

Hilbert

Winter 2005

Connections



One Voice

Nadia
Shahram
fights for
equality

President's View



As we plan for additional construction to include a new academic center and auditorium, an addition to the Hafner Recreation Center, and major renovations to Bogel Hall, and proceed with a capital campaign, the distant onlooker might be led to believe that the focus of Hilbert personnel is extremely limited, namely, on buildings. A closer look will dispel that perception.

A great deal more emphasis is being placed on student-oriented projects as we increase the number of courses and add new programs—the bachelor degree in communication studies and rehabilitation services and a minor in leadership. Research has led to a proposal to the State Education Department for a forensic science major and specific plans are underway for film studies and drama.

The academic and student life staffs are seeking out grant money to subsidize programs and activities which will increase student retention rates as well as raise the number of students who persist to graduation.

None of this can come to fruition without benefactors who have always generously and graciously supported Hilbert's endeavors. Without you we can do little. With your assistance so much more is possible. Hilbert's success and growth attest to that.

Visit us sometime. We would love to see you here and share personally in the advances we continue to make.

Sister Edmunette Paczesny, fssj

Sister Edmunette Paczesny, Ph.D., FSSJ
President

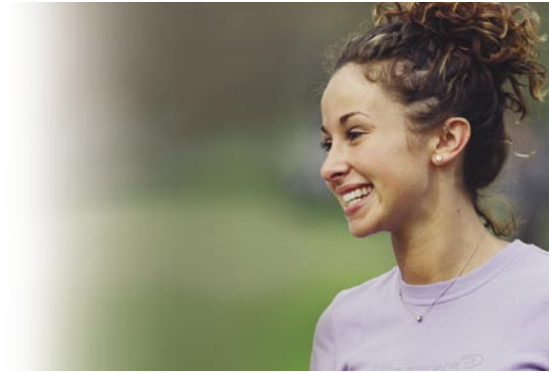
A great deal more emphasis is being placed on student-oriented projects as we increase the number of courses and add new programs—the bachelor degree in communication studies and rehabilitation services and a minor in leadership.

Contents

Features

Enrollment Continues to Climb 4

Numbers make Hilbert history



Cover Story One Voice 6

Professor brings new life to Islamic women's rights



Inside Intelligence 11

Fighting high-tech crimes made real with leading-edge software

In Every Issue

President's View	2	Faculty and Staff File	15
Around Hilbert	4	Alumni News & Notes	16
In the Sports Zone	12	Remember When	20
Happening @ Hilbert	14		



Hilbert College

A Publication for Alumni, Family, and Friends

Published three times annually by Hilbert College
5200 South Park Avenue
Hamburg, New York 14075

TEL (716) 649-7900
FAX (716) 558-6381

www.hilbert.edu
E-MAIL alumni@hilbert.edu

Editor/Writer
Paula Witherell
Public Relations Director

Publication Design
Peter Gariepy

Photographer
Nancy J. Parisi

Sports Information Director
Robert deGrandpre

Cover Story Contributing Writer
Grace Lazzara

Office of Institutional Advancement
Thomas P. Honan
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Mark Bindig
Director of Development

Patricia Baubonis
Alumni Relations Director

Karen Procknal
Coordinator of Research and Records

Enrollment Continues to Climb

Hilbert College has posted its highest enrollment in the college's history, with nearly 1,110 enrolled for the fall semester, including a significant 14 percent increase in full-time students.

A total of 1,107 students enrolled in the fall at Hilbert, which represents a 6 percent increase from last year's then record-breaking enrollment. The figure exceeds slightly the college's total enrollment target of 1,090.

Included in the enrollment total is the largest entering class of full-time students. In addition, the number of returning students increased 7.5 percent.

Sister Edmunette Paczesny, Ph.D., college president, noted the past few years of progressively increasing enrollment is "a trend indicative of the greater recognition the college is receiving for its outstanding academic programs. More and more students are making Hilbert their first choice and know they will receive a quality education that will put them on a path to successful careers."

With new transfer numbers showing a 6 percent increase and comprising 42 percent of the entering class, Sister Edmunette stressed that "Hilbert's strong and purposeful articulation agreements with other colleges are particularly beneficial and meaningful to students. We understand that students need a smooth transition to Hilbert

and the ease of credit transfers built into these agreements accomplishes this."

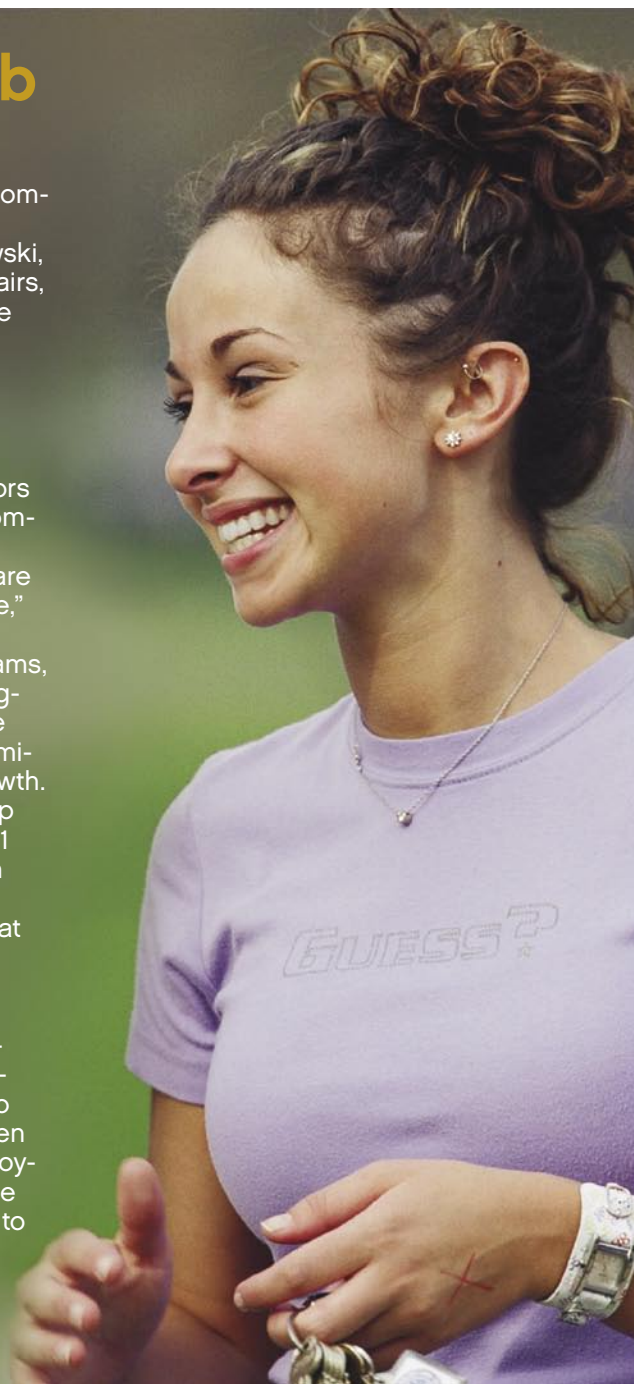
The Rev. Dr. Bernard Olszewski, vice president for academic affairs, added that initiatives to advance the college's academic curriculum have also been a factor in increased enrollment.

"Academically, we've added depth to our program offerings. More options, such as new majors in rehabilitation services and communication studies, additional minors, and other measures are expanding our educational base," he said.

In specific academic programs, human services realized the largest full-time enrollment increase with 34 percent, followed by criminal justice with a 17 percent growth.

Part-time enrollment went up 50 percent in psychology and 31 percent in accounting. Although the total number of part-time students declined 11 percent, that figure was anticipated, pointed out Olszewski.

"Many part-time students at Hilbert changed to full-time status," he said, noting that the status of the U.S. economy tends to impact part-time numbers. "When the economy is weaker or employment is unsteady, we tend to see more part-time students opting to attend full time."



Ribbon Magnets

Special Hilbert College Supports Our Troops ribbon magnets are now available through the Criminal Justice Association. The magnets, which are in Hilbert blue and white college colors, include the college's

name and Support Our Troops message.

Cost is \$5 for each 6-inch magnet and may be purchased by contacting James Sobol at 716-649-7900, ext. 328, or e-mail sobol@hilbert.edu. Proceeds will benefit Buffalo-area military units serving in Iraq and other parts of the Middle East.

Around Hilbert

You're Fired!—Not

Modeled after the popular reality show "The Apprentice," some area high school students participated in a real-life business competition that culminated in a final presentation, but without the risk of hearing the words: "You're fired."

More than 40 Erie 1 BOCES students took part in the business challenge hosted by the Hilbert College Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) chapter and Business Administration Department.

Students were asked to find ways to increase the average sale per customer at Parkside Candy Co. locations. A panel of judges selected the top project.

Using a \$30,000 budget, each team had an assigned project manager, comptroller, copywriter, creative director, and team spokesperson.



Photo Documentary

Internationally acclaimed photographer Steve Hart discusses his photo essay "A Bronx Family Album: The Impact of Aids" at the opening of the 2004-05 Hilbert College Visiting Artist Series. The collection chronicles over a seven-year period the joys and pains of a family in which the mother and father are HIV-positive. Award-winning poet Irving Feldman will be the featured visiting artist at 7 p.m. May 4.

Photo by Nancy J. Parisi



Rock the Vote

With '04 being a presidential election year, a week-long voter registration drive held at Hilbert College generated and encouraged new voters to get out and vote. Pictured, left to right, are organizers of the drive Kate Maragliano, acquisition/reference librarian; Hilbert law and government major Katie Woodruff '06; and Kate Ross, library technical services coordinator. A Rock the Vote presidential debate comprised of students representing each candidate also took place at the college.



One Voice

The day was decisive and unforgettable for Nadia Shahram. Shortly after 9/11, the native Iranian was returning to Buffalo from a trip to Toronto with her two daughters. Reaching the U.S.-Canadian border, Shahram was “harassed and questioned for 30 minutes” as her children watched from the back seat of the car.

The memory of the event brings her to tears even now. “It was very difficult, because I never thought I was not an American,” says Shahram, a naturalized U.S. citizen who has lived in this country since 1976. “I understood the need for extra precaution but when that happened, even though I had lived here for 25 years, I knew I was being looked upon differently.”

An adjunct professor in Hilbert’s law and government program, Shahram was appalled, as was the rest of the country, at the World Trade Center attacks. “I thought I owed both my non-Muslim and Muslim friends an explanation of why I didn’t approve of that kind of aggression and to question why that aggression is done in the name of Islam,” she says. Shahram found coping difficult, a feeling that only increased after the incident at the border.

She decided “to do something to make myself whole again, for me and my children—the new generation.” During her youth, Iran had been a secular society. Shahram had not practiced her Muslim religion, nor did she know it well. Post 9/11, she wondered if the terrorists’ aggression could really have evolved from the faith’s teachings. So Shahram embarked on a journey of education and self-renewal.

She began learning about her faith, examining it in an effort to find some answers. She developed and began teaching courses at Hilbert that compare Western and Islamic family and criminal law. Last summer, she returned to Iran for the first time in 11 years, in part to do primary research on women’s rights in her home country. Ultimately, Shahram’s self-described “technique for survival” has reshaped her career and, in a major respect, her life.

Teaching to understanding

Today, as an adjunct professor at Hilbert, Shahram begins all her classes by telling students that she wants them “to listen, hear, ask questions and increase their critical thinking” on the subjects. “There are no right or wrong answers,” she insists. “Maybe no answers at all.”

Continued on page 9

Photos by Nancy J. Parisi

While others quietly lament certain Islamic women’s rights issues, Nadia Shahram’s tenacity to ensure equality has taken her all the way to Iran while prompting a new book in the works.

by Grace A. Lazzara



Shahram believes that, in reality, Iranian women are “the victims of the patriarchal interpretation of the practice of Islam followed in the country today, which came about to defy the rule of a corrupted secular government, the (former) Shah and Western culture.”

Interestingly, until 9/11 and its aftermath, Shahram had not considered the teaching profession. In fact, she had already successfully pursued two other careers. After coming to Western New York from Toronto where she received her high school diploma, she earned a bachelor's degree in business administration at the University at Buffalo and then opened and ran a restaurant in downtown Buffalo. Interacting with her clientele, lawyers and judges mostly, Shahram became intrigued with the law. She graduated in 1997 from the UB School of Law and is now executive director of the Matrimonial Mediation Center in Amherst, as well as pursuing a doctorate in conflict analysis and resolution at NOVA Southeastern University.

Shahram approaches her subjects as “an educated woman, who isn't close-minded, who is looking for answers and tries not to be biased.” Her course on “Comparative Perspectives on American and Islamic Law” takes up the contrasts between Muslim and Western criminal law. “Some criminal laws that directly have been taken from Koran are very similar to Western laws,” she notes. “When we look at them closely and thoroughly, 80 percent of my students say that the Islamic system is working, not barbaric. They get closer to understanding the philosophy behind what seems to be harsh punishment.”

Take the notion of “blood money.” Islamic law allows the victim's family to take the life of the killer (the state will handle the actual death sentence) unless the killer's family can convince the victim's family to accept monetary compensation. “People think it's barbaric,” says Shahram. However, the Koran says the victim's family should “forgive, believe in God and let him punish the person.”

Western law embodies a similar notion in punitive damages and capital punishment. But victims' families in Western countries can find themselves at the mercy of the legal system, waiting for finality through round after round of appeals. Islamic criminal law, Shahram says, “empowers the victims' families directly,” helping them achieve a measure of closure.

In her other course, “Islam, Family Law and Culture,” Shahram tells students “the prophet Mohammed was a ‘feminist.’ In the sixth century, Muslim women were given the right to own property and keep it, and, in case of a divorce, they could keep whatever they brought to the marriage.” Unfortunately, she says, many of the laws derived from Koran today “tend to oppress women and children and that was not the prophet's intention.”

In the classroom, Shahram, who is also developing new Hilbert courses in Middle Eastern studies and Arabic language, says that she doesn't “question the right or wrong of the verse, but I look at the context in which it was revealed and why it worked then. And I question its applicability in the 21st century.”

The trip to native country

Shahram took a research trip to her birth country last summer to “truly see Iran. I needed to go there, sit in court and go through cases to see if my perception (of how the country had changed since the Iran revolution) was accurate.” Iran, she says, “appears to be more modern but it's only on the surface.”

Shahram believes that, in reality, Iranian women are “the victims of the patriarchal interpretation of the practice of Islam followed in the country today, which came about to defy the rule of a corrupted secular government, the (former) Shah and Western culture.” Today, Iranian women have the right to divorce their husbands. But, she points out, “you have to read the cases to discover that, in fact, divorce is a discretionary right left up to the judges, who are all men. Yes, I can divorce my husband based on 12 conditions, but 10 of those conditions are discretionary on the part of a male judge.”

During her visit, Shahram had the opportunity to sit in on a number of court cases. Her encounters with the judges were cordial, but she doubts they would have treated her the same way if she weren't a lawyer from America.

Shahram also took another opportunity—to question Iranian judges on Islamic law. “I was polite,” she says, “but I knew their language, their religion. When they said, ‘According to Koran, ABC,’ I'd say, ‘What about D?’”

For instance, polygamy in Iran is on the increase; judges allow the practice as a man's right when economic conditions warrant it. “I asked the judge who gave men that right,” Shahram says. When the judge quoted the applicable verse from the Koran, Shahram rebutted him: “What about the verse right after that verse? It says even though polygamy is permitted, it's not acceptable unless you love your third wife as much as the first and second. It is not an economic question. It talks about being just in your heart. Is that possible?”

If a current wife dislikes the situation, the judge can allow her to divorce her husband. That, says Shahram, is no option at all. “I don't think that's such a great freedom; I have no rights except to leave and get a divorce in a culture where it carries a stigma,” she says.

Shahram relates a case she learned of while in Iran of a woman seeking a divorce due to years of mental abuse by her husband. “The woman was accompanied by her husband everywhere she went and was otherwise confined to her home,” she says. “Despite this, the judge did not accept the woman's account of the situation because there were no visible signs of mistreatment or physical abuse. The petition for divorce was denied.”

After a divorce, a woman loses custody of her children to her husband. Children under 2 (for boys) and 7 (for girls) can stay temporarily with their mother and are then handed over to their father. However, if a divorced wife remarries, she automatically loses temporary guardianship of her children under age 2 and 7.

In effect, says Shahram, “a woman never has custody, only temporary guardianship. Men can remarry simultaneously four times and never lose custody. I have the most difficulty with these issues as a mother of two precious daughters. I can understand the context in which these rights came about in 6th century Arabia because women couldn’t support children in the past and were dependent on their husband. The economic burden to raise kids was put upon men.”

That context is not as applicable today, she adds, but she saw first-hand that Iranian women still continue to lose custody of their children. “As parents, we have to be concerned about many other issues besides economics, such as emotional and intellectual well-being.”

On the positive side, Iran’s family court—with no attorneys—seems to provide a more civilized way to deal with marital issues. Couples go through mediation with their family, then go to court and tell judges what they want. Judges ask questions, present options, direct the parties in question to think about their decision and come back. The process, says Shahram, “keeps people more honest.”

Her trip proved so fruitful that Shahram will return to Iran this May to conduct more research and make a documentary of actual court cases to show to her classes.

Raising awareness

Following her experience at the border, Shahram wrote an editorial piece for *The Buffalo News*, which reawakened her desire to write. And so she’s writing a book about temporary marriages, a concept nearly unknown outside the Muslim world. In a temporary marriage, a married or single man and a single woman enter into marriage for a set price for a specified length of time, which can be as short as one hour. There’s no divorce or commitment beyond what’s in the contract. This practice is unique to the Shii a minority sect in Islam.

Men may have an unlimited number of temporary marriages at the same time plus four permanent marriages, as opposed to women who are allowed only one temporary or permanent marriage. According to the interpretation handed down, Shahram says, the aim of the temporary marriage is “pure pleasure.”

In Shahram’s book, the narrator becomes a temporary wife to make money to get an education. “My narrator wants to improve the system for women by beating men at their own game,” says Shahram. “She hopes to raise the awareness of men and women who cross her path, an awareness that would not be superficial but would change lives. And she does.”

Shahram has the same wish for her book. “I also want to raise awareness in a meaningful way. My goal is that the book’s profits will go to women and children shelters.” She hopes the book might even engender a movie, which could result in more attention for the circumstances of women in some Islamic cultures.

“Perhaps things might change for the better,” she says. “In the 6th century, Muslim women were given some rights such as property rights, which were unheard of in rest of the world until 1900,” she continues, “Yet a 21st century Iranian woman needs her father’s or husband’s permission to obtain a passport.”

“Iranian women are great fighters. They were front-runners in the 1979 revolution, which surprisingly resulted in the establishment of a religious government. But they need to know that women of all faiths support their cause for gender equality.”

Shahram observes that more and more women in her native country are educating themselves, especially about faith and religion, and now make up more than half of students in higher education. “When a man says something is so because of Koran, they can answer with knowledge,” she says. That alone is a step forward, she asserts, because women had not educated themselves before to question certain aspects of their faith that impact equality.

Bringing more attention

Shahram’s hopes for the future rest on uniting women from around the world. “The more we learn and talk about the issue of gender inequality, the more people are going to know about the patriarchal interpretation. Women in Saudi Arabia will learn that women in Turkey have rights that they don’t have. Yet they both practice the same faith. If these women know we support them, it will give them encouragement and self-empowerment.”

Muslim women, says Shahram, are taking steps “carefully and gently.” She believes that these smaller steps, taken slowly, will result in more sustained change. “If we, as Muslim women around the world, know our rights, then we can find ways to ensure equality.”

“Women in some Muslim cultures,” she adds, “are facing inequality in many aspects of life but in particular at home. These women have almost no rights of association and movement without permission of their male guardian. Domestic violence, including rape and murder, are treated as disciplining devices tolerated in certain Islamic governments. It is our duty to end such practices and the answer lies in raising awareness.”

Grace Lazzara is a freelance writer and public relations consultant residing in Buffalo, N.Y.

“If we, as Muslim women around the world, know our rights, then we can find ways to ensure equality.”

Inside Intelligence

Sophisticated software has students discovering what it takes to track down today’s high-tech bad guys

It looks like a lot of other college computer labs. Students occasionally check their notes and tap away at their keyboards as they work to finish course projects. But in a matter of minutes and with only a few computer actions, scores of financial data is analyzed and money trails found. That’s far from the standard student computer lab.

This leading-edge database software in Hilbert College’s forensics training lab is designed to drastically par down hours of intelligence research – covering many investigative areas like complex terrorist money laundering schemes or health care fraud.

Valued at \$400,000, the customizable iBase Designer software has been made available to Hilbert’s Economic Crime Investigation (ECI) Department through i2, Inc.’s College Partner Program. The company is a leading provider of data visualization and investigative analysis software.

The powerful iBase software is specifically designed for intelligence analysts and investigators. It’s set up in Hilbert’s lab in conjunction with Analyst’s Notebook software, which i2 provided to the ECI program last year, bringing the total value of both software programs to more than \$600,000. Through the partnership agreement, up to 50 licensed users are allowed at one time.

According to Thomas Algoe, Hilbert ECI assistant professor, “many organizations do not have the resources or time to enter intelligence research data in one or more internal database sources and then again in Analyst’s Notebook. These records may include surveillance, affidavits, real estate records or information from law enforcement

databases. With minimal computer steps, iBase software captures all this pertinent data and facilitates its transfer to one database to analyze the information for links, cutting hours and hours of work into just a few short actions.”

In major investigations, such seamless integration is invaluable. Take, notes William Haslinger, ECI assistant professor, massive amounts of financial data and transaction information collected to track money trails related to terrorist activities. iBase can manage the information and export it to Analyst’s Notebook where the data can then be analyzed. Comprehensive reports, charts, location-based analysis and other materials can be created to assist with an investigation.

Such high-end software programs are widely used for competitive intelligence and criminal investigative research in organizations, businesses, and local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, particularly in homeland security.

ECI Chairperson Sandra Augustine points out “we’ve taken the lead in preparing students to use some of the most sophisticated software programs in the field. Our students are gaining knowledge and hands-on skills in a lab equipped with intelligence software tools in high-demand in private industry and law enforcement organizations. Clearly, students who develop proficiency in these programs will stand out in the job environment.”

For Hilbert ECI students, having access to both iBase and Analyst’s Notebook allows them to adapt the programs to individual needs for course-required projects. Students in the “Senior Seminar” course

taught by Haslinger and Algoe, for example, are being given a set of intelligence, investigation and financial reports and other pertinent documents that might be found in a real-world investigation.

“With this information in hand, students use iBase to design a database to best house the information contained in the reports,” explains Haslinger. “Once the database has been created and the information captured, it’s then moved into Analyst Notebook for further analysis.”

This spring, a new “Investigative and Intelligence Software Tools” course encapsulates the i2 programs and others students are learning about in different ECI courses. The course will culminate with student-prepared research projects using all the software tools reviewed in the course.

“Students are being introduced to the intelligence process and taught how to apply cutting-edge software, such as iBase, in real-world research projects,” said Augustine. “They will have a background and level of knowledge that’s highly desirable in a rapidly growing niche in the intelligence and investigative job market.”

Algoe adds there have been major strides in proactive measures and investigative strategies in the intelligence field, but the “fact is terrorism, national and corporate security issues, fraud and other complex crimes have created a strong need for more advanced intelligence tools. Having the unique analysis and crime-solving capabilities to properly operate these tools is something that will make Hilbert students all the more essential to investigative initiatives.”



First-Team Runner

Senior cross-country runner Stacey Zinck '05 was named to the 2004 All-Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) First Team.

Zinck, a human services major, finished seventh out of 53 runners at the AMCC Championships in Frostburg, Md. She finished the 6K race in a time of 27:44, five seconds behind fifth place finisher Willa Paterson of Penn State Behrend. The top 10 finishers in the conference meet were selected to the all-conference team.

Kickin' It Up

The 2004 Hilbert College women's soccer team was among 363 intercollegiate soccer programs to earn the National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Adidas Team Academic Award, The annual honor is presented to intercollegiate teams that post a grade-point-average of 3.0 or higher. This marks the second consecutive season the women's soccer team has earned this distinction.

"This truly is a great award that recognizes the quality of our student-athletes," head coach James Ruggiero said. "The coaching staff is very proud of this accomplishment."

The Hilbert women's soccer team finished the 2004 season 6-9-1, and 3-6 in Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference play.



Three Join Coaching Staff

Shannon Steinwandel is now serving as head women's volleyball coach and as facility coordinator for Hilbert College Athletics Department, while Tim Kronenwetter takes over as head men's soccer coach, and Ryan Kingsland begins his first season as head coach of the men's volleyball team.

Steinwandel comes to the Hamburg campus after three seasons as an assistant coach at Bishop Timon St. Jude High School in Buffalo.

A graduate of Mt. Mercy Academy in Buffalo, Steinwandel was a standout three-sport athlete partic-



Shannon Steinwandel

icipating in volleyball, basketball, and track and field. She moved on to St. Bonaventure University where she played Division I lacrosse before graduating with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She also earned a physical education teaching certificate.

Kronenwetter arrives at Hilbert after spending the past 10 years coaching youth soccer and serving as Cheektowaga soccer director. His Cheektowaga Cougars team won a division title and his Cheektowaga Revolution program finished in first place during his tenure. He has also served as girls head coach for the Exceptional Seniors Program for the past four years.



Tim Kronenwetter

Previously, he served as assistant men's soccer coach at NCAA Division III Buffalo State College. He helped the Bengals to a 9-11 record during the 1999 season while working primarily with the goalkeepers.

Kronenwetter earned a bachelor's degree from Buffalo State College and is currently working on a master's degree in education at Buffalo State. He holds a USSF "D" license to go along with a NSCAA National Youth Diploma.



Ryan Kingsland

Kingsland comes to Hilbert after serving as coach for the Eden Volleyball Club Under-18 team for the past two seasons. He previously worked with the St. Francis High School varsity volleyball team and served as junior varsity coach.

He graduated from SUNY Cortland with a bachelor's degree in physical education and a concentration in teaching. At SUNY Cortland, he served as a volleyball instructor and played on the club volleyball team for four seasons, as well as provided swimming instruction to mentally handicapped children.

Currently, he's working with area youth at Baker Victory Services as a wrap around community leader.

In the Sports Zone

2005 Winter/Spring Home Sports Schedule

DATE	SPORT	OPPONENT	TIME
FEB 18	Women's Basketball	Penn State Altoona	6 PM
	Men's Basketball	Penn State Altoona	8 PM
FEB 19	Women's Basketball	Mount Aloysius	2 PM
	Men's Basketball	Mount Aloysius	4 PM
MAR 9	Men's Volleyball	D'Youville	7 PM
MAR 30	Men's Baseball	Medaille (DH)	1 PM
APR 2	Men's Baseball	Frostburg State	1 PM
APR 5	Women's Softball	Penn State Behrend (DH)	3 PM
APR 9	Women's Softball	Mount Aloysius	1 PM
APR 11	Women's Softball	Alfred University (DH)	3 PM
APR 13	Women's Softball	Lake Erie (DH)	3 PM
APR 16	Men's Baseball	Penn State Altoona (DH)	1 PM
APR 20	Men's Baseball	Brockport State	4 PM
APR 23	Women's Softball	La Roche (DH)	1 PM
APR 24	Women's Softball	Pitt-Greensburg (DH)	11 AM
APR 30	Men's Baseball	Pitt-Bradford (DH)	1 PM



Happening @ Hilbert

February

22 **Internet Job Search Techniques Workshop**
2-3 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

23 **Graduate School Workshop**
3-4 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

24 **Resume and Cover Letter Workshop**
1-2 PM, Franciscan Hall Student Lounge
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

March

2 **Professional Success Program**
6-9 PM
Info: 649-7900, ext. 265
pbaubonis@hilbert.edu

3 **Spring Job Fair**
9 AM-Noon, Franciscan Hall Atrium
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

13 **Live Stations of the Cross & Children's Easter Party**
2-4 PM, Campus Center
Info: 649-7900, ext. 253
srjackie@hilbert.edu

15 **Graduate School Workshop**
2-3 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

16 **Resume and Cover Letter Workshop**
3-4 PM, Franciscan Hall Student Lounge
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

17 **Internet Job Search Techniques Workshop**
1-2 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

April

19 **Resume and Cover Letter Workshop**
2-3 PM, Franciscan Hall Student Lounge
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

20 **Internet Job Search Techniques Workshop**
3-4 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

21 **Graduate School Workshop**
1-2 PM, Career Lab
Info: 649-7900, ext. 236
radle@hilbert.edu

May

1 **Baccalaureate Mass and Brunch**
11 AM, Franciscan Hall
RSVP: 649-7900, ext. 265
pbaubonis@hilbert.edu

4 **Visiting Artist Series**
Featuring poet Irving Feldman
7 p.m., Franciscan Hall Atrium
Info: 649-7900, ext. 226
hughes@hilbert.edu

14 **Commencement**
11 AM, Wesleyan Church of Hamburg

Send us your news & photos!

Traveled across the country? Published a book? Been promoted? Let us know what's new with you (awards, marriage, births, promotions/job changes, change of address, advanced degrees, etc.). Just fill out this form and mail it with your photo, if available, to: Hilbert College, Office of Alumni Affairs, 5200 South Park Ave., Hamburg, NY 14075, or fax it to (716) 558-6381. You can also e-mail your latest news to alumni@hilbert.edu.

Please print or type:

Name _____
 Degree(s) _____ Class year(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Home phone () _____ E-mail address _____
 Business address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Business phone () _____ Fax _____
 News: _____

Faculty & Staff file

THOMAS ALGOE, assistant professor of economic crime investigation, spoke on northern border threat assessment for a group of visiting immigration officials participating in the State Department's International Visitor Program.

MICHAEL DEGNAN, Ph.D., academic dean, received a certificate of completion for a two-week seminar in speaking Irish from the Oidhreacht Chorca Dhuibhne in Ballyferriter, Ireland.

ROB DEGRANDPRE, head men's basketball coach and sports information and recruitment director, earned a master's degree in education with a concentration in athletic administration from SUNY Brockport.

WENDY EDSON, assistant chairperson and associate professor of paralegal studies, received an award for five years of volunteer service as a mediator/arbitrator from the Buffalo Better Business Bureau. Also, she spoke on "Ethical Issues for Law Librarians: From Office Politics, UPL and the Patriot Act and Everything in Between," at the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York annual conference.

JASON ENSER, director of student activities, attended the National Assembly for Campus Activities Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Baltimore.

CHARLES ERNST, Ph.D., chairperson of arts and sciences and professor of English, published "Night-Sea Journeying: The Text-World and Life-Text of John Barth," in the journal *Cithara*. He also gave a presentation on Shakespeare at the Amherst Senior Center.

RON ESHEW, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, was inducted into the Del City High School Hall of Fame in honor of his professional achievements.

EDWARD HEMPLING, adjunct professor of criminal justice, spoke on homeland security at the Amherst Senior Center.

PATRICK HERATY, professor of business administration, gave a presentation on Franklin Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" at the Immaculata Academy Professional Development Program.

STEVE JACKSON, assistant professor of communication studies, has been named to the board of directors for Squeaky Wheel, a nonprofit media arts center.

CHEYENNE JUMANAH, secretary to the vice president for student life, won third place for her poem, "What is the Sun," in an art contest as part of St. Bonaventure University's Disability Awareness Month activities.

DANIEL ROLAND, professor of business administration and accounting, has received a certificate of management development from Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

NADIA SHAHRAM, adjunct professor of law and government, gave a presentation on "Modern Iran: Islamic Law, Culture and Human Rights," at WorldConnect's interactive forum for high school students on "America and the World." She also spoke on Islamic women's rights and family law for Medaille College's Leadership Seminar Series.

RICHARD WALSH, director of athletics, has been named to a three-year term as chairperson of the Division III Men's Basketball Committee for the East Region.



Be a Part of It

With the Hilbert College Annual Fund, you have the opportunity to make great things happen. Your gift is all about joining together with other supporters in a way that will have a significant, positive impact on Hilbert students and help ensure the future of the college.

As Hilbert moves forward, we are dedicated to enriching the lives of our students and making a difference in the Hilbert experience. Annual fund gifts allow the college flexibility in providing for areas where the need is greatest and brings immediate benefits to students.

You can play a role in the life of the college and our students. We need your help to reach our 2004-05 annual fund goal of \$103,000. Every gift makes a difference, regardless of the size.

The annual fund envelope in this issue of *Hilbert Connections* is available so that you may make your gift today, or contact Mark Bindig at 716-649-7900, ext. 340, mbindig@hilbert.edu. Our deepest thanks if you've already made a gift to the annual fund.

From the Alumni President

A joyous New Year to all!

A new year brings new opportunities. Your alumni association is hard at work on many new opportunities. We've started plans for several events in 2005. Theater trips, the alumni brunch, golf tournaments, baseball games, and big celebrations are just a part of what we're working on. I hope each of you will find a way to be a part of at least one of these events. Check your alumni association Web site often for details on events and gatherings.

I want to take a moment to remind everyone that this association is about you and for you. We rely on the input of graduates from every class to be able to provide the services and benefits you desire most. We appreciate all the feedback and suggestions we get, so keep them coming.

The schedule of association board meetings can be found on the Web site. These meetings are open to everyone. Take the time to come see your board in action and give your input. We love to get new ideas and have fresh faces on committees.

This year brings many changes to your alumni association. After two years, my term as president has ended. I'm proud to turn this honor over to Nichole Becker '01. Nichole has been active with the association from the beginning and, as a successful business owner, will lead us in a great direction. Thank you everyone for two wonderful years and congratulations Nichole.

You can contact Nichole at the same e-mail address: alumnipresident@hilbert.edu, or Pat Baubonis, alumni relations director, at pbaubonis@hilbert.edu. We look forward to seeing you.

Robyn Meyer Kulczyk
alumnipresident@hilbert.edu



To contact the Hilbert Office of Alumni Relations: e-mail pbaubonis@hilbert.edu

'60s

SISTER MARTHA MARIE OLSZEWSKI, FSSJ, AA '67 received the Mater Christi Award from Immaculata Academy in Hamburg, N.Y.

'70s

KATHERINE BIFARO, AAS '79 was honored by the Minority Bar Association of Western New York, and the Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee also presented her the Sanford Kulick Award for making "a substantial commitment" to lawyer assistance efforts.

SUSAN (SCHNEIDER) PILIP, AA '72 is an itinerant teacher for the deaf and hard of hearing K-12 with the Hamilton Board of Education in Hamilton, Ont. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Buffalo State College and a master's degree in deaf education from Canisius College.

CHARLES KLAUS, AA '75 has been elected treasurer of the Hilbert Alumni Association.

SISTER ROSEMARIE STEWART, FSSJ, AAS '71 is an accountant in the Department of Justice of the State of Illinois.

JERRY WSZALEK, AA '73 is training coordinator/director at CHRYSALIS Training Center in Buffalo, N.Y.

'80s

TERRY HERRING, AA '88 assistant director of graduate admissions at D'Youville College, was a recruiter at Hilbert's career fair.

JAMES IGLEWSKI, AAS '85 was chosen for *Business First's* "40 Under Forty" Class of 2004.

W. SHAWN MANLEY, AS '87 a mortgage officer at HSBC in Buffalo, was named to *Mortgage Originator* magazine's list of Top 200 Mortgage Originators for 2003.

MARY MILLER, AAS '82 is a technical secretary/admissions at Elmira College in Elmira, N.Y.

MARK MARONSKI, AA '86 director of security at Rosina Food Products in Buffalo, N.Y., has joined the Hilbert Criminal Justice Department as an adjunct instructor.

ANNETTE (PICCIANO) OLDAY, AAS '89 has been appointed business and operations manager at Waring Financial Group in Hamburg, N.Y. She competed in the Empire State Games in July in the Masters Division Gymnastics, placing fourth on the floor and vault.

MYRA PINKER, AAS '88 has been appointed middle school assistant principal in the Frontier Central School District in Hamburg, N.Y.

MARY STRAFEL, CER '86 is an assistant teacher for exceptional children in Weddington, N.C.

'90s

DONALD BRICKEL, AS '99 works in technical support at Bank of America, Fleet Credit Division in Colorado Springs, Colo.

KELLY (MCKEE) CEBULSKI, AA '94 is pursuing a master's degree in education from Buffalo State College and her thesis has been nominated for the college's Master's Project of the Year Award. She has

a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Buffalo State and teaches 7th grade science at Maryvale Middle School in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

MICHELE (KLINKO) COHAN, AA '99 is an accounts receivable specialist at Uniform Data Systems in Amherst, N.Y.

BRENDA ELLIS, BS '99 has been elected treasurer of the American Society of Women Accountants, Buffalo Chapter, and named parliamentarian of the Hilbert Alumni Association.

CECIL FOSTER, BS '99 was honored at the 32nd annual Black Achievers in Industry Awards dinner in Buffalo, N.Y.

JEREMIAH GIRON, AA '96 is a service manager at Systems Technology Group in Buffalo, N.Y.

SEAN GREENWAY, BS '96 is a police officer in the Chesterfield County Police Department, Va.

JOHN JAKIEL, AAS '95 is a social studies teacher at Hutchinson-Central High School in Buffalo, N.Y. He has a bachelor's degree from Canisius College and is pursuing a master's degree at Buffalo State College.

CANDACE JENSEN, BS '94 a paralegal student at Hilbert, is the first recipient of a scholarship created by the Western New York Paralegal Association, Inc.

MARGARET KOSOWSKI, BS '98 has been named administrator, material data safety sheets at Carleton Technologies in Orchard Park, N.Y.

LINDA MAHONEY, BS '97 helped develop a pro bono program that enables families to obtain guardian-

ship rights for relatives with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities when they reach the age of 18. The program was recently recognized by the Erie County Volunteer Lawyers Project.

STEVEN METZ, BS '96 is a U.S. Customs and Border patrol officer stationed at Lester B. Pearson International Airport in Toronto.

KEVIN MORRIS, BS '96 is channel manager for the Food and Drug Channel of Bernzomatic, a division of Newell Rubbermaid, in Atlanta, Ga.

DAVID OLDAY, AA '90 a police officer in the Town of Hamburg, earned the designation of Drug Recognition Expert.

STEPHEN PAOLETTI, BS '96 is owner of an asset recovery business assisting individuals to collect on civil judgments in Orlando, Fla.

LISA (SZALKOWSKI) RESSMAN, BS '99, is managing financial consultant at Phymedco Business Consulting in Williamsville, N.Y.

LORI SZEWCZYK, BS '96 was chosen for *Business First's* "40 Under Forty" Class of 2004.

JOSEPH USINSKI, BS '94 was a recruiter for the Erie County Sheriff's Department at Hilbert's career fair.

DONNA ZIMPFER, BS '99 is an adjunct instructor in the Hilbert Criminal Justice Department.

'00s

ROBERT BALKO, BS '04 is with the FBI Police in Washington, D.C.

AMY BARTZ, BS '01 has been elected vice president of the Hilbert Alumni Association.

News & Notes

NICHOLE BECKER, BS '01 has been elected president of the Hilbert Alumni Association.

DAWN BELLEZZA, BS '03 is a mortgage servicing support specialist in the Mortgage and Foreclosure Department of M&T Bank in Buffalo, N.Y. She was recently appointed to the Hilbert Alumni Association Board of Directors.

JASON B. BOSSERT, BS '04 is a security officer at American Axle & Manufacturing in Buffalo, N.Y.

SARAH BREENE, AA '00 is a police officer in the Salamanca Police Department. She recently graduated from the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Academy at Jamestown Community College.

SHANNON BRUNDIGE, BS '03 is a legal assistant at the New York State Police in Albany, N.Y.

KATHLEEN CELLINI-BURNS, BS '04 is regional manager for Menlo Trade Services in Buffalo, N.Y.

LISA CZERNIAK, AAS '05 is a paralegal in the law offices of Gary Schaff in Lancaster, N.Y.

SARA DEANTHONY, BS '04 is a preventive caseworker at Baker Victory Services in Lackawanna, N.Y.

BENJAMIN DODGE, BS '03 is a New York State trooper.

JENNIFER FERRARA, BS '02 is milieu supervisor for group homes at Baker Victory Services in Lackawanna, N.Y.

JUSTIN FIELD, BS '02 received a master's degree in secondary education from D'Youville College and teaches language arts in Orlando, Fla.

ARTHUR FIJALKOWSKI, BS '01 is an air reserve techni-

cian at the Department of Defense in Niagara Falls, N.Y. He has a degree in aerospace propulsion systems maintenance technology from Community College of the Air Force.

PATRICK FITZGERALD, BS '04 is a police officer in Orchard Park, N.Y.

MELANIE GROTKE, BS '03 is an accounts payable clerk at ESM Group, Inc., in Amherst, N.Y.

ERIC HAHN, AA '02 is an officer in training at the New York State Correctional Officer Academy in Albany, N.Y.

MARY HOFFMAN-GUIDO, BS '00 is a paralegal in North Las Vegas, Nev.

CHRISTOPHER HULL, BS '02 works at Southtowns Financial Group in Orchard Park, N.Y. He recently was intern supervisor for Hilbert business student Edward Blasak.

ERICA HUNT, BS '01 is a social worker at Catholic Charities in Buffalo, N.Y. She earned a CSW in July.

PATRICK JOHNSON, AA '02 has been promoted to staff sergeant by the U.S. Marine Corps. He received a bachelor's degree in business management from Park University in Quantico, Va.

ELENA KAROVSKI, BA '00 is an English teacher in West Seneca Central Schools. She has a master's degree in secondary education from D'Youville College.

JULIE (FARRELL) KURDZIEL, BA '00 is an administrative assistant at the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

CARLA LANCASTER, BS '04 is a paralegal at Schaack, Whipple, Clark, Nelson in Fredonia, N.Y.

KELLY LANG, BA '03 is pursuing a graduate degree in American studies at Bowling Green University in Ohio.

LORRAINE LANNING, BS '03 is a senior staff assistant at the University at Buffalo Department of Sociology.

HOLLY LINDSTROM, BS '04 is pursuing a degree in urban planning at the University at Buffalo.

LORRAINE (OATMEYER) LUBICKI, BS '02 helped develop a pro bono program that enables families to obtain guardianship rights for relatives with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities when they reach the age of 18. The program was recently recognized by the Erie County Volunteer Lawyers Project.

SUSAN (FLORA) LUPIANI, BS '01 is an intelligence analyst at the FBI in Buffalo, N.Y.

JEANNA MARRANO, BS '05 is a crisis intervention counselor at Gateway-Longview in Williamsville, N.Y.

MOLLY MCCARTHY, BA '04 is an infirmary assistant/counselor/supervisor at Cradle Beach Camp, Inc., in Angola, N.Y.

JENNIFER (SUTTELL) MICHALEK, BS '00 is a paralegal at the law offices of Randy Gugino in West Seneca, N.Y.

CRAIG MOORE, BS '04 is a forensic identification officer at the Niagara Regional Police in St. Catharines, Ont.

NICOLE (SAVAGE) NIVER, BS '01 works in administrative services at the City of Buffalo Department of Public Works.

ERIN (DOMIN) PARKER, BA '02 has been elected secretary of the Hilbert Alumni Association.

DAVID PARTRIDGE, AS '01 is a sales and special finance consultant at South Transit Chrysler Jeep in Buffalo, N.Y.

KAREN (BOGUMIL) PARTRIDGE, AAS '00 is accounting department manager of P&A Administrative Services in Buffalo, N.Y.

NICHOLAS PASQUARELLA, BS '04 is employed in the accounting department of First Priority Mortgage in Buffalo, N.Y.

KIMBERLY PICONE, AA '04 is an electronic court recorder operator for the U.S. District Court in Buffalo, N.Y.

DAVID PULCINI, BS '03 has been appointed to the Hilbert Alumni Association Board of Directors.

JONATHAN RAJEWSKI, BS '04 is a forensic examiner at P.G. Lewis & Associates in Whitehouse Station, N.J.

RANDY REESE, BS '04 is an investigator assigned to the New York State Lottery in Buffalo, N.Y.

SCOTT ROBERTSON, BS '01 is owner and operator of Scotty's Lawn Maintenance and Snow Plowing in Buffalo, N.Y.

KRISTY SCHMITT, BS '04 is a paralegal at Sliwa and Lane in Buffalo, N.Y.

MARGARET SONGIN, BA '04 is an adjunct instructor in the Hilbert English Department.

RICHARD SCHUNKE, BS '01 is an agent at Schunke Insurance and a varsity lacrosse coach at Frontier Central High School in Hamburg, N.Y.

SARAH (CLARONI) SKINNER, BS '00, is a mortgage specialist at M&T Mortgage Corp. in Buffalo, N.Y.

MICHAEL SZOCKI, BS '02 is a systems administrator in the SUNY Fredonia Computer Science Department and teaches micro-computer software.

DEBORAH VATICANO, BS '00 is office manager/accountant at Grove Roofing Services, Inc., in Buffalo, N.Y.

CATHERINE WALKER, BS '03 is a paralegal in the commercial real estate/public finance department at Hodgson Russ in Buffalo, N.Y.

MARK ZANGHI, BS '00 passed the bar exam and was sworn into the Ohio Bar in a ceremony before the Ohio Supreme Court in Columbus.

KAREN ZORN, BA '02 is assistant women's soccer coach at Hilbert.

WEDDINGS

KAREN BOGUMIL, AAS '00 to **DAVID PARTRIDGE, AS '01**

JASON BOSSERT, BS '04 to Becky Shinnal

DONALD BRICKEL, AS '99 to Pamela Pufpaff

SARAH CLARONI, BS '00 to Daniel Skinner

WILLIAM COOKFAIR, BS '02 to Kelli Fogelsonger

PATRICK FITZGERALD, BS '04 to Sarah Machucki

JEREMIAH GIRON, AA '96 to Kristina Favata

SEAN GREENWAY, BS '96 to Tracey Robertson

ERIC HAHN, AA '02 to Melissa Hager

JOHN JAKIEL, AAS '95 to Lori Metzger

MICHELE KLINKO, AA '99 to Christian Cohan

MICHAEL LOMAS, BS '96 to Amy Pernick

KEVIN MONACO, BS '02 to Tamie Galluzzi

NICOLE PYLE, BS '01 to Robert L. Shelton, Jr

SCOTT ROBERTSON, BS '01 to Christine Kaczmarek

NORMA RUSERT, AAS '83 to Charles Kelly

NICOLE SAVAGE, BS '01 to Richard Niver

ROBERT SCHUNKE, BS '01 to Shannon O'Neill

TARA TAYLOR, BS '02 to Joseph D'Amico

JOSEPH TERIAN, AAS '88 to Carla Brower

LAURA WORTH, BS '01 to Charles Carrow

BIRTHS

TODD EHRET, BS '98 and Kathy Redenbach welcomed a daughter, Jenna Marie.

JONATHAN HERATY, BS '97 and his wife Molly, welcomed a son, Ryan Patrick, who joins older brother, Jack.

MATTHEW HOLMES, BS '93 and his wife, Kelly, welcomed a son, Connor Joseph, who joins older brother Matthew James.



THOMAS KOZAK, AA '95 and **DIANE (HOTALING) KOZAK, BS '96** welcomed a daughter, Noelle Anya.

STEVEN METZ, BS '96 and his wife, Lori, welcomed a son, Tanner Reid.

REBECCA (HESS) VISNESKY, BS '03 and her husband, Eric, welcomed a son, John Tyler.

In Memoriam

NICHOLAS FUSCO, AAS '85 Dec. 6, 2004

FLORENCE (MCMULLAN) GASKE, AAS '70 Sept. 25, 2004

SISTER M. NOELLA WALAS, FSSJ, a Hilbert College trustee emerita, died Nov. 15, 2004. She was 87.

A member of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph for nearly 65 years, Sister Noella, a Massachusetts native, was a former administrator at St. Joseph Hospital in Cheektowaga and was previously with St. Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn for 25 years.

She also served as FSSJ's community treasurer and general minister, as well as local treasurer of Immaculate Conception Convent.

Correction

JENNIFER HINK, BS '94 is a graduate of Albany Law School of Union University. The university was incorrect in the Fall 2004 *Hilbert Connections*.



New Officers

Newly elected officers of the Hilbert College Alumni Association are, left to right: Nichole Becker '01, president; Amy Bartz '01, vice president; Erin Parker '02, secretary; Charles Klaus '75, treasurer; and Brenda Ellis '99, parliamentarian.

What's It All About?

Benefits of the Hilbert College Alumni Association

For Alumni

Career networking
Professional development
Opportunities to meet potential employees
Sense of giving back to Hilbert by assisting/mentoring students

For Students

Practical insights & experiences
Positive alumni models
Career exploration



Potential Alumni Association Activities:

Educational seminars, mentor program, workshops, reunion weekend fundraisers, involvement in professional conferences, and guest speakers

If you are interested in helping organize or participate in alumni association activities, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (716) 649-7900, ext. 265, or e-mail pbaubonis@hilbert.edu
www.hilbertcollegealumni.org

**Remember you are a student for four years
but an alumna/us forever!**

Remember When

the '60s

Joan McGowan, the first full-time lay faculty at Hilbert College (then Immaculata College), teaches math to students in the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, where all classes were held until the first buildings on-campus opened in 1969. The student body was made up of only members of the FSSJ congregation until 1964 when the college first admitted lay women students and began offering associate degrees in arts and applied science.

To share some of your favorite memories as a student during the '60s, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 716-649-7900, ext. 265, or e-mail pbaubonis@hilbert.edu



Hilbert College

5200 South Park Avenue

Hamburg, NY 14075

Return Service Requested

Parents: If newsletter is addressed to a graduated son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please clip the address label and return it with correct address to the address shown above.