Interim Dean, Ongoing Dedication
Karin Ruhlandt leads the College

The College of Arts and Sciences was front and center at the installation of Chancellor Kent Syverud in April. During formal remarks, he said the key to enhancing both undergraduate education and the undergraduate experience at Syracuse is building an “unrivaled” liberal arts college, one that affords students a “distinctive, broad, and deep education in the liberal arts” and is the “envy of our peers.”

Renée Schine Crown ’50, H’84 (above left), a Life Trustee of the University and member of the College’s Board of Visitors, was invited to convey greetings on behalf of trustees and alumni.

With the inauguration of Chancellor Syverud, the College is welcoming new faces, while bidding farewell to others. In June, the College appointed Karin Ruhlandt, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, as interim dean. She follows George M. Langford (above right), who, during his six-year tenure, earned a reputation for encouraging scholarship clusters and promoting cross-campus collaborative initiatives.

In December, the College says goodbye to one of its most beloved professors, Gary M. Radke ’73 (above left). For the past 35 years, he has taught art history in the College, while overseeing the popular Florence Graduate Program in Art History, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.
Have you noticed how the delivery and consumption of news has changed in the past decade? From telling a story in 140 characters or less on Twitter to sharing photos that disappear in six seconds on Snapchat, the way we receive and share content is unlike anything before. On top of that, more is expected of us from school or work or both, in contrast to our dwindling amounts of free time—not to mention our attention spans.

That’s why we’re taking a new approach to our magazine’s format. In place of our usual 30- to 40-page annual print publication, we’ve created a new and improved “micro-magazine,” which you are holding right now. It’s chock-full of bite-sized content, detailing news about A&S faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Of special note is the new title @ArtSciencesSU, which, coincidentally, is the College’s Twitter handle. If you haven’t done so already, please “follow” us on Twitter. And don’t forget to “like” us on Facebook, “connect” with us on LinkedIn, and “play” us on YouTube.

Arts and Sciences is not just a liberal arts college; it’s the heart and soul of Syracuse University, a national research institution. Here, research and teaching flourish at the highest levels. Our faculty are among the best in their field, committed to engaging students and one another in imaginative, thought-provoking ways. Our students, mentored in an environment of rigor and creativity, are more prepared than ever to succeed in the global marketplace. And our alumni—many of whom are nationally renowned leaders, writers, and scientists—are some of our best ambassadors, sharing their Syracuse experiences in communities where they live and work.

We’re a large family, with many stories to tell. I invite you to take a moment to read some of our stories here—a testament to the transformative power of a liberal arts education—and don’t forget to send us a few of your own. You’re vital to our success.

Sincerely,

Karin Ruhlandt
Interim Dean, The College of Arts and Sciences
Ejona Murataj ’15, a policy studies major from Albania in Southeastern Europe, is interning this fall in the Maxwell-in-Washington program.

Magenta Silberman ’15, a double major in psychology and neuroscience, is conducting autism research with psychology professor Natalie Russo at the CNY Medical Center.

Kristin Weeks ’15 received Syracuse’s Norma Slepecky Undergraduate Prize for her research paper, titled “Nutrient Limitation of Bean Plant Performance Under Co-Stress: Herbivory and Soil Halogenation.” Weeks is pursuing a triple major in biology, sociology, and political science.

Charlene Hinton ’16 and Ashlee Newman ’15 were among the six recipients of this year’s Chancellor’s Citations. The Chancellor’s Awards for Public Engagement and Scholarship (CAPES) are handed out annually to individuals who embrace a commitment to promote positive change through public engagement and scholarship.

Cameron MacPherson ’16 is a transfer student from Georgetown University. He is a member of The Renée Crown University Honors Program, the College’s admissions office, and Syracuse’s football team. MacPherson has helped move the College into the 21st century by producing a series of videos for the College’s YouTube channel, promoting the value of a liberal arts degree.

Guaiuer Huang ’16, a psychology and forensic science double major, and Kimberly Skokin ’15, a psychology and neuroscience double major, earned a Raymond von Dran IDEA Award at the third annual Emerging Talk, a conference and student-startup competition held in April. Along with three peers from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Huang and Skokin earned $5,000 for Sweetest Magazine, their fashion and culture publication with a feminist spin.

Austin Miller ’15 (left), an international relations and economics double major, and three of his peers (Elliot Russell ’15, Kevin Aziz ’15, and Harlan Toussaint ’15) from the College of Engineering and Computer Science, won a Raymond von Dran IDEA Award at the third annual Emerging Talk. Their automated external defibrillator system that leverages the computing power of a smartphone earned Miller and his business partners a $2,000 prize.

Elizabeth Bazluke ’16 is conducting research in the Department of Biology’s new Climate Change Garden with professors Jason Fridley and Doug Frank. Bazluke is pursuing a biology major with a focus in environmental sciences.

Adam Kozaczka, an English Ph.D. student, received this year’s Mary Hatch Marshall Essay Award for his essay “Macbeth and the Britishing of the Scot: Harnessing Shakespeare for Unification Politics from the Eighteenth into the Nineteenth Century.”

Justin Sullivan, a graduate student in the Janklow Arts Leadership Program, won a Raymond von Dran IDEA Award at the third annual Emerging Talk. Sullivan created the Syracuse Fringe Festival, an annual performing arts festival giving local and regional artists the opportunity to perform their work in front of audiences.

Luke Strauskulage ’15, a biotechnology major and member of The Renée Crown University Honors Program, has been named a 2014-2015 Goldwater Scholar for his academic achievements in the field of mathematics, science, and engineering. The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship—the most prestigious undergraduate award given in the sciences—is awarded to approximately 300 college sophomores and juniors nationwide. A maximum of $7,500 per academic year is awarded.

Jacoby Loury ’15, a psychology major with a minor in philosophy, has big plans after graduation. The Rochester, N.Y., native plans to earn a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, with an eye toward opening his own practice. Until then, he is juggling a heavy course load, several research projects, and volunteer work.

Wendy Chen, a University Fellow in Syracuse’s M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing, is the winner of the Academy of American Poets’ inaugural Aliki Perroti and Seth Frank Most Promising Young Poet Award. Chen won the award for her poem “They Sail Across the Mirrored Sea.” The American Poets Prizes are among the most valuable poetry prizes in the United States.

Sheila Shahidzadeh, a master’s student in biology, was among a dozen people invited to Paris to participate in a workshop on surgical techniques, co-sponsored by The Jackson Laboratory and The Pierre-and-Marie-Curie University. Shahidzadeh is based in the lab of Sandra Hewitt (the College’s Beverly Petterson Bishop Professor of Neuroscience), where she studies epilepsy and the seizures caused by this crippling disease.
Gregg Lambert, Dean’s Professor of the Humanities, has stepped down as founding director of the Syracuse University Humanities Center to focus on leadership of the Central New York Humanities Corridor. Since 2008, he has served as director and principal investigator of the Corridor, which involves nine institutions, including Cornell University and the University of Rochester, and is funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Sutton ’60. Bradley has also received a major grant from The Immortality Project at The University of California, Riverside, to support his study of ethics and philosophy of death.

Recent publications by creative writing faculty include Congratulations, by the Way: Some Thoughts on Kindness (Random House, 2014), by professor George Saunders G’88 (right); Fading Hearts on the River: A Life in High-Stakes Poker (Counterpoint, 2014), by professor Brooks Haxton G’81 (left); and Light and Heavy Things: Selected Poems of Zeeshan Sahil (BOA Editions, 2013), translated by professor Chris Kennedy G’88, also director of the creative writing program.

Alejandro García-Reidy, a Spanish professor in LLL, has made headlines with his discovery of a “lost” play by one of Spain’s great 17th-century writers, Félix Lope de Vega y Carpio.

Dana Olwan, a women’s and gender studies professor, has been awarded a fellowship from the Palestinian American Research Center to study gender violence. This past summer, she served on the faculty of the National Women’s Studies Association Curriculum Institute.

Wayne Franits, an art history professor, has received a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society to travel to London to study the work of 17th-century Dutch painter Godfried Schalcken.

The Humanities Corridor has teamed up with the New York Council for the Humanities to present a free reading and discussion series for veterans and their families called “Serving: Standing Down,” dealing with military service and the transition to civilian life. The series is co-sponsored by the Humanities Center and The Writing Program.

The Florence Graduate Program in Italian Renaissance Art continues its 50th anniversary celebrations with a fall symposium titled “New Perspectives on Renaissance Art.” The daylong event brings together museum professionals and teaching scholars, all of whom are graduates of the program. The symposium also marks the retirement of long-time program director, Professor Gary M. Radke ’73 (above), who is being succeeded by The University of Kansas’ Sally Cornelson G’89. The event is co-sponsored by the Syracuse and Ray Smith symposia.

Also, Radke has organized a show titled Make a Joyful Noise: Renaissance Art and Music at Florence Cathedral. Stops include Atlanta’s High Museum of Art (through January 11, 2015) and Detroit Institute of Arts (February 6-May 17, 2015).

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics (LLL) has launched a minor in Arabic. The program prepares students to read, write, and communicate orally in Arabic at a functional level, as well as to recognize and respond to cultural patterns of Arabic-speaking peoples.

Ben Bradley, professor and chair of philosophy, has been appointed the inaugural Sutton Distinguished Chair, named for Allan ’55 and Anita Sutton ’60. Bradley has also received a major grant from The Immortality Project at The University of California, Riverside, to support his study of ethics and philosophy of death.

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Natalie Russo, assistant professor of psychology and an expert diagnostician of children with autism, was awarded a $2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study autism spectrum disorders, a group of developmental disorders impacting one out of every 88 children.

Beth Prieve, professor of communication sciences and disorders (CSD), was recently awarded a five-year, $1.4 million grant by the National Institute on Deafness Research and other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), one of the institutes of the NIH, to study and measure auditory responses among newborns. The results from this study are expected to improve the scientific and clinical knowledge of various auditory measures, and couple the auditory measures to language and developmental outcomes.

Arindam “Ari” Chakraborty (far left) and Daniel A. Clark (center left), both in the Department of Chemistry; and Stefan W. Ballmer (center right) and M. Lisa Manning (far right), in the Department of Physics; have all been awarded Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) awards, the highest honor given by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in support of early-career development activities of teacher-scholars.

Yan-Yeung Luk, associate professor of chemistry, spearheaded the discovery of molecules that dominate bacteria without making them drug-resistant. The research was conducted in conjunction with the Wang Lab at SUNY Upstate Medical University.

James Dabrowiak, professor of chemistry, was recognized for his pioneering work in precious metals and medicine with a lifetime achievement award from the BASF Corporation, the world’s largest chemical company.

Donald Siegal, a Meredith and Heroy professor and chair of Earth sciences, was appointed an American Geophysical Union Fellow, a designation awarded to 0.1 percent of all AGU members in any given year. His cohort also includes C. Page Chamberlain ’79.

Joseph Ditre, assistant professor of psychology, launched a new study that may help older adults with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and chronic pain quit tobacco smoking and reduce their misuse of prescription painkillers. Ditre was the recipient of a $412,000 research grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the NIH.

Forensic firearms analysis is the subject of a new graduate certificate program offered by the Forensic and National Security Sciences Institute (FNSSI). The Certificate of Advanced Study in Firearm and Tool Mark Examination is a 12-credit program that targets current and future examiners preparing for certification from the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE).

Katharine Lewis, associate professor of biology, was part of an international research team awarded an International Human Frontier Science Program Organization grant. Lewis’ team is using the grant to study a special class of nerve cells. She also has received a $1.6 million grant award from the NIH to support her research of nerve cells in the spinal cord.

Gregory Hoke, assistant professor of Earth sciences co-authored an article that was featured in the journal Earth and Planetary Science Letters (Elsevier, 2014). Hoke, along with another researcher, found that the Tibetan Plateau—the world’s largest, highest, and flattest plateau—has a larger initial extent than previously documented.

Scott Pitnick, professor of biology, was named the inaugural Weeden Professor. The professorship is made possible through the generosity of Morris “Mike” Skiff Weeden ’41 and his wife, Jane. The professorship will support Pitnick’s work in sexual selection and speciation.

Britton Plourde, associate professor of physics, has received $2.25 million from the Army Research Office for his research team’s project “Scalable Readout of Superconducting Qubits with Novel Superconducting Amplifiers and Metamaterials.”

Matthew Maye, associate professor of chemistry, was awarded a three-year, $360,000 grant from the NSF to support his ongoing work with metal stainless alloy nanostructures, the results of which may impact gas storage, heterogeneous catalysis, and rechargeable lithium-ion batteries.

Suzanne L. Baldwin, professor of Earth sciences, was named the inaugural Michael G. and Susan T. Thonis Professor of Earth Sciences. The Thonis professorship will support Baldwin’s research on the thermal evolution of the Earth’s lithosphere and planetary materials. The professorship was created thanks to the generosity of alumnus Michael Thonis ’72 and his wife Susan.

M. Cristina Marchetti, the William R. Kenan Professor of Physics and associate director of the Syracuse Biomaterials Institute, has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation’s most prestigious honorary societies.

Jack Graver, professor of mathematics, delivered The Jean Bee Chan and Peter Stanek Lecture for Students at the Mathematical Association of America’s MathFest, a four-day conference held in August. His lecture examined the origins of Pi Mu Epsilon, the national mathematics honor society, that was founded at Syracuse University in 1913.
The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs is marking its 90th anniversary with a variety of celebrations throughout the year, including a keynote address by Richard Ravitch, former lieutenant governor of New York, during Orange Central. Founded in 1924, the Maxwell School is home to the oldest master of public administration program in the country and consistently ranks as the nation’s top graduate school in public affairs.

Douglas Armstrong, Maxwell Professor of Teaching Excellence and Meredith Professor of Anthropology, has been awarded grants from the NSF, National Geographic Society, and Wenner-Gren Foundation (WGF) to support his study of early plantations in Barbados. The awards come on the heels of two others from WGF and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (part of an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant), supporting his archaeological research.

Madonna Harrington Meyer, Meredith Professor and chair of sociology, is the recipient of the Richard Kalish Innovative Publication Award for Grandmothers at Work: Juggling Families and Jobs (New York University Press, 2014). She received the award from the Gerontological Society of America for her “significant contribution to the understanding of the complex family dynamics of the 21st century.”

Prema Kurien, professor of sociology and founding director of the Asian/Asian American Studies Program, is the inaugural recipient of the Asian and Asian American section of the American Sociological Association’s (ASA) “Contribution to the Field Award.” Kurien is being lauded for her many books and articles addressing the intersection of religion, ethnicity, race, inequality, and politics, and for her work in the founding of the Asian/Asian American Studies Program.


James B. Steinberg, dean of the Maxwell School and University Professor of Social Science, was among the panelists at the 2014 Aspen Ideas Festival. The former deputy secretary of state spoke on the topic of “America in Decline.” Steinberg is also co-author of Strategic Reassurance and Resolve: U.S.-China Relations in the Twenty-First Century (Princeton University Press, 2014).

Margaret Susan Thompson, associate professor of history and political science, is one of the key organizers of this year’s Joseph and Amelia Borgognoni Lecture in Catholic Theology and Religion in Society. Thompson, who chairs the Borgognoni Fund’s faculty steering committee, is working with the religion department to bring best-selling Catholic writer Ron Hansen to campus this fall.

Susan S. Wadley, professor of anthropology, the Ford Maxwell Professor of South Asian Studies, and co-director of the South Asia Center, is the editor of South Asia in the World: An Introduction (M.E. Sharpe, 2014), the first in a series of global studies books. This past spring, she organized a Ray Smith Symposium focusing on the commodification of South Asia folk art.
2000s
Meg Dillon G’11 and Hannah Hartsig G’11 are co-founders of “Florence for Free,” named “Best Italy Travel Blog” by Italy Magazine.

Christina Graves G’05, G’09, assistant professor of mathematics at The University of Texas (UT) at Tyler, has won the UT System’s Outstanding Teaching Award.

Tesz Kim ’13, a faculty member at a medical prep school on Chicago’s Near West Side, has been honored by Teach for America for her work in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines. She plans to enroll in medical school next fall.

1990s
Winston C. Fisher ’96, a member of Syracuse’s Board of Trustees and the College’s Board of Visitors, is serving on the College’s Dean’s Search Committee.

Doug Marrone ’91 is in his second season as head coach of the NFL’s Buffalo Bills.

1980s
Craig Borten ’87 was nominated for a 2014 Academy Award for best screenplay for Dallas Buyers Club, starring Matthew McConaughey as a real-life AIDS victim. The movie took 20 years to make and is Borten’s first screenplay.

Kathy Hochul ’80 is New York Governor Andrew Cuomo’s running mate in the November general election. She previously served as the U.S. representative for New York’s 26th Congressional District.

2000s
Craig Borten ’87 and Kathy Hochul ’80 were nominated for New York’s 26th Congressional District. She previously running mate in the November general election. She previously served as the U.S. representative for New York’s 26th Congressional District.

1970s
Linda M. Dulye ’77, president and founder of her eponymously named communications company, is accepting applications for the eighth annual Dulye Leadership Experience (DLE). Scheduled for next spring, DLE is a professional development program for Syracuse juniors and seniors.

Todd Flaherty ’70, president and CEO of The College Crusade of Rhode Island (the state’s largest college readiness-access program), has received the Paul W. Crowley Award from the Rhode Island School Superintendents’ Association for his work with state public schools.

Henry W. Posamentier G’76, senior consultant geologist with Chevron Energy Technology Company in Houston, Texas, is the winner of the Earth sciences department’s Alexander Winchell Distinguished Alumni Award. Posamentier is a pioneer in seismic geomorphology (i.e., the study of landforms using two- and three-dimensional data), which aids in offshore drilling.

1960s
David Bing ’66, H’06, NBA legend and former Detroit mayor, has launched the Bing Youth Institute, a coalition of organizations that helps Detroit-area youth through mentoring, charitable giving, academic support, and recreational opportunities.

Felix Cavaliere ’64, singer and keyboardist for the Rascals, has been inducted into the Hammond Hall of Fame. He and the band are in the midst of a national reunion tour.

1950s
Renée S. Crown ’50, H’84 was invited to speak at the formal installation ceremony of Chancellor Kent Syverud in April.

Jack Fiorito ’59, a retired AT&T executive, has received the Heritage Preservation Award from the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission in Northern California.

IN MEMORIAM
Alfred T. Collette ’47, G’48, G’52 (right), former chair of biology (née zoology) and science teaching at Syracuse, died January 23, 2014. He also directed the University Art Collection.

William C. Stinchcombe, professor emeritus of history, died May 28, 2014. He also co-directed Newhouse’s M.A. program in documentary film and history.

Patricia Meyers Druger G’74, administrator for Syracuse’s introductory biology course and an academic coordinator in The Writing Program, died January 19, 2014.
From Syracuse, New York, to Syracuse, Nebraska, Arts and Sciences alumni are everywhere. And we want to hear from you. Let us know what you’re doing—at home, work, or play—and don’t forget to attach a photo. We’ll promptly post your information to the Web or to one of our social media sites.

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linkedin.com/groups/College-Arts-Sciences-Syracuse-University
thecollege.syr.edu
asnews.syr.edu

It’s Easy to Support your College! Three quick steps:

1. **Connect** our current students and young alumni with internships and entry-level career opportunities. Visit careerservices.syr.edu or simply join the LinkedIn group ‘CuseConnect to share job postings.

2. **Communicate** with our students—in person or via webinar—about how a liberal arts education translates to career success. Call Karen Weiss Jones at 315.443.2028 to sign up to present a “Career Conversation.”

3. **Contribute** to the College of Arts and Sciences by making a monetary gift of any size. Your donation will support a wide range of academic initiatives, including student scholarships, undergraduate research, and faculty scholarship. Visit ASAlumni.syr.edu to learn how your gift can transform the College.

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