

## HELLO ALUMNI!



SUCCESS IN MANY OF LIFE'S ACTIVITIES DEPENDS ON CAPABLE, ENERGETIC PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER AS A TEAM, WHETHER APPLYING THEIR TALENTS TO ACHIEVE A GOAL ON THE JOB OR PARTICIPATING IN VOLUNTEER EFFORTS FOR THEIR ALMA MATER. NJIT'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS HAVE OFTEN TEAMED UP OVER THE YEARS TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THAT PROMOTE OUR UNIVERSITY AND ITS ACADEMIC MISSION, AND WHICH FOSTER THE FELLOWSHIP AMONG ALUMNI THAT'S ROOTED IN AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. IN CONCERT, THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE SOCIAL, PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF ALL NJIT ALUMNI.

On behalf of our association's members, it is now my pleasure to welcome Robert Boynton to this great team as the new executive director of the Office of Alumni Relations. Reporting to Chuck Dees, NJIT's vice president for advancement, Bob comes to the university with over 20 years of related experience and success at schools that include Columbia, New York University, Drexel and Stevens. He's enthusiastic about working with our association to create an even stronger alumni network and building volunteer-driven programs that strengthen the relationship between alumni and all members of the NJIT community.

With my two-year term as association president nearing its conclusion, I'd also like to thank both Patrick Breslin, who was alumni relations director at the start of my term, and Dottie David-Wilson for their invaluable assistance. When Pat moved on to other challenges in the University Advancement Office, Dottie stepped in to help as acting director. I'm sure Bob will appreciate Dottie's continuing efforts in the position of associate director as we move forward with dynamic programs for alums in 2005.

I'd especially like to call your attention to the new Web for Alumni. I encourage you to set up access to this Website as described in the letter that's being sent to all alums over the next few months. This is a tremendous resource for information that we're sure will be of interest, including class notes shared by individual grads, networking opportunities, and the most current listing of social and educational events sponsored by NJIT.

An exciting physical transformation continues to take place on campus as well. If you haven't visited our alma mater recently, I urge you to do so this year. You'll see the new Campus Center and East Building, and the completely renovated Lubetkin Field. You'll also see how the restoration of historic Eberhardt Hall is progressing, a project that's scheduled for completion in the fall. As the renovated home of NJIT's Alumni Relations Office, Alumni Association and Advancement Office, Eberhardt will be a special focal point for alumni activities.

As always, we're very interested in any thoughts you may want to share with us as an NJIT alum at [njitalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:njitalumni@yahoo.com). We look forward to your comments and suggestions.

Rick A. de Pinho '88, '91  
President, NJIT Alumni Association



Robert A. Boynton, Executive Director,  
Alumni Relations

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

**Do you have a new job, addition to your family, honor, award or publication? Share your news through the NJIT Alumni Relations Office.**

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

1. On the NJIT Website ([www.njit.edu](http://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](mailto: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

# 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.

In a heartwarming testament to their love for Evan, the son they lost to leukemia in 2002, Joe '86 and Maggie Dias have adopted three brothers, Israel, age 9, Alexander, age 6, and Eric, age 4. Joe and Maggie had been foster parents for the boys for one year before making the commitment to adopt them. May their future together be bright and beautiful.



Maggie and Joe Dias with (left to right) Israel, Eric and Alexander

Ed Hecht '56 wrote of his interest in reading about Marv Smith '54 and the 1952-54 NCE tennis teams. Ed, who earned his varsity tennis "Block N" in '52 and '54, was also in the Air Force ROTC, the student chapter of ASME and Tau Epsilon Phi, but had to curtail his extracurricular activities in his junior and senior years due to holding down a full-time job after school. He worked for General Electric for 23 years, earned an MBA from Southern Methodist University in 1967, and started up a turbomachinery repair company in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1979. Since selling out to his partners in 1982, Ed has been involved in consulting, labor mediation and arbitration, and teaching at Texas A&M University, Del Mar College and Embry Riddle University. Ed and his wife, Bemis, currently volunteer overseas through the International Executive Service Corps in marketing and management planning, and they have been to Armenia, Hungary, Jordan, Romania and Russia. You can contact Ed at [ehcht@ehcoservices.com](mailto:ehcht@ehcoservices.com).

Another alumnus to write is Tom Saunders '60. Tom obtained a master's degree from NYU, specialized in advanced lithography development, wrote many technical papers and received five patents. He retired from AT&T Bell Labs in 1990 after 30 years but continued working another 11 years as an independent consultant. Tom and his wife, Judy, lived in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, for 33 years where he was a volunteer EMT with the Liberty Corner First Aid Squad. In 1997, they moved to Palm City, Florida. Tom can be contacted at [tesaunders@adelphia.net](mailto:tesaunders@adelphia.net).

Dick Chmielewski '70, who is completing his second year in the Peace Corps, forwarded an email he received from Gerhard "Gerry" Kurth '70. A soccer teammate of Dick's at NJIT, he had read about his Peace Corps service in one of my columns. Gerry, who was the managing vice president at the Gartner Group, a technology consulting firm, in Stamford, Connecticut, has retired and is looking to do some "give back" service for the U.S. Prior to

moving to Gartner, he was operations manager for the IBM Consulting Group, retiring after 30 years of service to join the Inteco Corporation, a marketing intelligence and technology consulting company. He became the U.S. general manager in 1997 and managed the sale of the company to Gartner in 1999. Gerry and his wife, Joanne, plan to be snowbirds between their northern home in Southberry, Connecticut, and their condo in Jensen Beach, Florida.

Fabian '75 and Jeanne Hurtado have moved to Cape Canaveral, Florida, where Fabian will assume his new position as senior vice president of construction operations for AJT Construction Services, Inc. AJT is a company started by Alfredo J. Teran '75, who is also president and CEO of an engineering and architectural firm in Cape Canaveral. In addition to providing engineering and architectural design services, Alfredo and his colleagues have developed a mobile laboratory for their Mobilis Systems product line that can serve as a medical isolation chamber, treatment facility, and hazardous materials control center. The lab on wheels can deal with a variety of threats to health, including chemical or biological attacks. You can learn more about Mobilis Systems by visiting [www.ajt.com](http://www.ajt.com) and selecting the link "AJT Companies."

Congratulations to Jeff McEntee '90. He and his wife, Amy, celebrated their first anniversary in September, 2004 and will welcome their first child in March, 2005. To cap this off, Jeff, who had worked for a small architectural firm since graduation, has opened his own firm, Jeffery R. McEntee, Architect. Operating out of his home in Denville, New Jersey, Jeff currently has large residential and commercial projects in the northern and central parts of the state and will start additional projects in the near future.

Hernan "Chico" Borja and his family have moved from Texas to Coral Springs, Florida. Hernan will be teaching Spanish and coaching soccer and golf at Coral Glades High School.

### NJIT Alumni Soccer Chapter News

On a crisp October day, 32 golfers teed off in the third annual soccer chapter golf outing. The outing was hosted by Roy Knutsen '62 at the Lake Mohawk Golf Club. The basketball alumni foursome of Knutsen, Rich Schroeder



Alums and Mal (far right) assembled for the fall soccer Reunion on October 22 at newly refurbished Lubetkin Field

'66, Bill St. Pierre '63 and John Walsh '66 won a challenge match by three strokes over the soccer alumni foursome of Bob McEntee '62 and his sons, Jeff '90, Scott and Greg. The McEntees took low gross honors among the soccer foursomes, while the foursome of Bob Altenkirch, John Rozembersky '72, Bryan Slota '96, and Andy Srodin '66 shared low net honors with the foursome of Ed Cruz '63, Mal Simon and his son and son-in-law. Closest to the pin prizes were won by Len Kaplan and Norman Loney '77, with Greg McEntee making the longest drive. Later the same day, a large turnout of alumni enjoyed a chal-

lenging alumni game on the new artificial surface of Lubetkin Field followed by a reception in the Fleischer Athletic Center. Kudos to Len Kaplan and Pedro Lopes, respectively NJIT's director of athletics and soccer coach, for making the affair so successful.

Keep up with NJIT athletics at [www.njit.edu/athletics](http://www.njit.edu/athletics). More alumni news follows. Stay in touch with me at [coach7157@yahoo.com](mailto:coach7157@yahoo.com).



## ICONS WILLIAM J. LANKENAU

## ENGINEERING BETTER HEARING

William Lankenau was not planning a career in medical technology when he graduated from Newark College of Engineering in 1967. In fact, his first job as a mechanical engineer took him in a very different direction — to Bendix Corporation, where he worked on satellite stabilization systems. Yet today Lankenau is president and CEO of Siemens Hearing Instruments, a U.S. subsidiary of the world's largest manufacturer of hearing aids.

The way Lankenau sees it, one relevant interest has been a constant for him — “developing technology that people can really use.” This is what led to positions of increas-

the medical field. As senior director of operations for Datascope, Lankenau's responsibilities included the production of instrumentation used to treat and monitor cardiac patients. Lankenau, who also holds an MS in mechanical engineering from Columbia University, says that one of the special satisfactions of being involved with medical devices is meeting the very exacting standards for performance and quality required of such products.

Lankenau joined Siemens Hearing Instruments in 1990 as vice president of manufacturing. In his current post, he heads the company's sales, manufacturing, product development, customer relations, and research and development operations in the United



**“TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES A WIDE RANGE OF COSMETICALLY APPEALING SOLUTIONS HELPING TO PROVE THAT HEARING INSTRUMENTS ARE NOT JUST FOR YOUR GRANDPARENTS.”**

ing responsibility in manufacturing, positions for which he says he was well prepared at NCE. Lankenau explains that he was just 16 when he began his studies in Newark because of where his birthday falls and the policies of the school system he attended before college. “I couldn't even drive when I started,” says Lankenau, who commuted from the Hudson County community of West New York, New Jersey. “But NCE really helped me mature and I met a lot of good people. It was a great experience in every respect.”

After several years with Bendix, Lankenau went to work for IT&T, where he became manager of manufacturing engineering. His next position, at Datascope, was his entrée to

States. Speaking about his field, Lankenau says that there has been dramatic technological evolution over the past 20 years as digital hearing instruments have supplanted analog designs. Hearing loss is a complex phenomena, and digital technology enables more precise compensation for the wide range of deficiencies that individuals can experience.

According to Lankenau, the next big evolution is wireless synchronization between hearing instruments and Siemens is leading the way. The new technology from Siemens, called e2e (ear to ear) wireless, enables two hearing instruments worn by an individual to communicate with one another. This technology continuously monitors the listening



environment, shares information, and makes common decisions regarding optimal system parameters, while synchronously adapting the settings of both instruments. In addition, e2e wireless links the controls on the hearing instruments so that any wearer adjustment (such as volume) to one instrument is simultaneously made to the other. The result is one hearing system instead of two hearing instruments operating independently.

The process of fitting hearing instruments also promises to change. Today, it's necessary to create a physical impression, typically by filling the appropriate portion of the ear with a silicon-based molding material. Research now under way would replace this procedure, which can be rather uncomfortable, with electronic scanning and imaging.

But technology is not the only consideration in developing and marketing hearing instruments to what should be a growing number of potential buyers, given the increasing longevity and active lifestyles of so many more people. Human nature is very much a limiting factor in the hearing-instrument sales equation, Lankenau says. Individuals of all ages whose hearing has been affected by injury or acute disease have long welcomed the difference that hearing instruments can make in the quality of life. However, there is still resistance to acknowledging the impairment that often develops gradually with age. Unlike eyeglasses, which have risen to the status of a fashion statement, even tiny state-of-the-art hearing instruments tend to be viewed quite differently.

"It's a matter of vanity," Lankenau says with a wry tone. "If we can't see well enough to read or drive, we don't hesitate to get glasses. When hearing is not as good as it once was, there's a tendency to just turn up the volume on the TV and live with it. But it is extremely important for individuals to understand that today's technology provides a wide range of cosmetically appealing solutions helping to prove that hearing instruments are not just for your grandparents. This is one of the guiding principles behind our R&D initiatives."

## SPECIAL THANKS FOR PASSING THE TORCH

The following alumni of Albert Dorman Honors College returned to campus last September to share their experiences in the workplace and in graduate and professional schools with current Dorman students at a colloquium titled *Passing the Torch*. (See page 6 for more about the event.)

**Tomlee L. Abraham '99, MS '00**, administrative analyst, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – University Hospital

**Emily Gagliu Arturo '03**, doctoral student in biochemistry and biophysics, Brandeis University

**Steven Arturo '00**, doctoral student in chemical engineering, NJIT

**Benjamin Bakas '03**, architect, Bol Architecture

**Harendra Bhagat '02**, assistant vice president, Risk and Performance Unit, Merrill Lynch Investment Managers

**Sean Duffy '95**, reliability engineer, Stepan Company

**Nicole Fusco '03**, compensation specialist, Corporate Human Resources Department, Quest Diagnostics

**Muhammad Hussain '02**, architect, Jarmel Kizel Architects & Engineers

**Lisa M. Kardos '04**, process contact engineer, Infineum USA

**Robert Kozlowski '88**, vice president, Enterprise Infrastructure Group, Morgan Stanley

**Jason Kraft '00**, senior analyst, Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research and Development

**Shibu Mathew '00**, management consultant specializing in pharmaceutical data management

**Richard Nowak '99, MBA '04**, business development manager, Siemens Building Technologies, Inc.

**Kapil Rajwani**, fourth-year medical student at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) in the NJIT/UMDNJ accelerated medical education program

**Michelle Rassekh '99**, attorney, Peckar and Abramson

**Peychi Wu '00**, dental resident, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

## 1960s

**Anthony J. Barber** '61 represents the HNTB Corporation as national director, toll facilities. HNTB is a major firm providing diversified engineering and architecture services.

**Gerard Foschini** '61, Distinguished Member of Staff and Distinguished Inventor at Bell Labs in Holmdel, NJ, is the recipient of the 2004 IEEE Eric E. Sumner Award. The award honors Foschini's outstanding contributions to communication theory, particularly with respect to multi-element antenna technology. Read more about Foschini's groundbreaking work in "The Wireless World: It's Way Cool" in the fall 2004 *NJIT Magazine*.

**Walter H. Breyer** '62 writes that he is executive secretary of the Antique Telescope Society, an international organization with members in some dozen countries. The purpose of the society, according to their Website, is to "unite colleagues interested in antique telescopes, binoculars, instruments, books, atlases and related items, and to promote the membership's interests in astronomical history and discovery, the history of optics, and the preservation and use of the antique instruments through stewardship and education." The society's address on the Web is [webari.com/oldscope](http://webari.com/oldscope).

**Peter J. Resetar** '63, who has almost 20 years of electric-utility experience, is currently a training and technical consultant for the industry. In his present position as project director at the Institute of International Education in Washington DC, he manages efforts to help developing countries transition their utilities from state to private ownership.

**Michael A. Rozolsky** '67, senior project manager at Hazen Paper Company in Holyoke, MA, is a member of the Executive Advisory

Board for the Western Massachusetts Regional Technology Alliance and an adjunct professor of engineering management at Western New England College. He would like to meet NJIT alumni in Massachusetts and his email address is [mrozolsky@hazen.com](mailto:mrozolsky@hazen.com).

## 1970s

**Robert J. Haegi** '70, who retired as manager of the John Manville Corporation's plant in Winder, GA, is working part time as a bailiff in the Gwinnett County court system and as a substitute teacher in local public schools.

**Rodger K. Findiesen** '71 is an American Airlines captain flying the Boeing 757 and 767. He has also taught adult Bible classes for nearly a decade. A sailing and garden railroad enthusiast, Findiesen and his wife, Vanessa, have three daughters, born in 1979, 1982 and 1988.

**Louis Ventre, Jr.** '73, who has been practicing patent law for five years, has opened an office as a Registered Patent Attorney in Oakton, VA. He says that he is expanding his practice to inventors, with particular emphasis on services for individuals and small businesses. Louis invites visits to his Website at [www.lventre.com](http://www.lventre.com).

**Joseph J. Rogus** '71, MS '75 has been appointed senior vice president of technical operations at Advancis Pharmaceutical Corporation, which specializes in developing and commercializing anti-infective products. In this newly created position, he will direct the operations of the company's product commercialization and corporate engineering functions. Rogus previously served as vice president of pharmaceutical product optimization and clinical supplies management for Schering-Plough Research Institute, where he held positions of increasing responsibility since 1971.

ICONS CHARLES M. FORMAN

## ENTRUSTED WITH THE KEYS

"I was just handed the keys to a pesticide plant abandoned by its owners in the dead of winter, and I had to deal with problems that included a very toxic chemical leaking from underground storage into the water table." This is what attorney Charles Forman says by way of introduction to one of the more memorable bankruptcy cases he's handled as a trustee of the U.S. Department of Justice. Forman — a 1972 NJIT graduate and senior member of Forman Holt & Eliades LLC — is one of 1,800 trustees standing by across the nation to administer bankruptcy proceedings.

Forman has helped to sort out some 10,000 bankruptcy cases since becoming a trustee in 1981. That pesticide plant involved a Chapter 7 filing, which entails complete liquidation of a company's assets. Forman arranged remediation to stem environmental damage and supervised an orderly shutdown of the facility. He then managed the liquidation of remaining assets and found a developer who transformed the 17-acre site in Lyndhurst, New Jersey, into a viable commercial property that now has a commuter railroad station and large supermarket.

Although he majored in industrial engineering at NJIT, Forman knew early on that he was inclined towards a career that would also draw upon his talents in areas other than math and science. Those talents were evident in activities that included serving as editor in chief of *The Vector*, president of the student senate and president of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi. This inclination led to a JD degree from Seton Hall Law School and, eventually, to founding a practice that today is the largest New Jersey firm specializing exclusively in bankruptcy cases. But Forman emphasizes that his engineering education has given him the analytical skills and confidence to tackle very complex problems that might be daunting to attorneys with different backgrounds.

In 2003, in the aftermath of another major case, Forman received the Director's Award for Outstanding Achievements by a Private Trustee from the Department of Justice. This award is given each year to only one of the country's trustees. The case was a Chapter 7 filing by TSR Wireless, which provided paging

services to more than 2.5 million subscribers, many of them public-safety, emergency-response and healthcare workers. They included physicians at NY Presbyterian Medical Center, the Florida State Police, and operators at the Three Mile Island nuclear power facility. Authorized by the court to operate the bankrupt paging company, Forman kept service up and running for all subscribers, protected the firm's valuable FCC licenses, conducted

outstanding debts and contractual obligations. Supervision by a U.S. Trustee is mandatory in Chapter 7 filings and an option in Chapter 11 proceedings unless mismanagement or fraud is suspected — which is how Forman entered this case.

The two fast-talking founders of NorVergence generated \$143 million in revenues in 2003 by selling subscribers telecom magic based on a piece of hardware they



a public sale of 275 retail locations, and found a buyer able to offer continued service to subscribers.

Over the years, Forman's cases have constituted an economic and social barometer. He says that cases involving the impact of environmental pollution were common in the 1980s and that the 1990s saw a significant uptick in proceedings related to the Internet bubble. More recently, escalating healthcare costs are causing solvency problems for a growing number of businesses, especially those that are self-insured.

Forman's professional activities have attracted considerable attention outside of legal circles at times, as with the bankruptcy of the telecommunications company NorVergence. Creditors forced NorVergence into Chapter 11 bankruptcy in June 2004. A Chapter 11 filing involves reorganization of a business and not necessarily liquidation, with the court empowered to cancel some or all of a firm's

called a Matrix. More than 7,000 customers had leased the Matrix boxes for about \$300 a month believing they would receive local, long-distance, cell-phone and broadband Internet services at per-minute rates low enough to justify paying for the Matrix as well. Essentially, NorVergence was peddling a relatively inexpensive router and reselling services from various providers. Subscribers are now locked into the overpriced contracts, and creditors include Qwest and Sprint.

Investigating the whereabouts of the company's cash, a major portion of which may have found its way to offshore bank accounts, is among the issues that Forman has to contend with as a trustee in the NorVergence case. This saga of technological snake oil has been widely covered in print and electronic news media, with one Forbes.com account describing Trustee Forman's challenges under the headline "The Matrix Unraveled."

**OVER THE YEARS,  
FORMAN'S CASES HAVE  
CONSTITUTED AN  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
BAROMETER.**



ICONS HAILA A. HUDSON

## HIGH-VOLTAGE ENTREPRENEUR

Haila Hudson is as comfortable working with high-voltage electrical equipment as she is managing her company, Milestones Engineering, P.C. A licensed professional engineer in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, Hudson earned a BS in electrical engineering and an MS in management at NJIT. But she credits encouragement from her parents and loved ones, along with becoming an electrician before attending college, with energizing her subsequent academic and business achievements in a special way.

opportunity to build a career in that field, and she entered the apprentice program of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). With the help of the IBEW, she was able to return to New Jersey when her father became ill with cancer.

“Working with the IBEW was one of the most positive experiences of my life,” Hudson says. “It wasn’t easy, but it showed me what perseverance can achieve. Perhaps even more important than developing technical skills, the IBEW experience emphasized professional development.” In addition to being one of the first women in New Jersey to be licensed as



**“WE’VE PROVEN THAT  
WE’RE MORE THAN  
BOOK ENGINEERS.”**

Hudson’s route to a master electrician’s license took her from Westfield, New Jersey, as a young teenager to the Fenster School in Arizona. She says, “I wanted an alternative high-school experience, and the opportunity to go to a boarding school out West certainly met that expectation.” Explaining that she has always had a hands-on love of technology and craftsmanship, Hudson was then attracted to the building trades in Arizona. Initially, she considered carpentry but turned to electrical work instead. The far-reaching social changes of the 1980s presented her with the

an electrician, Hudson is a licensed electrical contractor and inspector.

It was also the IBEW that encouraged Hudson to enroll at NCE and work towards her first degree. When asked about the benefits that being an electrician gave her in college, Hudson says they included the confidence to take her senior project somewhere other students were reluctant to go. “I was the only one in my group whose project operated on 120 volts. All of the other projects were designed to run on no more than about 24 volts. I think people were afraid to go near

mine.” Hudson’s project was a wireless dimmer switch for residential lighting, a prescient example of “smart house” technology far more commonplace today than in the 1980s.

After earning her bachelor’s degree in 1988 — she completed the master’s in 2000 — Hudson went to work as an engineer for Killiam Associates, now Hatch Mott McDonald. Then, at a smaller consulting firm, she says that she got a taste of the entrepreneurial spirit that led her to take the very big step of starting Milestones Engineering in 1998. Many of the projects completed by Milestones, which is based in Morris Plains with a satellite office in Bayonne, reflect Hudson’s own unreserved fascination with cutting-edge technology. These range from a solar photovoltaic system that generates enough electricity to run small appliances in a Florida home to cleanrooms for a New Jersey company specializing in next-generation flat panel displays and other light-emitting devices. Milestones’ biggest project to date involved participating in the monorail extension at Newark Liberty International Airport.

Speaking as the founder and CEO of a minority- and woman-owned technology company, Hudson would like to see a greater effort to promote engineering careers among young people belonging to groups underrepresented in the field. She thinks it’s especially important to encourage aspiration towards licensure as professional engineers. Hudson helps to promulgate this message at NJIT as a member of the Board of Directors of the Murray Center for Women in Technology. Other activities with a significant social dimension include Habitat for Humanity and serving on the Electrical Sub-Code Committee of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Above all, Hudson is committed to the growth of Milestones Engineering and the personal success of her colleagues at the company, some ten in number at present. She says, “We offer a unique set of services that combines practical experience with theoretical depth; we’ve proven that we’re more than book engineers.”



[Above] Breakfast for the Class of 1954 at the new NJIT Campus Center

[Top] John Abate (left) with his wife, Mary, and Marvin Smith. John and Marv put many hours and much energy into the work of the committee that helped to make their reunion such a success.

[Left] Bob Armbrust (center) with his wife, Ruth, and classmate Steve Hall

## GATHERING AT THE HALF-CENTURY MARK

Numbering nearly 90 with spouses and friends, members of the Class of 1954 gathered in New Jersey last October to mark the half-century that has passed since their graduation. The three-day reunion included a cocktail reception at the home of NJIT President Robert Altenkirch and a return to the university’s campus, greatly changed since 1954.

One especially memorable moment was the tribute paid to Bob Armbrust by Jack Mulligan, master of ceremonies at the farewell luncheon. Jack recalled how Bob, a chemical engineering major and a polio victim on crutches since childhood, declined a classmate’s offer to take his turn for making a data reading that required climbing a ladder. He put a clipboard in his mouth, pulled himself 12 feet up the ladder, hooked an arm through the ladder to take the reading, returned the clipboard to his mouth, and lowered himself to the floor. Bob would not allow himself to be considered a victim, which speaks volumes about his character, Jack said.

**Patrick M. Coullahan** '72 has been named vice president and manager of Alaska Operations for URS Corporation, a major engineering firm headquartered in San Francisco. He will be responsible for offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. Prior to joining URS, Coullahan was manager and senior project director of Alaska Operations for Earth Tech, serving as senior engineer for the Missile Defense Agency's Ground-based Midcourse Defense Joint Program in Alaska for engineering, environmental and construction activities.

**Robert E. Tomasi, Jr.** '74 has been appointed to the newly created position of executive vice president of operations at New Edge Networks, a national provider of managed network services for businesses and communications companies. He will oversee network operations, engineering, IT and customer service operations.

**Will Steffens** '77, MS '85, area development manager for Public Service Electric and Gas, has been named chairman of the New Jersey Biotechnology Life Sciences Coalition. He previously served as vice chairman of the Coalition.

## 1980s

**James Lovas** '82 is vice president, North American sales for Synplicity, Inc., a leading California-based supplier of software for the design and verification of semiconductors. Lovas joined Synplicity in 1999 as senior account manager, and in 2002 was promoted to director, Northeast area sales.

**Joan Janulis** '84 has been named vice president, regulatory affairs at Able Laboratories, a developer and manufacturer of generic pharmaceuticals. Janulis has over 17 years of experience in the area of generic pharmaceutical industry regulatory affairs, specifically with Hatch-Waxman issues involving patent infringement litigation and marketing exclusivity. Prior to

joining Able, she spent the majority of her career with Purepac Pharmaceutical Co., where she helped to develop regulatory strategies related to patented products.

## 1990s

**James V. Didia** '91, national site acquisition manager of AT&T based in Atlanta, is also president of the Southeast Chapter of the Design-Build Institute of America.

**Govindraj Rangaswamy** MS '93 is senior project engineer at Target Engineering Group for the new Royal Park Bridge linking West Palm Beach and Palm Beach, FL.

**Stephanie Farrell** PhD '97, associate professor of chemical engineering at Rowan University, has received the National Outstanding Teaching Award from the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). She has pioneered employing inductive teaching methodology throughout the chemical engineering curriculum and has shared her work in course, curriculum, and laboratory innovation through workshops, conference presentations and publications.

## 2000s

**Mufaddal Bootwala** MS '03 writes that he is now living in Dallas, TX, where he works as a business analyst for Verizon. He would like to contact NJIT alumni in the Dallas area, and his email address is mufaddal.bootwala@gmail.com.

## In Memoriam

**Leland W. VanDenburgh** '37

**Theodore M. Marko** '40

**George J. Prohazka** '50, MS '58

**Roland Merritt Brown, Sr.** '52

**Vincent T. Finan** '74

**Nicholas A. Wybolt** '78

**Joseph Stuppi** '84

**Sriganesh Yerra** '99

## ICONS

RICHARD J. KERIAN

## TAKING THE PULSE OF SOFTWARE FOR HEALTH

Software is probably not the first thing that comes to mind when most people think about healthcare. But a growing range of computer programs is integral to the delivery of all health-care services, from state-of-the-art imaging to patient interaction with insurance providers via the Internet. As a senior vice president with the TriZetto Group, Inc., in New Jersey, Richard Kerian is someone who is very much aware of the link between software and health, especially when it comes to transactions among patients, the medical professionals serving them, and the organizations that process and pay the bills.

At TriZetto, Kerian helps to provide health-care-plan administrators with software applications that enable them to deliver services with greater efficiency, quality, and focus on the consumer. Kerian graduated from NJIT in 1976 with a major in computer science and a minor in industrial engineering. However, computers were not foremost in Kerian's mind when he embarked on his studies at the university. He says, "I started as a math major. But after taking an introductory course in the programming language Fortran, I fell in love with computer science and switched to that field." Over the years, his affinity for computer science and NJIT has led Kerian to maintain a link with the university that includes participating on the Board of Visitors of the College of Computing Sciences.

Because NJIT had no dorms during the time he was a student, Kerian spent his first year commuting from Middletown in Monmouth County. He then joined the Kappa Xi Kappa fraternity and moved into their house. Kerian says that his fraternity provided much more than a sheltering roof. At one fraternity-sponsored social event, he met his future wife, Anne.

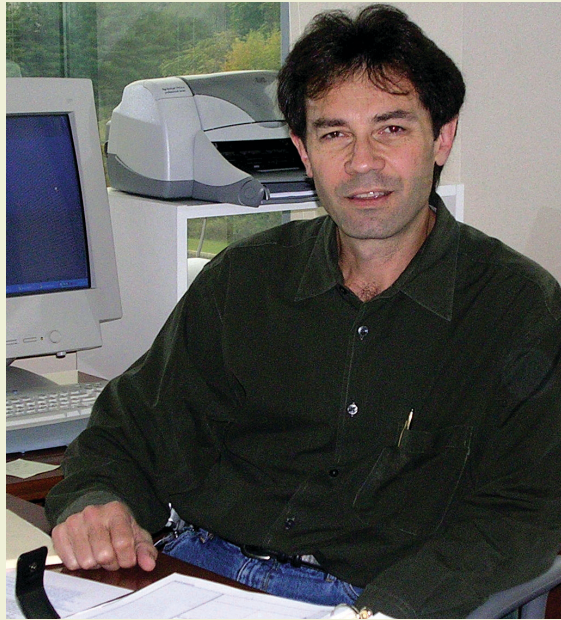
"If you were in computer science in the 1970s, you wanted to join IBM," Kerian says with respect to his thoughts about a career



path after graduation. As an initial move toward his goal of working in programming and computer technology for IBM, he took a sales job with the company. Yet it was a different organization, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey, that made it possible for Kerian to get back to hands-on involvement with computers and software. He eventually became a project leader with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, managing the development of programs needed to support the company's services.

In the 1970s, computing was still synonymous with centralized mainframe systems running proprietary programs developed and maintained by individual companies. Then, with the advent of the PC and the shift to more distributed computing architectures, developing software that could be used by many organizations presented new and promising employment options. Kerian's career after leaving Blue Cross and Blue Shield was shaped by this technological sea change, as well as by the tide of acquisitions and mergers that has swept across the information technology industry in the course of three decades. His current position with TriZetto evolved from managing development of healthcare payer software for a company named Erisco, which became a subsidiary of TriZetto.

Today, Kerian is at the forefront of providing software solutions for payer organizations that serve more than 100 million health plan members. TriZetto's products and services give all healthcare participants — health plans, medical providers, employers and members — increasing ability to exchange information and conduct business over the Internet. Reflecting on his educational experience at NJIT, Kerian says that a rigorous curriculum prepared him well to meet the challenges that work in this field entails. And in the first decade of the twenty-first century, those challenges are many.



Rising healthcare costs are of great national concern in the United States, and it is imperative to make all aspects of service delivery as efficient and cost-effective as possible — including plan enrollment, claims management and billing. Doing so means designing software products that not only work well by themselves, but which are also problem-free when called upon to interact with other applications in order to complete transactions. There are also the major privacy and electronic-data interchange demands imposed by HIPAA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

According to Kerian, the killer app in the field would be robust and meet every industry and governmental standard. But it would also be a real-time portal to all of the information and approvals that any payer, provider or patient might require, for any procedure. At the point of service in a medical professional's office, patients could immediately learn all they need to know about their coverage with just a few mouse clicks and strokes on a computer keyboard.

**KERIAN IS AT THE  
FOREFRONT OF  
PROVIDING SOFTWARE  
SOLUTIONS FOR PAYER  
ORGANIZATIONS THAT  
SERVE MORE THAN  
100 MILLION HEALTH  
PLAN MEMBERS.**

## ICONS KING K. MOY

## FROM CHINA TO NEW JERSEY'S GOLD COAST

King Moy has traveled far in life, both geographically and in terms of professional accomplishment. Born in the People's Republic of China, Moy emigrated as a child with his parents to what was then the British Crown Colony of Hong Kong. In 1969, when he was 17, Moy and his family came to the United States and settled in Paterson, New Jersey. Today, Moy is senior vice president and partner at EcolSciences, Inc., a firm that performs environmental investigations critical to property development. He is also an alumnus of NJIT, with a BS in civil engineering and an MS in environmental engineering.



"MY YEARS GOING TO SCHOOL IN NEWARK WERE AMONG THE BEST OF MY LIFE."

Moy came to Newark College of Engineering from East Side High School in Paterson as a result of some very sound advice offered by one of the school's counselors. He says, "I really had no money for college, but my counselor told me about the opportunities available through the Educational Opportunity Program at NCE. So I applied and was accepted. My years going to school in Newark were among the best of my life."

Moy says that NCE gave him much more than financial assistance and outstanding academic preparation. "Although I was a recent immigrant, I found a very welcoming and supportive community. I even met my wife, Helen, at a dance sponsored by NCE's Chinese student association."

After graduating in 1974, Moy worked as an engineer for the City of Newark. He moved

on to a private consulting firm and began part-time graduate study, completing his MS in 1977. His next job was with EcolSciences, at the time a national organization specializing in studies of sewage-treatment plants for government agencies. In the early 1980s, retrenchment in government funding created financial problems for EcolSciences. However, it also presented Moy and several colleagues with the opportunity to become owners of the company, an opportunity they didn't pass up.

Moy and his associates refocused EcolSciences on the private sector, mainly in New Jersey and New York. The firm now provides environmental-consulting services primarily for the building, soil and groundwater investigations that real-estate organizations and financing institutions need when purchasing property and securing the permits required for development. EcolSciences has assisted with various major redevelopment efforts, including projects along what has come to be called New Jersey's Gold Coast. This strip of land on the Hudson River, which includes Hoboken, West New York and Jersey City, extends some 18 miles from Fort Lee to Bayonne.

In addition to his demanding professional activities, Moy dedicates time to his alma mater as a member of the Highlander Athletics Advisory Board and the steering committee for the Highlanders Athletics Campaign. When asked if he was active in athletics at NJIT, Moy responds, "I used the gym." But he goes on to explain how Herb Iris, an EcolSciences client, persuaded him to participate on the advisory board and campaign committee.

Iris, a 1951 NCE graduate and founder of the Iris Construction Company, was an avid basketball player in college. The 2004 recipient of NJIT's Edward F. Weston Medal for Professional Achievement, he is also the national chair of the Highlanders Athletics Campaign. Moy says, "While I had made contributions to NJIT over the years, Herb convinced me that I could help even more through personal involvement with the two athletics groups. Herb was really persuasive about how working to improve the athletics program would be of great benefit to the school as a whole."

## ALUMNI CALENDAR

### ONGOING EVENTS

#### Sports at NJIT

Schedules: [www.njit.edu/athletics](http://www.njit.edu/athletics)

Information: Mark Mentone

973.596.8324 or  
[mentone@njit.edu](mailto:mentone@njit.edu)

#### Under 21 Club

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

Information: Eladio Ruiz

973.596.3441 or [erui@njit.edu](mailto:erui@njit.edu)

#### Rutgers-NJIT Theatre Program

Performances:

[www.njit.edu/CSLA/theatre](http://www.njit.edu/CSLA/theatre)

Information: Michele Rittenhouse

973.596.3457 or  
[michelerittenhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:michelerittenhouse@yahoo.com)

### FEBRUARY

#### Winter Open House

Sunday, February 27

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Campus Center

Information: Miosotis Hernandez

973.596.3300 or  
[hernandez@njit.edu](mailto:hernandez@njit.edu)

### MARCH

#### Biomedical Engineering Showcase and Career Fair

Friday, March 11

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Campus Center

Information: Marianne Pappagallo

973.596.8449 or  
[pappagallo@njit.edu](mailto:pappagallo@njit.edu)

#### Career Development Services Spring Career Fair

Wednesday, March 9

12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Estelle and Zoom Fleisher  
Athletic Center

Information: Dominique Clarke

973.596.3888 or [clarke@njit.edu](mailto:clarke@njit.edu)

#### Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. the Philadelphia Phillies Hosted by Vincent Niamoli '62

Saturday, March 19

12:00 noon – BBQ

1:05 p.m. – game,  
Progress Energy Park;  
St. Petersburg, FL

Open to alumni, faculty, staff,  
students and friends of NJIT

Information: Alumni Relations

Office 973.596.3441 or  
[alumni@njit.edu](mailto:alumni@njit.edu)

#### Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Annual Alumni Breakfast

Thursday, March 24

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Information: Roberta Hartlaub

973.596.2446 or  
[hartlaub@njit.edu](mailto:hartlaub@njit.edu)

### APRIL

#### Deans' Day

Sunday, April 3

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Campus Center

Information: Kathy Kelly

973.593.3300 or  
[kathy.kelly@njit.edu](mailto:kathy.kelly@njit.edu)

#### Newark College of Engineering Awards Banquet

Friday, April 8

6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Newark Airport Marriott

Information: Angela Vega

973.596.3223 or  
[angela.vega@njit.edu](mailto:angela.vega@njit.edu)

#### College of Science and Liberal Arts Banquet

Wednesday, April 20

5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

NJIT Campus Center

Information: Julie Moy

973.596.5625 or [moy@njit.edu](mailto:moy@njit.edu)

#### Vector 80th Reunion

Thursday, April 21

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

NJIT Campus Center

Information: Keerti Chivakula

973.596.3611 or 732.742.8452

#### Annual NJIT Scholarship Breakfast

Friday, April 22

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Campus Center

Information: Kathy Dickerson

973.596.3456 or  
[dickerson@njit.edu](mailto:dickerson@njit.edu)

### MAY

#### NJIT Athletics Banquet

Wednesday, May 4

4:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Campus Center

Information: Lenny Kaplan

973.596.3636 or [kaplan@njit.edu](mailto:kaplan@njit.edu)

#### 2005 Commencement

Thursday, May 26

10:00 a.m.

Continental Airlines Arena

East Rutherford, NJ

50th Classes and 50+ Classes are  
invited to march.

Information:

Alumni Relations Office

973.596.3441 or [alumni@njit.edu](mailto:alumni@njit.edu)