THE PATH

THE PROVOST’S PERSPECTIVE:
Dr. David Turk Reflects on a Nyack Milestone

NYACK: A 2011 Great College to Work For

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY for the College of Arts & Sciences
This year marks a significant milestone in the history of Nyack College. As the cover of this magazine reveals, we are celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our College of Arts and Sciences. The story of those 50 years is the story of God’s providence and faithfulness in taking the vision of our founder, A.B. Simpson, and expanding it. It is the story of how Nyack became a four-year institution.

As you read it, you will be reminded of an encouraging truth that never gets old: that the Lord’s plans are always bigger than our own.

The proof of that glorious truth is all over this issue – and all over what is taking place at Nyack College. God is at work in our decades-long relationship with the YMCA in Rockland County. He is the One behind the otherwise inexplicable expansion of our new nursing program. He is the One responsible for the weddings and the births.

In this issue you’ll read about Dr. Frank Tuzi’s ministry of hope in Japan. You’ll learn about our students serving as volunteers for the hurting, and of our alumni preparing themselves for lives that will make a difference.

Through it all, I pray you will see that behind every story there is a Grand Maestro orchestrating it all. We serve a mighty God – a God who has already established good works for us to walk in. This issue is testament to those good works – all for the glory of Christ.

Michael G. Scales, Ed.D.
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Nyack College, a Christian liberal arts college of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, seeks to inspire students in their spiritual, intellectual, and social formation, preparing them for lives of service to Christ and His Church and to society in a way that reflects the Kingdom of God and its ethnic diversity.

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Nyack’s Honors Students... Beyond the Books

Students in Nyack’s honors program participate in an interdisciplinary core curriculum, Bible classes, and scholarly symposiums, in addition to travel abroad. Students have passionately taken on world issues in innovative ways and engaged faculty, staff, and students.

Light-Bearing Hope

The careers of Nyack alumni and global service-learning courses that engage our students provide the vehicle for taking the gospel around the world. Education professor Dr. Frank Tuzi’s trip to Japan demonstrates how Nyack’s extraordinary faculty lead by example.

Celebration of a Cutting Edge Nyack Liberal Arts Education

Visionary leadership is behind the celebration of a cutting edge liberal arts Nyack education. A Christ-centered foundation combined with professional accreditation for several programs has enhanced the value of an Arts and Sciences degree over the past five decades.

Campus News

Alumni News
I have been blessed with the privilege of having an extensive relationship with Nyack College—beginning with my days as a student in the 1970s. Today as the chief academic officer, I can look back and marvel at the way the College of Arts and Sciences, celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, has evolved.

Our development of a strong liberal arts program began in the 60’s with English, history, philosophy, and sociology; continuing in the 70’s with psychology and religion; the 90’s with communications, computer science, and mathematics; and the 00’s with social work and criminal justice. We currently have biology and engineering programs before the New York State Education Department for approval.

My master’s and doctorate were earned at New York University, but with the exception of some adjunct teaching at NYU, my entire professional life has been at Nyack College. So from my experience as a student to my current role as provost, I can truly attest to knowing the College of Arts and Sciences from both sides of the lectern. In addition to teaching 20 different courses in the English Department, I had the honor of chairing the department and have taken six different student groups to England for study.

In 2003, we adopted a university model and established six distinct divisions: Alliance Theological Seminary, The College of Arts and Sciences, The School of Adult and Continuing Education, The School of Business, The School of Education, and The School of Music.

What does Nyack look like today? On this golden anniversary of The College of Arts and Sciences, this branch now includes the Division of Humanities, the Division of Mathematics and Sciences, the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the School of Music. Our College of Graduate and Professional Programs includes Alliance Graduate School of Counseling, the School of Business and Leadership, the School of Education, and the Cheryl Phenicie School of Nursing. Clearly, the Nyack College I graduated from has grown in leaps and bounds. (See more information on our academic programs at www.nyack.edu.)

The Middle States accreditation process was made less difficult for me involved. The process taught us the value of self-study—to identify areas to celebrate and others to enhance. Along the way we have gained several professional accreditations that raise the value of our degree programs and equip our graduates to be successful in a tenuous and competitive job market.

To each of our College of Arts and Sciences faculty members, we salute you—and those who have preceded you—for bringing your distinguished scholarship, rich experience, and heart for mentoring as you invest in our students.

Dr. David F. Turk is chief academic officer for Nyack College and a 1975 Nyack alumnus.
Employees recognize Nyack’s outstanding workplace environment.

The Chronicle of Higher Education named Nyack College one of its 2011 Great Colleges to Work For. The results of The Chronicle’s fourth annual report on the academic workplace are based on a survey of nearly 44,000 employees at colleges and universities nationwide. Nyack was recognized as a leader in the categories of work/life balance: college policies that give employees the flexibility to manage their personal lives; confidence in senior leadership: administrators have the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary for institutional success; and respect and appreciation: employees are regularly recognized for their contributions.

“Our faculty and staff routinely go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that students receive the academic, spiritual, and emotional support that they need to succeed,” says Dr. Michael Scales, president of Nyack College.

The Great Colleges program is based on a two-part assessment process: an institutional audit that captured demographics and workplace policies from each institution, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional support staff.

“Faculty are consistently supported and encouraged in their professional and personal development,” said Miriam Velez, professor at the Nyack School of Education. “Our administrators are open to new ideas that will benefit the students, faculty, and staff. It’s just one of the reasons I’m proud to be a part of Nyack’s mission and legacy.”

Nyack College is a 129-year-old institution with more than 4,000 students. This is the first year Nyack has participated in the Chronicle’s Great Colleges program.

“Nyack is a great college to work for because employees use their gifts and abilities toward a mission they believe in,” said Karen Davie, Nyack’s director of Human Resources. “It comes from the top and we share President Scales’ goal to give every individual at this institution ultimate respect and dignity.”
The morning of September 11, 2001 was a beautiful, clear day. I leisurely shopped at the farmer’s market in downtown Brooklyn and arrived home to a ringing phone. My daughter told me a plane had flown into the World Trade Center. I ran to look out my seventh floor window and, to my horror, watched as another plane exploded into the second building. Over the next hour, the buildings fell and the beauty of the day was overtaken by dark smoke pouring across downtown Manhattan and Brooklyn. I could no longer see out the windows, the television was our only connection to the tragedy happening across the river.

All of us at the NYC Nyack campus have our memories of that day – a faculty member had just come up from the PATH train and was momentarily caught in the lobby of the World Trade Center as the doors automatically locked; another was running from the site as she turned and saw people jumping out windows of the building; others walked, and even ran, uptown to escape the terror; some were caught in subways stranded underground in the downtown area; some were frantically trying to locate friends and relatives who worked in the WTC; faculty and students who were at the college’s location on the 10th floor of Worth Street, watched, and then joined, the thousands of people streaming up Broadway.

And yet, within a week, Nyack was open again. Water and electricity had been restored and we all longed to gather in our loving and supportive community. Subways were not running downtown, I walked across the Brooklyn Bridge and we all had to show identification at numerous military check points to enter the area. Students formed prayer groups and walked as close as they could to the area now known as “Ground Zero” to set up tables and banners as they offered to pray with workers. Others volunteered to work in local restaurants and churches to prepare meals for the tireless workers who remained on “the pile” for long hours.

As the Nyack community reached out, others came in to minister to us. A Christian counseling center from Washington state sent therapists to live and work among us for two weeks. They offered individual and group counseling around the clock and showered us with love, care and stuffed animals! Joni Eareckson Tada and her staff arrived to hold services at the college. Her personal testimony of God’s faithfulness in the midst of tragedy brought further hope and faith to the community.

Two weeks after the fall of the towers, Nyack College NYC gathered as a community of faith at the Lamb’s Club in midtown Manhattan. Students, faculty, and staff shared their experiences - we prayed together, wept together, and solemnly took communion together. We basked in the presence of God’s healing love.

Classes resumed, semesters passed, new students joined the community and hundreds of students have graduated. Yet, a part of Nyack College NYC will always be defined by that day in September, 2001 and the weeks that followed.

Dr. Lyndell O’Hara is a former associate dean of Nyack’s College of Arts and Sciences and currently chair of Nyack’s history department.
Sometimes social relevance begins at home, and Nyack College’s longtime relationship with the Rockland County YMCA is a perfect example.

For 40 years, the local Y and the college have teamed up to serve the community’s youth. The college’s work study partnership with the Y provides a place for students to work during school while simultaneously providing qualified servants to mentor the county’s young boys and girls.

More than that, it creates the perfect scenario in which Nyack students – many of whom come to the school with a desire to pursue youth ministry – can connect with the children who need them.

Chuck Maze, CEO of the Rockland County YMCA, recognizes the symmetry.

“The students at Nyack have a desire to serve and help mentor young people,” he said. “You can tell they’re spiritually motivated – that they serve one another through love. They have a good attitude and motivation to start out with. Also, some of them have an interest in developing their career in youth ministry or social work.”

Students serve the Y in numerous capacities. Some participate in the teen afterschool program, organizing activities, serving as lifeguards, and helping with homework. Some help lead the teen recreations nights, which take place on Friday and Saturday nights.

“Teen recreation night gives teens something else to do when they could be getting into mischief,” Maze said.

Last year about 200 hundred teens participated in the teen recreation nights and there were 17 regular attendees in the afterschool program.

Maze said that most students serve at the Y in accordance to their interests and unique abilities. Last year, for example, a member of the school’s volleyball team incorporated a volleyball program into the afterschool care.

The relationship doesn’t end with the school year. Over the summer, the Y hosts a six-week program that involves field trips to museums, West Point, local water parks, etc. Nyack students play important roles in those activities as well.

“It’s a perfect match,” Maze said. “We like the caliber of students and their commitment to these kids. And the YMCA is non-profit, so a work study relationship with Nyack allows us to bring in more help.”

Maze, who grew up in Rockland County, was familiar enough with Nyack College to know the relationship made sense for the Y. He also believes the benefits go both ways.

“Serving at the Y gives Nyack students a sense of purpose … It’s just a great relationship.”

“Serving at the Y gives Nyack students a sense of purpose ... It’s just a great relationship.”

Nyack’s Executive Director of Community Relations, Earl Miller (at left), is pictured with Rockland YMCA CEO, Charles Maze.
The earth shook on March 11, 2011 at 2:45 p.m. and in the span of an hour, large swaths of Northern Japan were ravaged by land upheavals, and tsunami floods. The storm came in like a lion and continued for several days of aftershocks, fires, and snow. Over 45,000 buildings were destroyed and another 150,000 were damaged. This calamity left nearly four and a half million people without electricity at the end of winter and forced over 100,000 children to be uprooted from their families and homes. This one event that lasted less than two hours created more than 300,000 refugees. All that loss— all that pain, sorrow, and dismay coming so quickly to so many in such a short span of time.

All the while, the Japanese people and the world could do little to assist; they watched and prepared for the storm to pass. Within days, Japanese officials, and the self defense force came to offer assistance to the many towns impacted by the storm. Foreign aid soon followed.

Three months after the earthquake and tsunami, I was joined by seven other men in Northern Japan to assist in any way we could. How could anyone shine light in such a dark and hopeless place?

I was fortunate to work with a group of men who were not dismayed by the scope of the disaster. Most of us hail from Phillipsburg Alliance Church in New Jersey and were dubbed “the PAC of 8.” We were determined to be a light and bring hope to a dark place in the middle of some of the worst hit places in Japan.

During the two weeks in Iwate, Northern Japan, we dug out drainage lines, cleared debris and muck from city shops, cleaned, and repaired churches. Several of our group cleaned and prepared photographs found in the debris for Japanese to review and possibly take home.

Survivors were offered services and supplies under a huge tent the size of a soccer field.

Regardless of the work we were doing, the Japanese were always surprised and grateful that we would travel so far to help them—a people we had never met. No matter where we went in Northern Japan, the people thanked us for our service. Often times they would ask us where we were from and why we took the time and money to come to offer aid. We gladly told them our reasons: God’s love for His creation; God’s command to love our neighbors in need; and because we sought to encourage a person in a dark and dreary place. For these reasons, we left our wives and children, and traveled to Japan to lend a hand.

We did not know about the conditions in Northern Japan or how to drive the 9+ hours to get to our destination. We did not know how many people we would see or what the conditions were near the nuclear reactors. We did our homework and prepared for many contingencies.

One of the churches we worked on is in Kamaishi where the tsunami rose to more than 16 feet. The Kamaishi church was pummeled by the flood, but it did not fall. The first floor of the church was ravaged; the worship hall was filled with floating debris and church artifacts. Although other buildings fell, the steeple and the cross stood.

We met the pastor, a man who refused to leave even when so many of the residents had abandoned their town. Pastor Inagaki chose to remain to encourage those still living in the community to assist them with any needs they had. He acted as a beacon in a town darkened by the flood. In addition
to working to help restore the church, Pastor Inagaki recruited us to help repair neighboring homes and clean out rotting debris from abandoned shops so that people living nearby would not need to endure the foul odors.

Locals would come and sit with the pastor and church members to thank them for their assistance. Many would come and thank us for the work we did for them and for the church. This one pastor was a light in the darkness for many in Kamaishi. We also were used by God and this pastor to fan the flame of hope in a town that desperately needed hope. It is encouraging to realize that God can and does use His children when they listen and obey.

One other man sticks in my mind besides Pastor Inagaki. Of the twenty or so people who expressed interest in going to Japan to offer assistance to victims of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, Tommy, one of the PAC of 8, was the least interested in going.

In the first small group meeting, we all shared why we wanted to go to Japan. Tom began his rationale by saying that he did not want to go but God was telling him to go.

Tom is a stay-at-home dad. His wife consistently secured better paying jobs all throughout their courtship and marriage. So they agreed he would care for the home and the children. Their first little bundle came and Tom enjoyed every minute of caring for his little angel. She is the pride and joy of his days. And nearly every day. But it wasn’t the same. Yet he chose to obey.

While in Japan, Tommy learned some Japanese and was very warmly received by the people. Going to the mission field today is not nearly as difficult as it was in the past. People brought international phones, computers, and digital cameras.

There was not a moment we were in Japan that we were not hooked into the phone or Internet.

At the same time, missionaries need encouragement. They have family and friends in their home country. But they put those aside for a time to heed God’s call. They all could use our prayers and encouragement.

We, the PAC of 8, stepped out of our doors in faith and in obedience to go to a devastated place and a disillusioned people to bring hope. And hope does not disappoint.
NYACK’S HONOR STUDENTS BEYOND THE BOOKS...

By Deborah Walker

There’s no cookie-cutter profile for students in Nyack’s Honors Program. For more than a decade, students with exceptional intellectual curiosity are provided an accelerated and enhanced academic experience. In recent years, the program’s restructuring (See www.nyack.edu/HonorsProgram) has broadened the depth and scope of the curriculum. In addition to the lectures, field trips, and retreats, Nyack’s close proximity to Manhattan’s cultural attractions complement the core curriculum.

The current program includes students who are members of Alpha Chi, a national honor society. Some are included in Who’s Who directories for college and university students. One is a National Merit Scholar and a few are Nyack School of Music scholarship recipients. Scholar athletes in the honors program play soccer and run cross country. Some have been home-educated and others schooled internationally. Still others have studied abroad in Oxford, Israel, and Egypt. Non-profit organizations and government offices have hired some as interns.

NYACK REPRESENTED AT NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS CONFERENCE

Dr. Jonathan Gates, director of Nyack’s Honors Program, traveled to Phoenix, AZ this past fall with his students to participate in the National Collegiate Honors Conference, where more than 2,000 honors directors, deans, and students from across the nation gathered to hear speakers, present student and faculty poster projects, and participate in “city as text” adventures, general sessions, and social events.

“After years of success having our poster projects competitively selected for presentation, we submitted our honors immigration project for a general panel which was selected,” explains Dr. Gates. “Courtney Soucek, Stephanie Leone, and I presented a general session entitled, “Beyond a Game: Creating an Immigration Simulation.” The conference program described our presentation as follows: ‘Challenged to create a learning experience that would enable students far removed from the realities of illegal immigration to grapple with the impact of U.S. policies and practices, the Nyack College Honors Program has developed a creative, student-directed immigration simulation activity.’”

While their backgrounds vary widely, one thing these young men and women have in common is a lifestyle that goes beyond the books. They are passionately engaged in issues of global and domestic concern.

Faculty and honors program students who coordinated Nyack Rockland’s Hunger Banquet 2011 celebrate a successful event.
HONORS STUDENTS TEACH ABOUT WORLD HUNGER

For the past two years, Honors Program students have independently or in partnership with Nyack’s Solidarity Committee coordinated fundraising efforts to benefit charitable organizations. The Hunger Banquet is just one.

“In a typical Hunger Banquet, participants are divided randomly into three categories: “The Rich,” “The Middle Class,” and “The Impoverished,” explains Christopher Harding, a student coordinator of the event. “Each group eats a meal that reflects that reality: the Rich group had a great meal of pasta and chicken, a delicious salad, desserts, and had fruit juice to drink served at tables with napkins and silverware and candles and tablecloths. The Middle Class ate cheese pizza served on paper plates and had only water to drink. They were provided chairs, but had no table. The 60 Impoverished people were given a Styrofoam bowl of rice and beans and one glass of clean water. I think sitting on the floor with a bowl of rice and seeing your friend eating pizza or enjoying a banquet made food injustice really tangible for students. This is the reality of millions of people’s lives and those millions of people can’t walk down to McDonald’s for a burger and fries! It breaks God’s heart, and it should break ours.”

NCRC HUNGER BANQUET 2011: A THIRST QUENCHER?

How can a $3 pasta dinner teach people about the global issue of clean water?

Pretty easy when you expect to reach for a drink of clean water and the liquid in your glass doesn’t appear to be the spring water you’re accustomed to.

This year Chris Harding, Courtney Soucek, Heather Wakeley, Chuchi Vang, and Chelsea Geyer joined forces with Nyack’s New Center for Scholarship and Global Engagement to host a Hunger Banquet. These Honors Program students put a new spin on their 2011 Hunger Banquet by focusing on the issue of the lack of clean water.

Upon arrival, diners received color coded slips of paper with directions on where they could find their drink. Water sources described on the paper were deplorable. Even in countries where there were faucets, what comes out is often filthy and disease-ridden.

Dinesh Mahtani, director of admissions on the Rockland County campus, was the guest speaker who shared appalling facts about drinking water around the globe. Liberian-born Mahtani showed video clips of countries with sub-standard sanitation conditions where people are fighting to survive.

“While Americans consume 100 times more water than India and Africa combined, there are 1.2 billion people who still have no access to safe drinking water and two million children die from contaminated water-related diseases,” Mahtani explained. More important than the facts he told was the question he asked: ‘What makes us so special?’ The answer: We are blessed, fortunate, and lucky. We have access, means, wealth, availability, and abundance. We are special because we have the ability to make a difference!”

For more information on the work that Nyack students are doing to make a difference in the world, contact Dr. Nina Balmaceda, director of Nyack’s Center for Scholarship and Global Engagement, at vilma.balmaceda@nyack.edu or Dr. Jonathan Gates, director of the Nyack Honors Program, at Jonathan.Gates@nyack.edu.

HUNGER ATTACK IN THE CITY

The mournful eyes of a child with a runny nose and a swollen belly is an image used by many charitable organizations to remind us of poverty-stricken nations abroad. The truth is many of those same pitiable small faces—and also adult ones—live right here in the United States of America.

Because hunger exists in our prosperous homeland, Students Against Hunger (SAH) has emerged on the Manhattan campus. John B. Ross, youth ministry and bible major with a social work minor, is righteously indignant to do something about hunger in his community.

In fact, his initial involvement with attacking hunger was to participate with the Rockland campus group, Hands of Compassion, students who rise early on Saturday morning to make sandwiches they deliver to the hungry and homeless who take shelter in Penn Station. Under Ross’s leadership, SAH has nearly tripled in size since the initial band of ten embarked on their mission to feed the hungry.

Ross also connected with New York School of Urban Ministry (NYSUM), a short-term training and resource center serving the urban church. With NYSUM, Nyack New York City students have been a part of an effort to feed 5,000 impoverished city dwellers from September through November 2011. He has no lack of vision as he sees students joining forces to continue feeding and clothing people locally and beyond the city limits.

For more information about Students Against Hunger and their upcoming events, contact the Office of Student Development at 646.378.6100, ext. 7712 or email Studev02@nyack.edu.
The College of Arts and Sciences is committed to the intellectual passion of Dr. A.B. Simpson.

About the founder, Dr. W.M. Turnbull writes, “Dr. Simpson was a scholar of profound and varied learning, who could countenance no mental shallowness or inadequate standards in teaching.”

“The vision of the College of Arts and Sciences is to prepare students to be critical thinkers who are spiritually reflective and engaged citizens. Our aim is to provide undergraduate students with a liberal arts education taught from a Christian worldview which will serve as a foundation for the pursuit of lifelong learning, ethical living, and a successful career. The liberal arts core curriculum equips these students to examine
“The vision of the College of Arts and Sciences is to prepare students to be critical thinkers who are spiritually reflective and engaged citizens.”

the world through a richer, broader, multidisciplinary lens which is classically based and contemporarily relevant.

After being appointed president of Nyack College in 2006, Dr. Michael G. Scales cast a bold vision: “If we are to meet the demand of our mission, we must provide the breadth and depth of degree programming of a university.”

The College of Arts and Sciences has met this charge head on!

Since 2006, we have added 19 new Arts and Sciences faculty, significantly increased online and classroom course options, and built a physics laboratory.

The New York State Education Department approved all five of our program requests: the addition of Criminal Justice and the restructuring of General Education (AA), Liberal Arts and Sciences: Sciences (AA), Interdisciplinary Studies (BA & BS), Communications (BS), and Computer Science (BS). Furthermore, the College of Arts and Sciences continues to support the expanding needs of the School of Nursing and School of Education. Our future plans include the development of biology, engineering, and pre-law programs.

“Fifty years after Dean Thomas Bailey was able to provide the curricular and programmatic leadership to obtain Middle States Accreditation, the College of Arts and Sciences continues to expand on his objectives. We have grown to 46 full-time faculty, 19 departments, and 12 undergraduate degrees. And by fall 2012, we will have added biology and engineering programs.

“I think Dr. Simpson and Dean Bailey would be pleased.”

Dr. Fernando Arzola, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is a popular conference speaker and author. His latest book is Exploring Worship: Catholic, Evangelical, and Orthodox Perspectives.
Miracles are birthed in a place where heaven and earth converge.

In the gateway city of New York, Nyack College dares to believe the impossible dream…

Will you join your faith with ours and help us prepare for The Miracle in Manhattan?

Now is our moment in Nyack’s nearly 130-year history to anchor the New York City campus in a facility—a hub of Christian scholarship and a virtual launching pad for world-changers—that will position us for growth and further outreach to the cities of the world.

For more information on how you can be a part of this vision, please visit www.nyack.edu/MiracleManhattan.
THIRD ANNUAL NYACK COLLEGE SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM

Nyack College Rockland’s Center for Scholarship and Global Engagement hosted the 2011 Scholars Symposium on September 28 in Bowman Gymnasium with a plenary session featuring Yale research professor Dr. Theodore Roosevelt Malloch presenting his latest book and corresponding documentary, Doing Virtuous Business.

Moderator of the plenary session was Emmy award-winning news anchor Mr. Julian Phillips. Plenary responders were Mr. Brian Jacks, president of DX Holdings, LLC and an associate pastor at Christ Church of Montclair and Rockaway, NJ; Mr. Chuck Stetson, co-founder and managing director of PEI Funds; and Nyack’s own Dr. Anita Underwood, dean of the School of Business and Leadership.

Following the plenary session, Nyack College faculty and several Nyack students presented papers on a wide range of topics at several campus venues during two different sessions. Faculty papers were the result of research grants and included presentations that have been either published or delivered at conferences across the nation and around the world. Six extraordinary student presenters—Robert Lee Callamari, Chelsea Geyer, Christopher Harding, Desirae May Friesen, Aimee Robles, and Benjamin Wallin—were sponsored by faculty mentors who recognized their exceptional scholarship.

NEW CENTER FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AT NYACK

This fall President Michael G. Scales and his executive team unveiled the new Nyack College Center for Scholarship and Global Engagement based on the Rockland County campus in Nyack, NY.

Dr. Vilma Balmaceda, an associate professor of political science at Nyack College, has been appointed the director of the Center. At the University of Notre Dame, Dr. Balmaceda earned her Ph.D. in political science, as well as an MA in government and international studies and an MA in international peace studies. She received a Licentiate in Law (equivalent of the JD) at Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.

“It is truly a privilege to work with such distinguished men and women at Nyack College and Alliance Theological Seminary, who are published authors, international lecturers, community developers, business professionals, and above all, servant leaders—the perfect standard to be modeled for our students,” says Dr. Balmaceda.

The Center for Scholarship and Global Engagement will host the annual Nyack College Scholars Symposium on both the Nyack and Manhattan campuses. Other Center plans include sponsoring conferences, promoting research efforts, inviting scholars from around the world to spend sabbaticals at Nyack, and advocating for special initiatives to facilitate relevant idea exchange.
ANNUAL FACULTY STAFF AWARDS LUNCHEON

The Nyack College spring 2011 faculty-staff luncheon acknowledged individuals who have excelled in representing the college’s mission and core values during the academic year. Through the Commitment to Mission Award program, the College hopes to encourage the development and awareness of these values. Recommendations and evaluations for awards are based on evidence of outstanding efforts and achievements in relation to the institutional core values.”

Each year one member of the faculty and one member of the staff receive the Commitment to Missions Award. The 2011 faculty honor went to professor of social work, Dr. Kwi-Ryung Yun. Dr. Yun was recognized for working with grace, humility, competence, and godliness. She exhibits excellence in scholarship; dedication to a lengthy and successful national accreditation process; and global engagement through missions trips to Russia, China, Korea, and the Philippines. Her leadership and administrative skills have kept her academic program and curriculum at the highest standards of the profession while maintaining a strong and unapologetic Christian identity. Her life, her department, and many alumni are living testimonies of social relevance and personal transformation while striving to be “competent compassionate catalysts in Christ” - the motto of the Social Work Department.

The staff Commitment to Mission Award went to Mr. Rick Santiago, director of database operations. He graduated from Nyack with a bachelor’s degree in pastoral ministry and a master’s degree in organizational leadership and has worked diligently and professionally in on-campus service and ministry. Often working behind the scenes, he demonstrates faith in Jesus and love for others through encouragement and attention to detail. He is an outstanding presenter of topics from church leadership to technology. In recent years, he has begun teaching in the School of Business and Leadership and has participated on the faculty and staff chapel worship team. Currently, he is coordinating efforts for a large campus-wide software transition. Beyond working at Nyack College, he serves as an administrative pastor in a large, diverse church and has recorded two contemporary Christian albums in Spanish.

NCATE ACCREDITATION EXTENSION FOR NYACK

Nyack School of Education Dean Dr. JoAnn Looney announced that the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) found Nyack College to have met all six standards of accreditation and will recommend the institution for a seven-year accreditation extension. The official decision will come from NCATE’s Unit Accreditation Board in spring 2012.

Dr. Looney shared that preparation for the three-day NCATE campus visit “started in the spring of 2008, building on the assessment framework developed by Dr. Ben Schepens, former Nyack School of Education dean and current assistant provost and director of institutional assessment. Since then, faculty, staff, and Assessment/NCATE Coordinator, Kristen Luba, have diligently worked revising curricula, developing or revising new key and common assessments, and forging P-12 partnerships.”

“We worked closely with the School of Music and with the English, history, and math departments, as well, and we are grateful for their support of our programs. It is a pleasure to work with such a committed group of professionals,” said Dean Looney of the three and a half year collaborative effort.

Dr. Michael G. Scales responded to the news with similar enthusiasm: “This recent accomplishment by our School of Education team and administrators is another important milestone for our campus community to celebrate and a reminder of what a privilege it is to serve with such extraordinary men and women.”

M & T BANK INVESTS IN NYACK COLLEGE

With a long history of collaborating with educational institutions and community-based organizations, M&T Bank once again aligned in purpose with Nyack College, promoting intentional diversity and providing educational access and support to motivated students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Bank officers recently visited the college to present a replica of their 2011 donation to the established
endowment fund, M&T Bank Minority Scholarship, in the amount of $6,000.

M&T Bank established the endowment at Nyack College in 2006 and has since surpassed their original fund goal of $25,000 by making annual contributions toward the principal of the scholarship earmarked for qualified students. Annual earnings from the endowed scholarship fund have provided scholarships to students ranging from $800-$1200.

Pictured left to right are Mrs. Jennifer Kooney, vice president, M&T Commercial Banking; Mrs. Dona Schepens, Nyack College assistant treasurer; Dr. Michael G. Scales, Nyack College president; and Mrs. Paula Mandell, regional president, M&T Bank.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Nyack’s School of Music recently appointed two artists in residence: Ms. Shelley Jameson, Rockland adjunct lecturer in voice and opera, and Ms. Margrit Zimmermann, NYC adjunct lecturer in piano.

School of Music Dean Glenn Koponen shared, “Both women are internationally accomplished and top professionals. They bring to Nyack an extraordinary depth of expertise and experience which fosters the richness of a conservatory atmosphere in the context of faith so unique to Nyack.”

Jameson is responsible for creating and significantly expanding Nyack’s Opera Workshop to offer fully-staged productions annually. This year the workshop students performed Puccini’s La Boheme. She hopes to promote interest and visibility for the workshop and Nyack’s vocal music programs via “traveling operas” to local high schools. Jameson will also include the outstanding musicians in the North Jersey Homeschoolers Association who will perform in the chorus of La Boheme.

Zimmermann has additionally grown and elevated Nyack’s piano performance curriculum. Dr. Sue Talley, NYC School of Music director, explained, “Margrit has revolutionized our piano program. She has not only drawn fine young pianists, but has helped raise the standard for the School of Music as a whole.” Talley continued, “Students are enriched with solo and accompanying techniques which are the products of her international experience. Studio and master classes for our school and the outside community are simply electrifying.”

Read complete bios on Prof. Jameson at www.nyack.edu/OperaWorkshopBios and on Prof. Zimmerman at www.nyack.edu/MusicNYCFaculty.

NYACK DC’S IPS HOSTS FALL EVENT

The Institute for Public Service & Policy Development (IPS) is a faith-centered academic center based at Nyack College’s Capitol Hill campus in Washington, DC. IPS prepares professionals for national and international government and non-profit service. Committed to achieving authentic justice for the common good, IPS functions as a safe place where differing multi-partisan views can be addressed with civility, respect, honesty, and trust; and where thoughtful solutions to the challenges of contemporary society can be sought. Programs include public lectures, public symposia, certificates in public study, and the Mark O. Hatfield Fellows Program.

“I am so proud of how our Nyack DC team, headed by Dr. Richard Gathro (picture here), has led the institution into engaging the culture and establishing key relationships.”

IPS hosted a fall event, “Generational Conflict: The New Economic Landscape from Different Faith-Centered Perspectives,” at the Rayburn House Office Building on Independence Avenue and South Capitol Street.

Featured presenters were Dr. Ron Sider of Evangelicals for Social Action and Doug Bandow of the Cato Institute. Dr. Sider is a professor of theology, holistic ministry, and public policy at Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University in Pennsylvania and is director of the seminary’s Sider Center on Ministry & Public Policy. Dr. Bandow is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute in Washington, DC specializing in foreign policy and civil liberties. He is a former special assistant to President Reagan and editor of the political magazine Inquiry. The group addressed the policy priorities that U.S. Congress 12-member “super committee” were to consider in their recommendations for a deficit-reduction package.

Panel responders were Lisa Sharon Harper, director of mobilizing for Sojourners, an organization that seeks to discover the intersection of faith, politics, and culture; Christine Kim, a policy analyst focusing on welfare, family, and marriage at The Heritage Foundation; and Jeremy White, founder and president of Restore Hope Consulting, created to address the on-going organizational needs of community workers.
By her own estimate, Marilee has probably taught close to a thousand kindergarten students over the years.

'66 George A. Downes is retired from being a full-time pastor for over forty years. His book entitled One Step at a Time was published in June 2010 by Xlibris books. This highly moving and inspiring book takes the reader by the hand through coping with life with the help of Christ. For more information, visit www.Xlibris.com.

'68 John R. Bono, principal of Lee M. Waid Elementary School in Rocky Mount, VA, retired in June 2011 after a 43-year career in education as a teacher, coach, school principal, and a leader in teachers’ organizations. During his seven years at Lee M. Waid, the school was a consistent award winner in Virginia’s program to recognize educational excellence in public schools. Lee and his wife, Pamela (Van Pelt ’71), plan to move closer to their children and spend their time traveling.

'69 Judith Bloom Allison is on staff with Silent Blessings Deaf Ministries, a non-profit Christian outreach and evangelistic organization. Silent Blessings is made up of both deaf and hearing Christians whose goal is to bring spiritual healing to deaf and hard-of-hearing people and their families. The organization is producing an innovative Christian television program called “Dr. Wonder’s Workshop” for deaf children featuring an all-deaf cast. This program has been designed to be the most accessible children’s educational television series, being voiced in English and captioned in English and Spanish. Every line of the program will also be signed. “Dr. Wonder’s Workshop” also addresses issues of faith by including a Bible story and an object lesson in every program. Judith currently lives in a suburb of Indianapolis, IN, with her husband, Joe.

'69 Dr. Alfred S. Townsend is associate professor of music at Old Dominion University where he holds the F. Ludwig Diehn Endowed Chair in Instrumental Music Education and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music education and research. His book entitled An Introduction to Effective Music Teaching: Artistry and Attitude was published in October 2011 by Rowman and Littlefield.

'80s

'88 David C. Pletincks is choral director at Powell Middle School Performing Arts Center in Spring Hill, FL. His Advanced Girls Chorus was invited by the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association to perform at the Florida State Convention.

'90s

'92 Peter Crane was named executive director of Tallgrass Creek, a continuing care retirement community with more than 200 residents located in Overland Park, KS. Prior to his appointment at Tallgrass Creek, Peter served as executive director for Henry Ford Village in Dearborn, MI; was associate executive director at Fox Run in Novi, MI; and served as executive director for two other retirement communities in Dayton, OH.

'92 Anthony Gilmore’s most recent book, Manna from Heaven for Today: 60-Day Devotional, was published by
The Making of Nyack Alumni

By Bob Dickson

For 2011 Nyack graduate Andy Rasmussen, the turning point of his collegiate career came by way of a grade on a paper in a writing class. Actually, there were two grades: an A and a C.

Andy’s teacher, Assistant Professor of English Dr. Kevin Pinkham, gave him an A on the paper because it “met all the requirements for an A paper.” The second grade was because Dr. Pinkham knew Andy was underachieving.

“He told me, ‘I know you’re capable of much better,’” Rasmussen said.

That conversation, and the friendship it spawned, marked for Rasmussen the start of a more formidable approach to his studies and a more focused vision of his future. Rasmussen, the son of renown national pollster Scott Rasmussen, chose to major in English with a special concentration in British literature.

What drew him to the subject was the importance of the ideas and ideals espoused by Renaissance thinkers and writers, in particular Sir Phillip Sidney, his favorite.

“Everyone talks about virtue and honor, but Sidney lived it,” Rasmussen said. “He died in battle because he gave his armor to someone he believed was more important than him. When he was rushed into the doctor and he said ‘No, I’m going to wait in line with the other men.’ I really admire people who live out their beliefs like that.”

Rasmussen plans to take a year off to save money, then pursue a Ph.D. and teach.

“We need a Christian presence in the academic realm,” he said. “It’s time we got over our academic pretentiousness and said [the virtues writers like Sidney wrote about] matter in the real world. It’s time teachers teach again and believe in something.”

Rasmussen punctuated his Nyack experience by speaking at the Nyack College and Alliance Theological Seminary Commencement Brunch on May 7 at the Tarrytown House Estate. In front of a group of about 100 that included the 2011 class of honorary degree recipients and entrants into the President’s Hall of Distinction, Rasmussen asked and then answered the question, “Why go to a Christian liberal arts college?”

“Nyack is an atmosphere,” he said. “What you learn goes so far above the realm of academia … Here’s how you change the world: You ask how your career might shape everyone else. You ask how your faith takes shape in your life. What I learned at Nyack was never about me. It was about bringing truth to an ever-shrinking global community.”

Outskirts Press in December 2010. Through his book, Elder Gilmore’s desire is to give readers a daily dose of God’s Word that will help them have a Kingdom-filled day.

’96 Laura Leslie, former director of music at St. John’s United Church in Bellefonte, PA, returned to St. John’s to direct an instrumental concert for the church’s 175-year celebration in October 2011. Laura began studying organ at the age of seven, earned a bachelor of sacred music degree from Nyack College in 1996, and for the past 30 years has served as music director and organist for various churches. After serving at St. John’s for eight years, Laura is now music director of Great Island Presbyterian Church in Lock Haven, PA.

’97 David Scibetta was appointed to vice president of sales of HazelTree Fund Services, a leading provider of Treasury solutions. David is responsible for managing client relationships, generating new business within the hedge fund community, and building strategic relationships with industry third-party providers and the Prime Broker community. Prior to joining HazelTree, David served as vice president of sales at Enfusion Systems and as director of sales and marketing at Wellington Financial Systems.

’98 (ATS ’01) Dr. Paul M. Dordal’s book entitled The Great Commandment Leader was published in February 2011 by WinePress Publishing. This book defines leadership by exploring the biblical imperative Jesus said was the most important one in life: love. Paul received a BS in Organizational Management from Nyack College in 1998, received an MA from ATS in 2001, and was the former vice president for development and special projects at Nyack College.
'00s


'01 Timothy Q. Nelson joined Partners in Financial Planning, LLC as an associate financial planner. A former chief development officer for the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech and executive director of development at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Timothy brings over 25 years of experience to the firm. He was also an adjunct professor at Mount Saint Mary College and Nyack College. Timothy received his BS in Organizational Management from Nyack College in 2001 and his MBA from Regent University in 2003.

'01 Will Wonders, youth ministry major, has combined his work with teens with his passion for filmmaking. Also a 2006 ATS graduate, he credits his Nyack College experience with giving him the confidence to explore his creativity. Will and students from a Brooklyn, NY high school won a citywide competition called “Think Quest.” His work, “Fear Itself,” has been screened at ten film festivals.

'04 Thomas E. Gogolen completed his first full season of Telemark Ski Racing in 2010-2011. He traveled to Norway independently to compete in the Telemark World Championships in March 2011 where his best finish was 28th in the Sprint Classic. After four solid finishes at the U.S. Nationals, he ranked fifth overall in the nation.

'05 Kelsie Croes graduated in 2005 with a BA in music and a minor in music business. Following graduation, she moved to Nashville, TN to pursue a music career. In December 2010, she released her debut album entitled “Sip. Swallow. Digest.” under her recording name, Kelsie Cameron. For more information visit www.kelsiecameron.com.

'05 Jamila Yousif became a naturalized U.S. citizen on March 18, 2011. She says, “It was one of the best and most profound days of my life. I couldn’t even afford to apply for citizenship and it was two Americans who gave me the $670. I think it is their example of munificent giving that makes me so proud to be counted as one of them.”

'06 (ATS ’07) Ryan Higgins received a bachelor’s degree in biblical and theological studies from Nyack College in 2006 and an MA in Old Testament studies from Alliance Theological Seminary in 2007. His talent for languages led him to The Graduate School of The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), where he learned to speak Akkadian and Aramaic, among other languages. Ryan was awarded the Edith and Stuart Marks Prize in Semitics, a JTS award given for excellence in that field. Ryan is continuing to achieve fluency in languages and considering studies for a Ph.D.

'10 Joseph Yang received a bachelor’s degree in pastoral ministries with a concentration in biblical studies from Nyack College in 2010. He is currently a licensed C&MA worker serving as youth pastor of Balboa Community Church in San Diego, CA. His wife, Stephanie, who formerly worked in admissions at Nyack College, is now a fourth grade teacher at a Christian school.

'11 J. P. Ilarraza will begin a Master of Arts in religion with a concentration in the theology of divine healing at Gordon-Conwell. His fiancé, Tahira Abdullah, is currently a nursing student at Nyack College.

ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS & ANNIVERSARIES


'06 Bradley Robert Jacobs and Emily Nicole Gartner were married in July 2011 in Lancaster, PA. Bradley received a Bachelor of Science degree from Nyack College in 2006 and is a teacher at Hackensack Christian School in Hackensack, NJ. Emily earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Grove City College in Grove City, PA.
'08 Zachary Boyd and Deborah Christin Repko celebrated their second wedding anniversary in August 2011 and are living happily in Akron, PA. Zachary is working full-time as an electronics technician at Clair Global in Lititz, PA, which is the largest live sound company in the world, with clients such as Billy Joel, Bon Jovi, Rihanna, and the Jonas Brothers.

What God Has Joined Together...

’66 Phyllis Hart married college sweetheart David Smyrl on October 22, 2011. It’s a common story at Nyack College. In fact, for decades students have come to the college and left with more than a degree. At last count, 4078 men and women have met their life partners here.

The Smyrls were engaged to be married in 1966, but life took them in different directions. Phyllis moved to California in 1968 while David remained on the East Coast. Through the power of the Internet, they reconnected on Facebook in early 2011 and were married 44 years after their first plan to marry!

The reunited alumni paid a visit to their alma mater and shared their unique story with a small captive audience of Nyack staff. The happy Nyack couple resides in Long Beach, CA.

Truly what God has joined together—not even time can separate. Congratulations to David and Phyllis.

Kevin Reece, Nyack College 2003
Location: Tanzania, East Africa

The church I attend, Gracepointe Gospel Fellowship in New City, NY, has been supporting a missionary, Nathan Rasmussen, in Tanzania for 29 years. His first ministry was training African pastors, who over the years opened Bible schools in Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, and Kenya. The success of his ministry resulted in him turning the ministry over to the nationals, essentially working himself out of a job. Ironically, when he returned to the U.S., God called him back to Tanzania with a new vision for mission mobilization within the African church. This time, the African church was challenged to reach the unreached within their countries.

A new type of leadership development began for those interested in missionary training, which includes identifying unreached people groups (UPGs), selecting one, and doing research on the needs of the group. These missionaries are sent and supported by the African church. Stateside churches are then invited to adopt a UPG and the missionary serving them.

Senior pastor at Gracepointe, Rev. Carl Johnson, decided he wanted to be a partner and to adopt a UPG called the Segeju in northeastern Tanzania. Kevin was part of the team sent in March 2011 to meet the missionary and visit the tribe.

Kevin says, “I will be in Tanzania until God says otherwise. I applied for a resident permit which is valid for two years and can be renewed.”

How did Nyack College prepare the psychology major for his current lifestyle of serving others? Kevin shares, “Nyack provided a safe place for me to grow in my faith and for my faith to be stretched beyond the “little box” faith I had. Nyack solidified my understanding and experience of God and introduced me to the world of missions. I have been able to continue building on what I gained at Nyack College, some things were good for that season and ended there; other things I will hold onto for life.”
BIRTHS

'99 Andres and Kim Valenzuela celebrated the birth of their daughter Ana Sofia on April 15, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs., 4 oz. and was 21 inches long.

'01 BS, '08 MSOL Alycia (Mildren) and Shino John (ATS 2005) are enjoying a new addition to their family. Noah Josiah John was born January 10, 2012 at 6:00 pm. He weighed 8 lbs 4 oz and was 21” long. Noah is little brother to their first born son, Elijah Joseph John, who arrived on January 9, 2010 at 12:45 pm, weighing 9 lbs 2 oz and 21 inches.

'04 Steven and Jacqueline Phillips welcomed baby boy Caleb Eric on March 2, 2011 who weighed 6 lbs., 13 oz. and measured 19-1/2 inches long.

'05 Kimani and ('02) Datnee (Santiago) Smith are pleased to announce the birth of their third child, Daniel Isaiah, born on June 13, 2010. He is the younger brother of Nehemiah James and Kimberlee Ann.

'07 Paul and Heather Garcia are the proud parents of baby boy Jude Jacob, born November 19, 2011 at 7:47 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz and was 20 inches long. Jude joins older brothers Rylan (1) and Isaac (2). Pictured is Paul with new baby Jude and oldest son Isaac.

'08 Carlos and ('09) Ami (Lopez) Martinez welcomed baby boy Caleb Joshua on August 24, 2011, weighing 8 lbs., 1 oz. and measuring 20-1/2 inches.

'11 Kimberly and Michael Scales are the proud parents of Rylan DeLany, born September 7, 2011. He weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz. and was 20 inches long.

THE PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION OF JOAN BALL

By Deborah Walker

If you can believe the apostle Paul’s Damascus Road experience, you can believe Joan Ball’s journey from atheist to believer.

For years she lived separated from God. There was even a period when she actually attended church because of the cute guy in the worship band. It was after she had fallen in love with him that she learned he was a Christian. Eventually the two were married.


Ball, a 2007 alumna of Nyack’s Master of Science in Organizational Leadership program, is currently a professor at St. John’s University. She says of her Nyack experience, my degree from the MSOL not only equipped me to be hired as a full-time professor at St. John’s University in New York, but I am ABD and working on my Ph.D. dissertation. I am a fan of the program and am more than pleased to share that with others.”

Meet Joan Ball on YouTube.com. Search for “Joan Ball by Simon & Schuster”. Clearly she’s no longer flirting with faith.
'33 Thomas A. Wilcox went home to be with the Lord on August 29, 2011. He and his wife, Frances M. (Anderson) Wilcox ('33), attended Nyack Missionary Training Institute for only one semester in 1933 before Rev. Wilcox was called to serve The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Canton, PA. Together Thomas and Frances ministered in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. Thomas retired in 1982 from full-time ministry after 47 years with The Christian and Missionary Alliance. Frances and Thomas were married one day short of 75 years when Frances passed away on August 3, 2011.

'33 Wilma V. Wilkins passed away on July 30, 2011 at the age of 96. She married Marvel Wilkins in October 1933, who predeceased her in 1963. Wilma worked for Jones Memorial Hospital for 10 years, for CE Air Preheater for 10 years, and was an accomplished seamstress. She was an active member of C&MA churches in both Wellsville and Andover, NY, where she served as a Sunday school teacher and secretary for the church boards. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family.

'37 Robert R. Reese, 99, went home to be with the Lord on December 3, 2010. Born in New York City, Rev. Reese grew up in Rochester, NY. In 1937, he married his high school sweetheart, Marjorie (Morris) Reese ('37), who predeceased him in April 2009. Together they served the Lord as music teachers at Simpson Bible Institute in Seattle, WA and in pastorates throughout New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Bob’s passions included ministry and music and was widely known for his singing.

'39 Thomas M. Constance, 95, went to be with the Lord on February 15, 2011. He was born in Mansfield, OH. He graduated from Nyack Missionary Training Institute in 1939 where he met his wife, Nellie (Adams '39). The couple was married for 68 years before she went to be with the Lord in 2009. Together, Thomas and Nellie established six C&MA churches in Utah, a state that became their mission field after being unable to serve a mission in China due to World War II. They opened Intermountain Bookstore which they owned and managed until 1996. Thomas and Nellie were also founders and directors of Explorer’s Bible Study, an in-depth Bible curriculum that has continued to serve many denominations for over 30 years.

'39 Violet B. Wing Droppa passed into the presence of her Lord on April 13, 2011 at the age of 95. Violet graduated from Nyack Missionary Training Institute in 1939 and was a member of The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. She was also an accomplished pianist and organist. Together with her husband, Rev. Charles Droppa ('38), she was active in pastoring several C&MA churches.

'39 Grady Mangham, Jr., 88, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on July 7, 2011. Rev. Mangham was a 1943 graduate of Nyack Missionary Training Institute and recipient of the 1980 Alumnus of the Year Award from Nyack College. A Doctor of Divinity was bestowed on him by the Alliance Evangelical Divinity School in 2005. Rev. Mangham and his wife, Evelyn (Breaden '43), served the Lord in Vietnam as missionaries for The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

'43 Rev. Charles W. Brightwell, 93, passed away on December 27, 2010. Rev. Brightwell was an ordained minister and a teacher at Freedom High School in PA. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Beaver, PA, and earned bachelor’s degrees from Huntingdon College, Nyack College, and a master’s degree from Westminster College. He also served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

'44 Charles W. Farrell Peterson passed away on June 23, 2011 at the age of 87. Doe was a woman of deep devotion to God and was a great supporter of Christian World Missions. She and her husband, Jack Douglas Peterson, together had two children.
'44 Christian C. Hainlen went home to be with the Lord on October 17, 2010 at the age of 90. Rev. Hainlen graduated from Nyack Missionary Training Institute in 1944. Following graduation, he hitchhiked to Des Moines, IA and then to Beatrice, NE where he founded a C&MA church. He married June Brown in December 1946 and moved to St. Paul, MN where he pastored the Rose Hill Christian and Missionary Alliance Church for five years before ministering at the Wadena Alliance Church in northern Minnesota. Rev. Hainlen received a BA in English from Bethel College in 1962, served a variety of churches in several denominations, and ran in five marathons after the age of 62.

'45 Jane M. Wells Coggins, 89, went to be with the Lord on April 17, 2011. She met her husband of 65 years, Wade C. Coggins ('45), while attending Nyack Missionary Training Institute. Jane and Wade began their missionary service in Norwoodville Alliance Church near Des Moines, IA. In 1948, they were appointed to Colombia, South America, where they both taught in the Bible Training Institute preparing Colombians for ministry. Jane's ministry was teaching basic education courses. While in Colombia, Jane gave birth to their only child, Robert Charles. They retired from ministry in 1997.

'46 Evelyn Dailey Putnam, 85, passed away on December 19, 2010. She graduated from Nyack Missionary Training Institute in 1946 and married her husband, Wayne (49), later that year. Evelyn and Wayne moved to The Alliance Home (now Chapel Pointe) in Carlisle, PA in 1985 where they were appointed as members of the Chapel Advisory Committee.

'47 Erma Lee Waldron, 86, went to be with the Lord on February 16, 2011. Erma attended and graduated in 1947 from Nyack Missionary Training Institute, where she met her husband, Rev. Donald Waldron. Together they served at C&MA churches in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, New York, and Ohio. Following her service as pastor's wife, she was employed as a receptionist for Bible Literature International and was a member of Reynoldsburg Alliance Church.

'48 Dr. Samuel G. Ferrell, Sr. passed away on June 30, 2011 at Hope Hospice in Cape Coral, FL. He earned a Th.B. degree in 1949 and later completed two post graduate programs.

The legacy of Dr. Ferrell includes his service as director with Youth for Christ, at Bible conferences, youth camps, and his role as district church growth planter, home missionary, tour director and church and missions consultant. He was instrumental in the early vision of what would become Shell Point Retirement Community. In his latter years, he served as Minister-at-Large for Missions and Evangelism for the Bahama Islands for The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

'52 Vera Lucille Smith, 82, passed away on February 21, 2011. Vera was a 1946 graduate of Homer City High School in PA; a 1952 graduate of Nyack Missionary Training Institute; and member of the Indiana Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. She wanted to serve as a missionary after graduating from college, but failed the physical. She worked at C&MA headquarters in New York City until 1960.

'52 James J. Tarr passed away on August 27, 2011. Following his high school graduation, Rev. Tarr served a short stint in the U.S. Army before graduating from Nyack Missionary Training Institute in 1952. He pastored in Kansas, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania before founding Paxinos Bible Church, where he served for 30 years before his retirement in 1994. He moved to Florida in 1995 with his wife, Jean (Roberts) Tarr ('52), who passed away six months later.

'52 Marjorie Webster, 87, went to be with the Lord on June 29, 2011. She studied at Nyack Missionary Training Institute with her husband Albert ('52). Following Albert’s graduation, they began their ministry in the Northeastern District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, serving various churches in New York. Marge was involved with the Women's Missionary Prayer Fellowship, now Alliance Women, and always taught children's classes wherever they served.
'56 Dolores J. Glass Schlaegel passed away on August 31, 2010 at the age of 78. In 1954, she married her husband, Harold (’56), and together had four children. Dolores served the Lord with her hands and heart for 16 years at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center in Rome, NY. She was active in Alliance Women’s ministry, was a children's Sunday school teacher, and served with her husband in churches in Ohio and New York.

'58 Rev. Dr. William W. Conley, Sr., 93, went to be with the Lord on March 27, 2011. He served as a U.S. Army chaplain in the 111th and 82nd Airborne Divisions, was missionary to Indonesia with the C&MA, a professor of missions at Crown College, and a pastor. He earned degrees from Nyack College, the University of Minnesota, and Fuller Seminary.

'63 Marjorie Lois Dailey Cowles, 83, went to be with the Lord on March 3, 2011. She grew up in Waverly, NY, where she attended the Alliance Church and also met her husband, Robert (’49). The couple married in August 1947. Together they served in places such as Kentucky, Vermont, and the Philippines before making Nyack their home for 21 years. While taking care of her husband, four children, and home, Marjorie received her diploma from Nyack College in 1963. In 1976 she earned a bachelor's degree from SUNY Empire State College. Dr. Parliman was an avid hiker, gardener, and animal rescuer. She graduated from the Veterinary School at The University of Wisconsin, Madison, and founded the Veterinary Student’s Animal Rescue Center in Stoughton, WI. She was also the founder and owner of My Home Visit Veterinary, Inc. Dr. Parliman had a passion for performing mission work abroad, especially in Africa and India, as well as outreach to the local community. Her commitment to caregiving was fostered at Nyack Missionary Training Institute, from which she graduated after successfully completing a degree in cultural studies in 1964.

'63 Joan Hake Robie, 80, passed into the presence of her Lord and Savior on February 1, 2011. She received degrees from Valley Forge Christian College and from Nyack College and studied at St. Thomas Aquinas College. In addition to being a substitute music teacher in Rockland County, teaching private piano and organ lessons, and becoming a certified graphoanalyst, Joan pursued a career in creative writing and authored and co-authored more than 15 books. She introduced the first Christian Yellow Pages in the Lancaster/York area. In 1981, Joan founded Starburst Publishers, a publisher of Christian and inspirational books which published more than 100 books. During the 1980s she made numerous appearances as an author on “People Are Talking” in Boston, Chicago, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. She appeared on “The Sally Jessy Raphael Show,” “Geraldo Rivera Show,” and “The Morton Downey, Jr. Show,” among others.

'64 Elaine L. Parliman passed away peacefully on April 6, 2011. Dr. Parliman had a great love for nature and animals, was an avid hiker, gardener, and animal rescuer. She graduated from the Veterinary School at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and founded the Veterinary Student’s Animal Rescue Center in Stoughton, WI. She was also the founder and owner of My Home Visit Veterinary, Inc. Dr. Parliman had a passion for performing mission work abroad, especially in Africa and India, as well as outreach to the local community. Her commitment to caregiving was fostered at Nyack Missionary Training Institute, from which she graduated after successfully completing a degree in cultural studies in 1964.

'64 Priscilla (Retallack) Wilson went home to be with the Lord on November 10, 2011 at the age of 70. Her husband, Ron (’63), served on the Nyack College Board of Trustees from 1988 to 2000. Priscilla was an educator most of her life, and taught in both public and private schools in Orlando, FL. She ministered and taught at the Edgewood Children's Ranch in Orlando for the past twelve years.

In addition to her husband, Ron, she is also survived by four children: Brent, Holly and her husband Steve (who both graduated from Nyack in 1989), Christine, and Ian; four grandchildren: Zach, Lauren, Tori, and Sophie; brothers, Bruce and Don Retallack; and sister, Sara Clark. She was predeceased by her older sister, Ruth Rambo, who passed away earlier this year on May 19, 2011.

'70 Arlis Ruth Johnson Kramer, 62, of North Branford, CT passed away on April 20, 2011. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree in voice performance from Nyack College. She and her daughter Karin (’00) both studied under Dr. Marion Howe at Nyack. Arlis taught music in Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Connecticut. She directed the Long Hill Baptist Church Choir in Trumbull, CT; the Grace Baptist Church Choir and Milford Senior Center's Gospel Choir in Milford, CT; the Teamwork in Extension Choir in Neptune, NJ; and the Shoreline Choral in Madison, CT. Arlis was a quilter, Arlis quilted pocketbooks, hats, and baby bunting. She founded a web-based business called Arlis Creations to market her work.

'77 Kimetha “Kim” (Masek) Flitcraft, 55, passed away on July 15, 2011. Kim was a professional musician and entertainer, owned and operated Kimetha Connection, and also had a music and puppet ministry. She was a longtime member of the Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Vineland, NJ where she held numerous...
positions over the years. Kim was also director of programs at the NJ Veterans Memorial Home, was involved with the Boy Scouts of America, performed with the ZOE Band, was music teacher at M&M Music, and taught at Cumberland Christian School and Vineland Public Schools.

'86 John G. Farrell, 48, went to be with the Lord on January 27, 2011 after a long struggle with cancer. A native New Yorker and police officer, John came to know Christ in 1985 and sensed a call to ministry through a newfound love of the Scripture. He was senior pastor of Kingstree Presbyterian Church in Kingstree, SC; associate pastor of Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church in Simpsonville, SC; and was part of the ministry team that planted Christ Church, a Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). John received a BA in philosophy from Nyack College, an MA in Old Testament studies from Alliance Theological Seminary, and an M.Div./Th.M. from Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. John began serving as senior pastor of Bay Area Presbyterian Church in 2004 and in 2010, had to suspend his active pastoral ministry due to his disabling illness. At that time, the Houston Metro Presbytery and Bay Area Presbyterian Church voted to name him pastor emeritus.

'92 Idilio Rivera, Jr., passed away on July 20, 2011 at the age of 40 following a three-year battle with cancer. He graduated from Nyack College in 1992 with a BA in English. He worked most of his adult life as a social worker, his passions were music, poetry, acting, singing, dancing, writing, traveling, and storytelling.

'95 (ATS '05) Rev. Kenneth Donald Hartwick, Jr., 59, went to be with the Lord on November 24, 2010. Born in Pearl River, NY, he was a resident of Kennebunk, ME and a longtime resident of Warwick, NY. He owned and operated Warwick Dental Studio, receiving his training as a dental technician during his service in the U.S. Air Force. Rev. Hartwick was the pastor of the Warwick Evangelical Free Church; pastor for the Sea Road Advent Christian Church; and founder of the “Cascade Initiative,” which became a contagious passion throughout each of the communities he served.

'06 Robert Harris-Pendelton passed away on November 24, 2011. Rev. Harris-Pendelton was a Nyack College adjunct professor and alumnus of Nyack’s Master of Science in Organizational Leadership (MSOL) program. Passionate about teaching adult students, he served them as a mentor and coach, always inspiring them with God’s Word. Rev. Harris-Pendelton was gifted with great energy, teaching and preaching, leadership and visionary ability. He was elected as senior pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Boonton, NJ in July 2007. He was pursuing a Ph.D. at Walden University with a concentration in Family Studies and Intervention Strategies.

Alumni News is compiled by Erica Videc.
Earn Your Degree at NYACK

- Accelerated Degree Completion Program (B.S. in 16 months)
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Homecoming

OCTOBER 12-13, 2012
SAYING SO LONG TO SPECIAL FRIENDS

SUN “SUNNY” NG

’64 Sun “Sunny” Ng passed away on June 28, 2011 at the age of 83. Sunny received a diploma from Northeastern Bible Institute in 1962 and a BS degree from Nyack College in 1964. While a student at Nyack College, Sunny was trained as a member of the food service team. He retired from Nyack College in 2000 after 35 years of service.

REV. ROBERT L. NIKLAUS, JR.

’55 Rev. Robert L. Niklaus, Jr. passed away on March 13, 2011 at the age of 77. The 1955 graduate, who was also an adjunct professor at Nyack, served for a dozen years on the mission field in Belgian, Congo. He was an associate editor for the predecessor of Alliance Life, The Alliance Witness, and a journalist for many other publications, including the monthly National Religious Broadcasters magazine. The celebrated wordsmith is known in the Nyack community for writing the historic piece, The School That Vision Built: Centennial Review of Nyack College 1882–1982. He also wrote several books on the global history of the Alliance and often traveled with a Christian and Missionary Alliance video team to film missionaries where they were serving. Rev. Niklaus retired from the C&MA in 2000 and became pastor of Mullein Baptist Church in Lakeville, MA.

REV. JAMES P. MELLIS, JR.

’77 Rev. James P. Mellis, Jr., 55, went to be with the Lord on May 4, 2011. He served as a missionary with The Christian and Missionary Alliance from 1986 until 1994 in Bangkok, Thailand. For the past five years, he worked with Samaritan’s Purse, a Christian international relief organization. He traveled throughout Southeast Asia and helped to establish a spiritual care team who counsel and support Samaritan’s Purse staff around the world. While at Nyack College, J.P. was a standout baseball player from 1976 to 1978. He broke the record for most runs scored in a season with 38 and 90 career runs. He was an integral part of the 1977 team that set a record with 25 wins for the season. J.P. was inducted into the Nyack College Hall of Fame in 2002.

DR. RUTH C. RAMBO

Dr. Ruth C. Rambo went to be with the Lord on May 19, 2011. She was the wife of Dr. David Rambo, former Nyack/ATS president, who was also the eighth president of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Dr. Rambo completed training to become a registered nurse in 1957, received her BS degree from Nyack College in 1960, and the D.Min. from Asbury Theological Seminary in 1996. A lifelong member of The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, Ruth served as a missionary with her husband, David, in the Philippines from 1962–1967. After starting their family, Ruth taught at Canadian Theological Seminary, Alliance Theological Seminary, and Asbury Theological Seminary.

A fund has been established following Dr. Rambo’s expressed wish that a scholarship for women pursuing graduate theological education in the area of spiritual formation be established. Two trees are planted in her honor—one on the grounds of Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack, NY and the other at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY.
WALTER J. HELSING*

Dr. Walter J. Helsing, Nyack/ATS Trustee Emeritus and founding member of Shell Point Village, Fort Myers, FL, passed away on February 9, 2011. Dr. Helsing served on the Nyack College and Alliance Theological Seminary Board of Trustees from 1965 to 2000. The U.S. army veteran served as a World War II captain, stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, Texas, and New Jersey. A graduate of Geneva College and Temple Medical School, Dr. Helsing completed his internship in orthopedic surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. After retiring in 1982, he served as president of the Pennsylvania Orthopedic Society, was a diplomat in the American College of Surgeons, and was a 60-year member of the Beaver County Medical Society.

*Photo not available.

HOWARD O. JONES

'44 Howard O. Jones, passed away on November 14, 2010 at the age of 89. Dr. Jones was a pacesetter in Christendom and C&MA pastor. A onetime jazz musician, he accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior at an Alliance church in Oberlin, OH and later enrolled at Nyack Missionary Training Institute to fulfill his dream of becoming a preacher of the gospel. He and his wife, Wanda Young ('44), lived in West Africa doing missionary work from 1959 to 1964. Dr. Jones is widely known for breaking the color barrier in 1958, when he became the first African American, who was invited by Billy Graham, to be a part of the internationally renowned evangelist’s crusade team. He served with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) for 35 years. Dr. Jones was the primary speaker on the Association’s radio broadcast, “Hour of Freedom.” In 1955 he was inducted into the National Religious Broadcasters Hall of Fame. His autobiography, “Gospel Trailblazer: An African American Preacher’s Historic Journey Across Racial Lines” was released by Moody Publishers in 2003.

BENJAMIN ARMSTRONG

'45 Benjamin Armstrong, 87, passed into the presence of the Lord on December 12, 2010. Dr. Armstrong was educated at The Stony Brook School, Houghton College, Nyack Missionary Training Institute, and New York University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in 1948; a Master of Arts in 1950; and a Ph.D. in 1967. He also attended Princeton Theological Seminary and earned a Bachelor of Divinity at Union Theological Seminary in 1955. In 1990, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Houghton College. In 1946, he married Ruth (Freed) Armstrong ('46), daughter of missionary parents, who grew up in the deserts of Syria and Jerusalem. After serving as pastor in several churches in New Jersey, Dr. Armstrong became director of Radio for Trans World Radio in 1958 and later served the National Religious Broadcasters from 1966 until 1990. He was inducted into the Religious Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 1998. He has spoken and lectured in more than 50 countries and met with five U.S. presidents and numerous heads of states.

DR. PAUL FREDERICK LILJESTRAND

Dr. Paul Frederick Liljestrand, Nyack College Professor Emeritus, went to be with the Lord on February 17, 2011. A graduate of The Juilliard School and the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary, Dr. Liljestrand was the conductor of the Nyack College Chorale and presented the group to international audiences in the Ukraine, East Berlin, Poland, France, and Spain. Under his leadership, the Chorale performed at Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall.

A noted composer of sacred music, Liljestrand premiered his oratorio, O God Our Help, at the Norton Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, TX, and the renowned Carnegie Hall in 1993.

At the time of his passing, Liljestrand was a resident of Thomasville, GA. He welcomed the Nyack College Chorale to perform its final spring 2006 concert at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, where he had served as organist and choirmaster.

An accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music, Middle States Association, and the Association of Christian Schools International, the Nyack School of Music is one of the college’s oldest and most popular divisions. Dr. Liljestrand’s impact on the School of Music remains legendary.
“I remember well when I first arrived in New York, and Coach Davie picked me up from the airport,” said a reminiscent Felix Horn. Thinking back on his experience since arriving on the Rockland County campus from his home in Haille, Germany, Horn said, “I made a great choice with Nyack, and I’m happy and proud to be here. If I had to choose again, I would make the same choice.”

Horn’s recollections follow a whirlwind of excitement and success engulfing the 2011 soccer season. The sophomore midfielder led the Warriors in scoring with eleven goals and three assists and helped propel Nyack to its second CACC Championship in three years and its first-ever NCAA National Tournament appearance. In addition to his team’s success, Horn earned many personal accolades: CACC 1st Team All-Conference, CACC Tournament MVP, NCCAA All-East Region, Daktronics 1st Team All-East Region, and Daktronics 2nd Team All-American. Horn is the first player to be selected as an All-American since Nyack joined NCAA Division II in 2003.

A humbled Horn recalled a major inspiration for his success: his parents driving him to every practice since he began soccer at age five. They set the stage and taught him hard work pays off eventually. He said, “I always keep believing, keep working, and keep being passionate about all the things I do. I try never to be ultimately satisfied because I think that is the first step in stopping progress.”

Head Soccer Coach Keith Davie said of Horn’s resolve, “He has brought a workman’s attitude to his roles of student-athlete and captain of our team. He came into college with English as a second language and has made the most of that time, including a 3.7 GPA as a freshman.” Davie continued, “The biggest thing about Felix is that although he garnered these awards and had a very good year, he is not satisfied and is intent on being better next year. That drive and determination is noticed by his teammates, and they can’t help but be motivated by watching him.”

Horn credits his team, his coaches, the Athletics Department and his professors for his success on and off the field. “Without a team, no one is anything,” he said. He draws motivation from their collective support, seeing his play as “a chance to pay back all the trust and effort” everyone at Nyack has bestowed on him. “I am also motivated,” he said, “because I want Nyack College to achieve more and more acknowledgement through our soccer performances.”

The Business Administration major with a minor in sports management and a concentration in finance will undoubtedly continue to draw on that collective support as he strives to accomplish his future goals: winning the CACC Championship twice in a row; making the Final Four and eventually winning the NCAA Tournament; making NCAA First Team; becoming Player of the Year; going on to graduate school; and landing a job at an international company or a Wall Street bank where he aspires finally to be in the “highest possible position, taking and carrying the responsibility.”

One thing is sure: Felix Horn will not fail for any lack of drive, hard work, belief, or support. Horn acknowledged, “My faith in God makes my will never to give up even stronger, and that influences my every action and performance.”
PROVIDENT BANK PARK

NEW HOME FIELD FOR NYACK BASEBALL

Provident Bank Park in Pomona, NY will be the home field for Nyack College men’s baseball program beginning spring 2012. The new $38 million, 6,000-seat stadium is also the home field for the Rockland Boulders of the Can-Am League.

Athletic Director Keith Davie is excited about this development in men’s baseball at Nyack. “This is an amazing step for our program and playing in this elite baseball facility will simply validate our program on the national level.”

Head baseball coach Matt Cornacchione added, “Our program is tremendously blessed to have such a supportive administration behind us, that always pushes for the best possible experiences for our student athletes.”

NYACK SCHOLAR-ATHLETES NAMED TO ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

The Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) has named 20 Nyack College scholar-athletes to its fall 2011 All-Academic Team. The recipients of this honor participated in a CACC Championship fall sport. All students listed below are at least a sophomore academically and athletically. They each have studied at Nyack for at least two semesters and maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher throughout the fall semester.

MEN’S SOCCER:
Felix Horn, Junior, (3.92) - Business Administration
Gavin Penny, Senior, (3.84) - Accounting
Mikey Robinson, Junior, (3.57) - Business Administration

WOMEN’S SOCCER:
Esther Huynh, Sophomore, (3.82) - Early Childhood Ed
Heather Wakeley, Sophomore, (3.94) - TESOL
Jennifer Jordan, Senior, (3.94) - Psychology
Stephanie Mercier, Junior, (3.91) - Childhood Education
Susanna Bicknell, Senior, (3.91) - Business Administration

VOLLEYBALL:
Brianna Kane, Sophomore, (3.50) - Childhood Education
Michelle Makela, Junior, (3.83) - TESOL
Tawnie Savage, Junior, (3.54) - Mathematics

MEN’S & WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY:
Ben Wallin, Senior, (3.68) - Religion
Jordan Wilhelm, Senior, (3.63) - Vocal Performance
Stephen Mitzel, Senior, (3.81) - Accounting
Stuart Guild, Senior, (3.99) - Religion
Abigail Frank, Junior, (3.92) - Childhood Education
Alethea Brown, Junior, (3.92) - Vocal Performance
Bethany Allison, Sophomore, (3.62) - Nursing
Deborah McCarthy, Senior, (3.62) - Accounting
LeeAnn Mailly, Junior, (3.81) - Religion
The Cheryl Phenicie School of Nursing exists to educate, encourage, equip, connect, and mobilize Christian nurses to meet the health care needs of global communities.

Students will be prepared to serve in a variety of healthcare settings.

All programs at Nyack are academically excellent and students study in an intentionally diverse environment with an emphasis on personal transformation.

"The art of nursing is a powerful way to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world and it will be nurtured in a Christian environment, where students are integrating their faith with a practical skill to reach this world for Christ."

—Cheryl Phenicie, RN