Discovering Buffalo
Now let us celebrate Buffalo: The city with its art deco city hall and Frank Lloyd Wright’s famed Darwin Martin House; the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the Burchfield Penny Art Center, and the Olmsted Parks; its Buffalo wings and beef on weck; the Bills and Sabres; Mark Twain and Joyce Carol Oates (yes, I know she is from Lockport); Wolf Blitzer and Tim Russert; the perfect summers and the awe-inspiring winters as in the WINTER of ’77; Buffalo State, the community colleges and privates, Roswell Park Cancer Institute and our own UB muscling its way into the top ranks of the academic world; and most of all, its people, the folks who always will be Buffalonians no matter where they may roam.

What a history we have had starting with the Native Americans of the Iroquois Nation who occupied Ontario and Western New York for centuries. The city of Buffalo had an inauspicious birth when a small trading company set up shop at the head of the Buffalo Creek in 1789, but exploded with youthful exuberance into a modern commerce center when the Erie Canal flatboat captains began to float their way to town in 1825. Railroad, steel, and grain built the city into the grandest shipping center of the 19th—century world.

What a place, Buffalo: the terminus of the Underground Railroad, for slaves escaping to the freedom of Canada; the great Pan-American Exposition of 1901, where President McKinley was gunned down and Teddy Roosevelt took the oath of office; the City of Light—the first metropolis in the world to have electricity with a jump-start from the Niagara Falls.

Buffalo—the Queen City—let’s celebrate it all. The food. The sports. The music. The theater. The architecture. The famous and not so famous. And even the weather.

Especially, let us celebrate the University at Buffalo and its remarkable history. UB’s 13th President Bill Greiner and past Provost, Tom Headrick, tell the story in their 2007 book, Location, Location, Location. UB’s antecedents can be traced back to 1846 when a group of physicians banded together to form a medical school in the middle of the city, with its first chancellor, Millard Fillmore, soon to become the 13th President of the United States. No public money was involved; students paid tuition. The success of the operation led to other professional schools joining the University, first pharmacy, then law and dentistry—again running on a pay-as-you-go basis. A veterinary and teaching college followed but could not sustain themselves by this mode of operation and were short lived. So, the University was first a professional school operation for over 70 years. It may have stayed that way if it were not for the fact that the American Medical Association “encouraged” UB to change its admission policies. They and other medical schools of the time admitted students directly out of high school. The AMA called for physicians to have some formal post-secondary education before stating medical school. Getting the message, the Medical School at Buffalo quickly assembled faculty to provide a first year of general courses, the minimum required by the AMA. This approach was so successful that the other professional schools decided to follow suit, leading to the eventual development of the College of Arts and Sciences curriculum that now exists.

Fast forward 50 years as UB established itself as one of the country’s fine private universities. Then in a prolonged period of negotiations, the State University of New York was born, an amalgamation of private and public institutions. New York was the last state in the union to establish a state university system and it was determined to be the best under the leadership of Governor Nelson Rockefeller. UB decided to join the SUNY ranks in the 1960’s when it learned that it and Stony Brook would be the two major research units in the system. An exuberant period of expansion occurred throughout the next decades and is still occurring, albeit more slowly.

So let us celebrate UB along with the City of Light. UB has been an integral part Buffalo’s politics, society, and economy from the get-go, originally in its interactions with the patients in hospitals and now in its vital role as a major employer in Western New York and one of the nation’s top universities. The city and UB thrive. And the Honors College along with it, for over 28 years sending students into the community as artists, teachers, scientists, entrepreneurs, workers, business owners, and parents. Read about some of them in this issue of Honors Today and celebrate.

KIPP HERREID
Academic Director
From the Editor:

My husband Mark and I traveled to Toronto to watch the UB Bulls compete in their first-ever Bowl game!

On the Cover:

Left - City Hall, Buffalo (courtesy of hanifworld.com),
Middle – Erie Basin Marina,
Buffalo (Frank Miller),
Right – Baird Point, UB Campus (Douglas Levere).

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Assistant Administrative Director, Honors College

He Had Me at Hello

Cindy Adams
Honors Scholar, Class of 1992

The Road Home

Aaron Krolikowski
Honors Scholar, Class of 2009

Alumni Updates

What They’re Doing Now
I was surprised and flattered when asked to contribute an article about myself to the Buffalo edition of Honors Today. Since my graduation as the first Honors Program graduate in 1984 (I completed my undergraduate studies in three years), I have done nothing spectacular or notable in a public way. However, I have always had a special dedication to this area - to Buffalo, its people, its treasures and its causes beyond my own field of medicine. On my journey of continuing education in Buffalo, I was blessed to find a soul mate, my husband Andy Cappuccino, who cared about the same things I did - family, service, kindness and giving. I chose school here in Buffalo, and in the Honors Program over other offers, as I was a young mother (of daughter Jacqueline, now 27) and I wanted the support of nearby family and the comfort of familiar surroundings. While at UB and in the Honors Program I served on the Board which helped to open the UB Child Care Center on the Main Street Campus.

The Honors Program helped me explore, in a very personal way, the things that mattered to me - the sciences as a prelude to a career in medicine, time to volunteer for meaningful causes, and the ability to explore areas of interest that I knew would not be a part of my profession (art history, literature). During medical school, also at UB, my husband Andy and I added a son, Mac (now 20) to our family. Over five years of residency in New Jersey (he in orthopedic surgery and I in general surgery), we had two more sons Jake (now 17) and Nicholas (now 16) and we decided we were done growing our family. Yet while he was doing his spine fellowship in Maryland we had another little surprise, daughter Elizabeth, now 14. Now we were REALLY sure we were done, but fate gave us another wonderful opportunity, to adopt our oldest son's best friend, Andrew (now 21). So six became our magical number - "6GR8KDS" as our license plates say. To an extent, that has largely defined us - a big family in this day and age, two surgical careers with my husband's achieving national prominence after his life-saving care of paralyzed Buffalo Bills player, Kevin Everett, who is once again walking.

What really matters to us, after our children, is giving back to our community, and hopefully inspiring others to do the same. My work as a breast cancer surgeon at Roswell Park, gives me a regular opportunity to impact positively in the lives of patients.
with this terrible disease, yet I save time for other things that matter. I have served actively on many professional boards, and feel very strongly about the importance of serving on the UB Medical Alumni Association, whose main mission is to support medical students. I served as volunteer co-chair of the committee that helped to make a UB a completely smoke-free campus effective fall 2009. I have actively raised funds for United Way and the Buffalo Zoo, and now serve on the Board of Directors of UB’s Foundation and the Albright Knox Art Gallery. I have chaired the board of my children’s non-profit ballet organization for many years. I think it’s very important to give back to the community in which we live; especially since ours is such a great city, with real cultural treasures. Because we believe in the importance of sharing our good fortune, we have brought children here for needed orthopedic and spine surgeries which my husband performs (and I sometimes assist), and have traveled to Kenya to deliver such care along with our children, who are already learning the importance of service. We recently established a non-profit organization to help us continue to bring this specialty care to needy children throughout the world.

Buffalo has allowed us to nurture both our professional and philanthropic goals. My husband Andy is a transplant from downstate, like so many other UB graduates, and we chose Buffalo to raise our family for all the reasons that are easy to enumerate. He’s a transplanted “Buffalo Booster” — loves the people here, the recreation, the dining and being a part of the Buffalo Bills organization. As a featured lecturer, he often speaks at national and international spine meetings about his research in spine surgery and his product innovations, and he always includes pictures of our great town. We couldn’t have a better ambassador. Our roots in the city of good neighbors follow us everywhere. This city has an amazing tradition of generosity and service. The Honors College seems to be able to select the type of student who will not only become a leader professionally, but also an active community member who will improve the area in which they live. Reading each edition of the magazine, I am struck by the good deeds our students and alumni accomplish. It is wonderful to be a part of such a program.

GIVING TO HONORS

UB’s Honors College provides an environment for advanced intellectual growth and an unmatched foundation for life-long learning. Gifts in support of the Honors College create not only student scholarships that recognize outstanding academic merit, but also important programs such as study-abroad, research grants, and student travel funds that allow scholars to attend professional conferences and perform volunteer work. Please consider a gift to the Honors College today and know that your support will have a direct impact on current students and our future leaders.

You may send your gift using the response envelope inserted in this issue or mail your gift made payable to “UB Foundation” to UB Honors College, 214 Talbert Hall, Buffalo, NY, 14260. You can also give online at www.giving.buffalo.edu and be sure to select “University Honors College.”

For more information, please contact Don Elick, Development Director, (716) 645-2814, ext. 460, or donelick@buffalo.edu.

Thank you in advance for your support!
January 20, 2009 was a brisk winter day, not too cold by Buffalo standards, but still the wrappers of hand warmers could be found scattered over the ground once the crowd had cleared. Just minutes before, hundreds of thousands of Americans had stood on the National Mall to witness one of the greatest events in American history: the inauguration of the first African-American president, and the inauguration of a president who inspires hope in the hearts of millions. I was one of them.

Before the break of dawn I put on my Barack Obama hat and buttons and boarded the train that would take me to the Capitol with my brother Zac (Honors Scholar, class of 2007) and my father. Our fellow passengers shared our destination, excitement rippling up and down the train cars. When we arrived at the crowded Union Station, we miraculously rendezvoused with my aunt and uncle and together we joined the river of people heading towards the National Mall.

The walk from Union Station to the National Mall is the most memorable walk of my life. The streets were filled with an endless mass of people, some distracted from their destination for quick instants to buy Obama souvenirs from the unlimited number of street vendors showing off their wares. Inside the Third Street Tunnel the crowd broke into rousing chants of “O-Bam-A!” and “Yes, we did!” and choruses of “America the Beautiful” and “The Star Spangled Banner” (not to mention “Na, Na, Hey, Hey, Kiss Him Goodbye”).

My family and I held on to each other, desperately trying to not get separated in the relentless crowd, when we finally reached the National Mall. It was already half-filled with a sea of excited fellow Americans, but we were able to find a spot just in front of the Washington Monument, a jumbotron in sight.

We stood and waited for two more hours. Everyone was antsy, jumping up and down in futile attempts to regain sensation in their toes, now frozen. Finally, the jumbotron showed the politicians as they walked through the Capitol building on their way to the ceremony. The crowd cheered for most, and booed for some; we all knew that change was coming.

Finally, we saw Barack Obama walking alone through the Capitol hall, his face the perfect image of solemnity; he looked like he knew just how heavy the responsibility he was about to bear would be. The moment we had been waiting for had finally come. As soon as Mr. Obama finished his oath of office, the crowd erupted into cheers as perfect strangers shared hugs and handshakes. In President Obama’s own words “on [that] day, we [gathered] because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord.”

The election of Barack Obama is an example of the invaluable ability of Americans to join together on the basis of shared beliefs and hopes. This inauguration was an event that will go down in history as the day America began to change for the better, and I am grateful to be able to say that I was there.

Claire was also the recipient of the 2009 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship!
There’s a New Program in Town – The Academies!

When President John Simpson and Provost Satish Tripathi came to UB, they hoped to make the special opportunities of the Honors College available to all students. They planned to create communities of students focused around special interest areas such as research or public service. Last year their vision became a reality and the Undergraduate Academies were born! Currently, there are 142 students (14% are Honors Students) signed up to partake in their special programs, seminars, and trips. One of the Honors College’s advisors, Hadar Borden, was tapped to serve as director of the Academies and here are some of her insights about UB’s new adventure.

What are the Academies?

HB: The Undergraduate Academies are living and learning communities centered around three areas of interest: Civic Engagement, Global Perspectives and Research Exploration. There is a faculty member who acts as a director of each Academy and helps choose speakers, excursions, workshops and public events that are focused around their common interest. Students are encouraged to get involved and act to make a difference in their community both on and off campus. They learn how to incorporate these interests into their own undergraduate experience and eventual future career paths.

What are the benefits for students who chose to be involved in the Academies?

HB: Our students engage in projects such as Helping the Homeless, Health Professions in a Diverse World, Understanding the Global Refugee Crisis, Extreme Events, and Green Living. They interact with faculty and staff who are experts in these fields from across the University. The Academies enjoy partnerships with several University programs that afford our students guidance on undergraduate research, study abroad, career exploration and leadership skills. Here is what Marcus Caitlin (Honors Scholar, class of 2008) had to say: “The Academies have been a great place to meet faculty and friends who share my common interests and have made college a more personal experience. Being a part of the Civic Engagement Academy has given me more opportunities to volunteer and has allowed me to become involved in the Buffalo community.”

What sort of special activities do students in the Academies participate in?

HB: One of the highlights of this academic year was a tour and meeting with the Honorable Mayor Byron Brown, City of Buffalo. Our students enjoyed a bus ride downtown and discussion led by Mr. Peter Sobota, Academic Director of the Civic Engagement Academy and Clinical Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work. At City Hall, the Mayor talked about his experience and passion for civic engagement and about the types of involvement he recommends for students interested in serving in their communities as effective citizens.

These out-of-class activities help students make connections between academic concepts and real world problems. Even the “games” we set up such as a UB scavenger hunt, or our Academies version of Pictionary, or a Green Living-themed Jeopardy encourage our students to make connections that will help them continue the learning experience outside of the classroom and foster a community that encourages learning in a safe, communal environment.

The Academy Seminars do the same thing. The seminars first introduce students to the fundamental issues and approaches unique to each Academy’s discipline. Then the students identify a specific problem and develop a research plan that will help lead to a solution to the problem.

In short, the Academies are all about experiential learning.

For more information on the UB Undergraduate Academies contact us at (716) 645-8177 or email academy@ubuffalo.edu. The Academies encourage UB alumni, University faculty and staff to participate in the community. Join us and share your expertise and experiences with our students through theme-related presentations in the Academies Learning Lab, Academy Dinners and the like. Our weekly-themed topics change every semester!

Peter Sobota
Academic Director, Civic Engagement Academy
Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Social Work

“No rumors of widespread apathy among young people have been greatly exaggerated. While it may be fashionable to criticize the politics and sense of “duty” of the younger generation, based on my contacts with our students it is clear they are committed to “engaged” citizenship. Our students seek opportunities to be informed, inspired, empowered, and active change agents in many issues that face their communities.”

Claude Welch
Academic Director, Global Perspectives Academy, SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Political Science

“In the Global Perspectives Academy, we explore links between the United States and other parts of the world, as well as ties among different sections. Our seminar, America in the World, the World in America,” has helped students become aware of the marvelous diversity that exists all around us.”

Tracy Gregg
Academic Director, Research Exploration Academy, Associate Professor, Department of Geology

“In the Research Exploration Academy, we define ‘research’ as ‘generating new knowledge.’ One of my goals is to have the students realize that ‘everyone is capable of research here at UB.’”

Some of the Academies’ students with Mayor Byron Brown.
Living with Satire:  
Interning for The Colbert Report

In an interview on Fresh Air with Terry Gross, Stephen Colbert describes his character, Stephen Colbert, as “an amplification of the character I did on The Daily Show; who, even then, was a well-intentioned, poorly informed, high status idiot.1” He is a megalomaniacal, paranoid, blindly conservative pundit with a tendency toward offensive behavior and inflammatory statements. And during the fall 2008 semester, I had the distinct honor of interning on his show. When I initially applied for an internship on The Colbert Report in April of 2008, I thought it was a long-shot, to say the least. I’m a huge fan of the show, and I knew they had interns, so I was hoping to be hired for the summer term when I would not be in classes. But when I heard back from the Production Coordinator, he said that they were already full for the summer term when I would not be in classes. Not only did I end up with a great group of interns, I also had a longer period of time to work on the show, and I was there for the 2008 Presidential Election coverage and the Christmas Special (A Colbert Christmas: The Greatest Gift of All, available on DVD!).

I couldn’t pass up the opportunity to work on one of the best shows on television, so I met with my advisor to see what I needed to do to take a leave of absence. Everyone at UB was extremely accommodating when it came to making this work. My majors are Political Science and Spanish, so I worked with Dr. Claude Welch to put together a reading list for a paper that would integrate some of my experiences into a discussion of The Colbert Report and political satire on the whole. Next, I set off on an epic internet search for a place to live in New York City. After a summer spent sifting through several sketchy-looking postings, I found an affordable apartment in Queens with two great roommates (thank you, Craigslist!).

The internship itself lasted from August 25 to December 12, 2008, and by the time it was over, I wished I was going back for another semester. I worked three days a week (Monday, Thursday, and Friday), from about 10:00am to 8:00pm. Some nights we were there a bit later, and some we got out earlier (especially on Fridays). Episodes air weekly and are 22 minutes long (broken down into four acts), filmed Monday through Thursday to air at 11:30pm on Comedy Central. The studio is dark on Fridays, but the staff reports to discuss the successes and failures of the previous week, and to begin work on upcoming episodes.

The official description of the program states that “internships at the show will provide college students with the opportunity to understand the production process of a daily television show through seminars with staff members, sitting in on meetings, attending rehearsals, and shadowing a staff member. Interns also perform duties such as stock[ing] the kitchen, transcribing raw footage, purchasing props around the city, distributing scripts, and performing other assorted tasks in the production office.” One of my favorite aspects of being an intern was having the opportunity to sit in on rehearsals. The staff run through the entire show except for the interview from start to finish, work out any kinks, and test reactions to the script. As the performer and Executive Producer, Stephen Colbert has final say over what ends up in the finished product, but it is amazing to see how well everyone collaborates, and how talented and hard working the entire staff and crew are.

The guests themselves generally have some connection to politics and often consist of writers, politicians, journalists, media personalities, actors, and musicians. During campaigns, debates, financial meltdowns, and endless press releases (all accompanied by 24-hour news coverage), no absurdity was off limits. On the night that Sarah Palin was set to debate Joe Biden, Stephen created a bigger, more distracting news story (just in case she slipped up somehow) by “shooting” one of his audience members in the leg. Later, Stephen wholeheartedly agreed when McCain claimed that, had Obama accepted his invitation to participate in town-hall meetings, his campaign would not have been forced to run such negative ads. After all, “that is just Emily Post 101. If you don’t accept someone’s invitation, that person is obliged to destroy you with a brutal and bald-faced collection of lies.”

In recent years, there has been some anxious talk of young people getting all of their news from comedy shows but, realistically, without a pre-existing understanding of the political climate and current events, many jokes are simply not funny. The post-production department at The Colbert Report sorts through hours of footage from CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, C-Span, and others to find clips and stories to create the script for the show. Stephen’s rant not only comment on the stories, but on the reporting of them. In cleverly engaging its audience, The Colbert Report contributes to a more thoughtful, interested, and analytical electorate. Its influence may not manifest itself in a direct line to policymakers, but it has the potential to spark political involvement and increase the awareness of its viewers. And it was amazing to be a part of that!

Internships are almost always opportunities to gain experience in a particular field. Besides giving me experience to apply to my Political Science studies, I was hoping my summer 2008 internship would show me what I didn't want to pursue after my undergraduate career. Elected official? Let's go behind the scenes and find out what that's really like, and then maybe I can cross it off my list of possible careers. I did eventually find my answer, but of course, the experience went far beyond simply giving me the black-and-white answer that I expected.

I interned with State Assemblyman Sam Hoyt (Buffalo/Grand Island) during the summer of 2008. My supervisors were always helpful and encouraging, and made working at the office an incredibly positive experience. There was an article written to “Miss Manners” in the Buffalo News in July (7/13/08) regarding internships, in which the writer pointed out that “for internship experience to work, the employer has just as much obligation to mentor and provide a good experience as the intern has to be a good participant.” The letter also explained that the best intern supervisors will always take time to explain tasks to their interns and answer their (seemingly endless) questions, even if the supervisors know that they could complete the project in half the time. My internship mentor always maintained an interactive role with her interns, which was a reflection of the general office atmosphere. The first time I met Assemblyman Hoyt, he apologized for being away from his Buffalo office until the Assembly dismissed in June, and that now that he was back in Buffalo, the interns would have many more opportunities to accompany him to meetings and conferences.

The most outstanding part of my summer experience was accompanying Assemblyman Hoyt and my supervisor and mentor, Teresa, out of the office to a wide array of meetings, from large, public press conferences, to private meetings with only one or two people. In my eyes, the city of Buffalo has grown from an image of a smaller, struggling city to a determined, growing community; it looks completely different to me now in a very positive way.

Early in my internship, I was sent to my first event outside of the office: (former) Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton’s reception at the Artspace Buffalo Lofts on Main Street. She had spoken in Syracuse earlier that day and visited the restored Erie Canal Harbor in downtown Buffalo before making her way to the Main Street Lofts. My supervisor attended the bigger event at the Harbor, so I went to the Lofts – alone. I was incredibly nervous to be among some of Buffalo’s most prominent citizens (it wasn’t easy to get on that guest list!) and businesspeople, but I figured I had nothing to lose. It’s a learning experience and a great opportunity, I kept telling myself as I approached the remodeled Artspace building. I did my best to walk into the courtyard with confidence, and that first step was all I needed; people approached me and asked me who I was or for whom I worked, businesspeople gave me their cards, and local and state public officials acknowledged my presence with a shake or a nod. This whole public official thing? So far, so good.

Another meeting that I attended with Assemblyman Hoyt impressed me so much that it left me with the strong urge to keep learning about and helping the city of Buffalo. I suddenly wanted to know every detail of every project in the city, and I was slightly envious at the thought of what my fellow interns might be seeing and learning when they accompanied staff members to meetings and events.

This particular meeting was held at the St. Francis Xavier church on Amherst Street in Buffalo. There were plans to restore the vacant church and rectory and reopen it as a religious art and architecture museum, displaying art from denominations of many religions. The project’s executive director and secretary gave us tours of the church and rectory, and discussed the details of the plan. The new art center would cater not only to the religious faithful, but also to art enthusiasts from inside and outside of Buffalo. The beautiful and well-preserved rectory had the potential of becoming more Artspace-like living spaces, which provide affordable housing for local artists, or rentable spaces for businesses. Seeing the project on its way to realistic success was enough to inspire me. One enthusiastic board of directors, with the help of local organizations, public figures, and many loans and grants, was enough to form a detailed plan of action to turn vacant buildings into a museum and mixed-use spaces, while still preserving a local landmark. The success of these (relatively) small, single projects in the city could ultimately add up, contributing to the improvement of the economy and renewing a sense of community in the Queen City.

I look back on the educational opportunities that I was offered with gratitude. I’ve proven, at least in my circumstance, that hands-on experience in a subject will provide much more practical knowledge than reading about it in a textbook. One of the most important things I’ve learned, which is impossible to discover from simply reading a book or newspaper or listening to a lecturer, is that being a public official would not be ideal for me; despite my positive summer experience, my studies will take me in another direction. Continuing to gain “real world” experience is the only way to find what is right for me. I may not know exactly where my education and experience will take me, but I can almost guarantee one thing: it won’t be anything like what I expect.
Imagine a summer trip overseas that you had been planning for a whole semester that was suddenly, unexpectedly canceled. Do you go back to your boss and beg for your summer job back? This recently happened to me, so I began to rethink my summer options.

As an art student, I began looking for workshops that interested me from within my specialization, printmaking. Through the recommendation of a friend I found Penland School of Crafts. Penland School of Crafts is a national center for craft education located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. During the summer, Penland offers workshops to artists from around the world in a multitude of media. Textiles, clay, glassblowing and bookmaking are just a few of the options available to artists at Penland.

The class that caught my eye immediately was a large format papermaking class titled Paper and Light. Almost as an afterthought, I also decided to take a class on collographs, a printmaking process.

Thanks to a timely suggestion from my Honors advisor and a week of intense grant writing, I was able to receive the Research and Creative Activities Fund offered through the Honors College. The funding I received allowed me to fly to North Carolina for an entire month and take two workshops focusing on art practices not readily available at UB or in the Buffalo area.

In the Papermaking class I learned the basics of both Western and Eastern papermaking techniques. Western papermaking involved using a machine called a Hollander beater to beat natural fibers like flax, abaca and cotton into a suspension of fiber and water. The beaten fibers, called a pulp, can then be pulled through screens and pressed dry to create small sheets of paper. Eastern Papermaking, which originated in China around 2,000 years ago, uses fibers like mulberry, gampi and kozo that are beaten into pulps by hand with wooden mallets. The sheets of paper are created through a process of dipping bamboo screens covered in mosquito netting into pulp and then tossing the pulp off again. Every time the screen is dipped and tossed a thin layer of fiber is left on the netting. In the class we also worked together in groups to make large, four feet by four feet sheets of Asian paper. This involved using a finely meshed screen with a person holding each end of the screen. Pulp was then poured into the screen and those holding it had to work together to move the pulp around in an even pattern until all the water drained out, leaving only fibers to be dried into paper. Altogether, a very wet and messy process.

After we understood and mastered basic papermaking techniques we were encouraged to experiment with paper color and transparency. We also had a local visiting artist come in and show us how to weave reeds into structures so we could form our paper over and make sculptures. Besides making many sheets of paper to later print on I also made two paper kite structures. However, don’t ask me if my kites can actually fly…

In the second class, I learned a printmaking process called collography. A collograph is when an artist takes sheets of torn and cut paper and glues them down onto a backing board to create a matrix, or plate. The plate is then covered in poly-acrylic, which plasticizes the surfaces. The differences in height created through many layers of paper make a relief plate that can be inked and sent through a press using traditional printing methods.

The most interesting aspect of my time at Penland was how my own personal artwork changed. I arrived there in July expecting to learn papermaking and to be able to bring the skills I learned back to Buffalo with me and to use them to complete my senior thesis project. However, I came home in August with a new love for the often disre-garded practice of making collographs. While it was a process that I initially struggled with in North Carolina I eventually grew to love what I could create with cut out paper shapes. A majority of my senior thesis will be based on collographs.

Isolated from the rest of the world by the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, Penland is a place where artists leave their normal responsibilites behind and concentrate solely on their art. For me, it was an excellent learning environment without the pressures I had come to expect as an art student in a competitive school. Penland also opened my eyes to other ways of creating art outside of my normal concentration in printmaking. In the end, the most rewarding part of my time at Penland was meeting and working together with artists from all over the country. I met many people both within and outside my own artistic discipline who influenced me and encouraged me to pursue a life in art.

Amanda’s collograph “Tables and Chairs.”

Amanda (left) making a large sheet of gampi paper.
As I stand behind the endzone marker with my trumpet in hand and look in awe at the “Sea of Blue” I can’t help but think of a certain phrase coined by a coach about another Buffalo football team. “Where else would you rather be than right here, right now?” Yes, Marv Levy, former coach of the Buffalo Bills asked his team that same question and I can’t help but ask it of myself. I am surrounded by 150+ other University at Buffalo Marching Band members and we are at the International Bowl in Toronto, Canada. It has been exactly 50 years since UB has made it to a bowl game. This is historic – you can feel it.

It was an exciting season, and as a member of the marching band, I was there to see it all. There were great games, like the 30-28 victory over Temple University where Drew Willy completed a 30 yard touchdown pass to Naaman Roosevelt with less than 10 seconds left on the clock. However there were also some disappointing moments, like the 24-21 loss to Kent State in the final game of the season. It is safe to say however, that very few people ever expected the Bulls to finish 2008-2009 season with an 8 – 6 record and move on to be the MAC Champions. Throughout it all, UB fans were loyal to their team – after all, we bleed blue.

The teamwork and companionship that the 2008-2009 Bulls showed throughout the season was incredible. Because the marching band spends quite a bit of time around the Bulls at different events and at games, it was easy to see how well this team worked together. As they huddled together in the cold of winter to make sure they were all warmed up enough for another set of downs, shouted words of encouragement to their teammates from the sideline even during bad plays, it proved that this team stuck together every step of the way. That is what made them the Champions; their strength of friendship and their dedication to giving UB a new name.

As I look back now, being in the marching band opened my eyes to many different facets of teamwork, dedication, and friendship that I would not have witnessed just being another fan in the stands. Not only was I enveloped in a group of people who loved and supported their team, but the band helped me build friendships and bonds similar to those that the Bulls had with each other. Friends always come together to rally their team, and the team thrives on the support of not just their fans, but also from their friends.

So as UB gets ready for next season, it is safe to say that the 2008-09 Bulls will not be remembered just for their Championship season, but also for their dedication and the companionship that they shared with each other. Where else would you rather be?
Discovering BUFFALO

It is not unusual for college freshmen to use the day before classes start to get comfortable in their new surroundings, whether it be meeting suitemates in the residence halls, finding the location of their next morning’s classes or scouting out the best local places to eat. Opening night for this year’s incoming class of Honors Scholars had a unique twist, as they spent it learning about the past, present, and future of the city where they had chosen to attend college.

That evening Newell Nussbaumer launched the fall 2008 Freshman Honors Colloquium by encouraging students to make connections within the city of Buffalo. Nussbaumer is a co-founder of the online magazine Buffalo Rising and a long-time advocate for his native city. In speaking to the students, Nussbaumer’s passion for Buffalo was apparent; he addressed many of the negative misconceptions about the city and enthusiastically described its positive attributes and special characteristics. He also chronicled his own involvement in Buffalo’s revitalization, including co-founding both the Elmwood Festival of the Arts and Buffalo Old Home Week. Nussbaumer challenged the students to make their own contributions to the city through the Colloquium community service projects and to become an ongoing part of the city’s exciting rebirth during their next four years at UB.

Community service has always played an integral role in Freshman Honors Colloquium. Over the past two years, the class has moved to a service-learning model, which fosters links between the service that the students perform in the community and the academic content in the classroom. The course now centers on the Buffalo community, with students learning about the city through tours and guest speakers and then performing their group service projects in the city itself. To further the connections between their academics and service, students are divided into groups based on their intended majors; ideally the groups select projects that enhance or compliment their career goals. Students must also submit a group research paper on an issue related to their service project and give a final presentation at the end of the semester.

During September 2008, students chose from several two-hour tours sponsored by Buffalo Tours, including “Buffalo 101”, “New Digs Downtown”, and “In the Shadow of the Peace Bridge”. Says Harvey Garrett, urban activist and Executive Director of West Side Community Collaborative, “One of the goals of Colloquium is to connect students to the city where they will be living and studying for the next four years. This helps to provide context to their studies and almost always results in the students becoming more attached to Buffalo and the surrounding area. Through these efforts we are seeing more and more students falling in love with Buffalo and deciding to stay after graduation and contribute to our renaissance. Some of the most rewarding examples of this are those students who grew up in the surrounding suburbs but never really connected with the city until now.”
Garrett, whose energy and Buffalo networks are seemingly endless, has been instrumental in bringing the city into the Colloquium classroom. This year, as part of a pilot program intended to focus the students’ service learning within a particular neighborhood, he agreed to oversee one of the four sections of Colloquium. His Wednesday afternoon section concentrated on the West Side of Buffalo, and the 75 students in that section took special tours of the neighborhood that they would later perform their service in. Many of the students had preconceived notions and fears about spending time in a neighborhood stereotyped as dangerous and violent. The tours served to dispel these myths and to newly familiarize the students with their city and its inhabitants. Bridget Hughes, a Williamsville native, says, “The tour of the West Side that I took before beginning my project did a lot to change my perception of the area. I saw how much better it was than I had expected, and I saw how many of the residents really wanted to make their neighborhood a better place to live. After seeing the freshly painted buildings, the neighborhood garden store, and homes that were being fixed up and re-sold, I was really excited to get started on the project, because it felt like I would actually be able to help and make a difference.”

Garrett lined up service projects on the West Side for all 14 groups in his section. Several projects were smaller pieces of long-range policy making, and many entailed research, data gathering or marketing for non-profits in the area. For instance, Hughes’ group made an asset map of West Side youth services, charting the available tutoring, recreational and other youth-based programs currently available. This map will in turn help forecast what additional programs are needed. The group also decided to volunteer at a neighborhood community center, assisting with Halloween crafts and activities. The entire experience changed the perspective of these freshmen. In his final reflection paper Bilal Qureshi wrote, “I truly learned many valuable things. The kids were just regular kids with less privileges and luxuries than those whom I’ve come across most of my own life. This environment was their home, whereas to me, it was a different world. Growing up in a different lifestyle, I realize that I have not been nearly as grateful as I should have been. This experience truly opened my eyes to the world.”

Nussbaumer’s enthusiastic speech left an equally indelible impression on the Honors freshmen. Following his talk, several groups contacted him for project ideas. Nussbaumer connected one such group with the Western New York Sustainable Energy Association Trust, an organization that has been working to build a solar-powered Herschell carousel on the Buffalo waterfront. The Honors students worked directly with Joan Bozer, who spearheads the carousel project, to promote it to local leaders and politicians and to garner support within the community. The project already has a carousel enclosure, horses, a head architect and head engineer, but it currently lacks land for the structure and the necessary funding.

Most of these students were pleasantly surprised to find out that service-learning could entail more than sorting canned goods or picking up trash. They appreciated the sense of empowerment that they derived from having their voices play an important role in reviving Buffalo’s waterfront and in making the city a trailblazer in renewable energy use. Pre-medicine freshman Josh Fuller wrote of his own self-discovery during the semester, “I now see that there are many ways to help people, not only through medicine, but also through improving the community itself. I learned how badly I want these ideas to be followed through and about my own concern for the state of our planet.” Ashely Humphreys, a Western New York native, concurred, saying, “I have learned so much about myself, my group members, my topic, and the city of Buffalo as a whole. This project is the only reason I have ever set foot inside the actual city and I am glad I got to experience that.” In fact, the group became so enthusiastic about the carousel project that its members decided to continuing working with the organization during the spring semester.

Nussbaumer was also approached by another group comprised of dance and physical therapy majors, and he agreed to be their…

“Through these efforts we are seeing more and more students falling in love with Buffalo and deciding to stay after graduation and contribute to our renaissance. Some of the most rewarding examples of this are those students who grew up in the surrounding suburbs but never really connected with the city until now.”
Discovering Buffalo (continued)

project supervisor as they worked to install a large-scale Twister-like board in downtown Buffalo. In their final report the group stated, “Our group decided that we wanted to go above and beyond the standards previously set for this class. We also knew that we wanted to make a direct impact on the city of Buffalo, and see how we could help to make a difference in this new place that we are beginning to call home.”

The group envisioned their project, which they renamed “Blizzard” in honor of Buffalo’s infamous weather, as adding something youthful and positive to the downtown landscape, and hoped that it might inspire other such student-led art projects. The students researched the layout and design of the game board, as well as what kinds of paint and materials would withstand the outdoor elements. They contacted several concrete companies until they found one willing to donate the labor and materials to complete the game board. They also needed to meet with numerous city officials and submit a formal project proposal to the city for approval. Kasey Buecheler wrote of the experience, “It still amazes me how we were able to think of such an important project that we would be meeting with City Hall officials and professional construction companies, and that they would actually listen to what we had to say. Because of this, I feel like the part of our service I enjoyed the most were these meetings. Even as mere college students, I feel like we handled things and were dealt with as adults. I cannot wait to see our permanent mark on Buffalo.” As James Maska stated in the group’s final presentation, they learned from Nussbaumer and from their work on the project that for the city of Buffalo the focus should not be on what isn’t, but what could be. While the group did not receive the necessary permits to begin construction before the end of the semester, they were planning on continuing with the project in the spring.

One of the central tenets of service-learning is incorporating service into the students’ future academic careers. Service learning can be viewed as part of a continuum of student experiences, beginning with community service, leading next to service-learning, then to internships and finally to a career. Margaret Scott’s group worked with the Central Terminal Restoration Corporation on downtown Buffalo’s Central Terminal, and her experience exemplifies this model. While she and her group members performed mostly manual labor at the terminal for their Colloquium project, Scott, a mechanical engineering major, plans to return there as part of the student club Engineers for a Sustainable World. She notes, “This project opened my eyes to the possibilities I will have in the future. I now know what kinds of projects I can get involved with at the undergraduate level—from designing a new elevator system or a unique lighting system for the terminal—to help prepare my resume for graduate school and beyond.” Scott and the other members of the group all commented on how impressed and moved they were by the architectural beauty of the old terminal, and how attached they became to its plight.

This sentiment was expressed in the final reflection papers of many of the students, echoing Garrett’s own hopes that the course would bind these students more closely to the city. This connection is perhaps best summed up in Delaney Marsco’s closing comments, “I realized how attached I have become to the city of Buffalo. I lived outside the city in Lockport for most of last year, but I never really got to experience the city in such a detailed and hands-on way. After getting to know how rich in history it is, and how many warm-hearted people comprise it, I grew fond of Buffalo. It really has become a home away from home. I was inspired to take Buffalo into my heart.”

“Growing up in a different lifestyle, I realize that I have not been nearly as grateful as I should have been. This experience truly opened my eyes to the...”

The Honors College was awarded the District Group Volunteer of the Year Award for the New York State Health Care Facilities Association for their volunteer work at Northgate Health Care Facility!
He Had Meat at HELLO

CINDY ADAMS
Honors Scholar, Class of 1992

I’ll bet we all had meaningful (or at least memorable) love affairs at UB. Mine began in 1988: he had me at hello. Of course, I refer to Distinguished Teaching Professor Dr. Robert Daly. I’m quite certain that his influence is one of the main reasons that I am writing in Honors Today about my happy life as a teacher at Clarence High School in Western New York instead of sending a dispatch from my wildly exciting camel-riding-through-the-Sahara-sabbatical! As a high school senior freighted with good SAT scores, great recommendation letters, a slew of extracurriculars, and an outsized fear of being too far from the 716 area code, I was moderately interested in UB. At that Saturday information session in the Kiva Room, I took a smattering of notes on the stipend, the early registration benefits, the freshman seminars with wonderful professors (the significance of these perks being a little lost on someone whose main concern at the time was when to debut the hunter green mascara recently purchased at Vix). And then, Josie introduced him. When Dr. Daly started talking about Hawthorne, Melville, Dickinson, Boston, Ireland, Puritans, poetry, Occam’s razor for goodness sake, I was hooked. Here was someone funny, thoughtful, inspiring, riveting, compelling, mind-stretching! Suddenly college seemed much more appealing.

I stalked him during my undergraduate years. President Sample and Dr. Daly are teaching a seminar? Guess who is first to sign up. Dr. Daly is teaching Yeats? Guess who studies in the UK for a semester. Dr. Daly loves Hawthorne? Guess who moves to Boston after college. Dr. Daly introduces the loveliness of Willa Cather’s My Antonia? Guess who re-reads the book annually and does a five-week NEH fellowship on the book eighteen years after first reading it in his class. Dr. Daly encourages further discussion by asking, “Can you say more?” as reticent students attempt to articulate their thoughts? Guess who says this ten times a day to her own students now. Dr. Daly makes his students want to run out and read all the books in Lockwood Library, to be endlessly curious, to be fascinated by nearly everything in the world? Guess who is so proud to be a teacher.

For the past seven years, I’ve been a high school English teacher, and it is the best life I can imagine, no matter what complaints might creep in to my Facebook status updates. Truly. I spent my twenties in very challenging, frustrating, inspiring and busy jobs at Harvard. I worked for and with some of the smartest and most interesting people in the world, and UB prepared me to appreciate, to learn, and to contribute to that vibrant academic life. I had so many opportunities, not a few late nights, and have many lasting memories of the 1990s in Cambridge. I did conference planning at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and got to travel to Italy and France; I met Madeline Albright! And the king of Benin! And I flew with other staffers to an aircraft carrier off the coast of Virginia to watch flight operations! I met George Stephanopoulos and discovered that he is very short. I was sent out to buy Nicorette for E.J. Dionne (Washington Post) when a meeting went on too long. I know how Professor Jeffrey Sachs (now at Columbia and famously friends with Bono and the Jolie-Pitts) takes his coffee. I was seated next to Barack Obama when he was at Harvard for a conference just after he had been elected state senator (And I saw baby pictures of Malia!). And I found a new Bob to stalk: Professor Robert Putnam. I was a lowly research assistant and secretary and moved with him to the Kennedy School of Government where he continued his research on civic engagement in America; I am cited in one of his books! I made great friends and heard some once-in-a-lifetime speeches (Lech Walesa, Nelson Mandela), bought a thousand books (conservative estimate) and wouldn’t trade my time in Boston for anything.

But after my mom’s death, and with the specter of my 30th birthday looming, the typical New Year’s resolutions to change my life and do something of lasting value and worth suddenly became a tangible plan. I wanted to invest in other people; I wanted to truly matter; I wanted to teach. In a recent e-mail, Dr. Daly reminded me of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s words: “The true romance, which the world exists to realize, will be the transformation of genius into practical power.” When I returned to Buffalo for the one-year teaching certification program at the GSE, I was not sure where I would end up ultimately (North Carolina? Arizona? Back in New England?), but I knew what I wanted to do.
The Road Home

AARON KROLIKOWSKI
Honors Scholar, Class of 2009

There we were, ten students from around the country sitting at a dining table in one of the most opulent hotels in New York City, all awaiting our chance to face a panel for one of the world’s most prestigious awards: the Rhodes Scholarship. Represented institutions ran the gamut: Georgetown, Stanford, Columbia, Carnegie Mellon, an assortment of other liberal arts colleges, and one school that hadn’t seen a student at this table in twenty years: the University at Buffalo. We were all wearing better than our “Sunday-best,” making nervous conversation, and avoiding the extensive spread of food due to our tumultuous stomachs. When I was looking at colleges as a senior at Griffith Institute High School (in Springville, NY), I gauged the success of schools and Honors Programs by the number of Rhodes, Marshall, and Truman scholars they produced; needless to say, back then, UB was far from the top of my list.

However, I did eventually choose UB and now, upon reflection, interpret my chance at the Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships as the end of a chapter in my life that I could have never previously imagined. For those who don’t know,
both awards are competitive on a national level and fund graduate study in the UK, with the Rhodes specifically intended for the University of Oxford. I won’t keep you in suspense – although I was a finalist and interviewed for both, I didn’t win either of the awards. But as it’s sometimes said, a story is not made by only the last chapter – the journey was indeed more important than the final destination (and a dinner at the St. Regis).

I’d be lying if I said that UB Honors hasn’t had an important part in shaping my life. Indeed – almost everything the panelists asked about had roots in experiences I’ve had throughout my undergraduate career as an Honors Scholar. They were particularly interested in my time in Africa and what I took from the experiences in terms of how I now view the world. I recently read through my grant application written two years ago for the Research and Creative Activities Fund. In the Spring of 2007 I wrote an almost prophetic statement “this…will further my academic goals and become a centerpiece of my undergraduate education.” I went to Africa during the summer of 2007 to establish an agricultural development program in a six village-area of Northwest Tanzania. That project was only possible with the money granted by the Honors College – and it provided me with the kind of experiences sought out by scholarship committees and graduate schools – and it has indeed become the centerpiece of my undergraduate education.

The scholarship committees were also very interested in research experience, and I realized that even before my trip to Africa, Honors was pointing me in the right direction. On a recommendation from Dr. Josephine Capuana at the beginning of my sophomore year, I contacted the Director of the Regional Institute, Dr. Kathryn Foster. From this hot tip, I ended up with an internship and a job for a year doing environmental policy research for the region’s public policy think tank. While I was at the Regional Institute, I found my calling in the census, environmental, and public health data that were part of my daily activities. The picture painted by the convergence of these data in areas like the East Side of Buffalo and Tonawanda inspired me to begin working with a few community groups to remedy some of the environmental issues impeding economic and human development in Western New York.

I’ve also been given direction by a few professors who, in addition to Dr. Foster, wrote some of the eight letters of reference needed for consideration for the Rhodes Scholarship. (The Marshall only required four.) Two of these professors are linked to me through the Honors College: Dr. Claude Welch of the Political Science Department is my Honors Mentor and I met Dr. Joseph Gardella at the Honors College unveiling in the Fall of 2007. My fourth reference for the Marshall and Rhodes was the one and only Dr. Clyde [Kipp] Herreid, Director of both the Honors College and the National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science (where I had my first college job). Without the Honors College and the experiences it has facilitated, I don’t believe I would have had enough solid references to be a competitive candidate.

So, as I continue my march forward into the future, I will do so without the aid of a Rhodes Scholarship or Marshall Scholarship. The two students who did win the Rhodes that day (the committee interviews, deliberates, and informs candidates of the decision on the same day) were highly accomplished in their own right: one student from Columbia who studied international development under Jeffrey Sachs (a “rockstar” of sorts in the field of development economics) and a genetics student from City College in NYC who spoke six languages fluently and is now mastering Hungarian. I intend to join these students at Oxford next year and continue my work which will someday change the way we approach development in areas connected to extensive freshwater ecosystems (i.e. the Great Lakes). I owe quite a bit to the Honors College and to UB as a whole for the guidance, life advice, and experiences that have contributed to who I am today.

Aaron was recently awarded The Clarendon Scholarship. This scholarship is offered by Oxford University Press to select incoming international postgraduate students. His award is worth full tuition (16,500 pounds), college and university fees (3,000 pounds) and a living expenses stipend worth 13,290 pounds. The duration of this award is for four years, enabling Aaron to read for a doctor of philosophy (D.Phil.) degree in Development Studies.

Aaron was also named to the 2009 USA Today’s All-USA College Academic Team and is a 2008 Morris K. Udall Scholar.
Alumni Updates  What they’re doing now…

1985
TRACY MAYNE
For the last three years Tracy has been Director of Global Health Economics at Amgen. He lives in Thousand Oaks with his husband Brett and sings with the Los Angeles Gay Men’s Chorus, and also does some cabaret from time-to-time. His book The Insider’s Guide to Graduate Programs in Clinical and Counseling Psychology is going into its 13th edition.

1987
MUKESH JAIN
After nearly 16 years at Harvard Medical School for much of his clinical training and initial faculty appointment, Mukesh moved to Cleveland as founding Director of the Case Cardiovascular Research Institute at Case Western Reserve University. His wife is a radiologist at the same institution and they have two children ages 9yrs. and 14yrs.

1990
CAROL (BEZIO) DIACHUN
Carol is Associate Professor of Anesthesiology at University of Rochester and Director of Vascular Anesthesiology. She is married to Nathan Diachun, Ph.D. (Honors Scholar, 1990) and they have three boys - Jason (6yrs), Logan (4yrs), and Ethan (17mos).

JOHN NEUMANN
John is putting the finishing touches on the second Tea With Warriors album, “Niagara”, which he expects to release this Spring at CDBaby and on iTunes. It contains instrumental music inspired by the river and the region.

RUSSELL WASHBURN
Russell is currently working for a subcontractor for NASA Marshall supporting the new Ares-1 rocket. He also completed Space Camp for Adults and successfully rode on the 3g centrifuge!

1991
SUSAN (STEINER) STEFFAN
Susan was named Clinical Assistant Professor of the School of Adult and Graduate Education at Medaille College in Buffalo, NY. She teaches accounting, finance, and strategy courses in the B.B.A., M.B.A. and M.O.L. Programs.

1992
ANDREA (FROHMAN) CIASULLO
Andrea is a propulsion engineer at Delta Air Lines.

1993
JASON ENSHER
Jason was recently named a Finalist for the 2009 Industrial Applications of Physics Prize of the American Physical Society for his work applying External Cavity Diode Lasers to Holographic Data Storage.

1996
HEATHER DYE
Heather is in her second year on the tenure-track as a mathematics professor at McKendree University.

1997
JASON BELLOWS
Jason is an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine as well as Associate Student Clerkship Director at Georgetown University Hospital. Last year he was awarded the “Golden Apple” teaching award from the students at Georgetown and was the first emergency physician in the 30 year history to win it!

1998
JESSE CONE
Jesse is completing his fellowship at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, NY. He and his wife have two boys (4yrs. and 2yrs.). He will be working as a staff non-invasive cardiologist in Cooperstown, NY.

2000
MICHAEL PROWATZKE
Mike currently works as a biological science technician for the National Park Service at Richmond National Battlefield Park in Virginia.

2004
DONALD KO
Donald is attending the Simon Graduate School of Business at the University of Rochester.

2005
SAMANTHA GOSCH
Samantha is currently working as a Development Associate at Heritage Christian Services, a nonprofit organization that supports over 1,400 children and adults with developmental disabilities. She is also getting married in October 2009!

2000
JACLYN RUMINSKI
Jaclyn is a Lockheed Martin Employment Representative.

2004
EVAN HALSTEAD
Evan is a Ph.D. student in the physics department at UB.

2005
SUJATA SOFAT
Sujata is in her fourth year of medical school at UB and is applying for a general surgery residency in the northeast.

2004
TIMOTHY SILVERSTEIN
Timothy is a Management Associate at National Fuel Gas Company.
2006

JORDAN CHANLER-BERAT
Jordan is currently a second year medical student at New York Medical College.

WILLIAM CHAPMAN
William will begin attending Harvard Law School in September, following a two-year deferral.

JENNIE DONOFRIO
Jennie will be graduating from UB’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program in May 2009.

ANDREW GALLAGHER
Andrew is a High School Physics teacher, working at Sacred Heart Academy in Buffalo, New York.

MICHELLE KLINE
Michelle earned a Master’s Degree in Biological Anthropology from UCLA, and is currently working toward her Ph.D. in the same program.

KARI (LUND) RATKA
Kari is currently teaching Elementary Art K-5 for the School District of Palm Beach County, Florida.

2007

WILLIAM CALABRESE
William is currently in his second year of the Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at UB.

BRIAN DANIELAK
Brian is now a doctoral student specializing in Science Education Research at the University of Maryland, College Park.

MATT KOSLOSKI
Matt is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences at UB.

JONATHAN KESSLER
Jonathan is currently a second year medical student at UB Medical School.

MATT PARDO
Matt is currently an Apprentice for River North Chicago Dance Company. He also teaches at dance studios throughout the Greater Chicago area.

DAVID SPIRA
David is in his last semester in Rutger’s Master in Communication and Information Studies program. He is also finishing up as a Johnson & Johnson Fellow. He’s been working for J&J on various corporate web initiatives and does much of the management of the company’s web site: www.jnj.com.

STEPHEN STOCKING
Steve is performing on stage and in films in New York City. He recently worked with OBIE award-winning company Les Freres Corbusier in a sold out run of ‘Dance Dance Revolution’ at the Ohio Theatre.

Births

MELINDA (TYRON) DAVEY (2002)
and her husband Phil had their first child, Kyle Robert Davey, during the summer of 2008.

ABHILASHA (SINGH) JONES (1996)
and her husband Mike welcomed Nathan Kumar Jones on October 30, 2008!

Marriages

KARI LUND (1996) was married in June 2008 to Steven Ratka.

AMY PIWOWAR (2000) married GARY GLASER (HONORS SCHOLAR, 2003). They are expecting their first child in July 2009!

Get connected with other Honors Alumni!

In our ever-increasing world of technology, web-based social networks are forming to get and keep people in touch. Honors Alumni have found such connections through facebook (there is a group (alumni created and maintained) called “Honors College, University at Buffalo” where current students and alums of all classes can join). Other alums use LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com) as a tool to network and make connections. The Honors College encourages you to (re)connect and network!

In Memory

HEATHER WEEKS (2005)
Heather passed away from colon cancer on November 14, 2008. She was very proud of her time and her accomplishments at UB. She traveled extensively through Latin America with Sesame Street Live after graduation and moved to NYC. When she started having health issues she took a job as executive assistant at the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund and really fell in love with her job.

Anyone wishing to read her blog or hear eulogies from her service can do so at hopeforheather.com