

# ACCENT

Educational Development Program  
Newsletter  
SUNY Fredonia  
Spring 2008 – Vol. 25, No. 2

## From The Director

That old saying that time flies when you're having fun is really true. By the time you read this, I'll have completed my first 100 days of my interim directorship. Yes, it's been wild and crazy, but it has been fun and rewarding. In addition to my interim director appointment, much has happened in EDP during the past three months: Kathleen Bonds, long-term EDP director, left Fredonia for the directorship of EOP at the three Erie Community College campuses, trading a 2 hour (round-trip) commute for one that is less than 30 minutes; Marie Dinecia Pierre-Louis, a Fredonia EDP alum, was hired as interim counselor for one year; and nearly 100 Fredonia alums, friends, and family celebrated the existence of 40 years of educational opportunity within SUNY, joining in with the Black Student Union's annual conference weekend, April 18-20. Festivities included workshops, sharing meals with BSU's conference participants, a celebratory dinner on April 19, a silent auction, renewing old friendships and sharing memories.

Many hours of work were contributed by Dr. Sherryl Weems and Ms. Emma McFayden (alums) with help from Ms. Otlie Woodruff (former EDP counselor) and long-time, hard-working, EDP secretary, Ms. Barbara Yochym. Congratulations to these four tireless and dedicated women. The weekend was fantastic! These women, and all the alums in attendance, set a wonderful example for our current students. They put forth their best efforts and ably demonstrated that hard work pays off. Students, please pay attention to this gift that you've been given—OPPORTUNITY: accept it, embrace it, and use it!

I feel honored and privileged to be a part of this program and to have the opportunity to serve SUNY Fredonia's Educational Development Program and its students as the interim director. I urge you all to set your sights on success, take advantage of all the services available to you, and participate in the EDP motto, "Going Above and Beyond." If you do these things, your future is limitless and possibilities are endless.

*Janet Knapp, EDP Interim Director*

### ***INSIDE:***

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**26th ANNUAL EDP AWARDS  
CEREMONY HELD MARCH 19**

The Educational Development Program hosted its 26th Annual Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, March 19, in Café G of the Williams Center at 4 p.m. Over 100 faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and students shared in the annual event. The ceremony is a way for EDP to recognize EDP students' academic achievements.



- Special awards presented included:
- ◆ Outstanding EDP Tutors of the Year  
**Nelson Diaz    Stephanie Maderer**
  - ◆ Community Service  
**Saralyn Dasilva    Danielle Miller**  
**Georgia Dillard    Justin Moore**  
**Christopher Hillman    Raelee Price**  
**Martine Jerome    Artrese Reid**  
**Jessica Karan    Andre Salter**  
**Travis Love    Christian Torres**  
**Keydra Manns    Lauren Williams**  
**Chris McAllister    Danielle Zamboroski**
  - ◆ Arthur O. Eve Scholarship  
**Nelson Diaz    Elvira Gonzalez**  
**Christopher Perry**
  - ◆ Director's Award  
**Ann Marie Coppola**
  - ◆ The Gregory Antonio Memorial Award  
**Benjamin Weidman**
  - ◆ Exemplary Service  
**Kathleen Bonds, EDP Director '92-'08**
  - ◆ Distinguished Alumnus  
**Shaun Nelms (Social Studies '99)**

Those EDP students who earned a 2.70 and above grade point average while completing 12 credits or more for the spring 2007 and/or

fall 2007 semesters received certificates. Silver certificates went to students with a 2.70-3.29 GPA and gold certificates went to students with a 3.30-4.00 GPA.

**GOLD AND SILVER  
CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS**

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Taha Alassari*       | Fredrick Lee            |
| Brooke Andrews*      | Kari Lentz              |
| Chelsea Annis        | Matthew Levinger        |
| Andrea Barriffe      | Xiaomin Li              |
| Amy Bauer            | Timothy Lupo*           |
| Erika Brooks         | Jamie Luttrell          |
| Andrea Chase*        | Chris McAllister        |
| Michael Chiaravalle* | Christopher Miller      |
| Keli Cochran         | Christine Montclair     |
| Nathan Cogar         | Nnamdi Nelson           |
| Jennifer Colon*      | Lucy Nunez              |
| Annamarie Coppola    | Terrill Ocona           |
| Saralyn Dasilva      | Stephanie Potter        |
| Alfred Davis         | Raelee Price            |
| Nelson Diaz          | Anthony Prude, Jr.      |
| Georgia Dillard      | Justin Ramsey           |
| Astou Diop           | Artrese Reid            |
| Rebecca Eisenman     | Leisel Renaud           |
| Raiysa Epps*         | Amanda Richards         |
| Terica Evans         | Alexander Ridgell       |
| Shawn Farrell        | Qiuping Rong            |
| Michael Florio       | Robin Rowe              |
| Edward Fourcell      | Harrison Santiago       |
| Jessica French*      | Emmanuella Senat        |
| Elvira Gonzalez      | Tamra Stanton*          |
| Tara Grube           | Stephanie Strauf        |
| Shawna Halas         | Brittany Tabeek         |
| James Harris         | Allen Thomas            |
| Nichole Hawkins      | Christian Torres        |
| Cindy Hitchcock*     | Zorimar Torres          |
| Martine Jerome       | Ted Tuthill             |
| Jessica Karan        | Jacob Valla             |
| Corinna Kester       | Jeremy Ware             |
| Ian Kuhn             | Benjamin Weidman        |
| Samantha Lape        | Cathy Rose Wheeler-Bell |
| Abdul Fatai Lawal    | Amber Wilcox            |
| Danitra Lee          | Thaddeus Williams       |

\*Award recipients have graduated

*Pictures from the Awards Ceremony  
are on page 3*

(Continued from page 2)

## Memories from EDP's 2008 Awards Ceremony.

Entertainment was provided  
by  
**Courtney Newsom** on piano  
and **Justin Moore, Eddie  
Fourcell, and Olugbenga  
Obafemi.**  
They performed  
"End of the Road."



**SOME OF THE EDP STUDENT ACADEMIC  
AWARD RECIPIENTS.**



### **SOME OF THE CHI ALPHA EPSILON INDUCTEES—**

**Front Row:**  
Jacob Valla,  
Amanda Rich-  
ards, and Chris-  
tian Torres.

**Back Row:**  
Barbara Yochym,

Katelyn Miller, Justin Ramsey, Edward Fourcell,  
Kimberly Mead-Colegrove, and Janet Knapp. Absent  
was Jeffrey Moretti who was studying abroad in Italy.



**TUTORS  
OF THE  
YEAR—**  
Nelson Diaz  
and  
Stephanie  
Maderer.



### **EXEMPLARY SERVICE RECIPIENT—**

Kathleen Bonds, EDP  
director from 1992-  
2008. Pictured are  
Barbara Yochym, EDP  
Secretary; Ms. Bonds;  
Janet Knapp, EDP  
Interim Director; and  
Rachel Skemer, EDP  
Counselor.

## EIGHT INDUCTED INTO HONOR SOCIETY

CHI ALPHA EPSILON national honor society was formed to recognize the academic achievement of students admitted to colleges and universities through non-traditional criteria/opportunity programs. Dr. Elbert M. Saddler, Ph.D., founded Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE) in 1990 at West Chester University of Pennsylvania and there are now over 30 chapters in the United States. Eligible students must be full-time and hold a 3.0 cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.



Fredonia's Alpha Mu chapter started in October 1999 and as of today has 122 inductees made up of students from the Full Opportunity Program (FOP) and Educational Development (Opportunity) Program. A private initiation, which included ritual materials for each inductee, preceded EDP's awards ceremony on March 19. Inductees for 2008 included:

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▪ <b>Edward Fourcell</b> | ▪ <b>Christian Torres</b> |
| ▪ <b>Katelyn Miller</b>  | ▪ <b>Jacob Valla</b>      |
| ▪ <b>Jeffrey Moretti</b> | ▪ <b>Barbara Yochym,</b>  |
| ▪ <b>Justin Ramsey</b>   | ▪ <b>honorary</b>         |
| ▪ <b>Amanda Richards</b> |                           |

## CONGRATULATIONS TO EDP GRADS

### *Spring/Summer 2008*

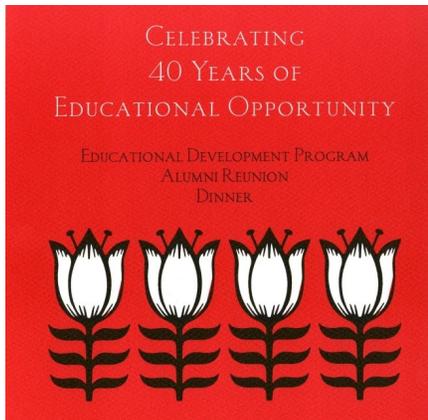
- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ◆ Glendalys Arrendell | ◆ Anthony Prude, Jr.  |
| ◆ Amy Bauer           | ◆ Harrison Santiago   |
| ◆ Lauren Byrd         | ◆ Brittany Tabeek     |
| ◆ Saralyn Dasilva     | ◆ Allen Thomas        |
| ◆ Michael Florio      | ◆ Jeremy Ware         |
| ◆ Edward Fourcell     | ◆ Thaddeus Williams   |
| ◆ Elvira Gonzalez     | ◆ Danielle Zamboroski |
| ◆ Christopher Goode   |                       |
| ◆ Eddie Humphrey      |                       |
| ◆ Martine Jerome      |                       |
| ◆ Danitra Lee         |                       |
| ◆ Brandon Miller      |                       |
| ◆ Christopher Perry   |                       |



## CURRENT STUDENT HAPPENINGS

★ **Erika Brooks** (JR/EDU) attended the *New York State Association for the Education of Young Children's annual conference* which was held this year in Buffalo on May 2. Erika also won the Professional Disposition Award presented by Fredonia's College of Education. ★ EDP students in the cast/crew of the spring musical, *Victor/Victoria*, were **Shawn Farrell** (FR/Theatre Arts), **Sammy Torres** (FR/Theatre Arts), and **Cathy Wheeler-Bell** (SO/Theatre Arts). ★ **Jacob Valla** (JR/Comm Disorders and Sciences) received two scholarships. The first is the *LT. General Woods Scholarship*. This award was established by family and friends. Lt. General Woods' sisters, Marjorie Woods Packwood and Lulu Woods Earl, were the primary con-





**EDP ALUMNI AND FRIENDS RETURN  
TO CAMPUS FOR REUNION  
APRIL 18-20**

**HOW IT ALL STARTED**

During a luncheon between 30+ year friends, a seed was planted to have a reunion of college classmates. That's how it all started with just a conversation between

**Emma  
(Sharp)**



**McFayden '76 and Sherryl D. Weems, Ph.D. '76.** They have both sat on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and they wanted to do something special before their terms were up. In November 2007 they put a call into the EDP office so we could

all start to make plans and the dates of April 18-20 were chosen because they coincided with the Black Student Union's People of Color Conference/ Fashion Show weekend.



After five trips to Fredonia and many phone calls and emails and with the help and cooperation of many people and offices, the reunion became a reality . . . and what a successful and meaningful reality it was!!!

**Pictures on Page 1—** ★Reunion program cover. ★1970-71 Black Student Union. Photo submitted by Don Ellis '74. ★First-year EDP students Derwin English '11 and Justin Moore '11 helped in stuffing over 700 invitations. ★Reunion Co-Chairs — Emma McFayden and Sherryl Weems.

## WEEKEND SCHEDULE

**Friday, April 18**, started with a welcome reception. Alumni then joined with current students for the BSU-sponsored dinner and guest speakers.



**Saturday, April 20**, events began at 10 am with a walking tour of the campus conducted by current students **Lauren Williams '10** and **Safiya Martin '09**. Many compliments were made about how beautiful the campus is and the warm, spring weather made for an enjoyable stroll while reminiscing about fond experiences. Stops were made at University Commons, Reed Library, Dods/Steele halls, and Mason hall. The luncheon was again shared with the BSU.



Alumni had a chance to rest and get ready for the evening dinner and program. Nearly 90 alumni, staff, family, and friends of EDP gathered in Café G which was filled with red balloons, red tulips, conversations, hugs, and well wishes. **Dr. Mark Anthony Neal '87** served as Master of Ceremonies. **Dr. Dennis Hefner,**



**Pictures on Page 2—** ★BSU dinner on Friday. ★Welcome reception on Friday — Roger Roseborough, Adelia Davis, Maurice Smith, Stephen Wallace, and Denise Scott. ★Alumni took part in the walking tour. ★Memories were relived in Dods Hall—Don Ellis, Stephen Wallace, Maurice Smith, Roger Roseborough, and David Bullow.



Fredonia’s president, and **Ms. Patricia Feraldi ’77**, Alumni Affairs director, gave greetings before the delicious dinner serviced by Fredonia’s own FSA. Following dinner a moment of silence was given as names of deceased classmate were read and a candle was lit for each one. A roll call was taken for alumni to stand as their graduation year was called and everyone recalled how they felt when they first arrived on campus and how they felt being “back home.”

Past directors were recognized for their contributions and leadership and presented with an engraved paper weight and a plaque

with an original poem—*Grateful Hearts Remember . . . A Tribute*— written by **Ms. Staci Turner ’97**. **Dr. Jeffrey J. Wallace ’69** (director from ’72-’81) gave remarks on behalf of past directors **Mr. Albert Whitaker (’70-’72)**, **Dr. Carmela Thompson ’78 (’81-86)**, **Mr. Thomas Alexander (’86-92)** and **Ms. Kathleen Bonds (’92-’08)**. Also recognized was EDP Secretary **Ms. Barbara Yochym** for her nearly 30 years of service and help in getting this reunion off the ground.



After the program, alumni join the audience at the BSU’s annual fashion show and then were able to enjoy some music, dancing, and more visiting back at the Days Inn hotel.

### **GIVING BACK**

**Sunday, April 20**, brought everyone back to Café G in the Williams Center bright and early for breakfast. **Dr. David Tiffany**, Vice President for University Advance-

**Pictures on Page 3**—★Participants gathered on the steps of Reed Library. ★Alumni Roll Call was taken after dinner.



ment addressed those gathered about “giving back and remembering SUNY Fredonia.” Dr. Wallace and **Mr. Amos Goodwine '72** have agreed to chair a committee to create an endowment for alumni to contribute to.

A special feature of the reunion, and one that was to raise money for the EDP scholarship fund, was the silent auction. A huge thank you goes out to those who donated an auction item and to those who placed a bid. Over \$1,200 was raised!!

As the breakfast came to an end, it was time for everyone to say goodbye and head for home. Alumni came from Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North and South Carolina, throughout New York, and even Canada.



Since the reunion, photographs have been shared and alumni have become reacquainted. The committee thanks everyone for coming and their participation. We hope everyone will stay in touch and we'll see you again.

Additional pictures maybe found at the follow the link:  
<http://www.facebook.com/n/?photo.php&pid=501135&op=1&view=all&subj=1169019082&id=514718048>

**Pictures on Page 4—** ★Directors honored — Ms. Otilie Woodruff, former EDP counselor/reunion committee member; Dr. Carmela Thompson; Ms. Kathleen Bonds; Ms. Staci Turner; and Dr. Jeffrey Wallace. ★Overview of Saturday's dinner.

tributors. Lt. General Woods, Mrs. Packwood and Mrs. Earl are Fredonia alumnae, classes of 1917, 1928 and 1921 respectively. This scholarship is awarded to a Speech Pathology/Audiology major with junior standing and a GPA of at least 3.50. He also received the *Undergraduate Alumni Council Award Scholarship* for campus leadership and academic honors.

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### ALUMNI UPDATE

★**Marc Calixte** (COMM/93) is working on his second film (directorial debut). ★**Yartish Bullock Okeke** (EN/CM/01) has accomplished one of her biggest challenges. She finished her masters program in Communication Arts (Public Relations and Advertising) from New York Institute of Technology (NYIT). ★**Isaac Gill** (BIO/05) is now living in San Antonio with his family and has been teaching 9th grade biology in an inner-city school and working on his teaching certification. ★**Laura Kidd** (Health Services Admin/97) is completing her masters in Community Health in May from Long Island University.

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### WELCOME NEW EDP COUNSELOR

A hearty welcome goes out to EDP's newest staff member—**Ms. Marie Dinecia Pierre-Louis**. (She goes by Dinecia.) Prior to starting with EDP on March 24, she worked in the business world in the New York City Area. She graduated from SUNY Fredonia in 2005 with a degree in secondary French education. She is very familiar with the EDP experience because she, too, entered Fredonia through EDP and became one of our many success stories. While at Fredonia, she received the Ralph Wilson Book Scholarship, the Robert Rie Award, Rosa Parks Scholarship, and was elected to the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society and Pi Delta Phi French Honor Society. She also served as a tutor for College Tutoring Services, was a McNair scholar, worked in Upward Bound both here at Fredonia (2004) and at SUNY Binghamton (2005), was a resident assistant and resident director in Gregory Hall, and studied abroad in Senegal and Mexico. Following graduation she spent a year teaching in France. In her official position as counselor she will be assigned a student caseload and assist in teaching the freshmen orientation class. She started work on a master's degree at The New School in New York City and will continue her master's work here at Fredonia.



### RALPH WILSON BOOK AWARD RECIPIENTS

Recipients of the spring 2008 Ralph Wilson Book Award are pictured with EDP Interim Director Janet Knapp. On the left is **Mr. Nelson Diaz** (junior/English Adolescence Education) from Bronx and on the right is **Ms. Xiaomin Li** (junior/Biology) from Corona.

## SHAUN NELMS NAMED EDP ALUMNUS AWARD WINNER

**Mr. Shaun Nelms** was named EDP's Distinguished Alumnus on March 19. Originally from Buffalo, Shaun was awarded Bachelor of Science in Education degrees in History and Secondary Education/Social Studies from Fredonia in May 1999. He earned his Master of Science in Education in March 2004 from the University of Rochester, Warner School, with a major in Educational Administration and has his New York State permanent certification as a school administrator and supervisor.

Shaun started working as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies teacher in the Rochester City School district. While there he initiated a "Gentlemen's Club" to help at-risk students with social/behavioral needs. After teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies, he moved on to being an assistant principal and is now middle school principal at Burger Middle School in the Rush Henrietta Central School District. Among his duties are supervising over 100 staff members and coordinating school and district events. He has been a presenter at superintendent conferences and NYS middle school conferences.

In his applicant autobiography, his answer to "Why are you interested in EOP?", Shaun stated that "This program will allow me to put all road blocks aside and go on in life where I can be an asset in solving problems. EDP will give me the opportunity to have a chance at achieving all the goals I am capable of achieving through education."

*Ms. Bonds congratulates her former counselee Mr. Nelms.*



During high school, he worked as a kitchen assistant and pool guard at Cradle Beach Camp for physically or financially handicapped children. He said "helping others is important in growing. Having abilities and not sharing them with others is a waste of talent."

At Fredonia Shaun shared his variety of talents while being a resident assistant for two years, and he played on the Blue Devil men's basketball team as well as being an assistant varsity coach. Through his athletic and academic success, he gained confidence in his abilities and is able to share what he has learned in his classroom. Shaun now resides in Rochester, New York, with his wife and family.



*Mr. Shaun Nelms —2008 EDP Distinguished Alumnus—and Athletic Director/Coach Gregory Prechtl.*

**EDP FRESHMAN SUMMER  
ORIENTATION**

The EDP Freshman Summer Orientation will take place August 21-23, occurring right before the start of the fall semester. Approximately 40-45 new EDP students will arrive on campus to become better acquainted with the EDP staff and participate in some additional activities to prepare them for their college experience. The fee, meal, and lodging costs during the orientation are covered for each student by contributions from Fredonia State and a grant from the Office of Opportunity Programs (OOP) in Albany. OOP is the supervising department over all Educational Opportunity Programs.

New freshmen will also participate in the College's Summer Orientation and Advising Program (SOAP). They will choose from one of five two-day sessions where they will have a chance to select their fall classes and attend presentations on topics such as financial aid, the billing process, and on-campus services. It is **mandatory** that new EDP freshmen attend both a SOAP session and the three-day EDP orientation.

*2007 EDP Freshmen Summer*



**FALL 2007 DEAN'S LIST**

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Andrea Barriffe | ◆ Xiaomin Li        |
| ◆ Amy Bauer       | ◆ Chris McAllister  |
| ◆ Erika Brooks    | ◆ Justin Ramsey     |
| ◆ Keli Cochran    | ◆ Artrese Reid      |
| ◆ Nathan Cogar    | ◆ Amanda Richards   |
| ◆ Jennifer Colon  | ◆ Alexander Ridgell |
| ◆ Nelson Diaz     | ◆ Robin Rowe        |
| ◆ Terica Evans    | ◆ Harrison Santiago |
| ◆ Shawn Farrell   | ◆ Zorimar Torres    |
| ◆ Edward Fourcell | ◆ Jacob Valla       |
| ◆ Corinna Kester  | ◆ Benjamin Weidman  |
| ◆ Samantha Lape   | ◆ Amber Wilcox      |
| ◆ Lari Lentz      |                     |

**DATES**



**May 12-16** – Final Exams

**May 17** – Commencement

**May 19-August 22**—

Summer Office Hrs 8 am to 4 pm

**May 27-June 27** – Summer Session I

**June 30-August 1** – Summer Session II

**August 21-23** – **EDP FRESHMEN**

**SUMMER ORIENTATION**

**August 25** – Academic Year Office Hrs

8:30 am to 5 pm

**August 25** – First Day of Classes for F'08

**August 25** – **First EDP General Meeting**

– 4 pm, S104 Williams Center

**September 1** – Labor Day/NO CLASSES

**October 9-10**– Fall Break

**TBA** – **Second EDP General Meeting** –

4 pm, S104 Williams Center

**November 24-28**– Thanksgiving Break

**December 15-19** – Final Examinations

**January 26, 2009** – S'09 First Day of

Classes



2<sup>ND</sup> Floor Thompson Hall  
SUNY Fredonia  
Fredonia, NY 14063

TO:

## **EDP Staff Directory**

**Ms. Jessica Gatto, Admissions Counselor** - Fenner House, #3251— [Jessica.Gatto@fredonia.edu](mailto:Jessica.Gatto@fredonia.edu)

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