

# THE SYRACUSE IMPACT

HIGHLIGHTS OF SCHOLARSHIP IN ACTION

November 24, 2009

## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE— AND ALL THINGS ORANGE



Fall 2009 brought with it Syracuse University's most diverse incoming class ever, including **37** recipients of [Syracuse Say Yes to Education](#) scholarships and **78** veterans participating in the [Yellow Ribbon Education Enhancement Program](#).

Greeting these new students is SU's commitment to **scholarship, teaching, and research**. Here's a quick look at the latest developments:

- **Ninety-eight new faculty searches** have been completed this fall alone. Since the start of The Campaign for Syracuse University—one of whose goals is to attract and retain the best scholars—**27 new endowed chairs and professorships** have been established. That brings the total number to 74, an increase of 57 percent!



*Peter Beasecker, one of SU's newest faculty members, teaches ceramics in the College of Visual and Performing Arts.*

Many of these positions have been created with help from the **Faculty Today gift challenge**. [Read our growing list](#). Then take a moment to recall what faculty meant to you during your academic journey, [as you hear from the students of today](#).

- The **JPMorgan Chase Technology Center** at SU opened in Lyman Hall in October. The facility enables students and faculty to work side-by-side with JPMorgan Chase employees, conducting research and running global technology operations. [Read more](#).

## Campaign Summary (As of 10.31.09)

**Total: \$682,185,952**

Total by Gift Source

Total by Gift Category

Total by Gift Purpose



### A RECORD BREAKER!

**Orange Central**, 2009's Homecoming+Reunion celebration, was a tremendous success! Not only did we have record attendance, but alums joined us from all over the world, including England, Hong Kong, Nigeria, and Tanzania—proof once again that Orange spirit knows no boundaries.

Led by co-chairs **Contessa Brewer '96**, **Marvin Druger**, and **Don McPherson '87**, the four-day event featured a number of special highlights, from the heartfelt dedication of Ernie Davis Hall to readings by author **Joyce Carol Oates '60, H'00** and a one-on-one with veteran newsman **Ted Koppel '60, H'00** and award-winning actor **Frank Langella '59**.

Capping it all off, the recipients of the **Arents and Orange Circle** awards were honored for personal and professional achievements that are second to none. [Watch the Orange Circle Award video and learn more about this year's winners](#).

- SU hosted a meeting of the **White House Task Force on Middle Class Families** in September. More than 1,000 people attended the event, which was led by **U.S. Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. L'68**, Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner, and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, and focused on the critical issues of college access and affordability. Watch the webcast at [biden.syr.edu](http://biden.syr.edu).
- This fall also marked the first class of students enrolled in the **inaugural LA Semester**. To celebrate, Creative Artists Agency managing partner **Rob Light '78** hosted a daylong series of events designed to bring LA Semester students together with the founders, supporters, and LA Task Force members who helped create the multifaceted satellite campus.

A common thread throughout the past few months has been a **clear enthusiasm for all things Orange**. Despite still-lagging economic conditions, giving to **The Campaign for Syracuse University** continues to convey the depth of your loyalty, enabling us to live the principles of Scholarship in Action and incite lasting and positive change.

Our campaign total is **\$682 million as of October 31, 2009**. At this time of thanksgiving, we extend our ongoing gratitude to all of you who are partners in our success!

*Melanie Gray L'81  
Deryck Palmer '78  
Howie Phanstiel '70, G'71*  
**Campaign Co-Chairs**



See photos of the entire weekend by browsing our Orange Central photo gallery at [alumni.syr.edu/gallery](http://alumni.syr.edu/gallery).

**PATHFINDERS,  
VISIONARIES NOW  
ONLINE**

Our online Report of Donors now includes full listings of Pathfinders and Visionaries, along with our annual donors to The Campaign for Syracuse University. View it at [reportofdonors.syr.edu](http://reportofdonors.syr.edu).

**DISCOVER THE POWER OF  
FACULTY TODAY**

Learn how you can make *your* gift to The Campaign for Syracuse University work even harder. Go to [facultytoday.syr.edu](http://facultytoday.syr.edu).



**FACULTY EXCELLENCE**

**Funding Received for World-Class Scholar in Electrical Engineering**

**John and Patricia Breyer's** strong connection to SU and the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science (LCS) inspired them to make a **\$1.1 million** gift to establish the **John E. and Patricia A. Breyer Professorship in Electrical Engineering**. This endowed professorship, bolstered



*John and Patricia Breyer*

through the Faculty Today gift challenge program, will support an extraordinary faculty member who will conduct cutting-edge research and collaborate with faculty, students, and industry in such areas as networked systems, electromagnetics, and signal processing.

*have fond memories of Syracuse University and upstate New York.*

John's ties to the University run deep. He has served on the LCS Dean's Council since 1994, the LCS Leadership Council since 2000, and the University's Board of Trustees since 2001. [Read more.](#)

### **Alper Endowed Professorship Supports IJPM**

Professor **Keith J. Bybee**, a renowned expert on judicial legitimacy and court independence, has been named to the newly created **Paul E. and The Hon. Joanne F. Alper '72 Judiciary Studies Professorship** at the College of Law. Created through the leadership and financial commitment of SU Trustee **Joanne Alper** and her husband, **Paul**, the professorship will fund the scholarly work, research, and academic initiatives of Bybee, who is the director of the Institute for Study of the Judiciary, Politics, and the Media (IJPM)—a first-of-its kind institute devoted to the interdisciplinary study of issues at the intersection of law, politics, and the media.

[Read more.](#)

### **Endowment Gift Advances U.S.-Korean Relations**

In recognition of the Maxwell School's commitment to Korean studies and in honor of the significant contributions to U.S.-Korean relations made by Donald P. Gregg, U.S. ambassador to Korea from 1989 to 1993, an **anonymous donor** has established an **endowed professorship** to promote research on issues related to the Korean Peninsula and its eventual reunification.

The first occupant of the **Donald P. and Margaret Curry Gregg Professorship** is **Stuart J. Thorson**, professor of political science and international relations. Thorson has worked tirelessly over the past decade to develop trusted, scholarly relationships with colleagues at Kim Chaek University of Technology in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. His efforts have enabled SU to develop the only successful ongoing academic relationship in the United States with counterparts in North Korea. [Read more.](#)



*Stuart Thorson directs SU's information technology research collaboration with Kim Chaek University of Technology.*

## STUDENT ACCESS AND SUPPORT

### IMPACT UPDATE **Civil Engineering Interns Get Taste of Real World**

A second group of civil engineering students from the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science (LCS) interned this past summer in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This one-of-a-kind internship program was created in 2008 by **Abdallah H. Yabroudi '78, G'79**, CEO of the internationally known Dubai Contracting Company and a graduate of the LCS civil engineering program.



*Civil engineering interns gain practical on-site experience from Abdallah Yabroudi.*

The summer internships expose students to the kind of real-world experience not found in the classroom. Students worked on construction sites at the Rolex Tower, the 014 Tower, and the Kingdom of Sheba residential complex. In the heat of the day, they headed indoors to learn about contracting, cost estimating, and project management from top company managers. Equally important, the students learned to appreciate a culture much different than their own.

Yabroudi has also provided LCS civil and environmental engineering students the opportunity to participate in the 2009 **Eric M. Lui CIE Field Trips**. Thirty-seven students participated in two trips to the Capitol region of Albany, New York. Alumnus **Richard Loewenstein '79,**

**G'80**, vice president of Clough, Harbour and Associates (CHA), a full-service engineering and planning firm, arranged for visits to construction sites and the CHA design office. He also arranged for students to attend an evening lecture on the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design initiative.



*The 2009 Eric M. Lui CIE Field Trips take students to Albany, New York, job sites.*

### IMPACT UPDATE **Schwartz Bequest Surpasses Expectations**

In 2006, SU received a **\$26.5 million bequest** from the estate of **Frederic N. Schwartz '31, H'63** that significantly increased the size of our endowment, which is principally designated for student financial aid. The University recently received the final distribution from the Schwartz estate, bringing the total of the bequest to **\$29,525,032—roughly \$3 million more than the original estimate**. Schwartz's multimillion-dollar bequest is the largest gift to support student financial aid in SU's history and will have a dramatic

impact on the lives of students for generations to come.

### Entrepreneurial Fund Will Ignite New Student Ideas

It is the spark of an idea from entrepreneurial college students that has created such mega-brands as Yahoo! and Google. The **Syracuse Student Accelerator** fosters this same spirit of innovation by supporting students through the process of idea generation, business planning and analysis, and, finally, business launch.

Designed to maximize the success of student start-up businesses, the Syracuse Student Accelerator includes courses **What's-the-Big-Idea**, which focuses on creativity and product innovation, and **Idea2Startup**, where selected student product ideas are developed into student companies. Also included are student-run **iVenture**, which finds and matches student talent across campus, and **Syracuse Student Sandbox**, which allows students to work on their businesses full-time while continuing to receive guidance in launching the business and finding the funding necessary for optimal growth.

In that vein, student start-ups are not unlike any other: they need resources. The **Orange Tree Fund** will provide funding for Student Accelerator proof-of-concept projects and operating, marketing, and legal expenses. [Learn more about SU's Student Accelerator and the Orange Tree Fund.](#)

### iSchool Faculty Makes Major Gift

iSchool professor of practice **Jeffrey Rubin '95, G'98** and his wife, **Jennifer G'02**, have made a **\$100,000**

commitment over the next five years to the **Raymond F. von Dran Fund** to support

scholarships and iSchool initiatives in research, entrepreneurship, and technology. The Rubins hope

their gift, which was made in memory of Dean von Dran, will inspire other alumni to join them in supporting the iSchool.

Both the iSchool and Dean von Dran were integral to Rubin's success. "It was very important to me that my gift support his fund," says Rubin. [Read more.](#)



*Jeffrey Rubin was inspired by Dean Raymond von Dran during his studies at the iSchool.*

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## BUILDING FUTURES

### Energy-Efficient Data Center to Open

This past spring, **Syracuse University, IBM, and New York State** entered into a multiyear agreement to build and operate a new **Green**



**Data Center**, which is nearing completion. The center's advanced infrastructure and smarter

*The Green Data Center will be dedicated on December 2, 2009.*

computing technologies are expected to use **50 percent less energy than a typical data center, making it one of the "greenest" in operation today.** By the end of 2009, the data center will expand SU's leadership in the development and use of "green" innovations on a national scale.

Construction of the \$12.4 million, 6,000-square-foot facility on SU's South Campus was made possible by more than **\$5 million** in equipment, design services, and support from **IBM** and **\$2 million** from the **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)**. [Read more.](#)

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## CROSS-CONNECTIONS

### Say Yes Initiative Receives Crucial Support

**Say Yes to Education** and the **Central New York Community Foundation** announced a partnership with **POMCO Group** and **SRC**, formerly Syracuse Research Corp., to create new Say Yes to Education scholarships for Syracuse City School District (SCSD) students. These scholarships, announced at a Say Yes event at POMCO, will benefit SCSD graduates who attend any of New York's public SUNY/CUNY schools, including community colleges.



*Say Yes to Education provides Syracuse City School District students with an early incentive of college tuition, as well as vital educational programs.*

SRC has pledged **\$500,000** to the scholarship fund, and the POMCO Group has announced it will **match all employee donations** to Say Yes. These pledges, in turn, will be **matched 1:1 by the Community Foundation**. Also, Say Yes founder **George Weiss** announced an additional commitment of **\$1 million** to the Community Foundation's matching pool.

In addition, POMCO Group President and CEO Bob Pomfrey has made a significant gift for Say Yes scholarships at SU in honor of his parents, **Joan R. Pomfrey '48** and **Maurice W. Pomfrey '50**, and is developing a program that will allow his employees to volunteer during work hours with students enrolled in Say Yes to Education programs.

Together, these new commitments bring the total raised for Say Yes to Education in Syracuse to **more than \$28 million**. [Read more.](#)

### Gift from Alumnus Creates Howard Bond Exhibit

In partnership with the Syracuse Symposium's 2009 theme of "Light," an exhibition of works by acclaimed large-format photographer **Howard Bond** will be on display until January 14, 2010, in Bird Library. Titled *Luminous Construction: The*



*Howard Bond's black-and-white photo "Procession" will be on display in Bird Library until January 14, 2010.*

*Photography of Howard Bond*, the exhibition was curated by master of fine arts student **Kelli Pennington G'10**. Syracuse University Library owns all 22 of Howard Bond's limited-edition portfolios of prints, which were donated to the library in 2008 by **Carl Armani '60**. [Read more.](#)

### Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education Opens

The Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education in the School of Education was made possible by a gift from **Capt. Robert P. Taishoff '86** and his wife, **Laurie Bean Taishoff '84**, through the Taishoff Family Foundation. The center will build upon the school's current inclusive education programs, conduct research, and provide technical assistance to make postsecondary programs more accessible for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The center is headed by Executive Director **Wendy S. Harbour**, inaugural **Lawrence B. Taishoff Endowed Professor**. Harbour will work with University partners and those across the country to create best practices in this important field of study. The center, which bears the name of Capt. Taishoff's father, Lawrence, was created in honor of the benefactors' daughter, Jacqueline, who has Down syndrome.

[Read more.](#)

### Facilitated Communication Institute Receives Foundation Support

The **Facilitated Communication Institute** in the School of Education has been awarded a two-year, **\$500,000** grant from the Maryland-based **John P. Hussman Foundation** to foster improved understanding of and access to alternative communication strategies for people with autism. Almost one-third of the grant will be used to train family members in the use of these strategies. The grant also provides funds to produce broadcast-quality documentary films demonstrating the use of facilitated communication for national and international distribution. [Read more.](#)

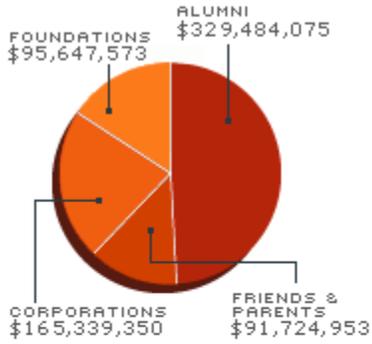
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# Progress Report: Power in Numbers

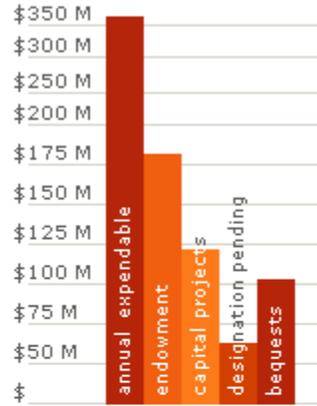
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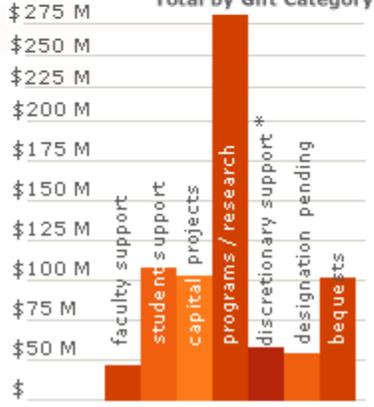
**Total by Gift Source**



**Total by Gift Purpose**



**Total by Gift Category**



\*(restricted and unrestricted)

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