A Great Conclusion, Many Beginnings

FALL 2007 SAW A VERY SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF ALBERT DORMAN HONORS COLLEGE — THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A $22.9 MILLION CAMPAIGN THAT WILL ENABLE THE COLLEGE TO OFFER AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE TO MANY MORE OF THIS COUNTRY’S MOST PROMISING YOUNG PEOPLE. THE FINAL TOTAL FOR THE CAMPAIGN PUT THE AMOUNT RAISED WELL BEYOND ITS $20 MILLION GOAL. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE CAMPAIGN’S SUCCESS ALLOWS MORE THAN A HUNDRED ADDITIONAL STUDENTS TO BEGIN THEIR EDUCATIONS AND CAREERS AT THE HONORS COLLEGE, INCREASING ENROLLMENT FROM 500 TO OVER 600.

"These talented young men and women are essential to the future of our state and our nation," says Honors College Dean Joel S. Bloom. "As we help them to reach their full potential, they will play a critical role in the technology-driven economy of the 21st century."

Albert Dorman Honors College recruits students with SATs in the top ten percent nationally, individuals who are valedictorians, salutatorians and honor society members of their high school graduating class. Along with substantial scholarship support, the Honors College offers an enriched curriculum featuring options such as honors courses, independent study, research projects, industrial internships and service-learning opportunities.

The college is named for 1945 NCE alumnus Dr. Albert Dorman, who helped to found the ARCOM Technology Corporation — today a leading global engineering, design and service firm with 30,000 employees. Dorman is the only person to be voted both a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and an Honorary Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He has also been elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

More than a decade ago, Dorman challenged his alma mater to develop a groundbreaking educational program, one that would foster future generations of innovators and entrepreneurs prepared to take leading roles in industry, government and education. "In addition to a firm foundation in the technological disciplines, our students learn to think critically and analytically, and to evaluate the social and ethical implications of their work," Dorman says. "They develop excellent communications skills and learn to work, as a part of a multi-disciplinary team and as team leaders."

Many individuals and groups contributed to the success of the Campaign for Albert Dorman Honors College, both through their financial generosity and generous commitments of time and energy. Robert J. Hillier, who chairs the board of The Hillier Group, Inc., served as national chair for the campaign. In addition to Hillier and Dorman, the campaign steering committee was comprised of Richard S. Bowles, who also chairs the Honor College’s board of visitors; C. Stephen Cordes ’72; Michelle Melucci ’02; Amy A. Pappas ’87; Roberta Renard, Peter J. Tomasi ’73, and Drs. Bloom and Dors.

Major campaign benefactors included Dorman and his wife, Joan, William S. Guttenberg ’44, and Louis A. Kamentsky ’52, ’92. Other benefactors were Paul V. ’73 and Elisabeth Kastner, W. Peter Metz and Gertrude G. Morse. Still more donors were Gilbert W. Gikas ’41, Daniel A. Henderson, Raymond J. ’84 and Sonia McGowan, and George M. Newcombe ’69 and the George and Joan Newcombe Charitable Fund.

Corporate donors included Gourmet Dining Services, Schering-Plough Corporation and the Schering-Plough Foundation, Schoor DePalma, Inc., PSE&G, and the Pepsi Bottling Group, Inc.

"We will reap the dividends of this campaign for a long time to come," says Campaign Chairman Hillier. "We are not only helping students aspire to the highest levels of academic achievement, but we are encouraging them to lead, and to seek lifelong engagement in activities that benefit many others as well as themselves."

Albert Dorman Honors College on the Web: http://honors.njit.edu

For information about ways to support NJIT’s Honors College, contact Dean Joel S. Bloom at joel.s.bloom@njit.edu or 973-596-6479.

OTTO H. YORK REMEMBERED

Engineer, entrepreneur and philanthropist, Otto H. York died on July 12, aged 96, at his home in Maplewood, New Jersey. Through the Otto H. York Foundation Inc., he generously helped many groups working to improve healthcare, education and the quality of our environment.

York was a friend and donor to NJIT for more than three decades, enabling substantial improvements to university facilities and programs. In 1989, NJIT dedicated the Otto H. York Center for Environmental Engineering and Science in his honor. In 2002, York pledged $1 million to the chemical engineering department, endowing a fund for scholarships to attract promising students as well as to support research by faculty members. The department was subsequently renamed the Otto H. York Department of Chemical Engineering.

At the time of his 2002 pledge, York said, "I worked quite hard through my career, but I’ve also been fortunate. I paid for my education since I was 15. It wasn’t easy. I’m happy to help NJIT establish scholarships for outstanding students. And supporting faculty research is essential."

York graduated from Purdue University in 1934 with a BS in chemical engineering. In 1947, with a $1,000 loan, he launched the Otto York Company and built the firm into a major New Jersey corporation — Otto H. York Industries. The venture’s success was based on his invention of the York Mesh Demister. The device revolutionized the field of gas and liquid separation, and has been used by the petrochemical, chemical and pharmaceutical industries worldwide.

York’s breakthrough innovation has also been applied to food processing and desalination. Throughout his career, York combined exceptional expertise in chemical engineering with business acumen to develop viable commercial products. He had a unique talent for recognizing problems within process systems and formulating effective solutions. Although York eventually sold his company to Foster Wheeler Corporation, he continued to be deeply involved with the chemical industry. In 1997, NJIT awarded York an honorary doctor of science degree for his many accomplishments in the field. He will be long remembered both for these achievements and for his commitment to making it possible for future generations of students to succeed as innovators in science and technology.”