

FOR THE LOVE OF HELPING OTHERS

LOOKING OVER HER LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE CATHY HAO '13 JUST COMPLETED HER SOPHOMORE YEAR

Cathy Hao '13 has a quiet voice, easy smile and polite manners that belie a tenacious drive to help others: She's conducted research in three laboratories, examining colon cancer cells, counting nanoparticles and controlling experiments related to cognition. She's worked with people with HIV/AIDS in Kibera, Kenya, which the United Nations says is the second-largest urban slum in Africa, testing blood and consoling the infected. She's spent time at a rural clinic in Guatemala administering injections and assisting births. And for six years she's volunteered once a week at the Dr. Garabed A. Fattal Community Free Clinic in Binghamton.

Many people don't accomplish as much in a lifetime, but Hao is only 20 years old.

And there's more: She's shadowed five doctors; roughed it all over New England as a volunteer on an Appalachian Trail work crew; counseled kids with muscular dystrophy at summer camp; is an undergraduate teaching assistant; and even spent a summer modeling for Abercrombie & Fitch.

That's an abbreviated list from just the past two years.

"Part of my personality is I'm very stubborn," Hao says. "When I have these visions I just kind of go for it. I don't really like people stopping me from doing other things. I think when you're young it's good to gain experience because the more experience you have adds to your character, to your individualism and your understanding of the world."

Through all the volunteering and travel, the pre-med double major (biochemistry and neuroscience) has maintained a 4.0 grade-point average



Cathy Hao '13

and figured out the area of medicine she wants to concentrate on.

"I'm really interested in oncology," she says. "It's hard because most of your patients do die, but oncologists see their patients once a month, once a week, constantly, and really get to know them and have intimate relationships. They really depend on you because when they have a terminal illness like cancer, they really need your help to guide them through the toughest time of their life. You play a much more important role in their life, and I really like that."

Hao's dedication to community has earned her both the **Robert Mancini '80 Scholarship for Commitment to Helping the Indigent** and the **Binghamton University Forum Scholarship**.

FOR THE LOVE OF AN ART FORM

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ROBERT L. POMPI RECENTLY GAVE \$100,000 TO ENSURE THE HARPUR JAZZ ENSEMBLE THRIVES WELL INTO THE FUTURE

As soon as **Bob Pompei** landed at Binghamton University to teach physics in 1968 (it was Harpur College then), he connected with the Harpur Jazz Ensemble.

"It was one of the most enjoyable things that I was able to do in my 42 years at Harpur College, SUNY Binghamton, the University Center at Binghamton and Binghamton University," the associate professor says dryly.

When he started, the ensemble was for students only, but the director, Al Hamme, let Pompei play saxophone on the condition he could never take a student's spot. Pompei agreed, playing on and off over the next four decades.

"In my life it was crucial," he says. "Jazz was something I started when I was 14 years old and at 71 I'm still playing with groups. It's part of who I am."

But Pompei and his wife, Karen, worried about the future of the ensemble. Funding

the arts is always a challenge, more so in a tough economy. They wanted to guarantee an outlet for students wanting to participate in the "indigenous American art form." Consequently, the Pompis gave \$100,000 to support the Harpur Jazz Ensemble through an IRA charitable rollover, which allows people 70½ and over to transfer up to \$100,000 from a traditional or Roth IRA to a charity without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal. **(Congress enacted the rollover in 2006, but it's set to expire at the end of this year.)**

"I wanted to see it thrive," Pompei says. "So my wife and I talked about it and we thought that setting up an endowment account that could generate several thousand dollars a year would be something that would ensure that this group, which I have so thoroughly enjoyed either playing with or listening to, would survive in perpetuity."

The gift is also a way to honor the great musicians he's played with in the ensemble, people like Steve Davis, who Chick Corea said is "playing some of the most melodic improvisations ever heard in jazz," and Matt Koza, now the director of the Artie Shaw Orchestra.

"Just incredibly good, gifted individuals," Pompei says. And with his support, the Harpur Jazz Ensemble will turn out jazz greats for generations to come.



FOR THE LOVE OF HIS ALMA MATER

AS A CFO, RANDY BORKENSTEIN '87 KNOWS THAT DEVELOPING AND RETAINING TALENT IS KEY TO ORGANIZATIONAL SUCCESS

For **Randy Borkenstein '87**, the connection to his alma mater isn't complicated.

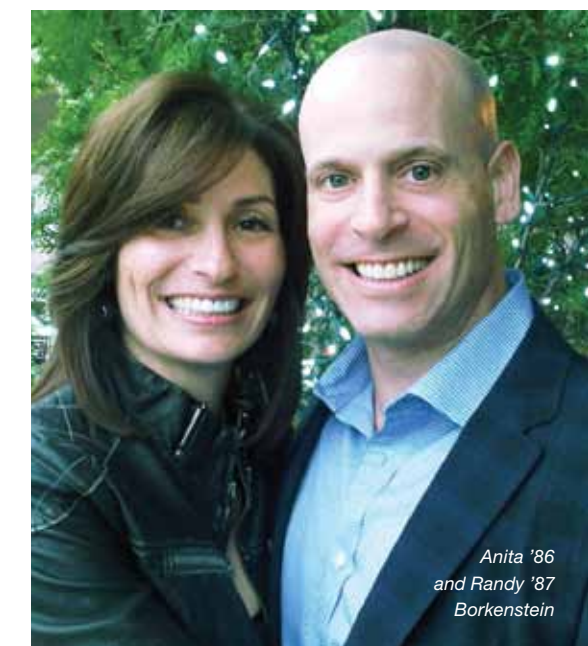
"I loved going to school at Binghamton," he says amid the noise and tumult enveloping Tau Alpha Upsilon's 50th anniversary reunion as fellow fraternity brothers frequently interrupt him to say hello. "I established a connection with the school because of terrific memories of the time spent here."

Seeing an opportunity to improve the University, he and his wife, Anita Borkenstein '86, support the **Jean-Pierre Mileur Harpur College Faculty Development Fund**, which helps Harpur College build and maintain an extraordinary staff of professors.

"Managing a business has taught me to appreciate the value of retaining key employees," he says. "Keeping turnover low is a competitive advantage. The Mileur Fund provides the dean the financial flexibility necessary to develop and retain key faculty members, so they stay longer and positively influence the University culture. That's a tremendous benefit."

Borkenstein says it was TAU that first taught him to give back through the fraternity's frequent volunteer participation in University Foundation phonathons, cold-calling alumni to ask for donations for the University.

"At TAU phonathons I learned about the importance of giving and the critical nature of that component of the school's budget," Borkenstein says. "I remember being shocked when I asked someone



Anita '86 and Randy '87 Borkenstein

for \$200 and they said yes. It was like 'wow, people really care even though they aren't here anymore.' I learned that lesson when I didn't have any money of my own to give, and now that I can, I love when I'm on the receiving end of those calls and get a chance to surprise today's student volunteer callers."

A LASTING IMPACT

The Esther W. Couper Heritage Society is made up of dedicated supporters who want to have a lasting impact on Binghamton University. They recently gathered on campus to meet each other, share ideas and see a show in the Anderson Center.

STUDENT SUCCESS IS A TESTAMENT TO YOUR SUPPORT



President C. Peter Magrath

NEARLY 30,000 INDIVIDUALS HAVE STEPPED FORWARD TO SUPPORT *BOLD.BRILLIANT.BINGHAMTON* – THE CAMPAIGN FOR BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY, BUT TIME IS RUNNING OUT

At this year's spring Commencement, I had the privilege of seeing nearly 3,200 degrees conferred, the largest Graduate School ceremony in school history, and a Harpur College ceremony that filled nearly every seat at the Events Center. I really enjoy seeing the pride in parents' faces as students celebrate the culmination of all their hard work.

Our students' success is a testament not only to their own efforts, but also to the support and commitment provided by our alumni and friends. Nowhere has this been more evident than in the remarkable achievements of *Bold.Brilliant.Binghamton – The Campaign for Binghamton University*. We publicly launched the comprehensive gifts campaign just over a year ago and now count nearly 30,000 individuals helping to make Binghamton one of the best universities in the nation.

I am incredibly proud of our alumni and friends who have committed themselves to making a difference.

Your support of *Bold.Brilliant.Binghamton* is already making a difference. It is helping us attract the most qualified students and develop innovative and challenging academic programs that push our graduates to the front of their chosen fields. It is assisting our faculty in their pursuit of new knowledge and enabling the University to develop the resources necessary to sustain our tradition of excellence. You are making our University — and our world — better.

Because of the generosity of our alumni and friends like you, the campaign has already raised \$91,220,858 for Binghamton University and its students. But we have a long way to go to reach our goal and the clock is ticking — we have just a year to raise the final \$4 million.

It's a challenge, yet I'm confident we'll make the goal because your commitment is powerful evidence that our friends and alumni value the University and are working to help it reach its potential.

C. Peter Magrath, President

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HONORARY DEGREES

Owen Pell '80, chair of the Major Gifts Outreach Committee, received an honorary degree at Commencement in May, telling the graduates, "This ceremony marks the beginning of your becoming great mentors for this University."

Terence Keane, MA '76, PhD '79, a scholar/researcher and clinician, and **David Orr**, an environmental leader and educator/writer, also received honorary degrees. **William Chen**, a landmark researcher instrumental in establishing the relationship between the University and IBM-Endicott, received the University Medal.



Owen Pell '80

BOLD.BRILLIANT.BINGHAMTON — THE CAMPAIGN FOR BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
\$95 Million Total Campaign Goal **\$91.2 Million Raised / 28,619 Donors**

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