Three Professors Most Cited

On October 7, Polytechnic students, staff, faculty and trustees gathered to celebrate the life of noted chemist Dr. Peter J. Regna '32 '37 '42 F'94 and dedicate a student lounge in his and his wife's name.

“The Peter J. and Barbara L. Regna Student Lounge is truly a wonderful addition to the complete college experience we are now able to offer our students,” said Polytechnic President David C. Chang during the ceremony.

In an illustrious career at Pfizer Inc. in the 1940s and '50s, Regna played key roles in discovering Terramycin, an antibiotic effective against more than 100 diseases, and producing penicillin, streptomycin and other antibiotics. Later, at the Squibb Institute for Medical Research (now Bristol-Myers Squibb), he was among the first to explore the new area of genetic engineering. He was also a major benefactor to Polytechnic. In 2003, he gave $1.5 million to establish a Laboratory for Biomacromolecular Engineering, the research arm of the Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing of Macromolecules, directed by Professor Richard A. Gross '86 (CM). Both Dr. and Mrs. Regna died in 2001.

Fruit Fly Genome Decoder Predicts Future Use in Understanding the Nervous System

Geneticist Dr. Gerald M. Rubin, who successfully led the research to sequence the genes of the common fruit fly (Drosophila melanogaster) in 2000, foresees the real challenge for the next generation of biologists studying his sequence will be discovering how the nervous system works. Understanding the drosophila's genome sequence is a small science, he said, “and its success depends on individual scientists' insight and inspiration to produce new knowledge.”

Rubin spoke at Polytechnic on October 20 as part of the University's annual Lynford Lecture series. During his presentation, Rubin, now vice president for biomedical research at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, detailed how his team of academic scientists at UC Berkeley was able to sequence the drosophila genome in collaboration with Celera Inc. He emphasized that his research was not to make discoveries, but to "build a database for biologists to do their own research." He compared his work to building the equivalent of an interstate highway and "not driving the trucks."

The annual Lynford Lecture at Polytechnic, now in its sixth year, is sponsored by Polytechnic Trustee Jeffrey L. Lynford and his wife, Tonda, and the Institute for Mathematics and Advanced Supercomputing (IMAS).

Genome Sequence Pioneer Gerald M. Rubin told a Polytechnic audience that the success of his genome database depends on the future research of biologists.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REAPPOINTS DAVID CHANG PRESIDENT; WILL SERVE AS CHANCELLOR IN 2005

Polytechnic's Board of Trustees has reappointed David C. Chang as president of the University through June 2005. In addition, Chang has agreed to accept the Board's request to continue his service to the University as chancellor through June 2008. The Board will commence a search for a new president starting this spring.

"Under David Chang's leadership, Polytechnic University has undergone a transformation unmatched in its nearly 150-year history," said Stewart G. Nagler, Poly's board chairman. "We are pleased that David will continue to serve the University as its chancellor."

As chancellor, Chang will have responsibility for maintaining and strengthening the University's relations with the business and governmental leadership in New York City; expanding the base of financial contributors to the University; developing new external revenue streams; forming appropriate joint ventures with international universities; and engaging in other activities that the new president and Board determine will enhance the successful operation of the University.

Chang was named Polytechnic's ninth president in 1994.

"I have come to the conclusion that 11 years is a long time for any university president to continue effectively in exercising his or her leadership," commented Chang. "However, I look forward to an orderly transition and an excited to be staying at the University in the role of chancellor as well as a professor of electrical engineering."

Chang is an internationally recognized scholar in the field of electromagnetics. He spearheaded Polytechnic's successful capital campaign, raising $275 million. He also presided over a $125-million capital improvement program, which included the construction of a new academic building, the University's first residence hall on its downtown Brooklyn Metro Tech campus, a multi-million dollar renovation of Rogers Hall (the University's academic hub) and a major upgrade of communications systems across the University. He also established the University's Honors College and the Othmer Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies.

"As the [sesquicentennial] celebration draws to a close in 2005, it will present the opportunity for the new president to articulate and implement his or her vision and goals for the University as it enters a new chapter in its illustrious history."

—David C. Chang

Polytechnic will celebrate its sesquicentennial anniversary beginning in May 2004. "I look forward to our 150th anniversary, and the many exciting events we have planned," says Chang. "As the celebration draws to a close in 2008, it will present the opportunity for the new president to articulate and implement his or her vision and goals for the University as it enters a new chapter in its illustrious history."

Before joining Polytechnic, Chang was dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Arizona State University. Prior to that he was a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Colorado, where he served as chairman of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering from 1981 to 1989. He holds master's and doctoral degrees in applied physics from Harvard University.

In addition to his numerous academic and administrative accomplishments, Dr. Chang serves as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Advisory Council of the Gates Millennium Scholars and the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME), and is a member of the board of several corporations. He also serves, by appointment of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, on the Panel for Education Policy (formerly the Board of Education) and the Mayor's Committee on Appointments. As chancellor, Chang will continue in these capacities.

Poly Conference Draws Students Nationwide to Explore NYC as Living Laboratory

More than 250 outstanding high school students from 13 states gathered on the Polytechnic campus in October to attend workshops, tour New York City's cultural and scientific institutions and gain a first-hand view of how science and technology has influenced the city's ability to meet the challenges of safety, security and rebuilding following the 9/11 attacks.

Sponsored by Polytechnic's David Packard Center for Technology and Educational Alliances and Brooklyn Technical High School, the conference encouraged the students to continue their studies in science and mathematics. "We specially introduced engineering and technology as career areas that are vital to our nation, and we used New York City as a living laboratory for the students," said Dr. Noel N. Kriftcher, director of the Packard Center and conference director.

The conference was part of the 2003 National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology (NCSSMST).

Students from high schools nationwide attended the conference to learn more about how New York City is using science and technology. Conference Coordinator Susan Levine and Director Dr. Noel N. Kriftcher are in the back row, second and fourth from the left, respectively.
Poly Mourns the Loss of Silicon Valley Legend

IT IS Seldom THAT WE HAVE THE HONOR TO stand in the presence of greatness—a term reserved, in this instance, for those individuals who have left an indelible imprint on their chosen profession and, in so doing, have made an immeasurable contribution to the world. Eugene Kleiner was such a man. Polytechnic University mourns the loss of an illustrious alum and an extraordinary individual whose vision and keen intellect reconfigured the technological revolution and made the term venture capitalist a household word.

A native of Austria, Kleiner's family fled the country in 1938 during the Nazi occupation. He joined them in France several months later after resolving problems with his exit visa. His family traveled a circuitous route through Belgium and Portugal, eventually settling in New York in 1941. After service in the U.S. Army during World War II, he entered Polytechnic—eventually deepening his appreciation of Poly's generosity in accommodating his lack of credentials. Although he would have many titles throughout his life, the one he was most proud of was simply “engineer.”

He proved to be an excellent student, earning a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University in 1948 and a master's degree in industrial engineering from New York University in 1951. He received an honorary doctorate from Polytechnic in 1989 and served on its Board of Trustees from 1987 until his death. In 2000, he was named Outstanding Mechanical Engineer of the Century during the University's ME 100 celebration.

In 1956, Kleiner traveled to California at the invitation of William Shockley, Nobel Prize winner and founder of Shockley Transistor. He wanted Kleiner to join his computer transistor company. After time the relationship flourished and Kleiner and Robert, an intrepid risk-taker, convinced seven fellow engineers to join him in striking out in the first of many entrepreneurial ventures. His idea was simple, but undoubtedly cutting-edge for its time—mass produce multiple transistors using a single silicon wafer. Each of the “Fairchild Eight,” as the team came to be known, contributed $5,000 of their own money to the venture and additional funding was procured from Sherman Fairchild. The fledgling company, Fairchild Semiconductor, turned a profit in six months and later spawned a number of spin-offs such as Intel Corporation; AMD; and, which later became Teledyne; and Exedy, a teaching machine company that was sold to Raytheon in 1965. The Fairchild Eight’s accomplishments were recognized in 1999 when the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp featuring one of the company's integrated circuits.

In 1972, Kleiner joined forces with Tom Perkins of Hewlett Packard to form Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield & Byers, the benchmark for venture capitalism as we know it today. The company, operating in Silicon Valley, provided over 300 start-ups with funding not available through Wall Street firms. Many well-known companies such as Compaq, Genentech, Tandem Computer, Sun Microsystems and Amazon.com received seed money from this company. The firm experienced unprecedented success. The Kleiner Perkins investment method was emulated worldwide and earned Kleiner the honorary title, “father of venture capitalism.”

The Kleiner Perkins investment method was emulated worldwide and earned Kleiner the honorary title, “father of venture capitalism.” He was inducted into the Silicon Valley Business Hall of Fame in 1989.

Kleiner was eulogized by Polytechnic President David C. Chang during memorial services on December 5 as one of the University’s greatest graduates. “His vision, determination and business acumen will serve as inspiration to countless generations of Poly students,” said Chang, “as they take up the mantle of men like Gene, and assume leadership positions of their own. But you can rest assured that his legacy will live on and serve as a beacon to bright, ambitious men and women with a dream, with an idea and the determination to make it happen.”

At the time of his death on November 20, Kleiner was 89 years old. In addition to his son, Robert, Kleiner is survived by a daughter Lisa Kleiner Channoff and grandchildren Jake Kleiner and Jiel; Elin and Eli Channoff. His wife of 54 years, Rose, died in 2001.
Preparing Students for a New World of Management Technology

When Sonia Moin '04 entered Poly as a computer science major, she soon realized that science and engineering were not the career paths she wanted to take. Instead of transferring out, she switched her major to business and technology management and found a new direction. "My new major gives me an inside view of all the key components of a business—operations, sales, finance, and technology," she says. "It helped me realize that my passion really lies in international marketing."

A burgeoning program at Polytechnic, the bachelor's degree in Business and Technology Management (BTM) is proving popular with students seeking management roles in fields dominated by technology. Currently, 124 students are enrolled in the program—originally called Technology and Information Management when it was established in 2001.

"My new major gives me an inside view of all the key components of a business—operations, sales, finance and technology."
—Sonia Moin '04

"Our program is unique from traditional business or management programs," explains Dr. Barry Blechman, associate dean of undergraduate education and BTM program director, "in that students receive both management theory and practice and science and technology skills, which can be applied to more than one area."

In addition to Blechman, the full-time

Sonia Moin '04, with Professor Barry Blechman, found her career choice in international marketing through Poly's Business and Technology Management Program.

BTM faculty comprises Assistant Professor Yar Berson and Associate Professor Bharat P. Rao. The program relies on Poly's other departments for courses in the basics; students' first two semesters resemble other majors' requirements with courses in mathematics, engineering, computer science and the humanities. The program also uses adjunct instructors with technology executive backgrounds.

With this BS degree program and master's degree programs in management, financial engineering, organizational behavior, management of technology and telecommunication and information management—a new PhD degree program in technology management plans to admit students in fall 2004—for the first time offer a full-service education in technology management," says Blechman. "This puts Poly in a different competitive arena."

Polytechnic held its annual President's Associates reception at the Midtown Executive and Chemists Club on November 13. More than 50 members attended the event, hosted by the organization's new chairman Charles Hinkley '72 '74, president of Del Pharmaceuticals Inc. The reception is held annually to acknowledge gifts by individuals who contribute $1,500 or more to the University. Pictured here, from left to right, are: Aline and Dick Eden '73, president and CEO, Intra Computer Inc.; Jack Sipser '56 '57 '61, president, Sipser Associates and Charles Hinkley.

PRESIDENT'S ASSOCIATES HONORED AT ANNUAL RECEPTION

Poly Lead Institution Awarded $2.8 Million Grant; Research to Lay Groundwork for a Global Virtual Computer

Polytechnic has been named the lead institution in a $2.8 million, five-year grant awarded by the National Science Foundation to develop a peer-to-peer networking theory. Dr. Keith W. Ross, the Leonard J. Shustek Distinguished Professor of Computer Science, is leading the project with Dr. Torsten Suel, assistant professor of computer science, as co-principal investigator. Research will be done in Poly's Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications (CATT) in partnership with Columbia University and the University of Massachusetts.

Peer-to-peer (P2P) networks connect a large number of different computers (i.e., peers), pooling their bandwidth, storage, content and computing resources. P2P networking applications—such as Kazaa.com, which allows users to search, download, organize and interact with a variety of files, including music, movies, games and software—are already being widely used to share files on the Internet. However, researchers are envisioning future P2P applications with other uses beyond file sharing. A biotech company, for instance, can distribute computation tasks to computers on a P2P network, cutting the cost of computer processing power. An entertainment company can save money on servers by distributing films through other computers on a P2P network. In addition to providing financial incentives, P2P networks eliminate mass computer breakdowns; if one computer crashes, the whole system is not affected.

The research done at the three universities will focus on several theoretical issues regarding P2P networks, including security and privacy, the scale and traffic of such networks and the impact of differences among peers' systems on the network as a whole.

Says Ross: "Our vision is to help transform the Internet from a shared bandwidth infrastructure into a combined bandwidth, storage and computing infrastructure, which will create a massive, virtual computer shared by users worldwide."

—Mohamed Yassar '04
Polytechnic Honors Dr. Endre A. Balazs with 2003 Herman F. Mark Technology Medal

Dr. Endre A. Balazs, whose pioneering research in the medical use of hyaluronan brought him international renown, was awarded the 2003 Herman F. Mark Technology Medal by Polytechnic's Polymer Research Institute.

Hyaluronan (formerly called hyaluronic acid), is a special protein occurring naturally throughout the human body. It has been described as "nature's moisturizer." Hyaluronan has been used in eye surgery as a shock absorber to protect the retina, and has been proven effective in lubricating arthritic joints.

Balazs became interested in cellular biochemistry while a medical student in Hungary in the 1930s. Discovered in 1934, hyaluronan was first used commercially in 1942 when Balazs applied for a patent to use it as a substitute for egg white in bakery products. He went on to become the leading expert on hyaluronan and made the majority of discoveries over the next 50 years.

The medal, awarded annually, honors the late Herman F. Mark (1899-1992), a longtime Polytechnic professor, founder of the Polymer Research Institute and considered worldwide the father of polymer science. The medal was established in 2000 to recognize a scholar, scientist or researcher who strengthened the collaboration between industry and academia in the field of polymer science and engineering.

CAREER FAIR 2003

More than 500 alumni and students packed Polytechnic's gymnasium for the University's 26th annual Career Fair. Participating companies included IBM, Merrill Lynch, KeySpan Energy, Consolidated Edison, Turner Construction, the Los Angeles Department of Public Works and Jacobs Engineering (pictured). Career Fair 2003 was sponsored by the National Society of Black Engineers, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and Poly's Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education.

Poly Introduces New Sesquicentennial Logo

Just in time for the University's 150th anniversary, Poly has spruced up its logo to herald in the yearlong celebration.

Using the blue and gray Poly colors, the new logo includes the tag line "Celebrating 150 years in Brooklyn" and a modern rendering of the Brooklyn Bridge with its cables anchored to the word "Polytechnic," clearly signifying the University's origin in the County of Kings.

"It is fitting that the new logo should prominently feature elements such as the Brooklyn Bridge and the new tag line," says President David C. Chang. "Poly has always been the driving force in the downtown Brooklyn area and the catalyst for the remarkable changes that have taken place here."

Look for the new logo on all of the University's printed materials, including business cards and stationery.

Correction

In the Fall '03 edition of Cable, the Donor Profile for James Douglas Graham ’66, principal engineer and manager of hydraulic generation (retired) at Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, neglected to mention that in addition to his Poly degree, Mr. Graham received a BSME degree from the University of Maine in 1957.
RALPH ALEXANDER: Moving BP “Beyond Petroleum”

With its ubiquitous green and yellow sun logo and the slogan “Beyond Petroleum,” energy giant BP plc has made a bold statement about the way it does business in one of the toughest and most politically charged industries. “Our brand speaks to the environment,” says Ralph Alexander '77 '78, executive vice president and chief executive for BP’s Gas, Power and Renewables Division. “Energy efficiency and respect for the environment lies at the heart of what we do.”

— Ralph Alexander '77 '78, executive vice president and chief executive for BP’s Gas, Power and Renewables Division

Seminar and providing the services of BP’s marketing communications agency Ogilvy & Mather to assist the University in a “branding” initiative.

According to Richard Thorsen, Poly’s vice president for development and university relations, the “branding” effort is critical for the University’s continued success. “Polytechnic must cultivate a higher public profile and become more market focused, opportunistic and aggressive in telling our story,” explains Thorsen. “With the recent Board approval of the 2004-2007 Strategic Plan, Seizing the Future, and the advent of our year-long sesquicentennial celebration, Poly is well positioned to stand out as we compete for students, corporate funding and private donations.”

And with alumni like Ralph Alexander speaking out on the value of a Poly education, it can only enhance the “brand.”

“There is no doubt that the solid foundation I received in math, science and physics has given me a competitive edge in the oil and gas industry,” said Alexander at an Alumni Leadership Seminar on the MetroTech campus. “I never realized how good the academic performance of the University is.”
Why IT Jobs Go to India

Since the internet bubble burst, information technology (IT) jobs have been flooding the Far East. A recent survey claims 500,000 will leave the US in 2004, begging the question, what impact will this have on the employment market and the economy?

This question is the hypothesis of Bharat Rao's latest research project. Rao, an associate professor of management at Poly, has begun a research project to examine the causes and effects of IT outsourcing. Rao has begun a research project to examine the causes and effects of IT outsourcing. His research melds surveys, analyses and case studies to better understand outsourcing’s implications, both for managers and students.

While manufacturing jobs have been leaving the country since the 1980s, the outsourcing of knowledge-intensive jobs is a recent development. One reason for this, says Rao, is that the Internet created a worldwide employment market, which enables managers looking to grow their bottom line to consider international programmers for available positions. With plenty of programmers in India and Malaysia—countries where goods and workers are less expensive—it is little wonder that outsourcing occurs.

"It's fine for us to sit here and say we're losing jobs in Iowa or Kansas or Florida," says Rao. "But the guy running the $10-billion global company doesn't look at it that way. He says where are my best resources and how efficiently can I run my projects."

Poly Student Awarded Full Homeland Security Scholarship

Saul Harari's path to Polytechnic began with a fascination with architecture in his early teens. He chose mechanical engineering as a discipline because of its diversity. Now a senior, his skills in drafting and engineering has led him to be awarded a full scholarship from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He is one of 100 recipients out of nearly 2,500 applicants and the only New York State resident to receive the scholarship, which is part of a new $2 million scholars/fellows program to educate a future generation of scientists to study ways to protect the nation against terrorism.

Harari won the scholarship for his class project on a remote emergency notification system. Under the guidance of Professor Vikram Kapila, Harari and his classmates Nazmul Alam and Todd King designed an alarm system that signals when a concentration of hydrogen gas is detected by a trace hydrogen gas sensor. To learn more about their project, visit www.poly.edu/news/harari.cfm.

The scholarship award will cover Harari's tuition at Polytechnic and provide a $1,000 stipend each month. In addition, he will have a paid internship at a Department of Homeland Security-affiliated laboratory in summer 2004. After graduation, Harari plans to go on for his master's degree and a career in mechatronics—a fusion of electronics, control theory, computer science and mechanical engineering.

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. George Bugliarello, president emeritus, published the book The Biosoma: Reflections on the Synthesis of Biology, Society and Machines (Polytechnic University, 2003).

Dr. Mark M. Green, professor of organic chemistry, received two U.S. patents: the first for "Temperature Measurement and Temperature Controlled Switching Based on Helical Sense Dependent Liquid Crystal Phases," and the second, with Jonathan V. Stieger, for "Temperature Measurement and Temperature Controlled Switching Using Change in Helical Sense."

Dr. Menachem Lewin, research professor of polymer science and engineering, received two honors in the fall. The Ninth European Polymer Conference on Flame Retardancy—held September in Lille, France, with 250 attendees from 24 countries—was dedicated to Lewin's honor "for carrying the technology of flame retarding polymers to a scientific subject," wrote conference organizer Dr. Michel LaBras. In October, Lewin received the Ernest Kaswell Founders' Award from the Fiber Society, "in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the advancement of science, technology and engineering of fibers and fiber-based products, and the promotion of such activities in the academy and the industry."

Homeland Security Scholarship recipient Saul Harari '04, left, demonstrates to Professor Vikram Kapila his winning entry, a sensor, transmitter and receiver device he calls SIREN for System Integration for Remote Emergency Notification.
ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI PRESIDENT’S CORNER

The actor Spencer Tracy reportedly never wanted to rehearse. He felt that too much practice would diminish his creative work. Interestingly, the cellist Yo-Yo Ma has a very different philosophy—one that I think has an obvious message for all of us.

Over the years, Yo-Yo Ma has grown from a disciplined, young cellist into a virtuoso with extraordinary gifts. Internationally acclaimed, he provides a wonderful example of how we learn, stay curious and educate ourselves and others.

He works hard to stay “in the groove” and goes out of his way to learn new techniques from artists he respects. He credits his recent successes to fellow musicians with a generous spirit—those who practice with him, nudge him along and challenge him. When he returns to his first love—classical music—he is able to play better.

Here’s the best part. He seeks out emerging musicians and imparts this newfound knowledge to them. He sets the bar high and is a good role model. At Poly, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to create “works in progress” by sharing ideas and nurturing the talent of our students as part of the educational process. As alumni, we are part of an “ensemble experience” supported by a network of individuals whose professional career had its beginnings at a school with a 150-year tradition of challenging students to be creative while remaining grounded in reality.

In addition to being trained in engineering and science, we have to follow the financial news to track business trends. Recent reports show growth in consumer confidence. CEOs have signaled an increase in spending on technology and equipment with an emphasis on innovation. This means managers will be relying on those with an overall depth of knowledge necessary to solve problems and make decisions. Engineers and scientists have the training and discipline to master the task.

In the new year, POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI will continue to work on career-enhancing programs for students and alumni and encourage participation in events such as Engineers Week (February 22-28). We also look forward to joining the entire Poly community in sharing our collective talents in making the University’s 150th anniversary a celebratory year to remember.

James Oussani Jr. ’77

Albany–Capital District Reception

Plans to organize an alumni section in the Albany area took a major step forward with the first alumni gathering there on November 3, at the New York State Museum. The group hopes to hold more social events and assist the University in its recruiting efforts. Among those attending were, from left to right: John Rucigay ’50, Nathan Eribaum ’72 ’73, Dennis Landsberg ’69 ’71, Barry Rosenblatt ’71, Anthony Basirico ’75 ’76 and Allen Weintraub ’68 ’70. If you are interested in getting involved with this group, please e-mail Dennis Landsberg at dfhrm@ael.com.

Los Angeles Section

Alumni from the Los Angeles area gathered for a reception at the Century Plaza Hotel and Spa on November 17 hosted by President David C. Chang. Chang and Director of Alumni Relations Donald Ivanoff briefly alumni on Polytechnic’s recent transformation. Attending were, from left to right: Donald Fauls ’53, David Chang, Marcy Annenberg ’56 and Vincent Martella ’66. More photos are available at www.poly.edu/alumni “Recent Events.”

Homecoming 2003

Polytechnic athletes and fans from the 1950’s to the present gathered for the 2003 Homecoming festivities on November 15. The event, sponsored by the Department of Athletics and the Office of Alumni Relations featured judo, volleyball and basketball competitions and the annual Alumni vs. Varsity Basketball Game. The evening ended with a dinner and a silent auction of sports memorabilia. Pictured, from left: Robbie Liebel ’07, Phil Packer ’98, Paul Haynes ’00, Ahmed Abdul-Wali ’03 and Sergey Mass ’06.
Take Advantage of Your IRA

Did you know that you may have tax advantages through an IRA or other retirement plans? How much do you know about the components of a retirement plan? It's important to know what you can do to make the most of the benefits available.

Have you considered your options? If you have a retirement plan that provides retirement benefits, or you are considering a new retirement plan, you may have questions about how to manage the plan. What are the choices in terms of taking distributions from the plan? How do distributions from the plan affect your taxes? What are the tax considerations involved in leaving retirement plan assets to a family member?

By considering your options, you may find that the biggest beneficiary of your plan is you. All distributions from an IRA or other tax-deferred retirement plans are subject to income tax. Moreover, distributions before age 59 1/2 are subject to an extra 10 percent tax. Distributions generally must begin by April 1 of the year following the year in which you turn 70 1/2. The minimum required distribution from an IRA or other "qualified" retirement plan is determined according to a standard table based on the age of the plan owner. At age 71, for example, the minimum required distribution rate is about 3.8 percent, but that rate increases with age.

Any amount remaining in a retirement plan at the time of the plan owner's death is potentially subject to estate taxes as long as the estate tax remains in effect. There are two important exceptions to this rule. Retirement plan assets left to either one's spouse or a qualified charity are not subject to estate taxes because they are considered marital or charitable deductions, respectively.

Generally, any retirement plan money left to a beneficiary other than one's spouse or a qualified charity is subject to both income and estate taxes. If retirement plan money is left to the grandchildren, they may wind up with even less, because of the so-called generation-skipping transfer tax.

If you have thought about leaving a gift to Polytechnic, one of the best ways to do so from a tax standpoint may be to name Polytechnic as a beneficiary of your IRA, TIAA-CREF, or other retirement plan.

Here is an example: Tom Carter '51 estimates that he will have $50,000 left in his IRA. Tom, a widower, wants to leave a gift to Polytechnic and the balance of his estate to his children. Rather than leaving a bequest in his will to Polytechnic and his IRA to his children, Tom reverses his gift plan, leaving his IRA balance to Poly and providing for his children entirely through his will. The children benefit from this arrangement because they do not have to pay income tax on the benefits they receive under Tom's will. As a tax-exempt entity, Poly receives the full benefit of the IRA.

Please contact Thomas Day, director of development, at tdlaye@poly.edu or call him at 800/765-9929 to discuss bequest and charitable trust options.

O. Winston Link Museum Opens to House the Late Photographer's Work

His classmates remember him as Ogle Link '37 (CE), the mischievous class president always with a camera in his hands. Shooting for the school newspaper and yearbook. The world knew him as O.Winston Link, the acclaimed photographer whose dramatically lit black and white photographs documented the last days of the steam locomotives in small-town America.

Although several of his photographs are on permanent display at such institutions as the Museum of Modern Art, Link's legacy found a permanent home in January with the opening of the O.Winston Link Museum in a renovated historic railroad passenger station in Roanoke, Va. The 15,000-square-foot museum houses 190 signed prints, 85 estate prints and all his negatives, as well as recently recovered stolen prints, some of which have never before been seen publicly.

The collection also includes Link's photographic equipment, Norfolk and Western Railway artifacts and a virtual rail experience to allow visitors to take a trip to the Southern towns he photographed from 1955 to 1960. Link was actively involved in the planning of the museum until his death of a heart attack at age 86 in 2001. For more information on the museum, call the History Museum and Historical Society of Western Virginia at 540/342-1770, or visit www.linkmuseum.org.

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS COME HOME

Dr Barry Rosenblatt '71 (MT) is an avid collector of Polytechnic memorabilia. In honor of the University's 150th anniversary, he has donated a collection of rare documents and artifacts to the archives in Dibner Library. Among the items from his collection are a copy of the 1908 Polytechnic, an 1863 arithmetic textbook, an 1857 course catalog, an unused ticket to Poly's 1952 basketball game at Madison Square Garden and a rare cigarette card featuring Poly's tennis team. Rosenblatt, a dentist in Troy, New York, would like other Poly collectors to consider making donations to the library in honor of the sesquicentennial or contribute funds to help preserve some of the rare items in the library's collection.

The University is also very interested in finding old film and video images of the school. If you have footage that might be appropriate for a documentary that is being planned, or you would like to make a donation, please contact Donald Ivanoff, director of alumni relations at 718/260-3885 or alumni@poly.edu.
Now You Can Read and Submit Class Notes Online. Visit www.poly.edu/alumni and click on “Class Notes Online.”

EDWARD BOBROFF (ME) retired after working at Harvard University’s power plant.

C. G. DUKE (EE) calls regularly with his Alpha Chi Rho brothers and was visited by PETE SFERRAZZA ’48 (CE) and his wife, Jane, and DAVE WATSON’S ’48 (CE) widow, Barbara, and her daughter, Sue.

NORMAN L. HEWITT (CH) is writing a book on silica compounding technology.

JAGDISH C. AGARWAL (CE) ’51 (CE) is vice president of Charles River Associates Inc., in Boston, Mass., and a consultant in the field of technology management. NORMAN P. GERSTENZANG (CI) is a part-time consultant for a housing project in Afghanistan and is developing a new university-level construction management program.

HOWARD E. RICE (CH) is a board member and proposal writer for a not-for-profit organization in Brooklyn, N.Y. HAROLD L. SCHMIDT (CE) visited Italy for the first time since WWII, and sailed down the Rhine and Danube last year. MISCHA SCHWARTZ (EE) was awarded the 2003 Okawa Prize from the Okawa Foundation for Information and Telecommunications. The award is given to individuals for their outstanding contributions to telecommunication and engineering education. NATHANIEL E. SCHWARTZ (CI) works in construction management, site design and civil engineering forensics. ANDREW TORROSE (EE) retired from Perkin Elmer Corp. in Wilton, Conn.

OTTO E. GUNST (CE) celebrated his 91st birthday in August and enjoys cultivating his garden in North Carolina and visiting his children. SAMUEL S. ROEPPEL (AE) is a volunteer docent at the Lunar Module exhibit at the Castle of Aviation Museum in Garden City, N.Y.


IRWIN A. EINSOHN (EE) is a consultant to the semiconductor industry and spends time in Europe and Japan.

WALTER BELL (CE) plans to retire at the end of this year. He resigned from his position as managing director of Union Railways (North) to become a board member for the railway’s parent company, London and Continental Railways Ltd. GERALD F. ROSS (EE) ’63 (EE) is the recipient of the 2004 IEEE Pioneer Award for his work in microwave research. He is CEO and chairman of ANS Engineering Inc. BYRON G. SCHIEBER JR. (ME) is a life fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and a member of the executive committee of its Long Island section. He also serves as advisor to the vice president of ASME Region II.

DONOR SNAPSHOT

Diya Obeid ’75
MS, Systems Engineering
President, Algomaq Technologies Corporation

$10,000 to the Poly 100 Scholarship Fund

“...In a good economy, those of us who are blessed with the ability to give should do so. In a bad economy, we hope those of us who have acquired wealth are conscious of the importance of giving. Poly’s continued contribution to the educational pursuits of future generations is contingent upon our reciprocating generosity to this great institution.”

To discuss your contributions to the Poly 100 Scholarship Fund, contact Thomas Daly, director of development, at 800/765-9929 and t.daly@poly.edu or Colleen Jansen, director of major gifts, at the number listed above or at her e-mail address cjansen@poly.edu.
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SNAPSHOTS

Wilson Lai '04
BS/MS Electrical Engineering

Drs. Utah and Hazel Lin Tsao Endowed Scholarship

“Polytechnic’s scholarship program has helped me and my family tremendously. Students like me have been able to attend Polytechnic and receive a quality education with assistance from generous scholarships. The Drs. Utah and Hazel Lin Tsao Endowed Scholarship I received from Polytechnic and the Chinese Institute of Engineering has made it possible for me to enroll in the BS/MS honors program. Without the scholarship, the cost of attending college would have been much more difficult for me and for my parents.”

To discuss your contribution to a scholarship program, contact Thomas Daly, director of development, at 800/765-9929 or tdaly@poly.edu.

EDWARD V. MCASSEY (ME) '59 (ME) retired as an associate dean of engineering after 36 years at Villanova University. PETER S. PERSHAN (PO) has been appointed the Frank B. Baird Jr. Professor of Science at Harvard University. ARTHUR J. WORTH (ME) lives in New Hampshire and has an avid downhill skier. He also is a ceramic artist with his own studio called Turn of the Wheel Pottery.

ROBERT D. MARTIN (ME) is a consultant to the nuclear power industry for operational and decommissioned power plants. RICHARD ZALOUm (ME) sends his best wishes to his Alpha Phi Delta fraternity brothers.

HANK EPSTEIN (EE) '66 (MG) works as a mortgage broker and insurance salesman in Clearwater, FL. JAMES A. VON DER LINN (AE) lives in Kenton, Wash., and volunteers at the Museum of Flight restoring airplanes and at the public library where he teaches computer classes.

Former Associate Professor NATALIE KALIN LIPSETT (CH) teaches Russian language and literature in Palm Beach, FL. LAWRENCE N. MILLER (EE) '62 (EE) '85 (CS) was honored by the Stanford, Calif., American Legion which named a field after him. He has been elected vice president of the Stanford Old Boys Alumni Association. He also became a grandfather for the first time and celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary to his wife, Barbara NATALE S. NAPPI (CI) will be celebrating his 50th year as an engineeer working for the Navy.

JOSEPH KOVEL (ME) volunteers at the Putnam Museum at Mitchell Field, Long Island.

EDWARD BECKENSTEIN (EE) '64 (EE) '66 (MA) teaches math and computer science at St. John's University and plays the violin. He would like to hear from other '62 BS graduates. E-mail him at drbecke@comcast.net. KENNETH J. BURY (ME) '68 (IE) works at Keene State College in New Hampshire and his five grandsons.

THOMAS MONTEODORISIO (AE) retired after 39 years at Raytheon.

MARVIN KING (EE) is president of Riverside Research Institute and recently hosted a workshop in Washington, D.C. to explore advances in software protection.

JOHN J. MARTIN (AE) recently retired from Lockheed Martin at Cape Canaveral, FL, and is living in Cocoa Beach, FL.

BARRY JURAN (CF) '65 (CF) '91 (CI) is a senior biopharmaceutical specialist with Biokinetix, a leading process design firm in Philadelphia.

YOU-LING FAN (CH) retired from Dow Chemical Co. after 37 years of service at the Round Brook Technical Center in New Jersey. He is a consultant for biomedical, pharmaceutical and chemical industries.

JAMES V. PETERS (MA) '67 (MA) worked on increasing the testing sites that administer the actuarial exams in the New York area and is an actuarial exam supervisor.

RITA SMITH (SE) left the telecommunications industry after more than 20 years of service. She earned a master's degree and teaches high school math and science in Connecticut.

RICHARD R. LINDAUER (CH) '67 (CH) '82 (CH) is a pharmaceutical and quality control consultant. He is on an extended assignment with a major pharmaceutical company at one of their sites in Puerto Rico. BERNARD P. MONAHAN (CI) is a civil engineering consultant specializing in

Options for Funding Tuition

More than 95 percent of Poly students receive financial assistance in the form of loans, grants or scholarships. Funds for these financial aid programs are made possible by the generous support of the University's many alumni and friends. Your gift assists Poly in continuing its tradition of educational excellence. Here are some options:

Special Named Scholarship

For $2,000 or more, a named permanent scholarship will be awarded in your honor or the honor of a loved one. The scholarship is given in the year your gift is received and is listed in the University's annual Honor Roll of Donors. Contributors are invited to the President's Associates reception held in the fall.

Poly 100 Scholarship Fund

Contributors to this fund give $50,000 over five years ($10,000 annually) and have their name inscribed on their own plaque on a 6-foot abacus in the lobby of the Dilbert/CATT Building. Donors are invited to a special thank-you event and to other campus activities. This fund annually benefits students of high scholastic achievement.

Named Endowed Scholarship

Contributors of $100,000 or more may name an endowed scholarship in their honor or in honor of their loved ones. As an endowment, the scholarships last in perpetuity and continue to grow over time with proper financial management. Students meet with donors annually.

Heroes Memorial Scholarship Fund

Polytechnic has committed $1 million in scholarships for dependents of all those who died in the September 11 terrorist attacks. You are invited to help those in need during this crucial moment in our nation's history by making a special contribution to this fund.

To contribute or for more information, please contact Thomas Daly, director of development, at 800/765-9929 or e-mail him at tdaly@poly.edu.

Honor Roll Now Online

The 2002-03 Honor Roll of Donors can be viewed at www.poly.edu/alumni. If you want a printed copy, contact Colleen Jansen, director of major gifts/Polytechnic Fund, at 800/765-9929 or cjansen@poly.edu. Better yet, add your name to next year's Honor Roll by making a contribution.
construction safety and estimating. ART VATSKY (AE) is the northeast regional manager for Antares Group Inc., providing energy consulting services for the transportation and power industries.

68 EDMUND J. CONDON (TP) retired from Vollen Associates after 42 years. ANTHONY J. CORSO (CH) is president and COO of Bohlinger Ingleham Chemicals Inc. and resides in Richmond, Va. KENNETH B. KRIEGER (AE) ’72 (TP) is a sales engineer at Graphite Metallizing Corp. in Yonkers, N.Y. BERNARD TIEGERMAN (AE) is a licensing executive and senior counsel at Nortel Networks Inc., in Richardson, Tex.

69 INDER M. SINGH (EE) is CEO and chairman of LynnWorks and president of the Embedded Linux Consortium. SEICHI TAKEUCHI (ME) is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and director of the organization’s Region 19 for 2005-2006.

70 FREDERIC A. ERDIEBERG (MG) is director of American Home Care LLC and founder of American Care Managers LLC, which advises senior citizens on short- and long-term medical care and assisted living. PAUL R. HEMMES (CH) is CEO and director of Rapid Bio Tast Corp. GABRIELLE G. LONG (PH) ’72 (PH) is associate division director of x-ray operations and research at the advanced photon source at Argonne National Laboratories.

71 WILLIAM J. JULIUS (EE) is a senior systems engineer for wideband satellite control programs and is responsible for the fielding and integration of the Gapfiller satellite payload and network control subsystems. ROBERT V. WOOD (ME) retired from the Army Corps of Engineers after 53 years of service and is now the vice president for projects at Parsons Energy and Chemicals.

72 KIM GOLDBERG (BT), president of Wright State University, was honored by the National Conference for Community and Justice in October for his leadership, commitment to community and respect among races. MARK H. SCHLAM (EE) ’73 (EE) is president of MHSO International, an import/export firm. He and his wife live in East Northport, N.Y.

73 ANTHONY D. PIAZZA (MG) is vice president of business management and CFO for GoNorth Gramman Corporation, a company providing airborne early warning and electronic warfare systems. He also serves as president of the Long Island chapter of the National Contract Management Association. FRANK P. ZURICA (ME) is the owner and CEO of Liberty Mechanical Contractors of Newark, N.J.

74 WILLIAM E. DAWSON (EE) is the deputy chief information officer for the Central Intelligence Agency. GARY R. KROLL (CH) ’80 (CH) is senior vice president of CDM, a full-service consulting, engineering, construction and operations firm based in Edisco, N.J.

75 ANDRE HADDAD (CI) is president and CEO of Lockwood, Kessler and Bartlett Inc.

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Poly Alumnus Pens World War II Memoir

Eric Diller ’51, who participated in nearly a dozen engagements in World War II, as well as in the invasion of the Philippines, has written Memoirs of a Combat Infantryman (1st Books Library) detailing his experiences. Diller was awarded a Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his service.

After the war, Diller entered Poly and earned a bachelor’s in mechanical engineering. He went on to work for Amore Instrumentation Laboratory, where he helped design surveillance instruments that were employed in the moon race of rockets. “It was very classified at the time,” says Diller.

Now retired, Diller and his wife of 55 years, Dorothy, have four children and nine grandchildren. The book is dedicated to his family.

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76 ROBERT J. COLLEGGIO (CI) ’81 (MG) continues to manage construction of the U.S. GSA at the Brooklyn court project site. He lends his regards to fellow alumni in civil engineering. His e-mail is Robert.Collejio@GSA.Gov. JOHN M. DIONISIO (CI) is executive vice president and COO of AELEC Technology Corporation, a leading provider of diversified technical and professional services. He also serves as chairman of DMJM+Harris Inc. MATTHEW LIOTINE (CI) ’77 (TP) is vice president of B.C.R. Research and has recently authored the book Mission-Control Network Planning. GEORGE K. STAROPOLI (MG) wrote a book about hometown associations entitled The Case Against State Promotion of Homeowners Associations.
DONOR SNAPSHOT
Dr. Mark H. Berger '47
BS, Chemical Engineering
OF Counsel
Allegretti Berger & Vogel LLP
$3,000 to the Alumni Wall

"My association with Poly began on July 1, 1944—when I entered the University as a freshman—and has continued to the present, except for law school and my tour with the Army in Korea. I served the University as past president of the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI and as a member of the Board of Trustees for more than 20 years. I received an excellent education at Poly, which has proven useful in my life, and later in my career as a lawyer. I have always been impressed with the intellectual caliber of my fellow students, the faculty, and that of those in the administration with whom I worked. Although it is impossible to repay in funds all that Poly has meant to me, I have tried to show my gratitude and appreciation, not only by volunteering service, but also by contributions for more than 50 years. Poly not only needs our contributions, but we must remember that it also deserves them."

To discuss your contribution to the Alumni Wall, contact Thomas Day, director of development, at 800/765-9929 and dayt@poly.edu or Colleen Jensen, director of major gifts, at 800/765-9929 or at her e-mail address cjensen@poly.edu.

77 MICHAEL ERNST (CE) '77 (CE) is a consultant to the food, flavor and bulk pharmaceutical industries. SHLOMO NOVOTNY (ME) '78 (ME) is a fellow of the ASME and senior staff engineer at Sun Microsystems in Burlington, Mass.

81 JAMES J. COLOTTI (EE) was recently appointed chairmen of the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society of the Long Island section of IEEE. DAVID WINSTON (SS) is a captain in the Fire Department of New York and is company commander of Ladder 196. He and his wife, STELLA O'BRIEN '82 (SS) have been married 21 years.

79 MERRILL S. GOLDBERG (CH) is a research scientist at Argonne, where he continues to work on sustained release and drug-delivery systems.

80 URSULA BURNS (ME) was featured in the "Stepping Out of the Shadows" article in the December issue of TIME magazine as one of the prime contenders for top jobs at 20 of the world's largest corporations.

85 MANUEL TORRES (AE) was named assistant vice president for program management at Science Applications International Corporation, where he is responsible for aerospace and missile defense programs.

88 COURTNEY O. LACKARD (ME) is a project manager with Eastern Constructors Inc., working on a $35 million school construction project in Medway, Mass.

She serves as the youth minister and associate minister at the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Malden, Mass. JOHN E. VODAPIA (EE) is an intellectual property attorney for Philips Electronics.

89 LEE R. CROSS (IE) is a project manager at Splerion Corp. in Atlanta, Ga. He received his PMP certification from the Project Management Institute. PAUL RUSSO (EE) was Brookline's entry in the Foot Locker Five Borough Challenge, a special "race within a race" during the New York City Marathon on November 2. An accomplished triathlete, RUSSO finished the race in 3:22:10. Also participating in the marathon was EDWARD GONZALEZ '96 (ME), who came up from Houston, Tex., where he works for NASA as Personal Space and Test engineer.

90 GEORGE LIKOUEROS '92 '92 (EE) and his wife, Maria, are the proud parents of their second daughter, Katherine Grace, born September 18.

91 JOHN TIGLIAS (CS) is chief information officer at Adkins Nutriminals Inc., the leading source of all food products and services for the popular Adkins diet.

92 JOANNE C. LEE (ME) was recently married to Jason LaFarge, Joanne is a supply chain improvement engineer with General Electric in Waterford, N.Y. PATRICK F. LYNCH (EE) is president of O'Dea, Lynch, Abbatantuono Consulting Engineers. He has earned his certified energy manager designation from the Association of Energy Engineers. NICHOLAS A. ZIENIARSKI (ME) was ordained as a Romanian Catholic priest in June.

93 RICHARD A. CONTI (CE) is a senior engineer at IBM's microelectronics division in East Fishkill, N.Y.

94 PAUL KRAMER (ME) is a senior project manager for Quantero and Associates.

95 JOSEPH L. DIAZ (EE) is a staff consultant at Ball Aerospace Corp. in Broomfield, Colo. He is the author of several books on Aerospace Engineering using Physical Optics.

99 SAMEH ZIEN (CS) married Eva Memishia in September. He is a process development engineer for Barr Laboratories in Princeton, N.J. MICHAEL GOLAS (GS) and SPENCER KORMOS '90 (GS) were married.

00 CHAOHUNG LIN (MS) is working at J-M Manufacturing, the largest manufacturer of PVC pipe in America.

01 YEVENYI LVOVSKY (ME) '65 (CI) works for Ljro Group Construction Management developing new construction management software.

02 LAMPROS B. BOURIDIMOS (CI) works for the Environmental Protection Agency as an environmental engineer in the area of pollution prevention and teaches courses at Middlesex Community College.

03 EDWARD T. LEWIS is co-founder of Essence magazine and chairman and CEO of Essence Communications Partners. Advertising Age named Essence one of the top 10 magazines of 2003.
An Ode to the “Great Generation” —
the Class of 1950

Arthur M. Beckvar ’50 (CH) wrote the following letter to Polytechnic a few months before dying of pancreatic cancer on September 17, 2003.

“Tom Brokaw characterized our Class of ’50 as part of the ‘Greatest Generation.’ I don’t think we deserve the ‘greatest’ title; the men and women who fought for our independence in the Revolutionary War deserve that accolade.

“We were a ‘great generation.’ We were toughened by the Great Depression, fought successfully against the Axis Powers in World War II and then came home to continue our education, raise families and build an infrastructure that made the United States the most powerful nation in history — an infrastructure that enabled us to defeat the USSR in the Cold War.

“I am probably a typical member of this ‘great generation.’ I was orphaned a few weeks after my 14th birthday when my Norwegian immigrant father died of TB. I managed to acquire a high school education and, at age 17, was supporting myself. I took courses at Brooklyn Poly at night at the old ‘trolley-car’ campus on Livingston Street ($8 per credit). When we entered the war, I was drafted into the Army — I was almost glad; working six days a week at a defense plant and attending school three nights a week, I had little free time. But we were embroiled in the bloodiest conflict in history and we had to work and study to win that war.

“When I returned to Brooklyn Poly under GI Bill, I was astonished when I passed Professor Sadda (head of the English Department) in the hallway and he greeted me by name. It had been four years since I had been in his English class! I felt right at home. After graduation, I worked for a number of consulting firms and construction companies. Some of the projects I worked on were as designer or construction supervisor included the New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, Connecticut Turnpike, Long Island Expressway, New York Thruway, Thru (Greenland) Air Base, WALT Whitman Suspension Bridge, World Trade Center, AT&T Worth Street Building and numerous public schools, fire houses and hospitals.

“I feel proud that my Brooklyn Poly education enabled me to play a part in strengthening our nation and to help me and my wife raise and educate three daughters. I hope my children will be known as a ‘greatest generation. They are the greatest to me.”

Beckvar, with daughters, Kristine, Karen and Nancy, and wife, Ruth. He is also survived by six grandchildren.

IN MEMORIAM

Jesse C. Rabinowitz ’45

Jesse C. Rabinowitz ’45 (CM), a biochemist and foremost expert on how the body used folic acid, died September 9, 2003, of melanoma at his home in Kensington, Calif. He was 78.

A professor emeritus of molecular and cell biology at the University of California at Berkeley, Rabinowitz spent his career tracking down, identifying and characterizing the enzymes that require folic acid to function, a role that makes the vitamin an essential micronutrient in the diet. Pregnant women are now advised to take folic acid to prevent neural tube defects in newborns. Folic acid deficiency also has been linked in various studies to an increased risk of heart disease, cancer and various types of brain dysfunction.

A native New Yorker, Rabinowitz earned his bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 1945 from Polytechnic and a PhD in Biochemistry in 1949 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He joined the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health, as a chemist in 1953.

Four years later, he became a member of the biochemistry faculty at UC Berkeley. He served as department chair from 1978 to 1983 and retired in 1991.

Rabinowitz also was an avid photographer, particularly of people, most of whom he encountered on his world travels. A member of the Berkeley Camera Club, he frequently showed his photos at local galleries and entered photo contests, including Saturday Review magazine’s World Travel Photography Contest, in which he won the 1969 Grand Prize in Color. Several of his photographs can be viewed at www.photosbyjess.com.

FREE SUBSCRIPTION

Do you know a fellow alumus who is not receiving CABLE? If so, please send us the name and home and business addresses. Please include telephone numbers and job title if you have them. This information should be sent to alumni@polu.edu or contact Donald Ivanoff, director of alumni relations at 300-366-7659 (FON-POLY).
Are You A Polythinker?

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:** A man rowing upstream in a still river passes under a bridge, when his hat accidentally falls into the water and is carried downstream by the current. The man, unaware that his hat has fallen into the water, continues to row upstream past the bridge. When he realizes his hat is in the water, he reverses direction and starts rowing downstream toward the hat. It takes him 20 minutes to reach the hat, and at that point, he is exactly one mile downstream of the bridge. What is the speed of the river current?

This issue's question was provided by Professor Emeritus Robert Ackerberg.

Send your answer and sweatshirt size to

**Michelle Kerr**
E-mail: mkerro@poly.edu
Fax: 718/260-3094
Mail: Polytechnic University
Six MetroTech Center
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Last Issue’s Poly Quiz

**WINNER OF DRAWING FROM FALL ’03 QUIZ:**
Salvatore Rea ‘77

The answer of 621 degrees Fahrenheit to the question "What temperature is 'twice as hot' as 80 degrees Fahrenheit?" posed by Robert L. Wolfe '49 (CH) from his book What Einstein Told His Barber: More Scientific Answers to Everyday Questions—stumped many alumni. Correct respondents realized that you need to double the heat, not the temperature. To do that, you convert the Fahrenheit number to Celsius, then to Kelvin, which uses a scale of numbers where zero means no heat at all; double that Kelvin number to get twice the heat and convert it back to Celsius and then to Fahrenheit. So, 80 degrees Fahrenheit = 27 degrees Celsius = 300 Kelvins × 2 = 600 Kelvins = 327 degrees Celsius = 621 degrees Fahrenheit.

To win the names of all respondents who submitted correct answers, visit www.poly.edu/alumni/cable/quiz.cfm

SAVE THE DATES: Upcoming Alumni Events

**Tuesday, March 16, 2004**
Tokyo, Japan
Alumni Reception

**Wednesday–Thursday, May 26 and 27, 2004**
Class of 1954 Golden Jubilee

**Sunday, May 16, 2004**
Polytechnic Golf Classic

**Thursday, June 3, 2004**
Annual Meeting of the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI
Class of 1979 Silver Jubilee
Reunion Dinner for the Classes of 1964, 1974, 1984 and 1994

For more information, please call Donald Iannoff, director of alumni relations, at 718/260-3885 or visit www.poly.edu and click on "Upcoming Events.'