Poly Goes Wireless

Albert Brandenstein Creates Technology to Fight Drug Crime

Former Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary Addresses Students

Claudia Tom Explores the Real World at IBM
Topfer, board member and counselor to the CEO at Dell Computer Corporation, announced a gift of $2.5 million to the University to endow the Morton and Angela Topfer Distinguished Chair in Technology Management in the Department of Management. The department is overseen by Chair Mel Horwitch.

“I gained tremendously from my courses and the professors,” Topfer said of his time as a graduate student at Polytechnic. “This gift is my way of thanking the University for building the foundation for the personal and professional success I now enjoy.”

Regna gave his alma mater $1.5 million, which was increased to $2.5 million through a $1 million match from Dr. Joseph J. Jacobs ’37 ’39 ’42 H’86, as part of his now-completed $10 million challenge to the campaign. Polytechnic will use the $1 million match to create the Peter and Barbara Regna Student Activities Center in the new Joseph J. and Violet J. Jacobs Building/Rogers Hall complex. The initial $1.5 million gift will allow the University to establish and maintain a Laboratory for Biomacromolecular Engineering to research the production of environmentally friendly polymers. The laboratory will be housed in a new Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing of Macromolecules, headed by Dr. Richard A. Gross, Herman F. Mark Professor of Polymer Science (see page 12 for more information on the center).

Regna’s son, Peter J. Regna, speaking on behalf of his father, said, “This laboratory is what attracted my father’s interest and led to the gift; it nicely dovetails what he has done all his life.” In a career spanning 60 years, Regna played a key role in discovering many antibiotics, which revolutionized modern medical practice, including Terramycin, a drug effective against more than 100 diseases. He is currently co-founder and managing director of the Harrington Research Company.

**Polytechnic Receives Additional $5 Million for the Campaign**

The Campaign for Polytechnic—Fulfilling the American Dream has pushed closer to the finish line thanks to new gifts from two alumni. The campaign has raised $265 million towards its $275 million goal. “We are inside the four-yard line with five months remaining to cross the goal line,” said Dr. Richard S. Thorsen, vice president for development and university relations. “With continuing alumni gifts of all sizes, we will cross the goal line before June 30.”

**Morton L. Topfer H’00 and Dr. Peter P. Regna ’32 ’37 ’42 H’94 recently announced separate gifts—totaling $5 million—to the Campaign for Polytechnic.**

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**“THIS GIFT IS MY WAY OF THANKING THE UNIVERSITY FOR BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS…”**

—Morton L. Topfer

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David A. Conklin ’52 ’59

At age 10, David A. Conklin ’52 ’59 made a trade with his older sister that would change the course of his life. “I had my eye on my sister’s chemistry set but she would not give it up,” Conklin remembers fondly. “As fate would have it, a cousin in the Merchant Marines returned from a voyage to Africa and gave me a beautiful set of carved ivory animals. My sister loved them, so we traded—the ivory figures for the chemistry set—and that was it. I was hooked.”

Looking back over 60 years, Conklin smiles and says, “I knew when I was a boy that I wanted to be a chemical engineer but just didn’t know where I was going to learn to do it.” Born and raised on Long Island and a graduate of Hempstead High School, Conklin’s college choice eventually came down to one school: Polytechnic. “Poly’s outstanding reputation and the opportunity to study with two icons in the field of chemical engineering — Donald F. Othmer and Raymond E. Kirk — made the decision easy for me.”

Graduating with a bachelor’s in chemical engineering, cum laude, and awarded the Alfred Raymond Award for his thesis, “Drying with Superheated Vapors,” Conklin joined the pharmaceutical giant Merck & Co. as an assistant research chemical engineer. While working full time, Conklin returned to Poly, earning a master’s in chemical engineering. In a career spanning 43 years at Merck, Conklin rose through the ranks, eventually becoming president of the Chemical Manufacturing Division and senior vice president for science and technology. In honor of his retirement in 1995, the Merck Foundation donated $150,000 to Polytechnic. Aided by matching funds from the National Science Foundation, the University opened the David A. Conklin Fellows and a member of the Polytechnic Board of Trustees and the Polytechnic 100 and has played an active role at the University, serving as chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Polytechnic 100 in 1994.

“I owe a lot to Poly,” he says. “I believe you have an obligation to give back when you can. I also believe in Poly’s mission to give great educational opportunities to students who don’t have the financial resources to do it on their own.”

Richard W. Foxen ’50

Last June, Richard W. Foxen ’50 attended Polytechnic’s commencement as chairman of the Golden Jubilee, the 50th anniversary reunion of the Class of 1950. Reflecting on the past half century, Foxen is amazed at the advancements that have occurred, as well his own success and that of his alma mater. “The makeup of the students at Poly has changed since my days,” he says, remembering his class, which comprised neither women nor minorities. “But the motivation has not. The Poly today, just like the Poly 50 years ago, appeals to the same students — ambitious and determined to learn and succeed.”

That description can certainly be applied to Foxen, a Brooklyn native. His father, William Foxen, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Athletics and Chicago Cubs in the 1910s, died when Foxen was 9. Foxen enrolled at Polytechnic in 1945 to study mechanical engineering, a profession his mother, Mae, considered solid and admirable. A year later, he joined the U.S. Army before returning to Poly in 1948 on the GI Bill. After graduation, he went to work for General Electric, where his first job was on the design project for the first modern jet engine.

Seeing more opportunities in management, Foxen went into manufacturing and then into general management, first at GE, then at Westinghouse Air Brake Company, where he eventually became president of its Brussels-based European Industrial Group, and later back at GE, where he served as vice president of its European Business Division, also headquartered in Brussels. In 1978, Foxen joined the Rockwell International Corporation in Pittsburgh. He retired in 1988 as senior vice president for corporate planning and international operations and went on to teach international management in the MBA programs at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University.

Foxen became reacquainted with Polytechnic 13 years ago through his friendship with former neighbor Dr. George Bagliarello, the University’s current chancellor. Foxen became a Polytechnic fellow and later joined the Board of Trustees and the Polytechnic 100 in 1994.

“I owe a lot to Poly,” he says. “I believe you have an obligation to give back when you can. I also believe in Poly’s mission to give great educational opportunities to students who don’t have the financial resources to do it on their own.”
Polytechnic’s President’s Associates celebrated its 23rd year during a reception at Windows on the World Restaurant in Manhattan’s World Trade Center.

Robert D. Dalziel ’56, chairman of the President’s Associates and a Poly trustee, announced that the Associates welcomed 23 new members and doubled the membership of the Young President’s Associates. In addition, members contributed $3 million to the Campaign for Polytechnic last year.

Honored during the ceremony with a 2000 Distinguished Alumnus Award were Dr. William C. W. Mow ’61, former chairman and CEO of Bugle Boy Industries, and Dr. Richard S. Stein ’45, Goessmann Professor of Chemistry Emeritus at the University of Massachusetts.

Members of the President’s Associates contribute $1,500 or more a year to Polytechnic. Young President’s Associates join at a special rate based on a sliding scale. For more information about the President’s Associates, contact Kristen Anderson at 718/260-3634 or e-mail her at kanderso@poly.edu.
Dr. Henry L. Bertoni:
Riding the Radio Waves of the Cell-Phone Phenomena

In the early 1980s, Dr. Henry L. Bertoni ’62 ’67 saw the future of cellular phones—first as a tool for doctors, traveling salespeople and drivers needing to make emergency calls, but very soon after as an everyday appliance. "People love to talk," he explains, "so there is profit in giving them the power to do so, anytime and any place."

At the time, the cell phone systems were about to be installed and Bertoni, an electrophysics professor at Poly, was approached by a wireless company to analyze the measurements of radio wave propagation in cities to determine where to place base station antennas. This project led him to see that there is underlying order to a city that is driven by the need for street access and by the economics of land and buildings. This order is apparent from above the buildings, where the radio waves propagate, and imprints itself upon the propagating waves. In 1997, Bertoni created Siteware Technology—with former student Dr. George Liang ’95 ’97 and Dr. Edward K. Wong, associate professor of computer science—to develop advanced software to predict coverage of cellular base stations in cities for improved system performance. He also wrote Radio Propagation for Modern Wireless Systems, published in 2000 by Prentice Hall.

Bertoni sees the future of his company and that of the cellular industry going to "site-specific predictions, where new technology will determine where you are when you call from a cell phone," he says. Such a system would help a 911 operator find a caller, give directions to a lost caller or let local businesses promote a product. Just imagine: “Sale on steak” flashing on your cell phone screen as you walk by a supermarket!

Profs. Nourbakhsh and Sjursen Named Department Heads

Polytechnic has named Dr. Said Nourbakhsh of Mechanical, Aerospace and Manufacturing Engineering and Dr. Harold P. Sjursen of Humanities and Social Sciences head of their respective departments.

Nourbakhsh, professor of materials science, came to Polytechnic in 1982. He served a one-year term in 1994 as head of the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science and chaired the University’s Tenure and Appointments Committee. He has written 63 technical papers on such topics as phase transformation, electron microscopy, mechanical behavior, composite materials, smart materials and ferroelectric thin films. Nourbakhsh succeeds Prof. Sunil Kumar as department head.

Sjursen joined the University in 1992 as an industry professor of philosophy. He helped establish the BS in Liberal Studies Program, recently served as deputy department chair and currently serves as director of the Philosophy and Technology Studies Center and academic coordinator for continuing professional education. In addition, he was director of the Institute for Distance Learning (1996-98), during which he developed Web-based course offerings for the department. In 1999, he was elected chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee, responsible for implementing Curriculum 2000. Sjursen’s areas of specialization include ethics, epistemology, philosophy of science and technology and 19th and 20th Century European philosophy. He is author of From Tradition to Technology—The Ethical Philosophy of Hans Jonas, to be published in 2001. Sjursen succeeds Prof. Richard Wener as department head.
Along the U.S./Mexico border, a local Brownsville, Texas, cop, using a federally developed thermal-imaging night-vision device, detects a low-slung boat inbound from Mexico. Within hours, the boat, crew and close to 1,000 pounds of marijuana are busted.

A computer-based Data Locator System connected to municipal agencies in Burlington, Iowa, provides local police with the exact location of every room and toilet in a known drug house. Toilets? “Yes,” explained Lieutenant Darren Grimshaw, “cases are lost if the evidence is flushed. So knowing the location of the toilets can mean saving the case.”
Bringing High-tech Weapons to the Drug Wars

The senior federal official putting these technologies and more into the hands of law enforcement is Polytechnic graduate Dr. Albert Brandenstein '63, chief scientist of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and director of its Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center. The center is revolutionizing the local fight against drugs by equipping more than 1,100 state, city and county law enforcement agencies with cutting-edge systems like those created for the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

"Much of the technology we are applying to counterdrug police work today flows from previously classified research and development program. Three years ago, Congress added the task of transferring federally developed high-tech systems to local law enforcement. More than 1,100 police departments have already received one or more of the 17 systems. "These technologies that Al Brandenstein is transferring to state and local police are making a real difference in the struggle against drug crime," said his former boss, White House Drug Czar General Barry McCaffrey (USA-Ret).

Brandingstein is also encouraging...

"Much of the technology we are applying to counterdrug police work today flows from previously classified military initiatives..."

—Dr. Albert Brandenstein '63

military initiatives I helped along as a research manager at an agency of the Pentagon," Brandenstein says with obvious delight.

Born and raised on Long Island, Brandenstein graduated from Mineola High School and wanted to attend an all-engineering college. For young Brandenstein, the choice was simple: "Polytechnic's electrical engineering program was and still is one of the best in the country."

Money was tight in those days, and Brandenstein alternated between day and evening classes. "I landed a job with Sperry Corporation, and the company paid my tuition for night school. After I had saved enough money, I attended as a full-time student."

Polytechnic and downtown Brooklyn hold fond memories for Brandenstein, who still remembers using his slide rule on the subway to school and the windows of Polytechnic rattling when the old Myrtle Avenue elevated train rumbled into Jay Street.

His most vivid memory is of two professors—Jerry Weiss and Sid Deutsch—who devoted to education and to Polytechnic students has remained an inspiration to Brandenstein. "Prof. Deutsch," Brandenstein says, "could reduce the most complex electrical systems to their core principles so even a neophyte could understand what was happening. And Prof. Weiss was always available to offer advice or help with a project."

Following graduation, Brandenstein went on to earn an MS in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University and then headed west to Oregon State University for his PhD in Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

In 1969, he joined a California-based company that developed strategic intelligence and tactical surveillance systems. Sent to South Korea to work on a missile-intelligence project, Brandenstein met the former June Chae. They married in 1973 and have two grown children.

Returning to the United States, he served as science adviser to the then chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, and became an office director for DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) in charge of developing systems for counterdrug, counterterrorism and other special operations.

Brandenstein, now 62, was appointed chief scientist and director of the Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center in 1991 to coordinate the entire federal counterdrug law enforcement research and development program.

world-class research scientists to explore and understand the underlying causes of substance abuse, dependence and addiction by providing the latest in brain-imaging technology. His center is also sponsoring the development of a cocaine vaccine and other medications, a nation-wide system tracking treatment effectiveness, programs for juvenile diversion from the criminal justice system and studies of the use of banned substances in intercollegiate and Olympic sports.

Brandenstein has enjoyed a rich and rewarding career on the front lines of emerging technology and scientific discovery, and it all began in Brooklyn more than 40 years ago. "Polytechnic provided the foundation for whatever professional success I now enjoy," says Brandenstein, who earned a bachelor's in electrical engineering. "I will never forget the opportunities Polytechnic offered me."
POLYTECHNIC PEOPLE

FACULTY NEWS

CHANCELLOR GEORGE BUGLIARELLO was appointed president of the Foundation for Science, Technology, Education and Research, a U.S.-Italy collaboration. He was also appointed to the Board of Directors of The Megacities Project Inc. and was invited by the National Academy of Engineering to chair its steering committee for a workshop on megacities. In addition, in Bugliarello’s honor, the Greenwall Foundation gave Sigma Xi an endowment to support prizes for papers in American Scientist that deal with interdisciplinary connections among biology, society and machines.

PRESIDENT DAVID C. CHANG was elected Fellow by the New York Academy of Sciences.

DR. MARK M. GREEN, professor of organic chemistry, was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest general science organization. Green also co-wrote (with Harold Witcoff) Organic Chemistry Principles and Industrial Practice, to be published by Wiley-VCH.

DR. F. H. “BUD” GRIFFIS, professor of civil engineering and director of Center for Construction Management Technology, was elected treasurer of the Board of Governors of the newly formed Architectural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

DR. MAGUED ISKANDER, assistant professor of civil engineering, received Chi Epsilon’s, James Robbins Excellence in Teaching Metropolitan District Award. He was also appointed to the ASCE Geo-Institute Publications committee.

DR. BURTON LIEBERMAN, professor of mathematics, was appointed by Schools Chancellor Harold O. Levy to a new 13-member New York City Board of Education Commission on Mathematics Education.

DR. LOUIS MENASHE, professor emeritus of history, was named to the Board of Advisors of the New York Festival of Russian Films.

DR. M. VOLKAN OTUGEN, associate professor of mechanical engineering, received a Fulbright Fellowship. As part of the fellowship, he spent fall 1999 at Istanbul Technical University, where he researched and lectured on laser-based diagnostics in fluid mechanics. He was also elected chair of the Honors and Awards Committee in ASME’s Fluids Engineering Division for a three-year term.

DR. ELENA S. PRASSAS, professor of engineering, was appointed to the six-member board in Chicago to advise the U.S.-Italy collaboration. He was also appointed to the ASCE Geo-Institute Publications committee.

DR. ELENA S. PRASSAS, professor of transportation engineering, was appointed to the Highway Capacity and Quality of Service Committee, a national committee of the Transportation Research Board.

DR. LOWELL SCHEINER, associate professor of humanities and communications, co-wrote Fiber-Optic Communications Technology (Prentice Hall, October 2000).

DR. LEONARD G. SHAW, professor emeritus of electrical engineering, was elected president-elect of the 10,000-member IEEE Control Systems Society for the year 2001. He becomes president in 2002.

DR. DANTE YOULA, university professor emeritus, was awarded the Golden Jubilee Medal from the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society for his “exceptional contributions toward advancing in various forms the Society’s goals during the first 50 years of its history.”

DR. EDWARD N. ZIEGLER, associate professor of chemical engineering, is recipient of the following three awards: the U.S. EPA Bronze Medal; the Air & Waste Management Association’s Recognition Award, Mid Atlantic States Section; and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Student Chapter’s 2000 Distinguished Professor Award.

GATES SCHOLARSHIP KICKOFF

President Chang met with fellow members of the Advisory Board of the Gates Millennium Scholars to help kick off a $1 billion fund created by Microsoft Corporation founder Bill Gates and his wife, Melinda, to provide college scholarships to minority students interested in careers in education, math, science and engineering. Dr. Chang was appointed to the six-member board in 1999. Here he talks with Melinda Gates and Dr. Walter E. Massey ’700, president of Morehouse College.
Polytechnic has long been fertile ground for producing technological innovation and entrepreneurial vision, and Profs. Peter Voltz ’81 ’87 and Joel Wein are continuing that tradition.

Voltz, associate professor of electrical engineering, is a founding member of LayerOne Wireless Technologies, a Melville, N.Y.-based company, which is developing software modules for incorporation into existing wireless equipment, such as cell phones and cable modems, to improve performance. The software will perform advanced signal processing to enhance signal reception and reduce interference and noise from other users.

Voltz is on a leave of absence from Poly to help launch the company and will serve as vice president and executive director of LayerOne’s Digital Signal Processing Design Group. “We are working with top engineers in the field,” said Voltz, “and using the latest tools and resources of a high-tech company to create a world-class telecommunications technology presence on Long Island.”

Two hundred miles north in Cambridge, Mass., Wein is implementing programs to make the Internet work faster and better. Wein, associate professor of computer science, is a senior research scientist for Akamai Technologies Inc. Akamai (Hawaiian for intelligent, clever and cool) is a category leader in the high-speed delivery of Web pages and other content over the Internet. Currently, the company has more than 4,000 servers in 45 countries to distribute content for such clients as Yahoo, CNN, Apple Computer and NBC and CBS Internet properties.

“I’m applying principles that I have studied and taught at Polytechnic to make the entire Internet work better,” says Wein, who is on a two-year leave of absence. “The support I received from Poly’s Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications enabled me to gain the background to do this.”

Six Polytechnic professors have been awarded research grants totaling $1.2 million under the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored New Information Technology Research initiative.

Dr. Shivendra S. Panwar, associate professor of electrical engineering, will explore new methods to ease congestion and speed the flow of data on the Internet. Dr. Zhong-Ping Jiang, assistant professor of electrical engineering, is co-principal investigator on the project. Panwar was awarded a second NSF grant to research the viability of supporting the transmission of video in ad-hoc wireless networks. Such networks are, for example, used in search and rescue missions or military operations. Dr. Yao Wang, associate professor of electrical engineering, is co-principal investigator.

Dr. Boris Aronov, associate professor of computer science, will research new ways to predict the average time and cost required for ray tracing to render a particular image or scene. Ray tracing is a method in computer graphics to create photo-realistic images from computer data. This technology is used extensively in the entertainment industry for computer-generated animation and by physicists and electrical engineers to simulate the propagation of light or radio waves. Drs. Yi-Jen Chiang and Herve Bronnimann, assistant professors of computer science, are co-principal investigators on the project.
Polytechnic University has established two new master’s degree programs—an interdisciplinary master’s program in engineering and a master’s in wireless innovation—that will respond to the growing industry demand for scientists, engineers and other high-tech professionals with a comprehensive education in more than one field.

The Master of Engineering Degree meets industry needs by educating students in fields that cross boundaries between disciplines, such as wireless systems, urban engineering and micro-electromechanical systems. The program is also designed for professionals changing careers or recognizing that the most challenging work is often done at the interface between disciplines. Students in the program are required to earn at least one certificate in a core concentration in any engineering or computer and information science discipline. In addition, they are encouraged to complete one or two courses in management.

Intended for working professionals, the Master of Engineering in Wireless Innovation Program is offered in executive format in the evenings and on weekends. The curriculum includes courses in marketing, mobile computing, technology strategy, new frontiers in electronic business and management and innovation in wireless e-commerce.

“By introducing these two new master’s programs, Polytechnic is graduating professionals who can demonstrate competence in multiple domains of science, engineering and management,” said Dr. Ivan T. Frisch, executive vice president and provost.

Both programs will be offered at Poly’s MetroTech campus and its Long Island Graduate Center for Professional Studies, under the direction of Dr. Frisch. The Master of Engineering Degree Program will also be offered at the University’s Westchester Graduate Center.

Polytechnic University has been awarded a $150,000 grant from the GE Fund Faculty for the Future—Engineering and Science Program to continue recruiting and supporting minorities and women as future faculty in chemical engineering and materials-science engineering.

This is the University’s third award from the GE Fund Faculty for the Future, which provides undergraduate research stipends, interest-free loans and graduate fellowships to students who plan to pursue academic careers. The program awarded Polytechnic and its Department of Chemical Engineering, Chemistry and Materials Science a three-year, $375,000 grant in 1994 and in 1997.

Completing Polytechnic’s first graduating student survey has paid off for Yelena Gorenburg ’00 and Wojciech M. Chrosny ’86 ’00. They each won a Palm PDA 111xe.

All graduating students who completed the survey were automatically entered in the drawing. Gorenburg earned a bachelor’s in computer science and works as a programmer for the Securities Industry Automation Corporation. Chrosny, who holds a master’s and a PhD in computer science, is director of software engineering at Pitney Bowes Inc.

The graduating student survey will be conducted each December and June and help the faculty and administration evaluate many aspects of the University as well as play a key role in planning new programs.
YES CENTER HOSTS
15TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Smiles, cheers and applause filled the Dibner Auditorium as Polytechnic’s Center for Youth in Engineering and Science (YES) hosted its 15th Summer Research Institute Commencement ceremony. For seven weeks last summer, more than 65 students from 37 New York-area high schools interned at Poly’s Brooklyn and Long Island campuses. The students worked on research projects under the tutelage cornerstone program for the YES Center, whose mission is to develop and nurture high school students’ interest in engineering and science as a career. Beverly Johnson, executive director of the YES Center, said during commencement, “Our graduates represent the next generation of engineers and scientists—a generation who will help usher in and define a new millennium of human civilization.”

POLY TRIUMPHS AT ACM PROGRAMMING
CONTEST; ADVANCES TO WORLD FINALS

Polytechnic—led by, from left, students Kenneth Manta, Edmund Kaim, Maurice Flanagan and coach Dr. David Doucette, associate dean, Long Island campus—captured first place in the ACM Greater New York Regional Programming Contest. More than 20 schools competed in the contest, sponsored by IBM and the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery). Each team had two computers and five hours to correctly solve eight programming assignments. The Poly team took first place, solving six of the eight problems, and will compete in the World Finals in March.
POLYTECHNIC NEWS

POLYTECHNIC BECOMES FIRST NYC UNIVERSITY TO GO WIRELESS AS NOTEBOOK COMPUTERS DEBUT ON CAMPUS

Polytechnic’s Class of 2004 brought more than books to their classes when they started their freshman year in September 2000. As one result of a new undergraduate curriculum, the University became the first in New York City, and among the first nationally, to require freshmen to use a notebook computer for their courses.

"Over the past several years, the University has been redesigning the undergraduate curriculum to give students a more well-rounded education and better equip them for a place in tomorrow’s marketplace," said Dr. William R. McShane, vice president and dean of engineering and applied sciences. "Using computers and the Internet in classrooms is integral to the success of the curriculum."

All 520 freshmen are leasing an IBM ThinkPad computer from the University for four years. The notebook is equipped with appropriate software for under-graduate courses, warranty and insurance and a wireless card that allows students to connect to the University network and Internet anywhere on campus. As part of the program, Polytechnic has partnered with IBM to become an "IBM ThinkPad University," joining a nationwide network of universities.

Polytechnic spent a year preparing for the notebooks, including upgrading the entire University telecommunications network, training faculty on the new computers and building smart and instructor-smart classrooms with Internet access and the latest audiovisual equipment.

Freshman Melissa Jacobs is excited about Polytechnic’s new wireless approach to education. "I like the idea of being able to communicate with my professor at any time and from any place," she said. "It’s hands-on and the exact opposite of what I experienced in high school.”

POLYTECHNIC ESTABLISHES BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER TO PROVIDE REVOLUTIONARY METHODS TO MAKE POLymERS

With grants totaling $1 million from the National Science Foundation and chemical and biomedical industry leaders, Polytechnic has established the nation’s first Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing of Macromolecules. Led by Dr. Richard A. Gross, the Herman F. Mark Professor of Polymer Science at Polytechnic, the center conducts research to develop new ways of producing environmentally friendly polymers using natural systems such as yeasts, fungi, bacteria and plants. These natural organisms will provide new opportunities to produce plastics and other polymers using less energy from nonpetroleum sources and minimizing the use or generation of toxic materials.

These polymers will be similar or related to those found in nature and will be directly applicable to the needs of the commodity chemical and biomedical industries.

The polymer research for the center is conducted in a new Laboratory for Biomacromolecular Engineering at Polytechnic. The laboratory is funded through a $1.5 million gift from Dr. Peter P. Regna ’32 ’37 ’42 H’94, a pioneer in biochemistry and biochemical engineering (see page 2 for more information on Regna and his gift).

Chemical and biomedical industry leaders that have partnered with the center include DSM, BASF, Maxygen, ChemClean, Cargill-Dow, Novo Nordisk, EcoSynthetics, Johnson & Johnson, Hercules Incorporated and Nalco Chemical Company.

Dr. Gross is encouraged by the private industry support. "Our center is creating private industry partnerships for technology development," he said. "We believe such university/industry partnerships are critically needed in the United States to boost our competitive position since many private industries have severely reduced their budgets to do exploratory research.”

Class of 2004 is the first group of Polytechnic students to use wireless laptops to connect them to the University network and the Internet and to access e-mail.

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Lecture Series Brings Veteran Business Leaders to Campus

Four business leaders from the energy and high-technology sectors returned to Polytechnic to share their insights and business experiences with students. The Leadership Seminar Series is sponsored by the Offices of Development and Alumni Relations.

The featured speakers were Ralph Alexander ’77 ’78, group vice president, BP Amoco Exploration and Production; Patricia Billings, chairman of the board and director of technology, GeoBond International Inc.; Randy W. Frey ’79, executive vice president and chief technology officer, Summit Autonomous Inc.; and Hazel R. O’Leary, former secretary of energy in the Clinton Administration and currently COO, Blaylock & Partners LP.

Ralph Alexander: “The oil and gas industry has the technology, innovation and resources to ensure a steady supply of oil and gas around the world.”

Patricia Billings: “Be ethical in your academic and professional endeavors.”

Randy W. Frey: “Think big. Poly graduates have the strong fundamentals needed for success.”

Hazel R. O’Leary: “Set goals and take risks.”

Polytechnic Opens State-of-the-Art Interdisciplinary Laboratory

Polytechnic trustees, administration, faculty and students joined in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open a new state-of-the-art interdisciplinary laboratory for undergraduate students in civil, chemical and mechanical engineering. The 11,000-square-foot laboratory is located in Rogers Hall, the University’s main academic building on the MetroTech campus.

Stewart G. Nagler ’63, vice chairman and CFO, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and chairman, Polytechnic’s Board of Trustees, noted: “This ribbon-cutting ceremony is among the first and exciting manifestations of the Board’s commitment to a far-reaching capital-improvement campaign at Polytechnic, made possible by the Campaign for Polytechnic—Fulfilling the American Dream.”

Cutting the ribbon for the new laboratory are, from left, Stewart G. Nagler, board chairman and vice chairman and CFO, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; Dr. Lorcan M. Folan, head, Department of Introductory Design and Science; Trustee David Dibner, president, The Dibner Fund; Jason Feliciano ’01, president, Polytechnic Student Council; and President David C. Chang.

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Speaking at the Third Annual Lynford Lecture on October 12, Joy, co-founder, chief
corporate executive officer, Sun Microsystems Inc., noted that this new
technological innovation is not without risk.

"The danger is that we are humans and there is evil in the world," Joy said.

The Lynford Lecture is sponsored by Jeffrey H. Lynford, chairman of
Real Properties Inc. and a Polytechnic trustee, and his wife, Tondra, to
the wisdom of outstanding scientists and mathematicians to a wide
Polytechnic’s Institute for Mathematics and Supercomputing (IMAS),
brother mathematicians, Drs. David and Gregory Chudnovsky,
seemed the lecture.

In his lecture entitled “Welcome to the Information Age: The Promise and
Future of Technology in the 21st Century,” Joy cautioned that advanced
ventions in genetic, nano and robotic technologies can have disastrous
sequences. “Imagine the gene-sequence for smallpox being available on
the Internet,” he said. “That is a threshold we will cross this century.”

Joy commented that as scientists and technologists push the power of
computer tools to the limit, planning and control are critical. He called
for a revitalization of the U.S. Office of Technology Assessment to deter-
mine the risks of new technology; a code of conduct for scientists and
Technologists to help reduce risk; and for scientists and technologists to
take an oath, similar to the Hippocratic oath, not to produce physical
and biological weapons of mass destruction.

During the event, the Chudnovskys presented Joy with the 2000
IMAS Award for outstanding achievements in the field of algorithms
and their computer implementation.

Polytechnic Inducts Three New Trustees
The Polytechnic Board of Trustees has confirmed the appointments of three new trustees: Satish C. Agrawal ’67 ’74, president
and CEO of BizShati Inc.; Ursula M. Burns ’80, senior vice president of corporate strategic services at Xerox Corporation, and
Paul A. Crotty, group president—New York and Connecticut at Verizon Communications.
POLYTECHNIC NEWS

POLYTECHNIC HONORS DR. DONALD ALSTADT WITH INAUGURAL HERMAN F. MARK TECHNOLOGY MEDAL

On November 30, Dr. Donald Alstadt, a noted chemist, inventor and industrialist, was awarded the inaugural Herman F. Mark Technology Medal by Polytechnic University’s Polymer Research Institute. Alstadt, chairman emeritus of the Lord Corporation and a Polytechnic advisory trustee, was honored for his pioneering work in physics, chemistry and bioengineering.

The award will be presented annually to a scholar, scientist or researcher who has strengthened the collaboration between industry and academia in the field of polymer science and engineering.

Dr. Alstadt received the medal after a symposium on polymer science on the MetroTech campus. Dr. Hans Mark, director, Defense Research and Engineering, U.S. Department of Defense, and the son of Dr. Herman F. Mark, presented the award to Dr. Alstadt.

At the award ceremony, from left, Dr. Richard A. Gross ’86, the Herman F. Mark Professor of Polymer Science; Sheldon Buckler, chairman of the board, Lord Corporation; Dr. Alstadt; Dr. Kalle Levon, director of the Polymer Research Institute and head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Chemistry and Materials Science; and Dr. Abraham Ulman, Alstadt-Lord-Mark Professor of Chemistry.

GENE-DELIVERY SYMPOSIUM DRAWS LEADING RESEARCHERS AND SCIENTISTS

Leading gene-delivery scientists and researchers presented their findings at Polytechnic’s second Herman F. Mark Polymer Research Institute Symposium—entitled Gene Delivery-Polymeric Recognition of Biological Molecules. The event focused on the use of polymers to improve the effectiveness and safety of gene delivery.

Scientific luminaries participating in the symposium included Dr. Vladimir Torchilin, a Lenin Prize-winner and professor at Northeastern University, who presented his research on using immunoliposomes for efficient intracellular delivery of DNA; Dr. Sung Wan Kim, a member of the National Academy of Science and professor at Utah University, who explored functional and targeted polymeric gene carriers; and Dr. Debabrata Banerjee, of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, who offered an overview of using viruses for gene therapy.

Commenting on the findings after the day-long symposium, Dr. Kalle Levon, director of Polytechnic’s Polymer Research Institute, said, “The speakers showed promising evidence for using synthetic organic compounds with DNA for gene therapy that will one day prove to be a novel preventive-care approach for many illnesses.”
Fourteen bound volumes incorporating the publications, patents and lectures of Donald F. Othmer, a world-renowned chemical engineer at Polytechnic, have joined the collection of the Bern Dibner Library of the University. Othmer, a Polytechnic professor of chemical engineering for 60 years and the University’s greatest benefactor, died in 1995. Heather Walters, university archivist, right, displays one of the volumes created and donated by the Chemical Heritage Foundation. There are only two sets of the volumes extant and, at Othmer’s request, one set of volumes will be housed at Polytechnic and the other at the Foundation.

### UNIVERSITY RECEIVES $525,000 FOR LAB RENOVATION AND NEW EQUIPMENT

Polytechnic has been awarded two New York State Department of Education grants totaling $525,000, thanks to the efforts of Brooklyn delegates to the New York State Assembly and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver. The grants, given over a two-year period, are earmarked for laboratory renovation and new equipment for engineering and computer science programs. New equipment will include an atomic force microscope for undergraduate instruction and research. Among the renovations will be a freshman engineering lab in computing and robotics.

### CAREER FAIR 2000 AT POLYTECHNIC

Polytechnic University’s 23rd Annual Career Fair was one of the largest in the school’s history. Close to 800 Polytechnic students met with representatives from more than 65 major corporations, including IBM, Jacobs/Sverdrup, Symbol Technologies and Goldman, Sachs & Co. Career Fair 2000 on the MetroTech campus was sponsored by the National Society of Black Engineers, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the University’s Offices of Student Activities and Career Services.
SPOTLIGHT ON:
CIVIL ENGINEERING

For more than a century, Polytechnic’s civil engineering professors and students have played a key role in creating the infrastructure that sustains the quality of life of current and future generations. Department Head Dr. John C. Falcocchio ’60 ’72 talked to Cable about the departmental name change and new programs and collaborations.

Cable: Recently, the department changed its name from Civil and Environmental Engineering to simply Civil Engineering. Why?

Falcocchio: The name change more accurately reflects the multidisciplinary nature of the civil engineer of the future. In the 70’s, this meant adding the word “environmental.” Today, that is no longer sufficient, nor accurate, in describing the variety of responsibilities that civil engineers are expected to assume. The department has expanded its educational and research programs to include transportation, construction-technology management and urban utilities. So instead of adding all of these terms to the current name, we chose to go back to the original name. This way we have the advantage of describing what a civil engineering education is at Polytechnic in clear and unambiguous terms.

Cable: Tell us about the mission of the new Construction Technology and Management Program.

Falcocchio: We are teaching students to apply their technology, management and business expertise to the competitive construction industry. Polytechnic is ideal for offering such a program because we can use New York City as our learning laboratory. Students learn through hands-on experiences with real projects, including internships with construction firm owners, engineers and contractors. The program appeals to a wide range of students, including high school seniors, undergraduates and graduates who are pursuing their master’s and doctorate part or full time. We also see professionals—engineers and construction executives who wish to move to leadership positions. Our Exec21 certificate program offers them instruction in such areas as leadership training, construction law and international engineering and construction.

Cable: U.S. News & World Report, in their 2000 Best Graduate School’s issue, highlighted your department’s relationships with local business for students to do applied research. Can you give some examples of Poly students working with outside agencies?

Falcocchio: To cite just a few examples: in our Transportation Program, we have established an Urban Intelligent Transportation Systems Center, where students help New York’s local and state agencies use information technology to improve the efficiency of its rail and road systems, and to provide travelers with real-time information about service interruptions. In the Geotechnical and Structural Materials Engineering Program, students participate in research projects to replace eroding Hudson River piers with supports made of recycled plastics. In the Civil Infrastructure Rehabilitation Program, students work with the Department of Environmental Protection on a project that uses electronic sensor technology to monitor water-leakage losses on a Manhattan water main. The result of this prototype may decide future city policy on how to monitor its water distribution system.

Cable: What exciting developments have happened or are on the horizon for your department?

Falcocchio: Under Polytechnic’s Curriculum 2000, we’ve consolidated undergraduate courses to create a more efficient and effective program based on a 4-credit structure. We’ve also developed a five-year co-op program to allow students to study at Poly for one semester and then work in their career field for the next semester. For graduate students, we are developing long-distance teaching tools to better serve the changing needs of our student body and forging more research collaborations with industry.
The Department of Management celebrated another commencement of its Master of Science in Management (MSM) program in Israel with 95 students graduating, including Rachel Mualem, a medical representative for an Israeli pharmaceutical firm. She is shaking hands with Prof. Harold G. Kaufman ’62, academic director of the program and Dr. Mel Horowitz, department chair, in the background. Commencement speaker was Dr. Israel Brovits ’67 ’68 ’71, a professor for the Reuven School of Business at Tel Aviv University and president and CEO of Arkia Israel Airlines Ltd. Dr. Reuven Horowitz, director general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and former Poly professor of management, spoke at an alumni meeting following commencement.

Induction of Scholars

Polytechnic Trustee Robert D. Dalziel ’56 lights the candle of scholar Ka Shuen Wong during the annual Poly 100 Board of Trustees Scholarship Induction Ceremony. During the ceremony, scholarship recipients pledged to perform to the best of their abilities and develop technology and science for future generations. The Poly 100 Scholarship is solely supported by members of the Poly 100. The Board of Trustees Scholarship is a full-fellowship scholarship awarded annually to a select group of freshmen.

Future Scientists

Rahat Sheikh, a junior at Abraham Lincoln High School, chatted with ABC-TV News Correspondent John Stossel at the New York City Science and Technology Forum held for the third year at Polytechnic. More than 500 metro-area high school students and teachers attended workshops and lectures on such issues as the Internet, women in technology, advances in biotechnology and the role of the scientist in a corporation. The forum was organized by the NYC Board of Education’s Office of School-to-Career and Poly’s David Packard Center for Technology and Educational Alliances.

Cellular Explosion

Showing off one of the world’s smallest cellular phones is Dr. Yrjo Neuvo, executive vice president and chief technology officer of Nokia Mobile Phones, who visited the MetroTech campus to talk about a wireless future. “In two years, one billion people will be using a cell phone,” Neuvo predicted. The future for cell phone users also includes videoconferencing on the move, playing music, receiving personalized news reports and stock market quotes and sending multimedia postcards. The lecture was sponsored by Poly’s Institute for Technology and Enterprise, Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications and the Polymer Research Institute.
Happy New Year!

I hope you and your family had a joyous holiday season. Year 2001 has all the makings for an exciting time as we near the end of the Campaign for Polytechnic and work hard to meet—even exceed—our $275 million goal.

Poly is more vibrant than ever. The renovation of Rogers Hall is almost done. Construction on the Joseph J. and Violet J. Jacobs Building is progressing. And groundbreaking for the new Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Residence Hall, the first dormitory at MetroTech, has started as you read this Cable. As alumni, you have many opportunities to participate in University life and its incredible transformation. The POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI has 14 chapters worldwide. They regularly host events, invite faculty, administration and other alumni to speak and provide opportunities for alumni to network and meet and mentor Poly students. We offer something of interest for everyone. All it takes is your willingness to get involved. If we, the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI, are going to live up to our potential, we must reach out to all of you and adapt to changing times. We know you are busy, but please help us by completing an alumni survey on our Web site (http://web.poly.edu/alumni/soundf.html). Your insights and suggestions will help us better understand your needs and make the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI a stronger and more vital component of the University.

Remember, it takes all of us to make a difference in Poly’s future.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

THREE YEAR-END RECEPTIONS PROVIDED ALUMNI FROM COAST TO COAST A CHANCE TO ENJOY GOOD COMPANY AND FINE CUISINE

The Long Island Chapter’s Holiday Party at the Millridge Inn in December brought together area alumni for a festive gathering. Some of the revelers were from the left, Duncan Archer Jr. ’49 and his wife, Terry; Marty Olsen ’84; Herman Jensen ’54 and his wife, Doris; and Barbara and Michael Kozak ’76.

The Crystal Gateway Marriott was the setting for the Potomac Alumni Chapter’s December reception. Attendees included, from left, Howard Baun ’57 ’59, Larry Katz ’59 and Don Ingram ’60.

Members of Poly’s Northern California Alumni Chapter attended a reception at the Stanford Park Hotel in November. Pictured here from left are: Bernie Rosen ’57, Jungsung Lee ’59, Sy Alpert ’52, President David C. Chang, Martin Perl ’48 and George Goumousis ’51.
Howard Grantz '39
Helping the Next Generation

More than 60 years after graduating from Poly, Howard Grantz '39 retains close ties to his alma mater. "My classmates and I were mostly sons of immigrants," recalls Grantz, whose parents came from Norway. "Polytechnic gave us the education and skills to achieve our goals in our families' new country."

Grantz graduated with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering and is quick to reminisce about the era when the University was located on Livingston Street. "I formed the first chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers at Poly in 1938," he says. "I also served as the chapter's first president."

Now 83, Grantz looks back on a successful 41-year career with General Electric, which brought him to the vanguard of aircraft gas turbines, nuclear power and missile and space technology. And as a Polytechnic donor, he wants to help the next generation of scientists and engineers meet the challenges of new technology.

"Poly taught me the fundamental engineering principles that became the foundation for my career," he says. "With my support, I want the school to continue doing that for future engineers."

Alumni and friends, how would you like to name a dorm room after yourself or in honor or memory of someone else while making the room more affordable to Poly students?

An investment of $25,000 to the Campaign for Polytechnic allows you to name a four-person suite and one of $10,000 allows you to name a two-person suite in the new Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Residence Hall on the MetreTech campus. Groups of donors—such as classes, fraternities or alumni chapters—can also join to name a suite or room. An added bonus is your investment allows you or someone from your group to use a suite or a room for one week a year at cost from June 15 to August 15. In 2002, when the residence hall opens, the estimated cost will be $1,000 a week for a four-person suite with a kitchenette and $500 a week for a two-person room. You can also use that opportunity to send two or four high school students to live in the residence hall for a week while they learn about why Polytechnic should be their school of choice.

To learn more about this naming opportunity or for help organizing group efforts, please contact Colleen Jansen at 718/260-3129 or e-mail her at cjsen@poly.edu.
**Claudia Tom Reflects on Her First Year After Graduation**

When Claudia Tom graduated in 1999, President Chang singled her out at commencement, calling her “the kind of person every university needs to embody its energy.” Tom came to Poly on a Board of Trustees Scholarship. During her four years, she was freshman class president, winner of the first Ms. Engineer Pageant, the only woman on Poly’s Judo team, founder of the Art Club and recipient of two Congressional Medals for volunteer service and extracurricular activities. Today, she works for IBM and looks back on her Poly experience and her first year in the real world.

“I visited Poly last fall as an IBM rep at the Poly career fair,” says Tom, “and it brought back memories. I remember how I submitted résumés and created lists of prospective employers. Ironically, IBM was not on my list. Out of curiosity, I stopped by the IBM booth, talked with a recruiter and set up an appointment. The interviewers were impressed that not only was I able to maintain my scholarship as a full-time student, but also was working two jobs—as a programmer at Symbol Technologies and as a senior teaching assistant for Poly’s General Engineering Program—as well as being active in school clubs. IBM hired me after graduation as a project manager in the IT Consulting and Implementation Services Group, part of its Global Services division.

“For the past 17 months, I’ve been managing server and Cisco installations for schools nationwide and developing the Smart Card Security System—which, with the swipe of a card, checks substitute teachers’ eligibility to teach—that is being implemented in all New York City-area schools. I’m also studying for a certificate in consulting with a long-term goal of becoming a consultant.

“Most of the rewarding experiences I had at Poly happened in my general engineering classes. From taking the classes as a freshman to teaching them as a sophomore to managing the program’s operations as a junior, I developed skills that you can acquire only through practical hands-on experience.

“My fiancé, Rodney Jean-Etienne, is also a 1999 graduate and works in the Information Systems Group at Northrup Grumman. As computer-science majors, we received a cutting-edge technology education. Both Rodney and I now give to Polytechnic as Young President’s Associates because the University has given us so much.”

**Hsu and Young Recognized as Outstanding Alumni**

Dr. Ta-Lin Hsu ’68, chairman of H&Q Asia Pacific, and Dr. Morris S. Young ’75, co-founder, chairman, president, and CEO of American Xtal Technology, each returned to campus in October to receive an Outstanding Alumnus Award—Hsu from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Young from the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Manufacturing Engineering.
CLASS NOTES

39 Aaron Rabinkoff (CM) retired in 1981 as vice president of Amoco Pipeline Company and lives in Chicago, with winters spent in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

42 E. Peter Garwood (ME) and his wife, Shirley, are enjoying international travel and volunteer work in Simsbury and Hartford, Conn.

44 Martin Kopp (CE) would like civil engineers from the Class of 1944 to contact him at koppmr@verizon.net. Richard Laster (CE) was elected deputy town supervisor in New Castle, N.Y. He is chairman of Neilson, a start-up company, and chairman of the Westchester Holocaust Commission.

46 Algard J. Karalis (ME) enjoys retirement, occasional consulting and golfing. He looks forward to his next Poly reunion.

50 Philip L. Munn Jr. (ME) will mark his 65th year of retirement in March and turn 80 in July. He plays tennis, volunteers for the New England Air Museum and serves as board member for the Men’s Garden Club.

51 Stanley M. Nosek (ME) co-founded the Institute for Learning in Retirement eighty years ago at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. He is the institute’s current historian. James Simon (ME) served as vice president of Amoco Pipeline Company in 1993 after more than 40 years. He re-joined the company in 1994 and retired from Westinghouse Electric Corporation in 1993 after more than 40 years.

52 Martin A. Blumenfeld (CE) reunited through the Internet with Allen Heyson (CE) and Karl Pfeffer (CM).

53 Donald V. Richardson (ME) and his wife, Betty, remain healthy, active and happy after 56 years of marriage. Donald is volunteering and creating model railroads with antique standard gauges and machinery. He is currently creating a replica of Gustave Eiffel’s 1889 iron engines. Ernest A. Steen (ME) ’61 (ME) received the 2000 J. R. Taylor Medal from ASME International for his contributions to the ASME Pressure Technology Codes and Standards.

54 Harry A. Andonian (CE) is enjoying every minute of his 13 years of retirement. John Cagnetta (CE) ’66 (CE) retired as dean of the College of Engineering, University of Hartford and is currently president of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.

55 Roland F. Chireau (CE) retired as vice president of High Energy Batteries Ltd. in Madras, India. He devotes time to fishing in Key Largo, Fla., and gardening in Waterford, Conn. Classmates can reach him at rchireau@tcl.com. Arthur M. Friedmann (CE) retired from IPS after 27 years and founded Converters Convertible Network. They recently traveled to New Zealand and Australia. Paul J. Glasgow, PE (ME) is president of Glasgow Products Inc. He has served ASME as life fellow, chairman of the Safety Division, chairman of the Product Safety Committee, chairman of the National Nominating Committee. Samuel Hoff (CE) retired as director of raw materials after 42 year with Carbide Graphite Group Inc.

Stephen H. Marx (EE) was re-elected as New York State senator, 11th district in Queens. Gerald F. Ross (EE) ’63 (EE) was issued his 60th U.S. patent, the latest for a new type of ultra wideband intrusion detection system.

Joseph P. Sauro (PH) ’58 (PH) ’66 (PH) appears in the millennium editions of Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who in Science and Engineering. Byron G. Schieber Jr. (ME) was appointed by ASME International to two posts: member of the Hoover Medal Board of Award Committee and chairman of RACON (Regional Committee on Nominations) for ASME’s Region II. Donald Sundin (EE) is president of the Rotary Club in Jackson, N.J. Arthur A. Ubbens (ME) retired in 1984 as a senior engineering associate at Exxon Research and Engineering Co. He is active in Rotary International and his local church.

56 Joseph D. Cohen (CE) retired from Westinghouse after 44 years and is now a full-time grandfather and part-time golfer. Stewirt Gilbert (CE) ’57 (EE) recently celebrated the marriages of his sons, Jonathan and David. Anna D. Gildhghton (EE) is retired.
57 OSCAR BERENDSOHN (MT) is 76 and consulting as a materials science engineer. He wrote his biography, of which Polytechnic is a vital part, plays the piano and travels with his wife. EUGENE J. BASULLO (CI) retired in 2008 from Polytechnic as distinguished industry professor in the Department of Civil Engineering. Prior to Poly, Eugene was chief engineer at Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for 37 years. LOUIS GERSHMAN (CH) retired in 1987 and spends his winters in Florida. GERALD GILBERT (EE) is manager of business development for space applications at Kearfott Guidance and Navigation Corporation in Wayne, N.J. JACK E. STEARN (ME) is retired and lives near Paris, the “City of Light.” He enjoys frequent visits from family, friends and Poly alumni. GEORGE F. WIXON (CM) retired in 1998 from the Department of Defense.

58 HANK EPSSTEIN (EE) ’66 (MC) welcomed granddaughter Alexis Samantha, born September 14, 2000, to son Kevin and daughter-in-law Lisa. STEPHEN S. HIRSCH (CH) is vice president of group services and assistant secretary at EPL Technologies in Philadelphia. CARLYLE MEIERDIERCKS (EE) retired in 1982 as a district manager for AT&T in Honolulu, Hawaii. JOHN J. MOONEY (CE) hosted a reunion for former members of the Porschke Rikels Company H-8. Attendees included BERNIE MCINERNEY (CE), GUNTHER STROBEL (CE), PHIL USAITIS ’49 (EE) and JOHN YOVINO (CE). All are now retired and enjoying their grandchildren. VICTOR SILVEY (EE) has written two books, most in English and a few in German, and seen his work published in four books of poetry.

59 ANGELO (ANDY) R. DEGIRALAMO (EE) retired in 1993 and lives in Gaithersburg, N.C. LEONARD FORMAN (EE) spent a week in Scotland last year teaching at a vacation bible school. Since retiring, he teaches physics, calculus, earth science and computers at Koinonia Academy in Warren, N.J. ARTHUR J. LEIDICH (EE) ’64 (EE) retired in 1999. ROBERT F. MAGGIO (ME) is semi-retired from Microwave Semiconductors, where he was manager of mechanical design, drafting and documentation. JAMES R. NICHOLSON JR. (EE) was made an honorary member of the Marine Corps League. TAUBE OLSEN, PE (ME) is president of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers, Richmond County Chapter. IRVING ROZANSK (ME) retired from Lucent Technologies and is now principal/manager of Open Systems Software Education LLC.

60 NICHOLAS ILJIC, PE (CI) is a senior environmental specialist with Parsons Brinkerhoff Inc. LOUIS NIELSEN (PH) ’67 (PH) is general manager of CMI Engineering, a manufacturer of high power microwave components located in Escondido, Calif.

61 ROBERT L. GOLDEN (CE) sold his dental practice and is enjoying retirement with his wife.

62 EDWARD BECKENSTEIN (EE) ’64 (EE) ’66 (MA) and LAWRENCE NARICI (EE) ’63 (EE) ’66 (MA) are both mathematics professors at St. John’s University and published their fourth book, Fourier and Wavelet Analysis, in 2000 (with George Bachman). They are planning a 40th reunion of the Class of ’62 and interested classmates can contact them at beckenstein@stjohns.edu and nari@stjohns.edu. RICHARD BRODY (MA) retired from IBM in 1995 and is currently an information systems consultant. CHARLES DEBER (CH) received the 2000 Vincent duVigneaud Award by the American Peptide Society. He is a professor of biochemistry at the University of Toronto, where his wife, Raisa, is a professor of health administration. MARTIN P. EDELMAN (MA) is executive director of the Soldiers’, Sailors’, Marines’ and Airmen’s Club, a Manhattan hotel for Allied Armed Forces personnel. Its Web site is www.ssmachub.org and telephone number is 800/678-8443. HERBERT FOX (AA) and his wife, Dorothy, were honored by the Beth El Synagogue Center in New Rochelle, N.Y., at its 47th annual dinner dance. PETER GROSS (CE) is chief technology officer at Computer Sciences Corporation in El Segundo, Calif. MARTIN H. ISRAEL (BS) ’64 (AM) retired from

Calanco Receives Chemistry Industry Accolade

VINCENT A. CALARCO ’63 (EE), chairman, president and CEO of CML Corporation and Polytechnic advisory trustee, received the 2003 Chemical Industry Medal by the Society of Chemical Industry (SCI). The gold medal, one of the international society’s most prestigious awards, was given to Calanco for his “leadership, foresight and contributions, which enhanced the progress and performance of the chemical industry.” Calanco is immediate past world president of SCI. His company, formerly CK Witco Corp., is one of the world’s largest specialty chemical companies.

Goldman Honored by ASTM

DAVID S. GOLDMAN PE ’61 (EE) received a 2000 American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Award of Merit from ASTM’s Committee E30 on Forensic Sciences. He was also elected Fellow to the ASTM and cited for “outstanding service and leadership, especially in the standardization of the various areas of forensic sciences, and for authoring the standard on forensic terminology.” In his 40-year career, Goldman served as professor at Northeastern University and founded David Lee & Associates Inc., a Massachusetts-based forensic engineering firm that consults on investigations, depositions and trial testimony on accidents involving mechanical machinery, electrical machinery, fires of electrical nature, human factors engineering and manufacturing/design defects. Goldman is currently president and CEO of Open Systems Software Education LLC.
CLASS NOTES

MetLife in December 2000, after 26 years in information technologies.

63 FRANCIS G. ARANEO (AE) is a F-22 engine ground test manager with the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Arnold Air Force Base in Tennessee. SHELDON P. GORDON (MA) was appointed to a Task Force on Mathematics Articulation. He is a mathematics professor at the State University of New York, Farmingdale. L. RON LEWIS (EE) ’71 (EL) retired after 37 years with Raytheon Co. ARTHUR H. MADER (EE) is administrative assistant to the president at Delta Testing Laboratories Inc. in Mount Vernon, N.Y.

64 JOSEPH A. CASTELLANO (CH) ’69 (CH) received a 2000 Special Recognition Award from the Society for Information Display. He is president and CEO of Stanford Resources Inc. MICHAEL ETtenBERG (MT) ’67 (MT) ’69 (MT) was elected to the National Academy of Engineering. He is corporate senior vice president of Sarnoff Corp. in Princeton, N.J. STEVEN G. PLATT (CH) traveled to Japan in 2000 as a participant of the Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program to promote greater intercultural understanding between the two nations. He teaches physics and chemistry at Walden III High School in Racine, Wis. ROBERT M. SHAW (MA) ’70 (SC) retired as minister of the First Congregational Church in Galesville, Colo. He is an education consultant and a member of the Church Development and Renewal Committee for the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ.

65 YOU-LING FAN (CH) is a corporate fellow at the Union Carbide Corp. JEFFREY STEWART (ME) ’68 (BI) is co-founder and chief executive of VisionBx.com Inc., an online eye-testing company. PHILIP A. WEINER (ME) welcomed granddaughter Bixanna in June 2000, to the delight of her big sister, Brittany.

66 DANIEL MAYER (SE) ’67 (SE) ’75 (EE) is partner and senior vice president, venture development, at IDT Technology LLC. LAURENCE B. MILSTEIN (EE) ’66 (EE) is a professor and former chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, at the University of California at San Diego. La Jolla. RAYMOND L. PICKHOLTZ (EE) received IEEE’s Third Millennium Medal in recognition of his achievements in telecommunications. He also received a 1999 award for a paper on improving the performance and reliability of communications. He is a professor at George Washington University. CONRAD F. POHLMANN (CI) welcomed his fifth grandchild, born August 2000.

67 THOMAS C. DECANIO (PH) is vice president, product management and marketing, at Taqua Systems, a telecommunication start-ups. ARTHUR VATSKY (AE) founded Future Fuels Consulting, which advises fleet vehicle operators how to choose and use new alternative fuels and advanced-technology vehicles.

68 PHILLIP G. AVRUCH (EL) is a lawyer with Lukas & Keegan in Washington, D.C., and has served as a grand juror in cases ranging from two to eight years old. PETER H. FUCHS (EE) retired from Carpenter Technology Corp. and is now an independent consultant for Supply Chain Planning and Execution Processes. LYNDEN U. KIBLER (EL) was the primary judge of applications for the Lucent Technologies Gold Scholarship Program. JOSEPH A. ZBORIL (EE) Ventures NASA’s Public Service Medal for serving as mission assurance manager on the Chandra X-Ray Observatory Program. Joseph celebrated his 20th year with TRW Space and Electronics in Redondo Beach, Calif.

69 ROBERT C. O’HANDLEY (PH) ’72 (PH) published a graduate textbook, Modern Magnetic Materials: Principles and Applications, in 1999. He is a senior research scientist at MIT. BARRY M. SINGER (EL) is senior vice president and managing director at Philips Research.

70 HERBERT L. HENKEL (AE) ’72 (MI) was named chairman of Ingersoll-Rand Co. He is president and CEO. ALAN SCHOFMAN (CH) is principal of TEAM 1400 Inc., which consults on environmental and quality management systems. He recently co-authored ISO 14001: A Practical Approach (Oxford University Press/American Chemical Society). FRANK SISTI (EE) is head of the Republican Party in Pound Ridge, N.Y. He is retired from Ultramar.

71 BERNARD D. DEMARINIS (EE) was an accreditore for IEEE’s ABET Engineering Technology Program. He was also editor of the 25th annual Fort Monmouth AFCEA Technet Symposium. DANIEL P. MAZZEO (AE) is listed in the 2001 edition of Marquis Who’s Who in America for his achievements in engineering, including inventing the electro-photographic imaging machine. He is a retired Navy officer. FRED R. NAIDER (CH) is a distinguished professor at the College of Staten Island. He spent eight months in 2000 on sabbatical at the Weizmann Institute in Israel. ALFRED POE (EE) joined the board of directors of Polaroid Corporation. He is a former senior executive at the Campbell Soup Company and Mars Inc., and is currently pursuing start-up companies in the food and food-related industries. SANTOSH SAMBARE (MT) is director of market research at Serono Laboratories in Maxwell, Mass. ROBERT SCHAFFER (ME) is vice president and general manager of AFC/Johnson and Hoffman, a division of American Engineered Components Inc., in Carle Place,
N.Y. PATRICK S LATTERY (EE) was hired by Cumberland County commissioners to help evaluate and purchase equipment for the county-wide 800 megahertz radio system that will serve 911 dispatch and county and municipal emergency services personnel.

MICHAEL B. SUMERS (MA) is CFO of KGA Advertising.

72 PETER AGRAPIDES (ME) is director at General Dynamics Advanced Technology Systems. STEVEN M. BERTONE (CE) ’76 (PV) is president and CEO of Belaus Processing in Blue Bell, Pa., and board director of Manufacturers Association. DENNIS F. CALVIERE (CE) ’77 (CI) is supervising principal engineer, Engineering Department/ Materials Division, at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. LEONARD CHIN (EE) is a professor, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. ANDREW A. JANCZAK (EE) ’76 (MG) is president and founder of Escon Corp. in Bethpage, N.Y. JAMES L. ROSENBERGER (MA) is director, Statistics Program, of the National Science Foundation’s Division of Mathematical Sciences. KENNETH J. TANNER (LS) retired as lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Army Medical Department after 24 years of service throughout the United States and overseas. He is now safety director at the Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Center.

73 RICHARD C. AUGERI (PH) is an independent consultant in electro optics.

74 JAMES K. ALEXANDER, PE (CI) is a regulatory compliance manager for BNFL and an adjunct faculty instructor of environmental law at the University of Tennessee. ROBERT P. MANTHEY (CE) retired in 1999 as legand platform manager from Lucent Technologies. He is now manager of market research for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

75 JAMES BRONDO (EE) is president and founder of Scientific Innovations Inc. He holds patents for nuclear electron double resonance, non-invasive whole body imaging of free radicals, paramagnetic species, brain and nerve activity. DOUGLAS J. KAMEN (CI) is deputy for programs and project management with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Vicksburg, Miss. JAMES KING (PH) is chief technology officer at eases.com, a Washington, D.C.-based Internet magazine retailer. JUDAH LEVINE (EE) is a project manager, Solutions Group, at SpeechWorks International. HOWARD WEISS (EE) is manager, Security Analysis and Evaluation Division, at SPARTA Inc. He also works on the security architecture of the interplanetary Internet for NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

76 JOHN M. DIONISIO (CI) is president and CEO at Frederic R. Harris Inc. KITCHENER I. IDONIBOYE (ME) was elected member of the New York Academy of Sciences. He is a professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, at Rivers State University of Science and Technology in Nigeria. Recently, Nigeria’s National Universities Commission elected him chairman to the executive council of four regional universities. YVONEE ISAAC (TP) was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors for the Girl Scouts Council of Northwest Georgia. She is senior vice president of Bovis Lend Lease. PAUL J. LARROUSSE (TP) is director of the National Transit Institute at Rutgers University.

77 JOSEPH BINSHTOCK, PE (CE) is associate director of supply chain strategy and engineering, Latin America Division, of the Colgate Palmolive Company. ARNOLD SPADAFORE (CI) is head of the Kingston Alternative High School in New York. SOMSAL VISUTHRANUKUL (CI) and his wife, Wanumata, celebrated the birth of son, Jittavee.

78 VINCENT P. BADALI (CI) ’81 (CE) is director of finance and distribution at Trigen Energy. JAY A. HIGLE (TP) is working with Poly’s Transportation Research Institute, to coordinate an outreach workshop on transportation and economic development, sponsored by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Science. MARTIN J. LANGAN (HS) is assistant principal, Science Department, at Brooklyn’s Midwood High School. JOHN A. G. SAMSON, MD, (BB) is a plastic surgeon in Jackson, Mich. KAZEM SOHRABY (EE) is a distinguished member of the technical staff, Performance Analysis Department, of Bell Labs/Lucent Technologies in Holmdel, N.J. He is also senior technical editor for IEEE Communications Magazine.

79 THOMAS R. D’AMICO (EE) is vice president of manufacturing, North America, at Diebold Inc. LAWRENCE LENNON (TP) is assistant vice president of Parsons Brinckerhoff in the New York office. MITCHELL TUCKMAN (EL) is senior vice president of Herley Industries Inc., makers of microwave products for the wireless and defense industries. RICHARD WILLIAMS, MD, (SE) has been a Bayonne Hospital surgeon since 1978 and is an assistant director of the Department of Surgery. He was elected president of the Hudson County Medical Society.

80 ANTHONY CIOFFI (MA) ’84 (CS) is supervisor of information management systems at RR Donnelley & Sons in Lancaster, Pa. He and his wife celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary this year and have two children. KATHLEEN A. CONLEY (BS) is principal of Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School in Yorktown Heights, N.Y. JONATHAN W. FOSE (EE) is a senior scientist at Byron in Solon, Ohio. LAWRENCE B. RATH (ME) ’86 (TM) is vice president, network engineering, at Verizon International.

81 MICHAEL BOURQUE (MG) is assistant vice president, adoption of advanced technology, at Alliance Capital Management.
Aldo Scandurra, 1916 – 1999

Aldo Scandurra ’48, entrepreneur, university professor and founding member of the New York Road Runners Club, died December 31, 1999, at his home in Greenlawn, Long Island. He was 83.

A celebrated long-distance runner, he was junior national marathon champion in 1955 and completed the London-Brighton 52.5-mile ultra-distance run in 1965. Scandurra is credited with orchestrating the rise of road running in New York, wrote the first rulebook for distance running and helped forge a distinct club’s founding president. "Aldo was the spark that made us," said Ted Corbitt, the club’s founding president. "Aldo was the spark that made us successful."

Scandurra graduated from City College of New York and earned a master’s in electrical engineering from Polytechnic. In 1950, he founded Applied Research Inc., an electronics research firm on Long Island. He retired in 1985 and embarked on a new career at age 68 and became a professor at the University of Nevada’s School of Engineering. He returned to New York three years later. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and their five children.
I. Birger Johnson, 1913 – 2000
I. Birger Johnson ’37 ’39, an expert on surge-voltage phenomena, died June 1, 2000, in Schenectady, N.Y. He was 86.

An engineer at General Electric for more than three decades, Johnson contributed to the progress of the electric utility systems industry in the fields of understanding surge-voltage phenomena and the reliability of electric power transmission. He wrote more than 50 technical papers; chaired numerous professional committees; received the GE Steinmetz Award, the IEEE Lamme Medal and the IEEE, Centennial Medal and was listed in Who’s Who in Engineering, Engineers of Distinction and American Men of Science.

Johnson came to Polytechnic on a fellowship, receiving both his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering. He then joined General Electric, eventually becoming an engineer in its High Voltage Engineering Laboratory. During this time, he conducted lighting investigations at the Empire State Building, helped develop high-altitude ignition systems for military aircrafts and participated in designing distribution transformers for electric utility systems.

In the late 1940s, Johnson joined GE’s Central Station Operations in Schenectady as a manager. He was also an instructor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Johnson was a member of Polytechnic’s President’s Associates and a longtime supporter of the University. In 1983, he received a Polytechnic Distinguished Alumnus Award.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Johanna; two sons; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Carl M. Harris, 1940 – 2000
Dr. Carl M. Harris ’62 ’66, a noted researcher, professor and consultant on operations research, died April 25, 2000, of a heart attack in Rockville, Md. He was 60.

At the time of his death, Harris worked at George Mason University, where he was the BDM International Professor of Operations Research and Information Technology at the School of Information Technology and Engineering (IT&E). He joined George Mason in 1985, serving through the years as chair of several departments and as associate dean for research and graduate studies. Previously, he taught at Syracuse University, George Washington University and University of Virginia.

A native of Brooklyn, Harris received his bachelor’s degree in mathematics and physics from Queens College before earning a MS and PhD in Mathematics at Polytechnic. Throughout his career, he consulted for industrial and government agencies. He edited three professional journals, co-wrote two software packages for queueing analyses and three editions of the textbook Fundamentals of Queuing Theory and co-edited The Encyclopedia of Operations Research and Management Science.

In 1999, Harris received the George E. Kimball Award from the Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences. He is survived by his wife, Alice, two daughters and a brother.

Bengt Ranby, 1920 – 2000
Dr. Bengt Ranby H’95, a world-renowned scientist who helped establish polymer science as a foremost discipline in academia and industry, died October 10, 2000, in his native Sweden. He was 80.

Ranby founded the polymer science program at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and was its first professor of polymer technology, a chair he held for 25 years until he retired in 1986. He earned an international reputation for his work in synthetic polymer chemistry, cellulose and starch and for his leadership in promoting polymer science and technology.

“Prof. Ranby was a giant in his field and a remarkable man,” said Dr. Kalle Levon, head of Polytechnic’s Department of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science. “I was honored to study under him and will continue to be inspired by his devotion to education.”

Ranby’s relationship with Polytechnic began in 1952, when he came to Brooklyn to work with Dr. Herman F. Mark, founder of Poly’s Polymer Research Institute. In 1995, the University awarded Ranby an honorary Doctor of Science. Ranby supported a scholarship program at Polytechnic. He is survived by his wife, Aina.

CLASS NOTES

IN MEMORIAM

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Henry A. Daas</td>
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<td>Joseph A. Limoggi</td>
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<td>Michael Barr</td>
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<td>Richard (George) Talboys</td>
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<td>Carl M. Harris</td>
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<td>Fernand J. Dorleans</td>
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<td>Peter Van Raalte</td>
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<td>Bengt Ranby H’95</td>
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Here’s a chance to test your Polytechnic education. Correctly answer the question and be entered in a drawing to win a Poly sweatshirt.

**Question**: How many people do you need in a group to ensure at least a 50 percent probability that two people in the group share a birthday?

Send your answer and size (S, M, L, XL) to Therese E. Tillett, e-mail: ttillett@poly.edu; fax: 718/260-3084; mail: Polytechnic University, Six MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Names of people with the correct answer will be published in the next issue of Cable. In addition, one name will be chosen from a drawing to receive a Poly sweatshirt.