

Vol. 13, No.1, Spring/Summer 2011



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Thanks to all Excelsior staff who contributed to this issue.

Live & Learn is published by the Excelsior College Office of Institutional Advancement.
 Cathy Kushner, *Vice President*

CALENDAR

2011 HOLIDAYS

(College closed)

May 30

Memorial Day

July 4

Independence Day

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

July 8, 2011

September 5

Labor Day

October 10

Columbus Day

November 11

Veteran's Day (observed)

November 24 & 25

Thanksgiving Day & Day After

December 26

Christmas Day (observed)

Your questions and comments regarding *Live & Learn* are welcome. Please direct them to the Publications Office: 7 Columbia Circle, Albany, New York 12203-5159 email: pubteam@excelsior.edu

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For general information about Excelsior College, call **888-647-2388**.

www.excelsior.edu



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



As we continue to commemorate our 40th anniversary year, my pride in the institution continues to grow as well. I have been impressed by the generosity of our staff, students, graduates, donors, and board of trustees—and their willingness to share stories, advice, and impressions of Excelsior College and its remarkable evolution from 1971 until today.

In the following pages you'll meet a handful of the many staff members who attended the College's annual Winterfest and volunteered to share their personal experiences with Excelsior in support of the 40th anniversary oral history project. They form a perfect example of the people with whom I am proud to work every day.

Additionally, you'll have a chance to follow the College's progress from its earliest days to today through an illustrated timeline, which appears on the right hand side of each page. Excelsior's history is rich with the accomplishment of a very special and significant mission—serving the underserved in the achievement of a respected college degree. We will continue to work hard to meet the higher education needs of the 21st century.

In closing, I want to mention how much I look forward to meeting many of you, our newest graduates, at Commencement 2011. Our keynote speaker this year is someone whom I respect and admire greatly—Tom Joyner. An award-winning broadcaster and generous philanthropist who is dedicated to education for all who seek it, he is also an extremely inspiring speaker.

I hope you will enjoy the following pages and also consider how you might participate as we continue to celebrate our 40th year.

Ever Upward!

Dr. John F. Ebersole
 President



Mixed Sources

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HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

1970



▲ At his inauguration as President of The University of the State of New York and Commissioner of Education, Ewald B. Nyquist first proposed the idea that the New York State Board of Regents "award undergraduate degrees to those who are able to demonstrate knowledge and abilities equivalent to those of a degree recipient from a New York State college or university, regardless of how the candidates have prepared themselves."

1971

The Regents External Degree Program (REX) is established by the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York.

Major grants for the development of the program are awarded by the Ford Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation.

1972

The Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in business are introduced.



▲ At the College's first Commencement, Allen Pifer, then president of the Carnegie Corporation and major proponent of the fledgling program, delivers the keynote address.

The first degrees are formally awarded at Commencement exercises in Albany, the first such ceremony in the two-hundred-year history of The University of the State of New York.

1973

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation awards a major grant for the development of a REX associate degree in nursing.



◀ The mace, used in academic celebrations, symbolizes the authority of the institution to grant degrees. The sterling silver torch reflects the College's graphic identity. The mace depicts the College's degree programs. The Scottish thistle represents thrift; the acorn, new ideas that will grow into great oaks; and the bee represents industry.

Their Stories Add Up

Staff Reflect on College's Anniversary

Excelstior staff gathered at the College's annual winter celebration to welcome in our 40th year. Many weighed in on the importance of the College in their own lives and shared their views regarding its place in education and its contributions to society. How does it all add up? Just these 18 staff members shown here, who range from relative newcomers with two years to those with 30 or more years at the College, total over 280 years of collective appreciation for Excelsior's four decades of service.



of the NACADA Certificate of Merit Award for Outstanding Advisor.

CHRIS FOLEY, *Senior Academic Advisor, School of Business & Technology (14 YRS)*: It has been interesting and challenging at times as we develop new ways to meet the changing needs of the College and our students. Working at Excelsior has given me confidence and is fulfilling... I achieved a national honor in the form



who've historically lacked access to education.

DAVID SEELOW, *Program Director, School of Liberal Arts (4 YRS)*: I have matured as a professional because of my work for the College. My decision-making skills have been refined. The ESL grant has moved the College forward serving underserved students. It has helped me realize a lifetime goal—to serve students

a **DIANE O'CONNOR-EASTON**, *Senior Marketing Manager, Enrollment Management (10 YRS)*: In just 10 years the College's growth has been amazing. It has made me further appreciate the value of education for those whom we serve. I'm so impressed by the impact it makes on our students' lives.



professionally. We provide students with the opportunity to earn credit through nontraditional sources, serving returning adult students—and many of our students are military servicemembers.

GRETCHEN NORTZ, *Senior Academic Advisor, School of Liberal Arts (15 YRS)*: We now offer online and CD-ROM courses to students all over the world. Also, we now have a successful staff annual giving campaign, which I have supported since it began. Excelsior College was and is everything I was looking for



the College in bringing education to individuals who might not otherwise have attained a college degree. I have also been inspired in seeing the determination of adult learners to make their lives better.

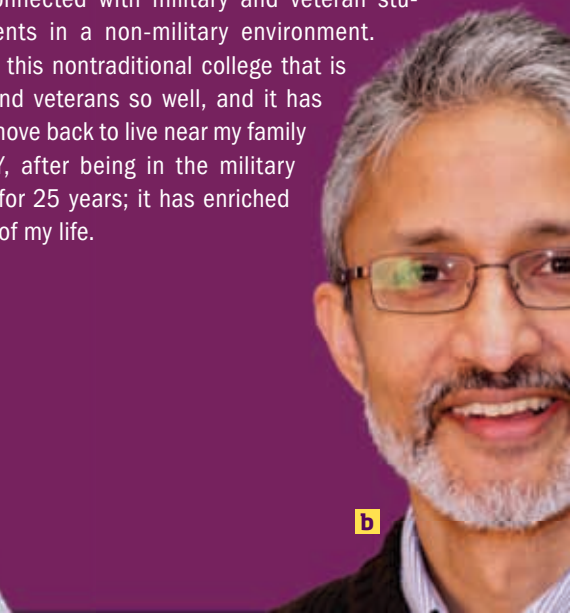
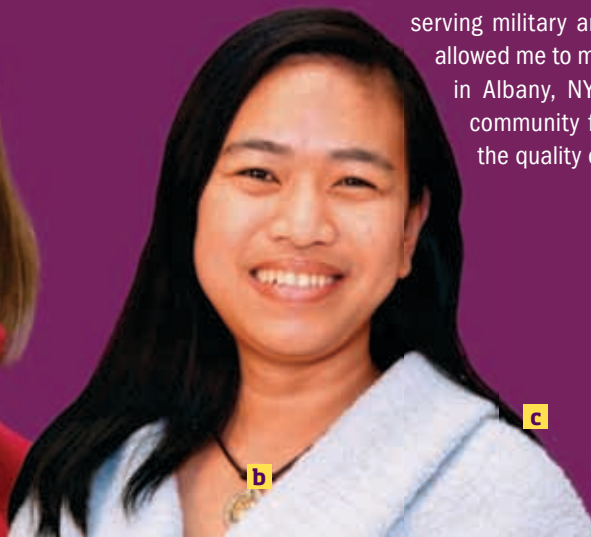
JANE LECLAIR, *Dean, School of Business & Technology (2 YRS)*: The contacts and professional relationships that we establish through the many committees and meetings that I participate in as dean are all geared toward the advancement of Excelsior College. Over the years I have grown to appreciate the efforts of

b **JITENDRA PRADHAN**, *Director of Psychometric Services, Assessment (9 YRS)*: The College has become a more dynamic and exciting place to work. Lots of change and new initiatives. I notice that "college education" and especially "credit-by-exam" seems to creep into my conversations outside work quite often. I believe what we are doing is valuable and makes a difference in the lives of people.



I am able to work at this nontraditional college that is serving military and veterans so well, and it has allowed me to move back to live near my family in Albany, NY, after being in the military community for 25 years; it has enriched the quality of my life.

JUDY REED, *Director of Veteran Services and Outreach, Center for Military Education (2 YRS)*: The College's awareness of the value of our veterans is always growing and expanding. The College has given me the opportunity to stay connected with military and veteran students in a non-military environment.





KATHERINE MACGREGOR, Senior Academic Advisor, School of Nursing (32 YRS): Being here at the College has made me realize that I love education and being an educator. I so enjoy working with adult students. I also know that lifelong learning is what I love to do, whether reading a good historical novel or traveling to a new area in the Americas or overseas.

c MAY BOGGS, Executive Administrative Assistant, Enrollment Management (5 YRS): One thing remains constant despite these many changes—the unwavering dedication of all EC staff in helping the College advance its mission. Excelsior is moving on to greater heights! My work with the Innovation Group has allowed me to contribute to the culture of innovation in the College. When I learn about graduates' stories during Commencement or read about them in our publications or hear about them from a colleague, I can't help but feel a sense of pride in what we do. Excelsior is a special and unique institution that continues to make a tremendous difference in the lives of so many people.

d MINNIE G. COMITHIER, Executive Administrative Assistant, Outcomes Assessment and Institutional Research (33 YRS): The College has had a dramatic impact on my life. It has given me a better perspective about the importance of higher education. Some of my goals and aspirations changed after pursuing formal education. My studies have enabled me to better understand the mission, goals, and objectives of the College. Excelsior has allowed me to move forward in my personal and professional life. Being a member of the President's Committee on Inclusion (PCI) has allowed me to learn about other groups of people, appreciate their differences, and embrace those differences. In addition, being on this committee has given me the opportunity to promote an inclusive environment within the College and share with other staff the advantages of a diverse college population.



MURRAY BLOCK, Chief of Staff, President's Office (5 1/2 YRS): I have had six different positions at EC in five and a half years—from interim president to chief of staff. In each position, I have tried to instill a sense of cooperation and camaraderie among my colleagues as well as a sense of

respect for each other. I hope I have been successful. I have developed a great respect and love for Excelsior College, my competent and warm colleagues, and the services EC offers to students.

d



◀ Commissioner Nyquist (seated) with founding director, Dr. Donald J. Nolan, and Dolores Wozniak, first coordinator of REX degrees in nursing.

1974

Associate in Science, Bachelor of Arts, and Bachelor of Science degrees as well as the Regents College Credit Bank are introduced.



◀ C. Wayne Williams (left) meets with key staff from left, Carrie B. Lenburg, Judith E. Safranko, Donald R. Stoddard, and Katherine Gulliver.

1975

The Associate in Science degree in nursing is introduced.

The associate degrees in nursing earn accreditation by the National League for Nursing.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation makes a second grant to the Regents External Degree Program, this time for the development of a bachelor's degree in nursing.

1976

The Bachelor of Science degree in nursing is introduced.

Regents External Degree Examinations are administered nationwide and to the U.S. military for the first time through the American College Testing Program.



◀ Graduate Howard Johnson (with his sons) registers at Commencement.

1977



◀ U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. William R. Harms, BS 1977.



NADINE SYLVIA, *Editorial Assistant, Assessment (30 YRS)*: Over the past 30 years working at the College, I can see that I have gained more confidence in myself. The College has allowed me to become better educated. I have taken almost 70 credits at Excelsior and am working toward a bachelor's degree. I feel

that coming to work every day is a fine experience, and at the end of the day I can go home feeling good about myself and the work I have accomplished.



PAT CASEY, *Senior Advisor, School of Nursing (15 YRS)*: Working at Excelsior College has been a great experience professionally and personally. I have had many opportunities to develop and influence changes in the way we process our daily work. Ideas are encouraged and new initiatives are given support. You get a

sense that someone is listening to you and sometimes your ideas are even adopted by the entire academic community. This has been very rewarding. I consider myself fortunate to have worked in an environment that is collaborative and also focused on the well being of the employees.



PAT JONES, *Dean, Assessment (9 YRS)*: My contributions fall in the following areas—development of practice exams for students, introduction of portfolio assessment as a means for students to earn credit, assessment of credentials and training as a source of credit, the alliance with Pearson VUE for the computer-

based delivery of exams, and development of the UExcel exam brand. The College has provided me with an opportunity to apply my assessment training and experience in support of adult learners who wish to earn credit via prior-learning assessment. At Excelsior, I have the opportunity to witness first hand the positive and transformative difference that we make in the lives of our students and their families.



RUTH OLMSTED, *Associate Dean, Assessment (18 YRS)*: The program that comes most to mind is Judaic Studies (TTI and Ma'alot). I have taken the lead on the portfolio assessment piece of that program from its inception. The program serves a unique population,

primarily young women (some men do the program as well, but they don't usually do the portfolio aspect) who wish to remain true to their Orthodox Jewish values while completing a college degree and preparing, in many cases, for graduate school...New ventures related to this population continue to be developed. Working with the Judaic Studies program has deepened my knowledge of

the Jewish world, and I treasure it for that. Working with the military programs has given me a different perspective on my lifetime commitment to pacifism.

e SANDY DERGURAHIAN, *Director of Advisement and Evaluation, School of Nursing (31 YRS)*: I've always been grateful to work for an organization that cared about its people. I think this has stood the test of time. Although I haven't worked many other places, I hear from others how unique Excelsior is. I know when we interview people, and they are hired, they sense the closeness of the organization. Some don't really believe it until they've worked here and then comment that it's really like they perceived when they came to interview.



SUE DEWAN, *Executive Director, Center for Military Education (30 YRS)*: I hope I have made a contribution to advance the cause of military education at the College. Of the 30 years working for the College, I have been a part of military education for 22 of those years.

Contributions include centralizing services through the creation of the Center for Military Education, participating in military partnership programs for all military branches, implementing the first on-site program at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, removing financial barriers for students through revised military fee structures, receiving national recognition as a military-friendly institution, and working to expand the Center for Military Education to include a focus on veterans.

f TODD THOMAS, *Executive Director, Budgets and Financial Analysis (18 YRS)*: I've been particularly proud of my involvement in the service quality studies that we have commissioned since 1997. I've worked (and continue to work) with some exceptional educators, all who truly believe in our mission. I've internalized that mission and now look at higher education with a broader perspective. Excelsior is a community made up of people who genuinely care about one another. I have been fortunate to work in such an environment.



EDUCATORS SERVING EDUCATORS

Excelisior College has established a new division, Educators Serving Educators (ESE), a not-for-profit corporation that helps accredited institutions of higher education develop and deliver online programs and courses. ESE is the only not-for-profit service providing this type of assistance to colleges and universities.

“The mission of Excelsior College has always been to provide educational access to learners, regardless of their location,” explains John F. Ebersole, president of the College. “It has also been Excelsior’s mission to help other institutions in increasing access since its early days as Regents College.” Services that ESE will offer include program and market assessment, hosting and technical support, recruitment and lead generation, marketing management, instructional design, faculty training, and student support.

“Members of an institution interested in developing and delivering programs online can contact ESE and discuss their needs and goals,” says Ebersole. “In collaboration with the administration and faculty at the client school, ESE can outline a plan and draw on a number of sources, who will subcontract to ESE and provide those services. ESE will project-manage the process every step of the way to ensure that the endeavor is successful.”

The principals involved in ESE are not new to Excelsior College or the distance education world. Wayne Brown, PhD, was named CEO in January 2011. Dr. Brown was vice president and CIO at Excelsior and has decades of experience in overseeing instructional technology units in both the military and higher education. Susan Kryczka is chief operating officer. She previously served as executive director of the Center for Professional Development at Excelsior and led the online programs at both Boston University and Northeastern University. Dr. George Timmons, Excelsior’s dean of Online Education and Learning Services, and John Pontius, Excelsior’s vice president for Finance and Administration, are assisting ESE in a consulting capacity.



Wayne Brown



Susan Kryczka



George Timmons



John Pontius

“In this challenging economy, many colleges and universities are struggling to find sustainable business models,” says Ebersole. “ESE can help a school maintain the quality of their educational programs as they move to an online environment. ESE will get them successfully established and provide ongoing support to ensure their success over time.” ■



The Regents External Degree Program earns accreditation by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.



▲ Nursing graduate, Judith Nellis (center), stands among nursing faculty including, Carrie Lenburg (2nd from right), and Mildred Montag (right), who pioneered the Associate in Science degree in nursing.

1978

The Regents External Degree Alumni Association is established.



▲ New home of REX—New York State Cultural Education Center.



◀ Alumni in New York City at a first “reunion of people who’ve never met.”

1979

The Bachelor of Science degree in nursing earns accreditation by the National League for Nursing.

A third Kellogg Foundation grant to the Regents External Degree Program funds the completion of the Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and the establishment of nursing Regional Performance Assessment Centers.

1980

The REX Graduate Resource Network is established by the Alumni Association.



We ♥ Exams!



STUDY. LEARN. SUCCEED.
ECE

Would it surprise you to learn that lots of students love exams? They do!

The process of planning, preparing for, and taking exams may be the ultimate independent study activity. It was made for those individuals who like to “go it alone.” And there are thousands of adult learners who choose that path gladly.

Deb Marrow *“I love exams! I truly prefer them, because I love to curl up and read and explore on my own... I actually think I delve deeper into the material.”*

Chelsea Mansfield *“I like to be independent when I study. You have so much more freedom... I took about five or six Excelsior exams and loved them.”*

Kate Butler *“Exams are a wonderful way to earn credit! You can study the material independently, at your own pace, and take the exam when you feel ready... and I learned a great deal about the subjects.”*

“It’s three hours, and when it’s over—if you’ve succeeded—you’ve earned three entire college credits,” says Dr. Ruth Olmsted, associate dean of Assessment. When first embarking on credit by examination, Dr. Olmsted recommends staying away from topics with which you have no familiarity. “I do think it’s better to start out with some interest or knowledge in an area... until you’re more experienced with taking exams; try something that’s a little closer to your comfort zone.”

Cheryl Renodin *“I love the ease and convenience of taking exams, especially when I have some previous knowledge of the subject.”*

It takes planning, and it’s important to use all of the resources the College provides. As Olmsted puts it, “The content outline for the exam is basically the syllabus for the course you’re teaching yourself. You are the professor of the course—the content outline is your syllabus. We try to pick textbooks that have good materials with them, so you get more interactive kinds of things... that’s what makes a good exam.” The College brings together content experts with experience from all over the country. They each have

“The content outline for the exam is basically the syllabus for the course you’re teaching yourself. You are the professor of the course – the content outline is your syllabus.” Dr. Ruth Olmsted

Continued on next page



1981

The first Regional Performance Assessment Center for administration of REX nursing performance examinations outside New York state is opened in Long Beach, California.

1982

The Regents External Degree's accreditation by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools is reaffirmed.

1983

Accreditation of the associate degrees in nursing is reaffirmed by the National League for Nursing for eight more years.



▲ Military graduates from the Navy Campus program, Coast Guard, and Army.

1984

The Regents External Degree Program changes its name to Regents College Degrees.

The Associate in Science and Bachelor of Science degrees in nuclear technology are introduced.

Regents College Examinations receive endorsement by the American Council on Education.

1985

Six new business and technology degree programs are introduced: The Bachelor of Science and Associate in Science in computer software; the Bachelor of Science and Associate in Science in electronics technology; the Bachelor of Science in computer technology; and the Associate in Science in business.





"Excelsior has been so great to work with. Every time I called they were so encouraging with lots of informative and great advice." Chelsea Mansfield

their individual course syllabus. Then, says Olmsted, "We bring these all together to create what would be a universal course syllabus for the exam."

Kate Butler *"When you sign up for an exam, Excelsior gives you a content guide that tells you which textbooks to purchase. My advice: Pay attention to the concepts in the headings and bold type, and make sure you can answer the questions asked at the end of each chapter."*

Deb Marrow *"For the Intro. to Philosophy exam, I used all the recommended texts, followed the study outline in the content guide, and explored the Web for additional insights on some of the more difficult concepts."*

Many find that practice exams are also a big help. You take them at your convenience, in your own home, at your own computer. According to Dr. Olmsted, "Those who take practice exams tend to do better on the real exam. You'll know what to work harder on. After a practice exam, you get to review the entire exam. You get all the questions: your answer, the right answer, and the rationale for each of the answers. You can see which ones you got right and

which ones you got wrong. You can continue going back and reviewing that material... It's really a great study tool." As one graduate affirms, "Excelsior's practice tests and study materials were essential to my achieving nearly straight As on my ECEs."

When students first consider taking exams, they may be glad to know that while all the information they need is at the College's Web site, they can still talk to a real person who is there to help. "What we do is walk them through each step, so they can get their user name and password to enable them to schedule their appointment to test," says Barbara Wells, testing program manager in the College's Assessment Unit. "Students appreciate us taking the time to walk them through it." Additionally, says Wells, "Once a student takes an exam, they find it especially convenient, because they get their results before they leave the test center."

Deb Marrow *"The testing site was easy to find... the environment was comfortable and quiet. The test interface was super easy — I could skip questions and go back later and review my answers a couple different ways. When I was finished — my results were ready as I was walking out of the testing room."*

Cheryl Renodin *"The exam format is on the computer, a medium most of us are very familiar with, and the test room is very quiet, which makes it easy to concentrate. I just take a few deep breaths and dive in!"*

Examinations are a time-tested, cost-effective way to earn college credit. They are an important part of Excelsior College's 40-year history and one of the cornerstones on which the institution was built. ■

Exams are administered through Pearson VUE across the country and the world. You can see what it's like at a Pearson testing center by taking an online tour. You can also do the Pearson tutorial to get the look and feel of an Excelsior College exam. The ECE Virtual Tour can be accessed from www.excelsior.edu/exams.

The American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated and made college credit recommendations for ECEs and UExcel® exams*.

To learn more about creating your perfect degree completion program with ECEs and Excelsior College courses, see the article, "Building Your Successful Degree Plan," on page 26.

*The UExcel program is an alliance between Excelsior College and Pearson, the market leader in education products and services. UExcel exams are a good option for lower-level tests; they are shorter and cost less. Titles include: Calculus, Physics, Introduction to Psychology, College Writing, Statistics, Spanish Language, and Political Science.

Presidents' Forum Progress Report

Higher education officers of sixteen states and observers from several national organizations in the not-for-profit and for-profit sectors of higher education met last fall to comment on the recommendations of the Presidents' Forum Task Force Report, "Aligning State Approval and Regional Accreditation for Online Postsecondary Institutions: A National Strategy."



Paul Shiffman,
executive director

Along with subsequent funding from Lumina Foundation for Education, the Presidents' Forum initiated the project "Multi-State Reciprocity in Postsecondary Approval and Regulation" to create a common template for the processes of state approval, and, with the assistance of the Council for State Governments (CSG), to draft model compact legislation.

"Success in this project will bring significant benefits to all parties – most importantly – students. With improved educational access comes a strengthening of the workforce and our national economy." – Paul Shiffman

The project explores the potential of a voluntary, interstate agreement (compact) to help ensure greater student access to accredited online degree programs while ensuring high quality and consumer protection. Through enhanced reciprocity, rigorous but common standards would be developed that could streamline the approval processes for institutions seeking to offer degree programs across political boundaries.

"Success in this project will bring significant benefits to all parties – most importantly – students. With improved educational access comes a strengthening of the workforce and our national economy," explains Executive Director for the Presidents' Forum at Excelsior College Paul Shiffman.

The Forum is currently distributing a feedback survey to state officers and other stakeholders to gain a more systematic understanding of states' present regulatory status and the realities of the approval processes, including possible common forms that are essential to determining institutional credibility. It is anticipated that later this year, a reasonable agreement around a common template for state requirements and processes will be agreed upon. ■



Regents College Degrees receives Change Master Award from the Council for the Advancement of Experiential Learning (CAEL).

1986

A Board of Overseers is established to advise the Regents and the president of The University of the State of New York on all aspects of Regents College Degrees and Examinations. The 15 members of the Board are leaders in higher education, business and industry, nursing, and technology.



◀ Carrie Lenburg, coordinator of the Regents External Degrees in nursing from 1973–1990, secures a nursing pin on graduate Susan Schmitt.



◀ Rose Henderson, (pictured with Commissioner Ambach), one of the College's first technology degree graduates, is chosen to represent the graduating class as student speaker.

The position of executive director is established to lead Regents College Degrees.

1987

Accreditation of the Bachelor of Science degree in nursing is reaffirmed by the National League for Nursing.



1988

Regents College Examinations program celebrates its 25th anniversary.



1990

The University of the State of New York establishes the Institute for Distance Learning at Regents College. The Institute announces the availability of DistanceLearn, a computer database of information on college courses available at a distance.



1991

Regents College establishes a new Office of Community Outreach to give special emphasis to serving populations historically underrepresented in higher education.





Graduate Named Command Master Chief of USS Jason Dunham

This past November, the U.S. Navy commissioned the USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109) at Port Everglades, Florida. This ship, named (posthumously) for Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Marine CPL Jason Dunham (who was mortally wounded by insurgents while trying to save fellow squad members in Iraq in 2004) is now the most advanced destroyer in the naval fleet. And Excelsior College graduate Raymond Chamberlain now serves as its Command Master Chief.

Jack Greene, assistant dean of Excelsior's School of Liberal Arts and longtime friend, says he was instrumental in "prodding" CMDCM Chamberlain to go back to school and finish his last few courses with Excelsior. "Ray was scheduled to retire last year," says Greene, "but he reenlisted, finished his degree, and was promoted to his new position."

Greene recalls, "I first met Ray and his family more than a dozen years ago, when he was stationed in Washington, DC. During that time, I was constantly amazed at his ability to pick up at a moment's notice and travel to distant parts of the globe to serve his country. My father always told me it took a special person to serve in the military, as they have two masters—service to their country and care of their family."

Greene remembers that "Ray was sometimes gone for a day or two, and

other times we wouldn't see him for weeks or months. Like anyone in the military, Ray knew the strain absence can put on family life and always did his best to make up the difference when he was at home. I am happy to say he was successful. With the support and assistance of his wife Stephanie, Ray's son Adam is now a naval lieutenant and his son Keith, while only entering his teens, is already preparing to be an active member of the naval youth group."

Having served in the military for more than twenty years, Chamberlain has worked hard to climb the ranks from an enlisted man in 1983 to his current position. "And during this time," Greene says, "Ray and I had a number of conversations on the importance of completing his degree. Like so many career military, he had numerous credits taken from multiple colleges but never quite figured out how to complete a degree in conjunction with his military and family obligations. Excelsior gave him that opportunity. Through online and CD-ROM courses, he completed his Bachelor of Science degree." Chamberlain would have loved to participate in Excelsior's 2010 Commencement, but work on the ship took priority.

Chamberlain shares his feelings about his new position in the Navy and as an Excelsior College graduate, saying, "As the Command Master Chief on board USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109), I am privileged to not only represent the Navy and the



CMDCM Chamberlain at the commissioning ceremony with his sons Adam (left), a naval lieutenant, and Keith (right), a naval youth group member.

"I am honored to be the Command Master Chief of 292 of the finest Americans I have ever been associated with."

—Command Master Chief Raymond Chamberlain

family of Corporal Dunham but also the sailors who man the ship as well. I am honored to be the Command Master Chief of 292 of the finest Americans I have ever been associated with.

"The impact that Excelsior College has had on me directly impacts how I handle my sailors. I talk a lot about education, both military and civilian schools. Getting a degree and furthering one's education and life takes just a couple of hours a day sometimes. And better yet, since we spend so much time away from home, it is on the Internet. I recommend that all my sailors take at least one class, to figure out whether college is for them or not, and if it is—go for it!"

Jack Greene and his wife Peggy were honored to be invited by the Navy to attend the commissioning of USS Jason Dunham. "We listened to the speeches and were mesmerized by the pageantry of the commissioning. But the highlight for me," says Jack, "was attending a luncheon in Ray's honor and having the opportunity to present him with a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of President Ebersole, Provost Offerman, School of Liberal Arts Dean

Dalrymple, and the entire Excelsior College family." Chamberlain told Greene that the certificate would hang proudly—right next to his Excelsior College diploma.



Excelsior's Assistant Dean Jack Greene presents a Certificate of Achievement to his longtime friend CMDCM Ray Chamberlain.

"Excelsior is a great college—one that has educated me more than I thought was possible," Chamberlain declares. "It has opened my eyes in so

many different areas. I have been in the Navy now for 28 plus years and will soon retire. The education I received from Excelsior College has given me opportunity for the future, and it is as bright today as ever.

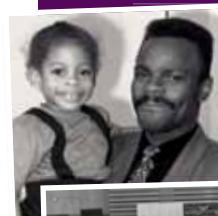
"I wish I could thank all the professors, associate professors, assistants, and staff at Excelsior College, who gave me critical feedback on papers and challenged me to go further in my education. Without these fine professionals, I would likely not have a degree today." ■

The College curriculum is revised to encourage students to include study of non-Western culture.

1992

The College purchases its own computer system to make student record processing and internal administration more efficient, accurate, and service-oriented.

New, more flexible technology degrees are approved and opened for enrollment.



◀ Lewis Lawson, with his daughter, after graduating through the Adult Alternative Educational Program at Arbor Hill.



◀ The crowd gathers at our 20th anniversary Commencement.

1993

The College receives reaccreditation from the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.



◀ Graduate Samuel Austin, Bachelor of Arts (far right), with 52 guests who joined him to celebrate his achievement.

The College introduces a new battery of interdisciplinary upper-level arts and sciences examinations.

1994

The College purchases a new building to provide additional space for expansion.



▲ Guests at the dedication of Regents College's new home include (l to r) Donald Nolan, then deputy commissioner for higher education and the professions, Regent Emerita Laura B. Chodos, Albany County Executive Michael Hoblock, and Jan Nyquist, widow of founder Ewald B. Nyquist.

News from the Center for Military Education



Fort Hood Graduation

The College held a graduation recognition ceremony in November at the Howze Auditorium at Fort Hood, Texas. Provost Dana Offerman and Center for Military Education's Executive Director Susan Dewan were in attendance. Command Sergeant Major Donald Felt, Garrison Command Sergeant Major of Fort Hood, was the guest speaker for the graduation. There were more than 120 Excelsior College graduates from Fort Hood this past year, and about 45 participated in the ceremony.



Excelsior's Fort Hood graduates

Honors to Center for Military Education Leader

Susan Dewan, executive director of Excelsior's Center for Military Education, has been named 2011 recipient of the prestigious William E. Kennedy Award. Bestowed by the Council of Colleges and Military Educators (CCME), the award recognizes leadership in providing civilian higher education programs to personnel at U.S. military installations. "Sue has been a strong and tireless advocate for military students, their families, and

"It is a privilege to work with military servicemembers and to represent Excelsior College at the same time."

—Susan Dewan

for military education at all levels," states President John F. Ebersole. "Her expertise and knowledge are unparalleled, and her work has truly impacted the quality of Excelsior's programs and services to the military community." An Excelsior staff member for 30 years, she has been a leader in the college's military education initiatives, programs, and

Military Education

The College expands assessment offerings significantly and makes examination development processes more efficient and economical.

outreach for the past 22 years. "I am very honored to receive this award," says Dewan. "It is a privilege to work with military servicemembers and to represent Excelsior College at the same time."

About the William E. Kennedy Award: William Kennedy was one of the early pioneers in developing and implementing college degree programs at extension campus sites. He was instrumental in founding the organization that became CCME and served as the association's first elected president. After his death, the William E. Kennedy Award was established in his honor.



William E. Kennedy Award recipient Susan Dewan with CCME president Belinda Jones at the CCME conference.



◀ A group of graduates, all of whom worked for Xerox.

A new agreement to improve service to students is drawn with the American College Testing Program, which administers Regents College Examinations outside New York State.

1995

Accreditation of the Bachelor of Science degree in nursing is reaffirmed by the National League for Nursing.



▲ The Commission for a Nation of Lifelong Learners meets for the first time. Vice President Al Gore forms one of the Commission's working groups, and Regents College Executive Director C. Wayne Williams is selected as project director.

The College receives the Top Ten Employer Award from the Capital District Human Resource Association.

1996

The College enters its 25th anniversary year with the establishment of the National Commission for a Nation of Lifelong Learners funded by a million dollar grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.



▲ Nine graduates from the tenth year of the highly successful Project LEARN program gather during Commencement weekend. Project LEARN teams are formed when hospitals, teaching institutions, and health care agencies partner with Excelsior College to create on-site learning groups.

CCS 112 Wins CENTSS Award

The Success Strategies for Military and Veterans course recently was awarded first place in the Personal Services Suite category through the Center for Transforming Student Services (CENTSS) 2010–2011. The purpose of the CENTSS Innovation Awards in Student Services is to look at the tools, creative strategies and methods to design, develop, implement, and maintain online student services that have produced measurable results.

CENTSS provides institutions with the tools and training they need to develop and deliver high-quality student services online. It was established in partnership with the Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications (WCET) and builds upon WCET's research on best practices in student services online.

CCS 112 Success Strategies for Military and Veterans is an eight-week course that combines strategies and tools for college and career success. Technology used in the CCS 112 course supports student engagement and the learning experience. Judy Reed, director of veteran services and outreach, explains, "We recognize that military and veterans are a group of students that have a unique background, which is important for them to capitalize on while attending college as well as later when they transition to a civilian career."



New Veteran Education Partnerships

The Center for Military Education has developed new partnerships intended to promote education among veterans. The first such alliance was made with a small post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Altamont, New York, followed by a state-wide agreement with the New York State Veterans of Foreign Wars. “With the inception of the Veteran Services and Outreach Office, it was natural to seek out partnerships with veteran organizations as well as veteran-friendly employers,” says director Judy Reed. “Once soldiers leave the military they are harder to reach, but through established organizations we can make those connections.”



VFW Post Commander
Dennis Cyr

“Education is another way to help us recruit young members, close the generation gap, and keep our post alive for future veterans.”

—VFW Post Commander Dennis Cyr

The New York VFW’s leadership saw the Excelsior education partnership as part of a strategy to attract newer, younger veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—a group that Excelsior also wishes to reach. At the Boyd Hilton Post 7062 in Altamont, Post Commander Dennis Cyr states, “We’re trying to do more for the veterans, young and old. Education is another way to help us recruit young members, close the generation gap, and keep our post alive for future veterans.” Commander Cyr believes that something concrete like reduced prices for the VFW members will help to draw new young veterans to the post.

National Grid was the first veteran-friendly employer to sign a memorandum of agreement to the two-year partnership. The agreement provides National Grid’s veteran and civilian employees and their spouses with free transcript and document evaluations, along with reduced tuition. Pamela Arons, manager for U.S. resourcing for National Grid, was instrumental in closing the deal with the College. Having worked for some time with the School of Business & Technology, Ms. Arons is also interested in

Excelsior’s technology graduates as potential candidates for jobs at National Grid, which has 17,000 employees in New York and New England.

Career Expo Silver Sponsor

Excelsior is one of the 2011 Non Commissioned Officer Association’s (NCOA) Career Expo Silver Sponsors. NCOA works in conjunction with military.com to hold career expos across the country geared to military members who are leaving the service after completing their military commitments. The exhibiting companies are conducting searches for employees. There are also colleges and universities whose representatives are available to speak to military servicemembers and veterans about obtaining educational degrees and certificates to support their future career goals.

As a Silver Sponsor, Excelsior will be participating in a total of ten career fairs in Newport News and Norfolk, Virginia, San Antonio and Fort Hood, Texas, as well as Baltimore, Maryland, and Las Vegas, Nevada.

Fort Drum ACAP Career Fair

Excelsior College participated in the Fort Drum Army Career & Alumni Program (ACAP) Quarterly Career Fair during January. The ACAP center assists transitioning soldiers, family members, veterans, and retirees in making informed career decisions, find employment, and research career options that result in success in the civilian sector. ACAP provides job assistance training through detailed job counseling and career resources to assist soldiers in finding civilian jobs quickly.

There was a great turnout of transitioning soldiers and veterans attending the career fair. Excelsior College’s military academic advisor, Ronald Deloriea, and Judy Reed, director of veteran services and outreach, attended the event and had a number of guests visit the Excelsior College table for information on transferring their military and civilian credits toward a degree. The day resulted in enrollments as well as requests for more detailed degree information from military admission counselors.

A Navy sailor stopped by the Excelsior College table to speak with military academic advisor, Ron Deloriea, about transferring his military and civilian credits toward a degree.



Face-to-Face Outreach has Long History

The Center for Military Education (CME) has conducted face-to-face outreach at military installations almost as long as the College's 40-year history, since the first military partnership agreement was signed in 1975 with the Navy Campus for Achievement Program. This type of outreach expanded as the College's presence grew in the military community. Face-to-face recruitment was conducted by military academic advising staff and academic advisors from the Schools of Liberal Arts and Business & Technology.

In 1997, the first military consultant was hired as part of a pilot project in Norfolk, Virginia, to work with the U.S. Navy on a part-time basis. The on-base presence was so successful that it grew into the foundation for the College's military outreach today. The services the College provides at military installations include preliminary credit reviews for prospective students, enrollment assistance, course and exam recommendations, general college briefings, participation in education fairs, and training/information updates for military education counselors.

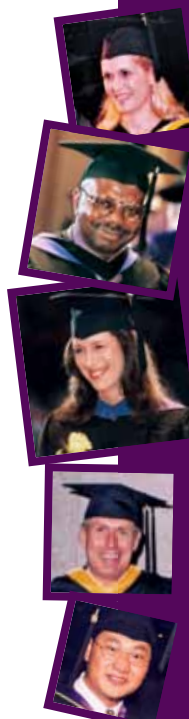
During the last fiscal year, 2,008 military students enrolled in an Excelsior degree program after meeting with a military consultant in the field. Additionally, there were 7,455 military course registrations from students who met with a military consultant. Excelsior's on-base program at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy is a direct result of face-to-face recruitment at Fort Bliss and the relationship the College has built with the education staff at the Academy and Fort Bliss. Staff members also participate in Commencement ceremonies for Excelsior's military graduates. ■

New Exams for the MBA

The Assessment Unit and the School of Business & Technology have collaborated to produce a new series of examinations available to students enrolling in the Excelsior College MBA degree program. Students who have sufficient knowledge in five main areas of study—**Marketing, Organizational Behavior, Finance, Ethics, and Quantitative Analysis**—can opt to take the new MBA Foundation Exams in lieu of certain courses.

These exams are pass/fail and credits will not be awarded for passing grades. Instead, by successfully passing the exams, students will be able to waive the required corresponding graduate-level courses.

The MBA Foundation exams are two hours in length and the cost of registration is \$300. Similar to standard Excelsior College® Examinations, these exams will be available for students at Pearson VUE academic testing sites.



First online study group is initiated—to prepare for the nursing Professional Performance Examination.

1997

The College establishes its own Web site, www.regents.edu.

The Top Ten Employer Award from the Capital District Human Resource Association is received by the College for a second time.

1998

New, vocationally oriented associate degrees are offered to serve the College's military clientele.

The College separates from the Board of Regents to become an independent institution with its own charter and Board of Trustees.



◀ Navy Systems Test Officer, Daniel Wyatt (BSL), worked toward his degree "little bit, by little bit" for 19 years.

The College first graduate degree program, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MA/LS), is launched.



◀ The College's early history was documented by Dr. Donald Nolan in his book, *Regents College: The Early Years*, published in 1998. It is available through Excelsior's Office of Institutional Advancement for \$10.00 (credit card or check). Call **888-647-2388** ext. 118598, or email ambisner@excelsior.edu for more information.

1999

Accreditation of the associate degree programs in nursing is reaffirmed by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC).

The College successfully introduces computer delivery of Regents College Examinations under contract with Sylvan Technology Centers®, now Prometric Testing Centers®.

Grant for Faculty and Student Collaboration

Chriss Miller, a Senior Reactor Operator Certified Instructor at Millstone Power Station, is the first recipient of the Excelsior College Faculty/Student Conference Support Grant. Miller is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in nuclear technology from Excelsior. The grant from the Faculty Development and Support Steering Committee (FDSSC) is designed to provide opportunities for Excelsior College faculty and students to co-present at conferences for career development and professional experience.



Chriss Miller,
grant recipient

Dean Jane LeClair, Academic Advisor Andrew Wheeler, and Miller co-presented at the bi-annual Conference on Nuclear Training and Education in February. Their presentation, "Innovations and Experience in Distance Learning for Nuclear Workers," provided the history of

Excelsior's Nuclear Engineering Technology program, its evolution to its current form, and a student testimonial. This was an exciting opportunity for Excelsior to relate the relevance of the program to industry trainers. According to Dr. LeClair, "The Conference on Nuclear Training and Education (CONTE) is leading the charge in the nuclear renaissance through the interchange of information and innovative ideas to increase workplace efficiency."

"The Conference on Nuclear Training and Education (CONTE) is leading the charge in the nuclear renaissance through the interchange of information and innovative ideas to increase workplace efficiency."

— Dean Jane LeClair

James Antonakos and Ken Mansfield, program directors for the technology degrees, and School of Business & Technology student Christopher Brandt were also awarded an FDSSC Faculty/Student Conference Grant for their collaborative project in the November 2010 section of IT 320 Computer Architecture. A paper abstract of their work titled "360 Degree Feedback: A Glimpse from the Future Helps Students Now," was presented at the 2011 ASEE Regional Conference held at Excelsior College in March. It describes their innovative model for student-guided instructional development that tailors instruction to meet the needs of the information technology industry and its workforce. ■

Center for Professional Development

Adding to an Already Successful Career

Chuck Snead is the kind of person who likes to be ready if a new career opportunity comes his way, and he's not afraid to learn new skills if it will help him achieve his goals. Even though he had already earned an associate, a bachelor's, and a master's degree, he decided that additional certification would help augment his already successful career.



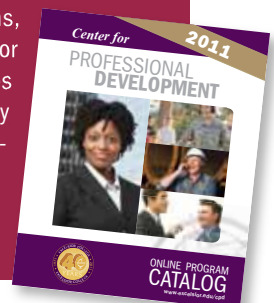
Chuck Snead, project management professional

So last year, Chuck enrolled in Excelsior's Center for Professional Development's Project Management for IT Professionals course. He completed that program and successfully passed the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional (PMP) exam. He explains, "Many IT companies now are looking for certification as a requirement for IT management. Achieving the PMP certification is a great way to open doors for a career in management and helps to make sure that your resume makes its way to the top of the stack."

Indeed, after earning his PMP certification, he became the development manager for an IT company specializing in research management software. His new position involves supervising five team leaders and about 15 developers. "For my career, specifically, I think becoming PMP-certified was instrumental in allowing me to continue upward in IT operations and management." Chuck sees this new position as yet another rung on the ladder of his rising career. ■

Excelsior College's Center for Professional Development has received approval as a Registered Education Provider (R.E.P.) by the Project Management Institute for two CPD programs, Project Management and Project Management for IT Professionals. The R.E.P. designation indicates that these courses meet quality objectives set by the Project Management Institute and are consistent with PMI Global standards.

Go to www.excelsior.edu/cpd for more information.



Can It Happen Here?

Dean LeClair Offers Insight into Japan Nuclear Crisis

Japan's nuclear crisis in the wake of a historic cascade of natural disasters has left many understandably concerned with the safety and security of our own nuclear power plants in the U.S. Dr. Jane LeClair, dean of the School of Business & Technology, has been on the frontlines in the weeks following the disaster, appearing on several local media outlets to ease worries by discussing the facts surrounding the tragedy and whether or not U.S. nuclear facilities and workers are equipped to handle a similar crisis here.

"As a workforce training professional who worked at Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station for nearly two decades, and as someone who now maintains a strong connection to professionals there and throughout the U.S. nuclear industry, I can assure you that the health and safety of the general public, as well as the station workers, is of the utmost concern. Nuclear industry training is rigorous, frequent, recurring, and unending. Experts are constantly sharing information, trading lessons learned, and improving training programs to ensure all workers are equipped to handle even the most unlikely crises.

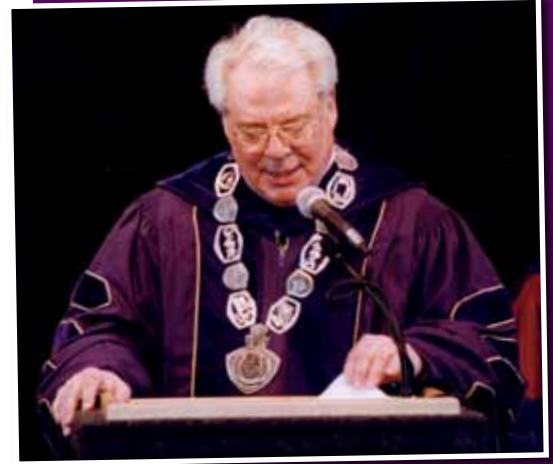
"Nuclear industry training is rigorous, frequent, recurring, and unending. Experts are constantly sharing information, trading lessons learned, and improving training programs"

—Dr. Jane LeClair, dean of the School of Business & Technology

"There are and will continue to be lessons learned from Japan's experience. As the industry takes a step back and reevaluates, this will be an important moment to identify areas of potential opportunity, determine how plants can improve upon current emergency planning, anticipate any unforeseen circumstances they can and should prepare for, and move ahead confidently." ■



Dr. Jane LeClair, dean



▲ C. Wayne Williams at the occasion of his inauguration as the College's first president.

Accreditation of two baccalaureate programs — the Bachelor of Science in electronics engineering technology and the Bachelor of Science in nuclear engineering technology — is granted by the Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). The BS in electronics engineering technology and BS in nuclear engineering technology are the first outcomes-based distance learning programs in the country to obtain this distinction.

The College launches its second graduate program, the Master of Science degree in nursing.

An Electronic Peer Network (EPN) linking Regents College students to the College, the Bookstore, and each other is created to increase access to study assistance, resources, and support.



◀ Commencement exercises are held at Albany's historic and elegant Palace Theater.



▲ Football legend and Minnesota State Supreme Court Judge, the Honorable Alan C. Page, delivers the Commencement keynote address.

Grants at Work

Hearst Scholarships help move nursing students into the workforce



William Hunter Earnest

After successfully completing the CPNE, William Hunter Earnest took and passed the NCLEX-RN last October, reaching the end of a long road balancing two jobs with family life. He says he was strongly influenced by his mother's example of returning to college to become a nurse. In fact, the two graduated in the same year—Hunter from high school and his mother from nursing school. Hunter went on to complete EMT and paramedic training and earned an associate degree in applied science during the 1990s. He now works in the emergency department of Southern Hills Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

As a divorced father of three small children, Hunter struggled to spend time with them while also working a second job and pursuing his goal of becoming a registered nurse. "Inching closer" is how Hunter described his progress, which was delayed by financial hardship. With the help of a Hearst scholarship, he completed his Excelsior degree last September. Having his RN license, he says, will increase the scope of care he can provide to patients, increase his income, and expand his future opportunities.

Jeanne-Marie West



Jeanne-Marie West grew up surrounded by health care professionals, as her oldest brother was born with spina bifida and required dozens of surgeries and plenty of care. Jeanne-Marie said, "...looking up to those who had taken care of my brother shaped me professionally, and I've spent my adult years working toward being a nurse so that I can help others as well. I have never forgotten those nurses who gave my brother excellent care."

In her early twenties, Jeanne-Marie served in the USAF and received the Humanitarian Medal. While deployed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, she delivered hospital supplies to Cuban and Haitian refugees. This experience solidified her resolve to become a nurse, and ten years ago Jeanne-Marie became an LPN. More recently, she's in the process of becoming a volunteer for the Medical Reserve Corps in her community and plans to volunteer as an RN this

For many nursing students completing an associate degree, Excelsior's eight-credit Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination (CPNE®) and the exam preparation materials are the biggest financial hurdle of the program. To help students overcome this final financial obstacle, the Hearst Foundations awarded \$40,000 to the College last year, and with those funds, 20 William Randolph Hearst Scholarships were awarded to CPNE-eligible students.

More than half of the recipients have since passed the CPNE on their first attempt, and several others have gone on to pass the national nurse licensure exam (NCLEX-RN®). The others are continuing to prepare for the CPNE. Two scholarship recipients recently shared their stories.

summer with the Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps, providing nursing care to the poor living the Appalachian Mountains. Since Jeanne-Marie received her AS in nursing, many “wonderful opportunities” have arisen to expand her nursing career, and the Hearst scholarship has helped make this dream a reality. The primary provider for her two children, this scholarship recipient has aspirations of someday becoming a Certified Nurse Practitioner.

“The generosity of the Hearst Foundation has made an immediate difference in the lives of our students”

Mary Lee Pollard, associate dean of the School of Nursing, commended the impact of Hearst Scholarships, saying, “The generosity of the Hearst Foundation has made an immediate difference in the lives of our students, but equally impressive is the potential impact that these new registered nurses will have on the nursing profession and on their future patients.” ■

By Jane Weyers, Grant Writer

School of Business & Technology

IACBE Earns CHEA Recognition

The School of Business & Technology undergraduate business programs are accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE), a leader in mission-driven and outcomes-based programmatic accreditation in business. In January, the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) granted recognition to the IACBE.

Of the three accrediting bodies for business programs in the U.S., the College looked to IACBE because its mission and philosophy best match the nature of the College's programs. IACBE recognition is a validation of the quality of Excelsior's programs as well.

IACBE's mission is to promote and recognize excellence in business education in institutions of higher education worldwide, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, through specialized accreditation of business programs.

When informed of the CHEA recognition of IACBE, Dean Jane LeClair stated, “Accreditation by IACBE has been a major contributor to ensuring the quality of the undergraduate business programs in the School of Business & Technology. To have IACBE formally recognized by CHEA is another great step forward.”

2000

The College introduces the Regents College Virtual Library, created in collaboration with the Sheridan Libraries of The Johns Hopkins University.

The Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies (MA/LS) program is voted full membership in the prestigious Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs. Accepted without qualification, it is the only MA/LS program accepted in membership that is offered entirely at a distance and online.



◀ Ms. Margaret Scott Davis, 83-year-old graduate of the class of 2000.



◀ Congressman Michael McNulty receives an honorary Doctor of Laws during Commencement ceremonies.

2001

The capstone in the process of achieving independent status is completed with the adoption of the College's new name — Excelsior. “Ever upward” in Latin, the word reflects the goals and aspirations of the College's more than 100,000 enrolled students and graduates.



◀ Three new friends share a laugh at Commencement.

The Regents College Examinations program is renamed Excelsior College Examinations, and Regents College Virtual Library becomes the Excelsior College Virtual Library (ECVL).

Excelsior College creates an alliance with the education divisions of the Army National Guard and the Coast Guard to provide educational services to more than 400,000 personnel.

2002

Excelsior College receives a \$1 million federal grant to develop and implement a Criminal Justice Training Assessment Program.





education options. By using the OneTranscript service, all appropriate credits can be listed and reported on a single document. This helps protect against lost documents and facilitates your record keeping—new credits can be added over time, and a current transcript can be issued whenever necessary. In the current economic climate, being prepared with well-organized records can be a big advantage.

Characterized as a “creative business model” by Thomas Frey, executive director and senior futurist at the DaVinci Institute (and Google’s top-rated futurist), the OneTranscript model has been available for decades, thanks to Excelsior College’s forward-thinking, student-oriented approach.

Excelsior’s OneTranscriptsm service organizes education and training records into one official document.

These days, the opportunities to simplify your life may seem few and far between. But Excelsior College offers one way to reduce your personal paper trail! Using Excelsior’s OneTranscript service, you can efficiently and effectively put the pieces of the puzzle together.

Designed for those who have the need to show proof of college-level credit earned from a variety of sources, OneTranscript neatly combines academic and training credits on a single Excelsior College Credit Bank transcript. This streamlines the process—you’ll no longer need to juggle multiple documents that show prior college-level coursework, examination scores, and military or corporate training.

Excelsior College students and alumni already have this covered with their official transcript. However, OneTranscript is the perfect solution for others—job hunters who need to supply education credentials to employers or for those who may be considering future

OneTranscriptsm centralizes these approved credits in one convenient place:

- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)/ Defense Activity or Non-Traditional Education Support/DANTES Standardized Subject Tests (DANTES/DSST) examinations
- Criminal justice training evaluated by Excelsior College
- Military service schools and occupational training
- Corporate training evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE) and the National Program on Non-collegiate Sponsored Instruction (PONSI)
- Credits appearing on international credentials evaluated by an Excelsior College approved agency
- Excelsior College courses and examinations
- Credits from other accredited colleges and universities

If you register with the OneTranscript service and then enroll at Excelsior College within one year, a portion of the OneTranscript fee will be credited toward the cost of enrollment. ■

For more information on to take advantage of our OneTranscript service, visit www.excelsior.edu/onetranscript, or call the Admissions Office toll free at 888-647-2388, ext. 27.

NACADA NOMINATIONS

Martha Garing

Martha Garing, senior academic advisor for the School of Business & Technology, has been selected as the College's 2011 nominee for NACADA's Outstanding Advisor Award.

Garing has been involved in academic advisement for many years. Prior to working at Excelsior, she was associate dean for Student Development at Sage Colleges of Albany. At Excelsior, she first served as an academic advisor in the Center for Military Education and is currently a senior academic advisor in the School of Business & Technology.

Students she has advised attest to her caring attitude and commitment:

"If it hadn't been for Martha, I probably wouldn't even have pursued my degree completion process."

"She would find solutions and deliver. I finished my BA this past November, and I couldn't have done it without her."

"Her persistence allowed me to focus on completing a lifelong goal. If it hadn't been for Martha, I probably wouldn't even have pursued my degree completion process."

"Martha did an outstanding job answering all of my questions and walking me through my course requirements."

"She was not only helpful in the multiple questions I had, she went the extra step and proposed an alternate degree that would take better advantage of my previous training and experience."

"I'm excited to be the 2011 nominee for the NACADA Outstanding Advisor Award," says Garing. "Excelsior has exceeded my expectations with its confidence in my abilities to represent our advising community." ■



▲ 7 Columbia Circle, home of Excelsior College (now one of three buildings on our campus).

The Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) reaffirms the accreditation status of the College, which has been continuously accredited by the MSA since 1977.

The College is accepted into the Navy College Partnership Program.

The American Council on Education Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials reaffirms its recommendation that Excelsior College® Examinations be accepted for the award of college-level credit.



◀ David B. Brood, winner of the 2002 Alumni Achievement Award.



▲ The Board of Trustees comes together for a picture in full regalia during Commencement weekend.

2003

Under the \$1 million federal grant to develop and implement the Criminal Justice Training Assessment Program, thirty law enforcement training programs across the country are evaluated for college-level credit equivalency.

The Bachelor of Science with a major in criminal justice is introduced.

Study Smart!

We want students not only to study hard, but to study smart as well. That's why we've made it our mission to provide a range of practical resources students can use to help expand their knowledge. Using these tools, students can discover and adopt new technologies, learn new ways to make use of modern research methods, and apply valuable and useful skills that translate outside the online classroom, helping them get an edge on the competition.



Atomic Learning

open to all enrolled students

- Atomic Learning is an online, on-demand software skills training resource. This flexible training makes it easy for both students and faculty to embrace technology, because it supplies instant access to answers on common “how to” questions and offers step-by-step training for course projects through video tutorials.
- Short and informative training videos are available 24 hours a day and can be used to answer software questions or to increase technical skills. The videos are concise yet detailed enough to give quick and accurate answers.
- Excelsior students have access to the full suite of Atomic Learning video tutorials via a button on the course toolbar. A number of courses also have embedded video tutorials to help students with specific projects. Atomic Learning provides training in the commonly used software applications such as Microsoft Office, SPSS, Adobe Creative Suite, Blackboard, Acrobat, Photoshop, Google applications, and many more.
 - Over 50,000 tutorials on more than 130 software applications
 - Workshops on topics such as blogging, podcasting, newsletter design, presentations, and more
 - Over 500 new tutorials added to the site every 45 days
 - Free Storyboard Pro software and access to Atomic Learning's popular Video Storytelling Guide
 - Self-assessment tools
 - Hundreds of Spanish language tutorials
 - Closed captioning on thousands of tutorials
 - For PC or Mac
 - Atomic Learning breaks down each application into manageable tasks and *explains each task through a one- to three-minute video tutorial.*

Tools and resources students can utilize to help get the most out of their studies at Excelsior.

The Excelsior College Library

The Excelsior College online library is the door to a variety of resources available to both course takers and enrolled students. Using these resources, students can expand their knowledge far beyond their coursework. The Library's research databases allow students to search for journal, magazine, and newspaper articles not necessarily available on the open Web.

- › Students have access to a broad range of online collections provided by academic institutions from around the world; topics include biology, finance, computer science, digital manuscripts, regional and national collections, academic papers, and much more.
- › Not limited only to research, the Library also offers resources on background information, government and legal documents, people and organizations, jobs, careers, and beyond.
- › The Library provides access to a diverse range of electronic books, government documents, and multimedia options. Students will find resources organized by school and tailored to the specific needs of students in business, technology, health sciences, liberal arts, and nursing.
- › The Library's exam resources are based on the College's free content guides, and are available to all registered exam takers from the "Downloadable Documents" link on the Excelsior home page. The content guides are the definitive starting place to study for Excelsior College exams.

MSDNAA – Microsoft Developer Network Academic Alliance

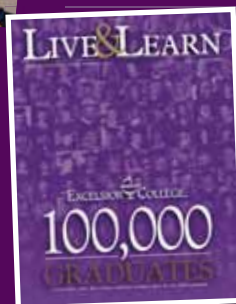
available to students enrolled in the School of Business & Technology

MSDNAA is a Microsoft-sponsored organization that offers access to a wide collection of academic resources, including unlimited access to an array of software offerings in the Microsoft catalog ranging from productivity software like the Microsoft Office Suite, to the latest in operating systems, all the way up to advanced server administration software. It also includes access to certification preparatory materials, training documentation, Microsoft's multimedia archives, and much more! Access to MSDNAA gives Excelsior students an edge with the latest software from Microsoft and its partners.



The Master of Science degree in nursing program receives initial accreditation for a full five-year term, and the baccalaureate degree program in nursing receives reaccreditation for the maximum eight years from the National League for Nursing Accreditation Committee.

The College receives \$250,000 in federal funds to develop a certificate program for nurse managers.



◀ The cover of the spring issue of *Live & Learn* magazine, created when the College conferred its 100,00th degree. The photo montage is a nod to all 100,000. Today that number is more than 140,000.

2004

Standardized, national training programs in the nuclear power industry are evaluated for college-level equivalency and are accepted as credit sources for the Bachelor of Science degree program in nuclear engineering technology, opening up degree opportunities for thousands of industry workers.

The DistanceLearn® database receives GetEducated.com's Best Source of Online Courses Award 2004.



◀ Nancy Rem Sokol and Capt. Gerald Holleger, with School of Nursing dean, Dr. Bridget Nettleton, accept the Tau Kappa Nursing Honor Society's first Recognition Awards for active duty couple Lt. Colonel Christine Rem and her husband, Capt. Christopher A. Rem.



◀ President's Scholarship recipient Kimberley Locke and family.



College initiates the Presidents' Forum, a meeting of leaders in higher education to discuss best practices and form partnerships in the field of distributed learning.

Excelsior College Nursing Honor Society is accepted into Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing, establishing the Tau Kappa chapter.

Building Your Successful Degree Plan:

Excelsior Online Courses and Examinations

Developing a plan to fulfill your degree requirements may seem puzzling at first—whether you are a newly matriculated student or an associate degree graduate thinking ahead to an advanced degree. Let us help you put the pieces together.

Excelsior College's online courses and examinations are both excellent ways to build your degree program. They're available in a great variety of content areas in both lower and upper levels. And, regardless of which you choose, you are able to work according to your schedule and study at your pace, in your home environment.

Listed here are several questions you may want to consider when incorporating an exam or online course into your plan.

You can find a complete source of Excelsior's online courses and exams at our Web site. Once you have narrowed the choices and obtained official approval from your academic advisor (to ensure your selections will satisfy degree requirements), you can register online, by phone, or by mail.

Maximize your options by utilizing online courses, exams—or perhaps a combination of both. Good luck building your successful degree plan!

Live & Learn Advisor Committee:
Glenn Braddock, Center for Military Education; Gale Deegan, Nursing; Martha Garing, Business & Technology; Sarah Mesick, Health Sciences; Rachel Stolicky, Liberal Arts.

Online Courses

ONLINE COURSES

I. What Is Involved? What Do I Need To Know?

Courses are structured, with specific assignments & exams; modules open weekly, with required due dates.

Class participation with your peers via discussion board is required.

You will receive the guidance of an expert instructor.

II. Why Would I Choose Either Option?

Online courses allow you to become part of a learning community, engaging with others in your degree program or profession.

Online courses fit your schedule; you may access them at home, work, wherever you have Internet access.

Taking online courses will assist in preparing you for your career goals and for the capstone course required for all bachelor's degrees.

III. When are Courses and Exams Available?

Online courses are offered every other month, beginning in January.

Terms for online courses are in convenient 8- or 15-week lengths.

EXAMINATIONS

You can study independently.

You set your own schedule and timetable for taking exams.

You are able to earn credit for knowledge already acquired.

Exams allow opportunities to earn more credit, from 3 to 8 credits per exam.

Exams offer optimum flexibility.

You set the time and place for taking the exam—when you feel you are ready.

Excelsior exams are evaluated and recommended for ACE CREDIT.

Study guides are available for downloading at no charge.

Many have affordable practice exams for enhancing your test-taking skills.

You determine the exact date and time, at your convenience.

Exams are scheduled at Pearson testing centers (or with an education center on base for military).

You can register for an exam at excelsior.edu up to six months in advance.

Examinations



EXCELSIOR COLLEGE[®] LIBRARY

UPDATE FROM THE EC LIBRARIANS

We recently upgraded several research databases and added new collections in order to offer you additional full-text resources in Academic Search Complete, Business Source Complete, CQ Researcher, JSTOR, OVID, ScienceDirect, and Credo Reference. We also added two completely new full-text databases: Communication & Mass Media Complete and SocINDEX with Full Text.

We've also recently added several new multimedia resources. New from EBSCO is Image Collection, which includes a wide array of photos and maps, with an emphasis on world news and events. Music Online, from Alexander Street Press, is the world's largest online compilation of streaming music. It consists of five unique collections: *American Song*, *Classical Music Library*, *Contemporary World Music*, *Jazz Music Library*, and *Smithsonian Global Sound*. We're also very excited about our three new video databases: *American History in Video*, *Intelecom Online Resources Network*, and *Films On Demand: Master Academic Collection*.

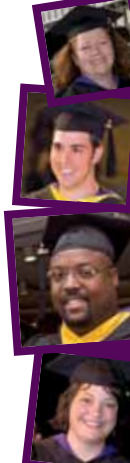
With these new additions we are offering more full-text and more multimedia than ever before. The librarians are working with faculty and staff to design learning activities that introduce students to the wealth of information and media available through the Excelsior College Library.

Contact the Excelsior College librarians if you have any questions or would like to discuss these new tools and resources. Call toll free **877-247-3097** or email library@excelsior.edu.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Plan ahead to make sure you receive your degree at the time you want it.

Conferral Date	Deadlines for receipt of transcripts/official documents		CPNE Completion Cut-off (Nursing only)	Final Changes
	for Initial evaluation	for Updated evaluation		
May 20, 2011	Mar 11	Mar 25	Apr 1	May 6
June 17, 2011	Apr 8	Apr 22	Apr 29	June 3
COMMENCEMENT JULY 8, 2011				
July 15, 2011	May 6	May 20	May 27	July 1
August 19, 2011	June 10	June 24	July 1	Aug 5
September 16, 2011	July 8	July 22	July 29	Sept 2
October 21, 2011	Aug 12	Aug 26	Sept 2	Oct 7
Note: All additions/deletions/corrections to the final transcript must be submitted by the student, in writing, two (2) weeks prior to the conferral date.				



A second grant from U.S. Department of Justice to fund the continuation of its Criminal Justice Training Assessment program is received.

The College is awarded a \$516,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to fund a Hospice and Palliative Care Certificate program.

2005

Excelsior College launches its first MBA program.

Online course offerings grow to more than 200 Excelsior College Courses.



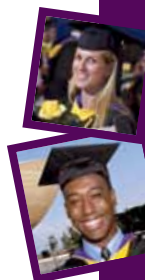
◀ After 32 years in service of the College, 18 years at its helm, President C. Wayne Williams retires. He is pictured here with his wife, Debbie Sopczyk, at a celebration in his honor.



▲ Dr. Joshua Smith gives his first Commencement address as new chair of the Excelsior College Board of Trustees. Smith succeeds longtime chair, Lt. Gen. Arthur J. Gregg, U.S. Army (Ret.), who continues as a member of the Board.

Excelsior forms partnerships and articulation agreements to benefit workforce and community college higher education needs with organizations including the Game Institute, the New York State United Teachers, Black Data Processing Associates, and Hudson Valley Community College.

The School of Nursing is designated a 2005-2008 NLN Center of Excellence in Nursing Education by the National League for Nursing, making Excelsior one of only seven colleges in the country to receive this prestigious recognition.



◀ General Counsel (Ret.) and honorary degree recipient, Robert Stone, with 84-year-old BSL graduate, Bill Thornton.

Why Do You Need A Cover Letter?

CAREER CORNER

by Maribeth Gunner Pulliam, MS Ed

A well-crafted cover letter is one of the most vital tools in the job search process. Many job-seekers discount the importance of the cover letter, believing the majority of their energy should be expended on writing and revising their resume. On the contrary, the cover letter is a professional expectation that merits significant time and attention. Without an appealing letter, a candidate's credentials may never be considered.



What Purpose Does It Serve?

A cover letter introduces you and your resume to a potential employer and is your first opportunity to convey a positive impression. It's an important marketing tool that illustrates what you can contribute to the organization. The cover letter is used to personalize your resume, highlight your most outstanding qualifications, and demonstrate written communication skills. It should convince the employer to read your resume and invite you for an interview.

Getting Your Letter Noticed

To develop an enticing letter, you will want to employ your best writing skills, incorporate proper format and structure, and clearly address why you're the best match for the job.

Here are some specific tips to consider as you construct your cover letter:

- Tailor your letter specifically for the position/employer for which you are applying. Focus on facts that are unique to the employer. Cookie-cutter letters will not make you stand out.
- Address your letter to a specific person. If necessary, call the organization directly to inquire about the name and correct spelling of the appropriate contact. Never use "To Whom it May Concern."
- Personalize your letter. Maintain a business-like tone but be genuine. Allow your personality to come through in your writing. Exude confidence, motivation, and enthusiasm.
- Know your audience. Demonstrate that you have researched the employer. Review the organization's Web site to learn as much as possible about their products, goals, and mission.
- Be proactive! Describe to the employer what you can do for them. Why are you their solution? Concentrate on how your skills align with position requirements and organizational goals.
- Showcase your talents. Highlight notable accomplishments and experiences. Be specific but do not reiterate everything on your resume.
- Use key words that are meaningful to the employer. Refer to your research and the job description to identify terms that reflect what the employer considers important.
- Follow a business letter format. Choose a simple 10-12 point font that is clear and easy to read. Set consistent margins. Use a good printer and high-quality paper that matches your resume. Your letter should be no longer than one page.
- Deliver a well-written document that has a professional and aesthetically pleasing appearance. This is your writing sample. Keep it neat. Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation are essential.
- Proofread! There can be absolutely no errors in your cover letter. Don't rely on spellcheck. Put the letter aside and then go back and reread it with fresh eyes. Ask someone you trust to review and critique it. Proofread again.
- Maintain a copy of every letter. Create a paper or electronic file to house copies and related notes you may have about the employers and organizations.

The Structure

There are a few main parts to a cover letter: the heading, introduction, body, and closing. View the sample letter provided for suggestions on structure and content.

Related Resources

Sending resumes and letters via email, University of Minnesota, Duluth
www.d.umn.edu/careers/cs_handbook/cshandbook_sending.html

Sample job search correspondence, JobWeb.com
www.jobweb.com/students.aspx?folderid=134

Cover letter rubric, JobWeb.com/ Amy Raphael
www.jobweb.com/resumesample.aspx?id=780&terms=cover+letter+rubric

Access this article and many additional career-related links at the Excelsior College Career Center at www.excelsior/career.

Questions or comments about this article? Contact Maribeth Gunner Pulliam, Career Services Coordinator, Office of Online Education and Learning Services.

Visit the Career Center on Facebook!
facebook.com/ECCareerCenter

THE STRUCTURE:

Heading (*this can be centered or left justified*)

Your Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Date

Name of Contact

Title

Name of Organization

Street/PO Box

City, State, Zip Code

Dear Mr./Mrs./Dr. Last Name:

Opening Paragraph: This is your opportunity to pique the reader's interest. Be clear and concise. Indicate your reason for writing; include the position you are seeking and how you became aware of the opening. If you were referred by a specific contact or have had previous interaction with other representatives of the organization, mention that here. Briefly explain why you are interested in the position.

1-2 Middle Paragraphs: Here is your chance to convince the employer what you can do for them. Communicate your enthusiasm and convey the knowledge you have gleaned from your research about the company. Be conversational; don't merely list your qualifications. Instead, demonstrate how your experience relates to the goals of the organization. Feature two or three specific accomplishments and/or relevant skills by illustrating how they align with the needs of the employer. Refer to your resume but do not repeat it.

Closing Paragraph: This is your final effort to make a great first impression. Restate why your skills match the position requirements. Offer to provide any additional information needed to support your candidacy. Courteously relay your interest in an interview to further discuss your qualifications. Indicate that you will follow-up by phone within 5 – 10 business days. Identify the best way to contact you. Express your appreciation for the employer's time and consideration.

Sincerely,

(Written signature)

Your name typed



◀ One Excelsior College graduate brings modern health care to rural Bangladesh.



◀ Graduates celebrate their accomplishments at the Empire State Plaza after Commencement 2005.



2006

Two new programs are launched: a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and a Master of Science in nursing—with a specialization in Nursing Education.

The College receives the Council of College and Military Educators' (CCME) Institutional Award for its work with the U.S. Army's Sergeants Major Academy.



▲ Trustee chair Joshua Smith, places the Chain of Office on John F. Ebersole—at his inauguration as Excelsior's second president.



◀ Fellow soldiers honor Staff Sergeant Lonnie Tungate (middle) with a ceremony at their desert camp in Kuwait.

Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine ranks Excelsior College among the country's top ten nursing schools graduating Hispanics.

College receives the 2006 Best School Award from the American Assembly for Men in Nursing (AAMN), recognizing Excelsior for success in both recruiting and retaining male nursing students.



Living & Giving

Access to Success

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL COMMITS TO ENDOWMENT FUND



The Excelsior College President's Advisory Council was always intended to be just that—an advisory group that could serve as a sounding board for the president of Excelsior College. They've discussed everything from the possibility of new programs to the ins and outs

of virtual learning. Their advice has advanced understanding and provided insight.

Some of the Council members were particularly strong supporters of Excelsior's annual campaign and endowments. Others had never given or been asked to give. All that changed when Council member Jerry Neff addressed the group as chair of the College's 40th anniversary celebrations. As he went over the plans for the two-year commemoration, Brigadier General Neff announced that he had already given the College a significant gift to start his own endowment fund, thereby kicking off the 40th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign.

In response to Neff's generosity, several members of the group enthusiastically endorsed the campaign and offered their personal commitments to give to the College. In fact, they advocated that the Council should start an endowment

"We have been able to see the vision of President Ebersole as he moves Excelsior forward, and we see this fund as our vote of confidence in the future he paints."

—Mary Ellen Duncan

fund of its own, recognizing their support for the College's president. At the Council's October meeting, the group committed to raising \$40,000 to start the John F. Ebersole Access to Success Fund, which will provide scholarships to financially disadvantaged students to help assure their success in attaining college degrees.

Within four months, the Council had raised nearly \$30,000 for the new fund, in addition to giving to other Excelsior initiatives. When asked why the Council supported the 40th anniversary in this way, Mary Ellen Duncan, president emeritus of Howard Community College and a longtime President's Council member, noted, "We have been able to see the vision of President Ebersole as he moves Excelsior forward, and we see this fund as our vote of confidence in the future he paints." ■

44000

As we celebrate our 40th year, we ask for your help.

The College's Annual Campaign plays an integral role in the life of Excelsior, advancing our educational mission. Through this Campaign, we provide scholarship support to students who may need a little extra help to realize their educational goals. The Annual Campaign is also an opportunity to come together as a community, where our individual gifts combine to become a powerful source of student support.

Our goal for Excelsior's 40th year, which will unfold over a four-month period, is to secure 4,000 new gifts before our fiscal year ends on June 30. This is why it's called the **4|40|4000 Campaign – 4 (months), 40 (years), 4000 (gifts).**

Join us and become a part of this important effort. Gifts to the 4|40|4000 Campaign will help those who have few options for financial aid. With our help, these individuals can make a difference in their own lives, in the lives of their families, and in our world.

Every donor makes a difference—regardless of the size of the gift. Please plan to be one of our 4000. Contact Director of Development Marcy Stryker toll free at 888-647-2388, ext. 118287, or email mstryker@excelsior.edu.

Alumni Speaker Series Continues

At the end of February, as part of the 40th anniversary Alumni Speaker Series, Elizabeth Bewley, BS '85, traveled to Excelsior College to share her insights into the rapidly changing and often volatile health care environment, which she wrote about in her 2010 book, *Killer Cure: Why Health Care is the Second Leading Cause of Death in American and How to Ensure That It's Not Yours*.



Ms. Bewley, a longtime supporter of the College and former member of the Board of Trustees, was a twenty-year veteran of health care icon Johnson & Johnson, where she was honored with the Chairman's Award for her unique and actionable strategic insights into the health care industry.

She is now the president and CEO of Paro Health Institute (PHI). In her leadership of PHI, she is working to improve results for people and organizations in all roles in health care. Starting with the idea that health care's purpose is to *enable people to lead the lives they want*, Paro Health Institute guides clients to innovative solutions to improve both health outcomes and costs.



The presentation was recorded and will be available at a future date at excelsior.edu.

2007

The College is reauthorized to offer Title IV financial aid, allowing it to begin offering assistance to students from within the Federal Family Education Loan Program as well as Pell Grants.



▲ Excelsior's first MBA grads gather for a photo at Commencement 2007.

A Ford Foundation grant supporting an Excelsior project called *Taking Root: Teaching Our Teachers about Diaspora*, makes it possible for the College to develop two master's-level courses to help teachers meet the unique needs of refugee populations.

▶ Dr. Murray Block receives Excelsior's first President's Medal in recognition of his significant contributions to the College's leadership.



◀ Two graduates give one fantastic graduation speech.

Corporations and organizations choosing Excelsior as a preferred education provider include McDonald's USA, Price Chopper, Energy Providers Coalition for Education, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, National Latino Peace Officers Association, and the International Union of Police Associations.

Excelsior's School of Nursing adds a new specialization—Nursing Informatics.

Excelsior receives the American Assembly for Men in Nursing (AAMN) Best School Award for the second time.



◀ A soldier studies to complete an Excelsior course, just after Operation Iraqi Freedom began.



Seeking Online Ambassadors

The Alumni Advisory Board (AAB) has created the Alumni Ambassador Program, a platform for alumni wishing to network with other Excelsior College alumni for professional, industry, geographic, or special interest purposes. This program has evolved into regional chapters and utilizes Facebook as its main mode of communication and outreach.



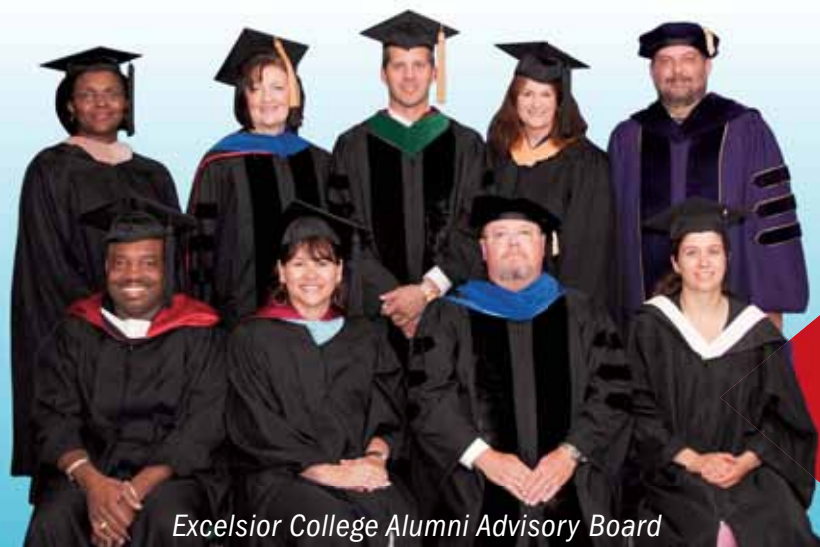
"By being an extra set of eyes, ears, and mouths, we can help spread the word, help each other, and support the school that has done so much for us."

"The goal of the Alumni Ambassador Program is to help the College build an engaged body of alumni and to enhance a sense of connectedness to Excelsior," said John Amidon, AAB president. "By being an extra set of eyes, ears, and mouths, we can help spread the word, help each other, and help support the school that has done so much for us."

Through the use of Facebook, chapters have been developed in North Carolina and the Washington, DC/Baltimore area and have already garnered more than 150 alumni and over 230 alumni respectively.

These chapters increase the exposure of the College and advance the reach of the Alumni Association while developing future alumni leaders. In addition, they encourage prospective students to enroll and promote networking throughout the Excelsior community.

Join us today! For more information, contact alumni@excelsior.edu.



Excelsior College Alumni Advisory Board



WEB CHATS

CAREER MARKETING 101

Career Lessons Learned From Successful Businesses

MAY 18 – 8 PM TO 9 PM ET

In business, image is important. Every business has the opportunity to mold their image to reflect what they want it to represent... or risk being branded by default. Successful businesses take control of what they want people to think about their business and, through the use of effective marketing strategies, increase their potential for success.

In this interesting and interactive Web chat you will learn about the marketing principles of successful businesses, and how these principles can be applied to advancing your career. You will discover how you can take control of your professional image to increase your potential for career success. Career Marketing 101 may be just what you need to help you stand out in a very competitive job market.

To register: email alumni@excelsior.edu

Stay Connected to Excelsior

Are you receiving the monthly alumni newsletter? Do you want to receive advance notice of special events online and in your region? If so, please send your updated information with an email to alumni@excelsior.edu.

Make Sure Your Vote Counts

Don't miss this opportunity! Be sure to visit excelsior.edu/alumni in May to ratify three alumni for the Excelsior College Alumni Advisory Board. Learn more about the individuals on the slate and get involved with this process.

2008

Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine names Excelsior a top 20 nursing school graduating Hispanics and a top 100 college for enrolling Hispanic students.

Excelsior is named a top 10 college serving the military by *Military Advanced Education* magazine.

College initiates a military spouse scholarship program to assist military spouses of all branches.

The School of Nursing is designated for the second time as a National League for Nursing Center of Excellence in Nursing Education (2008-2011).

Baccalaureate degree programs in business receive recognition from the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE).

The College's first instructional program, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MA/LS), celebrates its tenth anniversary.



◀ Thirty-eight nursing grads are inducted into Excelsior's Tau Kappa chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing.

In response to the nursing shortage, Excelsior launches its Post-Master's Certificate in Nursing Education.

2009



▲ Emmy-award winning CNN special correspondent Soledad O'Brien serves as keynote speaker at Commencement 2009.

Grant received from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation to fund creation of an online curriculum for the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers.





JULY 8, 2011

Celebrate Your Achievement!

An Excelsior College Commencement is an amazing event to attend, and the Capital Region of New York State is a great place to visit.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Tom Joyner, award winning broadcaster, entrepreneur, entertainer, and philanthropist.

COME TO COMMENCEMENT!

WWW.EXCELSIOR.EDU/COMMENCEMENT

HATS OFF!

What have you, our graduates, been doing? Read on to find out.

CALIFORNIA



Jason T. Britt, AS '05, BSL '07, Visalia — completed a Master of Science in Leadership degree from South University and was appointed director of Human Services for the

Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency. He is currently working on a doctoral degree in organizational leadership and development. He says, "Excelsior gave me my start on my educational journey. Thank you, Excelsior!"

Charles G. Chapin Jr, BSL '96, Stockton — announced that his latest venture won four national awards. The project is a documentary on the subject of teen dating violence titled, "Love You To Death."

David T. Williams, BSL '07, Alameda — authored an autobiography titled *The Other Side of the Game*. He is currently enrolled as a graduate student at the University of Maryland at Adelphi. Williams completed a 23-year career in the U.S. Army, where he served in both combative and non-combative contingency operations.



CALIFORNIA

Yvette Scott-Glasgow, AS nursing '00, San Jose — traveled to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as a missionary with a medical team to serve the AIDS beneficiaries in 2006. In 2005, she participated with a medical team in New Orleans, to serve the Katrina victims. She is currently the founder and chief operating officer of a nonprofit charitable organization, A Cup of Cold Water, that provides health education to the community and underserved. She has produced four television specials, two addressing the silent epidemic of STDs in her community. Scott-Glasgow is currently pursuing her BSN-MSN at a local university.

COLORADO



Susan A. Harmon, BSL '96, Fort Collins — went to work for the American Red Cross, Service to the Armed Forces. Her assignments were on military installations, and she deployed into combat with the troops. In 2004, she graduated from Regis University with a master's in Nonprofit Management. Harmon's awards include The Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Department of the Army; Commander's Award for Public Service, Department of the Army; Certificate of Commendation, U.S. Marine Corps; *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

bat with the troops. In 2004, she graduated from Regis University with a master's in Nonprofit Management. Harmon's awards include The Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Department of the Army; Commander's Award for Public Service, Department of the Army; Certificate of Commendation, U.S. Marine Corps; *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

FLORIDA

Trevor D. Reid, BSL '06, Miami — currently works for FJR Judgment Recovery. He completed a Master of Business Administration at American Military University in February 2011.

Kathleen Rose Combs, AD nursing '93, BS nursing '10, Juniper — is an advocate for the elderly and their families. As a licensed Director of Nursing and Risk Manager, she works with hospice, various long-term care facilities, and hospitals to improve care. She looks forward to continuing her educational goals through Excelsior.

College launches a Graduate Certificate program in Nursing Management.

College named a top military-friendly school for 2010 by *G.I. Jobs* magazine.

First face-to-face courses are developed for the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas.

College receives a three-year, \$581,609 federal grant to begin work on an online ESL workshop in January 2010.

The Hearst Foundation, Inc., awards \$40,000 in scholarship funds to Excelsior College to provide financial support to students nearing completion of the associate degree in nursing program.

Excelsior receives the American Assembly for Men in Nursing (AAMN) Best School Award for the third time.

The U.S. Army selects the College to expand its offerings within eArmyU to include associate and baccalaureate degree programs in business, liberal arts, psychology, and information technology.



◀ The College receives charter from the American Nuclear Society (ANS) to host a chapter of the Alpha Nu Sigma Honor Society, recognizing

outstanding student performance in the fields of nuclear science and nuclear technology.

2010

The College launches a Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) degree program in both Business Management and Technology Management to help military students leverage military training and experience to advance in business or technology careers.



◀ Congressman John Lewis addresses Commencement 2010 after receiving an honorary degree.



◀ College holds its first awards convocation to honor the academic and life achievements of the recipients.

Emma J. Franco, AS nursing '10, West Palm Beach—teaches high school students in a Practical Nursing Program, which is part of a magnet program in the Medical Academy of Palm Beach Lakes High School in West Palm Beach, FL. Students begin the program in the 10th grade and upon graduation, they can sit for the NCLEX-PN®.



Morna McGann, BS '98, Jupiter—was accepted to Argosy University Online to pursue a doctorate in marketing and international business. She is

self-employed in two businesses as a marketing consultant and business broker/real estate agent.

Dee Wilson, AS nursing '06, Naples—was an LPN from 1992 to 2006. She graduated from Excelsior College in 2006 and says her Excelsior AS nursing degree opened doors for her in a very short time. She became a hospice case manager, passed the Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse exam, and became a staff nurse at Avow Hospice inpatient facility in Naples, FL. She owns and operates Nurse Study Group in Naples, a nurse advocate/consulting/mentoring service that seeks to empower nurses by helping them further their education. She is president/founder of The Nightingale Tribute: Nursing Society Honor Guard, a not-for-profit service for nurses and by nurses, which honors deceased nurses and their families at funerals or memorial services. Wilson is also co-owner (with husband, Joe Hudson Jr.) of The Last Connection, Inc., an outreach service and safe meeting place for men and women recovering from addiction to drugs and alcohol.

GEORGIA

Reginald Brown, AAB '01, McDonough—recently graduated with an MBA in Project Management from Keller Graduate School of Management, DeVry University and is working as an IT Project Manager. He completed his Excelsior degree while serving in the military as a staff sergeant and says he wishes he'd listened to the military education specialist who introduced him to Excelsior (then Regents) College earlier in his military career.



Avonelle Rand, AS nursing '02, BS '03, Augusta—completed her MSN in nursing leadership through the University of Phoenix in 2005. Two

years later, she became an adjunct faculty in the graduate school of nursing. And a year after that, she joined the adjunct nursing team of educators at Chamberlain School of Nursing. Rand entered into hospice nursing and found that hospice nursing and behavioral health are her niches. After a year of

working as a hospice nursing supervisor, she went on to become a psychiatric nurse and, later, was promoted to the nurse manager over three units (Acute Adult Mental Health Inpatient Unit) at the state psychiatric hospital. There she fell in love with mental health and began her studies for a PhD in clinical psychology with a specialty in mental health counseling at Walden University. Her goal as a counselor is to enhance her nursing background and care for patients holistically with the best practices. She feels that in doing her part she will be contributing to societal change on some level.

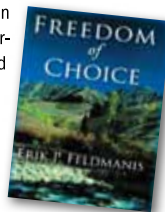
ILLINOIS



Gene L. Garland Sr., BSL '06, Gurnee—an active duty Navy senior chief petty officer (E-8), recently completed his MBA with a concentration in human resources from TUI University “with the help of God and family support.” 2011 marks his 20th year of active duty. He is currently stationed in Great Lakes, IL.

INDIANA

Erik P. Feldmanis, AS '86, Indianapolis—just released his seventh novel titled *Freedom of Choice*, a fictional adventure/suspense story about a man who is forced into a potential life or death decision that will ultimately change his life—forever. As he searches for the answer, he finds his guidance in Genesis 9:6. Feldmanis has also begun releasing his oil paintings to the public; they are being sold in two Naples, FL, art galleries (Botero Galleries and Kennedy Studios). His paintings will also be represented in the “City of Indianapolis Mayor’s Office Exhibition.”



IOWA



Mark O. Lambert, BA '89, Polk City—worked as a lobbyist at the Iowa legislature and then went on to the University of Iowa College of Law, earning his JD in 1995. He

returned to lobbying and taught college classes in political science and public administration part-time as an adjunct professor. In 2001, then Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack appointed him a state utilities commissioner, where he served until 2005. Lambert was then appointed as an administrative law judge for the State of Iowa. In his spare time, he writes fiction and non-fiction; many of his stories and articles have been published. He edited one anthology of short stories, *Two Fisted Tales of La Plata*,

which included two of his works. Lambert also produced a documentary film that has appeared on PBS television stations titled “Caveman: V.T. Hamlin & Alley Oop,” a biography of an influential newspaper comic-strip cartoonist. He has co-hosted live at the Iowa PBS affiliate during its annual on-air fundraising campaign.

Lori L. Layne, BSL '99, Pueblo West—completed a Master of Education from the University of Oklahoma and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Phoenix. She says, “Obtaining a degree from Excelsior was a stepping stone to continuing a path of lifelong learning...As a military member and a working adult, the chance to see the achievement of a bachelor’s degree fed my fervor to continue personal learning and subsequent degrees. Thank you for offering the opportunities!”

MARYLAND



Raymond E. Arsenault, AAB '00, Germantown—is beginning his fourth year of service as a contract aviator for the U.S. military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He has written and published a novel, *Tempestuous Seas*, which is available on Amazon.

Joel D. Schuster, BSL '88, Leonardtown—has been promoted to executive director, Program Management Support at Sabre Systems, Inc. In his new role, he will manage the Sabre team supporting the Maritime, Patrol, Reconnaissance Forces Aircraft Program at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) in Patuxent River, while continuing to provide program management support to the P-8 Joint Program Office (JPO)/Cooperative International Program. Schuster completed a master’s degree in technology management from the University of Maryland.



Tom Tudor, AS '88, BSL '91, Leonardtown—says his Excelsior degrees allowed him to progress through the engineering department to senior associate engineer at Southern

Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc. He has also served as action chief information officer and led the transition from a mainframe to client server environment, initiated a robust cyber security program, developed the first corporate business continuity plan, and program managed five multi-million dollar projects among others. As contract administrator, his responsibilities include general contract administration, facilities management, supplier diversity program, small business subcontracting, and serving on the

IN MEMORIAM

David Blake McLendon



L

ast fall, four Navy personnel were killed when their helicopter

crashed in Zabul province, southern Afghanistan. Among them was Excelsior College graduate David Blake McLendon, BSL '09.

Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collection) (SW/FMF) McLendon, age 30, of Thomasville, GA, joined the Navy in July 1998 and was assigned to Naval Special Warfare Group 2 Support Activity in Norfolk, VA.

In 2010, he was selected by the senior chief board and officially put on his latest rank June 16. His awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy Battle “E” Ribbon—two awards; Navy Good Conduct Medal—three awards; and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Photo courtesy of *Navy Times*

emergency response committee. He is an alternate business continuity officer and represents his employer on various utility boards and commissions. Tudor says, “My degrees greatly assisted me in my career and opened doors for various appointments...I can confidently say that without my degrees, my professional career would have been very different and less rewarding in

salary, experience, and upward mobility. It clearly has provided opportunities to serve my community as well."

MINNESOTA



Jay L. Rushing, BS '83, Woodbury—has attended graduate school at Eastern Illinois University and Keller Graduate School of Management. He has worked in indus-

try as a Knowledge Transfer Engineer. Previously, Rushing worked for KXTX-TV Channel 39 in Dallas, Rev. Pat Robertson, and the 700 Club. In 2008, he co-founded the International True Gospel Christian Ministry (TGCM) Organization, which includes TGCM Church Worldwide and TGCM Online Bible College. Today, TGCM has an estimated 10,000 members and associates worldwide.

MISSOURI

Linda Sue Hammonds, BS nursing '84, California—is certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a Family Nurse Practitioner and a Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

NEBRASKA

Roy G. Gertig, BS '84, Bellevue—Gained professional and life knowledge, earning two AAS degrees at Metropolitan Community College and a Master of Science at Capella University. He retired in 1999 after 23 years in the U.S. Air Force. Since retiring, Gertig has been with the same company, working on different contracts including nuclear C2 modeling, Unix, Tivoli, and Hitachi mass storage administration. He also worked on an information assurance contract for DISA between 2004 and 2009. He currently works



College opens satellite office in Washington, DC: Excelsior College—Washington Center.

A new program, the Certificate in Criminal Profiling and Investigative Analysis (CPIA), is launched. The CPIA is also introduced as a concentration in the baccalaureate degree—criminal justice major.



▲ President Ebersole is honored with the Secretary of the Army Public Service Award in recognition of the College's contributions to the accomplishment of the Army's mission.

FLORIDA



Hilary Sessions, AA '73, Valrico—completed her associate degree from Excelsior (then Regents) College in 1973; she was the 375th graduate in the

program. "I really felt like a pioneer back in 1973," says Sessions, "because at that time, if you couldn't attend the actual classes, you couldn't receive any credit. I heard about the Regents degree and felt that it would be a good fit for me... I had a five-year-old little girl at home and a full-time job." In 1975, Sessions completed her bachelor's degree from the University of Miami. In the years that followed, she worked in various jobs. She became a real estate agent, a life and health insurance agent, a registered representative in the securities industry, a commercial pilot, and other vocations.

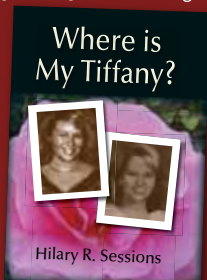
It was while she was working with her husband, Doug Brown, in his fresh seafood exporting business in St. Petersburg, FL, that her daughter Tiffany was abducted from the University of Florida in Gainesville on February 9, 1989. Tiff was her only child and a second semester junior at the University; she went out for a power walk and hasn't returned in nearly 22 years, leaving her wallet, keys to the apartment, car in the parking lot, and all her worldly possessions.

Since Tiff's disappearance, Sessions has been a volunteer and advocate for missing children locally, statewide, and nationally. For five years she was the executive director of Child Protection Education of America, which was the second largest missing childrens' organization in the U.S. based on the number of active missing children's cases (468).

In early 2011, Sessions published a book titled *Where is My Tiffany?*, the saga of a mother's search for her missing child. In it, she delves into the emotional, physical, and spiritual trials that she has gone through. She says, "Writing the book was a very cathartic experience for me, because I had to choose the experiences that I wanted the reader to experience and also bring my beautiful daughter Tiffany to the reader in a very special way." Sessions also

has completed training to be a certified nursing assistant and will shortly be able to return to helping people—"but in a different way than helping missing children families and cases."

Sessions continues to work to find her missing daughter. She has appeared on many television shows and been interviewed on numerous occasions for newspapers and other publications. "Even though we have not found Tiff in all these years," she says, "I must maintain the hope that one day she will come home."



2011

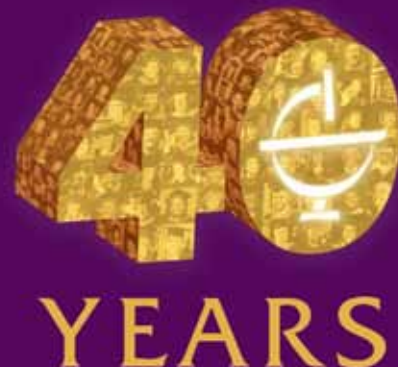
A new division, Educators Serving Educators (ESE), is created to assist accredited institutions of higher education in the development and delivery of online programs and courses.

The executive director of Excelsior's Center for Military Education, Susan Dewan, is named 2011 recipient of the prestigious William E. Kennedy Award by the Council of Colleges and Military Educators (CCME).

The New York Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars signs a first-of-its-kind education partnership with Excelsior College.

Excelsior course, Success Strategies for Military and Veterans, receives 2010–2011 Innovation Award from the Center for Transforming Student Services (CENTSS), a national student service organization.

College celebrates its 40th anniversary year.



with Lustre open source file system, along with SuSE and Red Hat Linux, Infiniband, and Remote Direct Memory Access (RDMA) protocols. He received a "coin of excellence" on one of the contracts, was featured in *Certification Magazine* in 2004, and has acquired around 15 information technology professional certifications including CISSP, CISA/CISM, and PMP. He and his family are active community supporters; he is currently president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Ross T. Ridenoure, BS '83, BNT '89, Omaha—has joined Parsons, an engineering and construction firm, as vice president of Nuclear Energy Initiatives. In this role, he is responsible for supporting Parsons' business expansion into domestic and international nuclear energy markets. Prior to joining Parsons, Mr. Ridenoure was senior vice president, chief nuclear officer, and site manager at Southern California Edison (SCE), responsible for all aspects of the company's nuclear business, including operations, engineering, maintenance, nuclear oversight, and regulatory activities of the company's San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), which is the largest single source of electricity generation in Southern California.

Ridenoure served on nuclear-powered submarines for eight years in the U.S. Navy. He retired from the Navy in 2006 after more than 29 years of active and reserve naval service. A member of the American Nuclear Society and the NuScale Power Customer Advisory Board, Ridenoure is the current and first chairman of the Executive Advisory Committee for the North American Young Generation in Nuclear. He earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska.

NEVADA

David M. Howard, AA '75, BA '76, Sparks—was awarded U.S. Patent #7,456,779 for a system and method for 3D radar image rendering, along with his colleagues at Sierra Nevada Corporation. He continued his studies at the University of North Texas and graduated with an MS in computer science.

NEW MEXICO



TSgt. William A. O'Brien, BSL '07, United Edgewood—is a USAF Pararescueman with one of the most intense Operations Tempo in the military. He says that with the skills he learned at Excelsior he was able to transfer his knowledge and experience into earning a Master of Science in Management at Colorado Technical University online.

NEW YORK

Mel Berkowitz, BA '76, Jamaica—taught at Brooklyn College, Touro College, and St. John's University, where he instructed in biology, laboratory science, and statistics. He also did medical research for 20 years. Berkowitz is now retired from teaching high school after 23 years and is a video producer for public access television. He has a nonprofit organization call Interon Productions, Inc. and has just finished filming an interview with Dr. Frank Brady on *Endgame*, his best selling biography of Bobby Fischer.

Dennis C. Coll, BAL '77, New York City—graduated from Bronx Community College in '63 and '72 with an AA and an AAS (nursing) respectively, all before completing his Excelsior (then Regents) degree. He then graduated from Hunter College—Bellevue School of Nursing with a BSN degree in '79. Coll retired from active nursing (30 years) and active military service in the Navy and Army (24 years) in January 2003. He is presently an NYC auxiliary police officer and Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services volunteer.

Takis Dikas, BSL '98, Colonie—has published a devotional guide that, he explains, "will give people guidance, especially with job losses, unemployment, and other trials they are facing."

Gregory "Greg" Procopio, BSL '85, AS nursing '07, Syracuse—successfully completed his Certified Emergency Nurse Board Certification.

Shenlei Winkler, BSL '96, Brooklyn—is CEO of the Fashion Research Institute (FRI), which was selected by the Product Development and Management Association to showcase its work with an innovative 3D Virtual Runway™ and Black Dress Design Studio™ at the 34th Annual Global Conference on Product Innovation. Winkler will be publishing her fourth book this autumn, *Best Practices for Accessories Portfolio Design*. She has also published a textbook for avatar apparel design called *Designing Dreams*, and a history of the development of the OpenSim platform, *Shengri La Spirit*, both available on Amazon.

PENNSYLVANIA

David Corson, BS '78 Fairfield—retired from the USCG after 31 years. He held every enlisted rank, then OCS and ranks O1 thru O6. He completed Navy flight training, accrued 5,700 hours of pilot time in a variety of fixed and rotary winged aircraft, completed Aircraft Maintenance Officer training, and has served as engineering officer at several Coast Guard air stations, both in and out CONUS, and as CSAR officer for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Corson ended his Coast Guard career as the chief of operations for the Fifth Coast Guard District in Norfolk, VA.



James A. Gensch, AS nursing '07, Bethlehem—passed the NCLEX-RN® and worked in a Neuro ICU while completing his BS nursing. He knew that anesthesia school was where he wanted to be, so he put all of his focus on attaining that goal. He was accepted into Thomas Jefferson University's School of Nursing MSN in Nurse Anesthesia program last year and has just about completed with one full year of study. He is active with the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists as the Student Trustee for 2010–2011. Gensch says he is "so very grateful to Excelsior for helping me to achieve the very first step of transitioning from paramedic to RN, which has opened up an entire world of possibilities."

Dale Laszig, BS '94, Honesdale—just completed his master's in management through Argosy University.

RHODE ISLAND



Stephen Finlan, BAL '97, Warwick—teaches theology part-time at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island. His most recent book (2009) is *The Family Metaphor in Jesus'*

Teaching: Gospel and Ethics. Finlan completed his master's degree in philosophy in 1999 from Drew University, Madison, NJ, and a PhD in Pauline Theology from the University of Durham (UK) in 2004.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Frankie Joe Ponce, BSL '91, Ruby—completed an MA in human resource development at Webster University in Columbia.

TENNESSEE

Nathan W. Tierney, AAA '00, BSL '04, MA/LS '08, Nashville—has launched a Web site called The Frontlines, which provides veterans, family members, and friends a venue for telling a story about their experiences while serving in any branch of the armed forces. The Web site allows the storytellers to create a written account of their experiences and to include video, audio, photos, or art they may have. The purpose of this is to document a personal account of a particular combat experience, provide a safe and supportive arena in which to share such a story, and develop a sense of community to overcome what, for many veterans, is a lonely experience. Storytellers receive no money for their efforts. All donations made on the Web site will be given to the Wounded Warrior Project, a non-profit organization created to "honor and empower wounded warriors; raise awareness and enlist the public's aid

for the needs of severely injured service men and women; help severely injured service members aid and assist each other; and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of severely injured servicemembers."

TEXAS

Michael Jacobs, BS nursing '03, El Paso—worked for 16 years for the U.S. Dept. of Defense at William Beaumont Army Medical Center. After completing his master's in nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner, he provided his professional services at Summit Urgent Care and at a pediatric clinic in the rural county area of Horizon City in El Paso County. The pediatric clinic cares for the medically underserved and economically disadvantaged of the county, responding to community needs and providing services to anyone in need.

Kathleen C. Lacoste, MRN-BS '09, Kingwood—is now a full-time faculty member and professor of nursing at Lone Star College-Montgomery. Previously, she was a continuing education health occupations faculty member at Lone Star College-Kingwood. She also worked in a variety of specialties within the medical field including medical/surgical, long-term care, and adult, pediatric, and neonatal home health care.

VIRGINIA

Sidney C. Arnold Jr., AS '74, Boydton—retired from the U.S. Navy in 1977 at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer (CW03). A Korean War veteran, he attended several



TEXAS

Chris Lopez, BSL '02, Copperas Cove—has deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and has been promoted twice—to master sergeant and, recently, to sergeant major. In 2008, Lopez completed a Master of Science degree in management from Thomas Edison State College. He did a one-year tour as sergeant major of the Eighth U.S. Army Band in Seoul, Korea, and is currently sergeant major of the First Cavalry Division Band at Fort Hood, TX.

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TEXAS

Cecil Vernon Crumrine, Jr., BSB '86, MA/LS '06, Mesquite — served as vice president/trust officer for a large multi-national banking firm from 1999–2006. In 2004, he successfully completed an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Dispute Resolution program at SMU in Dallas. Crumrine went into semi-retirement in early 2009 after leaving his job as CFO/human resource director for an independent oil and gas firm. He is now enjoying a new career as a freelance writer and says, "None of my career or personal success would have been possible without my experiences at Excelsior College... The broad-based curriculum in Excelsior's program proved to be invaluable to me, both in my work in the corporate world and now in my current field of professional writing."

technical Navy schools in electronics and communications. In addition to his employment at Eaton Corporation, Long Island, NY, as a technical editor for USAF B1 Aircraft, Arnold worked part time for 20 years as a square dance caller and instructor in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, UK, Panama Canal Zone, and Tidewater, VA. Together with his wife, he has been devoted to researching his family genealogy and has published a number of books on the subject with Higgins Book Company.



James R. Boyd, BAL '80 Virginia Beach — completed an MA degree with Central Michigan University, which allowed him to be commissioned as a Medical Service Corps officer. His successful 21-year career in the military included assignments with the U.S. Marines as training officer for Field Medical Service Corps; exchange officer with the Norwegian Army; assistant head of patient administration at the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth; and operations officer at Medical Command MidAtlantic. After Boyd retired from active service, he spent 19



VIRGINIA

Samuel Watkins Jr., BSL '99, Virginia Beach — received a Life Saving Award from the American Police Hall of Fame for performing CPR and other measures on an infant in distress at the Norfolk Airport. The rapid response of Watkins and a fellow officer was a significant factor in the infant's survival. The citation reads, "In recognition of your unselfish actions during an emergency situation, which resulted in the saving of a human life."

years as a health care executive, working for the Commonwealth of Virginia and serving the indigent populations in the agencies of Medicaid and the Department of Health.

As such, he was a founding member of the team that brought in Medallion, a Medicaid Managed Care system that served over 240,000 citizens at its highest enrollment; functioned as district business manager for the second largest health department in the state; and managing a budget in excess of 10 million. He achieved the status of Diplomat in Healthcare Administration with the American Academy of Medical Administrators, and certification as a Virginia Contracting Officer.

As an ordained minister, he serves as assistant pastor for an established non-denominational church, and as director for Charthouse Bible Institute, a thriving local bible college. He is an active member of the National Association of Christian Ministers, serving as regional elder for Virginia Beach and recently became certified as Christian Chaplain with the International Federation of Christian Chaplains.

Keith L. Smith, BSL '06, Virginia Beach — completed his MBA at Ashford U. with a GPA of 4.0 and was an inaugural inductee into the Ashford chapter of the Golden Key International Honor Society.

WYOMING

Phillip Eaton, AA nursing '02, MRN-BS '09, Douglas — is vice president of patient care at Memorial Hospital of Converse County, overseeing several departments including emergency, surgery, and respiratory as well as pharmacy, wellness, and OB departments. He is currently in the dissertation phase of completing a doctoral degree in health sciences and nursing from Nova Southeastern University.

