, thesis and the comprehensive exam.

Samuel Capen was the first full-time Chancellor of the University of Buffalo, and a colleague of Aydelotte’s. Capen agreed with Aydelotte that the condition of liberal arts education in the United States needed drastic changes if it was to survive. Soon after coming to UB, Capen began working with Julian Park, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, to implement an honors program based on the tutorial system. Over the next seven years, Capen and Park worked tirelessly to revise the undergraduate curriculum so that all liberal arts majors would be provided with a rigorous honors education. Finally in 1931, the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences at UB voted to institute the tutorial system. Oxford had come to Buffalo!

Throughout the 1930’s and into the 1940’s, once they were admitted to the upper division of the College of Arts and Sciences, students entered the tutorial plan. If the faculty felt that they were not qualified for upper division studies, the students received an Associates degree. The tutorial system was very labor intensive and costly. Several times during the Depression, the faculty took pay cuts to keep UB going. Once World War II ended, the GI Bill flooded the campus with returning veterans seeking higher education. As a result, the tutorial system came under intense pressure from both numbers and the growing demand for more technical and professional educational programs. Finally in 1946, the faculty voted to change the system.

A new honors format was sweeping American colleges and universities at this time. The model featured departmental honors programs with special honors sections of courses. During the 1950’s, Joseph Cohen from the University of Colorado at Boulder became the new champion of honors education. He traveled the country promoting it and defined what an honors program should consist of. The journal, “The Superior Student”, was created, and it called attention to the needs of the academically talented student. The first national conference on the gifted student was held under Cohen’s leadership. It eventually developed into the National Collegiate Honors Council, which today boasts a membership of over 800 college and university honors programs throughout the United States. UB followed the national trend, creating departmental honors programs and special honors course sections.

The late 1960’s and early 1970’s were a time of great turmoil in American higher education. At UB, departmental honors programs operated but on a much lower key. Finally in 1980, then UB President Robert Ketter decided it was time to commit some of the University’s resources to recruit top high school graduates to UB. The Presidential Honors Scholarship Program began, and 20 freshmen known as Presidential Honors Scholars started in the fall of 1981. And here we are today, with almost 900 students in the Honors Program. Our alumni number over 1,000 strong and can be found throughout the world.

So right from the beginning, UB has been a leader in honors education!
In retrospect, after 60 years, I still consider myself very fortunate to have participated in the University of Buffalo Honors/ Tutorial Program in the early 1940’s. The program’s salient features that affected me most were: freedom of choice; the opportunity to study in diverse fields of subject matter; and a very personalized approach to my education.

Perhaps the advantages I gained from this program are best represented by the subject of my honors thesis – “The Commerce Court 1910-1912, An Experiment in Specialized Tribunals”. This Court, which I researched and analyzed in my thesis, was an experimental approach to social, economic, and judicial problems of the day. My approach to this project, therefore, involved multiple fields of study: history/government/politics; business/economics; jurisprudence/administrative law; and sociology. The preparation of my thesis was under the guidance of the Department of History and Government. I also received tutelage at the University of Buffalo School of Law from their Professor of Administrative Law who had co-authority in the evaluation and approval of my thesis.

Underlying the worth of my experience in the Honors program was much one-on-one personal tutelage. Another example of the flexibility afforded me was the personal permission from the Dean of the School of Business to take such Business Administration courses as I deemed related to Government and Public Administration and his personally serving as a tutor to me in one such course.

The value of my interdisciplinary experience and the self-confidence I gained in the U.B. Honors Program served me well in my career paths after graduation. In 1943 I was selected in a nation-wide competition, under the auspices of the National Institute of Public Affairs (NIPA), Washington, D.C., to serve an internship upon graduation at the Executive Office of the President, Bureau of the Budget. The objective of the NIPA program was to develop public administrators who had the benefit of broad knowledge of the intra-relationships of all branches of the Federal Government, Executive, Legislative and Judicial. The Bureau of the Budget itself had the responsibility for monitoring and approving budgets and organization of all the agencies in the Federal Government. Again, though in a different milieu, I was exposed to diversity of subject matter and had to draw upon my ability to synthesize information from myriad sources.

From there I began a successful 35-year civilian career in the Navy Department in the field of civilian manpower management and organizational analysis. The missions of the Navy Department are diversified to the nth degree. They involve the physical sciences, engineering, manufacturing, business, medicine, psychology, to name a few, and the administrative disciplines underlying the organizations functioning in these fields. My work involved gathering information from diverse sources and the ability to make significant decisions affecting many, many Navy civilian employees, as well as the organizational structures in which they were employed.

The benefits of my experiences in the U.B. Honors Program are thus evident in my career. Equally important have been the benefits of how the ability to deal with, and appreciate, diversity has continued to enrich my life.

ALICE C. DONOHUE
Honors Scholar, Class of 1943

The Honors Program was very happy when Alice Donohue discovered us this past fall.

You may remember in the Fall 2001 edition of UB Today, an article appeared on the Honors Program and its successes over the past twenty years. Alice found us through that article and sent a donation to our scholarship fund, along with a letter of introduction. I wrote back to her saying, “once an honors scholar, always an honors scholar regardless of when you graduated.”

Her article is our link to honors past, present and hopefully future!
Research is the \textit{raison d'être} of a university. How often have we heard that in colleges faculty teach what is already known while in universities faculty teach not only what is known but they generate new knowledge to teach. Although this distinction becomes blurred as more and more colleges decide they must be called universities to enhance their image, still there is an element of truth to the old saw. In universities we do research and most of it is without strings and without profit in spite of the impression one gets from watching the latest entrepreneurial scientist leap into the private sector to make a buck. Most of academic life is altruistic. There are faculty who seek answers simply because they want to know. We want Honors Students to meet these people.

We have always encouraged research and original scholarly work from Honors Students. And hundreds of students have taken advantage of these opportunities. Some have even gone on to become famous. Honor Student Jason Ensher was one of the authors on the paper reporting the discovery of Bose-Einstein Condensation, a new state of matter, when he left UB to become a graduate student at the University of Colorado.

To seek. To learn. That’s what research is all about. That’s one of the reasons we assign faculty mentors for every Honors Student when they first come to UB. We want them to get involved with true cutting-edge scholarship. This is how I got involved with the Honors Program myself. I was asked to be a faculty mentor to John Assad, a member of the first class of Honors students in 1981. I hustled him into my lab the moment he graduated from high school.

For many years the Honors Council has been able to give small stipends to students to carry out research projects. This has come as a result of donations given to us from various sources. These have helped support a wide range of activities including a student’s trip to India for a medical assistance program, research on the inner ear, and travel grants for students to give presentations at national meetings. We recently asked our new Provost Elizabeth Capaldi if we could extend this initiative to include a larger number of projects and students and faculty. She graciously said yes and we have been awarded $25,000 to set up a grant system for Honors Students. Honors Students have always been in the forefront of scholarly activities at UB. Let’s hope that this spurs the effort further.

This year we were able to fund eight exciting and unique research projects using the grant money provided to us by Provost Capaldi. Four of these projects included:

\textbf{VISUALIZATION OF ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK FOR PREDICTION OF MEDICAL REHABILITATION PATIENT OUTCOMES}

The purpose of this research is to create a visualization algorithm that will enable clinicians to easily interpret artificial neural network (ANN) medical outcome prediction models through a visual output. These ANN models predict the level of motor functioning of stroke patients at the time of their discharge from a medical rehabilitation facility.

\textbf{OPTIMIZING A NOVEL AMINOACYLATION SYSTEM FOR NON-NATURAL AMINO ACIDS}

This project is designed to optimize Dr. Bessho’s findings regarding the “Yochizyme” amino acid and its application into new organic synthesis and purification protocols. It will also further show that the specificity of the ribozyme could be programmed by simple-site specific mutations.

\textbf{DOCUMENTING CONSTRUCTS OF MASCULINITY: A DIGITAL MEDIA STUDY}

This project analyzes the contemporary American male gender role through the medium of documentary film. The project aims to deconstruct and reevaluate the meaning and relevancy of cultural expectations of masculinity, as well as attempt to understand the relationship between the biological and constructed cultural constructs of masculinity.

\textbf{THE LOST LINK IN MEDIEVAL PAINTING}

The purpose of this project is to find an approximate date for the New Testament wall painting in the Collegiate Church of San Gimignano, Italy. Finding the approximate date is important because of the great social changes that occurred as a result of the Black Death of 1348, a year close to when this work was probably painted.
A Mystery

JULIA KAMERON
Honors Scholar, Class of 2002

After traveling 12 hours by airplane, 3 hours by train and another hour by bus, I arrived in the small Italian town named San Gimignano, where I would see for the first time the subject of my senior thesis. My chosen research topic was the mysterious fresco painting depicting scenes from the life of Christ that cover an entire wall of the Collegiata, San Gimignano’s cathedral. What makes this painting intriguing is that no one knows exactly when it was painted or who painted it. I choose to study this work of art because it was probably painted around the time of the Black Death, a time I find interesting because of the occurrence of drastic social changes.

Before I left for Italy, I had read nearly everything written about this work of art, and I knew that to write a valid thesis, it would be helpful to see the painting. I received a Research and Creative Activities grant that enabled me to spend two weeks in Italy studying not only the art in San Gimignano, but also art in cities including: Siena, Florence, Assisi and Orvieto. When I walked into the Collegiata on a brisk January morning, I realize that I could not have written my thesis without seeing this marvelous painting. I spent the first few hours just looking at the painting, noticing how different everything looked in person than in the reproductions I had seen in Buffalo. The figures are dramatic, the color is vibrant, and the size of each scene is larger than I would have imagined. Even after a few hours in the Collegiata, I knew that the ideas I had formed about this painting during the previous months were mistaken. When looking at books, I saw connections to the Florentine school of art, but in person, I was able to see obvious stylistic marks of Siena’s school of artists. During my two weeks of traveling in Italy, I not only learned about art, but also how to conduct scholarly research in a foreign country. Gaining access to a few books in Florence’s main library was a half-day endeavor. It took me half an hour just to find the counter where you request books only to find out I had filled out the wrong slip!

My senior thesis does not decisively settle the questions about the Collegiata fresco, but it certainly does help to work through some important issues. After completing this project, I feel confident saying that this work of art was painted just before the Black Death, in about the year 1340, by an artist from Siena. Overall, this trip which was made possible by this generous grant was invaluable to my thesis and will help me to achieve future success in the field of art history.

The figures are dramatic, the color is vibrant, and the size of each scene is larger than I would have imagined...

During my two weeks of traveling in Italy, I not only learned about art, but also how to conduct scholarly research in a foreign country.”
Is There a Doctor in the House?

STEVE TURKOVICH
Honors Scholar, Class of 1999

There were many reasons for choosing UB over Cornell, U of R, and Canisius. The two main reasons were the Honors Program and the proximity of the medical school. I loved the philosophy of creating a small, personal academic environment within a large research university. “Perks” like honors seminars and individual advising attracted me to the Honors Program because they would allow me to interact with faculty on a more personal basis. Being at a school with a medical school and many great associated hospitals would allow me to explore the area of medicine much more closely. I could talk with current medical students and shadow area physicians in many different clinical settings. Other reasons for choosing UB and the Honors Program include: low tuition costs, proximity to my family, and a large selection of majors to choose from.

Before coming to medical school I had images of sitting in the library by myself for hours on end cramming thousands of facts and theories into my head. After my first week I realized those perceptions were grossly exaggerated. My classmates and I quickly developed a close bond. For the next two years I cultivated friendships that will last throughout my career. Now, as third years, we are immersed in clinical medicine. We are reminded of the reasons why we entered medical school as we meet patients who look to us for comfort and care. Thus far my medical school experience has been the best experience of my life.

Through the Early Assurance Program I was able to explore an aspect of medicine that is not discussed very much in medical school: health education. I became involved with the Living Well Center as a peer-health educator and developed a program to address binge drinking among young people. I also worked with Univera HealthCare’s 2 Smart 2 Start anti-smoking program. It also allowed me to spend more time at Hospice’s Life Transitions Center working with children. Most importantly my junior and senior years were not governed by the stresses of taking the MCAT and applying and interviewing at multiple medical schools. I could concentrate on unique classes in my major, explore teaching as a teaching assistant, and spend some time working.

I find the patients to be the most rewarding part of my studies. From the time you get your white coat on the first day, patients will treat you as a doctor. They will share with you their most intimate thoughts and fears. They will look to you for answers and for support. They will cry with you and they will laugh with you. They are also your most valuable teachers. My hectic schedule seems to be the most challenging aspect of medical school. Maintaining a healthy balance between my clinical responsibilities, academic studies, family and friends’ obligations, and personal interests can sometimes seem virtually impossible. I’ve learned to prioritize, sacrifice, and sleep less. The first two years of medical school have been the most challenging and rewarding thus far in my academic career.

This past New Year’s Eve I was given the privilege and honor of carrying the Olympic torch as it passed through Buffalo on its way to Salt Lake City. The evening began when I boarded a bus with 14 other torchbearers. As we traveled to each of our assigned segments of the torch relay, we shared our stories and accomplishments. There were teachers, health care workers, a breast cancer survivor, a former Buffalo Bill, college students, mothers, and mental health workers who assisted at ground zero after 9/11. Meeting these inspirational people and listening to their stories was not only a humbling experience, it was a testament to the human spirit. Given the events of September 11th, I was so proud to represent the U.S. in an event that stood for peace and unity. Carrying the Olympic flame reminded me of the power of individual passion and perseverance. The experience strengthened my pursuit to continue comforting and caring for each and every patient that I encounter.)
There's No Place Like Home

JESSICA (SEABURY) DUDEK
Honors Scholar, Class of 1994

When I returned to Buffalo in 1996 I had just completed a Master's degree in an English Literature Ph.D. program and was at loose ends as to what I should do next. I still wanted to work with college students—which is why I had initially entered the world of academics—but I desired more personal contact with students and less of the "publish or perish" mentality that seemed to prevail in academia.

Since I couldn't fully articulate my new major, I did what any self-respecting former University Honors Program student would do in times of crisis: I called my advisor, Dr. Capuana, for advice. I remember that Dr. Capuana squeezed me into her schedule at 5 p.m. on the final day of the Honors Freshman Orientation. Although this detail meant very little to me at the time, as a veteran of five (exhilarating but exhausting) summer orientations, I now appreciate her act of kindness. I am sure that by the time my appointment rolled around she was eager to rest from another round of what she affectionately terms "controlled chaos".

As I sat down across from Dr. Capuana, it was as if no time had passed. She regarded me with a thoughtful, almost piercing expression, while I outlined the details of my short-lived graduate career and stumbled through a hazy description of my ultimate goals and plans. When I finished there was a long pause, and as the silence lengthened I became an unsure, anxious, type A college student once again, wondering if I was ridiculous to bring these minor dilemmas to Dr. Capuana. And then suddenly she smiled and said, "I don't know if this would interest you, but how would you like to work in the Honors Office? My assistant director is leaving at the end of the summer."

Have you ever thought about working in the Honors Office? All departments have them—relatively unknown Oscar winners. Many departments consider them an essential part of the honors team, and several have commented that students who work in the Honors Office, and the Honors Scholar office in particular, are among their top priorities.

However, I increasingly found that I was able to relate to many of the issues that faced our students: One major or two? Which major? How to fit it all in? How do I apply to graduate (or medical or law) school? Should I apply? Then one day I realized that my transformation was complete: students were coming to see me to talk over their monumental or small, funny, and sometimes heartbreaking, academic and personal dilemmas. At the same time, I learned first hand how much time and sheer stress are involved to make Orientation sessions, Colloquium courses and recruitment events seem effortless. I now understand how difficult it can sometimes be to juggle these essential duties with the most important aspect of my job: the student. In my time working here I have come to appreciate the administration's dedication to the student; over the past five years this commitment has affected enormous change in the student experience at UB, automating and streamlining everything from bill payment to academic major changing.

That day marked the beginning of my transition from Honors student to Honors Program administrator. When I started I was only 3 years older than the graduating seniors; this year's incoming freshmen are 12 years younger—almost an entire generation— than I. These past five years have been a re-learning process, as I assimilate how things are accomplished on the other side of the desk. While it was initially awkward to go from Dr. Capuana and Dr. Herreid to Josie and Kipp, I soon felt very at home (again!) in my new role in the Honors Office. Certain adjustments were more humorous than others. On one of our first recruitment trips Josie and I had to share a hotel room. At one point she and I faced each other in our pajamas and she seemed to read my mind saying, "I bet in all your time as an Honors student you never thought you would end up at a pajama party with Dr. Capuana!"

I love my job. I love being at a university and feeling the energy of the student community, the excitement of new knowledge being created and the power of cutting edge technology. I love following the beat of the academic calendar—for me the new year always begins in August, with the smell of new books, clean notebooks and sharpened pencils. Most of all I love working with the students, whose own ambitions, energy, and passion for learning inspire me daily to reinvent myself. Sometimes this inspiration causes me to regret the chances not taken, the opportunities not seized in my own life. I feel as if I have not lived up to the Honors Scholar definition of success. I did not end up becoming a high paid lawyer or a scholarly academic. Instead I ended up as an administrator back where I began—at UB. But I love it here. I guess that would match the definition of success by anyone's standard.

Jessica (right) helps a current honors scholar choose her classes

UB

NUMBER XV | SPRING 2002
The Campaign for UB: Generation to Generation was launched publicly in October, 2001 – the largest fund-raising campaign ever by a public university in New York and New England. With more than $171 million already raised toward a university-wide goal of $250 million, this campaign will have a tremendous impact on enhancing the university and the quality of education and experiences for the students and faculty.

While state funding remains critical to UB, only 31% of UB’s annual budget comes from New York State, with the remainder derived from such sources as philanthropy, tuition, student fees, and research grants. UB’s ratio of private to public sources of funding is lower than other select U.S. public research universities. Private annual support to those institutions is roughly ten times what UB receives. Greater private support is essential if we are to achieve UB’s vision – to be recognized as one of America’s premier universities, a national and international leader in higher education that offers outstanding programs and provides cutting-edge research and exceptional public service.

The University Honors Program portion of that overall goal is $10 million, with the funds to be used for scholarship support for students, capital needs, faculty support, lecture series, and additional student support. Growth of the UB Honors Program is impossible without a significant increase in scholarship funds. Our program must be competitive so that UB will become a destination of choice for exceptional students. UB Honors Scholars create an upward spiral of overall enhancement of the university’s undergraduate reputation. They are a cadre of bright, hungry minds that are nationally courted by the best schools and faculty, but who choose UB for the diverse breadth of its academic and research experience.

Through the generosity of one anonymous donor – whose gifts to date total $6.4 million – we have been able to establish the Distinguished Honors Scholarship program. Thanks to these and other gifts, each year we are able to invite 250 exceptional incoming freshmen to participate in the University Honors Program. Participants receive merit-based honors scholarships from $2,500 to $4,000 annually, with up to twenty Distinguished Honors Scholars receiving a completely cost-free undergraduate education.

Private support is already changing the face of the university by relieving the financial burden of talented students who need assistance and enabling them to concentrate more fully on their academic work. Private support also helps us leverage federal dollars to pursue new research.

The extraordinary goals of The Campaign for UB can be attained only through the collective support of our alumni, faculty, and friends. Every campaign gift, regardless of size, makes a critical difference in the pursuit of excellence. By giving to the UB Honors Program, you will be supporting a top priority of The Campaign for UB. Your generosity will have an excellent return on your investment, and you will have the personal satisfaction of having a direct, life-changing impact on a student deserving of support.
A walk on the Great Wall of China, a stroll down Tiananmen Square, a feeling of remorse for refusing to give to an Indian beggar, a dazzling look at the port of Hong Kong, a view of a Buddhist Temple in Nara, Japan, a float down the Mekong Delta, a crawl through the Cu Chi Tunnels, a cringe at the deadly remains of a Vietnamese rickshaw, a hike up Table Mountain with the Mayor of Cape Town, a step...into Nelson Mandela’s old prison cell, a look at poverty in the segregated South African townships, a meeting with Fidel Castro, an attack by a Singaporean monkey, a trip of terror that can freeze the soul, a trip of wonder that can free the spirit.

Just another Semester at Sea.

The Semester at Sea program offers 650 university students from across the nation a chance to see the world. My voyage commenced in Vancouver, thus beginning the circumnavigation that would ultimately leave me in Miami. Along the way, we visited the culturally rich nations of Japan, China, Vietnam, Singapore, India, Seychelles, South Africa, Brazil, and Cuba. Although the stay in each of the nations was relatively brief (approximately four days), the time constraint did not stop me from taking in an immense amount from the people I met in each country. The courses that I took on board the S.S. Universe Explorer set up a framework for understanding the cultures that I would see, but my enriched awareness of the cultures came with first-hand experience. I do not attribute the colossal impressions that the voyage left upon me to the places I saw or to the physical things that I did, but rather, to the people I met, and their willingness to share their stories and perceptions on life.

A dialogue with former apartheid prisoners, a connection through play with children in Mother Teresa’s orphanage, an open discussion in a repressive Chinese regime, a mutual smile that can overcome any language barrier, a construction of a cultural bridge, an evolution of perspective, a change within my very being.

Just another Semester at Sea.
“To have a job that I enjoy in a city as exciting as Boston is like a dream come true...It’s a real pleasure to work with people who recognize and encourage my strengths, just like the Honors Program staff and UB faculty members that helped me get here.”

If you had asked me before graduation what I wanted to do when I “grew up,” I would have had a ready answer for you. I wanted to work someplace where learning was exciting, and where I could further explore my disparate interests in technology and history. You know — for a company like WGBH in Boston, America’s preeminent public broadcasting producer and pioneer in educational multimedia and access technology.

And that’s exactly what I’ve been doing since October 2000, when I became a Research Assistant for WGBH Interactive, the department responsible for the online and multimedia projects that support WGBH’s national productions. I regularly juggle three to five projects at a time, and have so far participated in some of the most significant projects in Interactive’s history.

After just two weeks on the job, I was working to create the first-ever fully accessible DVD, Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided, an American Experience production. Through the audio navigation scheme that I helped devise, we made it possible for the visually impaired to navigate and enjoy this previously sight-dependent media. I was also called upon to help meet visual research deadlines for the biggest project in Interactive’s history: the Evolution Web site <http://www.pbs.org/evolution>.

My main responsibility is to Masterpiece Theatre Online <http://www.pbs.org/masterpiece>: writing the “Links and Bibliography” feature for each title and managing Feedback and Forum mail. I am also overhauling the online Archive to include more information on the series’ 31 seasons. WGBH participates in a few Enhanced Television (ETV) trials, for which I have Q/Aed features and written reference articles for the “ETV Cookbook” about how NOVA Online and Online NewsHour have integrated interactive television into their production process. I have also worked for the Arthur Web site, and special project sites, from a psychology telecourse to a history of the modern global economy.

To have a job that I enjoy in a city as exciting as Boston is like a dream come true, cliched though that sounds. It’s a real pleasure to work with people who recognize and encourage my strengths, just like the Honors Program staff and UB faculty members that helped me get here. They created a challenging environment that inspired me to push personal boundaries and pursue an alternative Senior Honors Thesis (resulting in a 15-minute long video documentary on the Pan-American Exposition), and I will always be grateful for the moral and academic support they could be counted on to provide.

JESSICA CAVANO
Performing & Creative Arts Honors Scholar
Advanced Honors Scholar, Class of 1999
A Marriage Made in an Honors Seminar

by KARYN C. PECKEY
Assistant Administrative Director and Editor

Many alumni can attest to the fact that the Honors Program and UB have changed their lives, but it seems as though David and Suzanne (Krajnik) Toczyski took that idea one step further! Both David and Suzanne grew up in the suburbs near Buffalo and chose to attend UB for its close proximity. For David it was also the fact that he has UB in his blood. Everyone in David’s family attended UB - his immediate family spent over 50 years here (all six children, his father and five out of his six in-laws)!

The Honors Program itself has had a significant impact on both David and Suzanne as they reflect back on their experiences from their first days as honors scholars and members of the UB community. Suzanne fondly remembers her academic experiences, “UB first and foremost gave me an appreciation for the life of the mind, beginning with Dr. Peradotto’s honors seminar on Authority my first year there...” David reminisces about the remarkable sense of community he discovered as an honors scholar, “By having a small group of people in one class sharing both courses and honors activities, we had what many students at large schools lack, a small cohort of peers who can share common experiences and bond.” It is also significant to mention that David and Suzanne met their freshman year in the Honors Program, were married between their junior and senior years and are now living in Mill Valley, California with their eight-year-old son, Jack!

Both David and Suzanne earned their undergraduate degrees from UB in 1987 (David in Biology and Suzanne in Math and French). After their tenure at UB, they set off to continue their academic journey in graduate school at Yale, David in the department of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry and Suzanne in the Department of French. After they received their doctoral degrees (and welcomed Jack into their lives), the family relocated to Seattle for David’s postdoc at the University of Washington/Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Suzanne taught part-time at both the University of Washington and Pacific Lutheran University before working at PLU full-time for two more years. That brought David, Suzanne and Jack to where they are now.

Taking up residence in Mill Valley, the Toczyskis continue their extraordinary personal and academic adventure. David is currently at the University of California at San Francisco’s Mt. Zion Cancer Center. He recently received a five-year grant to support his research in yeast genetics and its applications to cancer studies. David’s interest in this field came from his father, who shared a fascination for math and science. He is passionate about work and believes “science, like art, enriches the world for those with the interest and patience to tap it.” David is an academic scientist doing basic research purely for the pleasure he derives from it.

Suzanne has always had a passion for teaching and is currently realizing that dream. Her field is specifically in seventeenth-century theater and women’s writing. She is currently an Assistant Professor of French at Sonoma State University. She cherishes her interactions with her students and enjoys her role in helping them to become lifelong learners with strong language and critical thinking skills. Suzanne’s literary interests do not stop when she leaves the classroom. As editor of French 17, an annual description bibliography for French seventeenth-century studies, she is responsible for coordinating descriptive bibliographical entries sent in by a team of fourteen contributing editors from all over the country. In addition, she also coordinates all production activity, from producing the camera-ready text to creating invoices and stuffing envelopes to keeping the books.

At home, the Toczyski’s read together as much as possible, sometimes up to two hours daily, with three books going at once! The family also enjoys camping, hiking and any chance they get to spend quality time together. David and Suzanne are living proof that the Honors Program and UB can have a profound influence on all aspects of one’s life!
As a group of Americans traveling, we were often greeted with stares and whispers on streets or among the regular civilians. It was interesting to observe the interaction between the Chinese businesspersons and American visitors. Our group was welcomed with open arms and encouraged to continue bringing western culture and business to the Chinese markets. The visits that had the most impact were those similar to the Rich Products session, where we were able to directly pinpoint markets for American products, the process in which international trade begins and builds upon, and the benefits of working overseas in such a diverse and different market.

Traveling among the hills of mainland China was something we never dreamed we would be doing. Watching the peddlers in the markets try to sell every person who walked by beautiful Chinese handicrafts or cheap sunglasses and watches was a different picture than what I had imagined. Sharing stories with students growing up with nothing to call their own except their education was breathtaking. Being able to experience all this and more due to a grant given to the Joseph T. Stewart Honors Management students was yet another reason we have to thank the University at Buffalo.

The journey we took this past January to Hong Kong and mainland China was a tremendous opportunity for every one of us. Besides experiencing Asian culture in its entirety, all seventeen of us were able to observe first-hand the definitive international business markets. We were able to venture into the intricate structures of the foreign technology industry by meeting with representatives from China Unicom, ZTE Telecommunication, and OTC of Shenzhen. We had real interaction with American representatives from the international chain of Rich Products and Hong Kong University. Perhaps most importantly, we were able to delve into the minds of students at Guangzhou University, sharing stories, experiences, and educational backgrounds and desires. Crossing boundaries from American culture into the detailed business structures of Chinese culture was a learning experience that will most certainly last a lifetime.

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With a special thanks being extended to the Freeman Foundation for providing us with such a wonderful experience, our group would also like to thank Lew Mandell, John & Susan Thomas, David Frasier, MaryAnn McQuade, and Diane Dittmar for helping make this trip such an incredible success. Thanks to the Joseph T. Stewart Honors Management Program, we were able to capture a part of the world in a way that will inspire and motivate us to thrive as internationally influenced business students for the rest of our lives.
As an Alumnus of the University Honors Program you are aware of the importance, excitement, and necessity of constantly challenging yourself as a scholar. Here at the University at Buffalo we are continually striving to offer more opportunities for academic and intellectual growth for our current Honors Scholars. One of the most exciting opportunities we have created has been to expand the breadth of internships that we offer. Since so many of you have gone on to do important and meaningful work in varied fields of study, we felt that the possibility of forming internship relationships between our alumni and current students would be important.

DRIVEN AND CURIOUS STUDENTS
As you know, students in the University Honors Program are some of the most highly motivated, curious, and academically talented in the country. To be selected as an Honors Scholar, students must present a minimum high school average of 93% and a minimum SAT score of 1300. They must maintain a 3.5 GPA overall and many carry a very heavy course load each semester. Many of our Honors Scholars have participated and published original research and gone on to win prestigious national fellowships (Mellon, National Science Foundation, Marshall, Defense Department, Goldwater, etc.). We currently have close to 900 students enrolled in the University Honors Program. The program provides a challenging and diverse academic curriculum which helps our students develop into intellectually independent and ambitious individuals. Honors Scholars possess the curiosity and competence to make them valuable collaborators to any team.

CONSIDERATION
We would like you to consider joining us in this internship initiative, which we hope, will form greater bonds and opportunities for both our students and our alumni. If you have research opportunities that could use another set of capable hands, need meaningful assistance in the day to day endeavors of your field or are looking for the chance to open up doors of possibility for other members of the Honors community this would be a great opportunity to do that! We are looking to develop opportunities for our Honors Scholars to do research in their prospective fields, to discover more about themselves, and to more accurately discern their career track.

LOGISTICS
If you believe that an internship in your office may be feasible, please contact, Nigel Marriner, Coordinator of the Honors Research and Creative Activities Program, at nmarrine@buffalo.edu or 716.645.3020. Additionally, if your office already offers internships, please don’t hesitate to send that information to us and we will disseminate that information to our students.
In order to meet increasing student demand for housing on campus, UB is planning to break ground on its fifth unit of university apartments and townhouses, Skinnersville Village, which will be located along Skinnersville Road on the northern edge of the North Campus near the Ellicott Complex. This village will be reserved exclusively for graduate and professional students and students with families. This is in addition to the four housing units that already exist: Flickinger Court (opened in 1998, available to graduate students), Hadley Village (completed in 1999 and open to undergraduates), South Lake Village (new in 2000 and available to both graduate and undergraduate students), and Flint Village (UB’s newest housing complex which opened fall 2001 and is available to undergraduates, graduates and students in professional schools). Many junior and senior honor scholars have chosen to reside in the best of off-campus living on campus. Kevin Sweeney, a senior honors scholar had this to say about his experience, “The best thing about the on-campus apartments is that you get the freedom you want and you still get to feel like a part of the university community.” For more information on - or a virtual look at - campus housing log onto www.studentaffairs.buffalo.edu.

Calling All Honors Alumni...

Do you enjoy talking about your days as a UB student? If so, we could use your help! In our efforts to bring more bright minds like yours to the university, the Honors Program uses its alumni during recruitment events to share with prospective students their personal experiences, both as honors scholars and members of the UB community. Each year, we take our show on the road as we hold receptions throughout New York State and several neighboring states (Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, and Connecticut). If you would like to assist us, please call the Honors office at (716) 645-3020.
**Alumni Updates**

What they're doing now…

**1987**

**BOB CROVELLA**
Bob is happily married to his wife Cristy, and they have two children Samantha and Alexander. He received his Master's degree in Engineering from RPI and is currently employed at NVIDIA Corporation in Texas.

**STEVE HALL**
Steve earned his Ph.D. from Cornell 1998, and is now assistant professor at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, in the department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

**1988**

**SUSAN (LADLEY) O’BRIEN**
Susan is currently living in Denver, Colorado and working as a rehabilitation physician at Craig Hospital.

**SARAH (EDWARDS) KAZMIERCZAK**
Sarah is currently a private music teacher and proud mother of three young musicians Griffith(10yrs.), Corinne(8yrs.) and Angela(5yrs.).

**RANDI WEINSTEIN**
Randi is currently a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology at the University of Arizona.

**1989**

**JONATHAN HAINES**
Jonathan is currently employed at Mindspeed as a software engineer and has recently moved to Boulder, Colorado where he enjoys spending time with his family.

**PETER KUGAL**
Peter is working as a Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin in Syracuse, New York.

**AMY (PITLUK) ROSENTHAL**
Amy is a system designer in New Jersey for a consulting company called Immedient developing e-business solutions. She has two children, Jason (4yrs.) and Allison (1yr.).

**1990**

**STACY DITTHENHAUSER**
Stacy is a pharmacy manager for Tops Markets, Inc. and plans to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

**SCOTT FRANK**
Scott is a middle school social studies teacher in the West Seneca schools near Buffalo, New York.

**ALAN HOWELL**
Currently, Alan is the Associate Band Director at Johnson City High School in New York and last fall became a Certified Brass Adjudicator for the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA). Alan also finds time to perform regularly with the Catskill Symphony Orchestra as a section Trumpeter.

**KEVIN LEROUX**
Kevin is currently the Systems Administrator for St. Lawrence County Newspapers in Ogdensburg and the Layout Coordinator for one of the dailies, the Daily Courier-Observer for Potsdam and Massena, New York. He recently moved to a house on the scenic St. Lawrence River where he spends elusive free time enjoying fishing, canoeing and photography.

**SUSAN (STEINER) STEFFAN**
Susan has three children (4yrs., 2 1/2 yrs., and 4 mos.) and in addition to being a full-time mom she is also an adjunct instructor at Medaille College in Buffalo, New York teaching Finance and Negotiations to adult students at night.

**1991**

**LISA (GASSMAN) DERRIGAN**
Lisa is working part-time at Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., in Orchard Park, New York, as a project engineer.

**FREDRICK GRECO**
Presently an Associate at McDonald, Hopkins, Burke & Haber, a Cleveland law firm, he and his wife Deborah have three children, Peter (3 1/2yrs.), Daniel (2 1/2yrs.) and Paul (3 mo.).

**STEVE HELMS**
Steve is the controller at DDM company in Buffalo, New York and has two children.

**GLENN JOSEFIAK**
Glenn is a “Senior DSP Engineer” (Digital Signal Processing) at Hippo, Inc. in New Haven, Connecticut, developing a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone.

**KENNETH PIZZUCO**
Ken is a Plant Manager for Multicolor Corporation in Cincinnati, Ohio. He and his wife Debbie have two children, Robert (3 yrs.) and Rachel (2 mos.).

**1992**

**WILLIAM BANAS**
Bill has been working in software development and Information Technology. In addition to his duties as father to a wonderful two-year-old daughter, Alexandra, he is currently an I.T./Internet consultant in the Buffalo area. In his precious spare time, he is a pilot, a youth-hockey coach, and regularly plays hockey with some of his former UB teammates. Bill is also a founding member of The New Millennium Group (NMG) of Western New York. His wife, Elissa, is also a social studies teacher, attorney, and a NMG member.

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Alumni Updates (continued)

ANDREA (FROHMAN) CIASULLO
Andrea is currently working on her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at Penn State.

DONALD COLE
Donald graduated in 2000 from the University of Virginia School of Law and is currently working at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., working mainly in Corporate and Securities law.

JAMES FEIGENBAUM
James is currently a doctoral student in the Economics department at the University of Iowa.

PAUL LEBARRON
Paul is currently a state attorney for the South Carolina Child Support Enforcement Division. He and his wife Barbara (UB 1993) have two lovely daughters.

JOHN SUTTER
John received his Ph.D. in Physics in May 2000 and since October 2000 has been employed at the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron in Hamburg, Germany, as a postdoc.

JONATHAN UNGERLEIDER
Jonathan was recently promoted to Assistant Director at Cap Gemini Ernst & Young (CGEY) where he has worked for seven years. Currently, he is doing internal Project Management and Application Development. He resides in Cleveland Heights, Ohio with his wife, Karen, and daughter, Sarah Joy, who just turned two-years old.

1993

JASON ENSHER
Jason is currently working for Precision Photonics Corporation, a company in Boulder, Colorado that makes components for measuring and controlling the optical frequency of lasers. He was recently notified that his graduate thesis advisors were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics. David participated in the discovery of Bose-Einstein Condensation, for which the prize was awarded!

KIMBERLEY (YUNKER) MAIER
Kim is currently working part-time as a pharmacist for Wegmans in Rochester, New York.

1995

STEVEN CANDELA
Steven is currently in graduate school at Harvard working on his Ph.D. in Psychology.

KEITH HERR
Keith is in his third year of Psychiatry residency at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

1996

RUSTIE (HILL) DIMITRIADIS
She is presently living in Lockport, New York and working as an Administrative Assistant to the Publisher of Niagara Frontier Publications on Grand Island. She is married to Steven Dimitriadis, also a UB Alum (1997), and they are members of Faith Tabernacle Church in Lockport, where they are very active with various ministries and Sunday School.

KAREN SCHUPP
Karen received her MFA in dance in 2001 from Arizona State University. Upon finishing her degree, Karen was hired as an Adjunct Faculty member and Research Consultant for the ASU Department of Dance. In Phoenix, she is the co-artistic director of the Schupp/Shaw Dance Company. In March, she relocated to Los Angeles to perform with postmodern choreographer, Victoria Marks.

1997

KRISTEN BUECHI
Kristen received her Master's degree from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry (2000) and is currently employed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as an environmental educator at Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve in Cheektowaga, New York.

JAMES EZICK
Jim is currently a Ph.D. student in the Computer Science Department at Cornell University.

JOE PRISINZANO
Joe is currently the Assistant Principal at Sweet Home High School, a professor of Strategic Management at Daemen College as well as President and CEO of DesignedforSchools.com. He received his Master's degree from Canisius College in Educational Administration.

STANLEY SHIH
Stanley is currently a student at UB School of Dental Medicine.

MAX SKOLNIK
Max received his Master's degree in Latin American Studies from the George Washington University in 1999 and is currently the director of a non-profit, educational program serving at-risk children in Washington, DC.

1998

LAUREN ADLER
Lauren works as a legal assistant administrator at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York City.

JESSE CONE
Jesse is finishing his fourth year as a medical student at UB and was married in May 1999 to his wife, Joanna.

MATHEW MOST
Mathew will be graduating from UB's medical school in May 2002 and will continue his training in the field of orthopedic surgery.
CHRISTOPHER PRENDERGAST
Christopher graduated from Washington and Lee University School of Law in May 2001. He is enrolled at Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business, as a member of the MBA Class of 2003.

HALIN TAVANO
Halin was promoted to Director of Student Services at Medaille College in Buffalo, New York in May 2001 and has been working there since graduation.

1999

GUY CAPPUCCINO
He is currently finishing his third year at UB’s Medical School.

KELLY CORWIN
Kelly is a graduate student in English at UC Irvine (in Southern California) this fall.

SCOTT DARLING
Scott is a 3rd year medical student at UB and is enjoying it very much!

CARL “CHRIS” REYNOLDS
Recently engaged to Jodi House, Chris is a graduate of University of Rochester in Biochemistry and native of Penfield, New York.

SCOTT SCHOENFELDER
Scott has been working the past 2 years at Fisher-Price in Marketing, now as an Assistant Marketing Manager.

JAIME STRASSBURG
Jaime received her Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering from UB in February 2001. In March 2001 she started working for Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. in Williamsville, New York as an Associate Engineer. She is also planning on getting married this spring!

MODI WETZLER
Modi is enrolled at UC Berkeley graduate school in chemistry.

2000

CARNIE ABAJIAN
Carnie is a graduate student in chemistry at Northwestern University.

DAVID ADAMS
David is back at UB and will graduate with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in May 2005. He is presently employed by Rite Aid Corporation.

ERIC BLACHER
Eric is finishing his first year as a medical student at UB!

TIMOTHY DENNIE
Tim is finishing his first year at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York.

KATHLEEN FISH
Katie is currently a second year vet student at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

CARRIE HARDER
Carrie is finishing her second year of grad school in Electrical Engineering at the University of Michigan and is loving it there!

JOE PRICE
Joe is working at GE Corporate R&D, and attending graduate school part time at Rochester Polytechnic Institute for Computer Engineering. He is engaged to Rupa Mukerji (UB 2000) and they plan to marry this year.

MARK ROBIDA
Mark is a second year graduate student in the Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology program at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

MATTHEW SHIPKEY
Matthew is enrolled in the Master’s of Planning program at the School of Community & Regional Planning, The University of British Columbia. He is currently researching and developing an agricultural preservation program for Whatcom County, Washington.

Marriages

STEVE HALL (1987) and Rebecca VanEe were married in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

TAMMY (CHENEZ) (2001) and DAVID HILMEY (2001) were married in spring 2001.


New Additions

SCOTT FRANK (1990) and his wife, Julie, adopted a one-year old baby girl from Russia last year.

LISA (GASSMAN) DERRIGAN (1991) and her husband Jim welcomed the birth of their son, Cavan Greer Derrigan on October 27, 2000.

FREDRICK GRECO (1991) and his wife Deborah welcomed their third son, Paul, in spring 2001.

KENNETH PIZZUCO (1991) and his wife, Debbie, had a baby girl, Rachel, in June 2001.

KIMBERLEY YUNKER MAIER (1993) and her husband Tom were blessed with the birth of triplet sons... Erik Nicholas, Dylan Thomas and Trevor Jacob on December 29, 2000.


If you know of a student who may qualify for admission to the Honors Program, or who would like more information, please have him or her contact the university Honors Program office at (716) 645-3020; or better yet - E-mail their name, address and graduation date to: capuana@buffalo.edu; or check out our website at www.buffalo.edu/honors.
In future newsletters we would like to include pictures of the next generation of honors scholars. That’s right — your kids!

Send in photographs of your little ones for the back cover of future alumni newsletters. Please include names and ages with the photographs, and they will be returned to you after the newsletter is printed. Send photographs to Karyn C. Peckey, c/o University Honors Program, 214 Talbert Hall, Buffalo, New York 14260.