“I am available to speak to that prospect. The AS program was a stepping stone for me. I proudly wear my Director of Clinical Services badge with my 1.5-inch MSN initials!”

— MICHELLE TETER, RN, ’07, ’13

We’re fortunate to have a cadre of nursing graduates who are always willing to share their Excelsior experiences with prospective students. That peer-to-peer communication adds credibility to our programs in a way that is different from that which our admissions counselors can provide.
Dear Friends,

Excelsior College was founded on a fundamental public purpose—to help adults, many of them traditionally left behind by higher education, earn a college degree.

As the College’s newly appointed president, I am humbled and honored to take on this tremendous responsibility. It is critical that our values of accessibility, affordability, and academic integrity endure and serve as a guide as we fulfill our commitment to degree completion, continuing education, and career readiness.

Over the past 45 years, more than 164,000 students have found success in our unique and flexible educational model. Without the support and financial contributions of our alumni, trustees, friends, faculty, staff, foundations, and community and corporate partners, their dreams may never have been realized.

We cannot thank you enough, and we ask for your continued support as we progress forward.

I believe in the transformative nature of education. A college credential remains the primary pathway to a better life for all. But degree attainment doesn’t just provide financial benefits for the individual; its power extends into civic life, creating a healthier, peaceful, and more engaged citizenry. It is the bedrock of our democracy, our moral imperative, a rising tide that lifts all boats.

Excelsior is proud of our past. Together, we can make a commitment to our future.

Ever upward,

James N. Baldwin, JD, EdD
President of Excelsior College
Bachelor’s-Level Technology Degrees Receive New ABET Accreditation

In September 2016, the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program received initial accreditation from the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) of ABET, and the Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering Technology and the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology programs earned renewed accreditation by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) of ABET.

Excelsior is one of four online institutions that holds an ABET accreditation for an IT program, and one of only two online schools with ABET accreditation of its Nuclear Engineering Technology and Electrical Engineering Technology programs.

The Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT) program focuses on preparing students to stay at the forefront of the rapidly changing technical environment, and to take on leadership roles in the information technology (IT) field. The program centers on fundamental concepts, skills, applications, and practices across a wide variety of IT domains, including software and web development, computer systems, database management, data communication, information security, and project management. The BSIT has three concentration areas: cybersecurity, information security, and network operations.

The Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineer Technology (BSNET) program opened for enrollment in 1984 in response to industry demand for a specialized degree offering flexibility for individuals performing shift work at nuclear facilities following the Three Mile Island accident five years prior. The BSNET program provides individuals working in the nuclear industry with the academic experience needed to address new problems and situations, and advance within their careers.

Students enrolled in the BSNET program will gain expertise in areas such as nuclear materials, health and physics safety, atomic and nuclear physics, and computer applications.

The Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology (BSEET) program has maintained ABET accreditation since 1996. In August 2010, the BSEET received a renewal of the ABET accreditation by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC) of ABET, which was for the period of six years. The BSEET program provides emphasis on problem solving, analysis, design, project management, and implementation of systems pertaining to electrical engineering technology, with concentrations in electronics, nanotechnology, and power systems. Students enrolled in the BSEET program gain theory, mathematical, and practical foundations in electrical and electronic circuits, microprocessors, microcontrollers, communication systems, power systems, nano-fabrication, and nanotechnology.

Pizza Hut and Excelsior Partner to Deliver “Life Unboxed EDU”

Excelsior has collaborated with Pizza Hut, the world’s largest pizza company, to offer continuing education opportunities to its employees and their immediate family members through its Life Unboxed EDU program. In addition to reduced tuition and fees for all Pizza Hut employees, the program awards college credits for on-the-job management-level training courses (up to
69 credit hours for area coaches and up to 53 credit hours for restaurant general managers) toward a degree program.

“Pizza Hut is committed to providing our team members with opportunities to reach their highest potential, and this custom-designed program with Excelsior College is an exciting example of that,” said David Gibbs, CEO, Pizza Hut, when the partnership was announced in December 2015. “The cost of going to college is a significant hurdle for many people who have a desire to continue their education, so we are taking away as much of that burden as possible through Life Unboxed EDU.”

Excelsior College was chosen as Pizza Hut’s education partner for Life Unboxed EDU due to its ability to understand the needs of adult learners who are balancing education with careers, families, and other responsibilities. In addition, the College commissioned its Center for the Assessment of Post-Traditional Instruction, Training, and Learning (CAPITAL) to evaluate the Pizza Hut management-level training for college-level equivalency, ultimately mapping the awarded training credit into four business degree programs.

The Life Unboxed EDU program gives every Pizza Hut employee — equity or franchise, salaried or hourly — and their immediate family members a discount of 45 percent off undergraduate tuition at Excelsior College (15 percent for graduate programs). On top of that, Pizza Hut will pay up to $5,250 per year in tuition, books, and fees for each salaried, full-time corporate employee participating in the program. This direct-fund, upfront payment is not a reimbursement, allowing team members to start their ongoing education journeys immediately, no matter their financial status.

One such employee is Mamoud Bazian, a Pizza Hut area coach who’s been with the company for 17 years and is working toward an associate degree in business. With four children, one of Bazian’s biggest motivations for starting the program was so his children could have the privilege of saying both parents graduated from college.

Bazian added, “The credit transfers offered were also one of the biggest motivators — almost like running a marathon, but starting at mile 13 instead of mile 1. Knowing I wasn’t starting at zero was satisfying.”

“Empowering our employees to become their best selves through education is one of the greatest investments we can make as a company,” said Amy Messersmith, chief people officer, Pizza Hut. “We know that we’ll see even more stories like Mamoud’s as this program continues to roll out.”

Excelsior College Forms Student Veterans of America Chapter

Given the College’s history as an educator of choice for military service members and veterans, Excelsior formed a chapter of Student Veterans of America (SVA) in 2016.

In having a chapter, the College aims to provide veterans with a sense of community and connectedness much like they experienced as servicemembers. SVA’s mission is like that of Excelsior’s Center for Military and Veteran Education in that it looks to “provide military veterans with the resources, support, and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and following graduation.”

Excelsior’s SVA chapter is part of a national group of more than 1,300 chapters on college campuses throughout the United States. These student groups provide peer-to-peer networks for veterans, support student success, advocate for student veterans, and provide support with college to career transition. At the national level, SVA serves as an advocate for veteran-related governmental policies, and provides scholarships, mentoring, networking, and career transition through partnerships.

“We are very happy to be approved for SVA membership,” said Carolyn Adamczyk, director of the Lt. Col. Bryant A Murray
Veterans Center, when Excelsior’s application to start a chapter was approved. “Those of us who work in the Center for Military and Veteran Education know a sense of connection and service are important to the military community overall, and vital to veterans transitioning to a civilian environment. The SVA’s flexible structure was created to enable individual chapters to meet their unique military and veteran student needs. Our chapter will be what our students need it to be.”

Excelsior’s SVA Chapter will be coordinated through the Veterans Center, and provide new opportunities for expanding the visibility and resources of the Center. Chapter members will include active members (military, veterans and family members who are Excelsior students), alumni members (Excelsior graduates who are military and veterans) and honorary members (members deemed acceptable by the SVO officers or designated by Excelsior staff).

School of Nursing Maintains Its Designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education

Following a rigorous peer-review process, Excelsior College’s School of Nursing has been designated as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education by the National League for Nursing for the fourth consecutive time. The designation, which recognizes Excelsior for “Creating Environments That Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development,” extends until 2021.

“School of Nursing Maintains Its Designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education”

Excelsior held its first induction ceremony for its SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society chapter on July 7, the day before Commencement. The College recognized 27 graduates who have served or who currently serve in the military, National Guard, or Reserves, and have met certain academic and ethical standards. Here, James Lettko, chief operating officer of Excelsior College, addresses the inductees. Lettko served in the U.S. Army and New York National Guard for more than 25 years.
Excelsior has been designated a Center of Excellence since 2005.

More than 17,000 of Excelsior’s 38,000 students are pursuing nursing degrees. Excelsior’s associate degree competency-based education program serves individuals with experience in clinically oriented health care disciplines, such as licensed practical or vocational nurses. The College’s bachelor’s and master's degree programs serve registered nurses seeking an advanced education and a credential increasingly in demand across the health care fields. Many of the master’s program students go on to pursue careers as nurse educators.

Currently 48 institutions hold the Center of Excellence designation, which is designed to recognize schools of nursing, schools within a system, and health care organizations that have achieved a level of excellence in one of four designated areas. According to NLN, “Through public recognition and distinction, the program acknowledges the outstanding innovations, commitment, and sustainability of excellence these organizations convey.”

The associate, bachelor's, and master's degree programs in nursing at Excelsior College are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The ACEN is a specialized accrediting agency for nursing recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

The link between nursing education level and patient outcomes has become increasingly clear in recent years, driving demand for better educated nurses. Excelsior’s unique model is helping to meet that demand by providing a quality pathway for non-traditional students.

— Mary Lee Pollard
Dean, School of Nursing

The Nyquist Leadership Series brought together professionals working in public health and economic development to discuss the relationship between health and the investment of resources into neighborhoods, buildings, and businesses. Panelists included Kathy M. Sheehan, mayor of Albany, New York, and Kaitlyn W. Meirs, program associate at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dorcey Applyrs (right), faculty program director for public health at Excelsior College, moderated.
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

June 30, 2016 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td>Total current assets</td>
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<td><strong>63,032,360</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td><strong>68,803,759</strong></td>
<td><strong>63,032,360</strong></td>
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### Enrollment by Program

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<tr>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Baccalaureate</th>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Master’s</th>
<th>Baccalaureate-Master’s</th>
<th>Grad Certificate</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Business</td>
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<td>2,566</td>
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<td>1,188</td>
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<td>Technology</td>
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<td>3,879</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>543</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Science</td>
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<td>61</td>
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<td>89</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
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<td>1,528</td>
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<td>405</td>
<td>264</td>
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<td>847</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,646</td>
<td>16,248</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>2,658</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At Excelsior College, we are grateful for the consistent and generous support from our alumni, faculty, staff, friends, and organizations during fiscal year 2015–2016. Excelsior finished the fiscal year having raised over $460,000, which provides much needed financial resources to help our students succeed. For the adult learner pursuing a college degree, success does not always come easy. Career and family responsibilities compete with study time and academic research. Financial obligations and tight family budgets often restrict adult learners from taking the courses they need to complete their chosen degree program. With the support of our donors to scholarships and academic programs, our students receive much needed financial help to overcome obstacles to a college degree.

A total of 1,660 donors made gifts that will transform and sustain a student’s efforts to complete their college degree. Many of their gifts supported endowed scholarships that make awards to students who have demonstrated financial need. Scholarships and other awards also offer students the encouragement to persist in their education, to not give up, and to strive on to their ultimate goal of earning a degree, as more than 164,000 Excelsior alumni have done before them.

The financial highlights and accomplishments that follow are made possible by the unwavering support of our donors, and as you’ll see, every gift matters. These gifts have a significant impact on the success of students and the College’s ability to be a model for higher education in the 21st century.

Excelsior College Annual Fund
Gifts to the College’s annual fund are vital to Excelsior’s ability to achieve its mission of serving adult learners. In short, the Excelsior College Annual Fund enables the College to be a cost-effective choice for students. Support for the College in annual gifts is one of the best ways to impact current students, because it helps the College continue providing opportunities for those pursuing their educational goals in a flexible, individualized manner.

- Total annual unrestricted giving to Excelsior College was just over $308,000, the fifth year in a row that annual unrestricted support exceeded $300,000.
- The Purple & Gold Society, which recognizes donors with three or more years of consecutive giving, has been steadily increasing every year and expanded to 726 donors.
- The College was supported by 232 new donors, providing the College with $23,000 in new gifts to the Excelsior College Annual Fund and endowed scholarships.
- Leadership giving increased to 80 donors and organizations contributing at least $1,000 to the College.

Excelsior College Endowment
Gifts to endowed funds at the College support student scholarships, academic programs, and student services. Gifts to endowed funds are permanently restricted and are invested by the College to produce a consistent level of support every year. Endowment giving reached $176,623 during the year, with 198 donors contributing to endowed funds.
The College’s endowment continues to grow year over year, a testament to the support of our donors and to the College’s commitment to provide consistent financial support to students.

**ENDOWMENT YEAR-END TOTAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>568,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>656,693</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>867,909</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,131,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,305,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,483,534</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several new endowed funds were created for the College during the year: two scholarship funds and one endowed fund for employee leadership development.

**RON MILLER NURSING SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND**

The fund supports the awards of scholarships to nurse assistants, LVNs, and LPNs seeking an associate degree and a path to becoming a registered nurse (RN) through Excelsior College’s independent study format. The fund was established by then President John Ebersole and Jerry Neff, chair of the Board of Trustees.

**CAROLE M. THOMAS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

Funds from this scholarship will be awarded to women entering or continuing in any of Excelsior College’s programs in business within the School of Business & Technology. The scholarship was established through the generosity of Karen Halaco, Esq.

**MURRAY H. BLOCK LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND**

Murray H. Block established this fund to support leadership education and development for employees of Excelsior College.

Grant Funding Reaches New High

During the 2015–2016 academic year, Excelsior College received notice from four funding sources that previously submitted project proposals had been accepted. Funds awarded total $3,185,374, more grant funding awarded than in any year in the College’s history.

- The Fred L. Emerson Foundation (Auburn, NY), a private, family foundation, awarded $25,000 toward the Fred L. Emerson Foundation Scholarship Fund, providing scholarships for financially needy students who demonstrate high academic achievement.

- The New York State Education Department (Albany, NY), through its Library Collection Aid, Coordinated Collection Development Aid program, awarded $10,497 toward the OvidSP research database. The database offers full-text articles from select titles in the OvidSP collection, consisting of articles in the fields of clinical medicine, behavioral and social sciences, life sciences, nursing, physical science and engineering, and psychology. The database is available to the public on the Excelsior campus in Albany, NY.

- USA Funds (Indianapolis, IN) awarded $150,000 to Excelsior College for Quality Assurance for Nontraditional Education Providers. This planning project of The Presidents’ Forum of Excelsior College in partnership with the Distance Education Accreditation Commission, seeks to explore and research the need for a set of national principles to gauge quality in non-institutional learning and the viability of an umbrella organization to contain and support various existing quality assessment programs.

- The U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (Washington, DC), through the First in the World program, awarded $2,999,877 for the Diagnostic Assessment and Achievement of College Skills: Personalized Feedback and Targeted Student Supports (DAACS) project. Over the next four years, Excelsior, working with Western Governors University, the University at Albany, and Rutgers University, will develop a low-stakes, formative assessment to offer an improved experience for the entering student. DAACS will assess students in both academic (i.e., reading, writing, and mathematics) and non-academic areas (i.e. self-regulation; intrinsic and extrinsic motivation; self-efficacy; personal relevance and control; metacognition; grit; math and test anxiety) that have been shown to be predictive of college success. The open-source tool will generate data that will lead to actionable feedback, and significantly increase data available to model and predict student needs. This will inform the delivery of appropriate student support services, ultimately leading to better success in college.
EXCELSIOR COLLEGE RECOGNIZES AND THANKS OUR DONORS

WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE COLLEGE BETWEEN JULY 1, 2015 AND JUNE 30, 2016

WE RESPECT THOSE WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS AND HAVE NOT LISTED THEM IN THIS REPORT.
Anonymous (2) ●
M. Khamel Abdulai
Jose A. Abreu ◊
Wilma Acosta
Donn J. Aiken * ●
Dr. Ali A. Al-Rahman ●
Amanus Consulting Group LLC ●
Gordon and Lucy Ambach * ●
Ambient Environmental, Inc. ●
Philip L. Anderson
Payman Arabzadeh
Earl L. Arthur
Yvonne Augustus
Lt. Col. Charles A. Aycock, USA (Ret.) * ○
Dr. Durward C. Ayre
Larissa Babbie ●
Thomas E. Bair *
Alicia Baker *
Sarah F. Bamgbade ● ●
Sgt. Maj. Antonio Barnes
Bray Barnes
Blake Andrew Barr ●
Keith O. Barrows
Gail A. Barsky
Charles Henry Bartz ** ●
James E. Baslock ●
Gary W. Beals, USN (Ret.) * ●
David Beckett ** ●
Angela Beddoc ●
James I. Beegan
Kate A. Benediktsson ** ●
Krimhild Berard * ●
David Lynn Blackburn ●
Thomas P. Blanchard ●
Susan D. Boone ●
Mohua Bose ● ●
Michael Boskin ●
Randall Lee Boss ●
Mark A. Bowman
Mary E. Boyd
Lt. Col. James R. Brann, USA (Ret.) ○
Ernest T. Brown
Terry Brown
Drina J. Brunsting ●
Joel W. Bulter * ●
Valentina E. Bunaeva ●
Rinza Cannon Burton Jr. ○
Kevin Patrick Bushey
Stephen Walter Bushey ●
Robert J. Butler
John T. Byrd
Calvin and Jane Bystry Weyers ● ●
Lynn Cady ● ●
Master Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Joe R. Campa, USN (Ret.) * ● ●
Brian Keith Campbell ○
David M. Cannon ● ○
Mark B. Cantales
Capital District Physicians’ Health Plan ●
Capital Region Chamber ** ● ●
CapitalCare Medical Group, LLC ●
Karen Carpenter-Palumbo ●
Pete Carrion III
John A. Carroll ○
William C. Carroll Jr. * ●
William L. Carter
Mark Alan Caudill
John C. Cavalier ●
Marcy Jo Chachakis ●
Ronnio W. Chanev ●
Cullen Chavis
Pandelis P. Chryssostomides ● ○
Melinda L. Clark ●
Robert L. Clemons
William K. Clough ● ○ ●
William Kershaw Cody, RN, PhD, CNE, FAAN ●
Daniel Edward Collins ○
Minnie G. Comither ● ●
Roberta Yvonne Compton
Anne F. Connor ● ●
Elizabeth V. Conrad
Dr. Jeanne Contardo ●
Russell Coon
Chadwick Michael Cooper
Donna Cooper ● ●
Nelson M. Cooper Jr.
Robert John Copeskey ** ●
Chief Warrant Officer 4 John J. Corkhill
Paul F. Costello
Robert T. Couey
Roger D. Cox
Phillip Ford Crawford ●
Julie B. Crocker ● ●
Patricia A. Croop * ● ●
Master Sgt. Jack M. Crossman, USA (Ret.) *** ●
Sharon Crowell
Eduardo Miguel Cruz
James P. Curran, USN (Ret.) ●
Michael D. Current ●
Helen L. Curtis * ●
Thomas Brian Cypherd
Leonard A. Dalenberg ● ●
Thomas J. Dalton ●
Charles Burton Daniels ●
Lisa Daniels ●
Patricia M. D’Astoli
Wayne A. Davis
Bethany T. de Barros ●
Sharon L. De Martini * ●
Dolores and Joseph De Thomasis * ●
Theresa DeAngelis ● ●
Philip J. Devernois ● ●
Mary M. Deivert
Charles DeLaFuentene ● ○
Keith Demaray
Richard Harrison Denmark ●
Sandra DerGurahian ● ● ○
Steve Derrick ●
Susan Dewan * ○ ● ●
Gary M. Dewey * ●
Mark E. Dewolff ** ●
Valerie Maria Di Cioccio ● ○ ●
Jeffrey C. Diercksmeier ●
Capt. Kevin L. Dillon, USN (Ret.) * ●
Christie L. Dingman
Michael DiSiena ●
Jeffrey M. Dixon ○
Pilley Tettee Doe
Dr. Toni Doherty ● ▲
Dana M. Dolvin Sr.
Mare Donohue ● ●
Lt. Col. John J. Dozzo (Ret.) ●
Cathy Jean Duncan ●
Daly E. Dunn
Randolph J. Dunn ●
Billy R. Durham ●
Rachel Ann Durst Stroman
E. Stewart Art Jones Hacker Murpy, LLP ●
Christine Earley-Nadler ●
Shannon and James Easton ● ● ●
Gary L. Eddy ●
Marion A. Edwards ●
Joseph M. Eisinger
Dimitri Emilien
Mark Eric Engberg
Frank Martin Ennett ●
Donald Epps
Michael E. Espinola ● ●
Sarah A. Eveleth ● ●
Stacey Farber ●
Mark C. Farley
Ronald J. Fellows
John E. Fewell ●
Sheila A. Finan
FirstLight TVC Albany, Inc. ● ● ●
Jacqueline M. Fitch
Mary L. Fitzgerald
Paul G. Flory ● ●
Christine Foley ●
Marshall Jay Foss ● ●
Kenneth Wisbrun Frankel Jr. ● ● ●
Kenton J. Franklin
Bruce A. Franta ● ●
Melanie Frees ● ●
David W. Freshour ● ●
Areatha C. Fryar ● ●
G2 Marketing, Inc. ●
Dr. Phillip P. Gager ● ○
Reuben R. Garrett ● ●
Corey A. Gause ●
Kim Gibson ● ●
Chief Master Sgt. Jesse L. Givens ●
Glenville Mini Sportsplex ● ● ●
David Goldberger ●
Paul A. Goldsmith
Christine Goodyear ● ●
Mark Stephen Gostomski Jr.
John Joseph Grande ● ●●
Alan Wayne Gray ●
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Green
Paul J. Greene ●
Thomas F. Gruben
Nicholas J. Guimas ●
Howard C. Halfhill Jr. ●
Connie Lee Hall
Nathan R. Hall
Stergie J. Hall ●
Toby L. Hamlin ● ●
Billy V. Hardin (Ret.) ● ●
Tabitha M. Harwood ● ●
Barry E. Hatch ●
Hon. Helena Heath ● ● ●
Lee B. Heavin ● ●
Kim M. Hedley ● ●
Louis Marshall Heminway III ● ●
Capt. Daniel Pettus Henderson
Margaret Hennessy
Songcerai Hill ○
Hilton Garden Inn at Albany Medical Center ● ● ●
Vancy Lee Hobbs
John S. Hodges
Victoria R. Hodson
Patricia B. Hoeg ●
Emilsen S. Holguin ●
Cynthia Dawn Holloway ●
Mary V. Hood
Michael A. Hornberger ●
David L. Horton
Anthony J. Hume ● ●
Steven Hyche
IBM International Foundation ● ●
Susan Irvine ● ▲
Takeo Ishimasa ●
Stanley Ananias Jackson ●
Sherri Bernette Jacobs
Nathaniel James
Allan J. Jantz
Grady Braxton Jefferys Jr., PhD
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Dear Graduate,

The College’s alumni are the most authentic and most permanent population in the Excelsior community. I say this so often that I’ve begun to worry that it sounds disingenuous. Hopefully, what you’ve read within these pages will help you believe, as I do, that this statement couldn’t be more true.

Alumni serve as the single-best proof that the Excelsior model works. They can help open doors to new opportunities for the College. Their word-of-mouth is better than any marketing campaign we could ever afford. That’s why they make ideal volunteers.

If you’re a graduate of Excelsior, Regents or the University of the State of New York who wants to be more involved with the College—whether just a little or a whole lot—here are three things that you can do:

1. **Connect with us.** Share your email address so we can let you know about webinars, events, career services, publications, and other information. From there, you can choose to participate as you please. You should also read the monthly alumni e-newsletter when it arrives in your inbox on the first day of every month. Don’t forget to bookmark Excelsior Life to keep up with news and happenings at the College. And finally, join us on social media. We have active communities on Facebook and LinkedIn.

2. **Engage with us.** Participate in webinars and professional development opportunities sponsored by the College’s schools and institutes. Perhaps attend Commencement or a regional event. Or, use our career services, apply for an alumni award, or submit your personal news through Alumni Notes—we want to know about your new job, promotion, most recent degree, or whatever else you’d like to share.

3. **Volunteer with us.** Sign up to be an Alumni Ambassador by registering online and reviewing the Alumni Volunteer Policy and completing the agreement.

In 2015–2016, with the help of our many volunteers, the Office of Alumni Affairs offered four affinity-based webinars through the Alumni Speaker Series and hosted six face-to-face regional events. We also reached more than 77,000 alumni each month with the alumni e-newsletter. Furthermore, to foster engagement among alumni and with the College, we created an alumni-specific hashtag, #excelsiorproud.

I hope that as you learn more about the activities of your Alumni Association and the ways in which our alumni volunteers are helping to advance the College’s mission, you too are Excelsior Proud! In the coming year, I encourage you to begin thinking of the Office of Alumni Affairs as the portal to helping you become more involved. Let us connect you with a meaningful experience that allows you to use your expertise, explore your interests, give back to the College, or pay it forward to those following in your footsteps. If you’d like to share your thoughts about the Alumni Association or the alumni volunteer program, you can contact me at rkelly@excelsior.edu.

Thank you for your loyalty and commitment to Excelsior and for the ways in which you, personally, extend the College’s reach around the world.

Ever upward!

Renee I. Kelly, Director of Alumni Affairs
Ambassadors Spur Alumni Engagement

The 2015–2016 year boasts several outcomes that together form a measurable increase in alumni engagement, an impact that would not be possible without the help of our Alumni Ambassadors. Here’s a snapshot of this year’s volunteer activity:

- Abdulrashid Abubakari ‘14, Mary Beth Bobik-Kadylak ‘12, Kimberly Haley ‘06, and Walter Were ’05 made reminder phone calls to alumni and students registered for career webinars.
- Katharin Rice-Gillis ’09, ’13, ’15 cultivated a group of cybersecurity students and alumni, known as “cyber warriors,” through email communication and web chats.
- Volunteer-led alumni events were hosted in these cities:
  - Binghamton, NY — Adrienne Mason ’11 and former Alumni Advisory Board President, Robert Williams ’95
  - Las Vegas, NV — Tim Moon ’98, ’06, ’09
  - Portland, OR — Brad Woodruff ’11
  - San Diego, CA — Sandy Butterfield ’86; Ken Desforges ’10; and Lisa Roberts ’89, ’94
  - Virginia Beach, VA — Shannon McMillan ’07, ’09

The alumni volunteer program underwent a couple of important changes this year. First, the Alumni Advisory Board (the leadership of the Alumni Association) changed its name to the Alumni Leadership Council to more accurately reflect its purpose and align with the naming convention of similar groups at the College. In addition, the Alumni Volunteer Policy was established and distributed with the simple yet important goals of informing volunteers of the College’s expectations of them and detailing what volunteers can expect from the College.

“I have five Coast Guardsmen here who are ready to enroll…who can they send their transcripts to?”

—DANNY SCOTT ’01, ’02

Like many of our military alumni, U.S. Navy veteran Danny Scott ’01, ’02 has no trouble finding prospective students — soldiers and sailors who would benefit from having a college degree. Danny generously gives of his time to several volunteer military-affiliated organizations and Excelsior often reaps the rewards.
Nathaniel Acevedo, '10, '12, '14
San Clemente, California

Brian Antel, '13, '16
Orlando, Florida

Mary Beth Bobik-Kadylak, '11
Johnson City, New York

Melodi Brown, '10
Atlanta, Georgia

Stephanie Brugger, '12, '16
Troy, Ohio

Janice Carll, '98, '10, '14
Wesley Chapel, Florida

Chad Carter, '96
Mooresville, Indiana

Michael Clarizio, '83, '84, '13
Burlingham, New York

Charles Clarke, '12
Barrigada, Guam

Daniel Collins, '84, '06
Charlotte, North Carolina

William Comstock, '08
Naples, Florida

Debora Coombs, '08, '12, '15
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Rebecca Crane, '03
Mitchell, Indiana

Kenneth Desforges, '10
Riverdale, California

Lisa Dukes, '08, '16
Grovetown, Georgia

Ong Heang, '04
George Town, Malaysia

Jorge Hidalgo, '12, '16
Harrison, New York

Megan Keenan, '11, '15
Nassau, New York

Karen Kiefer, '97
Kenilworth, New Jersey

Virginia Lipke, '04
Amelia, Ohio

Catherine Lowery, '06
Albany, New York

Reed Markham, '80, '82
Sorrento, Florida

Farrell Martin, '05
Marietta, Georgia

Lorenzo McFarland, '01
Belleview, Texas

Samuel Miller, '96
Ruleville, Mississippi

John Morgan, '16
APO, AE

Jacqueline Murdock, '85
Palm Harbor, Florida

Ahmad Pelzer, '96
Columbia, Missouri

Douglas Perry, '78
Madison, Indiana

Preston Pierce, '79
Canandaigua, New York

Kimberly Pounds, '01
New Orleans, Louisiana

Alex Prayson, '03
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Tiffany Rivera, '09
San Tan Valley, Arizona

Robert Rydl, '13
Norfolk, Virginia

Heather Sanford, '13
Pinellas Park, Florida

Ronnie Satunro, '14, '15
Bolling AFB, District of Columbia

Danny Scott, '01, '02
Milton, Florida

Joseph Seifert, '05
Franksville, Wisconsin

James Skinner, '16
Killeen, Texas

Justin Sloan, '15
Winder, Georgia

Thomas Sne, '98
Burke, Virginia

Benjamin Sorensen, '09
Leland, North Carolina

Allan Welch, '12, '16
Copperas Cove, Texas

Walter Were, '05
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Robert Williams, '95
Owego, New York

Lloyd Wimer, '98
Coutesville, Pennsylvania

Bradley Woodruff, '11
Sacramento, California

Daniel Woods, '01, '03
Stafford, Virginia

Marie Wrinn, '10
Tucson, Arizona

Laurence Yuen, '95
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

“I am a fellow employee who graduated from Excelsior College while working full-time at Time Warner Cable. This past year I volunteered to become an Alumni Ambassador for the College because I believe in the school’s mission of providing an affordable college education to working adults… I’d like Time Warner Cable to consider registering with Excelsior College as a partner… would you be willing to jump on a conference call with me to discuss this potential employee program?”

– DAN COLLINS ’84, ’06

Dan Collins, an employee of Time Warner Cable in Charlotte, NC, spearheaded a corporate partnership between the College and his employer that offers an educational benefit to the company’s employees across the nation. It began with an email to his human resources department.
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