

# Delhi People

## New Options for Delhi's Finest

Two-year students who hold a 3.3 G.P.A. or better can now benefit from an honors program that has been expanded and enhanced.

Previously, Delhi's honors program was only available to Presidential Scholars, outstanding students from Delaware and Otsego Counties. The honors program is now open to any student who is pursuing an associate degree and who meets the program's requirements.

"We wanted to include all students who could benefit from this program," says Associate Professor **Katherine DeZur**, who co-chairs an honors advisory committee. The committee was formed by Provost Dennis Callas in Spring

2008 and charged with designing a program more inclusive of high caliber students. The committee includes Co-chair and Assistant Professor **Peter Paluch**, Professor **Lynn Domina**, Assistant Professor **Jack Tessier**, Assistant Professor **Joan Erickson**, Instructor **Mark Schneider**, Associate Professor **Alan Franks**, and Assistant Professor **David Brower**.

"We are seeing more and more students who are academically qualified, and our goal is to keep

them challenged," DeZur says.

The program requires students to complete a minimum of seven credits over at least three semesters. Six of those credits are derived from honors seminars with the remainder coming from either honors seminars or honors inde-

pendent studies. Upon graduation, the distinction of honors will be noted on a student's transcript. According to DeZur, the honors distinction is valuable to students who wish to transfer because it shows they have completed chal-



**It's official! Farrell Hall renovations begin February 16. The building is scheduled to reopen by Fall 2010. Pictured are renderings of Farrell's transformation into a state-of-the art student and community center.**

**(cont.)**



## Q & A with... Kristin Keller

**Occupation:** Academic Services Associate and ASL Interpreter

**Birthplace:** Smithtown, NY

**Education:** B.A. in Community and Human Services at Empire State College, A.A.S. in American Sign Language Studies Sequence from Suffolk County Community College

**What do you like most about your job?** I like working with students, being a part of their lives, and helping them achieve their dreams. I find that very satisfying.

**Who do you most admire?** I admire people who give freely of themselves. My family was all about service and was always involved in some type of community activity.

**What do you consider to be SUNY Delhi's hidden gem?** It's the Applied Sciences and Recreation program. All the people in the program have made me feel very welcome. I began as an interpreter for two of their students and everyone was very accepting and supportive. I value that because it affords me a greater opportunity of excellence in delivery of service.

**What is your greatest achievement?** It is keeping true to a strong work ethic and endeavoring not to settle for lesser quality work.

**If you could change jobs with someone for a day, who would that be?** I would love to either teach outdoor and adventure education or be a skilled climber like Chris Sharma or Lynn Hill.

lenging work at Delhi.

Currently, the committee is seeking grant money to offer scholarship funds in conjunction with the program. They are also looking at how bachelor's degree students could be included.

Professor DeZur says, "We are also trying something new, a general elective course that will allow us to offer special interest classes."

The general elective course will be offered as part of the honors program each semester. It can be taught by any faculty member from any major.

"It's a great opportunity for students to be exposed to material outside of their chosen field of study and an opportunity for faculty to teach students outside their discipline," says DeZur. "The only requirement is that faculty members make it accessible to the general student population and offer the class with no prerequisites."

Faculty members who are interested in offering an elective class as part of the honors program can contact Professor DeZur at 4462 or [dezurkk@delhi.edu](mailto:dezurkk@delhi.edu).

## Electrifying Experience

SUNY Delhi students are gaining practical utility line experience thanks to the Delaware County Electrical Cooperative (DCEC), New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG), Orange and Rockland Utilities, and Con Edison.

DCEC recently donated equipment and manpower to install four utility poles on the college campus as a learning opportunity for students and will be providing training in “hot-sticking,” a process that uses insulated tools to repair live wires. NYSEG also contributed to the recent installation and will donate fall restraint equipment and offer additional training in pole-top construction techniques. Orange and Rockland Utilities and Con Edison have stepped forward to provide training in underground distribution systems.

“This is part of an effort to adapt the college’s electrical programs to the evolving job opportunities available to graduates,” says Instructor **Mark Schneider**.

“Our collaboration with SUNY Delhi will help us identify new talent for DCEC through the college’s electrical and construction



**DCEC and NYSEG recently teamed up to install four utility poles on the Valley Campus to be used as a learning laboratory for students in the Electrical Construction and Instrumentation program.**

management programs,” explains **Greg Starheim**, General Manager/CEO, DCEC. Starheim notes the strength of SUNY Delhi’s programs and that Delhi students are exposed to renewable energy technology. “These program elements make Delhi students very attractive to employers like DCEC.”

A newly formed SUNY Delhi Future Lineman’s Club is serv-

ing as a pilot class this spring that will educate students who have an interest in becoming utility line workers.

**Anthony Attoma**, a second-year student from Rochester, says this will be good experience for him. “I’m so glad DCEC and NYSEG are stepping in to help us learn. We appreciate them taking the time to train us.”

**James Finneran**, a second-year student from Chester, is familiar with utility line work since his father works as a foreman for Orange and Rockland Utilities. “He’s definitely an influence on me,” says Finneran. “I’ve enrolled in the pilot class this semester. It will give us an opportunity to learn more about outdoor electrical work and see what the career options are.”

## Student Chef of the Year



When **Brianne Slocum** decided in the sixth grade to pursue a career in cooking, she never envisioned she'd be on a path to claim the title as the best student chef in the nation.

Slocum (seen here with ACF Northeast Region Vice President **Mark Wright**, CEC, AAC, left, and **Michael Speranza**,

CEC, right) recently won the ACF Northeast Region Student Chef of the Year competition and has qualified to compete in the national championship in Orlando, FL, in July.

Last year, Slocum served as captain of Delhi's first all-female culinary team, which advanced to the ACF national championship in Las Vegas, NV, and earned a silver medal. Now she is getting the support of her coach, Associate Professor **Tom Recinella**, and her former teammates to help her compete at the national level.

The ACF's Student Chef of the Year Award recognizes an up-and-coming student who demonstrates a high level of professionalism, culinary art skills and a passion for the culinary arts.

In addition to Slocum's win, Chef Tom Recinella earned a presidential medallion from the ACF for his culinary competition accomplishments and his dedication to the spirit of competition.

*Photo: Alan McPhee, American Culinary Federation*

## Kudos

SUNY Delhi has been recognized with the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the volunteer efforts of its O'Connor Center for Community Service for the third year in a row.

Student **Kentaro Kariya**'s bas-relief entitled "Tile with Glass" has been selected for SUNY's 2009 "Best in Show" and will be on display throughout the summer at the New York State Museum in Albany.

Athletics initiated a recognition program to honor student athletes who hold a 3.35 G.P.A. or higher. The Scholar Student Athletes were recognized at the halftime of a recent men's basketball game. They included: **David Fliegel**, Men's Lacrosse; **Jaclyn Smith**, Women's Soccer; **Alvaro Velazquez**, Men's Soccer; **Stephanie Shellman**, Women's Basketball; **Ethan Lennox**, Men's Cross Country and Track and Field; **Carolyn Laskoski**, Women's Cross Country; **Paree-sha Leitons**, Women's Track and Field; **Spencer Bonneau**, Men's



**Provost Callas, far left, and President Candace Vancko, far right, celebrated SUNY Delhi Scholar Student Athletes at a recent men's basketball game.**



**The Delhi scholarship winners from the Empire State Industry Show: Ryan Abbate, Jeffrey Ferguson, Michael Ford, Matthew Bush and Aaron Crouse.**

Basketball; **Zachary Maslyn**, Men's Golf; **Jarrett Pilkington**, Men's Tennis; **Sarah Devine**, Women's Swimming and Diving; **John Fitzpatrick**, Men's Swimming and Diving; and **Minori Sato**, Women's Volleyball.

SUNY Delhi Golf and Turf Management students received the majority of the scholarships awarded at the annual Empire State Green Industry Show at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center January 7-9. **Matthew Bush** was awarded \$1,000 for the Stephen V. Moffett III Schol-

arship, and **Aaron Crouse** was recognized with the John Cornman Scholarship in the amount of \$800. **Mike Ford** and **Jeffrey Ferguson** earned Peter P. Hahn Scholarships, which awarded each of them \$500. In addition, **Ryan Abbate**, **Robert Touchette**, and **Evan Embrey** earned New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA) Scholarships in the amount of \$400. SUNY Delhi also won the student Turf Bowl competition at the show for the third consecutive year. **Matthew Bush** was named overall top scorer in the competition.

SUNY Delhi's ice sculpting team placed in a national competition for the first time ever at the National Ice Carving Association Collegiate Invitational on January 10 in Holland, MI. Team captain **Brandon Grady** placed fourth overall out of 24 contestants, the highest finish ever for a Delhi carver at an NICA tournament. The team then went on to earn third place honors with special jury recognition as the most improved sculpting program at the U.S. Collegiate Ice Carving National Championships in Frankenmuth, MI, January 23-25.

Grady led his team by earning two NICA bronze medals and finishing fifth in the nation in the individual freestyle. He also finished third in the team competition with an abstract butterfly sculpture entitled, "*Papillion Abstrait*," which measured over nine feet tall. Team members included **Brandon Grady**, **Nelson Diaz**, and **Rob Dubben** with **George Udovich** serving as an apprentice.

**Lynn Oles**, Secretary I, has been selected as a Faculty/Staff Person of the Week by the Men's Lacrosse team.



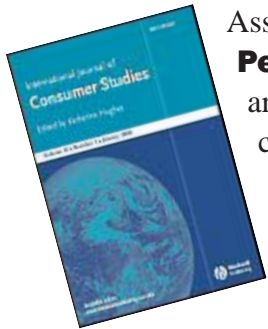
**President Candace Vancko invited Delhi's Chinese students to her family holiday celebration. Pictured are Ke Yang, Jiehao Ma, Lihui Jiang, Yupeng Zheng with President Vancko on Christmas Day.**

**Out and About**

The Delhi fraternity Theta Xi Omega has established a national colony with Tau Kappa Epsilon, thanks to efforts of advisor **Sean Babcock**, Complex Coordinator.

**In Print**

A feature article in the November/December 2008 issue of *Campus Activities Magazine* highlighted SUNY Delhi's student program excellence.



Assistant Professor **Peter Clement's** article "Critical Consumer Issues in St. Lucia: An Examination of Consumer Challenges and

Related Learning Among Rural Adults According to Income Levels" was published in the January 2009 issue of *International Journal of Consumer Studies*. Dr. Clement is a regular reviewer for this publication and the journal for the American Council on Consumer Interests.

**New Digs for Regalia**



Regalia has found a new home on the third floor of Bush Hall. The college's gently-used clothing store relocated at the beginning of the spring semester to accommodate the Farrell Hall renovations.

Visitors to the third floor will meet the two newest members to the Regalia clan, Nathan and Alma, vintage dress forms that have been donated by founding mother **Bonnie Martin**, Director of Administrative Services. "The older dress form, Nathan, belonged to my grandfather and came from a tailor shop in Manhattan. Alma was custom made to my mother who made her own clothes. They were just hanging out in my father's basement, so I decided to give them a new life."

Student groups are volunteering this semester to help expand the hours during the week and on Saturdays. Hours this semester are Monday and Wednesday, 12 noon -1 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 12 noon-3 p.m. The store is also open Saturday 1 p.m.-3 p.m. on the following dates: March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 18, 25; and May 2, 9. Items are sold for only a dollar and students with a valid ID receive a free item for every item they purchase. To date, Regalia has raised over \$12,000 for the scholarship endowment.

**Pictured above are Joe Michaud and Jennifer Rooker, members of coed fraternity Zeta Phi Omega, with "Nathan."**