“80th Anniversary Gala for NJCU”

There are several ways for Gothic readers to join in the 80th Anniversary celebration. The very best way, of course, is to join the NJCU Community for the elegant evening of dining and dancing on October 28. Individual tickets are $250 and tables of ten are $2,500. You may use the envelope inside the last page of Gothic to order tickets. Individual and corporate sponsorship opportunities are available, and corporate sponsors may also wish to place an advertisement in the 80th Anniversary Gala Journal. For additional information please contact Lori Summers, Director of Development, at 201-200-3489 or lsummers@njcu.edu.

Landmark October Event to Celebrate NJCU’s Rich History, Promising Future

Dr. Bernard Poulin, the Evening’s Honoree

Dr. Bernard Poulin (Hon. ’09), who will be presented the NJCU Global Leadership Award at the 80th Anniversary gala, is a Canadian businessman who has distinguished himself at home and across the world. Dr. Poulin is president and C.E.O. of S.M. Group International Inc. (SMI), an international corporation based in Montreal with over 1,200 employees in more than 30 countries around the globe. Under his leadership, SMI has grown from a small laboratory performing soil engineering to one of Canada’s top five engineering firms and a world leader in environmental and energy project management.

One of Dr. Poulin’s notable achievements at SMI was his service on the Management Committee for Hydro-Quebec’s James Bay hydro-electric initiative, a $10 billion project that has greatly benefited Quebec and its citizens. As a member of the Special Advisory Group on International Trade, Dr. Poulin has advised the Canadian Minister of Industry. He is currently a member of the Advisory Committee of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Quebec and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada.

Dr. Poulin is not only a visionary business leader, but an active civic and community leader. He leads and serves on numerous hospital boards and cultural organizations, including museums, symphony orchestras, and some community companies. An advocate for higher education who creates educational opportunities that promote cultural understanding and strengthen international cooperation, Dr. Poulin has served on the Board of Overseers of the Seton Hall University John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations for ten years.

Dr. Poulin holds master of science and bachelor of science degrees in civil engineering from the University of Toronto. He has also studied at George Washington University and McGill University.

Like many of the students who attended NJCU today, Ambassador Constantinou spent some of his early years overseas and knows that in the formula for success, hard work and perseverance often trump those who appear to have greater talent or social advantage. And like the students, his loyalty to his alma mater runs deep.

“This (NJCU) is where I got my wings,” he said. “It’s where I learned that there is nothing that is not within my reach. NJCU became my home and my family. It’s where I competed in sports, made hundreds of friends, and met my wife Eileen. We’re all very busy, but every now and then we need to reconnect with those institutions that have meant so much to us, that helped us become who we are.”

“Milestone events for any individual or institution provide an opportunity to pause and reflect on the past, the present, and the future,” said Dr. Hernández. “This gala is significant because it celebrates 80 years of an urban institution of higher education that has a unique public mission among colleges and universities. It will bring together people who will be part of this institution and help make the future brighter.”

The evening also provides the opportunity for the University to pay tribute to Dr. William J. Maxwell, vice president, president, and chief executive officer of the University, who will be presented with the Distinguished Service to NJCU award. As president of then Jersey City State College, he led a successful campaign to secure passage of the state college autonomy legislation in 1974. As president of then Jersey City State College, he led a successful campaign to secure passage of the state college autonomy legislation, which gave New Jersey’s four-year institutions control over their fiscal management and an opportunity to give pause and reflect on the past, the present, and the future.”

Dr. Poulin (second from left) received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree on December 9. In attending the campus ceremony were his wife, Liliana Komorowska; Eileen (Calamari) Constantinou ’74 (left), and Ambassador Constantinou ’73 (Hon. ’99).
New Jersey City University awarded 1,512 graduate and undergraduate degrees and presented honorary doctorates to Alfa Melesse Demmellash and Alexander D. Forrester, co-founders of Rising Tide Capital, at a commencement ceremony on May 12. Undergraduate degrees were conferred upon 1,092 students and 420 graduate students at the Izod Center in East Rutherford.

Dr. Joanne Z. Bruno, NJCU vice president for academic affairs, presided over the ceremony and Dr. Carlos Hernández gave the president’s charge to the graduates. Dr. Henry Coleman, first vice chair of the NJCU Board of Trustees, extended greetings, and Marie Guerrero ’03 conveyed congratulations on behalf of the University’s alumni.

Proud Day for the NJCU Community

Photos 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14 & 15 by Bill Wittkop
Photos 2, 5, 10, 11, 12 & background by Dave Hollander

Photo 1: From left: Ms. Forrester, Ms. Demmellash, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Bruno, and Bianca Silva ’10, who served as a student member of the Board of Trustees.

Photo 2: Row after row of proud graduates

Photo 3: Luis Escobar is acknowledged as the recipient of the 2010 Frank J. Guarini Leadership Award.

Photo 4: A trio of pretty smiles

Photo 5: NJCU’s Golden Gothics, special guests at the ceremony, include: (front row, from left) Winifred (Marone) Smith ’48; Adeline Reo (representing her late mother Adeline (Scerbo) Bevacqua ’40); Serafina (Fiore) Banich ’46; Dainty (Robertson) McIntyre ’50, M.A.’63; Evelyn K. (Dwyer) Lidston ’34, B.S.’52; Hon. Elaine L. Davis ’60; Dr. Wanda L. Rutledge, executive director of alumni relations (middle row, from left) Inez (Conradt) Boddy ’48; Irma (Eischen) Gahan ’54; Dominick T. Patti ’60, M.A. ’67; Gisele (DeAngelis) Parisi ’65; Ruth Szulman ’52; Mildred (Eischen) Rudhak ’60, M.A.’67; Ann (Scelsi) Drago-Jenkins ’60, M.A.’67; Dorothy A. McLaughlin ’55, B.A. ’59; (top row, from left) Lawrence A. Black ’60; Carol (Miller) Coose ’60, M.A.’73; Harvey Weiss ’60; Judith Z. Harvey Weiss ’60; Elaine L. Davis ’60; Dr. Arthur D. Sheeky ’60.

Photo 6: Wearing brightly colored stoles presented by the Black Administrators, Alumni, Faculty, Staff and Student Organization

Photo 7: Time to turn the tassels

Photo 8: Sweet success

Photo 9: Families and friends fill the seats

Photo 10: Proud moment

Photo 11: Sharing the spotlight

Photo 12: Congratulations, Class of 2010!

Photo 13: Sunny smiles on a rainy day

Photo 14: The well-deserved diplomas

Photo 15: So happy for her
Hij Excellency Clovis Maksoud Featured in NJCU Lecture Series

His Excellency Clovis Maksoud, former ambassador and permanent observer of the League of Arab States at the United Nations and its chief representative in the United States for more than 10 years, addressed a standing room crowd during his lecture on November 17 in the Gothic Lounge of Hepburn Hall.

Maksoud was the second speaker in the 2009-2010 University Lecture Series, an annual series that was also part of the University’s 80th Anniversary celebration. Sponsored by the Division of University Advancement, the lecture series had a theme of social responsibility in the global community.

Maksoud’s areas of expertise include relations between countries in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, the Middle East, and the United Nations as well as issues related to the developing world, the environment, human rights, population, and peacemaking.

“Our engagement not in the study of history, but more in the making of history, means we must empower civil societies and developing countries and regulate the spirit of participation in public life,” he said. “But, equally, we must structure a global system where it becomes possible to prevent conflict by the concept and culture not only of making peace, but building peace.”

A lawyer, journalist, and diplomat, Ambassador Maksoud is director of American University’s Center for the Global South. Founded in 1991, the Center examines issues affecting developing countries, characterizes the global South, and highlights the rich experience of experts in law, science, and literature to define the concept. The speakers are:

**October 18**  Dr. Edith Widder, an oceanographer who uses cutting-edge technologies to protect the world’s oceans, is president of and a senior scientist at the Ocean Research and Conservation Association. She received a MacArthur Fellowship for her research in 2006.

**November 15**  Carolina de Robertis, author of the bestselling novel The Invisible Mountain, is a passionate advocate for women’s and Latino rights.

**February 15**  Raymond M. Brown, Esq., and Wanda Akon Brown, Esq., are trial lawyers who provided a voice for the victims of Darfur before the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

**April 4**  Walter Dean Myers is a renowned and award-winning author of children and young adult literature.

Social Responsibility Focus Of University Lecture Series

The 2010-2011 University Lecture Series will focus on the individual’s responsibility to society and will draw on the rich experience of experts in law, science, and literature to define the concept.

**Campus Screening.** Media arts alumni Al Parmetta ’73 served as executive producer of “Clear Blue Tuesday,” a fictional film that follows 11 New Yorkers in the years following the September 11 Trade Center attack. The piece, developed with original music and directed by Elizabeth Lucas, has already won many awards at prestigious film festivals throughout the world. Using improvisation to create characters and narrative, the cast wrote the songs they sing. The result is a deeply personal journey of self-discovery told with humor, wisdom, humanity, and music. NJCU will host a screening of the film on Tuesday, September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall. For details visit www.njcu.edu.

**Inaugural Symposium.** “Ensuring Security in a High-Risk World,” the NJCU Inaugural Northeast Regional Security Education Symposium, featured presentations by five national leaders in the fields of national security, corporate security, and information assurance/cyber security. Gathered with them was the author of the White Paper on Cybersecurity, Dr. Dorothy Donning (third from left), a pioneer in the field of information assurance and a professor in the Department of Defense Analysis at the Naval Postgraduate School for whom NJCU’s Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education was named during the day-long program; and Marvere N. Allison (center), corporate security executive and member of the Board of Directors, American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS), International and Chief Security Officer (CSO) Roundtable Advisory Council, were (from the left): Dr. Tsang Y. “Bill” Soo Hoo, Symposium moderator and chair of NJCU’s Professional Security Studies Department; Dr. Carlos Hernández, president; Dr. Michael Kranitz, assistant professor of security studies; and Dr. John Collins, associate professor of security studies. Speakers also included Richard C. Schaeffer, Jr., Information Assurance Director of the National Security Agency, and Rear Admiral Cynthia Coogan, assistant commandant for the Coast Guard Directorate of Intelligence and Criminal Investigations. One in a series of campus events celebrating the University’s 80th Anniversary, the Symposium was organized by the University’s Professional Security Studies Department and Division of University Advancement.

Diversity Award for NJCU Athletics

NJCU received the 2008-2009 Overall Diversity in Athletics Award from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) at the Association’s annual convention in January.

The awards, a collaborative effort of the NCAA and the Laboratory for Diversity in Sport at Texas A&M, honored athletics departments nationally in Division I, II, and III colleges and universities. NJCU was among nine overall winners and also received categorical distinction in the areas of racial diversity and value and attitudinal diversity.

“Our diversity enhances the student athlete experience at NJCU,” said Alice DeFazio, acting director of athletics. “We encourage recruitment of different races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds, so our teams are truly reflective of the real world.”

Winners were determined from ratings based on 199 responses to a questionnaire that was sent to the top athletics administrators.
**Middle States Renews Accreditation**

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) reaffirmed its accreditation of New Jersey City University in June. The accreditation process included a review of the NJCU Comprehensive Self-Study 2010 and a site visit by a team chaired by Dr. Jaster Gecallow, president of Bari University of Pennsylvania. During the course of its visit, the team conducted extensive interviews, toured the campus, and reviewed the exhibits, documents, and data from the self-study as well as audited financial statements for 2008 and 2009. NJCU met each of the 14 standards required by MSCHE, as noted in the Evaluation Team’s Report, one part of the review process. MSCHE is a voluntary, non-governmental association that defines and promotes educational excellence.

**Two State Awards for NJCU**

New Jersey City University has received two State awards: one for workplace safety and one for voluntarily creating alternative commuting programs. NJCU received a Recognition Award for outstanding achievement in workplace safety. The award is presented by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry for workplace safety, and one for voluntarily creating alternative commuting programs. Participating in the ribbon-cutting were (from left), David Bach, professor of English; Joseph Miranda, acting president; Dr. William Wittkop, dean of the bears (with a smile), president of the Association for Higher Education; and Dr. Selma Goldber, director of the New Jersey City University's A. Harry Moore Laboratory School. The A. Harry Moore Laboratory School is a special education facility administered by NJCU.

**West Campus Plan Making Progress**

NJCU’s ambitious plan to develop 21 acres into a West Campus is moving through the approval process necessary to prepare the property and begin construction. Earlier this year, the West Campus Development Project was unani-

**New Campus Resource.** NJCU opened the Center for Student Success in April. The center offers tutoring, workshops, and referrals to academic departments and support programs. The center is staffed by (from left) Renata Moreira, assistant director for special projects for the Office of Career Services; Dr. Stephen H. Liptak, dean of students; Amanda Smith, assistant dean of students; and Dr. Jana Meisner, assistant professor of English. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Round the Campus**

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Ben Jones, professor of art, is the subject of “Defining the Art of Ben Jones,” which was produced, directed, and edited by Jane Steuer and professor of media arts, and Louis Libhiz ’02, in 2008, the film was screened in November at the Thalia Cinema on Stockton Street in New York City as part of the Staten Island Film Festival. During the documentary video explores various aspects of Mr. Jones’ art and delves into the influence of travel, family, teaching, politics, and spirituality on his work. The film looks at the artist’s life through a retrospective exhibition held at the Jersey City Museum.

Joel Katz, associate professor of media arts, and Jim Wallace, associate director of the Media Arts Department, worked as liaisons between the Department and Ernst Klett Publishers, one of Germany’s largest educational publishers, in providing work for media and design courses taught by Mr. Politan.

Mr. Malley co-authored the M.A., which was published in 2008 by Ulysses Press, with David Sperrer. Mr. Politan is former district attorney for Bergen County.

Dr. Jason D. Martinek, 53, associate professor of history, has been awarded the Joseph R. DuBose Memorial Fellowship from the William Morris Society to support his research on the trans-Atlantic influence of Mr. Morris’s ideas on the pacifist and socialist movement in the United States at the end of the 19th century. Dr. Martinek will use the Fellowship to conduct research this summer at the University of Connecticut’s Homer Babbidge Library.

Conservancy Award. Bill McNulty (left), retired professor of photography and former assis- tant dean of arts and sciences, was named a Master Stewart by the McDowell Conservancy, which oversees a 150-acre mile preserve of moun- tains, forests, and farmlands in Arizona. Presenting the award was Scottsdale Mayor Mary Mastrose. Mr. McNulty volunteered with the Conservancy for nearly 30 years, while living in Carefree and summer on Long Beach Island.

Winifred McCNeill, associate pro- fessor of art, Dr. Jose Rodeiro, professor of art, and Gianluca Bianchino ’92 were among a group of ten contemporary neo-classical artists whose work was exhibited in the “Neo Classical: Neo Classicism” exhibition at the 2010 ATE annual meeting in Chicago. Dr. McCNeill, who was a recipient of the ATE in 2020, only 659 other candidates have received the designation.

Dr. Jose Rodeiro, professor of art, was among six artists who participated in the panel discussion, “Somos America: Responses from the Latino Artistic Community to 9/11” at the Tribute WTC Visitors Center in Manhattan on September 15. Dr. Rodeiro was among the first artists to create significant work about the tragic events, and discussed his work as it relates to Latino culture and art. His work, “Tribute” (2011), a large oil painting, alludes to images found in Tarot cards, and features images of a curvy woman, uses Tarot card symbols, and references ancient Greco-layan, Hellenistic, and Roman art for inspiration.

Herb Rosenberg, chair of the Department of Art, had his largest solo exhibition to date, “Dialogue with an Ancient Forest,” which features 12 nine-foot aluminum columns that have been burned and painted to achieve the appearance of ancient columns, paired with music composed by Mr. Rosenberg’s collaborator, New Rosenberg. “Dialogue with an Ancient Forest” has been shown previously in Cape Breton Island, Canada; Havana, Cuba; and Seton Hall University.

Dr. Joseph F. Callahan, professor of history, spoke about his career as a teacher, historian, and community leader. Mr. Callahan died on May 2.

Mr. Malley co-authored the M.A., which was published in 2008 by Ulysses Press, with David Sperrer. Mr. Politan is former district attorney for Bergen County.

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For several NJCU students, one semester of their university days will always be remembered for the thrill of a journey across the globe, the wonder of a new culture, the kindness in a stranger’s welcome.

Sisters Aurora and Perla Estevez of Bayonne, Joel Paula of Bergenfield, and Claudia Severino of Jersey City spent the fall semester of 2009 studying at Pontifical Catholic University in Lima, an experience that challenged many of their ideas about the world and about themselves. Their program was coordinated by NJCU’s Office of International Students and Study Abroad, and International Studies Abroad (ISA), a student exchange organization, provided support for the students during their time in Peru.

The four flew to Lima together in mid-August and before they settled into their course work, they toured Peru with other foreign students. “We walked through a rain forest, swam in the Amazon River, went piranha fishing, and I found a pet turtle,” Ms. Severino wrote in an article for The Gothic Times, NJCU’s student newspaper. “It was simply amazing,” he said. “We went to the top so that we could see everything. The design, the architecture, the innovative ideas for the water supply and drainage systems were incredible. Every stone had a role to play.”

The experience, which he described as deeply spiritual as well as educational, was complete when he did a handstand.

“Like to do a handstand wherever I go,” he said. “I’ve done them in many places in Europe as well.”

A veteran of another semester abroad, in London, he said that the opportunity to go to Peru was irresistible. It also proved to be highly rewarding, as it drew him towards a career path in international education. A May graduate of NJCU, he will begin a master’s program in international education at Lehigh University in January.

Three of the four students who spent the semester in Peru received Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarships, which are presented to students across the country who have been traditionally under-represented in study abroad programs. NJCU’s Office of International Students and Study Abroad is currently revamping programs to make study abroad more affordable.

“We are negotiating exchange programs with specific universities in Europe, Asia, and Latin America, and we are also hoping to add faculty-led tours,” said Craig Katz, coordinator. “We expect to have some exciting new options for students in 2011.”

Mr. Katz anticipates that the new options should draw a greater number of NJCU students into the “life-changing experience” of living and studying abroad.

For Aurora Estevez, the semester was packed with lessons, mostly about poking holes through stereotypes.

“IT really opened my mind in so many ways,” she said. “We all started out with certain expectations and found that many of them just didn’t exist. It literally changed me.”

“I’m from a Caribbean culture and thought I would have to teach people how to dance and party,” she said, laughing, “but that wasn’t the case at all.” She is also a picky eater who wound up loving a cuisine she assumed she would not like.

“I definitely want to improve my Spanish,” said Aurora. “Peruvians speak very properly. I have to work on my vocabulary and my pronunciation.”

Most were also struck by the closeness of their host families and the fact that adult children remain at home until they are married.

“They eat dinner together every night, walk through the park together, and they really enjoy the time they spend with each other.”

Mr. Paula agreed that their understanding of their native language wasn’t up to par with the Spanish they encountered in their Peruvian classrooms.

“I came to the United States at 12,” said Mr. Paula, “so my vocabulary is limited. Let me tell you, I’d be reading [Friedrich] Nietzsche in Spanish for my course work and it would take me an hour to read a page, even with my dictionary handy.”

“I want to improve my Spanish,” he added. “I think it’s something that is presented to students in 2011.”

Sisters Aurora Estevez, Perla Estevez, and Claudia Severino.
Search of property records for NJCU campus yields rich history of a family’s horticultural business, a World War, and yes, nasty politics.
Dr. Carmela A. Karnoutsos

Dr. Carmela Ascolese Karnoutsos ’64 is a recently-retired professor of history at New Jersey City University. During her 40-year tenure, she introduced the History Department’s curriculum, “The History of Women,” and specialized in teaching the history of New Jersey. She is a member of the University’s 50th Anniversary Committee and the Memorabilia/History Sub-Committee. She is the author of New Jersey Women: A History of Their Status, Roles and Images (New Jersey Historical Commission, 1997) and an associate editor of Past and Promise: Lives of New Jersey Women (Scarcecrow Press, 1999) by the Women’s Project of New Jersey, Inc. A charter member and former trustee of the Bayonne Historical Society, Dr. Karnoutsos serves on the Bayonne Historic Preservation Commission and the Bayonne Community Museum Board of Trustees.

Dr. Karnoutsos worked with NJCU librarian Patrick Shalhoub on their University-sponsored website “Jersey City: Past and Promise” (http://www.historyofJerseycity.org). She earned a Ph.D. and master of arts degree from New York University and a bachelor of arts degree from then Jersey City State College.

Patrick Shalhoub

Patrick Shalhoub is the head librarian in the Periodicals and U.S. Government Documents Department at the Joseph F. Guarini Library. Mr. Shalhoub is a member of the University’s 80th Anniversary Committee’s Memorabilia/History Sub-Committee.

He is the author of Images of America: Jersey City (Arcadia, 1995). Prior to his appointment at NJCU, Mr. Shalhoub held positions as technical service librarian at Hudson County Community College Library/Learning Resource Center and as reference librarian and archivist at the New Jersey Room of the Jersey City Free Public Library.

Mr. Shalhoub earned a master of library science degree from Rutgers University, a master of arts degree from New York University, and a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia University.

Peter Henderson & Co.

Creating the Exhibit

The exhibit “From Greenhouse to Campus,” on display in the Congressman Frank J. Guarini Library through October 29, captures the early history of the campus property from the 1850s through the institution’s dedication in 1900. The exhibit is a visual representation of the three-year study by Dr. Karnoutsos and Mr. Shalhoub described in the adjoining article.

The historical exhibit was produced and designed by Lou Tiscione ’73, director, and Paul Gauglculo ’87, assistant director of the Office of Television and Multi-Media Productions in the NJCU Division of University Advancement, with the assistance of Joseph Musco, director of NJCU’s Margaret Williams Theatre. They chose the unifying theme of a greenhouse that illustrates the former use of the campus property. "Tulips, gardens, baby dolls, and lattice work inspire a "greenhouse effect" against which historic maps, images, illustrations, newspaper articles, architectural plans, and archival film are displayed.

The exhibit is divided into four themes, each featuring a scenic backdrop, a chronology, and a description of the images and collectibles on display. Historic maps, in the section on location, identify the geographic features of the campus site in the neighborhood of Audubon and Culver Avenues. Floral images, family photographs, and press advertisements, in the section on land use, demonstrate the extent of the Henderson farm and scenic packaging industry in Jersey City. The section on politics features a collage of newspaper articles that chronicles the political struggle. A keyed legend reveals the supporting roles played by Jersey City Superintendent of Schools Henry J. Snyder and Governor A. Harry Moore as covered by the press. And the architecture section is a showcase of the life and work of architect George Browne Quimby, who was responsible for the construction of the campus.

A special feature of the exhibit is an original window from the Joseph F. Guarini Library, which was rescued from the 1906 campus dining pavilion. "The window is a piece of history," said Mr. Shalhoub. "It is a beautiful example of the craftsmanship that went into the construction of the Guarini Library." The window features a complex pattern of stained glass, which was created by the renowned artist Louis Comfort Tiffany and his Tiffany Studios.

In addition to the window, the exhibit features several other important artifacts. A cast-iron fire hydrant, which was originally located on the Guarini Library's roof, is on display. The fire hydrant was a common feature of early 20th-century buildings and was used to supply water to the fire department in case of a fire. Another important artifact is a cast-iron statue of a man and woman, which was originally located on the Guarini Library's rooftop. The statues were created by the renowned sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens and were a popular attraction for visitors to the Guarini Library.

The exhibit also features a selection of early yearbooks and other documents that chronicle the history of the campus. These include a letter from Henry J. Snyder, the first superintendent of schools, to the New Jersey Historical Commission, which describes the site for the substantial amount of land we had adopted with such difficulty. The letter states that the land was purchased "for higher wages and a reduction of the work week from 60 to 50 hours."

The Henderson property at the present NJCU site, situated in a mostly residential area, was easily commutable to the Federal Ship Building Company and the housing plan never materialized. Less than three years later, another prospective buyer, the New Jersey Board of Education, purchased the site for the substantial amount of $80,000. The deed, dated June 22, 1922, which referenced an 1875 map of the area, traced the chain of title of all the previous property owners to that date. At that point, we believed we had completed our self-appointed task as history detectives for the campus property. But not so fast! Construction for The Normal School did not begin until 1927—a glaring five-year gap in our accountancy for the appropriation of funds for a local normal school. It seemed that neither Governor Edward J. Edwards, a Democrat who hailed from Jersey City, nor his successor Mayor Frank Hugue, the Hudson County Democratic party boss, could budge the Republican-dominated legislature mandating the improvement of teacher education. Montclair Normal School was founded in 1908 and Newark Normal School in 1911, while both Glassboro and Paterson opened normal schools in 1923. Why was a normal school for Jersey City no closer to fruition years after the purchase of the Henderson property?

For this particular search, the pages of The Jersey Journal and The Hudson DISPATCH gave us the tell-tale events about the delay. Articles chronicle the ongoing debate between elected officials about the appropriation of funds for a local normal school. It seemed that neither Governor Edward J. Edwards, a Democrat who hailed from Jersey City, nor his successor Mayor Frank Hugue, the Hudson County Democratic party boss, could budge the Republican-dominated legislature mandating the improvement of teacher education. Montclair Normal School was founded in 1908 and Newark Normal School in 1911, while both Glassboro and Paterson opened normal schools in 1923. Why was a normal school for Jersey City no closer to fruition years after the purchase of the Henderson property?

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The Henderson property at the present NJCU site, situated in a mostly residential area, was easily commutable to the Federal Ship Building Company and the housing plan never materialized. Less than three years later, another prospective buyer, the New Jersey Board of Education, purchased the site for the substantial amount of $80,000. The deed, dated June 22, 1922, which referenced an 1875 map of the area, traced the chain of title of all the previous property owners to that date. At that point, we believed we had completed our self-appointed task as history detectives for the campus property. But not so fast! Construction for The Normal School did not begin until 1927—a glaring five-year gap in our accountancy for the appropriation of funds for a local normal school. It seemed that neither Governor Edward J. Edwards, a Democrat who hailed from Jersey City, nor his successor Mayor Frank Hugue, the Hudson County Democratic party boss, could budge the Republican-dominated legislature mandating the improvement of teacher education. Montclair Normal School was founded in 1908 and Newark Normal School in 1911, while both Glassboro and Paterson opened normal schools in 1923. Why was a normal school for Jersey City no closer to fruition years after the purchase of the Henderson property?
When the contract with Guilbert and Betelle of Newark was signed in August 1927, the construction of The Normal School became a certainty for the first time.
Birthday Bash and Reunion Week

“Birthday Bash and Reunion Week,” a series of campus events that were part of NJCU’s two-year 80th Anniversary celebration, was held April 17-25. It included concerts, exhibits, panel discussions, and lectures.

A highlight was the “Birthday Bash and Reunion” on April 24, an evening of dining and dancing in the Michael Gilligan Student Union, which drew 450 alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends. Results of the 80th Anniversary Silent Auction, which featured art, books, collectibles, personal services, and a vacation rental in Mexico, were announced at the event.

The University’s 80th Anniversary celebration will conclude with a formal gala on Thursday, October 28 at The Westin Jersey City Newport.
Young Alumni Stay Close to NJCU

Matt Dragoje and Anthony Guerrero, both members of the Class of 2008, have spearheaded the organization of the NJCU Young Alumni Group, one of several alumni affinity groups coordinated by the Office of Alumni Relations. Drawing alumni from the past decade and best represented by classes from the past five years, the group now has about 50 active members who meet regularly for professional and social networking. Launched in June with a networking event and followed several months later by a barbecue on campus, the group has since held two informal gatherings at O’Hara’s Downtown Bar and Grill in Jersey City. “We’re delighted that so many recent graduates are staying connected with NJCU through this new group,” said Dr. Wanda L. Rutledge, executive director of alumni relations, noting that the meetings also provide an opportunity for young alumni to learn more about resources that are available to them at the university.

The outreach to the young alumni has also resulted in their presence at other NJCU events, including meetings of the Alumni and Student Entrepreneur Society and Open House. A group of about 50 filled several tables at the 80th Anniversary Birthday Bash, making them the largest group of alumni to attend the event.

NJCU Creates Facebook Fan Page

The Office of Alumni Relations has created an official Facebook fan page to expand outreach to alumni and to increase their networking opportunities. Facebook.com/New Jersey City University Alumni was launched in February and has 371 fans representing the United States, Canada, Ghana, Colombia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, South Korea, and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Local fans include 102 from Newark, 29 from Bayonne, 28 from Jersey City, and 22 from New York City.

NJCU’s Facebook friends are 50 percent female, and strongly represented in the 25 to 34-year-old age bracket (42 percent) as well as the over 55 age bracket (44 percent), which is consistent with the international “graying” of Facebook users. Thirty-seven percent of all Facebook users are now over 35 years old.

“The most rewarding aspect of our Facebook page is the fact that more than a dozen alumni have reconnected with NJCU,” said Dr. Wanda L. Rutledge, executive director of alumni relations. “A number of these people were considered ’lost’ because they had moved. We are very excited about the role of social media in keeping us connected with our alumni and alumni with each other. We intend to maximize its use.”

Several NJCU-related pages have sprung up to accommodate special-interest groups among alumni, including those involved in athletics and several student organizations. Alumni may instantly reconnect with former classmates and friends, and learn more about special offers for alumni and University events by going to Facebook.com/New Jersey City University Alumni.

Award for Business Alumna

Alicia Parente ‘95 (right) received the 2010 Richard H. Fabris Distinguished Business Alumna (of the Year award at the spring meeting of Delta Sigma Delta, the international business honor society. From left are: Dr. Wanda Rutledge, executive director of alumni relations; Jeanette Ramos-Adams, associate professor of business administration; Dr. Sandra Bloomberg, dean of the College of Professional Studies; and Dr. Jack Eisner, professor of business administration. Ms. Parente is a certified public accountant and audit director at Inhale & Squeeze LLC where she specializes in serving private equity clients. She also participates in the firm’s Women’s Initiative, Literacy Initiative, and recruiting efforts.

Reunion with a Kick

Members of the NJCU Jersey City State College Men’s Soccer Team, one of the most celebrated teams in New Jersey City University history, returned to campus in October for the dedication of the Robert McCutlady Memorial Soccer Field during a “Green and Gold Day” program. From left are: Jim Holczek, Tom Goo- go, Gerry Klimb, Ralph Castillo, Tom Briones, Alia Dufacin, acting director of athletics; Tom Svejda, Jack Thompson, and Bill McClung.
1963 • William Rieck has had the fourth edition of his book, Teaching in Secondary Schools, published by Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. Dr. Rieck holds the James B. and Alexander S. Haig Professorship in Education at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He is also the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Professor Award from the University of Louisiana Foundation and serves as chair of the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Teacher’s Certification Appeals Council.

1968 • M.A. 1974 • Foster Miano of Union also has retired after teaching music for 41 years in Newark, N.J., at General Board School. He plans to continue his involvement with local veterans’ organizations and church groups. He and his wife, Amy, have two children, Jacqueline and Mark.

1970 • M.A. 1976 • William “Bill” Miller, an authority on ocean liners and adjunct curator at the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City, was the subject of a “Story of the Week” profile in New Yorker magazine on March 22 and appeared on NBC with Chuck Scarborough. His rule as curator of special exhibits, “The Decor, an Art of Design,” was the subject of both interviews. Mr. Miller, the author of 65 books on ocean liners, was a Hoboken middle school teacher for 32 years.

1970 • Jane Huntington has joined the policy study staff of the Heritage Foundation and serves as a behaviorist at a group home for developmentally disabled adults in Washington, D.C.

1974 • Sisters Kathleen Fitzgerald who joined the Medical Mission Sisters after graduating from high school in 1946, celebrated her 60th anniversary as a member of the order in August. As a member of the missionary order, she worked with the U.S. Navy during World War II. When she returned to the United States in the 1970s, she found a facility for homeless women in Washington, D.C., and began a ministry in Jessup, Maryland.

1976 • John S. Horton of Fort Plain, N.Y., who recently retired as a supervisor in the New York State Department of Community Affairs, is a senior consultant with Fauze and Risk Consulting Corp., a comprehensive fire protection consulting firm. He traveled to Turkey earlier this year to analyze the fire protection system at an oil marine facility.

1984 • Raymond Beresford Hamilton is host of “This Week in Discovery,” a national program produced by WBLF, and was a research assistant in the Department of Cancer Prevention and Control. Mr. Hamilton earned the rank of Sergeant First Class, received numerous awards, was an expert and instructor in electronics, and served in both the Gulf War and the Iraq War.

1985 • Robert Delaney, a motivational speaker who addresses the issue of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, presented “A Stress Management Presentation in December” at Fort Hood, Texas, to soldiers and first responders who were dealing with the effect of the tragic shooting in Squirrel Valley in November. He has also given similar presentations to the troops in Iraq. Mr. Delaney, a star basketball player during his student days and a member of the YRU-Huntington Hall’s basketball team, also was a member of the U.S. Navy. He spent five years after his undergraduate work as a member of the New Jersey State Police, before which he retired. In his second career, Mr. Delaney is now in his 23rd year as a reserve for the National Guard and the New Jersey Army National Guard. He has served in Iraq and deployed several times to Afghanistan.

1994 M.A. • Prezal Hamilton has been named to the Montclair Art Museum’s Board of Trustees. Mr. Hamilton has more than 36 years of experience as a professor and teacher and an administrator. He is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the National Association of Black Accountants. He is recognized by the International Journal of Education, a member of the faculty, publisher, and president, and is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

1996 • Olga Mercedes Bautista and Todd Doney ’06 were among the artists featured at the “Para Guá,” a Hispanic Heritage Month exhibit held at the Ramirez-Anderson Gallery of Ramapo College of New Jersey for the Arts last fall. The exhibit, which explored the themes of the cultural diaspora among Cubans and Cuban-Americans, was organized by Dr. Jose Rey Ladrón de Guevara, adjunct professor of art.

2001 • William Broughton has been appointed municipal manager for Trueman. A Trueman native, he had served on the township’s police department before becoming an undertaker in the Bergen County Sheriff’s Office. A certified municipal manager, he has also earned a master’s degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

2005 • Nancy Caamaño, executive director of Hudson Pride Connections and The Pride Project, was named executive director in August 2009. Ms. Caamaño joined the organization in 2005 as a volunteer, and she has served on LGBT-specific mentoring programs, youth outreach, and youth programs.

2007 • Helen Gratil has completed her second year at Vermont Law School and is spending the summer working a firm in Puerto Rico that specializes in environmental law. She also spent two weeks during the spring doing two work books with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services.

2009 • Martina Smith is the first woman firefighter in Kearny. She was sworn in at a ceremony in March 2009 and reports to Engine 5. Ms. Smith spent eight years in the U.S. Navy prior to earning a degree in fire science. She is the mother of two.

2009 • Catherine K. Smith, a 2009 New Jersey Graduate Counseling Student, received her master’s degree from the New Jersey Counseling Program. A licensed associate counselor and disaster response crisis counselor who works as a therapist at the Center for Therapeutic Counseling in Vineland, Dr. Golfinopoulos worked in the career and employment field for more than 17 years and now owns her own career counseling firm before enrolling as a graduate student at NJCU. The NJCU alumni association is the first woman to receive a master’s degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

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The New Jersey City University women’s bowling team hosted the most significant athletic event in the history of the University—the 2010 NCAA College Women’s Bowling Championship—and created its own party with a stirring and impressive performance on a national stage. The NCAA Championship, held April 8-10 at Brunswick Zone-Carlel Lanes in North Brunswick, was the first national championship NJCU had ever hosted and for the first time the seventh-annual event was hosted by a Division III school and held in the bowling-rich Northeast. But the Gothic knights did much more than host, adding another large piece of hardware to the institution’s trophy case by battling adversity to reach the national semifinals (Final Four) for the fourth time in seven years after placing fourth in a national championship format in Division II, II, and III schools. By doing so, the knights kept alive a remarkable trend of reaching the Final Four in every even-numbered year that the event has been held. Behind the efforts of senior Jon Marno, who was named to the NCAA All-Tournament Team, and junior Nicole Druyer, the 2010 NCAA Division III National Player of the Year, the Gothic knights qualified for the Championship for the seventh consecutive year since its inception and earned the No. 4 seed amid the double-elimination bracket after the opening day of the tournament. In the opening round, NJCU dropped a 4-2 decision in a best-five-of-nine match.

SAY IN TOUCH
Do you have news to share with your college friends? A new baby, a new job, or a trip you've just taken? Please let us know about a change of mailing or e-mail address. You may contact our Editor Patrick Martinez at 201-200-5099 or send an e-mail to pmartinez@njcu.edu.

NJCU Hosts First-Ever National Championship

The New Jersey City University Department of Athletics has announced the addition of men’s golf to its roster of intercollegiate athletics, bringing the total number of University teams to 12. The new team, the first addition to the NJCU Knights’ championship sports program since 2002, will begin competing this fall.

Men’s Golf Team Added to Intercollegiate Sports roster

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Constance (Kieffer) Johannsen enjoys a second career in interior design, specializing in architectural residencies. A New York City resident, she spent 31 years with the New York State Developmental Disabilities Service Office, where she developed a prototype for occupant and family-structured housing. In 2000, she founded the interior design and construction firm, COG Design, to provide affordable residential treatment services. Ms. Johannsen earned a masters degree from Yeshiva University, completed post graduate courses at New York University and holds a certificate in interior design from Parsons School of Design.

Frank Tota, who attended 10 years of varsity baseball in high school, was the New Jersey City College baseball team’s head coach for 3 years, and an assistant baseball coach for 2 years. Mr. Tota has been an instructor in the sport.

As a baseball player, Mr. Auletto earned a special place in the NJCU record books. As a member of The PGA of America, has served as a tournament official in the sport.

Mr. Auletto, a member of The PGA of America, has served as a tournament official in the sport.
Jeffrey Jordan continues to hand out real-life assists

By Ira Thor

Jeffrey Jordan, the former New Jersey City University (NJCU) men’s basketball player, has continued to make his mark on the community through his work with GoodWorx, a non-profit organization he founded in 2003. At NJCU, Mr. Jordan conducts GoodWorx programs for student-athletes with the goal of increasing their retention and graduation rates. Mr. Jordan received similar assistance when, as a business major at the Jersey City State College from 1987-91, he played for legendary coach Charlie Brown. Coach Brown taught Mr. Jordan how to be responsible, with class, and with the utmost cleanliness – three things I try to practice in my life on a daily basis now,” said Mr. Jordan, who served as team captain in his senior year.

“When I coach Brown and my mother – the ultimate mentor and life coach – in my life, was like having a beacon of light to follow,” he said, noting that his mother, a single parent, was an extraordinary influence.

Under Coach Brown’s guidance, Mr. Jordan also developed as an exceptional athlete. He graduated as NJCU’s all-time leader in career three-pointers with 125 [since surpassed]. He also scored 194 points while distributing 293 assists as an integral part of a program that registered an 89-23 record and had a 79.4 winning percentage in 112 games. Mr. Jordan remains NJCU’s all-time leader in free-throw percentage at 80.5 percent, making 165 of 200 attempts.

In establishing The GoodWorx Foundation, Mr. Jordan knew that mentoring, which had been so critical in his personal story, was key. After researching the best practices of mentoring organizations nationwide, he launched his first program in Sayreville Public Schools, where his children were enrolled. GoodWorx provided academic support, mentoring, and life skills components while also allowing time for recreation. The comprehensive after-school program also stressed strong communication with parents and teachers.

With the success of the program in Sayreville, Mr. Jordan explored how The GoodWorx Foundation could support the NCAA/IAWPS Life Skills Program at NJCU and in 2007 his proposal received a warm reception.

“I began talking with Coach Brown about opportunities for student-athletes and we identified the resources and practical life skills that would benefit NJCU student-athletes.”

“At the University level, my number one goal is simply to raise awareness of what knowledge is available to them,” said Mr. Jordan. “We always start the year with our most important seminar – time management. We customize all of the content presented during our seminars to the student-athletes.”

Sessions include panels on study skills, personal finance, and nutrition. As students near completion of their degrees, they are invited to workshops on career development, resume writing, and interviewing skills.

“I want them to have more skills, more tools in their toolbox,” Mr. Jordan continued. “You need to look at issues from different perspectives and then utilize those skills in life.”

Alex Mirabel ’09, who played for the Gothic Knights from 2004-07 and is now the team’s assistant coach, was among the first student-athletes to attend GoodWorx programs. Mr. Mirabel worked as a full-time mentor in the Sayreville Middle School after-school program.

“It prepared me for the real world after college,” Mr. Mirabel said. “The finance seminars taught me how to build credit by paying credit card bills and college loans on time, and what the impact of not paying on time would be on my credit scores and my life.”

“The experience I had is why I continue to give back as a mentor. It’s from the heart. When I was younger there were people who helped me and it’s my turn to ‘pay it forward,’” Mr. Mirabel said.

Mr. Jordan also continues to “pay it forward” to his alma mater through his generous gift to the NJCU Foundation, Inc., including a $50,000 pledge to the John Mercier Memorial Scholarship Fund. Each year, the Fund provides $2,500 scholarships to two incoming freshmen who exemplify leadership qualities and are involved in community service or extracurricular activities. It is just another example of Mr. Jordan’s remarkable ability to deliver real-life assists.
An Evening to Remember...

80 Years of Opportunity

NJCU’s 80th Anniversary Gala

Honoring
Dr. Bernard Poulin (Hon.’09)
Business Leader and Philanthropist

With a Special Tribute to
Dr. William J. Maxwell ’58
President Emeritus

Thursday, October 28
The Westin Jersey City Newport