



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NJIT —



WANT TO THANK ALL ALUMNI WHO INVOLVED THEMSELVES IN THE RECENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ELECTION PROCESS USING THE NEW ELECTRONIC BALLOTING SYSTEM OVER THE INTERNET. WITH INCREASED MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN THE FUTURE, THIS REVISED METHOD OF REACHING THE BROADEST BASE OF ALUMNI WILL BE EXPANDED AND IMPROVED TO ENGAGE MORE MEMBERS IN THE ELECTION OF ALUMNI LEADERSHIP FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

The primary goal for my term as president of the Alumni Association is to create more dialog and interaction among the six colleges of NJIT and the Alumni Association to promulgate “friend raising” throughout the alumni community. Achieving this will require the support of the administration, advisors to the six colleges, and those groups, committees and individuals who currently seek to enhance the university’s image and positive reputation. The result should be a consolidation of efforts to engage the alumni community as a whole for the betterment of the university.

Each year, the Alumni Association of NJIT honors a select number of distinguished alumni. This year their achievements were acknowledged at the Alumni Fête that was held in June. The event took place in the atrium lounge of the expanded and renovated Campus Center. The success of the Fête can only be surpassed by greater participation of the alumni whose common bond is a degree from NJIT. Those alumni and friends who had not been back to the campus for some time were impressed with the new facility and the overall appearance and development of the campus. The most notable difference for these alumni was the expansion of the Campus Center, which was made possible mainly through razing the former single-story A.J.J.A. Wilson Alumni Center originally constructed in the 1960s.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those honored in 2005 by the Alumni Association of NJIT and to further pay tribute to their achievements. Associate Professor Rajiv Mehta was the recipient of the Robert W. Van Houten Award for Teaching Excellence. Cyndi Wilson, ’80, ’94, ’01, a past president of the Alumni Association, was the recipient of the Alumni Service Award for her exemplary service to the university and Association as a whole. The recipients of Alumni Achievement Awards, for their contributions in the corporate world and in support of NJIT, were Ted Cassera, PE ’72; Nick DeNichilo, PE ’73, ’78; Ian Durand, ’58; Rakesh Kushwaha, ’89, ’93; Bob Polucki, Esq., PE ’66 and Scott Prisco, AIA, NCARB ’90. You can read more about these six alumni beginning on page 25.

The Fête also gave the Alumni Association and attendees the opportunity to meet and welcome Dr. Priscilla Nelson, the university’s new provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Nelson was the keynote speaker and provided insight into the background and experience she brings to the position.

The next big event that the Alumni Association of NJIT looks forward to is the completion of the newly renovated Eberhardt Hall NJIT Alumni Center. This symbol of NJIT and the most recognized structure on campus will allow the Association to welcome and entertain all alums. I’ll be reporting more about activities in this facility in the next issue of *NJIT Magazine*.

Sincerely,

John P. Gross, PE ’70

john.p.gross.1970@njitalumni.org

WHAT’S NEW?

Do you have a new job, addition to your family, honor, award or publication to share? We want to hear from you!

There are three ways to send us a class note at Alumni Relations:

1. On the NJIT Website (www.njit.edu), click on “Alumni Resources” under “Alumni & Friends” and then “Class Notes” to access a form that you can use to share your news.
2. By email, you can send news and photographs to alumni-classnotes@njit.edu.
3. Via U.S. mail, send news and photos with your graduation year(s) to:

Robert A. Boynton

Executive Director, Alumni Relations

New Jersey Institute of Technology

University Heights

Newark, NJ 07102-1982

Editor’s Note —

Actually, this is a note about notes — class notes. In this issue, you’ll find many more notes about alums than in the past. That’s because of the university’s expanding class reunion program and the many alumni of anniversary classes who are sending news to their Class Committees and Class Correspondents.

This issue features notes from the 50th Anniversary Reunion Class of 1955, and you’ll find much more about fellow grads and classes in the *Alumni Newsletter*. Between *NJIT Magazine* and the *Alumni Newsletter*, we hope to keep a growing number of complementary alumni updates coming your way.

MAL & FRIENDS



AUTHOR: MAL SIMON is professor emeritus of physical education and athletics at NJIT. After joining the faculty in 1955, he served as director of physical education and athletics, and coached the men's soccer team for 30 years. In 1993, Mal was awarded the Cullimore Medal for his many years of dedicated service to the university.

On May 12, 2005, in Napa, California, the wedding of the quarter-century took place as John Walsh '66 married Judith Walsh. Should you wonder, they were not married before to each other and have agreed not to be called John and Judith Walsh-Walsh. It was the wedding of the quarter-century because this is how long it took Judith to make an honest man out of John. I know that engineers are methodical (euphemism for slow) but this was really pushing the envelope.

Following a California Walsh party, John and Judith traveled to New Jersey where they were feasted by family and friends at the Upper Montclair home of Rich '66 and Lynne Schroeder. Rich was John's classmate and basketball teammate and one of the "Bachelors in Residence" at what was known, notoriously, as "The House," now owned by Rich. The other resident bachelors were Bob Frasco '67, Ray Kasbarian '66, Rich's brother Ken Schroeder '69, and John. Their parties, especially the annual Halloween costume party, rocked the neighborhood. The dissolution of The House was gradual as the bachelors married, moved, and sold their shares back to the others. After a few of these changes, John and Rich bought the home, and Rich became the sole owner when John moved to California.

John, after working for IBM and AT&T and developing high-tech start-ups, is semi-retired and does some consulting between golf matches and visits to orthopedists and neurologists for his aches and pains. Rich works for KappaEast, consultants who specialize in strategic planning and sales performance. An outstanding golfer and skier, Rich shares "sympathy" aches and pains with John. Ray is founder, president and CEO of Global Menu Guide, which provides information essential for making the best choices for personal, corporate and professional events in the world's key cities. Check out their Website at www.globalmenuguide.com. Ken worked in power-plant construction, start-up and maintenance, first in fossil-fuel fired and then nuclear plants. He retired recently and is refurbishing his home in Lebanon, New Jersey, with his wife, Rosalie.

Beginning in October, Brian Kathenes '78 will host *Pop Nation: America's Coolest Stuff* on the Discovery Channel. As an appraisal specialist for science-fiction and technology collectibles, Brian will travel with a production team looking for the country's most interesting items in these categories, including autographs. Brian currently co-hosts a syndicated radio show, *Value This!*, with Leon Castner on WRNJ-Oldies 1510. Brian and Leon are also partners in National Appraisal Consultants. You can call their radio show with questions about antiques and collectibles at 1-877-41-VALUE. Visit www.oldies1510.com/talk_shows.cfm for more information.



John Walsh '66 and Judith Walsh

In addition, Brian is president of Progressive Business Concepts, a consulting firm specializing in business development and organizational performance. Free business tips are available on Brian's Website, www.successfulteam.com. You can request his free *Business Builder* e-newsletter via an email to FreeNewsletter@BrianKathenes.com. Brian and his wife, Nancy, and their two sons live in Hope, New Jersey,



Collectibles expert and Discovery Channel personality Brian Kathenes '78

where Brian finds time for volunteer service as president of the Hope Chamber of Commerce, a member of the town's Zoning Board of Adjustment, and assistant scoutmaster of a local Boy Scout troop. An Eagle Scout himself, Brian was honored as Hope's Citizen of the Year in 1999.

A service celebrating the lives of Bob and Dot Swanson was held at NJIT on June 11. Len Kaplan, NJIT's director of athletics, welcomed the many family members, NJIT alumni and friends. Rev. Mark Vicari, chaplain and director of the Newman Center, gave the invocation and closing prayer. Remarks were given by Kurt W. Swanson, John Seazholtz '59, Ray Vaccari '72, and me. A memory book is being prepared for the Swanson family. Alumni who wish

to be included in the book may send letters to Patrick Breslin at NJIT's Office of University Advancement or by email to breslin@njit.edu.

We are still looking for the family of Andrew Brown '63. Andy will be posthumously inducted into the NJIT Athletic Hall of Fame and we hope to have members of his family present. Andy was an outstanding member of the varsity soccer team and member of Sigma Pi fraternity. The last address we have is in the Bowie, Maryland, area. Any information about the Browns, as well as any nominations for the Hall of Fame, should be sent to Len Kaplan at kaplan@njit.edu.

The annual soccer alumni game will take place on Friday, October 7. The game will start at 6:00 p.m. on NJIT's Lubetkin Field and will be followed by a reception in the Fleisher Athletic Center. For more information, please contact Bill Morris '82 at bmorris@epicbuilds.com.

NJIT Day will be held on Saturday, October 8, and will feature a host of activities for NJIT alumni, students, families and friends. At 3:00 p.m., the men's varsity soccer team will host Oneonta State University in an Atlantic Soccer Conference game.

Plan now to attend the popular NJIT Florida soccer alumni reunion. The February 10-12, 2006 event will return to the Palm City/Stuart area and will be hosted by Joe '86 and Maggie Dias, Cesar '77 and Griselda Gavidia, and Hank Krauss '54 and Betty Wallace. A special invitation is issued to members of the 1976 soccer team, which will celebrate their 30th anniversary.

See the following pages for more alumni news, and keep your news coming to me at mal.simon@njit.edu.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR SIX ALUMS

ON JUNE 18, SOME 150 ALUMNI, FAMILY AND FRIENDS GATHERED AT THE NJIT CAMPUS CENTER FOR THE FIRST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FÊTE, WHICH THE ASSOCIATION ANTICIPATES WILL BE AN EXCITING ANNUAL EVENT. A HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WAS THE PRESENTATION OF ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS TO THE SIX OUTSTANDING GRADUATES WHOSE ICON PROFILES FOLLOW.

—THEODORE D. CASSERA

HELPING PROJECTS COME ALIVE



Theodore Cassera (left) with Stephen DePalma '72, chairman and CEO of Schoor DePalma, Inc., at the 2005 Alumni Association Fête.

At first, Theodore Cassera planned to become a mechanical engineer like his father. But working as a surveyor's assistant the summer of his freshman year at Newark College of Engineering put him on a different path, toward the BS in civil engineering he was awarded in 1972.

Cassera's surveying work that summer and part-time throughout the rest of his college years confirmed a deep interest in building and land development, whether for small residential subdivisions or large commercial projects. And at Schoor DePalma, the engineering firm where Cassera has worked for over thirty years and is now senior executive vice president, he's had a hand in building projects of virtually every scale and type. These include site development for the Newark Bears baseball stadium and NJIT's new Campus Center.

"One of the great things about the work I do is that you can really see a project come alive," Cassera says. "You have a real sense of making something positive happen."

For Cassera and his colleagues, positive things have been happening for many years in the dynamic environment at Schoor DePalma. When Cassera joined the company in 1974, there were only about 30 employees. By aggressively pursuing a philosophy of "growth equals opportunity," Cassera says, the company now provides employment for well over 600 individuals in a wide range of engineering fields. Today, Schoor DePalma's eight divisions offer comprehensive land-development, building, public-works, environmental and transportation services through a dozen offices in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

When asked about his experiences at NCE, Cassera says that he credits his professional success to the solid education he received from instructors who were consistently "practical, on-target and engaged." Some of Cassera's memorable classroom moments involved subject matter other than engineering, and he is among the numerous fans of Professor of English Herman "Doc" Estrin. "Doc helped us develop communications skills that have been really valuable in business. At one point, he even used what was then a new resource, videotape, to let us see ourselves giving presentations similar to those we'd have to give professionally. Our initial attempts were quite a revelation for most of us."

"ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT THE WORK I DO IS THAT YOU CAN REALLY SEE A PROJECT COME ALIVE."

Cassera also does not hesitate to speak about "giving something back" to his alma mater and society, an attitude shared by the university's graduates across the generations. As a student at NCE, he was vice president of his class and held various offices, including president of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi. Service to his

profession includes a decade of participation on the New Jersey Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, from 1992 to 2002.

For Cassera, giving back to NJIT today involves activities such as serving as the chair and president of the NCE Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Board. This is an important part of his broader commitment to young people who might consider becoming engineers. In addition to promoting Schoor DePalma's scholarship program for students in civil and environmental engineering, Cassera helps to organize career seminars, especially for first-year students.

"Choosing a major and a career is far more complex than when I was an undergraduate," Cassera says. "These days the choices can be overwhelming, and students need all the help they can get when it comes to making one of life's most critical decisions."

_NICHOLAS M. DeNICHILLO

GROWING WITH THE COMPANY

In looking back to the start of his career as an engineer in 1973, Nicholas DeNichilo says his parents must have wondered, "What's wrong with this guy?" The source of their wonderment, he explains, was his going through three jobs in the year after he graduated from NCE with a degree in civil engineering.

DeNichilo's first job was with a large company specializing in the design of nuclear power plants, work that he quickly discovered didn't interest him. The second, at a small construction



company, offered limited horizons for professional growth. Although far more promising, DeNichilo's third job was at a company that soon announced the relocation of its headquarters from New Jersey to Mississippi, a move he didn't want to make because of his own family ties in the area and those of his fiancée.

"THERE'S A GREAT DEAL OF IMPORTANT WORK THAT MUST BE DONE, AND ENGINEERS WILL BE NEEDED TO MEET THAT CHALLENGE."

"But then came November 11, 1974, the day that changed my life," DeNichilo says. That's when he had his first interview with Killam Associates, the company that is now Hatch Mott MacDonald and where today he is president and CEO of the Infrastructure and Development Group. "I've grown with the company, and it's been a tremendous experience," DeNichilo says of his more than three decades with the firm, which is based in Millburn, New Jersey. When DeNichilo came on board, there were only about 50 employees. Since then, Hatch Mott MacDonald has grown into a full-service transportation, infrastructure and environmental engineering organization with over 30 offices in North America and nearly a thousand employees — over 50 of whom are NJIT grads.

A Professional Engineer licensed in seven states and the District of Columbia, DeNichilo is the recipient of many professional honors. In 1999, he was named Civil Engineer of the Year by the New Jersey Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and in 2003 the New Jersey Section of the American Water Works Association presented him with the George Warren Fuller Award for his distinguished professional and volunteer service in the field.

DeNichilo points with pride to his company's role in improving the quality of life through engineering. When asked about recent projects that are especially notable, he cites the largest desalination plant in the U.S. and an advanced water-treatment facility in New Jersey. The desalination plant, located in Florida, will produce some 25 million gallons a day of potable water from seawater. The New Jersey facility uses leading-edge membrane-separation technology to purify water from a reservoir for customers in Morris County.

No matter how demanding his schedule at work has been over the years, DeNichilo has maintained a strong bond with NJIT, where he also earned an MS in civil engineering after joining Hatch Mott MacDonald. He currently serves on the Newark College of Engineering Board of Visitors, chairing the board's scholarship committee. Additionally, DeNichilo is active in outreach activities that encourage young people, including those embarking on their studies at NJIT, to consider careers in engineering.

“In the 1980s and 90s, a lot of young men and women were seduced by the money to be made on Wall Street and in some computer fields during the dot-com bubble,” DeNichilo says. “Now we see job fairs where there are more engineering companies offering good positions than there are applicants.”

“But engineering is not only a solid career choice. Looking at the situation from the perspective of my field, civil engineering, I’m very concerned about the deterioration of much of this country’s infrastructure — bridges, tunnels and water-treatment facilities, for example. There’s a great deal of important work that must be done, and engineers will be needed to meet that challenge.”

— IAN G. DURAND

DON'T JUST COMPLAIN, DO SOMETHING



April and Ian Durand

As Ian Durand sees it, each of us has a responsibility to make life better for as many people as we can. Professionally, Durand helped to accomplish this during a long career with Bell Laboratories, the preeminent research organization that gave the world the transistor and the laser. A 1958 graduate of Newark College of Engineering with a BS in electrical engineering, Durand joined Bell Labs the same year and completed an MS from New York University, in 1960. He progressed through assignments that led to his retiring as head of the Quality Management and Training Department some three decades later. With his wife, April, Durand then formed a consulting practice that offered special expertise in applying the ISO 9000 family of quality standards. Reflective of his status in the field, he was named a senior examiner for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 1991 and 1992.

Durand has also worked to make life better as a dedicated volunteer involved in a host of activities that benefit individuals and the communities where he has lived. “We shouldn’t just complain about what needs improvement, or what we see as wrong or unfair,” he says. “We should try to do something.” A partial list of

Durand’s volunteer commitments in New Jersey over four decades includes serving as vice chair of the Recreation Commission, president of the Board of Health and president of the Kiwanis Club in Bernardsville, participating in the work of the Wetlands Association and the Open Space Advisory Committee in Edison, and playing an active role in the NJIT Alumni Association.

In 1997, along with his wife and daughter, Durand took the lead in forming the Center for Community Renewal. Based in Edison, where Durand and his wife currently reside, this organization has initiated many volunteer projects intended to build civic pride, ranging from environmental cleanups to street fairs that celebrate the arts and the area’s multi-cultural heritage. The organization also seeks to help individuals in need by supporting like-minded groups engaged in the collection and distribution of clothing and other activities, such as assisting the elderly and troubled young people.

Durand attributes his sense of social obligation to meeting some special people as an undergraduate, almost legendary teachers and administrators who were key to building NJIT’s reputation. “Bob Van Houten and Bill Hazell made it clear to us that ‘giving back’ to society goes along with the abilities that enabled us to enjoy the benefits that a college education would bring in life.”

“WE SHOULDN’T JUST COMPLAIN ABOUT WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT, OR WHAT WE SEE AS WRONG OR UNFAIR.”

The same holds true for Herman “Doc” Estrin, Durand’s never-to-be-forgotten class advisor and English professor. “Right from the start, Doc motivated us to get involved in extracurricular activities where we could apply whatever talents we might have.” For Durand, this included editing the college’s newspaper and yearbook, and participating in the journalism, leadership and electrical-engineering honor societies.

Durand is confident that the spirit of the Center for Community Renewal is now so firmly rooted that its work will continue after he and April make the next big change in their lives — moving to Canada. This will be something of a homecoming for Durand, who was born in Canada and came to the U.S. as a teenager when his father accepted an executive position with Prudential Insurance Company in Newark. The Durands plan to settle in Dunnville, a small town on the Grand River in Ontario where they can devote some time to boating and fishing. “At this point in our lives, I think we’re ready to relax a bit, to perhaps cut back on our community activities,” Durand says. “But our friends in Edison don’t think we’re serious about that. They’re convinced that it won’t be long before April and I are just as involved in Dunnville.”



_ RAKESH KUSHWAHA

RIDING THE RIGHT WAVES

From the time he arrived in the U.S. for graduate study at NJIT, Rakesh Kushwaha has been “riding the right wave,” as he says of a career that has taken him from teaching to a leading entrepreneurial edge in telecommunications. Attracted by the quality of NJIT’s programs and the prospect of a fellowship, Kushwaha came to this country from India specifically to begin an MS in computer science, which he completed in 1989. He then went on to earn a PhD in the same discipline at the university in 1993.

“WHILE THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR GROWTH IN THE WIRELESS VOICE MARKET WORLDWIDE, WIRELESS DATA PROMISES EVEN GREATER POTENTIAL.”

A special lecturer in computer science while pursuing his PhD, Kushwaha became an assistant professor at his graduate alma mater upon completing the degree, combining teaching with consulting assignments from various telecom and financial firms. His doctoral research involved applying queuing theory to system and service-performance modeling, work that included projects on an emerging technological and economic frontier — Internet access service.

After several years as a full-time NJIT faculty member, Kushwaha joined the researchers at AT&T Bell Labs. There he not only applied the insights gained in his doctoral work to optimizing AT&T’s voice network, but continued to develop software for the fast-expanding Internet service market. Other opportunities beckoned, though, and Kushwaha partnered with a group of former

Bell Labs employees as director of engineering at a start-up named Savera Systems, funded by Millicom Cellular International. At Savera, Kushwaha brought his expertise to bear on such efforts as developing billing software for wireless service, another economic sector on the verge of sudden, dramatic expansion.

Next, Kushwaha took an even greater entrepreneurial step, founding mFormation in 1999 and taking on the responsibilities of chief technology officer. Based in Edison, New Jersey, mFormation has grown into a major international supplier of software essential for managing wireless communications services and devices.

mFormation serves both telecom providers and enterprise users such as major corporations. In the past, providers typically depended on complex proprietary software systems to manage wireless devices and services. Today, this need is often met far more efficiently and economically with products from companies like mFormation. Kushwaha’s firm supplies software solutions for managing the use of wireless devices that can number in the thousands at a large organization and in the millions in a wireless operator’s environment. The capabilities of these solutions range from integrating the use of different wireless devices and ensuring security to monitoring device performance and automatically diagnosing the cause of a problem.

With numerous patents and technical papers to his credit, Kushwaha participates on a number of standards committees, where he is helping to define new industry standards for managing wireless devices. Once again, as at other key points in his career, Kushwaha is looking to the technological future. This time his new focus is wireless data technology.

“While there is still room for growth in the wireless voice market worldwide, wireless data promises even greater potential,” Kushwaha says. Applications such as sharing video via a cell phone and wireless Internet access with a laptop computer require special service-management software, an area where mFormation is already a leader. But as many experts predict, it’s a wave that’s just starting to build for the telecom industry, and for innovators like Kushwaha and his colleagues at mFormation.

_ ROBERT D. POLUCKI

DOING BUSINESS FROM POLE TO POLE

When Robert Polucki retired from Ricoh Corporation in 2004 as corporate counsel and secretary, he was responsible for the legal aspects of Ricoh’s business activities throughout the Western Hemisphere — “from the North Pole to the South Pole, with the exception of Cuba,” as he puts it. In the 1960s, though, Polucki’s concerns were somewhat more circumscribed, being focused on the BS in chemical engineering that he completed in 1966. Yet even then he was beginning to think about broader personal

horizons, combining his first job as a process engineer at Union Carbide with the MBA program at Rutgers-Newark immediately after graduation.

Next came Seton Hall Law School at night, a decision inspired by discussion with a fellow graduate student who was in a program that led to both business and law degrees. Along with his educational commitments, Polucki accepted a challenging new position with Union Carbide, as a marketing research analyst at corporate headquarters in Manhattan. However, he much preferred working closer to home and left Union Carbide for a smaller organization, an engineering company based in Murray Hill, New Jersey.

SERVICE TO HIS UNDERGRADUATE ALMA MATER IS ANOTHER OF POLUCKI'S ABIDING COMMITMENTS.

By now an attorney and member of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Bar, Polucki says that this was the real turning point in his career. Although he was able to move on to another New Jersey engineering company as the firm's in-house attorney, the economic uncertainty that affected the engineering field in the mid-1970s motivated him to consider working in a very different area. So Polucki joined a firm called Rapifax with the unreserved support of his wife, Susan, who is also an NJIT graduate with an MS in computer science.

"I took a gamble in going to work for Rapifax," he says with a wry tone, "betting that there would be a significant market for what was then a new technology, the high-speed fax machine." In those days, high-speed meant completing a fax transmission in any time under a minute, Polucki explains, adding that company's premier leading-edge product weighed about 350 pounds and was the size of a washing machine.



Via a series of mergers, Polucki's position at Rapifax evolved into his legal post with Ricoh, where he was part of the technological revolution that today enables people around the globe to share information almost instantaneously in the electronic format of their choice. While at Ricoh, Polucki also participated in the transformation of electronics manufacturing and marketing through his involvement with the International Electronics Manufacturers and Consumers of America, or IEMCA.

Founded in 1987, IEMCA is a trade association based in Washington, D.C., that seeks to foster the success of the electronics industry by promoting the free exchange of ideas, technology and products across national borders. Polucki has held various executive positions with the group, and in retirement remains committed to its goals. Most recently, he has served as the organization's chairman.

Service to his undergraduate alma mater is another of Polucki's abiding commitments. His support for NJIT has included serving on the university's board of overseers and the School of Management's board of visitors.

In large measure, Polucki's continuing connection to NJIT stems from the way he views his experiences as a young engineering student. "All of my degrees required a lot of hard work, none was a gift," he says. "But I think the program at Newark College of Engineering demanded the most of me."

— SCOTT V. PRISCO

MUCH MORE THAN GOOD DESIGN



"Landing that stellar project, the one which really engages your passion and showcases your capabilities, that's the goal of every architectural firm," says Scott Prisco. For The Prisco Group in Hopewell, New Jersey, the "School of the Future" now being built in Philadelphia is a commission that definitely qualifies for stellar status.

When Prisco, a 1990 graduate of New Jersey School of Architecture (NJSOA), speaks about this project, he communicates an enthusiasm and depth of expertise that confirms why his practice can assert on their Website that they deliver "more than good design." Participating in the construction of successful schools requires a commitment to the goals of a community and the aspirations of every student, as well as the ability to apply state-of-the-art design and building practices.

Philadelphia's new high school is the product of such a commitment on the part of everyone involved, including Microsoft Corporation, which is providing major support through its Partners in Learning initiative. The school's design, a constellation of innovations in learning technology and use of space, is attracting the attention of educators worldwide.

Prisco's involvement with this project also reflects the interest in school design that has been a constant throughout his career, going back to when he was studying for his BA in architecture at the University of North Carolina. A native of Pennsylvania, Prisco's desire to focus on this area of interest first took him to positions at firms in central New Jersey. But to obtain the license that would allow him to start his own practice, he needed the additional qualifications that came with his bachelor's in architecture from NJIT.

"WE STRIVE TO CREATE DESIGNS THAT ARE IMAGINATIVE AND EMINENTLY BUILDABLE FOR EVERY CLIENT."

Eventually, through a mutual friend, Prisco met Bill Edwards, an architect who had completed many school projects. Edwards was also looking forward to retirement, and in 1996 Prisco joined him to form the firm of Prisco and Edwards, which later became The Prisco Group with the younger architect as principal partner and chief executive officer. "School districts tend to be especially insistent on dealing with firms that have already proven themselves," says Prisco. "So I was very fortunate in being able to team up with Bill."

In addition to the high regard they have earned for designing schools, The Prisco Group provides comparable service for clients whose projects range from large-scale commercial structures to ecclesiastical buildings and residences. "Our goal is to fully satisfy the desire for structures that are cohesive and beautiful in form, and which will also keep the water out," Prisco says. "We strive to create designs that are imaginative and eminently buildable for every client."

Prisco, who is a member of the NJSOA dean's advisory council, gives special credit to NJIT for his achievements in an intensely competitive profession, citing his design studio experiences in particular. "All of the instructors were great, but I have to say that my two semesters in Don Wall's studio course were exceptional. We were challenged to think far beyond the limits of what was then fashionable in architecture, to imagine what might be possible, what the next 'greatest thing' could be in design and construction. It's a way of looking at the world that has stayed with me over the years. I think much of our firm's success comes from really pushing the limits of creativity, in both the designs we develop for clients and how we work together as associates in a growing business." ■

1938 Classmates **Herm Blackman '38, Ted Feuerbach '38** and **Paul Schwartz '38** returned to their Alma Mater and marched in the school's 89th commencement ceremonies on May 26, 2005. Alumni from the classes of 1943, 1944, 1945, 1947, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953 also marched as part of the academic procession. As the "most senior" returning classmate of the "most senior" returning class, our man Ted was invited to the podium and presented with a special commemorative award by NJIT President Robert Altenkirch — accompanied by the applause of 2,000 graduating seniors, their parents, university trustees and guests. A VIP luncheon followed the ceremonies and plans were discussed to connect again at NJIT Homecoming on October 8. Go to our Class of 1938 Webpage on the NJIT Website for pictures of Herm, Ted and Paul at commencement.

1955 **Douglas Amos** (ME) is retired from Eastman Kodak where he was manager of equipment engineering for professional photography. Married, widowed, and remarried in 2003, he has two sons and a daughter. **John Bacha** (ChE) writes from Clifton, NJ, that he retired in 1981 as a quality assurance supervisor with Union Carbide. **Charles Barbaz** (ChE) writes that he is retired and living on 13 acres in idyllic southwest England with three peacocks, five cats, six ducks, a dozen pheasants ("and a partridge in a pear tree"). Before retiring, he was director of engineering at GAF Corp. in Wayne, NJ. Charles and wife, Diane, have two sons. **Bert Boer** (EE) is retired from Allied-Signal Aerospace Company's Bendix Guidance System Division where he was manager of product support. Bert and his wife, Pat, have four daughters. Among his volunteer activities, Bert has served as president of the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education, member of the bass section of the North Jersey

Male Chorus, Ridgewood Singers, Masterworks Chorus, and Cathedral Choir. **William Caputo** (EE) writes to us from Florida. He retired from Westinghouse Electric in 1987 as an advisory engineer, solving many problems and accumulating 35 patents. Now, with his wife, Elvira, they enjoy retirement. They have two daughters, both college graduates. **Lindsay Collins** (CivE) and his wife, Betty, are retired and living in Elkins, NH. They have two daughters and a son. **Donald Dahringer** (ChE) was a technical manager with ATT – Bell Labs. He and his wife, Florence, live in Glen Ridge, NJ. **Dick Deininger** (EE) writes from Austin, TX, that he is owner/principal of Deininger & Associates Consulting, Inc. Thirty years with IBM, two years in the Air Force, 15 years AMD, and six years consulting. Wonderful wife and family (Dick and wife, Shirley, have three sons and four daughters.) **Joseph Duff** (ChE) is retired and living in Basking Ridge, NJ. **Bernard Fallon** (ME) retired in 1990 after 30 years with Westinghouse and Philips Lighting. Since then, he's enjoyed the "good life" playing golf, etc. and along with wife, Alice, watching their eight children raise seventeen grandkids. Bernard notes that one of their sons and a son-in-law are NJIT graduates as well. **Frank Fender** (EE) was an engineer with RCA. Frank and wife, Florence, live in Brookside, NJ, and have three children. His grandson has attended NJIT too. **Alan Finkel** (EE) writes that he and wife, Martha, are living in Oxford, NC. He retired from the Alan Finkel general management consulting firm. **Donald Grosso** (CivE) retired in 2000 as director of public works in Suffern, NY. He is currently employed part-time as the building inspector for the village of Chestnut Ridge (temporary since 1993, Don notes). Don's father and uncle both attended NJIT (as Newark Tech). Don and his wife (a retired school nurse), Alice, have four children. **David Kaiser** (ChE) is retired from

International Flavors & Fragrances where he was corporate vice president for engineering. He and wife, Frances, have two sons and live in Lawrenceville, NJ. David writes that he was an instructor for the Air Force and New Jersey Air National Guard as a tactical fighter pilot and was recalled in 1961 to active duty. **Edward Katz** (ChE) is the author of nine patents. He ran Eagle Snacks R&D from 1990-1994, built two commercial plants, one in Forest Park, GA, and the other in Indianapolis, IN, between 1989-1993. He and his wife, Joyce, have three children and four grandchildren and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2005. **Martin Katz** (EE) is living in White Plains, NY, with his wife, Ann. He owns and operates Katz, Nassau Agency Inc., a life and health insurance company for the brokerage community, where he serves in the capacity of general agent. **Stephen Kielb** (ME) is retired from New Jersey Bell where he was division manager of switching. Stephen lives in Long Valley, NJ, and has two sons. **Alfred Kirsche** (ME) is living in Liverpool, NY, with wife, Marilyn. They have a son and daughter. Alfred is retired from General Electric, where he was a manager of infrared programs. **Melvin Knopf** (CivE) is living in Birmingham, MI. Melvin is a contract engineer with Tech Power in Minneapolis, MN. He has two daughters and a son. **Stephen Kovalsky** (ChE) is a retired vice president of engineering at Sun Chemical Corp. He and his wife, Emily, live in Marathon, FL, and have three children. **James Lawrie** (ChE) is a retired manager of Waterford Gardens and now works part-time for the state of Texas as an instructor. He and his wife, Elaine, are enjoying retirement in Ramsey, NJ. Their two daughters have graduated from college and one has earned a master's from Stanford and an MBA from Harvard. **Robert Livermore** (ME) was a district sales manager for Nash Engineering Co.

Robert and his wife, Anne, have three children and live in Yarmouth Port, MA. **Charles Manogg** (ME) is retired from Bethlehem Steel Corp. where he was a refractories supervisor. He and his wife, Peggy, have two sons and a daughter. They live in Deltona, FL. **James Murphy** (ChE) is retired and living in Ormond Beach, FL, with his wife, Eunice. They have two sons and a daughter. **Lawrence Scarinzi** (ME) is the owner of Whippany Cycle Co., Inc. He has been elected to the Precision Aerobatics Model Pilots Association Hall of Fame and is also active with the Academy of Model Aeronautics Model Airplane Combat Association. Lawrence and his wife, Edith, have two daughters and a son. **Howard Schnitzer** (ME) is living in West Newton, MA. He is a professor of physics at Brandeis University and his wife, Joyce, is a psychologist. They have two children, both with advanced degrees. Howard writes that he is active in research in theoretical physics, particularly string theory. He has more than 250 publications in refereed research journals. **Stuart Schornstein** (ME) is retired from the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center at Picatinny Arsenal where he was a program manager. Stuart and his wife, Arlene, have three children and four grandchildren. He writes that he is a retired Air Force Reserve colonel. In addition to having been a civilian weapons development engineer for the Army, he was an Air Force special agent. **Donald Sikora** (EE) is a retired Dupont project engineer. He and wife, Elinor, have two children and are living in Newark, DE. **Alan Simpson** (EE) writes to us from Florida where he works as a program manager for Honeywell. His wife, Kellie, is a licensed real estate broker and realtor for Century 21. They have two children, one of whom has graduated from college. **George Tkach** (EE) is retired and living in Pawley's Island, SC. George and his wife, Gloria, have

a son and a daughter. **Thomas VanOrden** (CivE) is retired from Linde Enterprises, Inc. where he was an estimator. Thomas writes that he retired to northeast Pennsylvania in 1989 and has been working part-time since 1999. Thomas has a son and two daughters. He volunteers with the Boy Scouts. **Ronald Waxman** (EE) writes that he is living in Reston, VA with wife, Pearl, who is a self-employed education consultant. Ronald has retired from the University of Virginia as principal scientist and remains active in IEEE Computer Society leadership roles. They have three children, all college graduates. **Alvin Weiss** (ChE) is professor emeritus of chemical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He and wife, Devorah, live in Shrewsbury, MA, and have one daughter. If you Google "Alvin H. Weiss" at the WPI website you'll find a download of his autobiography: *Chemical, Engineering, and Other Stories*. **Anthony Wilk** (ME) is living in Chevy Chase, MD, with his wife, Chantal. They have two children who graduated from the University of Maryland. Anthony retired from the Air Force after 22 years of service and attaining the rank of major. He is also retired from the position of engineering manager. His nephew graduated from NJIT in 1994. **Yaroslav Joseph Yaworsky** (EE) retired as manager of engineering and construction with PSE&G in Newark, NJ. He and his wife, Irene, have two children. **Charles Zahner** (EE) was manager of broadcast automation systems with Dubner Computer Systems and is living in Pompton Plains, NJ. He and his wife, Lorraine, have three sons and a daughter. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June. **Reynold Zanetti** (ChE) retired as president of Fry Zanetti Co., Inc. He and his wife, Marian, live in Florida and are Red Cross disaster relief volunteers. She is also on the Clay County Literacy Council, while he volunteers for the Clay County

State Attorney's Office as a hearing officer. They have two children, both college graduates.

_Karl Zentmaier (EE) is living in Livingston, NJ, with his wife, Carolyn. He works at Rondo Music and they have two children, both college graduates.

2003 _Allison Lepelletier (BS Arch) recently left a small architectural firm in New Jersey and moved to Maryland where she now works with Architect Gary D. Baker. She continues in drafting, but has broadened her professional spectrum from new residential construction to include the renovation of commercial and historic buildings. She currently lives in Frederick, MD.

2004 _Stephan Butler (CE) writes that he has been extremely busy since graduation. He is employed as project manager at The Stegler Group and is extremely active in the world of civil engineering. He has been chosen by the American Society of Civil Engineers for government leadership training and was sent to Washington, DC, to lobby for the TEA-21 Reauthorization and Dam Rehabilitation Acts. He has also been appointed by the Construction Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers to the Owners Directorate and a board position on the National Committee of Social and Environmental Concerns in Construction. In addition, Steve was recently elected to the position of branch director of the American Society of Civil Engineers in New Jersey. Steve currently resides in Fair Lawn.

In Memoriam

William J. Carew `32

Franklin E. Leighton `36

Richard M. O'Gureck `44

Russell G. Stair `47

Alexander Terebey `73

ALUMNI CALENDAR

SAVE THESE DATES!

Second Annual NJIT Day

Saturday, October 8

A full day of events on the NJIT campus for alumni and guests, students and parents, faculty and staff.

Information: Contact the Alumni Relations Office, 973-596-3411 or alumni@njit.edu

Celebration 2005

Friday, November 4

A festive evening of dining and dancing to provide scholarship support for students.

Pleasantdale Chateau
West Orange, New Jersey

Information: Contact Jacquie Rhodes, 973-596-3407 or rhodes@njit.edu

For the most current information about alumni activities and events, visit www.njit.edu/alumni/events.php

ONGOING EVENTS

Regional Clubs

NJIT Florida Week
February 2006

Information: Contact the Alumni Relations Office, 973-596-3411 or alumni@njit.edu

Rutgers-NJIT Theatre Program
Performances:
<http://theatre.njit.edu/newswrite/>

Additional information: Michele Rittenhouse, 973-596-3457 or michelerittenhouse@yahoo.com

Sports at NJIT

Schedules: www.njit.edu/athletics

Under 21 Club

Social events open to all alumni who graduated in the past 21 years

Information: Paula Krongard, 973-596-3403 or paula.krongard@njit.edu

OCTOBER

Chili Cook-Off, Compete or Eat

Saturday, October 8

NJIT Day registration 9:00 a.m.
Cook-Off 11:30 a.m.

NJIT Campus

Information: Contact the Alumni Relations Office, 973-596-3411 or alumni@njit.edu

NOVEMBER

NJIT/Rutgers-Newark Career Fair

Wednesday, November 2
12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Estelle and Zoom Fleisher Athletic Center

Information: Contact Dominique Clarke, 973-596-3888 or clarke@njit.edu

Also visit: www.njit.edu/CDS/alumniservices/index.htm for online registration

NJIT Alumni Corporate Club Event Sponsored by PSE&G

Wednesday, November 2

All PSE&G NJIT alumni are invited.
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

PSE&G, Newark, NJ

Information: Contact the Alumni Relations Office, 973-596-3411 or alumni@njit.edu

FEBRUARY 2006

"Newark is a College Town" Career Fair Sponsored by NJIT, Rutgers, Essex County College

Wednesday, February 1
2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, NJ

Information: NJIT Career Development Services, www.njit.edu/CDS/alumniservices/index.htm, special event Website, www.newarkcollegetown.org, or contact Dominique Clarke, 973-596-3888 or clarke@njit.edu

ALUMNI REUNIONS

Alumni Reunion Committee Meetings

Information: Contact the Alumni Relations Office, 973-596-3411 or alumni@njit.edu; also visit www.njit.edu/alumni/alum_resources/ClassesandReunions.php

Reunions in 2005

Classes of 1995, 1980, 1955

Reunions in 2006

Classes of 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981, 1976, 1971, 1966, 1961, 1956, 1951, 1946, 1941