Polytechnic’s 151st Commencement
New York Life Chairman Champions Technology Leadership at Poly’s 151st Commencement

Declaring that economic leadership will be built on technology leadership, Sy Sternberg, chairman and CEO of New York Life Insurance Company, told Polytechnic’s Class of 2006: “We need more engineers to sustain our country’s growth.” He noted that “China and India are outpacing us in the number of engineering graduates and both are enjoying robust economic growth.”

Sternberg, who holds a bachelor’s and master’s in electrical engineering, delivered the commencement address and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Engineering degree. “You are the country’s future.” Sternberg said, “We need your leadership and technological skills.”

New York’s senior Senator Charles E. Schumer, who was Poly’s commencement speaker in 2003, advised the graduates that it’s an amazing time to be young and educated. “This is a new world that needs technological and scientific leaders,” he said. “My advice is simple: go for it!”

President Jerry M. Hultin challenged the graduates to step forward and take up the torch. “I challenge you to bring the light of your talent to the exciting challenges and opportunities of this ‘the world is flat’ century,” he said. “Set bold goals for yourself, both personal and professional, your life will have greater consequence... you will solve more complex problems... you will change the world in unexpected ways.”

Mohammad U. Alam, who graduated with a 3.9 grade-point average (GPA) and earned a bachelor’s in computer engineering and a master’s in telecommunications networks, delivered the valedictory address. “At Poly I met people from all walks of life, all different religions, nationalities and color,” he remarked. “I learned a lot from them. I learned about their culture, their ideals and their perspective on issues around us. I think this is what enriched my educational experience.”

Two students were awarded the Polytechnic Alumni Outstanding Graduate Award: Paul Glezer and Tanya Panchenko. Glezer graduated with a bachelor’s and master’s in computer science with a 3.4 and 3.6 GPA respectively; Panchenko earned a bachelor’s in chemistry with a 3.6 GPA and a master’s in biomedical engineering with a 3.4 GPA.

The Jacobs Distinguished Teacher Award was presented to Mary K. Cowman, associate professor of bio-chemistry, Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences.

Polytechnic awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Bill Drayton, founder of Ashoka, whose mission is to develop the profession of social entrepreneurship around the world. Clifford H. Goldsmith was awarded an honorary Doctor of Engineering degree.

Goldsmith served on Poly’s Board of Trustees for two decades and as vice chairman helped steer the University through a transforming period in its long and distinguished history. Laura Parsons, a former member of the Board of Trustees and a long-standing member of Poly’s Promise Fund Board, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

The 2006 commencement ceremony culminated with the conferring of 298 bachelor’s, 271 master’s and 19 PhD degrees at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center on June 4.
1. President Hultin greets Senator Charles Schumer on the stage of Avery Fisher Hall.

2. Mohammad Alam delivers the valedictory address.

3. Fletcher H. Griffis, dean of engineering, presents Mary K. Cowman, associate professor of biochemistry, Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences with the 2006 Jacobs Distinguished Teacher Award.

4/5. Paul Glezer and Tanya Panchenko were co-recipients of the Outstanding Graduate Award.

6. The Class of 1956, this year’s Golden Jubilees.

   Row 1: Richard Zitzmann, Sid Blecherman, President Hultin and Robert Dalziel.

   Row 2: Russell Roane, Emil Iaconis and Andrew Ney.

   Row 3: Martin Abelow, Wolfgang Schaechter, William Friend and James Toto.

   Row 4: Thomas Maggio, Bernard Lee and Paul Higgins.

7. President Jerry Hultin, right, joins the 2006 honorary degree recipients, from left, Bill Drayton, chairman, CEO and founder of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public, Laura Parsons, a psychologist in private practice, Clifford H. Goldsmith, principal, The Prendel Company and Sy Sternberg, chairman and CEO, New York Life Insurance Company.

8. Polytechnic trustees, from left, Aviva Budd, manager, Commercial Real Estate Investments, Jeffrey Lynford, vice chairman of the Polytechnic Board of Trustees, and chairman, Wellsford Real Properties Inc. and Deborah Devedjian, founder and managing partner, Copernicus Learning Fund and Consultants.

9. President Hultin, left, makes a few remarks prior to presenting, Sy Sternberg, center, with an honorary Doctor of Engineering degree while Dean Griffis looks on.

10. President Hultin congratulates graduates on the floor of Avery Fisher Hall.
Promise Fund Raises $1 Million for Scholarships

More than 350 guests dined, danced and were entertained with an electrifying performance from Tony Award-winning actor-singer Brian Stokes Mitchell at the 18th Annual Promise Fund Dinner gala in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel. The dinner celebrated Poly’s historic, continuing and future leadership in creating and advancing opportunity, invention and learning through The Power of PolyThinking.

“This year’s Promise Fund activities, culminating in this dinner, have once again generated more than a million dollars of scholarship support for Promise scholars,” cheered Henry J. Singer ’57CH ’64MG, board chairman of the Promise Fund, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees and president of Reg-Nis LLC. “Without these scholarships and without Polytechnic,” he said, “the dreams of these young men and women could never be realized resulting in a tragic loss for them and our nation.” Singer was awarded the President’s Medal for Distinguished Service for his years of service and dedication to Poly and the Promise Fund.

President Jerry M. Hultin told dinner guests that the University is helping each Promise scholar set high goals and become the next generation of PolyThinkers.

“Tonight’s scholars join more than 2,000 Promise scholars who through your generous support gained access to a Poly education,” he said. “These Promise scholars are now using The Power of PolyThinking to transform the 21st century.”

Promise scholar Joshua Washington ’07BTM speaking straight from the heart thanked the Promise Fund contributors for their financial support. “My experiences at Polytechnic University have given me the technical skills needed to be successful in the business world,” he said. “Thank you for everything you have done for me. Believe me, it has been a lot.”

The Promise Fund has raised over $17 million to support Polytechnic scholarships and the University’s pre-college outreach programs for inner-city youth.

The gala dinner/dance was held on June 20 and was hosted by Pat Carroll, morning news anchor for WCBS News Radio 880 and the 2005 winner of the Edward R. Murrow Award for Best Newscast.

Brian Stokes Mitchell provided the evening’s entertainment.
1. Michael Corey, ’70IE secretary/treasurer of Poly’s Board of Trustees and managing director (retired), J.P. Morgan Investment Management Inc., left, his wife, Emilie, Poly student Habiba Kum Kum ’08BTM, and Ronnie and Stewart Nagler, ’63MA, immediate past chair of the Board and vice chairman and CFO (retired), MetLife Inc.

2. President Jerry MacArthur Hultin, right, is joined by Clifford H. Goldsmith Hon’06, left, Promise Fund founder, with President Hultin and his wife, Jill.

3. Anastasija Shytuhina ’07CBE, Jaclyn Lo Bello ’07CBE, both Promise scholars, and Frances Troche ’08MG, who is featured in the University’s newspaper and subway ads, in the lobby of the Waldorf-Astoria.

4. The evening’s student speaker, Joshua Washington ’07, a Promise scholar.

5. Lee and Steven Rittvo ’69SE ’71TP, chairman, The Innovation Holdings Group and Polytechnic trustee.

6. Laura Parsons Hon’06, Promise Fund Board member, with President Hultin and his wife, Jill.

7. Pat Carroll, morning news anchor for WCBS News Radio and the evening’s mistress of ceremonies.

8. President Hultin and trustee Deborah Devedjian, founder and managing partner, Copernicus Learning Fund and Consultants.
Faculty notes

George Bugliarello, president emeritus, has been appointed chair of the following committees—the National Research Council Committee on the U.S.-Iran Workshop on Science and Technology and the Future Development of Societies, the Committee on International Programs of the Governing Board of the National Research Council and the International Affairs Committee of the Council of the National Academy of Engineering.

Mel Horwitch, chair, Department of Management, Nina Ziv, industry associate professor and co-director of the Executive Management Master’s Program and Bharat Rao, associate professor and director of the PhD Program in Technical Management, participated in the TMEDA Technology Management Workshop—Technology Management Education: Thriving in a World of Challenge and Change. Horwitch also debuted the International Journal for Technology and Innovation Management Education at the workshop. He co-edits the publication with Shlomo Maital of the Technion Institute of Management.

Ilan Juran, professor, Department of Civil Engineering, served on a panel on The Challenge of Local Capacity Building—Inter-community Cooperation in Educational, Scientific and Professional Training Initiatives—Perspectives, Partnerships and Implementation Strategies. The international media seminar was held in Moscow on June 8 and 9 and was organized by the United Nations’ Department of Public Information.

Jovan Mijovic, head of the Othmer-Jacobs Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, delivered a plenary lecture on the Dynamics of Nanoparticles for Biomedical Applications at the Third International Conference on Times of Composites, on the island of Ischia, June 18 to June 22. He also presented two invited seminars at the Universities of Perugia and Naples in Italy.

José Pinto, associate professor of chemical engineering, the Othmer-Jacobs Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, chaired the Business Decision Support session and delivered a series of lectures at the 16th European Symposium on Computer-Aided Process Engineering and 9th International Symposium on Process Systems Engineering from July 9 to July 13 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. The titles of his lectures are Lagrangean-based Techniques for the Supply Chain Management of Flexible Process Networks, Reconstruction of Transcriptional Regulatory Networks Via Integer Linear Programming and Operational Optimization of the Thermoelectric System of an Oil Refinery.

Stavroula Sofou, assistant professor of chemical engineering, the Othmer-Jacobs Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, is the recipient of the prestigious Wallace H. Coulter Foundation 2006 Early Career Award for her research on Liposomes Containing Raft-Switches for Targeted Therapy of Solid Tumors. Sofou presented her work on liposomes for targeted cancer therapy at the Gordon Research Conference and delivered a lecture at the Controlled Release Society’s annual meeting in Vienna, Austria in July.

Rastislav Levicky joined the Othmer-Jacobs Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, as the Donald F. Othmer Assistant Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, effective July 1, 2006. Prior to joining Polytechnic, Levicky was at Columbia University. His research interests are in the fields of biological interfaces and DNA micro-arrays. He earned a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Jin Ryoun Kim will join the Othmer-Jacobs Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering on September 1, 2006, as the Joseph J. and Violet J. Jacobs Assistant Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Prior to joining Poly, Kim was at The Johns Hopkins University. His research interest is in the field of structure and function of proteins. He earned a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.
Students learn by standing in the shadows

Through a mentoring program sponsored by Polytechnic’s Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education, many students are taking a glimpse into their futures. By “shadowing” industry professionals, including many executives, students are learning more about the day-to-day responsibilities that may await them after graduation. Now entering its third year, the program matches students one-on-one with working professionals – first at a dinner, as an icebreaker, and then during visits to the workplace. In 2005, about two dozen students participated. The next installment of the program is the evening of September 13, 2006.

“The program is important because students have the opportunity to see what individuals in their area of interest actually do. They learn practical operational skills that can be applied to future experiences in their engineering discipline,” said Nina Weber, director of Career Services.

As a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, Poly alum Durjodhan “Chris” Ragnauth ’03CE ’06CE has been actively involved in bringing students and professional engineers together since 2004 – helping to resuscitate a service that previously experienced erratic student participation. According to Ragnauth, working engineers have made themselves readily available to students and are eager to give back to their profession.

“These mentors are chief engineers, CEOs, chief operating officers,” said Ragnauth, a consultant for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Matthew Nissen ’03EE, a design and consulting engineer with EME Group, also serves as a mentor. He was attracted to the program because it offered him an opportunity to “help my fellow electrical and computer engineers whose careers have been less stable than previous generations and help introduce them to the local networks of professionals.” For Nissen, the interaction with potential future colleagues was the most rewarding aspect of the experience.

Ibn Abdul-Khaaliq ’07CS ’07CE, a past participant in the “shadowing” program, was paired with a mentor from IBM. “She took me around and gave me a description of her work,” said Abdul-Khaaliq, who added that the experience helped him realize he would prefer to delve into software development as a career, rather than manufacturing.

And while offering networking opportunities and insight into a student’s career aspirations are obvious goals of the mentoring program, another benefit is that students may elect to take their career paths into a different direction, one they believe might be even more rewarding.

Weber would like to increase alumni participation and aims to expand the program to other disciplines both within and outside of engineering. In addition to the mentoring program, Career Services offers résumé and cover-letter critiques, career fairs, mock interviews that are videotaped and evaluated, career aptitude tests and on-campus recruiting, which allows students and alumni to apply for jobs online with companies that plan to visit campus.

Alumni may not be aware but all of the services we provide for our students are also available to them,” Weber said. “Career Services has an alumni web page and new positions are posted there daily. We invite all alumni to check these job postings and to visit the Career Center.”

Last year, Career Services reported a 91 percent job-placement success rate, up from 83 percent in 2004. For more information on Career Services, call Nina Weber at (718) 260-3650 or visit http://media.poly.edu/alumni/job_posting/career_pub.cfm.

Professor Okamoto to direct Polymer Research Institute

Yoshiyuki Okamoto, research professor of organic and polymer chemistry in the Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences, has been named director of Polytechnic’s Polymer Research Institute. The appointment was announced by University President Jerry Hultin and was effective July 1. The Polymer Research Institute, founded by Herman F. Mark in 1942, is committed to interdisciplinary efforts in research and scholarship in the synthesis, characterization, structure, properties and applications of polymers.

“I am very pleased with Professor Okamoto’s appointment,” said Bruce Garetz, head of chemical and biological sciences. “He brings the enthusiasm and dedication needed to revitalize the institute’s activities.”

Okamoto joined the Department of Chemistry faculty in 1973 after New York University’s (NYU) School of Engineering and Science merged with Polytechnic. He served as head of the department from 1982 to 1985. Previously he was as an atomic energy research fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an associate professor at NYU. During his 33-year tenure at Polytechnic, he also worked as a principal research investigator at Brookhaven National Laboratory and at the New York Center for Advanced Technology at City University of New York. Since 1960, he consistently has been the recipient of major research grants from the National Science Foundation, U.S. Army, the Department of Energy and the National Institutes of Health.

A prolific author, Okamoto, who holds 20 patents, is well known for his research in the synthesis of organometallic materials, fluorescent polymers and, most recently, fluorinated polymers for optical fiber applications.
Polytechnic University in conjunction with Cardozo High School offered a unique, summer program for students interested in sharpening their science skills by studying cutting-edge technology. The intensive, two-week program gave 20 Cardozo students the opportunity to study nanotechnology—an emerging field combining chemistry, biology, physics, engineering and other scientific disciplines to create microminiature tools by manipulating atoms. During the first week, students conducted daily, hands-on laboratory experiments with carbon nanotubes. The second week focused on using nanotechnology in drug delivery. The program offers fledgling scientists a chance to get on the fast track to prestigious competitions such as Intel Science Talent Search and adds an impressive entry to any college application. According to Kalle Levon, professor of chemistry in Poly’s Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences, who headed the program, “America’s future is in knowledge-based society. This is where innovation happens.”

Professor Kalle Levon begins the morning lecture on nanotechnology with the Cardozo High School students. During the intensive, two-week course, students had an opportunity to conduct daily hands-on laboratory experiments that investigated cutting-edge topics such as the use of nanotechnology in drug delivery.

Officers elected at annual meeting

New officers of the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI are, left to right, Thomas Mauro, Michael Urmeneta, the Honorable Frank Ponterio ’52EE, retired New York State Supreme Court judge who officiated at the swearing in ceremony, Luther White, Edward Sawchuk and George Likourezos.
Employee Service Awards

Polytechnic said a big thank you to its loyal and dedicated employees at its annual Service Awards presentation on June 1 in the Regna Lounge. Thirty-eight employees, with service to the University ranging from 5 to 50 years, were recognized during the ceremony. Robert Flynn ’66 ’73MA, industry professor in the Department of Computer and Information Science in Westchester, waxed nostalgic about his 40 years with the University. “I am humbled a bit by the seriousness that so many bright, articulate students bring to courses I have taught,” said Flynn “and to the whole proposition of what Polytechnic is: a hard, quality technological university. I have enjoyed teaching enormously over the years and have had so many wonderful students—many of them whom I now consider friends. They are all over the country, like leaves scattered by the wind.”

A listing of all recipients with 10 years or more of service and some photos of the event appear below.

**Honorees were photographed with President Hultin during the Service Awards reception:**

1. **50 years of service:**
   - Victor Wallach, technician, Chemical and Biological Sciences.

2. **40 years of service:**
   - Robert Flynn, industry professor, Computer and Information Science.

3. **30 years of service:**
   - Francis Mulcahy, associate professor, Humanities and Social Sciences.

4. **25 years of service:**

5. **20 years of service:**

6. **15 years of service:**
   - (Not pictured) Deane Yang, professor, Mathematics.

7. **10 years of service:**
   - (Not pictured) LaVerne Clark, director, Westchester Operations, Wanda Green, assistant registrar, Registrar, Mel Horwitch, chair, Management, Vikram Kapila, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering, Noel Kritcher, director, David Packard Center, Dinesh Lyew, administrative coordinator, Physics, Paul Oma Agbi, chief engineer, Facilities Management, Frederick Novomestky, industry associate professor, Management, Lindsey Van Wagenen, lecturer, Mathematics, Mary Woods, administrative assistant, Facilities Management.

New officers were elected during the Annual Meeting of the Polytechnic Alumni on May 20. These individuals will lead the association in carrying out its mission to assist the University in its fundraising and recruiting efforts and to promote the welfare of all its graduates.

George Likourigos ’92 ’92EE was elected president. George is a partner at the law firm of Carter, DeLuca, Farrell and Schmidt LLP in Melville, New York, practicing intellectual property law. He resides in St. James, Long Island with his wife and daughters.

Edward Sawchuk ’76 ’78CE is the new executive vice president. Ed is an engineer and lawyer whose firm specializes in business, government and political relations for small- to mid-sized businesses and not-for-profits, as well as the architectural, engineering and construction industries. He also serves as a construction industry consultant to the legal profession. He resides in Bayside, Queens with his wife and son.

Three alums will continue to serve the association in their previous capacities. Constandino “Gus” Sirakis ’97CE will continue as vice president. Gus works the New York City Department of Buildings, Technical Affairs, and lives in Manhattan. Luther White ’87OR remains the association’s secretary. Luther is a budget manager for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and is vice president of Reggie’s Roast, a coffee importer and retailer. Michael Urmeneta ’92ME ’00MG, director of information systems and data management at the New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury, is the treasurer. He lives in Jamaica, New York.

Thomas Mauro ’67PH is the immediate past president. Tom practices intellectual property law in Washington, DC where he lives.

In addition to the officers, the organization is governed by a 12-member International Board of Directors and an Executive Council. A complete list of the officers and directors can be found at www.poly.edu/alumni. If you are interested in volunteering for committees or events sponsored by the Polytechnic Alumni, you can find details on our website by clicking on the “Supporting Poly” button or by e-mailing alumni@poly.edu.
PolyThinking is all in the family

The Shermans give undeniable credence to the theory that PolyThinking is an inherited trait.

Eight members of their family—including aunts, uncles and in-laws—have earned degrees from Polytechnic—11 at last count with two more on the way. President Jerry Hultin celebrated the accomplishments of these remarkable alums at a special luncheon on the MetroTech campus on July 28. “The luncheon invitation came as a complete surprise,” said Angela Sherman. “Both my sister and I teach high school. The president was very interested about our ideas on recruiting and how important it is to make students understand the career options within a discipline. It was exciting to learn about the president’s vision and the new direction Poly is taking. The entire afternoon was really very nice.”

Harvey and Angela (Macor) Sherman met at Poly and graduated with Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics in 1975. Both went on to earn graduate degrees—a Master of Science in Operations Research for Angela and a Master of Science in Applied Mathematics for Harvey. Angela teaches AP computer science at Francis Lewis High School in Queens and Harvey is an actuary for Swiss Re. In June, their oldest son, Christopher, completed his first Polytectnich degree in computer science and is going for a master’s in the fall. Younger brother, Andrew, is entering his junior year majoring in mathematics.

The attraction to a Poly education is not restricted to immediate family members. Aunts and uncles have joined the alumni roster as well. Robert and Patricia (Macor) Mennella—Patricia is Angela’s sister—attended Poly and graduated a year apart. Robert earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1980 and Patricia earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering in 1981 and a master’s in 1986. She teaches AP physics at Mahwah High School in New Jersey; Robert works in the energy trading division of Con Edison. Another uncle, Edward Mennella, graduated with a bachelor’s in civil engineering in 1978 and a master’s in management in 1983 and a cousin, Alex Pagnutti, earned an undergrad degree in aerospace engineering in 1977 and a Master of Science in Management in 1985.

If you have an interesting story of multigenerational Polytechnic connections, please submit them by e-mail to alumni@poly.edu.

On the balcony of the Dibner Building are, from the left, Angela Sherman, President Jerry Hultin, Patricia Mennella, Robert Mennella, Christopher Sherman, Andrew Sherman and Harvey Sherman. Edward Mennella and Alex Pagnutti were unable to attend the luncheon.

Nespoli named to STS mission

Paolo Nespoli ‘88AE ‘89AA will realize his life-long dream to travel in space as a member of the STS-120 mission, which will take the Italian-built Node 2 module to the International Space Station. He will serve as mission specialist joining five other astronauts. The mission is scheduled for August 2007.

Drafted as a non-commissioned officer by the Italian army in 1977, Nespoli became a special forces operator and served a two-year tour of duty as a member of the Italian contingent of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut, Lebanon. He left active duty in 1987 to complete a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering and a Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Polytechnic in 1988 and 1989, respectively. He joined ESA’s European Astronaut Centre in 1991 and was detached to NASA’s Johnson Space Center in 1996 where he worked in the Spaceflight Training Division on preparation for ground and in-orbit crews of the International Space Station. In 1998, he was selected as a member of the European astronaut corps. In 2004, he was temporarily assigned to the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Russia where he trained for flight on the Soyuz spacecraft.
Fun in the Sun

Poly alums know how to keep cool and have a good time on a hot summer’s day. Get some friends together and go to the beach! A group of alums and their friends enjoyed the sun and surf at Robert Moses Park on July 8. The gathering, the brainchild of Wayne Lydon ’86CS ’90TP, Paul Mattera ’86IE, Jennifer Peng ’87EE and Brett Yagel ’87HU, was the first time some of these classmates had seen each other in almost 20 years. The partygoers took a few moments out their fun to pose for a photo.

Letter from the President

OF THE POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI

I am deeply honored to serve as your president and to have the opportunity to lead our association at the beginning of Poly’s next 150 years. I thank all of you for placing your confidence in me. I know you join me in extending a special thanks to our former president, Thomas Mauro, for his leadership during the last two years, and to our dedicated alumni officers, executive council members and the International Board of Directors for their tireless efforts in strengthening our association. A special nod goes to Donald Ivanoff, director of alumni relations, and his staff for their hard work and commitment to our association.

I look forward to working with our alumni volunteers and the dedicated alumni staff in assisting Polytechnic in fundraising and increasing its student recruitment and retention.

To help us with our fundraising efforts, the University has made two new appointments. Craig Purinton is the new executive director for development/campaign director. Craig is responsible for major individual gifts and development operations. He is also member of the campaign strategy team consisting of President Jerry Hultin, Richard Thorsen, vice president for development and university relations and trustee campaign leaders.

Natalie Blake, the new associate director of annual and anniversary giving, is charged with increasing the number of alumni making gifts to Poly as well as the size of those gifts. Natalie will work with Donald Ivanoff to strengthen annual unrestricted giving to the University—a key U.S. News and World Report metric—and further develop our anniversary scholarship appeal program which has increased over 20 percent in each of the last two years under Tom Mauro’s leadership.

I encourage all Polytechnic alumni to support our alma mater by positively responding to the good work of Poly’s development and fundraising team. I ask all alumni to seriously consider volunteering on a committee or local section. Your active role in the POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI and your support will make an invaluable difference in the future of our University.

Thank you.

George Likourezos
President, POLYTECHNIC ALUMNI
ALUMNI NEWS • The Power of PolyThinking

A million dollar bequest to support EE undergrads

A $1 million bequest to Polytechnic from the estates of William T. and Elva Hudtwalker has established the William T. Hudtwalker Scholarship Endowment to provide financial support to undergraduate students in electrical engineering. The bequest was part of the estate Mrs. Hudtwalker inherited upon the death of her husband in 1987. Over time, what began as a relatively modest amount grew into an appreciable sum, which was left to Poly when Mrs. Hudtwalker died in 2005 at the age of 94. Polytechnic University is grateful for the Hudtwalker's steadfast commitment and generosity to a new generation of students.

Gifts to Poly through your estate plans can be managed through trusts and gift annuities as well as bequests and an effective, tax-efficient, easy way to support Poly. 2005–2006 was a banner year for bequests to the University with gifts totaling $7,457,190.

If you would like to include Poly in your will or need assistance in planning your bequest to Poly, please call Thomas Daly, director of planned giving/development operations, at (718) 260-3364 or e-mail him at tdaly@poly.edu.

Today’s better rates make annuities an attractive investment option

Here’s some good news. The IRS Discount Rate has increased considerably this year!

If you made a contribution to a Polytechnic Gift Annuity this year, this is not only good news; it’s great news. Here’s why.

The IRS Discount Rate is a unique calculation that determines your charitable deduction when you contribute to a Polytechnic Gift Annuity. The calculation is the annual rate of return the IRS assumes that the gift will earn during its term. The federal government changes the rate monthly. As the rate increases, so does your charitable deduction.

In August 2005, the IRS Discount Rate was 4.8 percent. The rate climbed to 6.2 percent in August 2006. If we compare the charitable deduction using these two rates for a gift annuity of $10,000, the deduction for a 72 year-old contributor in August 2005 was $4,081; this year, it is $4,592—a $509 increase over the previous year.

There are many other advantages to a gift annuity—the contract is easy to understand, you receive income for life based on your age and a portion of your gift is tax deductible in the year that it is given. A portion of your income from the annuity is tax-free. If you made stock contributions to your annuity, a portion of your income is taxed as capital gains. In some cases, low-yield stock can be converted into a more attractive payout rate. Spouses and other beneficiaries may be added to the annuity but doing so will alter your income and charitable deduction.

If you would like a free copy of Giving Through Gift Annuities and a free and confidential estimate for your charitable deduction and the income you will earn for a lifetime, please contact Thomas Daly, director, planned giving/development operations at tdaly@poly.edu or at (718) 260-3364.

Anniversary appeal shatters previous mark

Each year, members of the anniversary classes contribute to a special scholarship that enables students who currently enrolled at Poly to complete their studies. This year the classes of ’36, ’41, ’46, ’51, ’56, ’61, ’66, ’71, ’76, ’81, ’86, ’91, ’96 and 2001 have responded in record numbers. Thanks largely to a $10,000 challenge gift from trustee William L. Friend ’56 ChE Hon ’05, which energized the Golden Jubilee class, the appeal has raised over $45,000 in gifts—and we are still counting. This is a 25 percent increase over last year’s appeal. Thanks to the generosity of the members of the anniversary classes at least six students will receive substantial scholarships. Donors to the Anniversary Scholarship Fund are acknowledged in the Honor Roll of Donors.

In Memoriam

Robert J. Kramer ’31
John R. Blizard ’35
John B. Frost ’35
Edward M. Erickson ’38
Robert L. Ratcliffe ’42
Wilbur Affens ’46
Vincent Del Toro ’50
Arnold Robinson ’51
Edward T. Repetti ’54
Robert J. Gabel ’55
Gerhardt Platau ’57
Allen S. Bennett Jr. ’59
Taufe Olsen ’59
Peter Bakolia ’81
Arnold B. Metzner, faculty

Dr. Sang-Keun Park ‘77, ’80EE receives Sesquicentennial Medal

Dr. Sang-Keun Park, senior vice president of Samsung Electronics, visited Polytechnic on Tuesday, August 15 and was presented with the University’s Sesquicentennial Medal by Richard Thorsen, vice president for development and university relations and Professor Emeritus Henry Bertoni ’62EE ’68EL, his doctoral thesis advisor. The Sesquicentennial Medal honors alumni whose personal and professional achievements inspire future generations of students. Dr. Park is responsible for Samsung’s telecommunications research and development efforts as well as its telecommunications network business.
The Poly 100 Scholarship gave me a chance to complete my education at Polytechnic without having the pressure of having to find a way to pay for my tuition. Without the financial obligation, I was able to concentrate on my classes and excel in all courses. The generous contributions of the Poly 100 donors, enabled me to receive an excellent education and to get several job offers before graduation.

To make a contribution to Polytechnic, contact Thomas Daly, director of planned giving/development operations, at 800-765-9929 or tdaly@poly.edu.
Class years are determined by the year of the Office of the Registrar certified the granting of the degree. Alumni receiving multiple degrees from Polytechnic are listed under the first graduating degree only.

50s
Melvin Kowal ’53ChE was honored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona and The Arizona Republic as an “Ageless Hero” and was named civilian of the year by the Arizona Auto Theft Authority.

60s
Richard Coren ’56 ’60PH has published a book, “God and Science Among the Infinities,” which examines the common historical development of religion and science. He is an emeritus engineering professor at Drexel University.

Major Codes
Refers to the academic discipline listed next to alumni’s class year. A full key to major abbreviations is available at www.poly.edu/alumni/cable.

Arthur Martinez ’60ME is the newly elected chairman of the supervisory board of ABN AMRO, the world’s 20th largest bank. He is also on the board of International Flavors and Fragrances, Liz Claiborne Inc., PepsiCo, Inc. and IAC/Interactive Corporation.

William J. Sahlman ’63ME has been named conservation commissioner of the year by the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions. He is a professional engineer and consultant in Milford, Conn.

Walter Skuggevich ’63EE is a senior research engineer at Underwriters Laboratories and has been recognized as a corporate fellow. He is one of the world’s foremost experts on the effects of electricity on the human body.

Joel S. Engel ’64EE has been named to the board of directors of Hand Held Products, Inc. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

Martin Kapelner ’67AE has joined The Penson Companies, a real estate development and management organization, as director of investor relations.

Mark H. Ronald ’68EE, president and CEO of BAE Systems, Inc., has been named the recipient of the John Curtis Sword, an award that honors an individual who has made a significant contribution to Anglo-American aerospace industry.

Edmund Funk ’69PM is a photographic guide for TraveLearn and visited Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands this summer. His photography has appeared in over 75 shops and galleries and in a number of regional magazines in South Carolina.

80s
George Abrantes ’80EE is a facilities area manager for General Motors in Ypsilanti, Mich.

Peter Rust ’80BE has been named to the board of directors of Glowpoint, Inc. a leader in broadband-cast-quality, internet based video communications.

Eric Ettinger ’83ME is the owner of Ettinger Engineering Associates in New York and has been the partner in charge of the construction of over 150 buildings and numerous renovations and rehabilitations.

Keizo Hashimoto ’83MT is a professor at Teikyo University in Japan.

Peter Barker Homek ’83HU has been named CEO of TQA, an infrastructure investment company specializing in energy projects and based in Abu Dhabi.

Richard A. Weiss ’83CS is a senior systems capacity analyst for UPS.

Joseph G. Questore ’83EL ’89EE is a senior manager for Cisco Systems and is a councilman for the Borough of Eatontown, N.J.

Margaret “Maggie” Cahill ’85AE is a technology manager for Wells Fargo in San Francisco, Calif.

Andy Yu ’85CS ’88MG is a software engineer for Unisys and is working in MetroTech Center in Brooklyn.

James J. Nolan ’87EE is the senior engineering officer at InterDigital Communications Corporation.

Nicholas Zupp ’87ME is vice president of engineering for Hays Fluid Controls.

Carl Childers ’86EE is a senior hardware engineer for Applied Signal Technology and lives in Union City, Calif.

Vincent Omachonu ’88IE is an associate professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla. He is the co-author of Principles of Total Quality, now in its third edition.

Mohammad Zuki Bidi ’89ME is an consulting engineer for First Calgary Petroleum in Malaysia.

Jack Jia ’89SE is co-founder and chief executive of Baynote, Inc. in Cupertino, Calif, which is a using principles of community guidance to enhance web search technologies.

90s
Yoko Kurauchi Isono ’90EE is living in Tokyo and works for the Kotobuki Patent and Trademark Office.

Carey D. Ngai ’93CE has been appointed as associate principal at Severud Associates.

Surya Devarakonda ’94 ’97ChE is an associate director for Dr. Reddy’s Labs, Ltd. In Bollaram, India. He and his wife, Sunetha have one child and live in Hyderabad.

Timothy Beck ’95CE is a major in the U.S. Army and lives with his wife and two children in Kansas.

Stephen D. Gellar ’95 ’96EE has been elected to the West Islip Board of Education.

Mark H. Ronald ’68EE

Naresh Gupta ’71EE is chairman of the department of mathematics and computer science at SUNY-Old Westbury.

John LaScala ’73MG is now living in central Florida and is enjoying retirement by traveling and playing golf.

Albert Messano ’76MG is a principal at Raynor Associates, Inc. in Paramus, N.J.

Ralph Alexander ’77 ’78NE has been elected to the board of directors of Foster Wheeler Ltd.

Frank Carecchia ’77SE is vice president of engineering of Oobay, Inc. of Redwood City, CA.

Manny Beigelmacher ’71AE ’72TP is senior vice president of Munoz Engineering and Land Surveying and lives in Brooklyn.
Howard M. Sherman ’96CS is a computer systems manager for the NYC Department of Information Technology and Telecommunication in Brooklyn.

Shafik Yaghmour ’97CS ’03TN is a real-time collaboration associate for Morgan Stanley in Brooklyn.

Robert Shullich ’98TN is a senior security technology advisor for Bowne & Co. in New York.

Rosa Suazo ’98ME is an intellectual property attorney for IBM in Hopewell Junction, N.Y.

Allen C. Huang ’99TP ran in the San Francisco half-marathon on July 30, 2006.

Aaanal Shah ’99CS is working for Merrill Lynch at the World Financial Center in New York City.

Amnon Glaser ’00MG is a software and algorithms architect, living and working in San Diego with his wife Mariana, and three children.

Christina Coscia-Turturro ’01JO ’04MG married David Turturro in March. She is development manager for the Ward Melville Heritage Organization.

Yuliya Levit ’04CS is working in research and development for RichFX, Inc. in New York.

Hung-Yi “David” Huang ’05EE is an electrical engineer for the Inteplast Group and lives and works in Texas.

Frank Scandarioto ’05ME is a project manager for Skanska USA and lives in Stamford, Conn.

Ralph Alexander ’77 ’78NE

After the reunion luncheon, the Golden Jubileers posed for a photo that gives new meaning to the phrase “a group shot.” They are from the top, left to right,

Row 2: William Fleig.
Row 3: Sid Blecherman, Thomas Maggio and Ed Powers.
Row 4: Martin Abelow and Russell Roane.
Row 5: Andrew Ney, Robert Dalziel, and Edward McAssey.
Row 6: Emil Liconis, Ernest Riesenfeld and Joseph Gallagher.
Row 7: Richard Zitzmann, Robert Bullis and Richard Haddad.
Row 8: John O’Donohue and Joseph Bongiorno.
Row 9: Joseph Eng, Thomas Heyman and John Helgesen.
Row 10: Warren Dassau, Bernard Lee and Frank Schlee.
Row 11: Jerome Stember, Herbert Dettmering and Herbert Watman.
Row 12: Robert Oxhandler, John Schwaninger and James Toto.
Row 14: John Brook, Edmund Striebel and Edward Barron.

Rosa Oppenheim named acting dean at Rutgers University

Rosa Oppenheim ’70ChE ’71’73OR, professor of management science and information systems at Rutgers University, has been named acting dean of the Rutgers Business School (RBS). Her appointment was announced on June 14, 2006.

An RBS faculty member for over 30 years, Oppenheim has served the university in various capacities including as associate dean of academic programs and associate dean for faculty and research. She is the co-author of Quality Management and Stat City: Understanding Statistics Through Realistic Applications and has authored numerous articles on total quality management, statistical process control, time series analysis and forecasting, the mathematical analysis of literary style and integer programming. Oppenheim is a member of the editorial board of the International Journal of Productivity and Quality Management and former associate editor of Networks and the Journal of Productivity Analysis.

In addition to her degrees from Polytechnic, Oppenheim earned a Master of Science in English from Rutgers University in 1985. She is married to another Poly alum, Alan Oppenheim ’66ME ’68MG, dean of the School of Business at Montclair State University.
Upcoming Events

Alumni-Student Mentoring Dinner
Wednesday, September 13
5 – 9 p.m.
Silleck Lounge, Jacobs Administration Building

29th Annual Career Fair
Wednesday, October 18
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Gymnasium, Jacobs Academic Building

Inquiring Minds Want to Know….
Have you taken the plunge into marital bliss? Welcomed a new bundle of joy into your household? Got a new job, a big promotion or a fabulous award? Lost touch with some former classmates?

Then you will want to complete the Information Update Form at www.poly.edu/alumni/updateinfo. Your latest information will appear in the “Alumni News” section of Cable…and it’s also a great way for the Alumni Relations staff to make sure you stay current with all of the exciting things happening at Polytechnic.

Special Discounts on Insurance
Poly alumni are eligible for special discounted rates on auto and homeowner’s insurance through Liberty Mutual’s Group Savings Plus® Program. The program, offered by the Polytechnic Alumni, features access to a dedicated agent. For a free, no obligation rate quote, call Rojana Chhim at 1-800-486-6189, extension 223. Even if you are a current Liberty Mutual customer, you may qualify for additional discounts through this program.

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