

THINK UNION
COLLEGE

ACT **CONNECT**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2011-2012

2011-2012 UNION COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT





MESSAGE FROM

President Stephen C. Ainlay

The theme of this year's President's Report—Think. Connect. Act.—reflects an approach we have taken over the last year with our communities, local and regional. In the following pages, you will learn of a number of initiatives through which we have re-engaged with our sense of place and begun to leverage the opportunities presented by our location.

In our own neighborhood—Schenectady—the College and its people have been part of a renaissance that includes new businesses, an enhanced Schenectady Museum, development of the former ALCO site west of campus and a new alternative energy headquarters at GE. As always, Union students have volunteered countless hours to assist our neighbors and to help reinvent Schenectady as a vibrant city.

The Mohawk River is a rich resource for the study of science, economics, policy and history. As a member of Congressman Paul Tonko's Mighty Waters Task Force, I can attest to the value of what some have termed New York's "forgotten river." Prof. John Garver of Geology, who studies the river's flooding and ice jams, is among the faculty using this important waterway for teaching and research.

A short distance north of campus, the Adirondacks present enormous opportunities for interdisciplinary study and recreation. Faculty and students in a range of fields, from humanities to science, are taking advantage of the Kelly Adirondack Center and the six-million acre Adirondack Park.

Our location in Tech Valley makes us the envy of any institution seeking partnerships with industry leaders such as GE, IBM and Global Foundries. And our proximity

to state government in Albany enriches students and faculty studying politics, government and history.

For me, the 2011-12 year held many inspirational moments. Union pride filling the Tampa Times Forum as men's hockey made its first trip to the Frozen Four. A Founders Day talk by author Richard Russo, a Mohawk Valley native whose works make us proud of our area and its people. A moving performance of alumnus Daniel Butterfield's 100-year-old "Taps" at the ReUnion fireworks show. Applications at an all-time high, a testament from students and families that they value our mission and our curriculum. And rankings that confirm not only the wealth of opportunities for students, but the high return on their educational investment.

One of the most exciting accomplishments of the year, and one we will continue to celebrate in the months ahead, is the success of the \$250 million You are Union campaign. I heartily thank the thousands of donors who share a passion for the mission of Union College. You have made a transformative difference, and your actions will inspire our next chapter.

Much awaits in the year ahead. We will continue to update our Strategic Plan, affirmed by the Board of Trustees in 2007, as our institutional roadmap. In the spring of 2013, we will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Joseph Jacques Ramée's campus plan. As our Strategic Plan asserts, Union is a place of innovation, drawing on our distinctive past as a source of inspiration. From Ramée's vision in 1813 to our community's impressive accomplishments in 2011-12, our past—both distant and recent—provides the momentum that fuels our future.

The Academic Year at a Glance

2011

SEPTEMBER

- 217th Convocation welcomes Class of 2015; President Ainlay urges leveraging opportunities of our location
- "The Art of War" exhibit, depicting images from Civil War, opens at the Mandeville
- Union volunteers join local relief efforts in the wake of tropical storms Irene and Lee
- **Randy Cohen, former Ethicist columnist for the *New York Times*, speaks at the Nott**



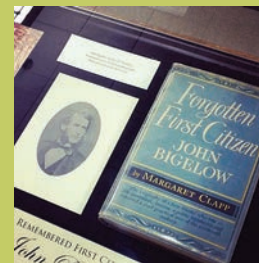
OCTOBER

- President Ainlay awarded 5-year contract extension
- **College dedicates Lippman Hall during Homecoming & Family Weekend**
- Renowned bioethicist and philosopher Bernie Gert visits campus
- Annual dance residency features Monica Bill Barnes & Company



NOVEMBER

- Union hosts Ethics Bowl regional competition
- College creates endowed professorship in statistics
- **Actor Hill Harper speaks on "Manifest Your Destiny" at the Nott**
- President's House featured in holiday home tour
- President Ainlay lectures on Adirondack initiatives to Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning



DECEMBER

- Men's hockey team defeats Harvard at Frozen Fenway
- **Schaffer Library presents "Remembered First Citizen" exhibit, a tribute to John Bigelow (Class of 1835)**

JANUARY

- Admissions applications reach all-time high of 5,565
- **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration includes community-wide video recreation of "I Have a Dream" speech**
- Nott Memorial featured in calendar of National Historic Landmarks



2012



FEBRUARY

- At Founders Day, Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Richard Russo** talks about place identity and his connection to the Mohawk Valley
- Distinguished Women in Science and Engineering Lecture kicks off
- U-Sustain initiates Water Week

MARCH

- **Mandeville Gallery** exhibit explores depictions of African identity
- Nine 2012 Minerva Fellows named
- Union hosts 4th annual symposium on Mohawk River watershed
- Humanities Super Seminar launches

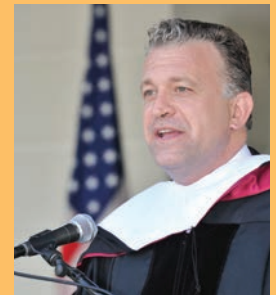


APRIL

- **Men's hockey team** makes history by advancing to Frozen Four in Tampa
- Wold Center granted LEED Gold status for sustainability
- Union receives top ranking in national recycling competition
- Presidential Forum on Diversity speaker **Eboo Patel** discusses "Acts of Faith"
- President **Ainlay** speaks before ECOS and Fort Orange Club

MAY

- Center for Neuroscience and **Valerie J. Hoffman '75** Women and Gender Studies Suite are dedicated during ReUnion
- College breaks ground for **Henle Dance Pavilion**
- Union hosts 5th annual symposium on engineering and liberal education
- **100th graduation anniversary of statesman Robert Porter Patterson** celebrated
- Community open house held at **Kelly Adirondack Center** in Niskayuna



JUNE

- **MSNBC talk show** host **Dylan Ratigan** delivers 2012 Commencement address
- Two students head to Switzerland and China as **IBM Global Interns**
- Union hosts **Mighty Waters** conference to advance the opportunities of the region

Once again, students and faculty found no shortage of intellectual



inspiration and creative energy on Union's historic campus.





Bringing THINKERS together

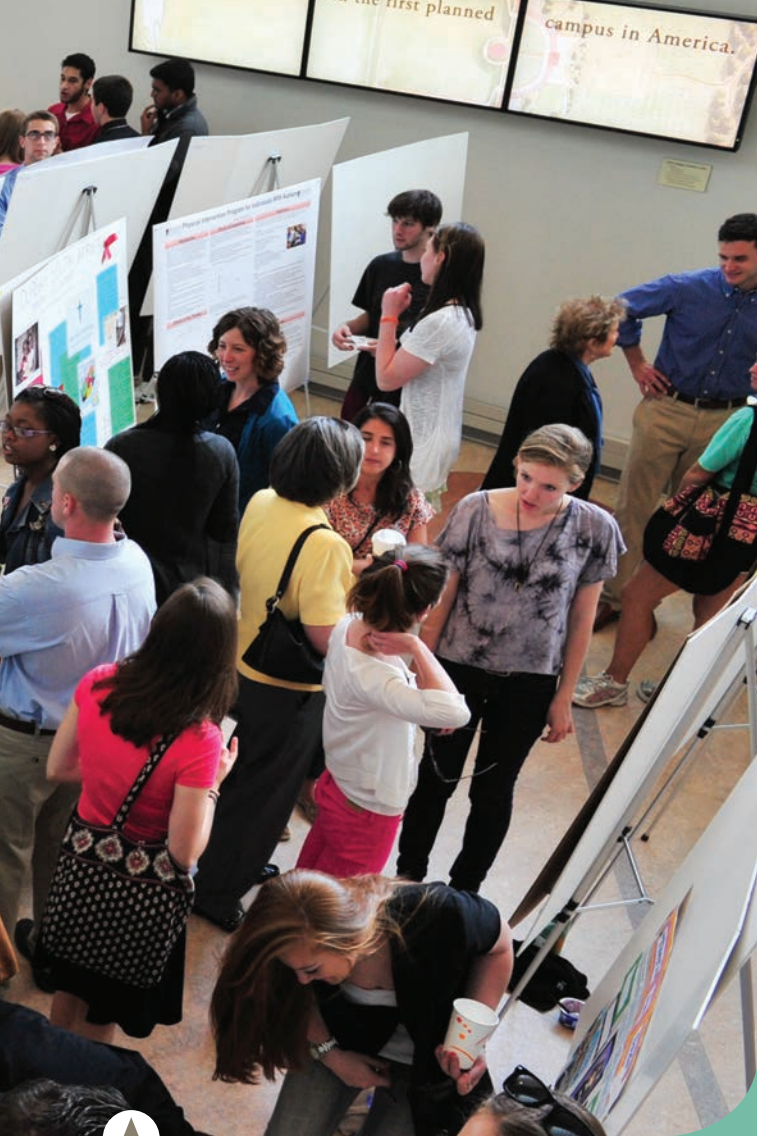
2011-12 was a year full of interdisciplinary thought and inspirational experiences for students and faculty alike, prompted in part by numerous organized academic events on campus.



In the fall, Union was one of 10 host schools for **Inter-collegiate Ethics Bowl** competitions held around the country. Fourteen Northeastern colleges and universities came to campus for the regional competition, in which student teams debated such ethical dilemmas as attractiveness discrimination in hiring and the treatment of endangered pink river dolphins in Brazil. Mark Wunderlich, visiting assistant professor of philosophy, was the advisor to the Union team. Dozens of faculty, staff and members of the Schenectady community volunteered their time to judge and moderate the matches.

Union also hosted its first **North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad**, an annual contest in which high school and middle school students solve puzzles in linguistics and computational linguistics. Winners advanced to the International Linguistics Olympiad, one of 12 international high school science Olympiads.

The 15th annual **Environmental Science, Policy and Engineering (ESPE) Winter Seminar Series** addressed the future of energy in New York state. William Schlesinger, a prominent carbon biogeochemist, kicked off in the series in the Nott Memorial. The slate of speakers also included *New York Times* blogger and science journalist Andrew Revkin as well as representatives of Renewable Energy at General Electric, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The series is sponsored by the ESPE program with support from the Mellon Foundation.



The impact of tropical storms Irene and Lee was the focus of the 2012 **Mohawk Watershed Symposium** at College Park Hall. The keynote speaker was Assemblyman Peter Lopez, R-Schoharie, whose district was especially hard hit by the storms. It marked the fourth year Union hosted the daylong symposium, which featured presentations on topics including flooding, water quality, watershed management and water rights. The conference was organized by John Garver, geology professor, and former Union professor Jaclyn Cockburn of the University of Guelph, Ontario.

At the end of spring term, students, faculty and parents enjoyed the 22nd annual **Steinmetz Symposium**, which celebrates undergraduate research in every discipline. Hundreds of students presented, performed and exhibited their work. Steinmetz coincides each year with Prize Day, which honors student achievement in academics, research, service and governance. Eighty-seven students received awards during the Memorial Chapel ceremony, which was capped by a reception on the Reamer Campus Center patio.

Some 70 scientists, researchers and scholars from the U.S. and abroad attended an **astrophysics conference** titled, "Star Formation and Gas Reservoirs in Nearby Groups and Clusters" at the F.W. Olin Center in July. The event featured panels, poster presentations and invited talks by speakers from Cornell, Columbia, Harvard, the universities of Arizona and Waterloo (Ontario), the Cambridge Institute of Astronomy and the Space Telescope Science Institute. Among the participants was prominent astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson, director of the Hayden Planetarium in New York City. The three-day conference was organized by Rebecca Koopmann, associate professor of physics.



For the fifth straight year, Union continued to lead the national conversation on integrating engineering, technology and the traditional liberal arts by hosting the **Symposium on Engineering and Liberal Education**. Leaders from nearly two dozen schools came together to explore the impact of integration on innovation and entrepreneurship. The keynote speaker was David Ferrucci, the principal investigator behind IBM's "Watson," the natural language processor that beat its human competitors on *Jeopardy*.



Practical application of ideas



During winter break, nine Union students and Zoe Oxley, professor of political science, took part in the College's first **New Hampshire Presidential Primary Mini-Term**. In addition to formal coursework, the students attended candidate events in and around Manchester, volunteered with campaign organizations and met with political and civic leaders. They kept a daily blog and, after returning to campus, shared insights about their experience during a Pizza and Politics lunchtime discussion.

In December, President Ainlay joined students on the **Civil Rights Mini-Term**. Under the direction of Prof. Melinda Lawson, students explored the historical and contemporary perspectives of the transformative movement by visiting important sites and meeting leaders. "Perhaps most inspirational was the visit to the church where Martin Luther King Jr. preached," Ainlay said. "We all sat in silence, listening to his words." The term also included a three-hour conversation with Civil Rights activist Bernard Lafayette. The distinguished scholar-in-residence at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University visited campus in February as part of Black History Month events.



Creative and artistic outlets

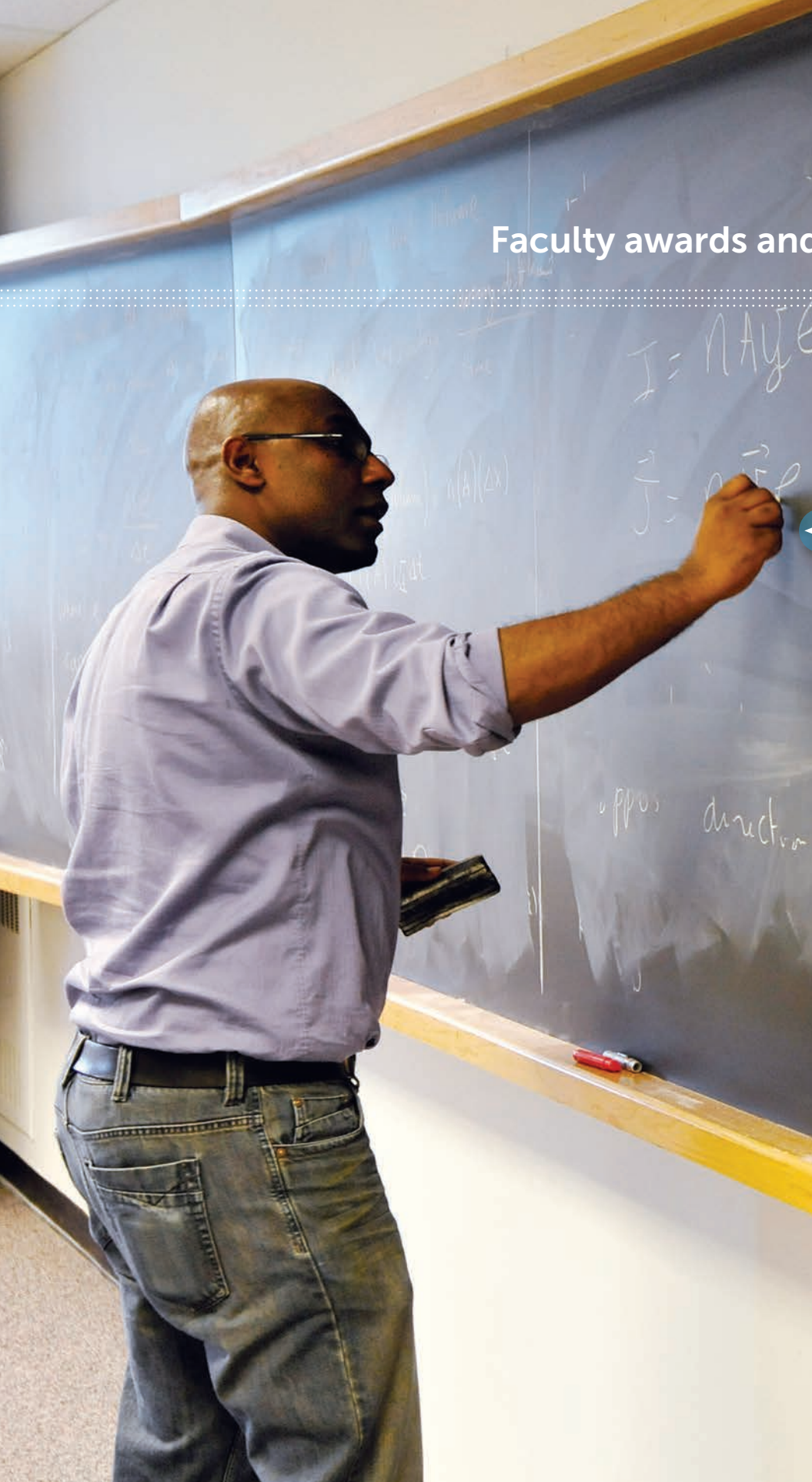
Several exhibits and performances throughout the year showcased the College's dedication to the visual and performing arts. Marking the Civil War's 150th anniversary, the Mandeville Gallery mounted a six-week show titled, "Illustrating the War: Selected Engravings from Harper's Weekly and Leslie's Illustrated Civil War." Among the featured artists was Alexander Simplot, Union Class of 1858. Another exhibit, "African Photography: For Whose Eyes?," included photographs by 15 internationally renowned African artists as well as 80 missionary postcards and scans from the South African magazine *Drum*. The Department of Visual Arts presented "The Merchant and the Leviathan: Photographs of a Global Shipping Industry," at the Burns Arts Atrium, an exhibit of work by James Burleigh Morton '10, a Watson Fellow.

The Theater and Dance Department's **Stephanie C. Davis Dance Residency** featured New York City modern dance troupe Monica Bill Barnes & Company. The residency was made possible by a gift from Sue and Gus Davis '59 of Orange, Conn., in memory of their daughter. Other highlights of the dance program were a French-themed spring dance concert and the Steinmetz dance performance. Among the major theater performances presented at the Yulman Theater this year were the Clifford Odets play "Waiting for Lefty" and a production of Sara Ruhl's Tony Award-winning "In the Next Room."

The Music Department's "Taylor Time!" concert series in Emerson Auditorium featured diverse performers prominent in their fields, from Caribbean-influenced duo-pianists to a Balinese master performer to an Israeli cellist. A four-concert series led by Tim Olsen, associate professor of music, was another highlight. The series showcased the evolution of jazz music in conjunction with Olsen's History of Jazz course.



Faculty awards and accomplishments



▶ **Samuel Amanuel**, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, was awarded a \$12,753 Research Initiation grant through the Cornell University-NASA New York Space Grant Consortium. Building upon the College's existing Space Grant program, Amanuel's project, "Specific Heat Capacity Measurements of Physically Confined Heat Transfer Fluids in Nano Porous Silica," will advance research and research-training endeavors.

Ann Anderson, the Agnes S. MacDonald Professor of Mechanical Engineering, **Brad Bruno**, the Thomas J. Watson, Sr. and Emma Watson Day Associate Professor and chair of Mechanical Engineering, and **Mary Carroll '86**, professor of chemistry, received a \$298,677 NSF continuing grant in support of their interdisciplinary research project, "RUI: Catalytic Aerogel Materials."

Cay Anderson-Hanley, assistant professor of psychology, drew international attention for her study showing that older individuals who exercise using interactive video game features experience greater cognitive health benefits than those who rely on traditional exercise alone. Dozens of news outlets, from CNN and *Time* to the *Telegraph* of London and the Norwegian science site www.forskning.no, reported on Anderson-Hanley's findings, which appeared in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Robert Baker, the William D. Williams Professor of Philosophy and director of the Ethics Across the Curriculum Program, was appointed to the UNESCO Scientific Committee on Bioethics Education, which arranges worldwide conferences and workshops on biomedical ethics issues. Baker's paper on global bioethics was selected for presentation at the International Association of Bioethics' 11th World Conference in The Netherlands.

Ronald Bucinell, professor of mechanical engineering, continues his research collaboration with Ecovative Designs LLC and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute through a \$38,000 subaward under Ecovative Designs' prime grant award. This Small Business Innovation Research Phase II project is titled "Using Mycelium as a Matrix for Binding Natural Fibers and Core Filler Materials in Sustainable Composites."

Takashi Buma, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, was awarded a three-year, \$240,000 CAREER grant from the NSF. Funded through the Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Biophotonics program, the project "Wavelength Agile Photoacoustic Microscopy for Video-Rate Functional Imaging" advances Buma's research goals while giving new opportunities to undergraduates to conduct research.

James de Sève, visiting assistant professor of film studies, toured the country with his feature-length documentary, *ManDove*, created with Kian Tjong. The film, which chronicles the ancient mystical art of Perkutut (zebra dove) competitions, was screened at several universities and the Flaherty Film Seminar in New York City.

A new study by **Joshua Hart**, assistant professor of psychology, and **Daniel Burns**, professor of psychology, linking an awareness of mortality to a contemplative state, appeared in *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*. Combining their areas of expertise—Hart specializes in death awareness while Burns focuses on memory—the researchers conducted three separate experiments to see if there was a cognitive benefit to thinking about death. They found that harboring "deep thoughts" may help people process information better, which in turn could enhance memory.

Brenda Johnson, professor of mathematics, received a \$30,000 grant from the NSF to support participation from institutions in the U.S. at the Fourth Arolla Conference on Algebraic Topology.

Robert Olberg, the Florence B. Sherwood Professor of Life Sciences, received a \$21,521 award from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research supplement for his project "The Neuronal Control of Flying Prey Interception in Dragonflies."

Donald Rodbell, professor of geology, was awarded \$44,294 through the NSF Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research program, under the Division of Earth Sciences. His collaborative project with researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Minnesota-Duluth, titled "Seismic Survey of Lake Junin, Peru in Preparation for Deep Drilling," generated critical site survey information for planned deep drilling of Lake Junin, sponsored by a grant from the International Continental Drilling Program.

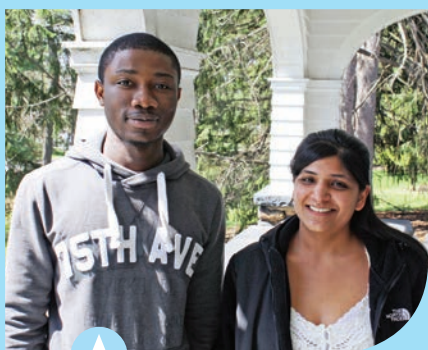
Nicholas Webb, visiting assistant professor of computer science, received a \$10,000 grant through the Microsoft Research–National Center for Women and Information Technology Academic Alliance Seed Fund Award program.

Sandra Wimer, printmaker and senior artist in residence, was selected for inclusion in the 2012 Mohawk-Hudson Regional, one of the country's longest-running regional art exhibitions.

The College was awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Kern Family Foundation to strengthen an initiative to foster an entrepreneurial mindset in undergraduate engineering students, as part of the Kern Entrepreneurship Education Network.

Student awards and accomplishments

David Carabis '13, a mechanical engineering major, earned an Honorable Mention in the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship competition for promising scientists, engineers and mathematicians.



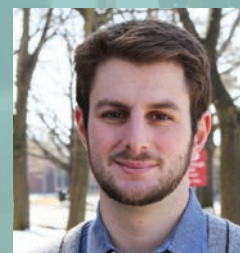
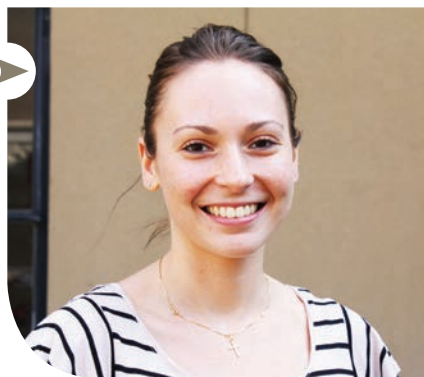
Owusu Mensah '14 and **Neha Pirwani '14** received a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant to establish a community learning center in Ghana over the summer. They used their award to deliver classroom materials, create academic enrichment programs and conduct outreach to youth in Dominase.

Six seniors competed in the **American Society of Mechanical Engineers** Old Guard Oral Presentation and Technical Poster competitions at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. **Max Balter** garnered first place in the oral presentation competition and will represent the College and District A at the ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition in Houston in November. Second place went to **Erin Villeneuve** and third to **Mcolisi Dlamini**. **Chris Heske** took first place in the technical poster category.

Two Union students took honors at the 11th annual Upstate New York **Russian Language Olympics** at Hamilton College. **Catherine Ziac '14** and **Erin Waterman '14** placed second in the beginner and intermediate categories, respectively.

Katie Schuff '12 received a **Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship**.

Passionate about providing quality education, Schuff will spend nine months in Indonesia teaching English in a rural high school. "I want to focus on making sure that every child has access to quality education and teachers no matter their class or race," said Schuff. After her assistantship, Schuff will work for Teach for America.

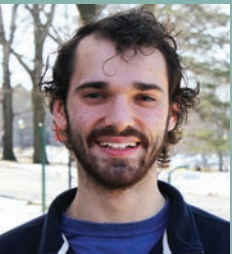
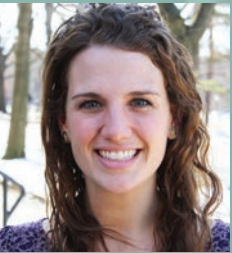


The Class of 2016 A record

Class Size:	591
Admit Rate: (most selective ever)	38%
Yield Rate:	28%
Male-to-Female Ratio:	51%:49%



Nine seniors were chosen as the newest **Minerva Fellows** to work in developing countries after graduation: **Amanda Greenberg** and **Ian Schwartz** in Siem Reap, Cambodia; **Alagra Bass**, **Sarah Gagnon** and **Aaron Glosser** in Estero de Platano, Ecuador; **Alexis (Biz) Deeb** in Southern Uganda; **Shalini Singaravelu** in Durban, South Africa; **Jessica Sarrantonio** in Bagru, India; and **Matthew Kelleher**, Cape Town, South Africa



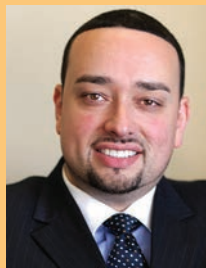
New Faces



Among new faces at the College, we welcomed **Frances Maloy** as the new College librarian. For nearly two decades, she worked at Emory University in Atlanta, most recently as services division leader. The Capital Region native succeeds Thomas McFadden, who recently retired after 15 years.



Edward Summers joined the President's Office as chief of staff. Previously, he worked for seven years as an assistant to the president at Marist College. There, he also served as an adjunct professor of public administration and policy, director of Marist Africa Programs, and program director for Presidential Referral Scholars. He led student groups to South Africa and Ghana, overseeing work with nongovernmental organizations.



Jason Benitez joined the Campus Diversity Office as director of Multicultural Affairs. Before joining the College, he served as coordinator of Multicultural Affairs and the Educational Opportunity Program at Schenectady Community College, and has held positions focusing on student leadership, diversity and residential life at SCCC and SUNY Albany.

Also joining the College recently was **Rebecca Schubmehl** as events coordinator for the Kelly Adirondack Center. With the purchase of the former Niskayuna home of conservationist Paul Schaefer, she coordinates lectures, concerts and other community events that affirm Union's connection with the Adirondacks. **Loraine Wies** joins the Kelly Adirondack Center team as the Adirondack research and continuing resources librarian. She manages the resources of the Adirondack Research Library, one of the largest collections on the Adirondacks. **Caitlin Visscher** joins the Office of the President as senior administrative assistant, responsible for a wide range of support activities.

number of applications (5,565) yielded an outstanding Class of 2016.

Students of Diverse Backgrounds: 26%
(tied for the largest percentage ever)

International Students: 7%

Average SAT score: 1300 out of 1600
(from those who provided scores)

Percent from outside New York State: 66%



COMMUNITY

Unique opportunities to connect ideas—and people—



VEGET

continue to be a defining characteristic of a Union education.

CONNECTING across faiths and cultures

The 2011-12 year marked an important initiative for Union as members of the campus community enthusiastically embraced President Barack Obama's **Interfaith Campus Challenge**. Viki Brooks, director of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life and campus Protestant minister, and Gretchel Hathaway, senior director of Campus Diversity and Affirmative Action, traveled to Washington last summer, where Union was among more than 200 schools selected to commit to a year of interfaith and community service programming. Union's particular commitment focused on economic need in Schenectady and encouraged volunteers to work at sites such as a food pantry or homeless shelter. As part of their work, participants met with people of diverse backgrounds to explore the ways their faith and other beliefs and viewpoints informed their volunteer experiences, and vice versa.



The Interfaith Campus Challenge was also a centerpiece of discussion during an April visit from **Eboo Patel**, one of the leading voices for cultivating greater understanding and acceptance of diverse faith backgrounds on college campuses. An American Muslim raised in Chicago, Patel is founder and executive director of the Interfaith Youth Core. He is also a member of President Obama's Advisory Council of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The visit was part of the **Presidential Forum on Diversity**, established in 2006 by President Aynlay to bring in notable speakers on a wide range of topics that promote diversity and inclusiveness.

In October, for the first Presidential Forum event, campus and community singers from diverse backgrounds participated in an **interfaith gospel workshop**. Under the musical direction of Rev. Shaun Whitehead of St. Lawrence University and Lyndon Walters of Union's Heavenly Voices gospel choir, participants learned spirituals, songs and some history of gospel music. During 24 intensive hours of workshops, the group prepared for a concert the next day, an event that also featured Prof. Deidre Hill Butler of Sociology speaking on "Interfaith Connections to Gospel Music."

A new **Africana Studies** major was approved by the state Education Department, giving students "a fantastic opportunity to further their global education," said Deidre Hill Butler, associate professor of sociology and director. The program offers an interdepartmental major and a minor involving the study of the history, culture, intellectual heritage, and social development of people of African descent, focusing on the continent of Africa as well as places in the diaspora such as the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe and the U.S.

In January, the campus celebrated the **legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.** by staging a group reading of his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. Throughout the day, students and community members came to the Nott Memorial to recite their lines. The speech was divided into 80 parts involving more than 150 people and was videotaped. Liz Mastrianni '79 and her son, Tom Perry '09, felt it was essential to participate in the project. "It's an important message to remember," Mastrianni said. The events honoring King were co-sponsored by Campus Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Africana Studies, Student Activities, the Kenney Community Center and Schaffer Library.



In September, a trio of prominent Jewish, Christian and Muslim calligraphers collaborated to create a work of art in a special interfaith communitywide event. "**Three Scribes: Friends in Art**" featured a display of verses from the Torah, Bible and Quran in Hebrew, English or Latin and Arabic by Neil Yerman, Karen Gorst and Mohamed Zakariya, respectively. Besides creating the artwork, which was donated to the Schenectady Jewish Community Center, they discussed how their passion for their respective scriptures inspires and connects them.

Members of the Union community were also active as participants and sponsors of the April **PRIDE Walk**, a two-mile event to raise awareness of issues affecting the local lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Local LGBT and ally organizations were on hand with educational materials and refreshments. The walk was co-sponsored by the Schenectady County Human Rights Commission along with a number of departments, offices and organizations at Union.



Union's campus joined the nation in commemorating the Sept. 11 attacks with a day of remembrance and a call for understanding. During "**Building Bridges toward Better Understanding**," the campus community gathered at the Nott Memorial to reflect on the tragedy and its aftermath through the symbolism of a bridge. A replica of a bridge was on display, and attendees were asked to add "bricks" by writing their pledge to build bridges during the upcoming academic year. Each year since the attacks, the Union community has paused to remember the losses of Sept. 11 and the impact on the Union family.



Connecting to the community around us



Less than an hour north of Schenectady lie six million acres of the Adirondack Park, the largest contiguous wilderness in the U.S. and a rich resource for the study of science, history and culture of the region. Following the College's acquisition last year of the **Kelly Adirondack Center** in nearby Niskayuna, work is underway to plan curricular and co-curricular programming that will leverage the Center's resources, including the Adirondack Research Library. The College sent students, faculty and staff to the Irondequoit Inn on the banks of Lake Piseco and began planning for an Adirondack Mini-Term. All members of the Union community were invited to an open house at the new Kelly Adirondack Center in May.

The Adirondacks were also a subject of discussion at this year's **Founders Day event** in February, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Richard Russo**, whose novels draw heavily from his own experiences growing up in the foothills of the Adirondacks. Russo's work includes *Mohawk*, *Bridge of Sighs* and *Empire Falls*, which won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Russo grew up in nearby Gloversville, and small-town roots run deep in the characters and sense of place in many of his novels. His speech to the Union community followed up on the theme of "place" emphasized by President Ainlay at the opening convocation, in which he urged the campus community to appreciate the College's unique location in the Mohawk Valley and the breadth of opportunities that affords.

Among those opportunities was Congressman Paul Tonko's third annual **Mighty Waters Conference**, hosted by the College in June. The day-long forum included more than 250 participants to advance discussions aimed at leading a more effective regional vision for waterfront development, job creation and historic preservation throughout the Capital Region. At the conference, Tonko unveiled his new legislation, the Hudson-Mohawk River Basin Commission, that would carry out projects and conduct research on water resources in the basin. President Ainlay opened the conference by sharing how Union's history has been shaped by the river.



Union students took advantage of the Becker Career Center's resources to connect with both Union alumni and potential employers throughout the year. Many participated in the new **Union Career Advisory Network (UCAN)**, which links students to Union alumni in a variety of fields, and more than 450 students attended Union's largest **career fair** to date, featuring 75 employers. Employers commented on how prepared Union students were to engage with them, having researched companies and positions ahead of time.



Local history buffs joined the president and his wife, Judith Gardner Ainlay, in celebrating the **150th anniversary of the President's House** when the house was featured on a holiday tour of historic local homes sponsored by the Junior League of Schenectady and Saratoga Counties. Built in 1861 by President Eliphalet Nott and his wife, Urania, the two-story building sits on the southern edge of campus. It has hosted 11 presidential families and been the setting for countless academic, social and cultural events for students, faculty and staff. Over the past few years, Mrs. Ainlay has taken on the restoration and decoration of the home and its expansive sunken gardens, and community members were delighted to tour it and appreciate its historic significance.

Union celebrated the **100th graduation anniversary of statesman Robert Porter Patterson** at a May event in New York City that drew distinguished alumni from the legal field.

As under secretary of war, Patterson played a critical role in the allied victory in World War II. A prominent Manhattan attorney, he was appointed judge of the U.S. District Court in Manhattan by President Hoover. In 1939, he was appointed to the Federal Court of Appeals in New York by President Roosevelt. He was a principal architect of the Department of Defense. He died in a tragic plane crash in 1952.

President Ainlay posthumously awarded Patterson the John Bigelow Medal, established by Ainlay to recognize friends of the College who have contributed to the advancement of humanity.

Featured speaker was Robert Morris Morgenthau, who served for 35 years as the district attorney for New York County and as a former U.S. Attorney.

Speakers also included Robert Porter Patterson Jr., a federal judge; Clifford Brown, the Robert Porter Patterson Professor of Government; and Trustee Lawrence B. Pedowitz '69, a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen and Katz.

From left, Robert Porter Patterson Jr., President Ainlay, Robert Morris Morgenthau





Students, athletes, citizens connecting as a team

WHY NOT U?

Union's student-athletes put the College on the map for much more than their athletic performances. For the many roles they play—scholars, athletes, volunteers, leaders, mentors—they earned admiration on campus, in the local community and at the national level.

Men's hockey had an inspiring season, landing in the Frozen Four for the first time in program history and claiming both the ECAC league and tournament titles. Coach Rick Bennett captured the confidence of his team in memorably answering a reporter's question about his team's chances in Tampa, Fla.: "Why Not Union?" The team went 26-8-7 before bowing to Ferris State, 3-1, in the Frozen Four semifinal.

In men's lacrosse, the Dutchmen ended the season ranked 14th in the country, making it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament, their best finish in team history. They ended up with an overall record of 13-5 and a league record of 5-1.

Among other team successes, women's lacrosse capped the 2012 season with a 7-2 conference record and a trip to the first round of the Liberty League tournament.



INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ATHLETE AWARDS

Women's soccer finished the 2011 season at 13-4-1 to give head coach Brian Speck his 15th consecutive double-digit win campaign at Union.

Men's soccer was ranked as high as 18th in the national polls twice in 2011 during their 11th consecutive winning season. Head Coach Jeff Guinn has tallied 141 wins, just two short of becoming the program's all-time winning coach.

Volleyball notched an impressive 20-15 record under first-year head coach Melissa DeRan. Their season included a seven-game win streak in early October.

In women's ice hockey, the Dutchwomen ended the 2011-2012 season with the first-ever defeat of Clarkson University and first-ever tie of St. Lawrence University. It also marked the most points scored in the Dutchwomen's Division I history in a single season with 129.

EMILY MCGRAIL '15

(women's soccer)

earned many honors in her first year on the team including Liberty League rookie of the year and Empire Region Second team honors.

KAITLIN CAMILLERI '12

(women's indoor track)

became the Liberty League champion with a distance of 15.46 meters in the weight throw.

BETHANY CROWE '13

(women's indoor track)

became a Liberty League champion, running the 60-meter hurdles in 9.77 seconds, a league record.

SEAN AARON '12

MATT LIVINGSTON '12

ETHAN MEYER '12

ROBERT SULLIVAN '12

(men's lacrosse) were named Scholar All-Americans by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association.

TYLER HECK '13

(baseball) was selected to the Capital One Academic All-America Baseball team, the first Union baseball player to receive the honor.

KYLE TEVLIN '15

(men's track) finished second in the javelin throw at the New York State Collegiate Track Conference championship in Rochester.

Student-athletes pitch in near and far

Union's student athletes have been involved in numerous service projects. Members of the crew, lacrosse and hockey teams helped in the **cleanup after Hurricane Irene**. They traveled to Schoharie County to assist in towns hit hard by the flooding of the Schoharie Creek in September 2011.

For the fourth consecutive year, men's basketball took part in the **Positive Behavior Intervention Program at Pleasant Valley Elementary School**. Coach Bob Montana and players reinforced the importance of academics and of being positive influences in the school community. After the discussion, the team entertained with their basketball skills.

Union student-athletes helped students at William Keane Elementary School celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss when they served as **guest readers during Read Across America Day**. Representing Union were defensive specialist Cristina Vazzana '13 of volleyball and catcher David Peretti '15 of baseball.

Men's soccer teamed up with Coach Kalekeni Banda to **aid the Banda Bola Sports Foundation**. Head coach Jeff Guinn and the Dutchmen donated all of the championship T-shirts from the MCLA Tournament, as well as various soccer equipment. The Foundation is dedicated to transforming the lives of poor children in rural Chituka Village in Malawi by offering afterschool sports activities and school supplies.



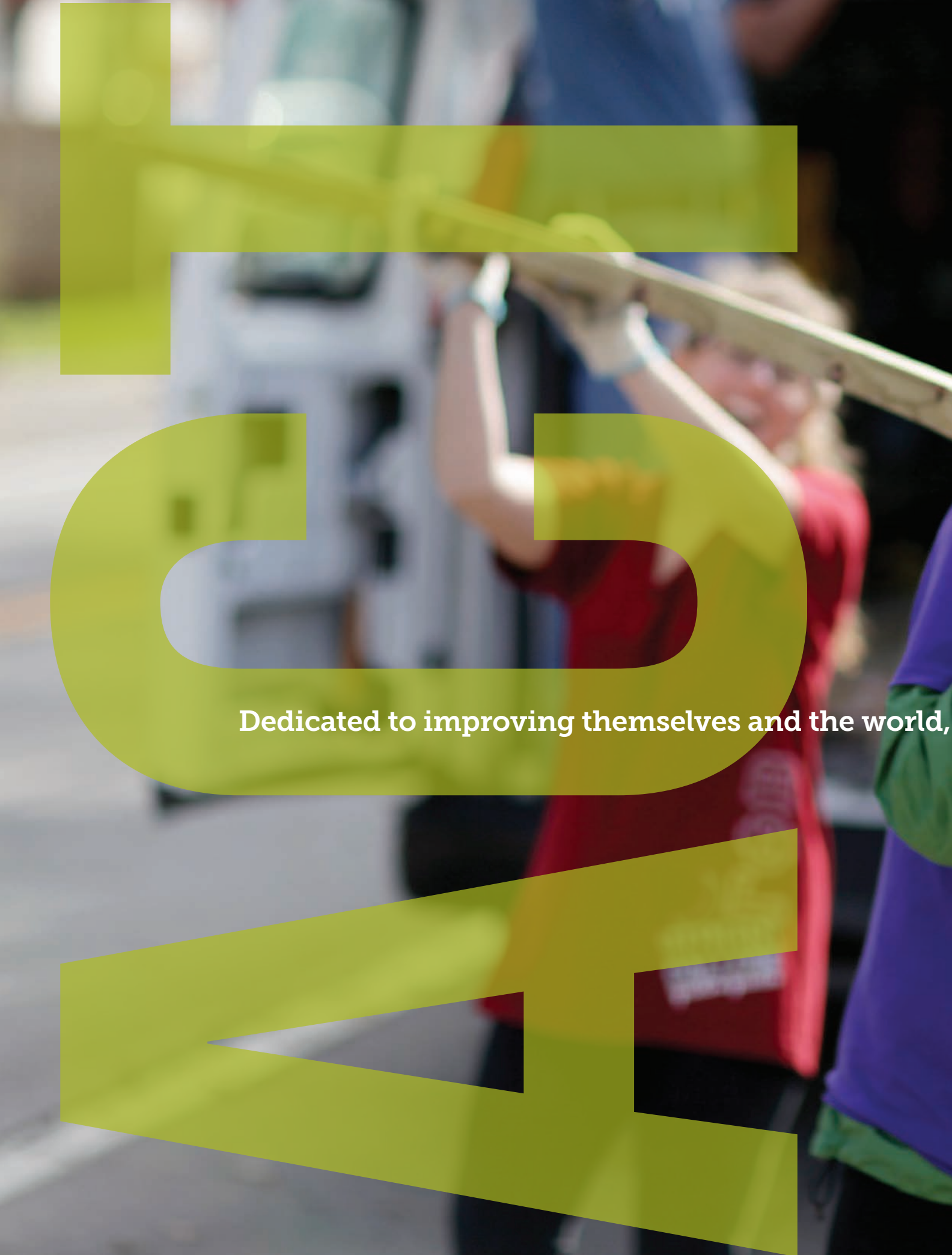
In May, on the heels of their Frozen Four hockey appearance, goalie Troy Grosenick '14 and defensemen Greg Coburn '13 **visited students at Arbor Hill Elementary School in Albany**. The players talked about their dual commitment to academics and athletics, and answered a range of questions from the youngsters before signing posters. In December, men's hockey took a break from their season to **host a sled hockey game with the STRIDE Capital District Warriors**. The adaptive sports organization supports disabled athletes between the ages of 8 and 20.



The women's ice hockey team was recognized as Volunteers of the Week by the Kenney Community Center for a range of service activities throughout the year. The team hosted a skating day for Schenectady youth; Pink at the Rink, which raised more than \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society; a school visit and floor hockey game with students at Van Corlaer Elementary School; and a **"Hollywood" teen dance for athletes in the STRIDE adaptive sports program**.



STUDENT-ATHLETES CONNECTING TO THE COMMUNITY



Dedicated to improving themselves and the world,



Union students remain, as ever, men and women of action.



Helping hands

Throughout the year, Union students used their knowledge and skills to benefit their neighbors both on and off campus. Possessed of humanitarian convictions and a sense of global responsibility, more than **1,200 students devoted 12,000 hours** to volunteerism, stewardship and civic service.



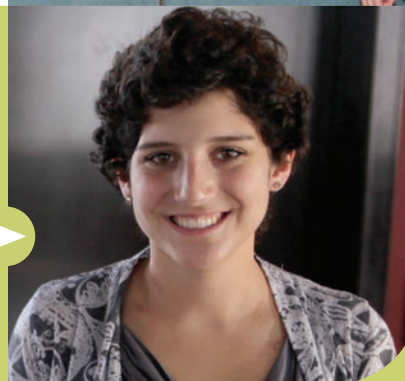
Opportunities to make a difference arose even before the academic year began, as students, faculty and staff members came to the aid of nearby communities after **Hurricane Irene** caused devastating damage in August. The **Kenney Community Center** organized volunteer efforts that included all sectors of the Union community, from student clubs to athletic teams to Greek houses. Throughout September and October, Union also partnered with local alumni, Habitat for Humanity, the city of Schenectady and various churches to provide relief to local communities. Overall, more than 110 students, faculty and staff participated in hurricane recovery efforts.

Civic passion of this kind doesn't go unnoticed. Journalist **Ron Thibodeaux** was so impressed with the ongoing commitment of Union students to New Orleans that he devoted nearly a full chapter of his book, *Hell or High Water: How Cajun Fortitude Withstood Hurricanes Rita and Ike*, to the College's relief efforts there.

The **Kenney Center** offered a number of other programs throughout the year as well, allowing students to champion causes important to them. From fighting hunger with the Empty Bowls Project to mentoring at-risk children through Big Brothers Big Sisters or participating in Union's annual day of service, **John Calvin Toll Day**, the Union community embraced a spirit of civic responsibility. The College's fraternities and sororities were also active volunteers, raising money for the Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady through "Sell-A-Sig" and hosting "**Buy-A-Pi**" to benefit a Jewish children's hospital.



Many students took up their own causes as well. A group of Union's Student Leaders In Community Entrepreneurship (SLICE) collaborated with Albany Medical Center and the nonprofit organization **Healing Spaces, Inc.** to help a local teen battling leukemia. The students raised \$3,000 to help give the teen's bedroom a complete makeover. In November, the Union community united to help cancer survivor **Kaitlyn Suarez '15** raise enough money to run the Walt Disney Half Marathon. Suarez ran to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.





Responsible resource stewardship





From administrators to students to staff, the Union family continues to cultivate a deep sense of environmental responsibility on campus. This past April, the Peter Irving Wold Center officially earned coveted **LEED Gold status** from the U.S. Green Building Council in acknowledgment of best practices for energy, water and natural resource performance.

That same month, Union took top honors in the national collegiate recycling competition, **Recyclemania**, for the third consecutive time. Winning two first-place awards, students collected 62 pounds of recyclables per person (more than any college in the country), and gathered 30 pounds of corrugated cardboard per person. The feat was recognized in the May issue of *College Planning & Management*.

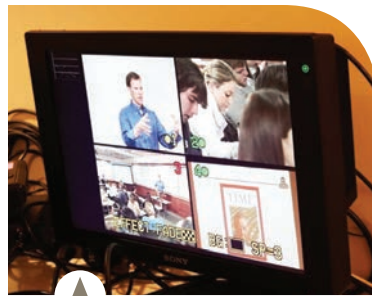
And as part of U-Sustain's **Water Week**, events were hosted across campus—and across disciplines—to highlight everything from water projects in Ethiopia to hydraulic fracturing. Discussions for campus alternatives to disposable water bottles were also held.

Such activities and accomplishments make Union's new sustainability coordinator, **Meghan Haley-Quigley '11**, proud to be back on campus. As former co-president of U-Sustain, she helped advance environmental initiatives during her student days and is extremely excited to have the chance to continue strengthening Union's green movement as an employee.



Union's contributions recognized

The Union community's contributions have not gone unnoticed, and a significant number of media placements helped enhance the College's national reputation in 2011-12.



In the spring, **C-SPAN** visited History Prof. Andy Morris's class on "Cold War America" for inclusion in its series "Lectures in History." Other Union faculty and staff experts were quoted in a wide range of media outlets throughout the year, including the *New York Times*, National Public Radio (NPR) and MSNBC.

More than 100 national and international news sites highlighted the study by Assistant Professor of Psychology Cay Anderson-Hanley on the benefits of interactive video exercise for seniors. The study was published in the ***American Journal of Preventive Medicine*** and subsequently featured on **CNN**, as well as in **Time** magazine, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times* and dozens of other outlets in places such as Norway, Indonesia, France, Islamabad, Australia, Italy and the U.K.

In an interview with the **Associated Press**, the College explained the importance of a new federal rule that requires schools to post net price calculators on their websites, showing the cost of attendance after expected financial aid. The AP story appeared in dozens of media outlets, including ABC News, *The New York Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Huffington Post*. In addition, Union was mentioned in a front-page story in **USA Today** about the new tool.

The Wall Street Journal, the nation's largest newspaper, twice featured the College in 2011-12: for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of *Taps* and in a column by an alumnus on the men's hockey team's appearance in the Frozen Four.

In conjunction with Founders Day, President Ainlay and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Russo were interviewed on WAMC, a member of **National Public Radio** that serves parts of seven northeastern states. The station also featured interviews with other speakers at Union, including journalist Bob Woodward (right) and Eboo Patel.



Thanks to the success of the \$250 million You are Union campaign, 2011-12 will go down in history as a financial milestone for Union.

ACHIEVE



A goal reached

At press time for this report, the College is poised to exceed the ambitious \$250 million goal set for the You are Union campaign, the largest and most comprehensive fundraising campaign in the school's history. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity and commitment of alumni and friends, the campaign will have a transformative effect on the College for years to come.

The You are Union campaign, publicly launched in 2004 and expanded by \$50 million in 2008, has touched every aspect of College life, bolstering student scholarships and financial aid, faculty support, research programs, campus facilities and other priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan.

The campaign was helped in 2011-12 by fundraising efforts that generated more than \$25 million in new gifts and pledges. A number of major capital projects were completed in the past year, including **Lippman Hall**, which was formally dedicated over Homecoming and Family Weekend. A \$3 million gift from Jim Lippman '79 and his wife, Linda, supported the major renovation of the former Social Sciences building, renamed Lippman Hall in honor of Jim's father, Robert G. Lippman '50.



Space in the **Sadock Women's and Gender Studies Lounge** on the third floor of Reamer Campus Center was renovated and named the Valerie J. Hoffman Women's and Gender Studies Suite as a tribute to its donor, a member of the Class of 1975. The suite was dedicated during ReUnion weekend in May. Also dedicated at ReUnion was the Center for Neuroscience, on the third floor of Butterfield Hall. The center, made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation and the Frank Bailey Fund, includes five research laboratories, support and research training areas, and a space for faculty.

ReUnion also celebrated the groundbreaking for the **Henle Dance Pavilion**, a home for classes, rehearsals, workshops, performances and other events. The \$3 million, 7,000-square-foot facility, to be built adjacent to Yulman Theater overlooking Jackson's Garden, should be completed by spring of 2013. The lead gift for the dance pavilion came from longtime College benefactor David L. Henle '75 and his wife, Joan. It is also supported by the Yulman family in honor of Morton, Class of 1936, and Helen Yulman, for whom the Yulman Theater is named. In addition, Professor Carl George made a gift to the pavilion in honor of his late wife, Gail.



FACELIFT FOR LAMONT

Along with campaign-related initiatives and capital improvements that took place in 2011-12, Facilities wrapped up a \$1.7 million renovation of Lamont House. The building now houses the departments of Anthropology, Classics and Philosophy, and the Religious Studies program.

As the You are Union campaign winds down, the College is deeply grateful to those who made its success possible. The campaign's success ensures that Union is well-prepared to continue redefining liberal education for the 21st century by integrating the humanities, social sciences and arts with the sciences, engineering and technology.

Strength in numbers

\$6.9 mil

The year also saw the Annual Fund continue to post solid numbers, bringing in \$6.9 million, including \$3.8 million in unrestricted funds. Overall, 10,476 alumni, parents and friends made gifts to the fund, including 1,525 new donors. The effort was spearheaded by 350 volunteers who worked tirelessly to secure support that has helped enhance the College's reputation as one of the nation's premier liberal arts institutions.

10,476

\$200,000 match

+7%

The "Donate A Day" challenge in February brought in \$315,975, including \$248,357 in unrestricted funds—a 7 percent increase from 2011. For every 260 gifts to the Annual Fund (The cost per day to attend Union is \$260.), a group of Trustees donated \$18,000 (the cost per term to attend Union.)

\$468,216 re

lion donors

The Annual Fund was bolstered by the success of several different initiatives. The October Challenge saw 1,518 alumni make unrestricted gifts totaling \$293,716. This included 571 alumni who had not made a gift in 2011. In addition, \$200,000 of the total challenge gifts was matched by Annual Fund Trustee David Breazzano '78.

And in June, the Reach 4 It Challenge resulted in 1,002 donors contributing \$468,216, \$400,000 of which was matched by a group of College Trustees. The Challenge helped set a new record for the amount raised in June for the Annual Fund.

cord

Campaign priorities:

(designations of support from launch through August 31, 2012)

\$68.6 million
has been raised for the Annual Fund

\$39.7 million
has funded scholarships and student support

\$36.7 million
has been raised for new faculty positions and faculty support

\$31.9 million
has helped revitalize our campus

\$25.6 million
has augmented Union's general endowment

\$13.4 million
has enhanced curriculum and programs

\$11.6 million
has funded athletics

\$9.5 million
has been raised to enhance student life

\$4.4 million
has supported undergraduate research

\$2.3 million
has funded diversity and community building efforts

\$1.7 million
has supported library initiatives

2011-12 FINANCIAL RECAP

Union By The Numbers

Endowment Market Value

\$322 million

Operating Budget

\$147 million

Number of Employees

870

Full-Time Enrollment

2,170

Faculty-to-Student Ratio

1:10

First-Year Student
Retention Rate

94%

Size of Incoming Class
(Class of 2015)

591

6-Year Graduation Rate

86%

Acceptance Rate for
Incoming Class

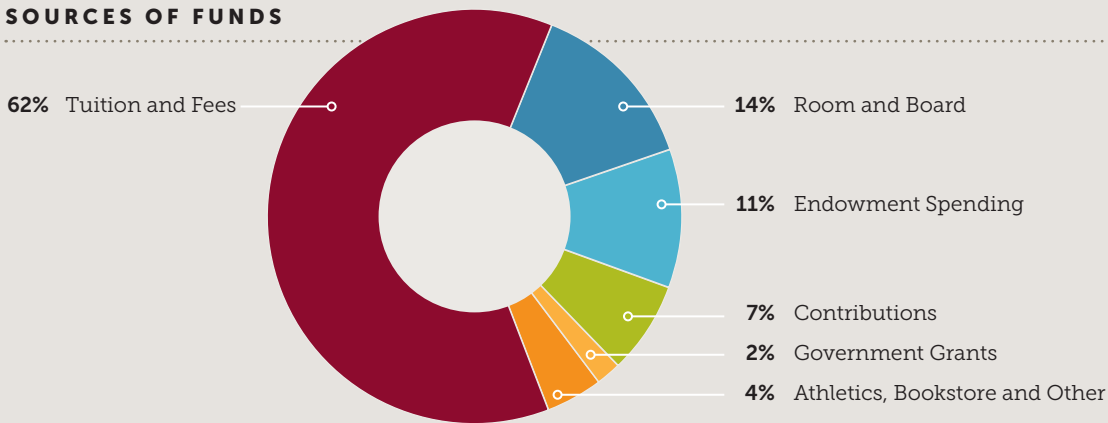
38%

Charting Our Financial Future

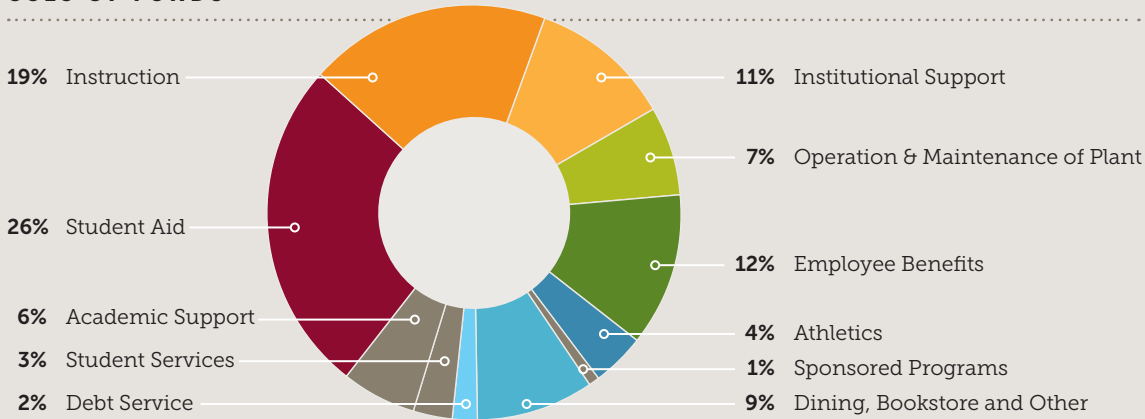
During fiscal year 2011-12, an improving economy, cost containment and new revenue have brought a continued trend of increased stability to the College. To ensure stability and to reduce the impact of fluctuations, the President, Board of Trustees, Administration and Planning and Priorities Committee have developed five-year models that carefully consider projected enrollment, financial aid requests, endowment investment performance and Annual Fund receipts.

Going forward, the College will continue to contain costs and seek efficiencies without sacrificing the academic excellence that is a hallmark of a Union education. Among examples are investment in energy-saving initiatives, partnering opportunities to reduce costs and new revenue streams that will help offset the costs to our families. The College has weathered the economic downturn through a combination of discipline, planning and creativity. We will emerge from a position of strength.

SOURCES OF FUNDS



USES OF FUNDS

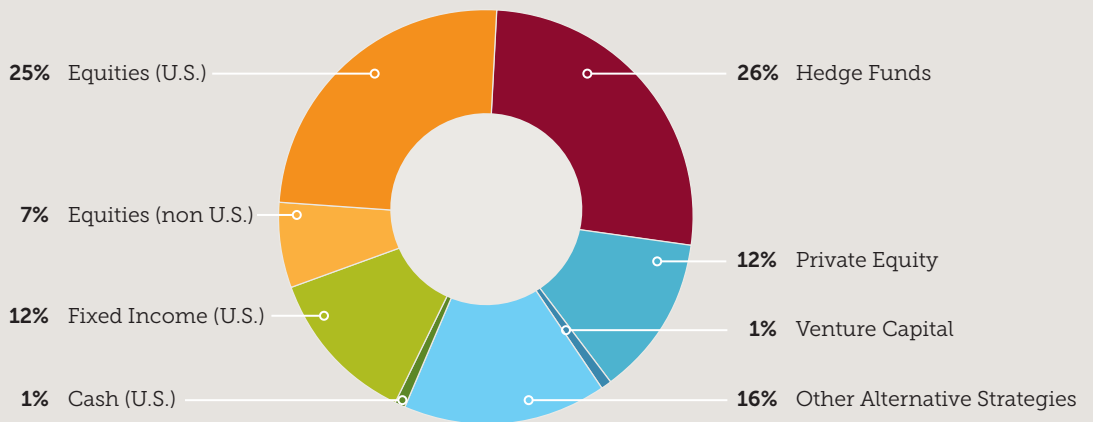


Union's Endowment

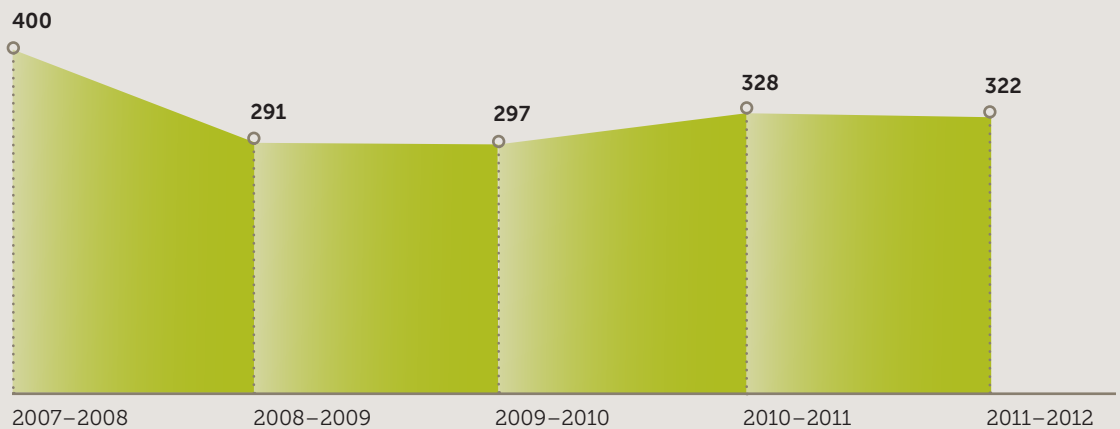
At the end of the fiscal year 2011-12, the endowment was at \$322 million, slightly off the total at the end of the previous fiscal year. In this difficult economic environment, our endowment returned +1.6% for the year ended June 30, 2012, placing in the 25th percentile of a peer universe of endowments and foundations.

The Trustee Investment Committee is working closely with the Administration to maximize the long-term growth of this critical source of revenue. Like other institutions across the nation, we anticipate that it will be several years before the endowment returns to pre-recession levels.

ENDOWMENT ASSET ALLOCATION



ENDOWMENT TOTAL MARKET VALUE (IN MILLIONS)



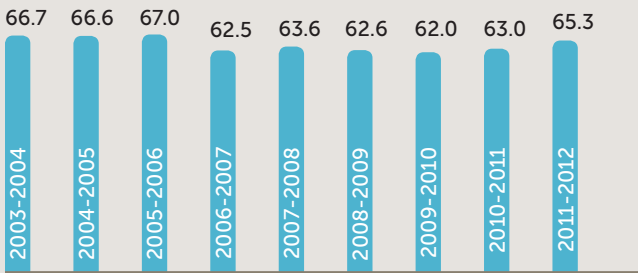
Financial Ratios

The financial ratios are developed from the audited financial statements of the College. While operating ratios declined, linked primarily to the performance of the endowment, contribution ratios are stable and improved due to contributions of gifts and pledges to the operating revenue.

Contribution Ratios %

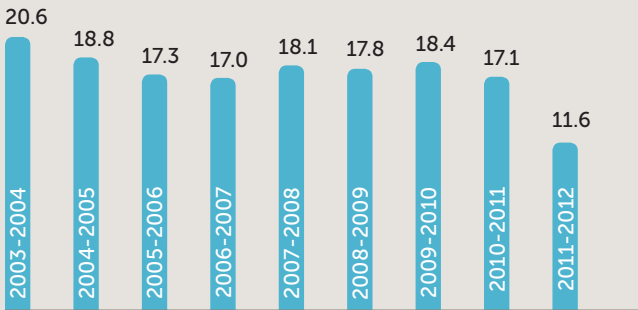
TUITION/ROOM AND BOARD (NET OF FINANCIAL AID)

Measures reliance on tuition, room and board revenue



INVESTMENT INCOME

Measures the contribution of investment income to total operating revenue



GIFTS AND PLEDGES (EXCLUDING GIFTS TO ENDOWMENT)

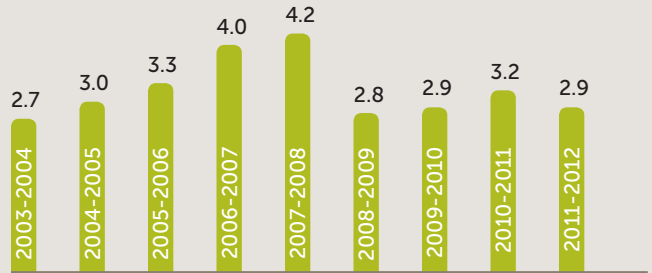
Measures the contribution of gifts and pledges to total operating revenue



Operating Ratios %

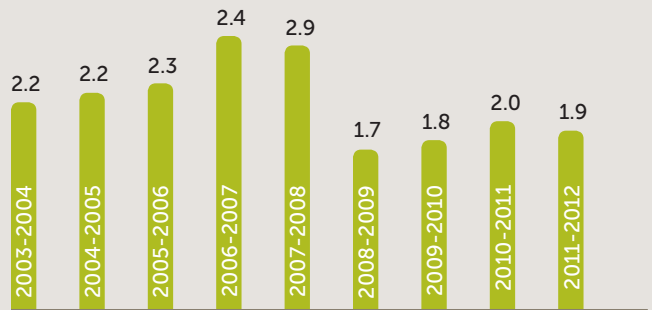
EXPENDABLE RESOURCES TO DEBT

Measures resources available from total expendable reserves as a percentage of debt outstanding



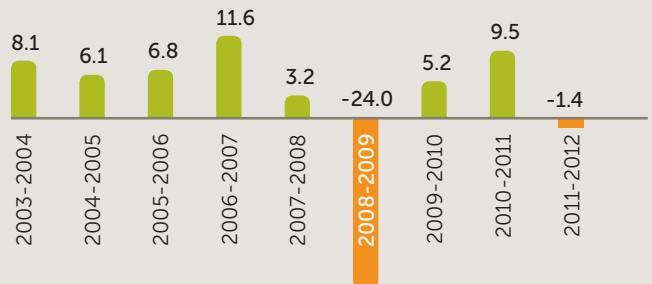
EXPENDABLE RESOURCES TO OPERATIONS

Measures the buffer provided to the annual operating budget by total expendable reserves



RETURN ON NET ASSETS

Indicates the direction and degree to which the institution has improved its total resource base



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