Branching Paths
The varied careers of KU education majors
AS THE SPRING SEMESTER DRAWS TO A CLOSE, KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY WILL GRADUATE ITS BIGGEST CLASS YET. APPROXIMATELY 900 GRADUATES WILL WALK ACROSS THE STAGE, MOST OF THEM PREPARING TO ENTER THE "REAL" WORKING WORLD FOR THE FIRST TIME.

When many of these students came to campus four years ago, they were uncertain what they wanted to do with the rest of their lives. As they leave, most of our newest alumni are headed toward jobs related to their particular field of study. Still others will find themselves in jobs they never imagined as they sat in the classrooms of Old Main, studied at Rohrbach Library or talked about the future with friends over a slice of pizza at Mammals.

In this issue of the Tower we introduce you to several KU alumni who set out to be teachers, but have pursued jobs far from the classroom, with paperwork that looks nothing like a lesson plan.

The beauty of all these stories is the education these successful individuals gained on our campus, paved the way for them to excel in all the places their lives took them.

No matter what area of study our students are pursuing, we try to provide them with the broadest base of knowledge, skills and experience we can offer to ultimately help them through the average five to seven job and career changes they will make during their lifetimes.

As a state-supported institution, we take seriously our duty to serve the citizens, the government and the economy of the Commonwealth.

Our Division of Academic Affairs works constantly, in conjunction with the other divisions of the university, to reexamine our course offerings and requirements; to provide learning opportunities for our faculty, creating far-reaching benefits for our students; diversifying learning paths and locations; and much, much more.

Our students have the chance to learn about things at KU that they could never learn at another institution due simply to the diversity of our faculty’s areas of specialization. Kutztown University provides students the chance to learn from home, to take classes in their local school district or even at area community colleges. We are not afraid to try new approaches to learning and offering educational opportunities.

Our students graduate with a broader concrete knowledge base, as well as the advantage of a diverse range of experiences and opportunities to learn in an environment where students don’t just sit in a classroom, but are exposed firsthand to the world beyond the textbook. These highly skilled, well-cultured, broadly educated students are making a difference in the economy of our state, our nation and even the world.

Take a look at the Class Notes section of this magazine. You will find KU alumni all over the country using the degrees they earned here to advance their careers and their lives. Likewise, their success improves the quality of life in their communities, and the domino effect begins.

Whether our graduates become high school teachers and influence the next generation or seek careers far from the classroom, we will support their dreams and provide them with the broadest education possible.

President
F. Javier Cevallos
Spring arrives on KU campus, and with it a new class of graduates seek to make their way in the world. This month we focus on education majors whose careers have branched into professions beyond the classroom, while at the same time have incorporated the essence of leadership which all good teachers retain.

Branching Paths
From Marine to industrial researcher, conservationist, FBI agent, and flight school instructor; these alumni have found solid value in their KU education degree while exploring the world of career possibilities.

Teacher at Work
Bob Heller is a teacher at heart. Recognized as an outstanding athlete and coach, Heller has found lessons learned in the classroom apply equally well on the field and in the home office.

Outstanding Lives
KU graduates whose dedication to career and community goes beyond the common into the extraordinary highlight this year’s Alumni Award winners.

Under the Tower
Dane Tilghman, an artist of the people, brings his work to the people; Assistant professor of history named director of German cultural center; Dormitory mates cross the generation gap to share good times at Old Main; Students launch new literary magazine; KU radio now online.

Classnotes

Hindsight
How many of us wanted to be teachers when we were young? Raise your hands. At one point in every child's life, that career choice certainly seemed to be up there along with doctor and astronaut. And if you were going to get a teaching degree, what better choice than a school with more than a century of experience training teachers—Kutztown University.

Though many aspiring educators have since graduated from KU, which was founded in 1866 as the Keystone State Normal School, life doesn't always comply with our wishes or desires, let alone the dreams of a small child.

Even with a teaching degree, other interests and opportunities lead some into career paths which they never could have envisioned as students.

Life happens. In fact, the many changing roles we take on today have spawned an entirely new theory in career development called “planned happenstance.”

“A career decision is usually interpreted as a permanent commitment to one occupation,” say authors John Krumboltz and Al S. Levin in their book "Luck is No Accident."

“But it is nonsense to commit to a single path when both you and the world you live in are constantly changing. It’s like asking you to choose your future spouse before the first date.”

Drs. Krumboltz and Levin, both social scientists, claim that too many factors intervene, and any career choice will lead to a variety of career opportunities.

In this issue of the Tower, we follow the careers of KU graduates who all wanted to be teachers at one time in their lives.

From a Marine Corps brigadier general to world traveler and conservationist, it is surprising how the lessons learned as a student teacher have opened pathways to unknown destinations.

Oddly, all say they feel as though they are teachers in some way. Many, after a career of exploring other fields of interest, have returned to the classroom, while others reach out to anyone with a keen desire to learn.
Brig. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer ’74

Eight months after I graduated from Kutztown, I was standing in front of my first platoon, that’s a daunting responsibility,” said Brigadier General Richard C. Zilmer, commanding officer of Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat training center in California.

Zilmer is probably one of the more famous graduates of KU. Numerous articles have been written about his work as operations officer for Task Force Ripper during Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990-91, which won him national acclaim.

Leading the ground offensive into Kuwait in 1991, Zilmer’s unit charged through Iraqi minefields and artillery strikes to destroy enemy-held positions. For his work in the development and execution of the operational plan, Zilmer was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

The commander credits his initial success in the Marine Corps to the excellent training and preparation he received as a student teacher while at KU. He said learning to manage a classroom gave him the poise and confidence to command. “I found learning how to get comfortable in front of a classroom also applies to leading a platoon of 40 young Marines. A teacher is essentially a leader of a classroom, which is what a platoon leader does.”

During the early part of his military career, his assignments included both field and administrative duties. He has held the positions of company executive officer, assistant operations officer and rifle company commander.

In 1982, Zilmer participated in two peacekeeping operations in Beirut and Lebanon. From 1985 to 1987, Zilmer, then a major, was assigned to The Basic School in Quantico, Va., where he served as tactics assistant group chief and company commander for two student companies. “It’s an opportunity to stand in front of a group of young people who look to you for guidance,” he said.

Helping young recruits become successful is a big part of the Marine Corps, said Zilmer, who noted that it is not unusual for officers coming to the Corps to hold degrees in public education. “Many of my contemporaries have been education majors. [The degree] contributes to a very good understanding of how to work with people, which is what the Marine Corps is about.”

Zilmer’s recent assignments have included work with the staff of Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also testified before a Senate subcommittee exploring the possibility of developing a spacecraft which could transport Marines and soldiers anywhere on the globe, and Zilmer served in Germany as director of counter-terrorism joint planning groups.

Though the Marines are looking at new and better technologies, the greatest resource is still the individual soldier. Zilmer said shaping the minds and bodies of young men and women to serve their country continues to be the Corps’ foremost task. “The physical, moral and ethical training we provide are the things that attract young people into the Marine Corps. And we [as leaders] return back to society responsible and active citizens.”
William “Bill” Irwin loves to study the minutia of life. As an organic chemist, he made his career at Armstrong World Industries in Lancaster County, Pa., tearing apart and identifying carbon chains — the molecular building blocks of plants and animals.

Discoveries made by his research group were turned into a number of new products and marketed to homeowners across the nation; among them, the famous no-wax floors for kitchens and bathrooms.

“The advantage of these products was to make them less labor intensive,” Irwin said proudly of his research.

Few people realize the wizard of the test tube also spent eight years as a chemistry and physics teacher in the 1950s.

And from 1956 to 1957, he worked as a researcher for the American Association for the Advancement of Science which helped draft legislation improving the teaching of science in America’s classrooms.

But the turning point from chalk board to Bunsen burner came in 1962 after he earned a doctorate in organic chemistry from Penn State University.

New discoveries in pharmaceuticals, polymers, metallurgy and agricultural chemicals were being made every day as the scientific community rushed to market with new products and medicines.

For Irwin, there was no toss-up between education and research.

“I had a lot of friends in education, but I got my head turned by research. It was an interesting time. All research was exploding at the time.”

When he ended his career with Armstrong World Industries, Irwin again turned to teaching for fulfillment and in 1996 helped establish the Lancaster-Lebanon Science and Technology Alliance for the Enrichment of Science Education.

Many of the programs offered by the alliance, pair business with academia, and feature retired professionals whose careers were built on math and science. Irwin hopes his experience in the laboratory will help inspire another generation of young researchers.

“Teaching is such an individual kind of thing,” Irwin said. “When the teacher closes that door, and you get that relationship with the students, it’s special. You have to realize that you are a role model.”
For Gian Luigi Bonanni, a profound respect for the law instilled at an early age by his parents led him on a journey through the halls of justice. From high school teacher to uniformed officer for the Secret Service, Bonanni realized his dream and is currently supervisory special agent for the FBI.

With an education degree in social studies, Bonanni first embarked on an eight-year career in teaching at the Valley View School District near Scranton, Pa., then on to Delaware Valley High School in Milford, Pa., finishing at Fairfax County School District in Virginia.

During that time, Bonanni still wished to enter law enforcement, and at one point applied to the Pennsylvania State Police but was not accepted. Then his luck changed. Between teaching at Delaware Valley High and Fairfax County, Bonanni was hired by the U.S. Secret Service in the uniform division guarding embassies and foreign missions in Washington, D.C.

But the experience left him stale. Without the excitement of investigation, or front line duty, Bonanni decided to return to teaching. Then in 1983, the FBI came knocking on his door.

Starting as a special agent working in the field, Bonanni was well on his way to a 22-year career which took him to four different FBI field division offices. At his current assignment in Atlanta, Ga., Bonanni oversees the applicant program and the victim witness/community outreach training program.

Through it all, lessons learned in the high school classroom have served him well. At one point in his career, Bonanni was responsible for training FBI agents and local police departments in firearms skills, special weapons and tactics, and sniper skills.

For an officer on the street, the training could one day make the difference between life and death.

“I realized that something I could have presented might lead them to surviving their encounters in the field, whether it’s in a fight or the decision to use deadly force,” he said.

Now a seasoned veteran with numerous field assignments under his belt, including one position on the reactive squad assigned to bank robberies, kidnappings and extortion, Bonanni affirms that solid training is the basis of the bureau’s professional reputation.

“I’m very passionate about what I do,” he said. “I didn’t realize that years ago. But as a teacher with the bureau, I am really committed to helping the law enforcement community. It really helped to have that teaching degree from Kutztown University.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FBI agent Gian Luigi Bonanni trains with an automatic weapon at a firing range.
Teaching people how to fly is like teaching kindergarten, because there is a whole new language involved. For example, an elevator on an airplane is completely different than an elevator in a building. On an airplane, the elevator is on the tail.”

With enthusiasm and brio, Colleen Krause Straw has been taking to the sky for more than 20 years. As owner of the North Florida Flight Center in Jacksonville, Fla., she has shared her love of flying with students as young as 12 years old to a mature 70.

The school has produced a great number of pilots over the years, and some now fly for USAir, TWA, Southwest Airlines, and even the Army National Guard.

The love of the wild blue yonder all started as a child when her father would take her up in the family airplane.

“My father took the wedding money he was given by his parents and bought an airplane, so I was flying from the time I was little,” Straw said.

But it wasn’t until 1984, when she moved to Florida and opened an aircraft sales center, that she found a practical use for her KU teaching degree.

In the early 1980s, Jacksonville was becoming a banking and financial center. With all the business people relocating to the city, and money flowing in, Straw felt the demand for flying lessons was large enough to open a flight school.

“There was such a need for flight instruction, that within 30 days of opening the aircraft sales business, we opened the school,” she said.

Taking students, some of whom had never sat in an airplane before, through the process of understanding all the technical terminology, flight charts, meteorological reports, physics and protocol needed to safely operate an airplane was a challenge.

Though she never thought she would use it, her training as a teacher began to pay off.

“It’s a school. It is just a different type of school. I understand the developmental process, so it doesn’t matter whether the students are children or adults,” she said.

Today she leaves most of the teaching up to other instructors and focuses on management, marketing and advertising. Still, she can’t resist reminding the instructors that all learning is a step-by-step process.

“You have to teach them in a very basic language until they get the terminology. It’s a whole different world of information and knowledge. I always tell them to approach the class as if they are just starting to learn a completely new language.”

From the classroom to the clouds and back, Straw said her love of teaching has literally given wings to her students and allowed them to take to the air.

“I do like it. The fun part about the job is when people walk in the door, they want to be here and learn. Watching our students go from the first day, when they don’t know anything, to soloing [piloting the aircraft without an instructor on board], and then go on to get their pilot’s license, is such a transformation and a joy to see.”

Colleen Krause Straw has taken to the sky for more than 20 years as owner of the North Florida Flight Center in Jacksonville, Fla.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL CANELLA, SUN STAR PRODUCTIONS, INC.
Jim Brett combined the sciences and humanities with a teaching degree in biology and English in 1962, and has been combining his passion for nature and learning ever since. Though he is an understated man by nature, Brett broke new ground as a nature conservationist in the 1960s, and helped put ecology on the front page. He brought conservation issues to the fore as curator of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, the world’s first raptor sanctuary. Currently he is an advisor on the environment for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has been serving in a similar capacity since 1999. In addition, a love of cultural exploration has led him to create his own guided tours of Africa.

For Brett, it all started at KU. The teaching degree opened doors to a path that would ultimately encompass the entire world as a classroom. Formerly, Brett taught both biology and English for nearly 10 years in the York County, Pa. school system following graduation in the early 1960s. In 1966, he founded the Oerwood Nature Center in York. Operated by high school ecology club students, the center is noted for the creation of Pennsylvania’s first nature trail for the blind.

During that time Brett also was working as a research biologist recording the impact of the Limerick nuclear power plant on the Schuylkill River near Pottstown, Pa. Then in 1973, the position of assistant curator opened at Hawk Mountain. By 1981, he was working as the site curator, and was the sanctuary’s first formal head of environmental education, a program he expanded to include international internships. Hawk Mountain was founded in 1934 as the world’s first safe haven for hawks and other birds of prey. Today, students come from around the world to study and observe America’s raptors.

To support the student exchange program, Brett formed Naturecorp, an ecology-based adventure company which brings students from around the world to private and public nature preserves throughout Pennsylvania to train as researchers, educators, and managers. In 1996 he took a temporary assignment as director of the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art in Millersburg, Pa., which promotes environmental education through art. In 1999, Brett was appointed Sportsmen’s Advisor to then Gov. Tom Ridge and continues today as the assistant to the secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources under Gov. Ed Rendell.

Through it all, he fueled a need to travel by leading lecture and educational tours to exotic locations and cultures. “I started traveling around the world, in the late 1960s, when I was doing graduate work with a focus on ecology, which at that time was a new perception of the relationship of humans to plants and animals, and the [ecological] system.” Today, his tours concentrate on the bio-diverse African countries south of the Sahara Desert. The trips emphasize learning experiences and serve as training for future conservationists as well as current educators.

With graduate work in ecology at the University of California and postgraduate work in geology at Franklin & Marshall College, Brett has taught at Muhlenberg College and is a lecturer at Bucknell University. “My education has been an ongoing process,” Brett said. “It set the stage for teaching, which is the best job I ever had.”

During one of his cultural field trips into Africa, Brett meets with a Hadzbe bushman, one of the last Stone Age tribes in Tanzania, and a little girl from the local Mangati tribe.
From special education to special talent, Bob Heller has taken his bachelor’s degree in education from Kutztown University with him through several career changes, and found the lessons learned more than 20 years ago still apply today. By combining the techniques developed as a special education teacher with his background as a standout cross country and track runner, Heller has created a rewarding career as athletics administrator, counselor, and coach.

Bob Heller ’81:
- A standout cross country and track & field runner 1976 to 1981
- The First Golden Bear runner to qualify for the NCAA Cross Country Championships, competing at the 1979 Division II Championships
- Set school records in the 5,000-meter run (15:06) and the 3,000-meter steeplechase (9:54)
- 1980 Team captain for cross country
- 1980-81 Track captain
- 1984-1990 Coach of KU men’s cross country, with team placing 11th at the NCAA Division II Championships
- 1988 Named East Region Coach of the Year
- Served as assistant athletics director at: Lenoir-Rhyne College, Hickory, N.C.; Slippery Rock University; and Kent State University, Kent Ohio
- 2003 Inducted into the Kutztown University Hall of Fame

2003 KU Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, Bob Heller can be remembered for his running prowess at Kutztown from 1976 to 1981, and his service as coach of the men’s cross country team from 1984 to 1990. Still, it was his experience as a teacher to perceptually impaired children at Demarest High School in New Jersey, and to learning-disabled students at North East Middle School in Reading in the 1980s, he says has inspired him the most. “From both those experiences, I took with me the ability to individualize and work with people on their own specific needs,” he said.

After teaching for nine years, all the while coaching part-time for KU, Heller moved into sports full-time accepting assistant athletics director positions first at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C. and then Slippery Rock University.

In 2000, he was promoted to his current position as associate director of athletics at Kent State where his duties include compliance, rules interpretation, certification, financial aid guidance, and the supervision of six sports. “Everybody comes with different strengths and talents,” he said. “With a background in special education, you come to appreciate those differences in people. Ultimately what you are trying to do as an administrator is to get everyone to work to their own individual potential.”

“As a special education teacher, I needed to write individual lesson plans for each student. It’s the same as an athletics instructor, though they are not short-term plans and need to develop over the course of four years for a student athlete.”

Heller continues his work with special needs students as a volunteer for Special Olympics. For the past four years Heller has served as chairman for NCAA Division I Committee for Athletes with Disabilities.

“For me Kutztown was the right fit,” he said of the caring atmosphere that gave him the support to pursue his dreams. “I loved the aesthetics of the campus. And the personal relationships I had with a lot of my professors that allowed me to grow as a student. When you work in special education you learn to understand and respect the individual and that kind of relationship.

“As a teacher and coach, I’ve learned you just can’t group everyone together. You have to recognize the differences that everyone possesses and teach or coach to that person’s strengths.”

Sometimes an education degree goes beyond academics.
One of Bob Heller's duties as associate director of athletics at Kent State University is to advise students, a part of the job he always enjoys.
Outstanding Lives

Every year Kutztown University honors alumni for their outstanding service to the community and university through the Alumni Awards program. These alumni have achieved success in their professions and stand as excellent role models to future generations of KU graduates.

The Early Career Excellence Award recognizes those who have graduated within the past 15 years and have achieved exceptional success in their chosen profession.

Matthew J. Braccili ’90

Thanks to the entrepreneurial spirit of Matthew Braccili, our Spanish-speaking community now has a radio presence in the Lehigh Valley. In November 2003, at the age of 35, Braccili invested nearly $1.7 million to become one of the youngest independent radio operators in the nation with his purchase of WHOL-AM of Allentown. Braccili converted the operations to HOLA and made it the first full-time Spanish-language radio station in the region.

Braccili’s interest in radio broadcast began in high school. By 1984 he was working at WGNI-FM Philadelphia in the music research department. In 1986 he became an on-air personality and production assistant for WQQQ-FM in Easton.

At Kutztown University, Braccili served as general manager for the campus radio station WRKU-AM, which he managed until graduation with a bachelor of science in telecommunications.

Following graduation, Braccili was hired as production manager for WAEF-AM/FM in Allentown and was later promoted to sales account executive. Other career highlights include: sales manager for WF M2-FM Allentown; retail sales manager for WBEB-FM, #1 rated station in Philadelphia; and director of sales for Mega Communications, a four-station cluster in Philadelphia. Later Braccili worked with the company’s four-station cluster in Washington D.C.

He is now in the process of building a second all-Spanish radio station to simulcast the Allentown signal into the Reading, Lancaster, and York markets, which will make HOLA one of the largest Spanish language radio stations in the country.

Jeanne Maier ’91

Jeanne Maier has taken a love for graphic design and combined it with practical management experience. Innovations introduced by her new production model give smaller design departments the ability to produce advertisements, brochures, and posters faster and more efficiently.

Maier’s career in graphic arts has always been highlighted by the combination of creativity and technology, and she was one of the first students to sign up for a course in computer graphic design at KU.

When she graduated with a degree in communication design in ’91, a love of color and bold statement landed her the position of art director at the Philadelphia Zoo.

In 1997, Maier became the senior designer for the University of Pennsylvania. There she created advertising, collateral materials, and Internet websites for the university’s many clients including The Morris Arboretum and The Museum of Archeology and Anthropology.

In 2002, she became the graphic design manager for the Franklin Institute, where she works today supervising three designers.

During her career, Maier has applied invention and efficiency to all aspects of the design process. Her drive to keep projects under the tight control of the institute’s design department has lead to many innovations including the incorporation of in-house printing and laminating equipment, which gives the institute the ability to create low-cost advertisements and reduce project turnaround by half.

By combining her talent to lead with an unbounded creative energy, Maier is working to take the field of graphic art and design production into the new century.

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Brandi Woodard '92

You may have taken a yoga class, or perhaps burned calories during a Pilates workout. But chances are you haven't heard of Yodates, a new exercise form combining the two. That is unless you met the creator, Brandi Woodard, who holds a bachelor of fine arts from KU.

Woodard's new form of exercise applies the beauty of dance, the mindfulness of yoga, and the sheer physical exhilaration of Pilates into a moving meditation.

Yodates is a big hit in her exercise classes at Kutztown University where she teaches as an adjunct professor. Because Woodard has made exercise fun again, students repeatedly sign up for her classes.

Woodard has served the university in the past as a yoga and general education instructor, and is popular for her creative approaches to health and well-being.

Today she is working on a master's of education in dance from Temple University. As owner and operator of the VinYasEmo Fitness Center in Breinigsville, Pa., Woodard also teaches yoga, fitness education, somatic conditioning, Pilates, and Yodates.

For 18 years this dancer and fitness instructor has been redefining the meaning of exercise.

Christopher H. Tienken '94

With simple titles like "Believe," "Growing on the Job," "Mentoring and More," it is immediately evident Dr. Christopher H. Tienken, bachelor of science in elementary education and mathematics, takes a no-nonsense approach to improving public education.

For the past 11 years, Tienken has worked tirelessly in the New Jersey public school system: first as an elementary teacher; then as an elementary school assistant principal; director of curriculum; middle school principal; director of curriculum, instruction and professional development; and his current position of assistant superintendent of schools for the Monroe Township School District.

With a master of education in administration and doctorate of education in education leadership, management and policy, Tienken continues to influence future administrators as an adjunct professor at Rutgers Graduate School of Education and Richard Stockton College.

He has contributed to the field of education through numerous articles and book chapters, and conducts international research with the University of Rome in Italy.

If he wasn't busy enough, Tienken has joined his wife, Allison Hawkins-Tienken, to launch their own consulting business.

His publications of note include: "Locus of Control" and "Building Special Relationships Through Technology," both in the New Teacher Advocate, and recently "Staff Development and School Outcomes" in Current Issues in School Leadership.

Today Tienken continues his crusade to make education accessible to everyone. His work in educational reform is a direct result of a sincere desire to help others.

Jeffrey Becker '90

If you can imagine yourself moving from the position of staff accountant to chief financial officer and vice president of a major trust company in just 14 years, you are close to envisioning Jeffrey S. Becker's dramatic success in the field of banking and financial services.

Like many accounting majors fresh out of school, Becker began his career at a regional accounting firm. After four years, he obtained a position with one of the bigger accounting companies in the nation: Ernst and Young LLP, Philadelphia.

Another career move saw him work as business manager for United Investment Properties Inc. in West Chester, Pa., where his responsibilities included accounting and administration for property, lease and construction projects.

This diverse background in money management set the stage for his move into financial services. In 1996, Becker started as an accounting supervisor at Brandywine Trust Company.

In just seven years, he was promoted to vice president in accounting, and again to chief financial officer and vice president.

Today he manages all accounting, auditing, and administration functions at Brandywine Trust, which handles $3.5 billion in client assets including a Delaware trust company, 25 private investment funds, and two private charitable foundations.

In addition to a successful career in finance, Becker has been an active participant in several Kutztown University Accounting Club functions, thus sharing the knowledge he has gained through practical experience with the next generation of accountants.
The Rothermel Award honors the outstanding personal and professional achievements of alumni who graduated more than 16 years ago.

**Susan Allport-Schneider ’61**

Though she has been called one of the nation's leading advocates and educators of art education, Dr. Susan Allport-Schneider has also been called witty and funny by her students, and downright serious about teaching art by her colleagues.

But one thing that has never been said about this educator, who gave 34 years of service to Kutztown University’s Department of Art Education & Crafts, was that she was just concerned with academics. Countless teachers and even more students owe their love of art to this remarkable artist, teacher, mentor and administrator.

Before beginning her teaching career at KU in 1970, she worked as an instructor for gifted students in Easton, Pa., and held the position of acting district art supervisor and elementary art consultant for the Bethlehem Area School District.

Through numerous publications, conferences, conventions and seminars, she worked tirelessly during her career to promote art and art education at the state and national levels.

Through it all, Allport-Schneider still found time to present her own artwork at juried shows in Chicago, Phoenix, and Washington, D.C., in addition to many other invitational shows throughout the nation.

Her sensitivity extends beyond fine arts and manifests itself in curriculum development and teacher mentoring. She has been paid the highest compliment and called a teacher of fine teachers.

Allport-Schneider tells art education teachers they are the first window to the arts for elementary and high school students.

But one thing that has never been said about this teacher is that she was just concerned with academics. Countless teachers and even more students owe their love of art to this remarkable artist, teacher, mentor and administrator.

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Allport-Schneider tells art education teachers they are the first window to the arts for elementary and high school students.

Considering the countless lives she has touched, it certainly can be said this Kutztown professor has opened that window a little wider for generations to come.

**David Afsah-Mohallatee ’88**

Like many of the lithographs, etchings, and prints in David Afsah-Mohallatee’s portfolio, the attention to detail he brings to teaching students at Eastern Kentucky University has been called true creative genius.

By using a process of continually revising and adjusting course materials, content and presentation, Afsah-Mohallatee takes his students through the creative process while customizing the classroom to meet individual needs.

One unique example of his innovative classroom is the introduction of continuously running instructional videos during studio sessions, replacing the usual musical background with what he terms “white noise” to stimulate creativity. As a result of a willingness to take charge and a true desire to help, Afsah-Mohallatee has become a valued advisor and member of the faculty.

But Afsah-Mohallatee is not just a teacher. He is also a master printer.

Since graduating from Kutztown University with a bachelor’s of fine arts in ’88, his list of exhibitions, presentations, and publications has grown to epic proportions.

His work is now part of 35 permanent collections and numerous private collections. In addition, his prints and artwork are featured in several recently published books: “The Best of Printmaking: An International Collection,” “Forty Years of Tamarind,” “Aluminum Plate Lithography,” and “Stone Lithography Book.”

Though his approach to art is personal, his concern for student development is universal, encouraging creativity while maintaining the highest of expectations and standards; all part of this artist’s unique vision.

**Michael Pladus ’80**

Pladus is currently superintendent of the Upper Dublin School District in Pennsylvania. During his career, he has held the positions of superintendent of Interboro School District; adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania; principal and director of secondary curriculum at Interboro School District; assistant principal at Boyertown Area High School; and dean of students for Northampton Area Junior High School, and English teacher at Northwestern Lehigh Junior-Senior High School, all located in Pennsylvania.

His active involvement in educational leadership goes beyond the administrative and into the practical. As an advocate for excellence in public education, Pladus’ publications include: “Meeting the Needs of All Students” in Connections, a newsletter of the National Tech Prep Network; “A Voice in Support of Public Education,” “Price Can’t be Placed on Education’s Worth,” and “Message to the Class of 1998,” all published in the Delaware County Daily Times.
He also has enjoyed a full career as an athlete and coach. He served as captain of the KU wrestling team in 1980, was named District XI Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1985, honored by the Schuylkill League Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1986, the Northwestern Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1987, the Shenandoah Valley High School Hall of Fame in 1999, and the Kutztown University Sports Hall of Fame in 2000.

By bringing a truly professional intention to every step of his career, high school students throughout Pennsylvania have benefited from his concern and involvement in the classroom and on the field of competition.

The Citation for Service recognizes distinguished and exceptional service to the university.

Raymond Melcher, Jr. ’73

Community, civic, charitable, and professional involvement is the benchmark of Raymond Melcher’s commitment to Kutztown University. Not only is Melcher chairman, president and chief executive officer of Leesport Financial Corporation, a subsidiary of Leesport Bank, he is also the president of the Kutztown University Foundation Board of Directors, a trustee with the Berks County Conservancy, and a member of the executive board and executive vice president of the Boy Scouts of America/Hawk Mountain Council.

His service to the community includes numerous associations and is highlighted by involvement in the Humane Society of Berks County, the Manufacturers Association of Eastern Pennsylvania, the Berks County Young Republicans Club, the Berks Economic Partnership, the Berks Art Alliance; the Berks Arts Council, the Police Athletic League, the YMCA of Reading and Berks County, and more.

The recipient of numerous professional and community awards, Melcher was honored in 2000 as Business Leader of the Year in the large business category by the Berks County Chamber of Commerce. He was the Eastern Pennsylvania Business Journal Spotlight Executive Award recipient in 2001, received the 2002 Leadership by Example Award from the Berks County Senior Citizens Council, and in 2003 was named a Distinguished Alumni of Alvernia College where he earned a second bachelor’s degree in Banking and finance in addition to his bachelor of art in economics from Kutztown and a master of business administration from Saint Joseph’s University.

Since his graduation, Melcher has remained a proud alumnus of the university and shows his dedication through active involvement. His willingness to spend time and energy to improve the university has helped the KU Foundation grow in both size and stature throughout the years, just as his continued leadership and commitment is sure to bring many more successes in the future.

The Citation Award for Professional Accomplishment honors exemplary service and achievement within a chosen profession.

Brig. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer ’74

Brigadier General Richard C. Zilmer is a professional in the truest sense of the word, exhibiting initiative in the field along with success as an officer, administrator, and leader.

Most notable of his many accomplishments was his assignment as operations officer for Task Force Ripper during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990-91 which won him national acclaim. Leading the ground offensive into Kuwait in 1991, his unit charged through Iraq minefields and artillery strikes to destroy enemy-held positions. Zilmer helped develop the operational plan for the task force mission, helped to direct its execution and won the Bronze Star for his meritorious service during the campaign.

Zilmer was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve following his graduation from Kutztown where he earned a bachelor of science in secondary education.

During the early part of his career, Zilmer served as a rifle platoon commander, company executive officer, assistant operations officer and rifle company commander. In 1982, Zilmer, then a captain, participated in peace-keeping operations in Beirut and Lebanon. From 1985 to 1987, Zilmer, at the rank of major, was assigned to The Basic School in Quantico, Va., where he served as tactics assistant group chief and company commander for two student companies. Recent assignments include the staff of Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He has served in Germany as director of a counter-terrorism joint planning group and is currently the commanding general of Twenty-nine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat training center in California. Illustrating how lessons learned as a classroom teacher can be applied in real-world scenarios as a leader of soldiers, Zilmer has made a lifelong commitment to serve his country with honor as a part of the KU tradition.
Hall mates cross generations to share stories of Old Main

Curfews, jackets and ties at dinner, and no television were among the many realities of life in Old Main which visiting members of the Class of ’49 shared with KU students during a spring get together.

Just as it is today, more than 50 years ago students lived in Old Main. Many of the alumni told the students that dormitory life was much stricter in 1949.

Barbara Parzych, a senior in elementary education, and current resident of the hall, said the visit from the ’49ers was both fun and educational. “We learned that on-campus, it was so much different than today. Women had to be in the dorms by 8 p.m., with a lights out curfew by 11 p.m. And when they went to dinner, the women had to dress up, and the men had to be in a suit and tie!”

June Showalter shares a story with other members of the Class of ’49 and current residents of Old Main. The class visits campus twice a year to keep an eye on their beloved alma mater. The horrors of an 8 p.m. curfew and secrets on the fifth floor were favorite topics for the alumni who were all required to live in Old Main during their school days.

Artist brings work to the people

Even to a casual observer of the arts, it only takes a few minutes with Dane Tilghman to understand artists don’t have to be starving.

Tilghman, a 1979 graduate of Kutztown University’s communication design program, spent two days in January on campus talking with students and delivering a keynote address to the campus and community.

Tilghman calls art his life – his means of living, and his way of living. As a means of living, Tilghman has found a market for his art in some very unique venues.

You can see his depictions of African-American individuals and families on everything from coffee mugs and mouse pads to small hand fans. In fact he has found churches and funeral homes traditionally serving African-American families a particularly responsive market for his work.

“You go where the market is,” Tilghman said. “I’m always looking for that new market that is meant especially for my art.”

While Tilghman’s art is truly original, just as creative is his business mind which never stops working.

When he started selling art to be placed on hand fans used in funeral homes, the cutting and assembly work was completed by a sub-contractor. Later he reasoned, if he bought his own equipment, he could cut costs and improve profits.

With a smile, Tilghman said, “You have to learn how to work it, you know what I mean?”

And during his career, Tilghman is a man who has worked it. Since his graduation, Tilghman’s work has appeared everywhere from the “The Cosby Show” to Sports Illustrated.

He established himself as one of the premiere painters of African American golf art and Negro League baseball images.

He has showed his work in galleries and exhibitions all over the country, was commissioned for a project for Turner Stadium in Atlanta, and has exhibited twice at the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum in Philadelphia.

For more information on Tilghman and his work, visit his website at www.tilghmanenterprises.com.
Reynolds is named Freyberger Professor

Dr. Robert W. Reynolds, assistant professor of history, has been named Freyberger Professor and executive director of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University. Reynolds received a bachelor’s degree in American history from Gettysburg College and a master’s degree in historic preservation at the University of Vermont. He went on to receive a doctorate in history from Lehigh University. In addition to his education, Reynolds worked as an apprentice for the National Trust for Preservation and as an artisan for the National Park Service. He also conducted extensive archaeological survey fieldwork in Bucks County.

Reynolds is currently the resident curator of the 1783 David Hottenstein Mansion in Maxatawny Township where he lives with his wife Jennette and daughter Reanna. “I am looking to the challenges and opportunities ahead, and I am eager to begin developing a master plan for the future growth and development of the Heritage Center,” Reynolds said.

The Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center was established in 1992 as part of the educational and cultural program at Kutztown University. The center gathers, preserves, and disseminates knowledge of Pennsylvania German rural life in southeastern Pennsylvania from about 1740 to 1920. The primary functions of the center are to archive artifacts and create educational programs to authentically portray the Pennsylvania German culture, which was predominant in the area.

The center is a 60-acre, 19th century farmstead with a stone farmhouse, a barn, and a one-room school house, which serves as a museum. The museum houses more than 10,000 artifacts representing Pennsylvania German rural life in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It also contains extensive genealogical records of several thousand Pennsylvania German families dating to the mid 1700s.

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Dr. Ruth Freyberger, a 1935 graduate of State Teachers’ College at Kutztown, donated the 150 year-old one-room school house in Greenwich Township, which was moved three miles to the site of the center in 1991. Freyberger established the professorship in Pennsylvania German studies in 2002. Reynolds replaces former director and Freyberger professor David Valuska.

Alumnus appointed to Council of Trustees

David W. Jones ’89 was recently appointed to the KU Council of Trustees, President of DWJ Consulting, Inc., Washington, D.C., Jones is a political consultant and has become a favorite commentator with the major media. In 1999, Jones was the co-chairman of America’s Millennium Leadership Committee, and in 1996 he was a member of the national finance board for President Clinton’s re-election. In 1998, Campaigns and Elections Magazine named him a “rising star” in American politics. Clients of his consulting firm include former Vice President Al Gore, U.S. Sen. Max Baucus, U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, and former Congressman Richard Gephardt.

Buffalo Bills’ Reed now alumnus

Among the record-breaking class of 900 graduates during spring commencement was former KU and Buffalo Bills standout Andre Reed. When he becomes eligible, Reed is a sure bet for enshrinement into the National Football League Hall of Fame. In the meantime, several other halls of fame have enshrined Reed.

A 1991 Kutztown University Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, he was named to the NCAA Division II Football Hall of Fame in 2002. In 2004, Reed was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. In October, he was added to the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame. Reed graduated with a degree in general studies.
University partners
to offer health care
careers

Kutztown University has joined a partnership with Reading Area Community College and the Daniel Torres Hispanic Center to offer classes in health care at the Allied Health Academy, a newly-created school in the renovated basement of the St. Joseph Medical Center Community Campus in Reading.

The mission of the academy is to serve the city with a focus on attracting Spanish-speaking residents. Course work will include training leading to certification as a dental assistant, nurse assistant, or radiology technologist. Adult literacy and general studies will also be offered at the academy. Future certification may include the emergency medical technician and home health aide professions.

In December, Vern D. Dingle illustrated the meaning of perseverance by earning his degree in business administration despite having to do all of his coursework from his home at the Laurel Center in Tilden, Pa. Dingle, 32, has been paralyzed from the neck down since age 14. Though he lives in an assisted living center, modern technology enables him to use a mouth piece to operate computers, opening the world of distance learning to him. “You have exceeded all my expectations, and you did it the hard way, that’s for sure,” said Dr. Roger D. Hibbs, associate professor of management, during a special graduation ceremony at the center. Dr. Eileen Hogan (above), dean of the College of Business, presented Dingle with his diploma.

KU Radio is back on the air after a five-year hiatus. New equipment and a new commitment from students have reinvigorated the station. Broadcasts reach across campus and can be found on the dial at 88.3 FM. Though the station has never been granted a license from the Federal Communications Commission, it is permitted to send out a low-watt signal. New this spring, the radio station opened a web site on the Internet, giving KUR a wider audience. KU Radio can be accessed at www.kutztown.edu/activities/clubs/kur/. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the official grand opening event was held March 31.

Left to Right: KUR student president Will Strouse, Jr., President F. Javier Cevallos; Dr. Chick Woodard, vice president of Student Services and Campus Life; Richard Morrison, former director of KU Public Relations; Mike Regensburger, station manager; and former KUR student president Dan Price were on hand to do the honors.

Shoofly, Kutztown University’s first student-produced all-literary magazine, featuring the work of KU student writers made its debut in the spring semester. A staff of English and professional writing majors, edited, designed, and steered the publication into print. Under the guidance of co-advisors Dr. Heather Thomas and Karen Blorman, professors of English. Copies are available free at various locations on campus or from the English Department (610-683-4533).
class notes

1920s

Class of 1929
Constance (Mary) Albaugh enjoyed attending her 75th class reunion during Alumni Weekend 2004.

1940s

Class of 1944
Jean (Bitime) Deppinger is delighted with her new apartment that has wonderful amenities such as a fitness center, pool, library, salon, bank and crafts activities. She says, “it feels like living at a resort.”

1950s

Class of 1950

Frederick G. Gilmartin teaches at the University of South Florida Senior Academy in Sarasota. He conducts creative improvisation and lectures on Michelangelo and the sculpture of David while attending Kutztown State Teachers College in 1948. Gilmartin and Robert Swinehart ’50 designed a 12 foot papier maché turkey for the dance floor in Raley Hall.

Ardath (Harter) Rodale revisited and lent support to the Working Class Room in Albuquerque, N.M.— an arts program for inner city youth. She received the Exceptional Woman Award from Women in Periodical Publishing, N.Y.C., and a Community Service Award for her work with Lifepath from the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Class of 1952
Jarrell Q. Sober is on 13 local boards of directors and is a legislative aide to a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. He is a tenor soloist for a Jewish Synagogue and an Episcopal Church.

Class of 1953

Marie (Sheddon) Fatzinger retired after 39 years of teaching. She is a grandmother of three and loves to travel. She went to Hawaii in February, and needs only to visit Alaska to complete a tour of the 50 states.

Class of 1957

Leifred Seip is the school director for School Hill Valley School District on the executive board for the Berks County Sports Hall of Fame, assistant governor for Rotary District 7430 and Region 2 legislative chairman for the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees.

Class of 1958

In October, Ronald K. Schafer was honored by the Pottsgrove School District and named to the district’s honor roll for 37 years of service and outstanding contributions to the school.

Class of 1959

Frank Nye is one of the Florida residents who, thankfully, survived the hurricanes and still has a home. Nye would like to connect with classmates from the golden years of ’55-’59.

1960s

Class of 1960

Charlotte (Dihinger) Meyer and husband, Donald, collect historical items and memorabilia from Berks County resorts catering to those looking for natural health cures, relaxation and entertainment. The Historical Society of Berks County displayed many of those items in an exhibit titled, “The South Mountain Resorts.”

Class of 1962

Since 1982, Jim Brett has been leading Tri’s African Safaris through the wilds of Tanzania, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Seychelles, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In October, Brett was the guest at Father Gill’s “Out of Africa Dinner” in Greater Easton. Jim Brett is the head of the education program at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

Shirley E. (Roth) Hader was busy tending to her seasonal Mountain View Farms nursery and looking forward to its closing and her subsequent Florida vacation.

Class of 1963

After 25 years of teaching special education, Ruth Ann (MJackson) Debaker retired from the Hamilton Township School District in Mercer County, N.J.

Class of 1964

Raymond Laubach retired from 36 years of teaching mathematics at Catawauqua High School but continues to substitute teach for the school. He spends his retirement traveling the Western U.S. and attending athletic events including major league baseball games.

Class of 1965

In June, Margaret (Hay) Riffle will have been retired for 10 years. Riffle is a KU alumn, Paul Riffle ’66, and adores her role of grandma along with the Muhlberg chorus; volunteering and walking Buddy a black lab rescue dog.

Class of 1967

Gary L. Rohrbach retired from 37 years of teaching social studies at Cedar Crest High School for the Cornwall-Lebanon School District.

Class of 1968

Mary Ellen (Hilberg) Mathews started a business creating 100 JFKs that teach basic art skills. They can be accessed via her website at www.artedcd.com.

Jean Sweigart retired after 25 years of teaching for the Hamburg Area School District. She is now a tutor in the writing lab at Reading Area Community College. Sweigart’s first children’s book, “The Swing,” was published in 2003 by Knobloch Press.

Class of 1969

Joanne (Creme) Gabel obtained a Ph.D. in reading, writing, and literacy from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2004. She is an associate professor in the Hamill School of Education at Reading Area Community College.

Judith (Filman) Griesemer is back at work in Pennsylvania, after a 30-year absence. She is a soprano soloist with the Susquehanna Valley Chorale, Williamsport Chamber Singers, and area churches.

Deborah Goold Martens is selected to spend three weeks in Japan as a recipient of a Fulbright Memorial Fund award. She had a wonderful time with 200 other educators from all over the U.S. whose purpose was to build on the bond that exists between the two countries through visiting Japanese schools. On a personal note, Martens hiked and climbed in the Mt. Fuji area and spent several days with her host Japanese family.

Hedrick Brothers Construction of Palm Beach, Fla., named Brian Kelley vice president of preconstruction services. He will focus on business development and contract negotiations. Kelley is a member of the Florida East Coast Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of Florida.

A special offer to KU alumni and their families

ALUMNI DAY AT THE KUTZTOWN PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN FESTIVAL

July 6, 2005

· Full-bike festival fun for the whole family – puppet shows, storytelling, music, hay maze, hay pile and play areas for the children.
· One of the nation’s finest quilt sales over 1,000 plus all-day demonstrations and quilting bees.
· A large selection of traditional crafts and folk art also available.
· Pennsylvania Dutch foods – all you can eat meals, funnel cakes, hex waffles, smoked meats, and an ice-cream.
· All day entertainment – live music, fiddle, and country dancing on five stages.

For additional information www.kutztownfestival.com or 610-683-4110

Tickets to the festival are available to KU alumni for 50% off.

Adults: $5.00 Seniors: $4.50
20 SPRING 2005 Tower

Tower Spring 2005 4.0.qxd  5/13/05  1:34 PM  Page 20

Contractors of America and previously was AGC’s executive director.

1970s

Class of 1970

Linda (Blake) Snyder retired from Hartkoff Public Schools Va., after teaching fifth grade for 32 years.

Marianne Ritchie-Polito is a fine arts instructor for the West Chester Area School District and has been elected president for the Chester Area Education Association.

Linda (Shaffer) Beazley was AGC’s executive director.

Class of 1971

Helen (Olivia) Steinmetz was listed Beazley as one of 200 best holiday craft artists.

Class of 1972

After 31 years, Richard Asberry retired from the education field. His plans to travel, relax and visit friends and relatives.

Joan (Long) White earned a master’s degree in teaching English from Margrave College in July 1974.

Brian McDaniel is teaching and learning facilitator for middle school social studies within the Norristown Area School District.

Ken Ranieri’s creativity and vision of a dark and cramped ‘70s-era kitchen was the force behind the carpentry done by Michael Syndock to convert the space into a more pleasant and lighter place.

That was accomplished by an $85,000 budget, which was the 2004-2005 budget for the Montgomery County Public Schools. The home’s original architect, Robert W. Hirt, is a 1975 graduate of the University of Maryland.

Brian McDaniel earned a master’s degree in teaching English from Margrave College in July 1974.

Class of 1973

Pamela Quinn received her doctorate of holistic medicine and is an independent business owner of wellness immune support product store.

Dr. Mark and Virginia (Gudlin) Soskin’s son Benjamin graduated cum laude from Harvard University in 2004.

Two of Douglas Wilkens’ paintings received awards in national exhibitions. The egg tempera “Purple Haze” received the Gerry Lenfest Award for American Art last summer, and “Soft as Suede” was awarded the Kotaifa Medalion.

Class of 1974

Dolores (Hibbs) Johns is teaching seventh grade English, social studies and reading for the Catasauqua Area School District. She is a member of the Poole, O’Hara Intervention and Support Committee.

Douglas Boyer’s 276 page book takes readers on a 50-year journey through 300 years of Pennsylvania-German history and through a collection of ghost tales taken down from generation to generation.

Jeffrey S. Miller was promoted to vice president of creative services by the Hartkoff-based advertising agency PPGIS. He has been employed by PPGIS since 1999 and has experience with a wide range of design projects.

Yale “Yip” Delong III retired from the U.S. Air Force in October 2002. During his 23 years of service, Delong was a fighter pilot with 2000 hours in the F-16 Eagle, F-5 and F-4. He served two tours as the Air Force Attaché in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Uzbekistan and in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Class of 1975

Kristine (Gemmell) Sticker and husband Howard are proud that their daughter Michelle is graduated from La Salle University in 2004.

Susan (Grossel) Persensett spent the last two summers hikes 11 of 19 Colorado’s “14ers” — mountain peaks that are 14,000 feet or higher. She plans to hike the rest in the next two summers.

LisaBeth (Montella) Budic teaches art at Greater Valley High School. She was awarded the Pennsylvania Art Education Association conference, she accepted the 2004 award for Outstanding National Art Honor Society in both and her students raised funds for the homeless and Ronald McDonald House’s kidney dialysis program.

Katherine (Frank) Frideric (’77&’87) teaches the primary support class at Hisan Dodd Elementary School in Allentown. Her daughter, Kate, is a senior at Millersville and son, Matt, is a freshman at NU. For over 15 years, Frideric has been a cantor at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena.

As a leader for the Art in the Embassies Program, Carol Oldenburg was invited to the 40th Anniversary celebration at the White House with First Lady Laura Bush and a state reception with former Secretary of State Colin Powell. Her painting is in residence at the Ambassador’s residence in the Republic of Tokyo, West Africa.

Nancy Becker teaches English as a Second Language for the Catasauqua Area School District. Becker is a board member of the Music Parents Association at Southern Lehigh and the PTA, and is involved with the Young Expressions acting group.

Class of 1979

Patrick Mullins compiled his first marathon in 2004 by running and raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

In April 2004 Joseph Vernani, Sr. was honored by the Montgomery County Center for Technical Studies (CTS) for contributions to academics and community. Vernani was the assistant city director of transportation in Atlantic City city administrator in Ventnor and municipal administrator in Northham. He is the township administrator for New Jersey’s Ventnor Township.

Class of 1980

Jaw-Dineh teaches kindergarten in Singapore, Malaysia South east Asia. He has taught for 17 years with previous employment in Alaska, Asia, and the Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia.

Dr. Brian Miller is practicing optometry in Lancaster Pa. His hobbies are rockhounding, swimming, hiking, behavioral optometry, homeopathy, and politics.

Dr. Margaret “Meg” (Garland) Barney received the Outstanding Supervisor Award in 1983 by the Pennsylvania Art Education Association at its annual conference in October.

Jeff White is the co-director at L.A. Advertising in Allentown, Pa., where he has worked since graduation. L.A. Advertising celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2004.

Class of 1981

Alan L. Calnan professor at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles, Calif., was selected as the Paul E. Teusch Professor of Law 2004-2005. In summer 2003, his article, “A Use Approach to Products Liability,” was published in the University of Miami Law Review.

Since 1979, Jim Ferrani and Niles Ko pilewski of Clam Chan members compete annually for a trout trophy which is awarded to a lucky angler within the clan. Ferrani won in 2004 with a 16-inch rainbow caught at Sherman’s Creek near Carlisle (this was his second win in a row).

Kirk Meyer has worked at the Rohm & Haas Company for 21 years, recently being promoted to assistant plant manager in Singapore. Prior to the promotion, Meyer led the ERP impl
Robert Bechtel was hired as chief financial officer by Kusserow & Co., Inc.

Susan (Smith) Klinger had a solo exhibit of watercolor paintings at Temptkins Gallery, Cedar Crest College in Allentown. She is the gallery coordinator for Cedar Crest.

Robert Bechtel was hired as chief financial officer by Kusserow & Co., Inc.

Adele (Kendall) Fishell was a solo artist of photographic prints at Temptkins Gallery, Cedar Crest College in Allentown. She is the gallery coordinator for Cedar Crest.

Robert Bechtel was hired as chief financial officer by Kusserow & Co., Inc.

Carol (Catlin) Schellerer is a tenured professor in the Department of the Arts at Bucks County Community College. Cara has three children and lives in Chalfont, Pa.

Glen Horton received his master’s degree in school administration. He teaches at Lynchburg City Schools. Steve Kranyak is in his fifth year as news director at XTWO-AM, the Fox television affiliate in Sacramento, Calif. He also serves as chair of the Fox News Advisory Committee based in New York.

In 2004, Margaret “Pogo” (Merica) Hoppes made her last move with the Air Force to Texas where she teaches preschool.

Paula (Kodis) Sammo joins the staff of Catsauqua Area M.S., her accompliments include earning the Patriots Award in Swimming and being a chairperson and den leader for Palmetton Cub Pack 43.

John David Winter has a master’s degree in fine art from Phoenix School of Design and his paintings can be found around the United States and the world including the Hershey Chocolate Corporation, The Pennsylvania Governor’s residence, Kutztown University, and the Jacoby Center.

Joanne (Kline) Mihuri is a school counselor.

Richard Berg and his wife, Sharon have a seven-year-old daughter, Reese, and four-year-old son, Dermot.

Michael Dolan received a doctorate in clinical psychology from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, as well as the NYS Board of Higher Education.

Kimberly Fahey is in her seventh year teaching first grade in Elizabeth, N.J. She is in the September 2004 volume of Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.

Dawn Fisher has been teaching at the Northwestern Lehigh School District for 13 years. She is on the parent-teacher association committee of Cub Pack 94 in Catsauqua. Fisher sings in the choir at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Catsauqua and enjoys traveling to Ocean City with her family.

Michelle (Young) Broach is the new assistant principal at Mt. Penn Elementary Center in the West Penn School District.

Elizabeth (Maysen) Santana received her English as a Second Language certification through Penn State and has been teaching ESL for 12 years in the Reading School District.

Helena (Brookly) Kemp is married to Andrew ’90 and they have been teaching grades K-5 since 1996. She teaches art at two elementary schools in Georgetown, Del. She has two children and live near the beach in Delaware.

Lisa (Smirles) Drooper teaches sixth grade at Nicholas Middle School in Bothell, WA, and is an adjunct professor at the University of Washington in Seattle. Drooper has three children and live near the beach in California.

Colleen Ingram-Furman obtained a master’s degree in science in elementary education from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She teaches art at two elementary schools in Georgia. She and her husband, Michael, have two children and live near the beach in Connecticut.

Kathi (Armey) Korzeniowski was married for eight years and has a five-year-old son, Ryan. She teaches a multi-age class of second and third graders, and some mainstreamed students in Washington Township Public School, NJ.

Lori (Haggarty) Kline is a fourth grade teacher at Cornwall Terrace Elementary in the William School District.

Jeffrey Kurchis is married to Maureen Walsh ’92 and he is a senior artist director at Digitalis in NY. Digitalis is an advertising firm specializing in interactive and direct marketing design.

Kirk Mull is married and has two children, Morgan, 10, and Sydney, 6. He is an account manager for Rohm and Haas in Reading, Pa.

Michelle Thompson completed her M.S. through the University of Phoenix in December 2003.

Class of 1990

Charles “Chuck” Grusin received his master’s degree in elementary education from West Chester University. He has taught at New England School for nine years, but for the past six years he has taught at the International Learning Center at the University of Maryland in Washington, D.C.

Kevin Kemp lives in Fairlakes Hills, Pa., with his wife, Helene ’93 and triplets. He works for Kemppi’s Technology.

Class of 1991

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Did you receive the January KU Alumni Connection, our ALUMNI E-NEWSLETTER?
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Update your e-mail address today at www.kutztown.edu/alumni. Follow links to the Alumni Center homepage and update your information or drop us a line at alumni@kutztown.edu.

Patriot P. Michael Clery, Jr. has been successfully holding alternative rock concerts for over 20,000 people in San Francisco for Goldberg, Miller and Rubin in 2000s. Pena works with families and business owners to plan and lies and business owners to plan and achieve financial success.

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Kayla Anne (Gallaher) & Albert Blake 1/2003

Merrill Coles (Goertz) & Anthony Zeferes 11/2003

Tricia & John Davies ’87 a daughter, Lauren Olivia 7/11/2004


Olivia Griffith ’90 & Mario C’Angelillo, a son, Spencer 7/2004

Tracy (Hughes) ’90 & Kevin Brtinger, a daughter, Keira Shira 6/11/2004

Amanda (Mertens) ’99 & David Guthrie 10/2004

Linda (Klepacki) ’93 & ’95 & Andrew Sutton 5/3/2003

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Priscilla (Camp) ’94 & Thomas Harris 6/28/2004

1990s

Susanna (Berko) ’96 & Michael Naraiti 97 10/3/1996

Kirsten (Bernson) ’96 & Graeme Kavanaugh 10/18/2003

Lisa (Gepper) ’93 & Michael Jones 8/24/2004

Jennifer Hammers & Robert Miller ’97 9/18/2004

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K
Tara (Wirth) ’94 & Gary Rider, a son, Anthony Frank 9/9/2004
Michele (Turdo) ’94 & Garen Danyi, a son, Lisa (Smitreski) ’91 & Andrew Draper, a son, Jonathan Charles 12/7/2002
Jennifer (Siegfried) ’93 & Michael Siegfried Weing 10/10/2004
Jenny (Rakus) ’96 & Michael Rau ’94, a daughter, Mekayla Renee 12/3/2003
Erin (Poindexter) ’95 & Edoardo Pace, a son, Alexander 4/21/2004
Coleen (Peck) ’98 & Eric Davenport ’95, a daughter, Ainsley Marie 6/20/2004
Marna (Oxford) ’93 & Matthew Ronda Lee (Miller) ’95, a son, Gregory Seymour, a daughter, Alhiba Abigail Frances 2/6/2004
Mama (Oxford) ’93 & Matthew Heldon ’92, a daughter, Almédia Marie 6/20/2004
Colen (Peck) ’96 & Eric Bowersop ’91, a son, David Andrew 4/27/2004
Erin (Poindexter) ’95 & Eduardo Pascua, a daughter, Nekhaya Renee 12/3/2003
Jenny (Rakus) ’96 & Michael Row ’94, a son, Alexander 12/1/2004
Michèle (Schneider) ’92 & Karl-Hirsch, a son, Jonathan Kayce 5/6/2004
Jennifer (Siegfried) ’93 & Michael Weidman, a son, Jonathan Charles 12/7/2002
Lisa (Emrich) ’91 & Andrew Drape, a son, Joseph Andrew 8/10/2003
Michèle (Turo) ’94 & Carson Danyi, a son, Anthony Frank 9/6/2004
Tara (Wirth) ’94 & Gary Rider, a daughter, Annalisa Cathryn 9/22/2004

Deaths
1927
Verna (Muck) O’Brien 10/2004
1929
Milam (Hughes) Turnbach 10/28/2004
1930
Teena (Remann) Tarantino 8/15/2004
1932
Catharine Wilbert Hasson 10/3/2004
1933
Charles Remann 9/29/2004
1935
Carrie (Paul) Bartholomew 9/17/2004
1940
Mary (Lewis) Tamone 2/10/2004
1943
Jeanne (Deschamp) Stroup 12/21/2004
1945
Mary Ellen (Barber) Long 10/23/2004
1946
Mary (Chaffin) Biely 12/8/2004
1947
M. Jane (Kisley) Hughes 7/22/2004
1948
John Guinther 8/16/2004
1952
Anthony Davidowski 10/27/2004
1953
Margaret (Robinson) Robinson 10/4/2004
1955
Theodore Zayac 5/10/2004
1958
Walter Blow 9/2/2004
1961
Edward Farrel 9/16/2004
1962
Robert Thomason 1/21/2002
1964
Siegfried Wieng 10/10/2004
1966
Eugene Schusterbach 10/12/2004
1969
Shelby (Schult) Strunk 8/24/2004
1976
Ann (McDonald) McConnaughey 5/28/2004
1980
Vicki (Lauderdale) Lewis 10/10/2004
1991
Russell Scamena 4/23/2003
1994
George Kulp 12/16/2003
2003
Todd Roche 8/26/2004
Emeriti
Harding Jones 6/27/2004
Correction
In the Annual Fund donor listing (winter 2005 issue), William B. Dougherty should have been listed with Julia Gallagher Dougherty under Class of 1993’s Century Club. We apologize for the omission.

ALUMNI DAY - MAY 21, 2005

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Alumni vs. Faculty/Staff Softball Game
Followed by a picnic for players and guests.

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
KU Student Bookstore Open
McFarland Student Union (lower level)
Browse through the wonderful selection of clothing and gifts. The Bookstore will offer alumni a 25% discount off all merchandise in the store. Sign up at the front of the store to receive a free gift.

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Campus Tours
Depart from parking lot “A” Horse-drawn carriage rides will take you on a leisurely journey through campus to the Heritage Farm Center as our Presidential Ambassadors share interesting facts about the growth and renovations at Kutztown University.

9:30 a.m. - noon
Registration, Coffee, Tea, and Cookies
McFarland Student Union lobby
President F. Javier Cevallos, college deans, and Lab school administrators, teachers, student teachers and former students will enjoy an evening filled with memories and old friends.

10:30 a.m.
Rohrbach Library Tours
Tour guides will escort alumni and guests on a walking tour of the $7.7 million restoration.

10:30 a.m.
Class Reunion Celebrations
McFarland Student Union
The following classes will host reunion receptions: 1930, 1935, 1940, 1945, and 1950. These receptions for the classes of 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, and 1975 will be hosted in MSU. Details for each reception have been mailed under a separate cover.

10:30 a.m.
Class Reunions
Receptions for the classes of 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, and 1975 will be hosted in MSU. Details for each reception have been mailed under a separate cover.

11:00 a.m.
Class of 1995’s Century Club
We apologize for the omission.

12:30 p.m.
Alumni Awards Luncheon
McFarland Student Union Multipurpose Room
Alumni and guests will have an opportunity to relax and chat with friends during lunch which will be followed by the presentation of distinguished alumni awards.

1:00 p.m.
Alumni Awards Luncheon
McFarland Student Union Multipurpose Room
Alumni and guests will have an opportunity to relax and chat with friends during lunch which will be followed by the presentation of distinguished alumni awards.

2:30 p.m.
Rohrbach Library Tours
(class meeting schedule)

2:30 p.m.
Class of 1945 Sunidal Dedication
President’s Home (garden)

2:30-4:30 p.m.
9th Annual Alumni Art Show
(class meeting schedule)

3:30 p.m.
Class Reunions
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3:30 p.m.
Reception to Honor Professor Emerita Susan Allport Schneider
McFarland Student Union
Bear’s Den Cafe
Personal donations to help establish a scholarship in her name will be accepted.

6:30-9:30 p.m.
Lab School Reunion
McFarland Student Union Multipurpose Room
Lab school administrators, teachers, student teachers and former students will enjoy an evening filled with memories and old friends.
This group photo was taken in the mid-80s for a special Homecoming event. If you can identify the alumni or the event, please contact Craig Williams, Tower editor, Kutztown University, P.O. Box 730, Kutztown, PA 19530 or cwilliam@kutztown.edu. The answers will appear in the next issue of the Tower. Submissions for Hindsight are always welcome. Send photos and corresponding details to the Tower editor.