

Delhi People

Three of Delhi's Finest

Thomas Recinella, Associate Professor of Culinary Arts, **Jamie Rotter**, Assistant Professor of Culinary Arts, and **Joan Townsend**, Personnel Associate, have been recognized with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence. They will be presented their awards at the college's Employee Appreciation Ceremony on May 21.

"We are extremely proud to honor these outstanding faculty and staff. It is their hard work and dedication that sets them apart and makes them distinguished members of the SUNY system," says President **Candace Vancko**.

Associate Professor Thomas Reci-

nella, CEC, AAC, is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Professor Recinella sets high standards for students, particularly those enrolled in his culinary competition courses. He has served as manager of SUNY Delhi's award-winning junior hot food team since 1999 when he began teaching at Delhi. Under his tutelage, the team has won the American Culinary Federation (ACF) New York State Championship eight of the last nine years, and the ACF Northeast Region Championship three out of the last eight years, earning Delhi the distinction as the only New

York State college ever to compete at the national level in the event's 18-year history.

Professor Recinella has previously earned national and international recognition in his field. He was named "National Educator of the Year" by the American Culinary Federation in 2003 and earned the top award for cold food cookery, *Campione Nazionale Cucina Fedda*, at the Italian National Culinary Exposition as a member

of the New York State Culinary Olympic Team in 2006. He was awarded the 2002 ACF Presidential Medallion for the Northeast Region, and also served as a member of the 2004 New York State Olympic Culinary Team that competed in Germany.

Professor Recinella is involved with many professional organizations such as the American Culinary Federation, American Acad-



The SUNY Faculty Senate held its Spring Plenary Meeting on the Delhi campus April 18-19. Over 60 campus governance leaders met to discuss system-wide issues and to make committee reports. Delhi's own Instructor Julee Miller, College Senate President, and Associate Professor Terry Hamblin, Faculty Senate Representative, were in attendance.

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emy of Chefs, World Association of Chefs Society, and National Ice Carving Association. He has served as an officer for the ACF Southern Tier Chefs Association and the ACF Chefs and Cooks of the Catskill Mountains, and as the Northeast Region Certification Chair for the ACF National Certification Committee. Professor Recinella is one of only 110 certified judges of culinary competitions in the United States and is a certified practical test administrator.

Assistant Professor Jamie Rotter is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service. He began his career at Delhi in 1997. Following graduation, he earned a position as campus dining hall manager. He joined the Hospitality Management faculty full-time in 2003 and since then has made his mark as someone dedicated to serving the college beyond the classroom.

Professor Rotter serves as an advisor for two campus student organizations: the International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA) and Delta Theta Gamma. IFSEA hosts many extra-curricular learning activities for Hospitality Management students such as trips to the Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, the Otesaga

Hotel in Cooperstown, and the Turning Stone Resort in Vernon. As an advisor to Delta Theta Gamma, Professor Rotter teaches the young men of the fraternity how to be good campus leaders, and inspires them to be positive, functional members of the village community. Professor Rotter uses his time and expertise to assist many other student organizations and also assists Delhi's hot food team. He initiated an annual chili cook-off as part of the college's Winterfest and co-chairs the regional culinary competition for the VICA/Skills USA event held on campus each year.

Professor Rotter devotes extensive time to college service as well. He sits on the Scholastic Standing Committee and the Student Conduct Council. He has been involved in curriculum development, creating an independent study option for the Hospitality Management bachelor's degree program that allows students to pursue extra credit while developing leadership skills. He also created a comprehensive wine program as part of *Signatures by Candlelight*.

Joan Townsend is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Ex-

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Signs of Hope



Karla Guy, Janitor, and Toresia Badal, Cleaner, take a break to admire the crocuses that have sprouted at Delhi's 9/11 memorial. The crocuses were planted in 2003 around a flowering pear tree to signify a circle of hope.



Q & A with... Bob Nicholson

Occupation: Plant Utilities Engineer II

Birthplace: I was born in Delhi, actually when the hospital was located on Franklin Street.

Education: An associate degree in Liberal Arts from SUNY Delhi. I then returned to Delhi for an associate degree in Building Construction.

What do you like most about your job? After twenty years in my career at Delhi, I find you learn something new everyday. For example, there are DEC and EPA regulations that we never had to deal with before, and now they're part of my monthly reporting. I also like the guys I work with. They get the job done.

Who do you most admire? My boss who just retired, Clyde Bussy, for the simple fact that he knows everything you need to know about heating and air conditioning. If there was a problem on campus, he could always find a way to fix it.

What do you consider to be SUNY Delhi's hidden gem? I would say Delhi's maintenance staff, everyone from custodial to the heating plant. They all do an outstanding job.

What is your greatest achievement? Marrying my wife and raising my son.

If you could change jobs with someone for a day, who would that be? If I could change places with someone for a day, I'd want to be the guy climbing Mount Everest. My wife says I'm crazy, but it's always been a dream of mine.

cellence in Professional Service. She began her career in 1968 at SUNY Delhi as a stenographer in the personnel section of the college business office. Townsend's dedication earned her promotions that ultimately led to her becoming Personnel Associate and a member of the professional staff in 2004.

As Personnel Associate, Townsend is involved in all aspects of human resources management on the Delhi campus. She serves as the Assistant Director of the Human Resources and Affirmative Action Office. Her responsibilities include administering benefits programs, supervising the Human Resources Office staff, assisting in the administration of contracts for all bargaining units, supervising the maintenance of employee records, overseeing payroll, maintaining time and attendance and leave accruals, assisting with recruitment and orientation of new faculty and staff, and providing service to the college's employees.

Townsend mentors dozens in understanding SUNY, the civil service system, and New York State programs and regulations. A campus resource for supervisors,

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directors, managers, administrators, and administrative support staff, she generously shares her knowledge with colleagues on other campuses who may need assistance. Townsend also provides that same high level of support to student employees.

Townsend has previously earned recognition as the recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Classified Service in 1982 and the President's Classified Service Award for Exceptional Merit in 1988. Her penchant for accuracy led to SUNY Delhi being honored with a payroll award recognizing distinguished performance by the Office of the New York State Controller in 2005.

Townsend's contributions to the college extend beyond her department. She is a founding member and former board president of the Delhi Campus Child Care Center and regularly volunteers to assist sports competitions, the college's Family Day event, the annual Alumni Weekend, and the Skills USA/VICA competition. Townsend also provides assistance with the college's United Way campaign and has served on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Delaware and Otsego Counties.

Minding Their Manners

What fork do you use with your entrée? How do you hold a drink during a cocktail party? Asking etiquette questions may be the last thing on a college student's mind, but for one night in March, it was the topic of conversation for Delhi students.

Student Activities and the Business and Hospitality Division joined forces to present a mock cocktail and dinner setting where Delhi students from all of the college's academic programs could learn proper business etiquette.

"In the hospitality classes, we teach students how to dress properly and how to conduct themselves, but we never put these skills into practice," says Associate Professor **Rick Golding**. "We felt we needed a more serious presentation of the material, and we thought that students from other programs could benefit as well."

About 75 students, dressed in interview attire, listened as Juanita Ecker spoke about the levels of dress for social situations, proper behavior and conversation during a company cocktail party, and dining etiquette. Ecker is a corporate image consultant who has addressed the topics of business



Deanna Marlow (far left), Veterinary Science Technology majors, converses with Jessica Wilson (far right), a Hotel and Resort Management major, at Delhi's recent "mock-tail" and dinner etiquette event.

etiquette and professional image with companies such as Dupont Pharmaceuticals, Carrier Corporation, and Lockheed Martin.

Kyle Hares, a Hotel and Resort Management major, agreed with Professor Golding, that this was an event for all students, no matter what profession they are entering after graduation. "There are so many things you don't learn in class about how to present yourself. Today employers will say 'Let's talk over lunch.' They want

to see how you interact socially and will evaluate you for a job based on that interaction."

To make it easier for the students to participate, CADI accepted meal plan swipes as admission to the dinner.

Deanna Marlow, a Veterinary Science Technology major, says a friend encouraged her to attend the etiquette event. "I feel I can present myself better after listening to the presentation."

Girl Power



What happens when five females get together to cook? Competition of course. But when it's five of SUNY Delhi's finest culinary arts students, they make history as the first all-female team from Delhi to win the American Culinary Federation Northeast Championship. Team members **Brianne Slocum, Tammy Peters, Sarah Thurgood, Tami Eicholz, and Jillian Naveh** have secured the college's third trip to the ACF national championship, which will be held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas in July.

According to Tammy Peters, the all-female team definitely raised some eyebrows at the regional competition. "Everyone looked at us as just some girls who showed up to compete. The other teams completely underestimated our experience. In the end, we showed them what we could do." The Delhi team won the competition by a fraction of a point.

"In all my years of coaching, whether you're female or male, it doesn't mean a thing in competition. It's about the person. This team meshes better than any team I've coached before. Everyone of them has stepped up and saved the day. That's what a team is all about." says Associate Professor **Tom Recinella**, who coaches SUNY Delhi's hot food team with Instructors **Julee Miller** and **Jessica Backus-Foster**.

Shortly after returning from the competition, the team celebrated the victory with President **Candace Vancko** and Provost **Dennis Callas** by showing off the ACF Northeast Region trophy. From left to right, top row is President Vancko, Tammy Peters, Brianne Slocum, Associate Professor Tom Recinella and Provost Callas; bottom row is Sarah Thurgood, Tami Eicholz, and Jillian Naveh.

Kudos

Faculty and staff were recognized for their efforts at the Second Annual Resnick Learning Center Academic Awards. Certificates of appreciation were given to those who volunteer their time to tutor students at the Center. They included **Kristen Baxter**, CADI Director of Auxiliary Finance Services, **Willis Brown**, Instructor, **Linnea Goodwin Burwood**, Associate Professor, **Peter Campbell**, Instructor, **Dawn Dutka**, Assistant Professor, **Cindy Elston**, Assistant Professor, **Terry Hamblin**, Associate Professor, **Jacquene Howard**, Instructor, **Cristina Ludden**, Continuing Education Coordinator, **John Reeher**, Assistant Professor, **Mark Hilson Schneider**, Instructor, **Elyse Segelker**, Professional Tutor, **Miriam Sharick**, Instructor, **Amber Tatnall**, Assistant Professor, **Jack Tessier**, Assistant Professor, **William Thompson**, Assistant Professor, **Floyd Vogt**, Professor, and **Craig Wesley**, Dean of Enrollment Services. Certificates were also given to staff who assist the Learning Center year-round. They included **Carol Bishop**, Director of Business Affairs, **Marty Greenfield**, Student Activities Director, **Linda Harrington**, Clerk I, **Loretta**

Laing, Calculations Clerk II, and **Patrick Mente**, Assistant Director of Admissions. The Learning Center also made presentations of special recognition to Instructor **Pete Campbell** as faculty honoree, **Kim MacLeod**, Communications and Alumni Relations Coordinator, as staff honoree, and Student Accounts, as department honoree. College Accountant **Lori Mongillo** accepted the honor on behalf of Student Accounts.

PGM Director **Tom Philion** received the Horton Smith Award at the Northeastern New York PGA's spring meeting. The Horton Smith Award is given by the PGA of America to recognize individual golf professionals for their outstanding and continuing contributions to developing and improving education opportunities for the PGA golf professional. This is the second time Philion has been honored with this award.

Two Professional Development Grants were awarded this month by the Deans Council. Assistant Professor **Peter Clement** received a \$300 grant to attend the 2008 joint conferences of the American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) and the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) in Orlando, FL, in July. Assistant Professor

Penny Pardoe received \$300 to attend "China Confronts New Security Issues," a Chautauqua Short Course hosted by Stony Brook University in Beijing, China.

New Faces

Nancy Smith is the new Registrar and Director of Institutional Research. A native of Delhi, she holds an associate degree from SUNY Delhi, a bachelor's degree from Cornell, and master's degree from the University at Albany. Smith worked as a member of the Registrar's staff at Albany since 1989, serving as associate registrar there for the past ten years.

Dawn Morganstern has joined University Police as Keyboard Specialist I. She previously served as patient billing operations coordinator at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady.

Out and About

Delhi Engineering Science students, accompanied by Professor **Walter Bray**, traveled to the Cornell Center of National Research where they learned about the opportunities in research available to them following graduation. Assistant Professor **Joan Erickson** was instrumental in arranging the trip.

Teaching the Teacher



Linda Weinberg, Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities, and the Resnick Learning Center hosted 25 high school teachers and other educators from Chenango, Delaware and Otsego counties for a workshop on new technologies in alternative learning techniques. The group spent a day sharing thoughts and making lesson plans under the guidance of **Celia Reed** from the Mid-South Regional Special Education Training and Resources Center and two representatives from the Technology Resources for Education Center in Albany.

"We want teachers to have a realistic view of what kinds of support their students might receive in a post-secondary environment," says Reed. "They had an opportunity to try the software in use at Delhi. This training day reaffirmed our message that the more self-sufficient students are, the better their chance of adapting smoothly to the demands of college."

From Someone Who Knows



Alumnus **Frank Schilagi** '60 visited the campus to address Delhi students and share with them the secret to his success. Schilagi has over 20 years experience in the hotel and country club business and 10 years as a professor and dean of Wake Forest University's Babcock Graduate School.

Retiring

Arlene (Castle) Stoecker, Calculations Clerk II, is retiring after 28 years of service to SUNY Delhi.

Roger Miller, Painter, is retiring after 30 years of service to SUNY Delhi.

Don't Miss Out

We don't want you to miss all the fun. So remember to submit a photo for the *Delhi People* "Guess Who?" photo contest by April 28. Send a photo of yourself, college days or younger, to enter the photo contest. Photos will be published in the May 2008 issue. Readers will be asked to correctly identify all the faculty and staff members in the photos to win a prize. Don't forget to include a quote to be printed with the photo as a clue.



Send your photos and quotes by April 28 to **Kim MacLeod**, 143 Bush Hall, macleokm@delhi.edu. Print photos will be returned.

Spaghetti Anyone?



The Delhi College Child Care Center held a spaghetti dinner on April 16 in Alumni Hall to raise funds for the center. **Terri Newman**, Lead Teacher DC4, worked with Instructor **Jessica Backus-Foster** and Hospitality Management faculty and students to organize the event. According to **Julie Cobane**, DC4 Teacher, the event was a huge success raising over \$1,300. “As a parent, Jessica was a huge asset in making the arrangements. We are so thankful that the faculty and students could help support this effort.”

Clockwise: Liz VanBuren with her daughter Julia and son Elijah; Assistant Professor Jack Tessier (far right) and family; Gary Hawk, Senior Offset Printing Machine Operator, (far right) with his wife, daughter and grandmother; Associate Professor Kathryn DeZur and her daughter Gwen.