

Believe!

SPRING 2008

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Law school planning moves forward

Binghamton University recently received \$3.5 million in funding from the state to continue development of a law school to expand educational opportunities for students.

“Our proposal is an outgrowth of our strategic planning process to not only grow in size, but also increase the breadth and depth of our academic offerings,” President Lois B. DeFleur said. “We have a firm foundation on which to build a first-class law school.”

“We’re currently developing the curriculum and planning for a sustainable base of support for the academic excellence to which we aspire,” said Mary Ann Swain, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Many Binghamton students who have entered law school have benefited from the rigor of the University’s undergraduate programs, including history, philosophy, politics and law, and political science. “A law school will draw on strengths we already have in undergraduate and professional education, which derive from the excellence of our faculty,” said Swain.

There is also strength in the quality of Binghamton graduates who apply to law schools. The 2006-07 annual report from the Pre-Law Office notes that 83 percent of Binghamton’s 140 senior applicants



were accepted into law school — compared to 71 percent nationally.

The impact of a law school at Binghamton would be far-reaching, DeFleur said, raising both the intellectual capital as well as the economic vitality of the region and the state. “The influx of talented students and faculty will enrich other fields of study and create cross-disciplinary opportunities for faculty and students,” she said.

In addition, standard economic projections indicate new expenditures would reach \$10 million annually within five years, with an estimated annual impact of \$26.4 million on the region and \$33.7 million on the state.

“Our goal is to become one of the best public law schools in the

nation,” DeFleur said. Graduates with superior academic records from highly regarded law schools will have the best job opportunities and will increasingly find work in nontraditional areas.

“We’ve done a great deal of preliminary planning and checked its veracity with an American Bar Association-recommended consultant,” Swain said. “We also plan to offer an innovative 3 + 3 program that will enable students to earn their bachelor’s degree and a juris doctor degree in six years.”

To support establishment of the law school, visit <http://think.binghamton.edu>, sign up as a University advocate and make your voice heard by legislators and decision makers.

Love of sports brings couple together, spurs gift

A quarterback's awesome throwing arm and an affinity for sports brought them together as freshmen. She played on the women's intercollegiate basketball team that year, and they both participated in about any intramural or co-rec sport they could shoehorn in between classes.

They — Joe Haleski and Kate Lynch, both '88 — met the first night of Orientation on campus, and, though most people thought they were dating because they played sports together a lot, he dated her roommate. Then, Joe saw Kate throw



a football. "I think we got married because I could throw a football further than any girl he knew," said Kate, who married Joe in 1989.

Their life on campus was always about competition and sports. "I'm very competitive," said Joe. "I hate to lose." Co-rec football was a favorite. "In Hinman, we used to play co-rec football in the quad," he said. "We actually started a group called the Hinman Referees and Grounds Crew Association (HRGCA) and we'd get peat moss and rakes and shovels to care for the field so we could play.

"A huge part of my life was with the same group of guys from our dorm in Cleveland Hall," said Joe. "We played all the sports together. Eventually, we became known as The Rogues, a core group of about 10 or 11 guys, who played any and every sport, whether co-rec or intramurals. We even had a co-rec inner-tube water polo team."

Their love of the games and of competition continues to be a strong theme for the Haleskis, who have made a \$100,000 gift to support Binghamton University's Division

I basketball program. "We decided that we should start giving back to the school," said Joe, who earned his bachelor's degree in economics and is now COO of Duquesne Capital Management in Pittsburgh. "We're fortunate enough and had a great time at Binghamton and want to try to make it well known that Binghamton's a great place to go."

Kate, a Decker School of Nursing graduate, said the gift is also about providing opportunity for athletes. "We've known through the years some really great athletes who, without athletics, might not have had the opportunity to do what other kids can," she said. "This provides a window for them to get a better education."

Meanwhile, the Haleskis have passed their passion for sports along to their 13-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter. Joe is assistant coach for his son's ice hockey team, and Kate is on the team's board. And, yes, Joe and Kate's competitive spirit remains alive and they take part in athletic activities whenever they can.

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Vice President for External Affairs and Executive Director,
Binghamton University Foundation
Marcia R. Craner

Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing
Chris Ritter

Director of Publications
Greg Delviscio

Director of Communications
Katie Ellis

Copy Editing
John Wojcio

Art Direction
David Skyrca '85

Photography
Jonathan Cohen

\$1.5M NIH grant supports malaria study

Binghamton University scientists hope to understand how the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* evolved resistance to the once-effective medication chloroquine. Their study has received a \$1.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

“Malaria is responsible for 1-3 million deaths a year, most of whom are children under five in sub-Saharan Africa,” said J. Koji Lum, associate professor of anthropology and biological sciences, principal investigator for the grant. “This is equivalent to the death toll from the attacks of 9/11 every eight to 24 hours.”

Lum and Ralph Garruto, professor of biomedical anthropology and a co-investigator on the grant, together have approximately 11,000 archived human blood samples from malarious regions of the Pacific, collected from the 1950s to the present. The samples will be analyzed and researchers will document the accumulation of genetic changes that resulted in chloroquine’s treatment failure in the Pacific.

Malaria is relatively easy to eliminate in places that have a good healthcare infrastructure. In the developing world, particularly in the tropics, the disease is treated primarily through chemotherapy, Lum said.

The problem is that parasites develop resistance to the drugs over time. This study will help scientists understand how malaria parasites evolved resistance to chloroquine. They also hope to learn lessons that may be relevant to current treatments and their interactions with the disease. Ultimately, a better understanding of past episodes in the evolution of drug resistance will help doctors get the maximum possible impact from newer drugs.

Other studies have had to rely on theoretical modeling of resistant parasites to infer how they evolved. Lum and Garruto expect to be able to directly observe the accumulation of the nine mutations in the transporter gene that confer resistance to chloroquine. They’ll study parasites collected during the past 50 years and stored in the freezers of the



J. Koji Lum

NIH-BU Biomedical Anthropology archive.

Lum considers malaria the most important infectious disease in human history. It continues to exact a devastating toll, in part because the resulting loss of education, work and young lives creates a cycle that makes it nearly impossible for nations to rise from poverty.

TWO DEANS APPOINTED

Binghamton University has named two experienced educator-administrators as deans, effective July 1.

Donald Nieman, an historian who has been the dean of Bowling Green State University’s College of Arts and Sciences for eight years, has been named dean of Harpur College of Arts and Sciences. S.G. Grant, associate dean of teacher education and chair of the Department of Learning and Instruction at the University at Buffalo, will serve as dean of the School of Education.

Nieman received his bachelor’s degree from Drake University and his doctorate in history from Rice Uni-



Donald Nieman



S.G. Grant

versity. At Bowling Green, he was responsible for the academic leadership and fiscal management of a college of 21 departments, three schools, 487 full-time faculty members, 11 doctoral programs, more than 20 master’s programs and undergraduate programs that serve almost 5,000 students.

Attracted to Binghamton because of Harpur College’s record of excellence, its commitment to undergraduate and graduate education as well as its high-quality research and creative work, Nieman looks forward to fruitful interdisciplinary collaborations with faculty across the University.

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CLASS BREAK



Left: Dozens of Binghamton University students, faculty and staff traveled to Albany, N.Y., in early March to advocate with legislators on behalf of the University. Here, from the left, Joshua Kay '08; Darryl Wood, president of the Binghamton chapter of United University Professions; Assembly Majority Leader Ronald Canestrari; President Lois B. DeFleur; Arun Gowda, with Micro and Nano Structures Technologies, General Electric Company; and David Lee, president of the Binghamton chapter of the Civil Service Employees Association, meet in Canestrari's office. Below: At Binghamton University's Advocacy Day in Albany in March, State Sen. Thomas W. Libous, joined by President Lois B. DeFleur, spoke with Vernon Wells at the Endicott Interconnect (EI) display, which highlighted the firm's partnership with the University.



Television journalist and CNN special correspondent and anchor Soledad O'Brien spoke at Binghamton University's inaugural Fall Commencement on Sunday, Dec. 9, 2007, urging graduates to define their own success and take responsibility for achieving it.



Rory Quiller '07 speaks to the audience at the varsity awards program. He is the first Binghamton athlete to win an NCAA Division I championship, earning the honor at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships with a pole vault of 18 feet 1/2 inch. Quiller earned All-America honors three times.

Joel Thirer, director of health, physical education and athletics, presents a plaque to volleyball player Jacki Kane '08, Binghamton University's Female Athlete of the Year and recipient of the John Bilos Alumni Award for career performance in athletics. Kane was a three-time first-team volleyball all-star.



Foundation Board welcomes new members

The Binghamton University Foundation welcomes seven new members to its board of directors. They join an active group of volunteers and staff who raise funds to further the purpose and mission of the University; foster and maintain partnerships with alumni, parents, friends and members of the University community; match institutional fundraising priorities with donors' charitable intentions; and steward assets that are held in trust for the benefit of the University. Please welcome these new members:

Steven Bloom '78 has more than 24 years of experience in the investment and hedge-fund industries where he has had responsibility for investments including portfolio management, manager research and due diligence.



In 1996, he and his wife established the Bloom Family Scholarship, awarded to a full-time Harpur College junior or senior with superior academic merit (GPA 3.5), proven financial need and involvement in extracurricular activities that benefit the University or area community.

Doris E. Braun '83 is a director of Global Transaction Banking at Deutsche Bank AG, and is the Americas regional head of Account Management and Service for Deutsche Bank's Cash Management organization. She previously worked for other foreign financial institutions in credit, treasury, relationship management, client support and operations. A longtime supporter of



the University, Braun is a major contributor to the women's basketball initiative and the Larry Wells Lecture Series in memory of an outstanding German professor in the German, Russian and East Asian Languages program.

Robert S. Mancini '80 has been a managing director at Goldman Sachs since 1999 and is currently head of Goldman's Global Commodities Principal Investments within the firm's commodity trading business. Until recently, he was co-head of the firm's power asset business, where he co-led the acquisitions of East Coast Power, Cogentrix Energy Inc. and The National Energy Group power assets. In 1999, Mancini established the Robert Mancini Scholarship for Community Service, awarded to Binghamton University students who have demonstrated a commitment to helping the underprivileged, particularly those who are homeless, and those who suffer from hunger, lack of medical care or other symptoms of poverty. In 2007, Mancini established the David P. Mancini Fine Arts Scholarship,



awarded to a student enrolled in a fine arts program, with preference to aspiring artists in other than music, theater and dance.

Dr. Michael Needle '81 is the vice president for Strategic Medical Business Development at Celgene Corporation. He joined the company in 2004 as vice president of clinical R&D for oncology. He is the author or co-author of 50 peer-reviewed publications, review articles and book chapters and is a generous supporter of the Binghamton Fund, directing his gifts to the University's greatest needs.



Owen C. Pell '80 is a partner in the New York office of the international law firm White & Case LLP, one of the world's largest law firms with expertise across many areas of law. Pell practices in all forms of complex commercial litigation, including litigation involving foreign sovereigns and their state-owned entities, bankruptcy litigation and litigation involving issues of public international law. A strong supporter of Harpur College, Pell established a Philosophy, Politics and Law Fund to enhance student programs. He also established the Philosophy, Politics and Law Honors Thesis Fund, which supports a select group of PPL students each year who write honors



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THE “A” LIST

ADVOCACY

Dozens of faculty and staff involved with SUNY’s Turkish dual-diploma programs met in Binghamton recently for a progress report. The annual gathering, to be held in Istanbul next year, is an indispensable way for participants to reach new levels of mutual understanding, offering an opportunity to work through issues to make the program work as effectively as possible.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

Research by **Oana Malis**, assistant professor of physics, has the potential to create lasers that work at currently inaccessible wavelengths. This breakthrough could result in new techniques for detecting environmental conditions in a building as well as advancing capabilities in defense applications. Funded by a three-year, \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation as well as a Cottrell College Science Award of \$44,244 from the Research Corporation, Malis will involve undergraduate and graduate students in her research.

Several Binghamton professors have been invited to present at national and international conferences. **H. Stephen Straight**, professor of anthropology and of linguistics and vice provost for undergraduate education and international affairs, participated in the plenary session at the recent annual meeting of the American Council on Education’s Internationalization Collaborative. **Sandro Sticca**,

professor of French and comparative literature, will participate in a roundtable discussion at Oxford University in July. **Alex Feingold**, professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, gave a talk on “Mathematics as Art: Links and Knots in Space and on Surfaces” at a conference held at the University of South Florida. As part of the conference, one of his sculptures also was in the exhibition “Rhythm of Structure: Beyond the Mathematics.”

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

More than 3,400 members of the Class of 2008 were granted their degrees this May. While many of the graduates have secured positions with leaders in the corporate world — Goldman Sachs, the Big Four accounting firms, Lockheed Martin — others, like **Jasmine Sawers**, have a different path in mind. Sawers expects to teach English overseas with the Peace Corps after graduation. The creative-writing major from Buffalo plans to teach in sub-Saharan Africa, though her placement could change, she said. The 22-year-old wants to go in part for the opportunity to see the world from a perspective other than an American one. She also hopes to use it in her future writing. Binghamton is among the Peace Corps’ top volunteer-producing mid-sized schools, tied for 22nd place on this year’s list with Brown and Yale universities.

In March, students **Pete Groh** and **Cliff Tucker** won the American

Debate Association’s national debate tournament, mathematically clinching Binghamton’s first-place finish in the nation within the Cross-Examination Debate Association and the National Debate Tournament. This is the first time Binghamton has finished 1st in the nation, topping its 2nd-place finish last year. Binghamton has been ranked in the top 10 four years in a row. Other top-ten debate programs include those at Emory, Harvard, Northwestern and UC Berkeley.

Also in March, **Rory Quiller** concluded his collegiate athletic career in dramatic style at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, winning the pole value title with a height of 18’ ½” at the meet held at the University of Arkansas. Quiller became the first Binghamton athlete ever to win a NCAA Division I championship and has now earned All-America honors three times. He was second in the 2007 NCAA Indoor Meet and tied for fourth at the 2007 Outdoor Championships. Quiller is currently in Binghamton’s MBA program.

Senior Sebastian Rodriguez received an honorable mention from USA Today’s 9th-annual All-USA College Academic Team program. Rodriguez, an English and global culture major, plans to pursue a law degree.

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Autism services and support offered through the Institute for Child Development have received a major

boost from three grants totaling more than a million dollars. The institute will use the new funding to expand its resources in three areas: to develop community living models to serve adolescents and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder; to evaluate the impact of early-intervention services; to establish a Center for Autism Spectrum Disorder that will partner the institute with school districts in 11 counties to provide education, training and technical assistance

Binghamton University will develop a new institute designed to prepare social workers to specialize in older-adult care. Funded with a \$75,000 grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation, the new program will address the growing demand for social workers as the United States' population ages. The program will begin in fall 2008 and will provide services to local participating agencies.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Lynn Gamwell, director of the Art Museum, is curator of an exhibit titled "Wedgwood and His Circle," which is currently on show at the UBS Art Gallery in Manhattan. The exhibit was created with pieces from the University's permanent collection, which includes a large selection of Wedgwood ceramics and other objects related to Wedgwood. Gamwell was quoted in *The New York Times* (Feb. 15) and the *New York Sun* (Jan. 31). In addition, the exhibit was covered in the *Wall Street Journal* (Feb. 14).

Kenneth Lindsay, professor emeritus of art history, is one of about a dozen living "Monument Men," a special U.S. Army group

charged with preserving European art treasures during World War II. His story was told in the February issue of the *Smithsonian*. In recognition of his work as a "Monument Man," Binghamton University awarded Professor Lindsay the University Medal.

Research conducted by Professor **David Sloan Wilson** was featured in an article titled "Moral

Thinking: Biology invades a field philosophers thought was safely theirs," which was printed in the Feb. 23 issue of the *Economist*. Professor Wilson suggests that the actual moral sense an individual acquires is not arbitrary, as a language is, but is functionally adapted to circumstances, giving the author hope that eventually, moral behavior will be explained in an intellectually satisfying way.

Progress Report



GIFT HIGHLIGHTS

Gifts and Pledges of \$25,000+

Randall L. Borkenstein '87 and **Ms. Anita J. Borkenstein '86** — Mileur Harpur College Faculty Development Fund

Salvatore P. Caruana '73 — Caruana Scholarship

Lois B. DeFleur — DeFleur Innovative International Programs Fund

Cathleen Ellsworth '86 — Gary Truce Scholarship for Women's Cross Country

AnnMarie Gaiso Goldfarb '93 and **Michael G. Goldfarb** — AnnMarie and Michael Goldfarb Scholarship

Linda J. Grabel '71 — Grabel Memorial Fund for Judaic Studies and The Binghamton Fund (greatest needs)

The Heichemer Family Foundation Inc. — Institute of Child Development's Social Learning Center

James E. Ludwig '80 — DeFleur Innovative International Programs Fund, the Binghamton Fund, and Eron Fund

Owen C. Pell '80 — DeFleur Innovative International Programs Fund and Philosophy, Politics and Law Honors Fund

Stephen David Ross — Ross University & Community Projects Fund and Stephen David Ross Fund — Philosophy, Interpretation and Culture

Lawrence J. Schorr '75, MA '77 and **Jennifer Brink Schorr, MBA '81** — Schorr SOM Faculty Development Fund

Shamrock Five Foundation — Institute for Child Development's Social Learning Center

Paul R. Turovsky '73 and **Monica E. Casey** — Mileur Harpur College Faculty Development Fund

John Walker '78 — The Binghamton Fund (greatest needs)

Foundation Board welcomes new members

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theses, and a conference at which these students defend their theses before a panel of faculty members.

Karen S. Tanenbaum '76 is a practicing research nurse at New York Medical College,

Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism in Valhalla,

N.Y., and currently serves on the Decker School of Nursing Advisory Council. Tanenbaum and her husband, Jeff, have established two scholarships at Binghamton. The Tanenbaum Scholarship is awarded annually to a Harpur freshman with financial need. Students retain the scholarship through their senior year, providing they continue to meet the selection criteria and remain in good academic standing. The Lester Casper Nursing Scholarship, established in memory of Karen Tanenbaum's



father, will be awarded to a Decker School of Nursing freshman. Again, students retain the scholarship through their senior year, providing they continue to meet the selection criteria and remain in good academic standing.

Paul R. Turovsky '73 is a founding partner of True North Management Group, a privately held real-estate investment management firm headquartered in New



York. Turovsky has professional affiliations with the Commercial Mortgage Securities Association and the Pension Real Estate Association. He is the chair of the Harpur College Dean's Advisory Council and is co-chair and an active fundraiser and supporter for the Harpur College Faculty Development Fund initiative.

DEANS APPOINTED

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"I am confident that Don's intelligence, insights into the future of the liberal arts, previous experiences as dean and enthusiasm will translate into leadership that serves all of the Harpur departments and programs well," said Provost Mary Ann Swain.

Grant earned master's and bachelor's degrees from the University of Maine and was a history teacher for 10 years. He worked for the Maine Department of Education before returning to school to receive a PhD in disciplinary knowledge and policy from Michigan State University.

"S.G. Grant's scholarly work sits at the center of the national debate on improving K-12 education," Swain said. "His research insights, record of teaching excellence and administrative experience will contribute greatly to his ability to work with our excellent faculty, staff and students."

Grant and Swain have discussed the school's potential. He anticipates doubling the size of the school's enrollment and faculty, both in established and new programs.

Grant has earned numerous honors including the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Teaching in 2006 and the Exemplary Research in Social Studies Award from the National Council for the Social Studies in 2004.

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Binghamton University Foundation
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Binghamton, New York 13902-6005

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