

IC VIEW

THE MAGAZINE OF
ITHACA COLLEGE

FALL/
WINTER
'22

IC ALUMNI HELP BRING
THE YANKEES TO YOU

IC THINKERS, DOERS, AND
EXPLORERS IN THE MILITARY

ALUMNI NOTES



**IC Welcomes
New Leaders**

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PHOTO BY NATALIE DAFFINEE '09

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ITHACA COLLEGE

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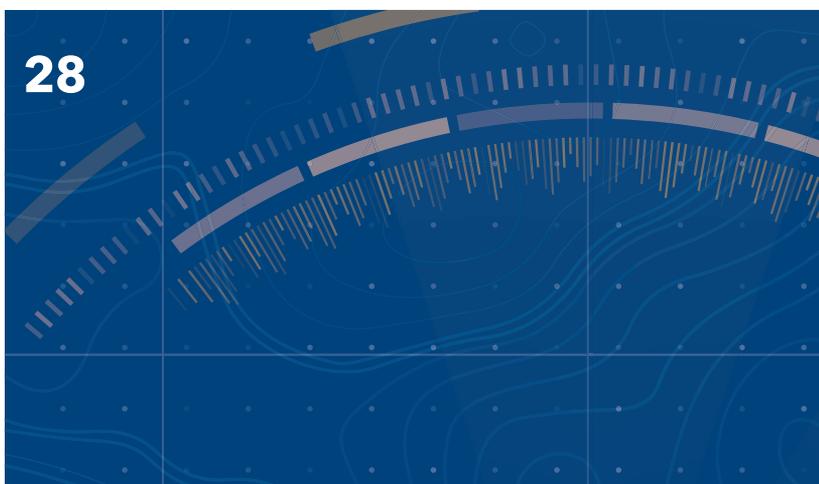
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FROM THE PRESIDENT



PHOTO BY NATALIE DAFFINEE '09

This issue of *ICView* arrives during a time of great possibility and momentum for our institution.

Despite a competitive higher education environment, we exceeded our enrollment goal for this fall, welcoming more than 1,400 new students to our community. We also welcomed four new deans, all of whom bring exceptional credentials, knowledge, experience, and ideas to their appointments. You will learn about these academic leaders' backgrounds within the pages of this issue of *ICView*. Also in this issue, you'll learn about four alumni who are at different points in their careers as members of our country's armed forces and also about a cohort

of IC graduates who work in various roles for the New York Yankees organization.

On that note, we are excited for IC in the City: Reunion and Cortaca '22 in New York City on November 10–12, during which several events are planned and the Bombers will take on SUNY Cortland at Yankee Stadium for the right to claim the Cortaca Jug for another year.

Everything we do, every decision we make on South Hill, is in the interest of making our students' experience on campus transformative and intellectually stimulating. It is my wish to ensure every student feels seen, heard, and valued. This inclusive environment extends to our alumni community as well. To that end, I am embarking on an Ithaca Together Inaugural Tour, during which I will travel to cities across the country (and the UK) to get to know the wide-ranging members of our alumni community and share my vision for my first year as president. Locations for the Ithaca Together Inaugural Tour can be found on the inside back cover of this issue.

Many thanks to each of you for your contributions to life on South Hill. I look forward to seeing many of you this fall during IC in the City and the Ithaca Together Inaugural Tour.

Until then, may you be well, stay well, and take good care.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "La Jerne Terry Cornish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

La Jerne Terry Cornish
President



PHOTO BY CHRIS KITCHEN

Ithaca College's Graduating Class of 2022



1,303*
undergraduate
students

Where Were They From?

38
states

41
countries

2
federal districts or U.S. territories
(District of Columbia and Puerto Rico)

Graduating with Honors

180
students
graduated
**summa
cum laude**
*(a 3.9 GPA
or higher)*

311
students
graduated
**magna
cum laude**
*(a 3.7 GPA
or higher)*

253
students
graduated
cum laude
*(a 3.5 GPA
or higher)*

42
students
**completed
the honors
program**

68
students
**were inducted
into Phi
Kappa Phi**



What Did They Do While They Were Here?

247
students
**played a
varsity sport**

150
students **were
presidents
for student
organizations**

56
students
**completed
multiple
degree
programs**

158
students
**studied
abroad**

243
students **presented
during the Whalen
Academic Symposium**

Who Were the Members of This Year's Graduating Class?

A student who worked to **launch a pop-up drive-in movie theater** during summer break.

A "hometown hero" who was **honored by the New York Daily News** for raising awareness of transgender issues at their high school.

A performer who **sang live at Lincoln Center** as a finalist in the American Pops Orchestra Competition.

A student-athlete who **won a second national championship** in the pole vault.

An ROTC cadet who was **awarded a highly competitive Barry Goldwater Scholarship**.

An art education major who **premiered a solo exhibition** at Ithaca's Community Arts Partnership ArtSpace.

* This number includes December 2021 graduates



PHOTO BY CHRIS KITCHEN

David Prunty, executive director of auxiliary services, and Bonnie Prunty, vice president for student affairs and campus life, received the Ithaca College Presidential Medal.

IC PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL AWARDEES

At the May 2022 Commencement ceremonies, two longtime campus leaders—Bonnie Prunty, vice president for student affairs and campus life, and David Prunty, executive director of auxiliary services—were presented with the Ithaca College Presidential Medal. The award honors members or valued partners of the Ithaca College family whose lives embody the values of the institution and demonstrate a strong sense of service and sustainability to the college community and our world. President La Jerne Terry Cornish noted that each has given more than three decades of consistent, compassionate service to IC, during which “they have helped to create the Ithaca College family that we all know and love.”



PHOTO BY MICHAEL (MIKE) GRIPPI

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION OPENS

Ithaca College has established a new Center for Student Success and Retention. The center's leadership will guide the college in research, development, and implementation of strategies to improve student retention and success, making Ithaca College a first-choice, fiscally sustainable institution in a highly competitive landscape.

The center is based within the Division of Marketing and Enrollment Strategy and is led by Elizabeth Bleicher, as dean of student success and retention, and Jacqueline Winslow, as executive director of student success and retention.

"Creating the Center for Student Success and Retention positions us to achieve our Ithaca Forever goal of becoming a national model for student success, engagement, and well-being," said President La Jerne Terry Cornish. "This is a strategic and intentional move to invest in improving student retention using both a macro-level, systemic approach as well as a micro-level approach that will impact individual students. As I like to say, our students are our 'why,' and they deserve nothing less than for us to wisely direct our energy and resources to ensure we are the best institution we can be when it comes to delivering on our brand promise."

The center will provide vision and coherence for IC's initiatives to improve the student journey, from matriculation to graduation, by creating clearer pathways to equitable student success and engagement.

This is a hybrid, interdisciplinary center that fosters collaboration and shared purpose among faculty, staff, students, and senior leadership.

"We know we have a huge opportunity to maximize our enrollment by thinking about what happens after students matriculate," said Laurie Koehler, vice president for marketing and enrollment strategy. "Our enrollment is a function not just of who comes to IC but who stays and who doesn't and why. If we can improve our retention, we have better prospects for building long-term, thriving enrollment numbers and financial sustainability." The center will be a place to create synergy, efficiency, and effectiveness for student retention and will also include a student success coach to implement target population interventions.

Bleicher, a professor in the Departments of Literatures in English and Education, coauthored IC's Strategic Student Success and Retention Plan in 2018, and in 2020 accepted an appointment as an IC Presidential Fellow with a focus on student success. In addition, she has been serving as interim director of student success and chairs the Retention and Engagement Strategy Team.

"Students who work with me know that I take their success very seriously; it is personal to me," said Bleicher. "I feel very privileged to concentrate my teaching and researching practices on student success. The Center for Student Success and Retention is not just for students, because their success is so dependent on what we do as an institution. I want staff and faculty colleagues to come to trust that we have their backs, to trust that we are researching solutions to the problems they bring to us, and to trust that we will help them test the strategies and tactics we bring back to and formulate with them."

In 2013 Winslow joined IC and served for four years as the director for new student and transition programs. Within this role and as a first-generation college student herself, she oversaw the foundation of IC's First-Generation Center and worked closely with the Division of Philanthropy and Engagement to establish IC's growing Family Council.

Winslow says she is eager to continue listening closely to students' stories to help them strategize and to promote practices and policies that allow them to feel intellectually, socially, emotionally, and financially well. "I am confident the center's focused attention on student success will both bolster our students' collective experience and help us ensure that students who might have grappled with leaving IC will remain part of our community because of the care and attention we can offer at the individual level," she said.



PHOTO BY NATALIE DAFFINEE '09

IC GIVING DAY RAISES RECORD-BREAKING \$2.2 MILLION IN 24 HOURS

More than 4,700 IC students, alumni, faculty, staff, and other supporters showed the power of Bomber solidarity on Tuesday, April 26, to raise a record-shattering \$2.2 million during Ithaca College Giving Day. Donors contributed to all five schools, academic departments, athletics teams, student financial aid, and student organizations and clubs.

Of the 4,788 donors who contributed on Giving Day, an incredible 3,500 were current and former student-athletes and supporters who collaboratively raised more than \$1 million over 24 hours.

The Annual Fund for Athletics received the highest overall number of gifts, led by the women's volleyball team with 518. The football program led all groups by raising \$124,408 as teams across athletics engaged in friendly competition on Giving Day to fundraise for their respective sports.

Of the five schools, the School of Humanities and Sciences received the most Giving Day dollars, followed by the Annual Fund for Business. In addition to several giving challenges, each school had generous donors offer matching gifts of amounts between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

Along with matching gifts for each school—all of which were unlocked—there were several other ways for donors to make the most of their gifts through a match. Gift challenges included a Student Emergency Relief Fund match courtesy of **Anne and Paul Mankiewich, parents '20**; trustee **David '85 and Rosanna Meberg, parents '23**; and **Harris '89 and Geri '91 Cohen, parents '25**. And a matching gift to the Library Fund was bestowed by trustee **Jim '77 and Kathleen Nolan, parents '01**; and trustee **Kirk Harbinger '89 and Elaine Scaia-Harbinger '89**.

Ithaca College's 2022 Giving Day is the first to take place under the leadership of President La Jerne Terry Cornish. "What an exciting evening! I joined colleagues in Alumni Hall past 10 p.m. to watch our numbers continue to tick up as our IC family truly showed up for our students and for this institution," Cornish said. "Giving Day 2022 was a record-breaking and beautiful moment not only for its philanthropic impact but for what it demonstrates about the love our community has for our students and our home on South Hill. Thank you to our alumni, students, faculty, staff, and families for making Giving Day 2022 such a resounding success."

To learn more about the impact of Ithaca College Giving Day, visit givingday.ithaca.edu.



PHOTOS BY BOB WAGNER AND GRACE COLLINS '22

The lighting of the torch kicked off the 2022 Special Olympics New York Summer Games (left). President Cornish cheers on the Special Olympics athletes (right).

2022 SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW YORK SUMMER GAMES HELD AT IC

On June 24 and 25, thousands of athletes, coaches, family members, supporters, and volunteers gathered at Ithaca College to celebrate the competition and camaraderie of the 2022 Special Olympics New York Summer Games.

The 2022 Summer Games marked the first in a three-year partnership between IC and Special Olympics New York. Competitions were held in eight sports—aquatics, bowling, basketball, gymnastics, powerlifting, tennis, track and field, and volleyball—at IC athletics facilities and venues such as Ithaca High School and Midway Bowl. This year brought extra cause for celebration, as this was the first in-person Summer Games after a nearly three-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The opening ceremonies officially began as the athletes paraded into the Campus Center quad. Representing the seven regions of New York State, athletes were met with cheers, applause, and fist bumps as they made their way to the stage.

“What I really like about the Special Olympics is that my coaches never use the word *disability*, only the word *abilities*, and that helps us to become better athletes,” said athlete Amy Cusano, who has been competing with the Special Olympics for nearly 20 years.

Competitions took place in facilities across IC’s campus, from aquatics in the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium to gymnastics in the Ben Light Gymnasium.

In addition to providing opportunities for the competing athletes, the Summer Games also allowed

members of the IC community to get involved and give back. Over the two days, nearly 800 volunteer shifts were filled by students, alumni, faculty, staff, and local community members.

One key initiative during the games included the health performance and healthy athlete screening stations. Spearheaded by **Jill Mayer ’09, DPT ’10**, clinical assistant professor of physical therapy, and Bonnie Riley, assistant professor of occupational therapy, these stations supported athletes before, during, and after their competition. Staffed by students and supervised by faculty and local health care professionals, the stations gave more than 50 upper-year students and graduate students in the physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physician assistant programs a distinctive hands-on opportunity to put their classroom skills into real-world practice with an underrepresented population of athletes.

These efforts reinforce several tenets of the Ithaca Forever strategic plan: become a year-round campus for living and learning opportunities; develop cross-sector and community partnerships that address challenging issues, optimize the use of resources, and serve the public good; and be a national model for colleges committed to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The weekend was an unqualified success, and the future is equally bright. “When I assumed the role [of president], I said that my three words were *intentionality*, *connection*, and *care*,” said Cornish. “This is an example of us living up to what we say we’re going to do. We are connected with the state of New York right now through this venture, and we’re excited to be doing this for another two years.”

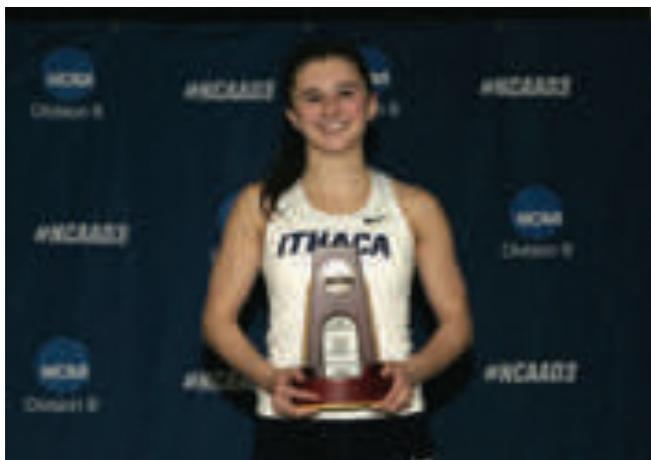


PHOTO BY MATT MCCLURE/D3PHOTOGRAPHY.COM

ALL PHOTOS BY TIM MCKINNEY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

CLASS OF '42 ALUMNA BEQUEST SUPPORTS WOMEN'S ATHLETICS AT IC

An alumna from the class of 1942, who graduated with a degree in physical education, has provided an anonymous bequest of just over \$600,000 to Ithaca College to support women's athletics. Investment in endowments is a priority for Ithaca College and for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. The funds have been equally divided among 10 different women's sports programs—field hockey, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, and volleyball—and are being used to establish endowments to support activities and enhancements for each of the programs as determined by the respective head coach in consultation with the director of athletics.



PHOTOS BY RYAN COLEMAN/D3PHOTOGRAPHY.COM (LEFT) AND COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE ATHLETICS (RIGHT)

Meghan Matheny '22 (left) and Jalen Leonard-Osborne '24 (right).

TRACK AND FIELD TEAMS WIN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND HONORS

The 2022 NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships provided an opportunity for Ithaca College student-athletes and coaches to show that they are among the best in the country. The women's team finished in third place while the men's team finished sixth.

Standout Stars

The following student-athletes earned all-American honors:

- **Meghan Matheny '22**, first place, women's pole vault
- **Tia Jones '23**, second place, women's 60-meter dash and 200-meter dash
- **Logan Bruce '22**, second place, women's pentathlon
- **Sara Altonen '24**, third place, women's pole vault
- **Jalen Leonard-Osborne '24**, first place, men's 60-meter dash
- **Luke Tobia '22**, second place, men's weight throw
- **Dom Mikula '22**, fifth place, men's pole vault
- **Andy Frank '23**, fifth place, men's 200-meter dash

BOMBERS RANK AS TOP DIVISION III ATHLETIC PROGRAM IN STATE AND CONFERENCE

Ithaca finished 11th in the final Division III Learfield Directors' Cup standings, with a total of 770.5 points. That number was not only the best total in the Liberty League—where the Bombers finished 39 spots ahead of the closest competition—but tops in New York State.

IC is just one of six Division III schools to finish within the top 30 every year since the Directors' Cup started in 1995–96. This year also marked the fifth straight year the Bombers finished in the top 20.

11TH
in the final
Division III
**Learfield
Directors' Cup**
standings

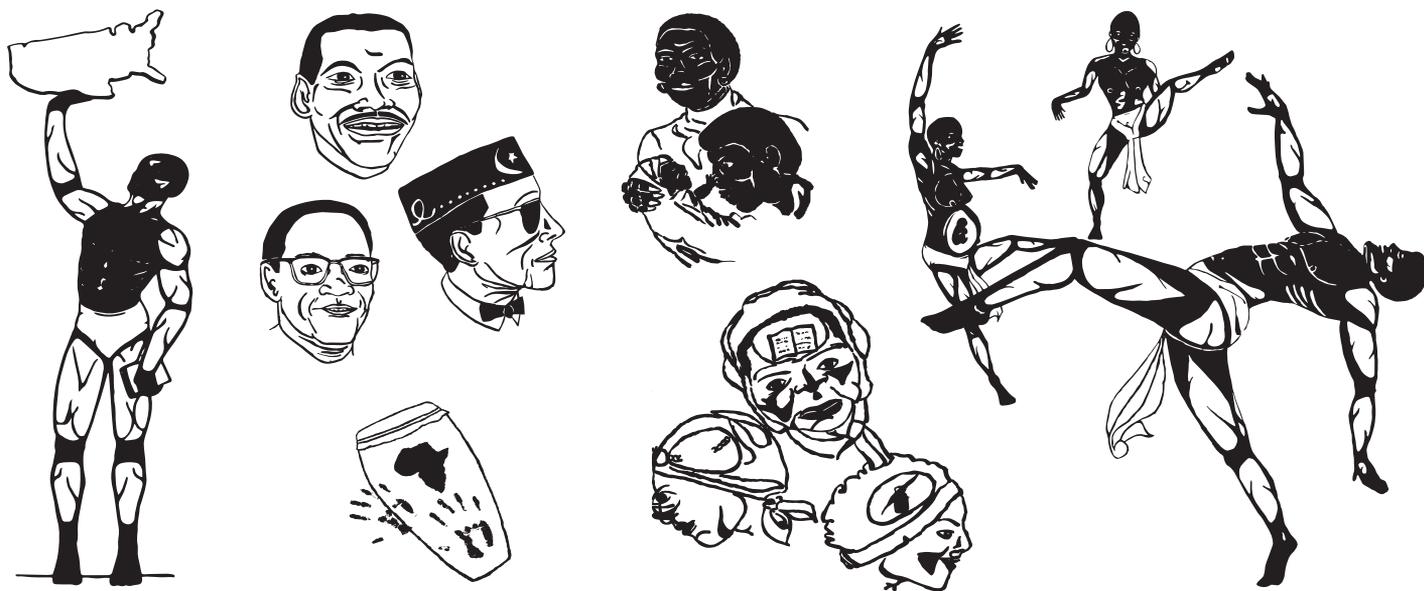
39
spots ahead
of the next
closest
conference
rival—
tops in New
York State

770.5
total points in
**Learfield
Directors'
Cup** standings

TOP 30
every year
since the
Directors' Cup
started in
1995–96

TOP 20
fifth year
in a row
in the top 20





STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND:

The Afro-Latin Society Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs

A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT BY VERNARD MCBETH '72

In the annals of Ithaca College, there is a sparsity of information documenting the existence of students of color and particularly the Afro-Latin Society (ALS), which was initiated by and included “trailblazers” from the late ’60s and early ’70s. Members of ALS were mostly Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) students from the inner cities around the country.

ALS was a group of highly intelligent, outspoken, politically progressive, and socially and culturally aware students who had an impact on the IC campus community that was undeniable. This group challenged the IC administration to recognize the plight of Black and Brown students on IC’s campus. ALS and HEOP had a naturally symbiotic relationship and, as such, educational success was always encouraged, supported, and expected by both entities. Pam Curry, Lou Baldwin, and Benne Herbert, and part-time counselor Janice Turner, must be thanked for helping to ensure the success of all the students.

In fall 1969, a cohort of 40 predominantly Black and Brown students arrived on the IC campus with the expectation of being welcomed and the excitement of a new educational experience. This group of young

scholars arrived as “strangers in a strange land.” They faced racial and dehumanizing encounters. However, they moved forward in the spirit of the then current Civil Rights Movement. The ALS became the conscience of the campus, speaking truth to power and calling out the administration on many social and political issues.

The students arrived at IC with one universal desire: to attain a college degree. Their parents were from either the South, the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, or the Dominican Republic; and they were raised by their families with the philosophy one could do anything—especially if they pursued a good education, led a disciplined life, and were productive members of their community and society. Moreover, their parents instilled a sense of resiliency in life. This is what provided the backdrop for the triumphs of many of the students, despite their trials and tribulations.

Despite the taunts, looks of disdain, harassment, racial slurs, apparent irritation, dismissive comments and attitudes, condescension, and outright hostility, the ALS and HEOP students succeeded. Their cultural background and family values provided them strength and resilience. They managed to excel as students, in



their personal lives, and most importantly in their professional lives. These students made their parents proud, which was especially important to them as individuals.

The ALS and HEOP have many success stories. More than 90% of all the HEOP students graduated, earning their bachelor's degrees and moving on to attain advanced graduate and postgraduate degrees. Many members of the trailblazers of the '60s and '70s have master's degrees, PhDs, DDSs, MBAs, JDs, and a plethora of various professional certifications. As a cohort, these students have gone on to lead professionally accomplished lives.

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots."

—MARCUS GARVEY, ACTIVIST, JOURNALIST,
AND ENTREPRENEUR

This article encourages the reader to reflect upon the binary relationship that the students of color have had vis-à-vis the institution. On September 19, 2022, Ithaca College turned 130 years old. Collectively Black and Latino students constitute 15.4% of the student population per the Fall 2021 Enrollment Report. These numbers reflect the steady growth from the fall of 1969

when that population was only 1% of the total.

Students of color have been contributing to the institution for nearly half of its lifetime. They have a passion for the college 53 years later, despite the trials and tribulations. It is a tough affection that they bear. With time, the institution will learn more about the early years of ALS and HEOP, its students, and their contributions to society. This knowledge will be beneficial to all stakeholders.

The trailblazers want to ensure there's Black and Brown representation at the decision-making table. The vehicle for this has historically been the ALS and the EOP/HEOP of the Black and Latino campus contingent. Many of the ALS trailblazers have made their mark on their communities and look forward to taking advantage of opportunities to meet members of the board of trustees, college administration, and the current ALS students to develop more mainstream, meaningful, and cohesive partnerships.

It's important to have a support system to navigate through. In that vein, there are a number of staff, faculty, and administrators, many of them white, who we must acknowledge and thank. These persons made our transition and very existence as easy as possible.

We appreciate their being sympathetic, gracious, receptive, encouraging, and supportive. These wonderful people include IC's dean of students John Brown, Dr. Walter Mulholland, and professors Corinne Galvin, Bea Goldman, Harvey Fireside, Ira Brous, Heinz Koch, Jan Saltzgaber, Earl Bloch, Chet Galaska, Gus Peralas, Edward Pesaresi, and numerous others. ♥



PHOTO BY NATALIE DAFFINEE '09

IC Welcomes New Leaders

Over the past year, members of Ithaca College's administration have paved the way for ongoing progress with a visionary new president, provost, and four new deans. Meet the next administration moving IC forward with our deep strengths: our distinctive academic approach blending the liberal arts with professional practice, our bold leadership and interdisciplinary collaboration, our commitment to equity and diversity, our idyllic location in a quintessential college town, and, most of all, our thriving community dedicated to empowering students for the future.

By Danica Fisher '05 and Kyle Hornyak



PHOTO BY SHERYL SINKOW

Above (left to right) are Jim Nolan '77, vice chair, Ithaca College Board of Trustees; La Jerne Terry Cornish, president; David H. Lissy '87, chair, Ithaca College Board of Trustees.

La Jerne Terry Cornish

PRESIDENT OF ITHACA COLLEGE

Hometown: Baltimore, Maryland

Education: BA in English and an MEd with a concentration in urban and diverse learners from Goucher College; PhD in language, literacy, and culture from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County

On what makes IC distinctive: “The integration of theory, practice, and performance, which is the hallmark of an Ithaca College education.”

On what makes Ithaca distinctive: “We reside in the truly quintessential college town, but it is our togetherness, inclusive of community, which makes us very special.”

On her biggest challenge since joining Ithaca College: “Coping with COVID-19, without a doubt. Swiftly moving to remote instruction and successfully returning to in-person instruction within two years was truly a test for this institution.”

On what keeps her motivated: To those whom much is given, much will be required. —Luke 12:48 “Over the span of nearly 40 years in education, I have been given much, beginning with an amazing education and professional opportunities afforded to me by people who believed in me. If you know my story, you know

that I was somebody’s ‘why,’ as a student. And so I am always on the lookout for students who need a ‘why.’”

On her vision for fall 2022: “While our strategic plan is aptly named Ithaca Forever, starting this fall our focus will be Ithaca Together, to include not only faculty, staff, and students but also the community in which we reside. Together, we will not only make Ithaca College distinctive but also the city of Ithaca, as reflected in the presence of an Ivy League university, a comprehensive college with amazing professional schools, and a community college that opens different pathways for students on their way to four-year institutions.”

La Jerne Terry Cornish took office on March 7, 2022, as Ithaca College’s 10th president. Prior to this appointment, Cornish served as interim president from August 2021 to March 2022, and as provost and executive vice president after joining Ithaca College as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs in July 2018.

In addition to leading the college’s academic affairs division, Cornish served as the primary architect of Ithaca Forever, the college’s five-year strategic plan. The plan was created during the 2018–19 academic year and was formally endorsed by the Ithaca College Board of Trustees in June 2019.

During the pandemic, Cornish led the shift to remote teaching and distance learning, including the orchestration of a revised academic calendar in

alignment and compliance with ever-shifting safety and health guidelines. Cornish was also instrumental in leading the work of the college's Return to Campus Task Force, which was charged with developing a comprehensive plan to fully open the Ithaca College campus in a challenging public health environment.

Committed to educational issues locally and globally, Cornish's research interests include new teacher induction, culturally responsive teaching, and campus responses to issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Earlier in her career, Cornish served as associate provost for undergraduate studies at her alma mater, Goucher College. Prior to joining Goucher in 1998, Cornish held various positions for 15 years in the Baltimore City Public School System. She taught English in three middle schools, piloted the Maryland's Tomorrow Middle School Program, and served as the assistant principal of Canton Middle School. She helped establish Future Educators Associations in five Baltimore City middle schools and for over a dozen years organized and led educational experiences for Goucher students in Grahamstown, South Africa.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Melanie Stein

**PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Hometown: Ithaca, New York

Education: AB in mathematics from Harvard College, MS and PhD in mathematics from Cornell University

On what makes IC distinctive: "It's a place to explore. We have these incredible professional schools that are grounded in the liberal arts, and that goes both ways, where liberal arts students can take advantage of our professional schools."

On what makes Ithaca distinctive: "It's really a perfectly balanced community because it's a place where you have cultural opportunities of a much larger metro area combined with the ease of a small town and natural beauty that's unmatched anywhere. As a native Ithacan, I sometimes get critiqued for being too enthusiastic about Ithaca, but sorry, that's that!"

On her biggest challenge since joining Ithaca College: "Needing to make some very, very challenging decisions right in the middle of the pandemic when everyone was so isolated and exhausted, and yet we couldn't lose a beat."

On what she's looking forward to in fall 2022: "Right now I'm feeling extraordinarily upbeat! This spring really brought a renewed sense of community. And now we are in a new academic year with the four deans I have appointed. During our initial conversations with the deans, much of what we spoke about was centered around my vision for a highly collaborative academic leadership team devoid of silos. I want my team to look outward to think about initiatives and opportunities that can benefit the whole campus. And so, I am really looking forward to working with the team to develop opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration."

Melanie Stein, a native of Ithaca, began her tenure on South Hill in July 2019, when she assumed the role of dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences. In March 2022, President Cornish announced Stein as provost of Ithaca College, after serving as interim provost since August 2021.

Before joining IC, Stein had served as dean of academic affairs at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. She joined Trinity as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics in 1995 and also served as interim dean of faculty and as an associate academic dean. Prior to joining Trinity, Stein taught for three years at the Ohio State University.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Claire Gleitman

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES

“I’m looking forward to bringing the institutional knowledge and perspective I’ve gained from 28 years as an IC faculty member to the position. In the immediate future, I am eager to assist the school in coming together again after the disruptive last few years and building on our strengths as the liberal arts core of IC. I have very high hopes for the curricular revision process that is underway in departments across H&S. By infusing more flexibility into our already exceptionally strong programs, we will enable students to delve deeply into their chosen field of study while granting them more space to range freely across the intellectual terrain that is the liberal arts.”

Claire Gleitman was hired as an assistant professor in IC’s English department in 1992. She received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 1997 and then professor in 2008. As a faculty member,

she taught a range of courses focused on dramatic literature, serving in the English department, the theatre arts department, the honors program, the women’s, gender, and sexuality studies program, and the Integrative Core Curriculum program. Gleitman served as English department chair for nine years, as coordinator of the women’s, gender, and sexuality studies program for one year, as president of the H&S Faculty Senate for six years; and as a member of Faculty Council’s Executive Committee for three years.

Gleitman received a BA from Wesleyan University with majors in psychology and theatre, and an MA and PhD in English literature with an emphasis on modern drama from New York University.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Bonnie Prunty

VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CAMPUS LIFE

“There are a number of things that I am excited to accomplish as the vice president for student affairs. My most immediate goal is to focus on improving student and staff retention. We will focus on building upon our collaboration with the New Center for Student Success and Retention to develop new and improved outreach and programs to better support student success.

At the same time, we will look for opportunities to increase the sense of staff community to help us retain our valuable and talented staff members.”

Bonnie Prunty was named dean of students in June 2018, overseeing the Offices of Residential Life, Student Conduct and Community Standards, Case Management, and New Student and Transition Programs along with the Center for Counseling, Health, and Wellness. A sampling of her institutional service includes the IC 20/20 Advisory Committee, the Enterprise Risk Management Committee, the Residential Models Task Force, and the First-Year Experience Coordinating Committee. Her professional affiliations include two-year terms on the executive board of the Association for College and University Housing Officers–International.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Anne Hogan

**DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
THEATRE, AND DANCE**

“There are so many opportunities for the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance to explore, including more cross-disciplinary training and creative activities, both within the school

and across IC, and in partnership with higher education and arts institutions, nationally and internationally. An essential opportunity will be to establish the school as a leader in diverse and inclusive practices, and as a school that at once respects the history and traditions of its respective disciplines and embraces novel directions. Promoting IC and the school as a place that empowers emerging artists to be agents of positive change will only accelerate its visibility and renown. A collaborative process will enable the school community to shape an inspiring and sustainable vision and to clarify what success for the new School of Music, Theatre, and Dance will look like.”

Anne Hogan became the inaugural dean of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance on August 1 after having served as the dean of the College of Communication and Fine Arts (CCFA) at the University of Memphis since 2017. Hogan was the founder and acting director of the University of Memphis Institute for the Arts and Health, which was designed to foster and secure funding for transdisciplinary research and community engagement by bridging the arts, social sciences, humanities, and STEM disciplines. She previously held teaching and administrative positions at the Royal Academy of Dance, London Metropolitan University, London Contemporary Dance School, and American University of Paris, among other institutions. At the University of Memphis, Hogan led efforts to ensure an inclusive learning community, including a series of professional development workshops for academic and nonacademic staff, a comprehensive review of faculty search guidelines, and the implementation of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. During her time as dean, the school increased enrollment, retention, and graduation rates as well as the diversity of the student body, and inaugurated new undergraduate majors and online certificate programs.

Hogan received a BA in English literature from Harvard University and an MA and PhD in English literature from Brown University.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Amy Falkner

DEAN OF THE ROY H. PARK SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS

“Ithaca College is such a wonderful academic institution in a beautiful locale and active local community that my family and I hope to become very engaged in. The college has incredible programs that are very student focused, which I love. My passion is what is best for students, and I feel like that is a mantra on this campus. I am thrilled to become a part of that kind of environment. The teaching and learning that goes on in the Park School is top level and supported by an incredibly capable and welcoming staff. The promise of Park is that its students are ready to go the first day of their new jobs as young professionals and scholars. Leading a school that strives for excellence in everything it does is exactly where I want to be.”

Prior to joining IC on August 1, Amy Falkner had a lengthy career as a teacher and a leader in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, serving as acting and interim dean for two years from 2018 to 2020. She joined

the Newhouse faculty in 1998, was named associate dean for academic affairs in 2006, and has been senior associate dean since 2012. She worked in the newspaper industry for a decade, where she was named one of Presstime’s “top 20 under 40” newspaper industry executives. She then entered academia as an assistant professor in the advertising department at Newhouse. Falkner was the first member of the faculty to become a two-time winner of the Newhouse Teaching Excellence Award, an honor voted on annually by the graduating class. Falkner has also been active in the diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) space while assisting Syracuse University in finalizing its DEIA strategic plan.

Falkner holds a BA in communications/journalism from St. John Fisher College and an MA in magazine journalism from Syracuse University.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Marsha Dawson

DEAN OF STUDENTS

“In this unique role and position, I am excited to carry on and carry out the culture of care. Simply put, we want to reiterate in as many ways possible, to students, parents, and colleagues, that we care. We care about the student experience, persistence, and retention, and overall self-governance. I am honored to work alongside outstanding colleagues who share the same

enthusiasm, and I am ready to have a hands-on role in continuing to cultivate the IC culture of care.”

Marsha Dawson is a student affairs professional with 15 years of dedicated service in the higher education field. She joined Ithaca College in 2019 as director of residential life and judicial affairs. Previously, Dawson served in leadership roles with institutions including Mount Saint Mary College, the University of Hartford, and the New School, most recently as interim director of residential life. She holds a master’s degree in organizational psychology and has a passion for providing a service to her community. Her volunteerism includes working with individuals with acquired brain injury, service work in Masiphumelele, South Africa, and being an on-call victim advocate in New York City. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Tompkins County Advocacy Center and is looking forward to continuing to foster connections in the broader community.



PHOTO BY ALLISON USAVAGE '11

Michael Johnson-Cramer

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

“My passion is preparing students to confront society’s grand challenges, but neither business

nor any other discipline can solve these challenges alone. As dean, I hope to forge stronger ties between the school’s faculty, IC’s other schools, and the business world. Together, if we can teach students to collaborate across disciplinary boundaries, we can have enormous social impact.”

Michael Johnson-Cramer came to IC on July 1 after serving since 2019 as a professor of management at Bentley University, where in 2019–20 he was also the dean of business and the McCallum Graduate School of Business. After beginning his academic career at Boston University and the University of Massachusetts, Johnson-Cramer joined the management faculty at Bucknell University in 2004. His leadership roles there included chairing the interdisciplinary global management program and serving as associate dean of faculty for the College of Arts and Sciences, founding director of the School of Management, and interim dean of the Freeman College of Management. He led efforts to plan for and establish the Freeman College, to achieve initial AACSB accreditation in three years, and to implement an interdisciplinary curriculum, including new majors and minors. While at Bucknell, Johnson-Cramer partnered with the admissions office to help improve enrollment and with the alumni relations and advancement offices to increase donor engagement and support.

Johnson-Cramer received his doctor of business administration from Boston University, master of business administration from the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and bachelor of arts from Harvard University. 🍓



ONCE A

Bomber...

IC Alumni Help
Bring the Yankees
to You

BY KERRY C. REGAN



HUNDREDS OF TIMES DURING EACH

Major League Baseball season, an injured player meets with the team's medical staff to begin rehab. Yet following an injury at Yankee Stadium, a rehab scenario unfolded that had likely never occurred in Major League Baseball: both the injured player and his physical therapist were from Ithaca College. Yankees physical therapist **Joe Bello '15, DPT '17**, was establishing a therapy regimen for Yankees outfielder **Tim Locastro '14**, one of the few IC Bombers ever to break into the majors.

Locastro was rehabbing from a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), and Bello was quick to assess the situation. "Once a Bomber, always a Bomber," he told Locastro, alluding to the unofficial Yankees nickname, the Bronx Bombers.

Bello and Locastro are among four IC graduates and former students who currently work for the New York Yankees. Four other Bombers work for the Yankees Entertainment and Sports (YES) Network, which is partially owned by the Yankees. Collectively their positions touch on many of the functions involved in running a professional sports franchise: finance, communications, sales, medical training, and, of course, playing the game on the field.

A SINGULAR FRANCHISE

The Yankees are a singular sports franchise—the second highest valued in the world, according to Forbes—and arguably the best known globally outside of the international game of soccer. They are highly successful, having won more titles than any other North American team in the four major sports leagues, and their top players have become larger-than-life legends, including Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and Mickey Mantle.

“The New York Yankees brand resonates, whether you’re a fan, whether you’re trying to become an employee, or whether you’re holding a Cortaca football game at the stadium.”

—JUSTIN PINTAK '18



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Joe Bello '15, DPT '17 and Tim Locastro '14

Not all of the IC alumni affiliated with the Yankees were fans of the team growing up, but all recognize they are with a premier franchise.

Mike Medvin '03, a YES producer, traveled and stayed in hotels with the team for 10 years while working on game broadcasts. "Traveling with the most recognizable logo in all of sports was an incredible experience," he said. "It wasn't unusual to arrive at a hotel at 3 a.m. after a night game and see fans lined up waiting to see Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Alex Rodriguez, and other high-profile players."

"The New York Yankees brand resonates, whether you're a fan, whether you're trying to become an employee, or whether you're holding a Cortaca football game at the stadium," said **Justin Pintak '18**, who works as a specialist on the premium sales and service team. "The power of the brand is global, and it's strong."

BEATING THE ODDS

So how do you land a job with the Yankees? Probably the most unlikely path was the one forged by outfielder Tim Locastro, who is now in his sixth major league season. Professional baseball players rarely come from the country's short-summer regions like Auburn, New York, Tim's hometown, nor from Division III baseball programs like IC's. Indeed, fewer than 2% of the 1,200 or so players drafted each year are from D3. Further, only about 20% of draftees make the major leagues, according to *Baseball America*, and most of those are drafted in the early rounds, unlike Locastro. He was drafted in Round 13 in 2013—also not the luckiest draft numbers.

How did he beat the odds? He points to teammates, coaches, family, and friends who have supported him along the way. After a standout high school baseball career, Locastro was encouraged by his mother, Colleen, to investigate Ithaca College, where he'd attended summer baseball camp. It's also the alma mater of his high school coach, **T.J. Gamba '89**, an all-American outfielder and former assistant coach at Ithaca who is in the Ithaca College Athletic Hall of Fame.

"The coaching staff there was great," Locastro said. "They welcomed me with open arms, and it turned out to be one of the best decisions in my life." He still speaks and texts frequently with his former IC coaches **George Valesente '66** and **Frank Fazio '67**, and many teammates. "We know each other's swings, and we know each other's style of play," he said. "And it's nice to have an outside perspective."

"The coaching staff there was great. They welcomed me with open arms, and it turned out to be one of the best decisions in my life."

—TIM LOCASTRO '14

His strong collegiate play put him on the radar of pro scouts, particularly in his junior year when he earned all-American honors and was named Empire 8 Player of the Year while leading the Bombers to

a third-place finish in the Division III College World Series. They qualified for the World Series in Tim's hometown, Auburn, beating rival SUNY Cortland.

He joined the Toronto Blue Jays organization that summer, 2013, following his junior year. "My teammates and coaches helped me get there. They put me in a position to succeed," Locastro said. "Then you've got to go out there and perform."

Locastro has done just that, playing with 10 minor league teams and three major league squads (Los Angeles Dodgers, Arizona Diamondbacks, and the Yankees) at six positions—all but pitcher, catcher, and third base. Among his many attributes, his speed has set him apart. He holds the Major League record for most steals without being caught to begin a career with 29. Taking better advantage of his speed was also the reason he transitioned to playing the outfield, giving him a leg up covering a more expansive territory than in his IC position at shortstop. "Whatever this team needs—whether it's coming off the bench to pinch-run, pinch-hit, or play late-inning defense, or to start a game—I'm willing to do that to help this team win," he said.

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY IC FRIENDS

The other IC alumni working for the Yankees typically found entrees through contacts, many with IC ties. Internships played a role for three of them.

Ithaca College's physical therapy program required Joe Bello to take 36 weeks of internships and, to support his ambition to work in professional sports, the Long Island native worked a contact he had with the Yankees to secure a summer 2017 internship with the organization. When it ended, the Yankees medical coordinator, Mark Littlefield, asked him to let them know "when you get the good news that you've passed the board" certifying his professional credentials. Bello passed in October, and the Yankees hired him in January. "The internship turned out to be a three-month job interview," Bello said. "Looking back on it, it's almost too good to be true. I'm very fortunate the way things worked out."

Similar good fortune shined on Justin Pintak, first in getting an internship at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, where he helped manage downhill events like the luge. His group advisor, Annemarie Farrell, associate professor and chair of



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Mike Medvin '03, Kaitlin Maniscalco '21, Jeff Perlish '02, and Todd Moulen '99 of the YES Network

the sport management program, later provided him with contacts at the Yankees that led to his hiring. “It’s kind of awesome to get to work for one of the biggest names in sports right out of school,” said Pintak, who majored in integrated marketing communications with a minor in sport studies.

As for **Kaitlin Maniscalco '21**, who also majored in integrated marketing communications, she played travel softball with the daughter of an executive producer with the YES Network. He invited her to come in for a day to observe, and that led to a summer internship before her junior year. In the spring of her senior year, they offered her a job as a graphic coordinator for digital media. “I’m very appreciative for the Park School of Communications and the experience that I was able to get outside of the classroom, on and off campus,” she said. “I think that translates exactly into the work that I’m doing today.”

LIFE AS A YANKEE

As you might expect, having a professional association with the Yankees projects a certain aura. “At the party, everyone wants to talk to you because you’re with the Yankees,” Pintak noted. “When you think about it from their perspective, it is a cool thing. I mean, I’m talking

to you [on the phone] while I’m sitting in left field watching the grounds crew work on the field.”

“I’m very appreciative for the Park School of Communications and the experience that I was able to get outside of the classroom, on and off campus. I think that translates exactly into the work that I’m doing today.”

—KAITLIN MANISCALCO '21

Television-radio major **Todd Moulen '99** began his career in television working with World Wrestling Entertainment—a job he got through an IC contact—and has been with the YES Network for about 12 years, currently as a senior writer and producer. He contrasts his Yankees experience with what he did previously: “The WWE is like working at a frat party, and working at YES is like working at a cocktail party. The Yankees are very professional.”

And yes, there are moments when you might be starstruck, witnessing generational athletes and significant moments in baseball history. “Some days I have to pinch myself—if teenage me could look at me now,” said YES graphics operator **Jeff Perlish ’02**, another TV-R major. In particular, he mentioned the 2013 and 2014 seasons, when he filled in to work in the TV truck, covering about 30 Yankees games each season. “That was Mo’s [Mariano Rivera] last year [2013] and [Derek] Jeter’s last year [2014]. I was in the TV truck for all eight games of Jeter’s last home stand—and when he hit the walk-off single to beat the Orioles in his final at bat at home. So yeah, like they say, I’m living the dream,” Perlish said.

“The goal of what we’re doing is to try and help the team win the World Series. And just the fact that that’s the ultimate goal of what I do is a little bit unbelievable, like ‘How the heck did I get here?’”

—MIKE PARKER ’06, MBA ’07

A touchstone learning moment occurred for Perlish as a junior at IC during a semester-long internship in Los Angeles. On his first assignment assisting a cameraman at a Los Angeles Lakers basketball game, his supervisor told him he would be interacting with superstar athletes and celebrities, and advised him to “act like you’ve been here before.” So, as they were setting up a camera by the tunnel outside the Lakers locker room, Kobe Bryant walked by and said, “Sup man; how ya doin”—followed closely by Shaquille O’Neal, with a similar greeting, then the Lakers cheerleaders—and later, actor Jack Nicholson was seated nearby. “I’ve always been taught to focus on my job and to take it seriously,” Perlish said. “The hard part isn’t getting your foot in the door; it’s staying there.”

THE VIEW FROM THE SPREADSHEET

As the Yankees’ executive director of financial operations, **Mike Parker ’06, MBA ’07**, has a distinctive view of the team: he works with all 60-plus Yankees departments to develop budgets and forecasts that give senior management and the ownership a full view of the operation. He’s not involved in player salary and acquisition decisions, though he says he’s occasionally called upon to lay out the impact on the budget of “signing Player X,” considering the salary cap and luxury tax implications.

But those aren’t the only responsibilities for Parker, who majored in accounting at IC before getting his MBA: “We’re a big brand obviously, but we’re still kind of a small, family-run organization. The front office is only about 200 or 250 people,” he said. “So, each of us takes on something a little bit outside of our day jobs.”

His department also manages the club’s game-used authentication program, working with a Major League Baseball representative at each game to authenticate items that were used in the game—baseballs, bases, broken bats, and whatnot—that will go up for sale. This is one way the league combats counterfeiting. Fulfilling those duties led to one of his fondest Yankees memories when, during his first year with the team in 2013, he needed to be in the locker room on Old Timers’ Day as former players gathered and signed memorabilia.

“Just to see Yogi Berra, Don Larsen, Bobby Brown, Bobby Richardson, and some of those great players from the great teams in the ’50s and the ’60s was another of those pinch-me type moments. It was just cool to be a fly on the wall in that situation to see those guys reunite and swap old war stories.”

The pinch-me atmosphere often bubbles up, he said. “The goal of what we’re doing is to try and help the team win the World Series. And just the fact that that’s the ultimate goal of what I do is a little bit unbelievable, like ‘How the heck did I get here?’”

THE COVID PAUSE

What didn’t normally come with the territory was the pandemic. COVID brought uncertainty to the game over the last two years, with a late start and shortened schedule in 2020, and reduced stadium capacity into July 2021.

“It was the most stressful, uncertain time in my professional career,” Parker said. “We normally do one budget every year and then four or five forecasts during the season. I think we did 30 or 40 in three months for all the different scenarios they were throwing around.”

Life was also stressful for Pintak: “We work in sales, on commission primarily, and if we have no seats to sell, we’re not making any money,” he said. He made it through on optimism that things would turn around, he said, and was anxious to have a “normal” season.

“One of the silver linings of COVID for the television industry was learning how to do things differently that may be beneficial in the future. For example, in the past when we did a studio show and wanted a guest to join from home, they would call in, and it would be voice only. Now, because of COVID, they can Zoom in. It’s funny how things work.”

—MIKE MEDVIN '03

COVID also threw a curveball at the YES Network, shutting down live games, but leading the network to explore new ways of putting content on the air, according to Medvin, a producer of both live game broadcasts and studio programs who was scheduled to travel with the Yankees in 2020. Instead, he and his colleagues worked at home, producing shows with Zoom interviews. And when baseball came back in summer 2020, they still produced all their games, home and away, from Yankee Stadium.

“One of the silver linings of COVID for the television industry was learning how to do things differently that may be beneficial in the future,” Medvin said. “For example, in the past when we did a studio show and wanted a guest to join from home, they would call in, and it would be voice only. Now, because of COVID, they can Zoom in. It’s funny how things work.”



CORTACA IN THE BRONX

Needless to say, the IC grads with the Yankees and YES are over the moon about the Cortaca Jug game coming to Yankee Stadium. When Parker began hearing rumors that inquiries were being made about hosting Cortaca, he said “to anybody that would listen that we absolutely have to do that event,” especially given the success of the game at MetLife Stadium. He bought a block of 20 tickets for himself and his college friends shortly after tickets went on sale. Bello also was quick to buy a block of tickets for a group of IC friends that includes his fiancée, **Brittany Asito '16**.

“It’s all come full circle,” said Moulen. “Ithaca College helped set me in motion for my career. I do what I do now because of what I learned there. And now the Cortaca Jug is coming back to us in Yankee Stadium.” He’s attending the game with his wife, **Jennifer Delevante-Moulen '02**, in addition to other alumni friends—two of whom were unofficial IC mascots in their day, pumping up the Butterfield Stadium crowd by wearing cut-up footballs with feathers as hats and going shirtless no matter what the temperature. Moulen said they are encouraging the two to don their costumes for an encore performance at Yankee Stadium but haven’t yet secured commitments.

Pintak plans to meet up with alumni friends before this year’s game at Billy’s Sports Bar across the street from Yankee Stadium, continuing a tradition started for the MetLife game. “I was in my second year living in the city with all my friends from Ithaca, and it was really special for us to have Cortaca come to us,” he said. “I’m not part of Cortaca at Yankee Stadium by any means. I’m not selling it or any of that. But I do in a way kind of feel like I’m hosting all of my friends this time around. You know, they’re coming to my house.”

And this time, the welcome mat has pinstripes. 🍌

PICTURE PERFECT

IC football captains travelled to Yankee Stadium in May for a photo shoot to hype up the 2022 Cortaca Jug on November 12, 2022.

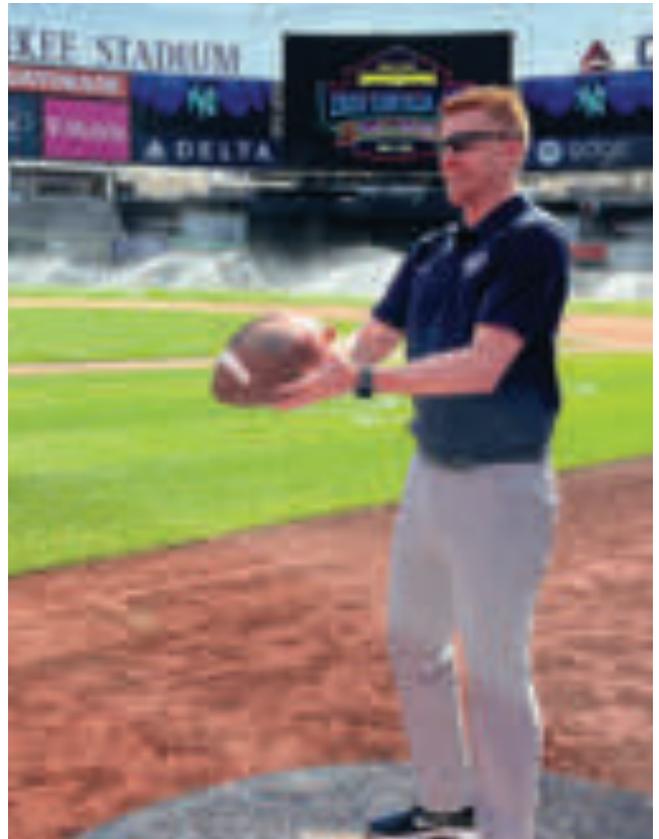


PHOTO BY AL CAPELLO



PHOTO BY AL CAPELLO

Antwan Robinson '22 (top) has the big screen behind him announcing the upcoming game; and (bottom) Robinson is with (left to right) Michael Roumes '24, head coach Michael Toerper, Jake Villanueva '22, and A.J. Wingfield '23.

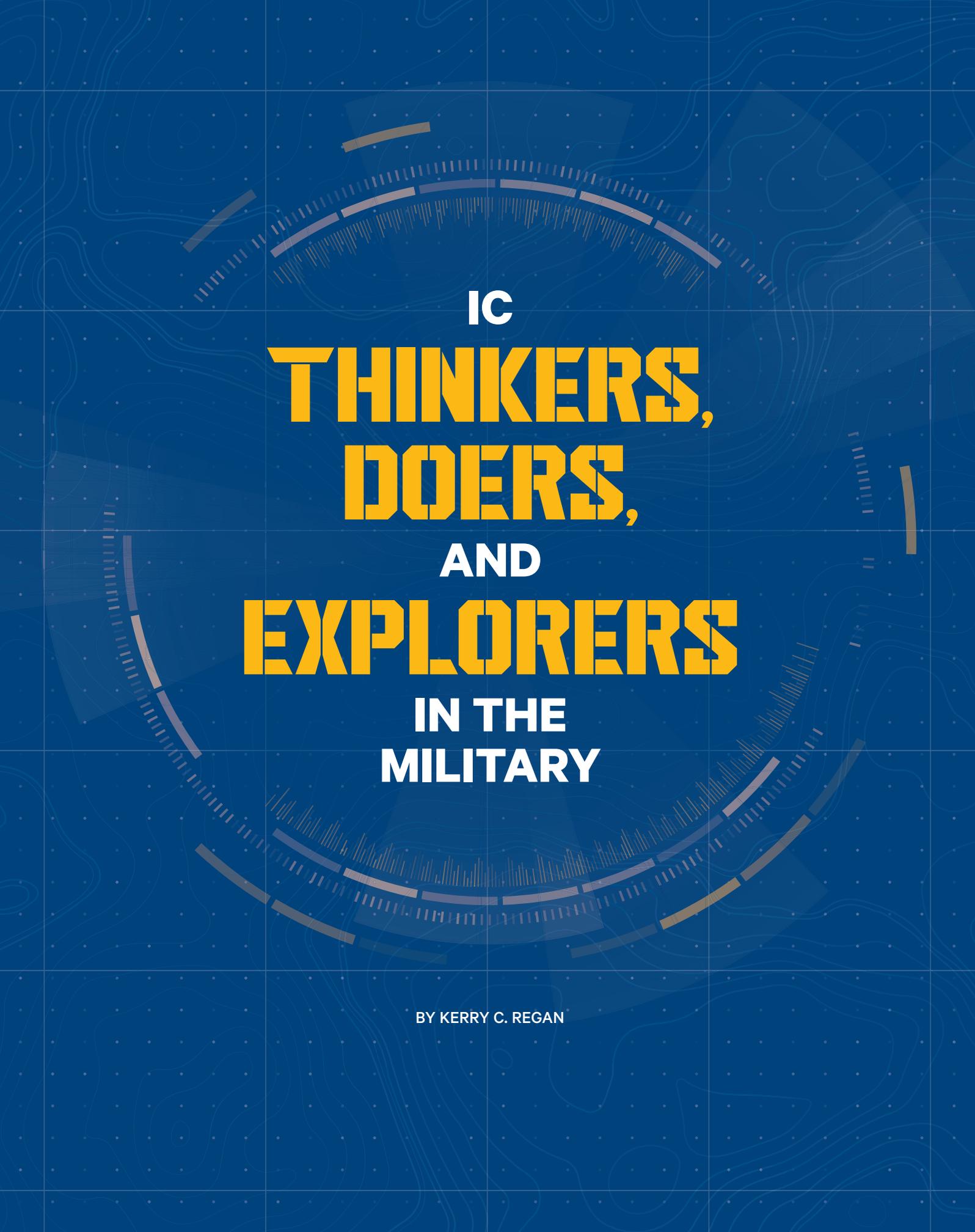


PHOTOS BY CLAIRE MARZIOTTI



PHOTO BY AL CAPELLO

IC Bomber team captains (top left) take a group photo at Yankee Stadium. Coach Toerper (top right) is ready for some football. And, the iconic Cortaca Jug gets center stage (bottom) between Coach Toerper and SUNY Cortland's coach, Curt Fitzpatrick.



IC
THINKERS,
DOERS,
AND
EXPLORERS
IN THE
MILITARY

BY KERRY C. REGAN

If anyone had been within earshot of the two military officers greeting each other in Quantico, Virginia, they might have gone on high alert when one said, “Go Bombers.” But this wasn’t a military order. It was IC alumnus U.S. Army Major Jason A. Porter ’09 introducing himself to U.S. Marine Corps Colonel Ricardo T. “Riccoh” Player ’89.

Player was a guest lecturer at the Marine Corps University where Porter was studying for his master of military studies degree, and Porter arranged an introduction. “You just don’t hear about people from Ithaca College going into the military—especially ethnic minorities from Ithaca College,” Porter said. “I realized how much we had in common. We just kind of hit it off.”

Indeed, the military representation within IC’s student body is relatively small. Pre-COVID, the college averaged 10 to 12 students enrolled in Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) and about the same number of enrolled veterans matriculating. Those numbers were cut by half or more during the pandemic and are just starting to rebound.

IC has a lot to offer to those interested in—or coming from—the military, said Christina Moylan, IC’s associate provost for graduate and professional studies. Students can learn military-specific leadership development, management skills, ethics, and strategic planning in the ROTC program offered in collaboration with Cornell University. Veterans can take advantage of benefits, like the GI Bill that covers tuition fees, and the network of veterans who work at IC, including those on the Veterans Day Celebration Committee.

“Ithaca College is not a place for coasters or check-the-boxers,” Moylan said. “We’re a natural home for thinkers, doers, and explorers—and these are typically characteristics of students who come to us interested in ROTC or who are veterans.”

Certainly thinkers, doers, and explorers are descriptors shared by the four IC students and alumni in this article. These four are all at different points in their collegiate-military life, including a current student who is a veteran, a recent ROTC graduate who is preparing for duty, an active officer, and a recent retiree. They have dedicated themselves to service while also exploring—and in some cases pushing—the boundaries of what a military career can be.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER AND EMMY WINNER:

Ricardo T. “Riccoh” Player ’89

Riccoh Player ’89 has a knack for finding his own way. He cemented this reputation in 2019, when he became the first public affairs officer in the Marines to earn an Emmy Award. When he retired in June 2022, the Park School graduate was a colonel in charge of the headquarters and service teams supporting the Marine training depot at Parris Island, South Carolina, one of two Marine Corps recruiting depots.

Now that he’s retired from the military, Colonel Player is getting back to his Park School roots as an independent consultant—a speaker, marketing consultant, and film director in Abilene, Texas. He’s drawing upon a quarter century of public affairs experience in the Marines, which included a 2019 Emmy Award in a military category as executive producer of the 2019 “Marine Corps Birthday Message.”

“So, similar to the lessons learned at Ithaca, I had to plow my own path to seek command.”

However, his last deployment was outside of the field. He likened it to being a city manager, “making sure the trains run on time.” During his term, that task was complicated by COVID-19. Player responded to the virus by establishing four sites to quarantine training-ready recruits prior to boot camp, safeguarding the cohort against COVID spreads and keeping Parris Island operations on track to train more than 20,000 recruits during the pandemic—a noteworthy achievement.

Player's childhood dream of becoming a Marine was fueled by his family's military legacy. He wanted to join the Marines right out of high school in East Cleveland, Ohio, but his guidance counselor encouraged him to make something more of his strong acting and debating skills. Those skills, along with competitive grades and minority status, qualified him for a scholarship at Ithaca College. He majored in corporate communications because it offered a wide range of courses in radio, television, public speaking, producing, and directing that were "right up my alley," he said. Indeed, his strong debating skills earned him the Roberta Barnett award for outstanding forensics in his junior year.

PATH MAKER

A seminal moment occurred when, after not getting the parts he wanted in IC theatre department plays, he produced and directed a play on his own with friends. It sold out, teaching him a lesson about forging his own path that, he said, served him well in the military.

IC was also the source of his lifelong nickname, Riccoh. Some of his dorm mates pranked him by sending mail-order catalogs addressed to Riccoh Player, for the Rico character on the *Miami Vice* TV show. "The more I complained, the heavier my mailbox footprint became. So I just stopped complaining and embraced it," he said.

Player joined the Marines after graduating—at a time when tensions were growing in the Middle East—and in 1990 he was deployed in the Gulf War's Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. At the end of his deployment, his commander recognized his leadership potential and recommended him for officer training. His superiors eventually steered him to public affairs to take advantage of his IC education—not Player's first choice because it dampened his opportunities for becoming a commanding officer. "So, similar to the lessons learned at Ithaca, I had to plow my own path to seek command," Player said.

HIGH ACHIEVER

He got all the promotions expected of most high-achieving public affairs officers—including a stretch when he was anointed as "Major Player"—and regularly went the extra mile. When the Pentagon was attacked on September 11, 2001, he was working in

Washington's Department of Defense Public Affairs Office, and within hours of the attack he had set up a fully operational press center at an alternate site—"major player" indeed. Following that, he became public affairs officer for Donald Rumsfeld, who was the U.S. secretary of defense at the time, and then served as a Congressional fellow at the *Chicago Tribune*.

Throughout his career, Player has consistently championed diversity—he was his command's lead diversity officer when he retired. "I'm a walking advertisement for diversity anywhere I go," he said. "Hopefully, anyone different than the majority will see me and say, 'Hey, perhaps I can take those steps as well.'"

FROM GRIDIRON PLAYER TO SPECIAL FORCES RANGER:

Jason A. Porter '09

Jason Porter '09 was a multisport athlete in high school who was mainly interested in playing football when he got to Ithaca College. But when injuries slowed his progress, he investigated ROTC.

"I really didn't have a plan about what I was going to do after college," Porter said. "And the more I learned about ROTC, I realized that it was a perfect opportunity, financially, to finish paying for college and to have a stable job upon graduation." So he signed up and soon realized he didn't have time to do both ROTC and football. "It was a little disappointing, but there was no real future past college with football," he said. "So it's one of those sacrifices you make."

"It was one of the biggest blessings of my career to have the opportunity to teach and help young men and women get on a trajectory for success."

Still, his IC football experience rewarded him with lifelong friendships, and his academic pursuits—he majored in sociology—have also resonated during his military career. "I was really passionate about sociology," he said. "It was a great foundational opportunity for me to learn about my leadership, about

people and how cultures interact, and what makes people who they are. I think it's played a massive role in my leadership ability in the military."

STRATEGIST WITH A PURPOSE

Today, Porter is a major in the Third Special Forces Group in charge of about 15 people and providing support to another 2,500. The group's mission: combat terrorism in northwest and East Africa by partnering with local military forces in contested environments. "Special Forces have a very strategic mission, and there are a lot of high performers in this environment," Porter said. "That attracts me, being around high performers and knowing your job has purpose."

His first deployment after training was providing logistical support in southern Afghanistan. About a year in, his mother was diagnosed with what proved to be terminal cancer, and he transferred to a recruiting role at Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, so he could support her in her final months and days—another purposeful mission.

Following that, he completed pre-Ranger training while in the Army Captain's Career Course, which landed him in Special Forces. Both his Morristown, New Jersey, high school and his Army logistics organizations had diverse populations, he noted, but Special Forces was mostly white males.

DIVERSITY DEEP-DIVER

"That's what got me to dive deeper into this problem of diversity in the military," Porter said. One of his deeper dives occurred when he became an assistant professor of military science at the University of South Carolina's Army ROTC program, focusing on providing guidance to minorities interested in the military. Following that stint, he pursued his master's degree at Marine Corps University—the place where he met Colonel Player—and wrote his thesis on organizational culture in the military and the lack of diversity in Special Operations in the Officer Corps.

"The organizational culture of the military had been built on systemic barriers, such as segregation," Porter said. "What was formal policy back in the day perpetuates in systems and beliefs that still hold true to some extent today." To rectify that, Porter says the military needs to ensure it's cultivating talent in

a way that creates military forces more in line with the nation's demographics—as he strove to do at the University of South Carolina's ROTC program.

TEACHER AND HELPER

Similar to Colonel Player, Major Porter is finding his own path to success in the military. Seeking the assistant professorship at the University of South Carolina, for example, was something many of his colleagues discouraged him from doing, saying it would slow his advancement. "But it was one of the biggest blessings of my career to have the opportunity to teach and help young men and women get on a trajectory for success," Porter said.

He appreciates what the military has allowed him to accomplish. "I grew up pretty poor in New Jersey, and I've been able to travel the world and work with some really awesome people," he said. He plans to "go the distance and retire" from the military, and while he'd love to become a general officer, "that's not my focus," he said. "My focus is to just be successful, go as far as I can, enjoy every day, and try to have a positive impact on as many people as possible."

IC DEVOTEE AND SCIENCE SCHOLAR:

Beth Ryan '22

Beth Ryan '22 has immersed herself in two fields that historically have been white-male dominated. She entered a PhD program in chemistry and chemical biology at Cornell this fall, after which she'll fulfill her ROTC scholarship obligation by serving eight years in the U.S. Army.

Science and the Army are evolving as both Ryan's ROTC squad and her IC cohort of biochemistry majors were majority women, and her own experience so far has been "mostly positive," she said. Besides, that's where her passions lie. "I've wanted to serve in the military since I was very young," she said. "I just didn't know in what capacity."

Ryan grew up in a household with two military parents. Her mom, Jen, resigned her commission as an Army captain when Beth was one, and her dad, Phil, was in Special Forces for much of her childhood but now is brigadier general at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Before going to college, Ryan had moved eight times, went to four different elementary schools, one middle school, and two high schools. In addition, her dad occasionally was called upon to drop everything and go to an undisclosed location for a dangerous assignment that could last weeks. More than once he received a call during the night and was gone before she woke up.

RESILIENT ADAPTER

Ryan's childhood experiences were "a double-edged sword," she said. "You lose a little bit of your childhood, but the upside is you mature quickly. You're made more resilient. I adapt to change pretty well."

She also developed a love of science. "When I was a kid, my favorite word was why." Science classes often had an answer to that question. "So I really, really loved it," she said. "And I really had good science teachers, so that drew me in."

"I had such a great connection with the faculty and such great friends, and it was a small school, which is what I was used to growing up."

As a high school sophomore, she was impressed by a visit to Cornell and applied. She was awarded an ROTC scholarship and received a transfer option for Cornell, meaning she could transfer there after a year in one of the ROTC cohort schools—Elmira, Binghamton, Cortland, or IC. She chose IC, expecting to transfer out after a year. "But after a semester and a half, I knew I couldn't leave IC," she said. "I had such a great connection with the faculty and such great friends, and it was a small school, which is what I was used to growing up. So it was an interesting turn of events to get me there, but I'm very, very glad it happened."

She started as a biology major but switched to biochemistry after finding she loved the courses, the research, and the opportunity as a teaching assistant that started in her sophomore year. "Everything about that department was like it called for me," she said.

GAME-TIME DECIDER

ROTC also was fulfilling. It was a significant time commitment—three morning workouts each week and weekend field exercises once a semester—but the friendships and experiences made it worthwhile, she said. "We'd spend 48 to 72 hours working on tactics in the woods, sleeping outside, doing really cool stuff that I thoroughly enjoyed regardless of the temperature," she said. "It was such a great time, a great bonding experience with the other cadets."

When she began at IC, she wasn't sure how a science background would mesh with a military career, but soon she was exposed to Army research labs—which contributed to development of the COVID-19 vaccine, among other initiatives. With her PhD, she will have an opportunity to serve in an Army research lab—and possibly to teach at West Point, as well. Both appeal to her.

"I discovered while at Ithaca that I really enjoy teaching," she said. "I'm still debating whether I would stay on in the Army or resign and pursue teaching at a small institution. That will be more of a game-time decision." For now, Ryan's looking forward to making Ithaca her home for another five years, extending the longest stretch she's ever had in one location. "Ithaca had been the one place where I've really loved living," she said.

STUDENT, VETERAN, AND AXE-THROWING ENTREPRENEUR:

Sam Williams '23

U.S. Marine Corps veteran **Sam Williams '23** interrupted his sophomore year at IC to join with an old Marine buddy in opening an axe-throwing business in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Now, with a staff in place to run his company, Electric City Axe Throwing, he is back to being a full-time IC business administration major—spending five hours or more each week helping to manage the business, often driving there on weekends. "It's kind of fun to go school and run a business at the same time," he said. "There are a lot of practical applications for what I'm learning about business."

Growing up about 20 miles south of Ithaca in Candor, New York, his late father, George "Skip" Williams, "always spoke highly of the Marines and

was very proud of his service,” Williams said. “I always wanted to have that.”

Following Marine Corps training, Williams was assigned as a guard in the brig at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. “I wanted to do something more exciting,” he said, so he took the advice of a career planner and volunteered for the Marine security guard program. He was accepted and spent his final three years doing stints providing security at U.S. embassies in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Podgorica, Montenegro; and Moscow, Russia.

OVERSEAS EXPLORER TO IC ENROLLER

Williams’s hitch in Cambodia was the first time he’d been outside the United States and Canada. “It was a really big culture shock,” Williams said, remarking on “how they have completely different customs, how they eat—their day-to-day lives are so completely different. It made me very grateful for the opportunities in the U.S.”

“I’ve learned quite a bit from my business classes. I learned a lot of principles on basic business operations that I was able to use, or that I was doing and didn’t realize.”

As his five-year obligation concluded, Williams was open to the idea of a military career but worried that the constant moving as assignments changed would make having a family more challenging. Besides, Williams said, “I thought the GI Bill [funding college tuition] was too good an opportunity to go to waste, even though I really wasn’t sure what I wanted to do when I got out,” Williams said.

He chose IC because he wanted to save on housing costs by living at home—at the Candor house he had inherited when his father passed away in May 2021. Once he enrolled, the axe-throwing business opportunity emerged when he and his eventual business partner and Marines friend, Jose Bataller, visited another Marine buddy who has an axe-throwing business in Virginia.

The business partners made a calculated risk, starting their business during the pandemic and

betting that COVID-19 restrictions would be lifted by the time they opened in June 2021. They were roughly right, and the business was able to cover its expenses in the first year.

ON-THE-JOB LEARNER

Further, Williams said, “After opening my own business and taking a few classes at IC, I got a better picture of what I wanted to do. I want a degree and the knowledge to have a good career in business.”

Being a business owner in business classes, he’s a favorite target of professors asking how he would handle various situations. “I’ve learned quite a bit from my business classes,” Williams noted, specifically citing his operations management class with Brad Treat. “I learned a lot of principles on basic business operations that I was able to use, or that I was doing and didn’t realize.”

When he graduates next year, Williams plans to seek a full-time job in business operations while continuing to run the axe-throwing business on the side—or full-time if it takes off. Long-term, he hopes that the business will be a source of “passive income. I’d love to have multiple sources of income, so it doesn’t matter if one slows down,” he said.

As a veteran who has opened and operated his own business and will soon have an IC business degree, Williams has clearly left his options open. ■

CONNECTIONS



PHOTO BY BREE PELTIER-AMBORN

In July, President La Jerne Terry Cornish kicked off the Ithaca Together Inaugural Tour with a reception on Cape Cod.

ITHACA TOGETHER INAUGURAL TOUR

In July President Cornish kicked off the Ithaca Together Around the World Tour with a reception on Cape Cod. Joined by alumni, families, and admitted students, the president shared updates from campus, and her vision for the future of IC. Alumni also had an opportunity to engage and reconnect with one another. Over the course of the next year, the president will visit cities around the country, and host virtual events.



PHOTO BY BREE PELTIER-AMBORN

The IC Band Reunion celebrated 100 years of bands at Ithaca College.

BAND REUNION IS MUSIC TO THE EARS

Over 100 alumni from around the country—and beyond—spanning the decades from the class of 1960 to the class of 2022, converged on the Ithaca College campus in June to celebrate 100 years of IC's bands at the Ithaca College Band Reunion 2022. The ensemble performed in front of an audience of friends and family in Ford Hall in the Whalen Center for Music under the direction of eight different conductors—former, current, and recently hired faculty. Exuberance after the performance was palpable, with animated conversations and groups taking photos both on stage and at the reception in McHenry Lobby. This year's celebration was IC's third band reunion. Previous concerts were held in 2010 and 2015.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Tanya Hutchins '89

REBUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TRUST

How do you rebuild relationships? With trust. It's easier said than done but possible with the right elements: commitment, effort, consistency, and solutions-based, positive change that yields desired results.

After studying communications, anthropology, sociology, and history at Ithaca College, I truly value and treasure the excitement and joy I witness and feel as alumni gather together. I felt camaraderie during the ICUnity hybrid summer event as I gathered with a small, diverse group of alumni in Philadelphia. Friendships were renewed and made stronger at Cortaca Jug Day in the Bronx in July, as the Bombers watched head football coach Michael Toerper throw out the first pitch prior to an exciting Yankees game.

Despite everything we've been through in the past few years, human nature's most positive characteristics prevail when we all come together. The Ithaca College Alumni Association is proving it every day as we start to gather across the United States. Volunteers are ready to create the events you want.

Sarah Richards '89, chair of the Alumni Events Committee, was elected secretary of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and has also agreed to stay in her committee role, providing the commitment and consistency we need to reach alumni in every region. She succeeds **Zack Ford '07**, whose officer term ended June 30. Zack continues as an alumni board member through June 2023. The effort they each put forth in their work on and for our alumni board is just one example of the solutions-based, positive change we strive for.

We need you to join us in our quest to build bonds and bridges that hold the alumni network together for students, faculty, and our four new deans.

Events we're hosting include our three-day IC in the City event that includes our Alumni Awards Celebration on November 10. On November 11, we held our ICUnity: Building Bridges event, 10th President Meet and Greet, and IC on Broadway: South Hill State of Mind. And on November 12, the much anticipated 63rd annual Cortaca Jug took place at Yankee Stadium.

It's a great time to be a Bomber, day or night. Come show your pride in your alma mater by actively participating with your alumni association. Show up, show out, and most of all, show your fellow alumni that you care enough to rebuild relationships with one another and the college every day of the week. Will you join us?

TANYA HUTCHINS '89 (TV-R)

President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

@TanyaHutchins

ALUMNI NOTES

1964

JOHN L. "JACK" MARTIN, the longtime athletic director and men's basketball coach at the County College of Morris (CCM), had the newly renamed Jack Martin Gymnasium dedicated to him in honor of his contributions to the college and his successful coaching career. Jack, who turned 80 this year, was the founding athletic director at CCM. When the college opened in fall 1968, he was organizing athletic teams with no facilities for them to compete in. Fifty-two years later, and 20 years since his retirement from CCM in 2002, they have fields, tennis courts, and a gymnasium.

1969

NEIL LITTAUER received the Robert Hersh Professional Excellence Award on May 23, 2021, presented at the annual meeting in Miami, Florida, of Temple Beth Am, the largest Reform Jewish congregation in the southeastern United States. Neil, who is emeritus director of communications, was recognized for his role in converting Temple Beth Am to a virtual online synagogue during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1970



SCOTT POWERS was named manager of the year by the Broadway Show League.

1974



MELODY MEITROTT LIBONATI is the artistic director of the professional nonprofit theatre company Summer

Theatre of New Canaan and the director of the Performing Arts Conservatory of New Canaan. She started the Summer Theatre of New Canaan in 2004. During the past 18 years, the theatre has employed thousands of artists as actors, designers, and artistic and production staff, including IC graduates. Also in 2004, she opened the Performing Arts Conservatory, where a staff of 10 teaches voice, acting, dance, music theatre, piano, and guitar to students of all ages.

1976



DEEDRA STRANG, a Shaker schools (Ohio) speech pathologist, spoke at an international conference of the Yale Center for

Emotional Intelligence. Her presentation featured the implementation of the Yale Center's social-emotional program into the local curriculum and school environment. Deedra is also a 2012 recipient of the Yale Center's Martin Mauer Award for Excellence in Emotional Literacy.

1977

JOHN F. ROMAIN was honored at the 2021 Head of the Charles Regatta with a trophy that bears his name for the youth men's eights event. After a successful rowing career with the IC lightweights, he went on to row at Potomac and then moved to Boston with Cambridge Boat Club. Following a two-year stint as regatta race director, John has become a volunteer manager of the start line. This is his 39th year as a regatta volunteer.

1979



Paul Bernbaum, screenwriter, and **Happy Anderson '99**, costar, were on the set of *Maggie Moore(s)* in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

1981



THOMAS BALDRIGE recently announced his retirement after 22 years as president and CEO of the Lancaster

(Pennsylvania) Chamber of Commerce. During his tenure at the chamber, the organization received the Chamber of the Year Award in 2003 and 2013, and was a finalist in 2021.

1982

JOHN DILEO had a June book signing for his seventh book, *There Are No Small Parts: 100 Outstanding Film Performances with Screen Time of 10 Minutes or Less*, at the Barnes & Noble at the Smith Haven Mall in Lake Grove, New York.

1984

ROLF STRUM performed in a duo with singer Jenna Mammina at Lincoln Center on May 24, 2022.

1990



TIM RICE was appointed the commissioner of public works for the City of Oswego in January 2022. He oversees all

divisions of public works, including administration, road repairs and improvements, machinery, snow plowing, and tree planting and maintenance. He is also responsible for the planning and execution of capital improvement projects for infrastructure and community improvement and oversees the animal control, parks and recreation, water, and waterfront/marinas departments.

1991

KATHLEEN TROLE COX was appointed interim dean of the graduate school at East Carolina University, where she has been on faculty or serving as an associate dean since 1996. Kathy had been a faculty member in speech-language pathology since 1996 and was promoted to associate dean in 2014. She began serving as interim dean on July 1, 2022.

THOMAS MUNGEER was nominated in January 2022 to receive the Annual Irish Law & Order Award, which celebrates the work of those in law enforcement.



JODI WHORISKEY changed career paths in early 2020 to start her own business as a travel agent. She now specializes in all-inclusive island vacations and helps clients navigate ever-changing destination rules and procedures.

1992



ARI STONEHILL has earned the Five Star Wealth Manager award, as announced by the Bulfinch Group. The award is given

annually to financial managers who are identified through research conducted with peers and firms and who satisfy 10 objective eligibility and evaluation criteria.

1994



NICHOLE OWENS was hired in April 2022 as public relations manager for the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. The

foundation works with donors, community leaders, elected officials, and nonprofits to effect change in critical areas of need. Her job is to amplify the

foundation's mission through strategic storytelling and media outreach. Prior to coming to the foundation, she served as communications director for the Salvation Army of Metro Atlanta for more than four years.

1995

PETE DELGROSSO was named executive director in January 2022 for Metallica's All Within My Hands Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated to creating sustainable communities by supporting workforce education, the fight against hunger, and other critical local services. Pete had served as an AWMH advisory board member since 2018. In addition to this volunteer position, he is managing partner of Bryant Stibel, an investment firm cofounded by Pete and his partners and Kobe Bryant in 2013. He lives in Los Angeles with his family.

F R E E W I L L

Philanthropy and Engagement partnered with FreeWill to give you free access to a will-writing tool. This online resource removes the expensive legal fees associated with writing a will, making estate planning free and accessible for all, and has been used by over 480,000 Americans to write their free wills.

Aside from ensuring the future of your family is protected, this tool can also help you make an optional planned gift to Ithaca College. These gifts establish a legacy of longstanding support to the students of IC so that we can continue helping each one of them flourish, today, tomorrow, and in the future.

Visit freewill.com.

CLICKING WITH CANINES

Amanda Jones '89 travels cross-country taking portraits of dogs.

BY EMILY HUNG '23

For more than 25 years, **Amanda Jones '89** has been capturing dogs of all breeds, colors, and sizes—in her camera lens. As a professional dog photographer, she's traveled across the country in her campervan, which also serves as mobile studio, meeting clients and their furry friends in their home cities.

After Jones graduated from Ithaca College with a degree in cinema and photography, she wasn't quite sure what type of photography she wanted to pursue, so she spent time interning and working as an assistant at Russell French Photography, a studio in Portland, Maine. There, she learned the business.

"My inspiration growing up was Annie Leibovitz and Mark Seliger," Jones said. "Both of them were celebrity photographers. While I wasn't necessarily interested in doing the celebrity thing, I loved portrait photography."



It's such a formal process, and I was taught how to do it at Ithaca. It really took that fear away from me. It was a wonderful place to study what I studied, and it was such a great town to live in and to shoot in.

In 1994, she moved to San Francisco with her husband. "I said to him on the drive out across the country, 'I want to do something different. I want to find a real niche and do that,'" Jones said. "I didn't know what it was going to be at all."

While in San Francisco, Jones met friends in the city who had dogs. She set up a white background and put the dogs on set, giving them the full portraiture treatment and conveying the message that dogs were people, too. Jones photographed six different dogs that day—the start of her career in dog photography and the first of hundreds of thousands of pictures. "They just raved over the images," she said. "And I loved taking them. And that was it."

That was in 1996. Jones had a daughter in 2001 and a year later, moved back to New England to be closer



PHOTO SUBMITTED

to family. Her business continued expanding—to New York City, Washington, D.C., Miami, Dallas, Denver, and Chicago. But flying alone with all her gear was difficult, so in 2019 she bought a campervan to drive to sessions across the country two to three months at a time. The van served as a mobile studio as well as a better way for her to transport all of her photography gear.

Jones has worked with a variety of clients, such as Anderson Cooper and Mary Tyler Moore. She photographed Tyler Moore's four rescue dogs at her house. "I love it when people bring in new and interesting breeds that I've never photographed, like an Irish wolfhound or four or five pugs," she said. "It's also fun working with a big group of dogs. One time, I did a shoot with 10 dogs on the set, and some of them were Bernese mountain dogs, little mutts, and it was a whole family that wanted all their dogs in one shot in Los Angeles. We had everybody helping, and we got the shot. It was quite an adventure."

Jones is winding down her shooting sessions before pivoting to begin work on a new project. One idea she's considering is fundraising for dog rescue groups by selling and licensing her database of nearly 250,000 photographs.

She credits the classes she took at IC and her professors, some of which were influential in her studies, for helping her on this path. "The studio lighting course was probably the biggest boon for me because a lot of photographers get intimidated by that—by setting up those lights in the studio," Jones said. "It's such a formal process, and I was taught how to do it at Ithaca. It really took that fear away from me. It was a wonderful place to study what I studied, and it was such a great town to live in and to shoot in," Jones said. 🐾



CYNTHIA SHECHTER has been included in the Marquis Who's Who list. She is the owner and director of rehabilitation at

ShechterCare and earned her master's degree in occupational therapy at New York University. She has devoted her clinical practice to breast cancer and lymphedema rehabilitation and is passionate about patient care. She has lectured on the topic of breast cancer rehabilitation and lymphedema, and her main focus is educating patients on lymphedema management. She believes every patient deserves to be evaluated and treated based on their individual needs, lifestyle, and ability to self-manage. Dedicated to increasing the awareness of the medical community on the benefits of rehabilitation following breast cancer surgery, she has been an expert for the LE&RN "Ask the Experts" program since it began.

1997



BILL BYRNE moved to San Diego and cofounded the award-winning Remedy Public Relations after 10 years of working

with some of the biggest public relations firms in the industry. Over the last 15 years, Remedy has worked with a wide range of clients, and Bill's thoughts on the current state and future of the public relations industry are regularly featured in trade media such as Muck Rack, Bulldog Reporter, and Ragan.

1999



JOSHUA BAKER has been promoted to senior vice president and chief academic officer for Midwestern

University. He has been with Midwestern University for eight years and previously served as the dean of the Arizona College of Optometry and as vice president and chief academic officer of pharmacy, optometry, and veterinary education. As a major in the U.S. Army, he spent time deployed in Al Asad, Iraq, and received the Bronze Star. He earned a master of science in secondary science education from Syracuse University and graduated magna cum laude from the Illinois College of Optometry.



Marjorie Obreza-Chetney and **Dave Meluni '00** both work in the sport management department at Syracuse University.

Raj Tulshan is the founder and managing member of Loan Mantra, a financial advisory firm that secures borrowers with lenders. After graduating from Ithaca College with a degree in finance, he began his banking career at Merrill Lynch in New York City, where he spent more than a decade in the currencies, commodities, and investments group. He also worked with global asset-backed securities, structured products, and principal investments. When the market crashed in 2008, he saw an opportunity to fix a fractured lending ecosystem. So, after completing an MBA from the Said

School at Oxford University, he developed Loan Mantra.

2000

ALISON HARMA has been named the new assistant executive director by Actors' Equity Association, a national union representing professional actors and stage managers in live theatre. Based in Los Angeles, she will oversee the union's operations in 14 states, including collective bargaining, contract administration, and staff management and development. As part of the executive team, she will work alongside the executive director and assistant executive directors in the eastern and central regions.



James David Redding III won his first Primetime Emmy for sound editing on *The Queen's Gambit* in September 2021. He has been working as a sound supervisor, sound designer, and sound editor in the New York City area since graduating from IC. He currently lives in New Jersey with his wife, **Heather McNallie '98**, and his daughter.

2001



KEITH DAVID REEVES was awarded the 2022 American Education Research Association's Outstanding

Dissertation Award in Division H for his work entitled "Predictivity of Standards-Based Report Card Models for Standardized Test Scores: A Taxonomic Mixed Methods Study." His work was chaired by Lamar University's J. Vincent Nix, and his committee members were Kelly Brown and Hunter Keeney.

MAKING WAVES IN AVIATION

Rhea Hanrahan '09 sounds off
on her career as a noise consultant.

BY EMILY HUNG '23

Across the country, **Rhea Hanrahan '09** is making a difference in the lives of people living in communities near airports. As a noise consultant for Harris Miller Miller & Hanson Inc. (HMMH), Hanrahan works with airports to mitigate noise issues and the environmental impacts caused by planes.

Unsurprisingly, her unconventional job required an unconventional post-college path. A physics major during her time at Ithaca College, Hanrahan took part in an internship at IBM in the summer before her senior year, where she worked in a shock and vibe lab, as well as a noise lab. That experience sparked her larger interest in noise, and her senior thesis topic was on how to reduce noise with sound insulation material.

After graduating, Hanrahan taught physics to students at an outdoor adventure learning center, Guided Discoveries, in Southern California. While she enjoyed the work, she knew it wasn't going to be her career. "I still wanted to find a way to use my physics degree to give back a little bit, but I knew I wasn't going to make a lifelong career out of teaching," she said.

“ ”

I still wanted to find a way to use my physics degree to give back a little bit, but I knew I wasn't going to make a lifelong career out of teaching.

One day, she came across a job opening for a noise consultant at HMMH, a small, woman-owned environmental company headquartered in Burlington, Massachusetts, with offices in multiple other states. "The application described all the things that I'm interested in, such as outdoor data collection, because I've been out in different national parks doing noise monitoring. They were looking for engineers, physicists, mathematicians, and acousticians, and I said to myself, 'I have that degree.'"

She received a call from the hiring manager for an initial interview and started her job with HMMH in December 2009.

Since then, Hanrahan has worked with a variety of clients—mainly airports—on environmental assessments



PHOTO SUBMITTED

and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 150 program, depicting aircraft noise levels and the amount of exposure to it on surrounding communities.

In spring 2019, she was given the opportunity to open and head HMMH's New York City office, where she now works. Her rise has earned her a spot in the 2021 Airport Business Top 40 Under 40 report, which honors individuals across the world who are shaping the business aviation industry in profound ways.

"One of the main reasons I nominated Rhea for the Business Aviation's Top 40 Under 40 award is her can-do attitude," said Mary Ellen Eagan, CEO of HMMH. "No matter how challenging or urgent the request, Rhea's response when asked to help out is always, 'of course.' Equally important, she says it with a smile. And most importantly, she delivers."

Luke Keller, IC professor of physics and astronomy, has known all about Hanrahan's work ethic since she was a student in his Senior Thesis course. "Rhea was a fantastic student in large part because she worked well independently and was also good at working with others and asking for help when needed," he said. "Asking for help takes courage and initiative. I'm thrilled, and not at all surprised, to see how those skills have translated into Rhea's professional success."

Hanrahan says she is proud to be part of a woman-owned business and is enjoying the work she's doing. "I'm very specifically in noise and air quality, and it's such a subset and specialized area of focus," Hanrahan said. "There's very few of us who do that in the country. I feel very fortunate to be the top leader in it." ■

2002

EBEN BODACH-TURNER makes bows for violin-family instruments in Vermont. In 2021, he was elected to the American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers and named the new director of the Violin Society of America's Oberlin Bow Makers Workshop.

2003

AMANDA FROST has been promoted to vice president by Rinck Advertising where she is responsible for the management, service, and profitability of the agency's accounts. She leads, manages, and plans the clients' short- and long-term marketing strategies and has assumed a role in the agency's executive board. Her work in consumer packaged goods marketing has been recognized by some of the top industry awards and accolades including Davey Awards, W3, and PR Daily. She has produced award-winning work for Unilever brands, Dove, Vaseline, and Colman's Mustard. Her previous work with Unilever, Walmart, and Kraft Foods in experiential marketing has received top EX Marketing Awards.

2004

CHAD M. HORTON has been made a partner at the Baltimore-based and top-ranked employment and labor law firm

Shawe Rosenthal. Before joining the firm, he served as a field attorney with the National Labor Relations Board, where he investigated unfair labor practice charges, conducted secret-ballot elections, participated in representation hearings, and litigated numerous unfair labor practice charges. A magna cum laude graduate of Ithaca College and Tulane University Law School, he is a member of the American Bar Association, the ABA's Section

of Labor and Employment Law, and the New York State Bar Association.

2005

RILEY NICKOLS is a counseling and sports psychologist who specializes in working with athletes to address mental health and performance concerns, and he has recently been appointed by EDCare to its Scientific Advisory Board. He is also the senior program advisor for Athlete EDGE at EDCare in Denver, Colorado, where specialized intensive eating disorder treatment is provided for athletes. He was previously the director of the Victory Program, the nation's first residential eating disorder treatment facility for athletes, from 2013 to 2021, at McCallum Place in St. Louis, Missouri. Additionally, he is listed in the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee Mental Health Registry and is a certified eating disorder specialist through the International Association of Eating Disorders Professionals.

2006

ALLEN PERRIELLO has been named director of artistic administration for the Des Moines Metro Opera (DMMO). In this role, he will work closely with DMMO's general and artistic director, music director and principal conductor, and director of the apprentice artist program to plan and oversee myriad complex artistic and logistical details. Additionally, he led performance classes at Carnegie Mellon University, Michigan State University, New England Conservatory of Music, and William Jewell College as a guest artist.



MICHAEL STAUB was appointed to serve on the board of directors of Vivint Smart Home, where he will also serve as a member of the



DO YOU KNOW A GREAT STUDENT?

Do you know determined and passionate high school students who are eager to make a difference across continents or right in their hometown? IC might just be the perfect place for them. Ithaca College is a natural habitat for next-gen thinkers, innovators, performers, and seekers looking to make things happen.

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A REVEALING EXPERIENCE IN MASK MAKING

Michael Sullivan '16 explores his passion for making masks.

BY GREGORY PINGS

Ithaca College's faculty challenged him. "School was tough," **Michael Sullivan '16** recalled. "I thought theatre would make me feel super comfortable, but it was hard to break out of my shell." A class on Shakespearean theatre at Ithaca College's London Center required the students to make masks and perform in them—and Sullivan found an opportunity.

"I grew up in a creative household. My mother sews, and we did crafty projects together," he recalled. This mask project was a natural extension of the craft projects he had done at home, and the Shakespeare assignment launched a new passion.

Other assignments tweaked his interest as well—such as a cabaret show. "I love the queer arts, especially drag performance—at least, my version of drag," he said modestly. The experience wasn't what he expected, but he wore the makeup, experimented with different clothes, and made head pieces, which was not so different from making masks. "This turning point in my life was not so much a single moment but more like a lot of dominoes falling at once," Sullivan described.

London was amazing in so many ways. It was such a huge opportunity. It was incredible because the curriculum included voice lessons, stage combat, and scene study."

Sullivan's mask for the Shakespeare project incorporated natural elements such as leaves, twigs, and feathers. Reeds, marsh grass, flowers, and more found their way onto some of his other masks. He has since moved on to artificial materials such as jewels, mirror shards, metal, and found objects.

The result is stunning. His mask craft has expanded from the theatre and includes a niche in queer culture and art shows. Sullivan's work has been featured at Studio Lacombe, the Schoolhouse Gallery, and others



PHOTO SUBMITTED

in Provincetown, Massachusetts. His latest show in July 2022 was at the Cherry Artspace in Ithaca, where it ran for six weeks.

He works with jewels and other nonperishable objects because art that lasts is art that leaves a legacy. But the call to nature persists. "I'm aching to get back into it," Sullivan said. "Wasp nests actually survive, and I have a huge nest right now. I'm waiting to figure out what I'll do with it."

The semester Sullivan spent studying at Ithaca College's London Center infused for him an international cultural experience with fascinating course work. Its location is ideally suited to exploring London, as well as Europe. "London was amazing in so many ways. It was such a huge opportunity," he explained. "It was incredible because the curriculum included voice lessons, stage combat, and scene study."

Then there was London's theatre scene. They saw a lot of it and then discussed the shows the next day. The curriculum also included tours where the professor would connect various parts of London to the theatre. The history was obscure, informative, and enriching. "We turned in journals at the end of the semester, which I really enjoyed because it was a chance to get creative."

London is far away from Ithaca and Sullivan's hometown of Guilford, Connecticut, in terms of distance as well as experience. This was his first time in a large city with a lively gay culture.

"This was my first time seeing queer nightlife and creative and artistic queer people."

It was also the first time Sullivan made a mask to wear in a public space that was not for a classroom or a theatrical role. "London was amazing in so many ways. Studying abroad for anybody is incredible. Being able to see Europe is incredible. I especially enjoyed seeing and being part of nightlife for the first time." ■

Compensation Committee. After graduating summa cum laude from Ithaca College, he received a master of business administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated with honors, in 2014. He has spent the last eight years at Blackstone, a leading global alternative investment firm. In 2021, he was promoted to managing director in the firm's corporate private equity group, where he leads new investments and manages Blackstone's portfolio in the services industry.

2008



JASON GRECO

was hired as senior associate athletics director for compliance, overseeing the operations of the

compliance office for the University of Utah athletics department to ensure that student-athletes, coaches, and staff are abiding by National Collegiate Athletic Association, Pacific-12 Conference, and institutional rules and regulations.



RONALD REEVES

received the *Denver Business Journal* 40 Under 40 Award.

2009

ARA ECKEL has been named the director of product management by JLG Industries. The goal of his team is to grow job-site value over time through technological advancements that create intuitive, engaging, and interactive connected experiences. He moved into this new role in fall 2021. Prior to joining JLG, his work experience included various sales, marketing, and technical product roles at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, General Motors, Meltwater Group, and

Apple. He has a master of business administration from Southern New Hampshire University.

2010



BETHANY

NICOLETTI was recently elected partner at MCV Law in Syracuse, New York. She

graduated cum laude from the University at Buffalo Law School in 2013. She joined MCV Law as a clerk in 2012 and was promoted to associate in 2013. For the last several years, she has co-managed the workers' compensation team at the firm and is now leading the personal injury team. She has regularly appeared before the Workers' Compensation Board and has also fought several appeals before the Appellate Division Third Department.

2011

TOM ESCHEN works as a sports broadcaster with For the Fans/ Lax Sports Network in Boston. He is an anchor, host, and play-by-play personality, currently cohosting studio content for lacrosse on Lax Sports Network, including the studio show/podcast *Lacrosse Now*, and doing play-by-play commentary on For the Fans. Additionally, on For the Fans, he has provided English play-by-play commentary for international sports like Japanese baseball, Austrian soccer, German basketball, and others. His favorite moments have been getting to tell the stories of people who have overcome the odds and inspired others in their communities. In fall 2021, he interviewed people affected by the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism and raised almost \$3,000 for their cause while running in the New York City Marathon. He hopes to be a part of more of these types of experiences in the future. Prior to his current work, he was a news affiliate in Michigan and Syracuse, covering

events like the college football playoff, Final Four, NBA and NHL playoffs, and more.

JOSH RIFKIN is the founder, owner, and sole proprietor of Synergistic Body, a private training studio focused on corrective, holistic, and high-performance exercise. He coaches and trains all ages, athletes, and nonathletes to help them improve their overall wellness and performance in their personal fitness and health goals. He works with clients on basic mobility as well as sport-specific performance exercises and nutrition.

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A MEDICAL WARRIOR WITH THE HEART OF A SOULFUL HEALER

Victor A. Lopez-Carmen '17 honors his families' traditions.

BY CHARLES MCKENZIE

The Yaqui Nation's native language, Yoeme, still holds on as a living symbol of the resilience that served the Yaqui well during the pandemic. Frustrated that their prayers for help and COVID-19 information were at first answered mostly in English or Spanish, the Yaqui people in Sonora, Mexico, mobilized to disseminate COVID-19 information in Yaqui to local radio stations.

Witnessing this, **Victor A. Lopez-Carmen '17**, a health sciences/premedical major at IC, recognized a sustainable model and did what his family of healers had been doing for centuries. He honored his culture and his people, and he got to work, helping to coordinate translations of COVID-19 materials and setting up pathways for more representation in the medical community.

“ ”

I think it is underappreciated in the medical community considering that Indigenous languages represent the overwhelming majority of world languages, and many Indigenous peoples don't speak a second language.

Now a Harvard Medical School student set to graduate in 2023, Lopez-Carmen has dedicated much of his time after Ithaca College to helping not just his own tribes—the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe in South Dakota and the Yaqui Nation in Arizona and Mexico—but also Indigenous peoples everywhere, whom he credits with a kind of intergenerational mindset that is at the core of his philosophy.

Most recently for Lopez-Carmen, that has meant a push in two areas: more native language health materials and more Indigenous doctors, or at least medical practitioners who better understand the Indigenous communities they serve.

"I think it is underappreciated in the medical community considering that Indigenous languages represent the overwhelming majority of world



languages, and many Indigenous peoples don't speak a second language." Lopez-Carmen helped raise thousands of dollars in relief funds for native communities and founded Translations 4 Our Nations, a grant-funded initiative to translate critical COVID-19 information into Indigenous languages, culminating in COVID-19 information in over 40 Indigenous languages from more than 20 countries.

When he graduates from medical school, Lopez-Carmen will be the first male doctor enrolled in the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, he said. "People forget that there are tribal nations inside of the United States, and that we live in a very different world," he said. "Statistics show that some of us live in third world circumstances. For instance, a tribe that is part of my nation, the Oglala Lakota Nation, has the second lowest life expectancy in the entire Western Hemisphere. We have the highest rates of tuberculosis, highest rates of poverty, disproportionately higher rates of pretty much every chronic disease. And this all comes from the poor health outcomes of systemic oppression, so our health disparities are preventable."

Lopez-Carmen says that people he meets who have a more Western understanding of the world often comment that, as a medical student among so few Indigenous doctors, he must feel a tremendous pressure to both represent and help his own tribes and, in many ways, Indigenous people everywhere. But he says it's never been a burden.

"I feel like it's equally beneficial for me. I was born into two tribes, and I see that as a privilege," he said. "I'm not going to take for granted that I get to be a part of these communities [that have existed] for thousands of years. That's what makes me happy, so for me, it's not a sacrifice. I actually feel like I'm getting so much from it, and I want to give it back as well." ■

ALLISON USAVAGE and **TYLER FINCK '04** launched Relays in early 2022. Relays offers ground-up branding including strategy, design, and implementation, and prioritizes clients that are combating climate change, supporting local food systems and economies, creating a better future for families, and fighting for more socially just policies and systems.

2013

VERONICA HERNANDEZ is the new Modesto Nuts general manager. In this role, she runs the operations for the Single-A affiliate of the Seattle Mariners. She is the first Latina general manager in Minor League Baseball history and the only female to be named general manager of the Modesto Nuts.

ANDREW STEEDMAN has joined JMI Sports, a media rights and venue development company. A New York City native, he was added to the JMI Sports northeast team as director of sponsorship sales. He will focus on sponsorship sales efforts on behalf of Harvard Athletics, Columbia Athletics, and the Armory Track in New York City. He has previous experience in positions at Madison Square Garden and the New York Red Bulls.



2014



Nick Rojas has recently been promoted to assistant athletic director and coordinator of video operations by Providence College athletics. In his role, he oversees the entire athletic department's video needs, which includes producing livestreams and television broadcasts for the athletic team's home events, reporting for the men's basketball and men's hockey teams, shooting and editing social media content for all the team accounts, and producing videos for athletic marketing, fundraising, and community service departments.

2015



JARED AMORY joined the Structure Law Group in Silicon Valley as a corporate attorney, representing clients in venture capital,

mergers and acquisitions, entity formation, technology licensing, and other practice areas. Prior to this and inspired by his philosophy studies, professors, and experience playing baseball at Ithaca, he lived out of his car traveling across the United States and began writing a book, *Waves of the Mind: Observations of Humanity and the Universe*, with the goal of providing the public with meaningful philosophical insights. Working on this book inspired him to understand and pursue copyright law, and he graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law with an intellectual property certificate. He earned the Judge Gerald Brown Award, which is given yearly to a graduating law student for exemplary work ethic. Today, the principles of his philosophical background are what

guide him through his professional goals as an attorney.

HENRY SENGLE is the founder and owner of Thuja, a sustainable hoodie company. Beginning as a side project in 2018, the company grew steadily and he quit his full-time job in October 2021 to keep up. He aims to expand his company even further while remaining connected to his customer base by keeping manufacturing local.

2018



TOM GARRIS started as the weekend morning anchor at Pittsburgh's Action News 4 (WTAE-TV), the city's ABC

affiliate, in August 2021. It's a hybrid role that pairs field reporting with anchoring the weekend morning shows from the studio. Prior to this, he was anchoring five days a week on the morning shows at WTAE's sister station, NBC5 (WPTZ-TV) in the Plattsburgh, New York, and Burlington, Vermont, markets.

AIDAN QUIGLEY joined CQ/Roll Call in March as a budget and appropriations reporter. Broadly, he covers how Congress spends money, specifically through the annual appropriations process and supplemental spending legislation. He has been busy with Congress passing billions in Ukraine aid and weighing large pandemic relief packages. Before starting this new role, he was the Navy/Marine Corps reporter for *Inside Defense* from August 2020 to March 2022. He wrote about the Navy and Marine Corps budget, procurement, and policies. He started his post-IC career in Burlington, Vermont, as the Burlington reporter for *VTDigger*, a nonprofit statewide news organization. At Ithaca College, he was editor in chief of *The Ithacan* during the 2017-18

ALUMNI NOTES

academic year and a member of the Park Scholar Program.



KAYLA MARIE TYLER is a trademark, copyright, name, image, and likeness attorney for the national law firm

Dinsmore. She counsels a wide variety of clients ranging from Fortune 100 companies to individual entrepreneurs and professional athletes. She also prepares sweepstakes and contest rules for some of the world's leading television networks and advises their marketing and advertising teams to ensure FTC compliance.

2021

CAELI CARROLL spent the summer of 2021 teaching at Interlochen Center for the Arts and attending a Broadway choreography intensive through Dance Lab New York in New York City. Upon her return, she got a job as a theatre arts instructor at OFC Creations Theatre Center. In her role, she choreographs a majority of the productions put on by the company. She also choreographs shows for elementary, middle, and high school programs as well as preprofessional productions and adult actors in professional productions. In addition to choreographing the shows, she teaches weekly dance classes and private lessons.

Celebrations

MARIROSE BENEDICT '11 and **KEVIN ACCETTA '11** on December 31, 2021, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **Jacqui Spallina D'Eletto '11** was matron of honor. **Gregg Bittner '11** was best man.

JOSH FRIEDMAN '12 and Elena Zatarain on December 4, 2021, in Cancun, Mexico. **David Sanatar '12** was the best man. **Doug Colquhoun '12, Kevin Judd '12,**

and **Michael Tate '12** were groomsmen.

CHAR MANLOVE-LAWS '12 and Jestin T. Allen on May 14, 2022, in Wilmington, Delaware. **Alison Ehrenreich '12** was a bridesmaid.

GLENN TERRITO '12 and Jessica Bianchi on September 18, 2021, in Somerset, New Jersey.

ALLISON HAUSMANN '15 and **WILLIAM HEUMANN '15** on October 23, 2021, in Long Island, New York. **Alyssa Milazzo '15, Zachary Hutchinson '15, Alexander Karman '15, Bobby Heumann '19, and Steven Heumann '22** were in the wedding party.

MYRIAH LATOURETTE '15, DPT '17, and MICHAEL SURMAN '12, DPT '16, on May 26, 2022, in Cloverdale, California. **Abby Gray '15, DPT '17, Monika Juodisius '15, DPT '17, Corinne White '15, Zac Blitz '15, Nathaniel Deane '15, Timothy Lewis '14, and Michael Bachner '14, DPT '17,** were part of the wedding party.

SKYLER NORTHCUTT '15 and **DANIEL MINOGUE '15** on June 3, 2022, in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

HANNAH ULMEN '15 and John Reid on August 21, 2021, in Ithaca, New York. **Olivia Burgher '15** was a bridesmaid.

SARA BELLANCA '15, DPT '17, and ALEX KARMAN '15, DPT '17, on November 20, 2021, in Rochester, New York.

Introductions

MEREDITH JORGENSEN '02 and Chris Cooke: Willow Murray and Wyatt Cunningham, January 22, 2022, joins older sister, Wren.

DAVID DONOVAN '04 and Ashley Donovan: Lucas Carter Donovan, January 14, 2022, joins older sister, Aria.

Farewells

JULIE JUST AMATO '65, on April 4, 2022. Born to Thaddeus and Rose Just in Lackawanna, New York, on January 29, 1944, Julie was the first of six children. At 10 years old, Julie contracted Guillain-Barre syndrome, which left her paralyzed for the next two years. While at South Park High School, she discovered her natural gift for music and acting, where she played the cello and starred in school plays. Julie then matriculated to Ithaca College where she majored in drama. She found her passion for Gilbert and Sullivan with Cornell's Savoyards troupe; on weekends, she also sang jazz and blues in local clubs. She participated in local beauty pageants throughout college and was named Miss New York State 1965. At the Miss America pageant, she won the Talent Award for Popular Singer. Julie graduated from Ithaca in June 1965 and in September married Dominic Amato. The couple moved to Michigan where Julie attended university while Dom went to medical school. A year later, Julie gave birth to their only child, Alec David. As conscientious objectors to the Vietnam War, the young family emigrated to Canada. There, Julie pursued theatre and television acting. After years of dedication and determination, she established herself as a talented ingénue where CTV offered her a variety show, based on the style of Carol Burnett, called *The Julie Show*. Later, she decided to try her hand in Hollywood as the spokeswoman for White Westinghouse. This opportunity opened the way to her long and illustrious career as a voiceover professional. In addition to her numerous national and regional advertising campaigns in both radio and television, she was the voice of the National Geographic channel for three years, NBC's voice, and several celebrity profiles for the E! Network channel. She also became a successful

voiceover coach, helping launch the careers of numerous students. Julie met her final life partner, C.O. Lee Boyce Jr., in 1992. Julie was preceded in death by her brothers Thaddeus "Teddy" Just and Michael Just, and is survived by her partner, Lee; son, Alec; stepdaughter, Laura Hogan; siblings, Linda Just, Sylvia Shaw, and Lisa Just; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

WILLIAM BOLTON '80 on December 27, 2021. Bill lived in Hawaii after graduating from Ithaca and before moving back to New York in the '90s. After a successful career on Wall Street, he embraced his passion for the water by starting Bolt Aquatics swim schools and teams in Virginia and Vero Beach, Florida, where he taught all ages how to swim and surf. He was dubbed the Hero from Vero when he saved the life of a woman who was trapped upside down in her car in a drainage ditch that was filling up with water. He is survived by his son, Steven Pomaikai Sarol, and his four grandchildren, as well as his brother, Rich (Mary) Bolton; nephew, Matt (Kath) Bolton; grandchildren, Viola and River Bolton; sister, Beth (Dave) Skudin; nephew, David (Tracy) Skudin, and grandnephew, Oak; nephews, Cliff (Jenny) Skudin, Will Skudin, and Woody (Maureen) Skudin, and Brian and Brendan Conway.

WILLIAM BURKE '88, August 9, 2021, at the age of 55. While at Ithaca, Bill was actively involved with VIC, ICTV, and BOC, and also served as an orientation leader. After graduating from the School of Communications, Bill went to work for iconic brands like Foot Locker, Sesame Street, HIT Entertainment, CBS Consumer Products, and most recently was the senior vice president of marketing strategy and communications at Licensing International. Throughout his career, Bill actively sought out Park students who were looking for

internships in New York City and provided them with opportunities and mentorship. He is survived by his wife, Patty; children, Erin and Ryan; parents, John and Patricia Burke; and sister, **Lisa Burke '93**.

JILL ESTABROOK COCHRANE '64, February 2, 2022, in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. Jill was born in Marlborough, Massachusetts, on May 16, 1941, to John C. and Esther L. (Howe) Estabrook. She was employed throughout the country in numerous health care settings from 1964 to her retirement in 2010. She enjoyed traveling, sailing, and community service. As a young person, Jill was an active member of the Girl Scouts and 4-H, where she was an avid equestrian and camp counselor. As an adult, she volunteered for the Red Cross and aided the survivors of 9/11, hurricanes, and other disasters. She and her family also hosted many American Field Service exchange students over a period of 30 years and raised numerous guide dogs for Guiding Eyes for the Blind of New York. She held numerous positions at the Candlewood Yacht Club and in 1981 was elected the only female commodore in the club's 75-year history. After retiring, Jill moved back to her family homestead in Marlborough with her husband **Richard Cochrane '64**, and they became Christmas tree farmers. Jill was a member of the Dolls and More, a subsidiary of the American Sewing Guild, and made doll clothes for donation to area children. As a member of the Wayside Quilters Guild, she created quilts for homeless shelters as well as for the Quilts of Valor Organization. Jill was a member of the Nashoba Valley Knitting Guild and knitted doll socks and beanies for infants in local hospitals. She traveled throughout the United States and Western Europe and had recently achieved her goal of visiting all 50 states with a trip to Alaska. Jill is the mother of Jonathan (Danielle) Cochrane of Bolton, Massachusetts, and

Jennifer (Jay) Cochrane Field of Princeton, Massachusetts. She has four grandchildren, Calvin and Yaddier Cochrane, and Julia and Joel Field.

HAROLD JACK COHEN, December 7, 2020, in Ithaca, at the age of 81. Harold was a professor of health care administration at Ithaca College for nearly 40 years, beginning in the early '70s. Born in Boston in 1939, he served in the U.S. Army, and received an undergraduate degree from Harvard University and a master's degree from Columbia University. Harold is survived by his wife, Ginger; daughters, **Meg Cohen Bishop '92** and Elizabeth Hoskins; son, **John Cohen '99**; and grandson, Yonni Bishop.

FRAUKE MARGARETE MASSIMILLA '66 on March 7, 2022, in Melbourne, Florida, at the age of 78. Frauke came to the United States in 1948 and remembered having her fifth birthday on the ship. She graduated from Ithaca High School in 1961 and completed a degree in physical therapy at Ithaca College in 1966 after training at Albert Einstein Medical Center. She started her career as a physical therapist at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City before moving to Miami, Florida, with a friend who was joining a new orthopedic practice as a hand surgeon. She moved to Merritt Island in 1975 and became a physical therapy inpatient manager for Wuesthoff Memorial Hospital where she worked for 32 years. Frauke was preceded in death by her parents, Erich and Gertrud StreLOW Manteuffel, and brother, Rudy Manteuffel. She is survived by her brother, Wolfgang Richard (Dick) Manteuffel; sisters, Helga, Brigitte, and Ingrid; cousins, Helmut Manteuffel and Elke Meyer; nieces, Laura Manteuffel, Shelley Powers, Kristen Hickey, and Tiffani Manteuffel-Ross; nephews, Erich Manteuffel and Peter Jefferson; and great niece, Zoe Powers.

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JOHN ALBERT SALERNO '51, September 18, 2020, in Rockville, Maryland, at the age of 97. John was born in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn, New York, on May 20, 1923, and was the oldest son of John James Salerno and Bertha Alonge Salerno. He graduated from Chatham High School in 1941. A corporal in the U.S. Army Air Corps, John served in the Asia-Pacific theater from December 1942 until March 1946. Initially arriving in Bombay, India, he was stationed in Myitkyina, Burma (now Myanmar), and then deployed to United States air bases in Kunming and Chengtu, China. He served as a combat analyst supporting troop and equipment deployments for B-29 Superfortress Bomber "Operation Matterhorn" air raids flown over Japan. After graduating from Ithaca College in 1951 with a business management degree, John began a successful and rewarding 36-year career with IBM Corporation in various sales operations and administrative roles.

FLORENCE JANE HENSHAW SEMMENS '42 on December 26, 2015, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 94. She was born on February 4, 1921, in Buffalo, New York, as the only child of Vicki and Elmer Henshaw. Jane attended Cornell University and Ithaca College, where she received an English degree, working as a certified sex therapist and for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. She was a staunch supporter of reproductive rights and sex education and lectured all over the country and the world on the subject alongside her former husband, Dr. James Pike Semmens. She also edited books and served as president and officer of several naval officer wives clubs. Jane loved to play social bridge and enjoyed being a member of several groups. She was preceded

in death by her sons, John and Michael.

LYNN PORTO WEAVER '68, on March 2, 2022, at the age of 75. Born on April 9, 1946, Lynn grew up in Yonkers, New York, where she graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1964. In 1968, she graduated with a BS in speech pathology and audiology. After college, Lynn worked as a speech pathologist in public schools in Athens, Georgia, for several years, until her son, Sean, was born. She was a homemaker for the next 10 years, a period that encompassed the birth of her second child, Christopher. In the early '80s, she returned to school at Old Dominion University, earning a master's degree in counseling. She later began working as a middle school guidance counselor in Burke, Virginia, where she also brought her warmth and flexibility—along with considerable energy and enthusiasm—to her duties as a cheerleading coach, until her retirement in 2013. In 2002, Lynn married her second husband, Donnie Weaver, with whom she shared a love of their three grandchildren for two decades. Throughout her post-college life, Lynn retained a fondness for Ithaca College, which launched her well into adulthood, both personally and professionally. 🍷

TO PLACE AN ALUMNI NOTE, Celebration, Introduction, or Farewell, please visit ithaca.edu/icview and fill out the online form.

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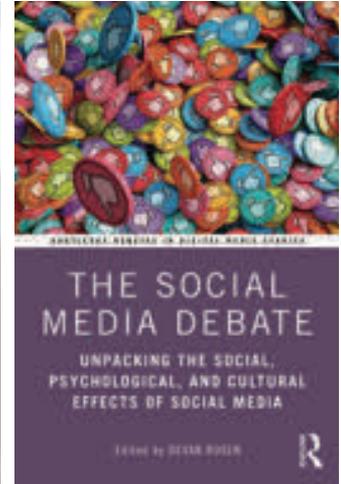
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Photos should be at least 3.5 inches wide and have a resolution of at least 300 dpi. If you mail a glossy print to us, please make sure to include your contact information and the names of any people in the photo.

FAREWELLS

Farewells honor alumni, current or retired employees, and students who have passed away. Space limitations may compel us to include only career, military, and volunteer activities.

This Alumni Notes section includes news that was received by June 15, 2022. Because of the nature of a bi-annual publication and the volume of notes we receive, you should expect to see your note about six months after you submit your information.



SURVEYING THE SOCIAL SCENE

Professor edits book exploring the effects of social media.

BY PATRICK BOHN '05, MS '07

During the last decade, social media has grown beyond a tool merely to connect with friends and family. Increasingly, a significant portion of the population uses social media not only as their main social outlet but also as their primary news source.

With this sea change in social media's reach, Devan Rosen, professor of emerging media at Ithaca College, has watched as major social and political issues have risen to the forefront in the United States and across the globe.

Rosen's work has put him in contact with people from around the world. The more people he spoke with, the more common themes began to emerge.

"I'd been interviewing people in Denmark, Finland, France, Turkey, Laos, Australia, Singapore, and many other countries," he said. "People everywhere were dealing with the same issues: the explosion of misinformation, social media's effects on health and well-being, and the impact of corporate relationships. Anywhere where people have their social and cultural connections coordinated through social media platforms, the same issues were replicating everywhere."

The complexities of these issues form the crux of *The Social Media Debate: Unpacking the Social, Psychological, and Cultural Effects of Social Media*, a book Rosen edited that brings together voices such as Christian Fuchs, a social scientist and professor in Austria, and Joan Donovan, the research director of the Shorenstein

Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

By bringing in a chorus of different voices, the book draws on each person's expertise.

"What I started with was a question: 'What are the key, seminal issues?'" he said. "Then I reached out to experts to talk about their field, and asked them, 'What do you want to say to people about those issues? What do you think are the most important things for people to know?'"

The biggest challenge for Rosen became making sure that these various voices could be held together by a narrative thread throughout the book.

"One of those threads is the duality of how we're using social media to connect to others and get information," he said. "But on the other side is algorithmic control steered toward profit, and that there are actors who can manipulate those algorithms for their own nefarious gains."

"An important part of the conclusion is that the scientific community has always been a social safety net, whether that's understanding things like climate change and natural support systems or social support systems," Rosen continued. "It's important that we come together to understand this. It is like the social version of climate change, but it's happening at a much faster pace and is much better cloaked." ■

MIXED MEDIA

Books

BILL DIEHL '63

50 Years of Celebrity Chatter: (Or the Time I Interviewed a Porn Star Naked)

(Independently Published, 2021)

Diehl has spent a half-century covering entertainment news for the ABC Radio Network and, during that time, has interviewed some of the industry's biggest stars. In his latest book, he shares some of the stories and quotes he's heard over his legendary career.

BILL BLOKKER '65

Achieve Beyond Expectations: Master the 5 Intangibles to Make the Impossible, Possible!

(New Insights Press, 2020)

Blokker's book highlights how extraordinary achievement is possible with the mastery of five unique intangibles.

RICHARD GOODWIN '71

Baseball Life Matters and "The Team of the Ages": A Celebration of Baseball, a Championship Team, and Life Connections

(Independently Published, 2021)

Goodwin's latest book details the historic accomplishment of the Ely Fagan American Legion Baseball Team, which won the New York State Championship in 1967. The book also highlights the team's players, giving readers a chance to learn from the players' unique insights and life experience.

ROBERT REID '72

The Unanimous Champions of College Football, 1869–2019

(McFarland Publishers, 2022)

Reid's book examines the 33 teams in 150 years that were unanimously

voted national champions and asks what made these teams special.

JOSEPH W. ZARZYNSKI '73

Lochend—Monster Hunting on the Run

(BookBaby, 2021)

Zarzyński is the author or coauthor of seven books. His latest is about the golden age of monster hunting in Loch Ness, Scotland. It was named 2021's Best Historical Loch Ness Book of the Year by CryptoZooNews and the International Cryptozoology Museum in Portland, Maine.

HEIDI SKOLNIK '83, MS '84, AND STEPHEN PERRINE '86

The Whole Body Reset: Your Weight-Loss Plan for a Flat Belly, Optimum Health, and a Body You'll Love at Midlife and Beyond

(Simon & Schuster, 2022)

Skolnik and Perrine's book uncovers why standard diet and exercise advice becomes less effective as individuals age and the impact eating to accommodate those age-related changes can have.

ROBIN LINABERRY '86, MM '87

Strategies, Tips, and Activities for the Effective Band Director: Targeting Student Engagement and Comprehension

(Routledge, 2021)

Linaberry's first book is a textbook that gives practical advice for band directors as well as students. It also includes two chapters featuring contributions from two other alumni of IC's School of Music.

MARY KRONENWETTER '87

Pauper Auction

(Stone Fence Press, 2022)

Kronenwetter's debut novel is a historical fiction examining a young woman's struggle to escape unexpected poverty and find autonomy and purpose in early New England.

TONY DIGEROLAMO '88

The Pineys: Book 8, Roadkill Piney

(Independently Published, 2022)

The latest book in DiGerolamo's novella series, this installment is about Route 55, otherwise known as Indian Curse Road.

CHRISTOPHER FLEMING '93

You Can't Lead from the Back of the Room

(CD Media Consulting, 2022)

Fleming's book is a collection of techniques, real-life examples, and cautionary tales from today's business climate.

RACHEL KARCHMER-KLEIN '93

Next-Level Digital Tools and Teaching: Solving Six Major Instructional Challenges, K–12

(Teachers College Press, 2022)

Karchmer-Klein's latest book examines what's needed and what works in order to help educators improve current models of technology-integrated instruction in their schools and districts.

AMY LAFKO '96

People First: A Proven Method for an Exceptional Healthcare Practice

(Page Two Press, 2021)

Lafko's book is a critically important guide to organizational design within the health care sector, shifting the focus to the people who provide the care.

DAVID LEE HOWE '97

The Angle of the Angels

(TouchPoint Press, 2021)

Howe's book tells the story of two young-adult band members whose love is threatened by the devil, in the form of a guitar player.

ERIC RAUE '09

The Limerick, Restored: A Seminal Revitalization of the Literary Tradition

(Independently Published, 2020)

Raue's book is a collection of more than 1,000 adult-themed limericks.

GENA BRADSHAW '15

A Survivor's Story: A Holistic Healing Journey Through Cancer

(Balboa Press, 2021)

A former member of the Ithaca College women's track and field team, Bradshaw wrote this book to help readers understand the vital role lifestyle plays in the journey through cancer and how to reach their best health and fullest potential.

Music**BRIAN DEMARIS '02**

Journey: Improvisations for Solo Piano (2021)

Gratitude: Songs for Voice and Piano (2022)

DeMaris released two albums back-to-back, the second of which includes original songs performed by Ithaca College alumni.

TONY SARNO '77

It's a Blues Thing

(Marconi Records, 2021)

Sarno traveled to Muscle Shoals, Alabama, for his album, which is influenced by blues and rock and roll.

Plays**ABBE TANENBAUM '10**

What Kind of Woman

A story of empowerment and the choices we make, Tannenbaum's play, which is going to be performed in Pittsburgh and New York City, tells the story of aging feminist and lifetime collector, Nora, who gets a final opportunity to reconnect with her estranged son.

Television**RICHARD NEWBERG '69**

The Buffalo Story: History Happens Here

Newberg coproduced the documentary, which highlights efforts by the Buffalo Broadcasters Association to preserve images on early news film and videotape before they deteriorate and are lost forever.

ONLY IN ITHACA



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

SILO HOLDS A COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Crispy fried chicken, creamy mac and cheese, and homestyle gravy might seem a far cry from the worlds of fitness and rehabilitation—and the irony isn't lost on **Katie Foley '01**, former exercise science major and co-owner of local food truck business Silo, famous in Ithaca for its recipes that blend Southern cooking with a unique ethnic twist.

Foley and partner, chef Jesse Steve, operate Silo—voted Best Food Truck three times by readers of the *Ithaca Times*. During busy periods, Silo's owners purchase between 600 and 1,000 pounds of chicken a week—and they once fed 5,000 people in a 24-hour period. Their local supplier follows stringent requirements for raising and handling poultry humanely. In a three-day prep process, Silo workers brine, roast, and soak the chicken in

buttermilk before dredging and frying it to create the business's most popular dish.

As a student, Foley spent a lot of time off campus, often heading to the Commons to do her homework, and she opted to stay in the area after graduation.

"I got a taste for what the community was like, and I sort of fell in love with it," the Massachusetts native said. "There was a progressive, out-of-the-box way of viewing things that felt aligned with how I wanted to live my life."

She credits her time at Ithaca College with providing her a well-rounded education, preparing her professionally, and giving her the opportunity to go in a variety of directions. ■



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