

## Student and Faculty Awards

### Student and Faculty Awards Commencement 2007

#### Trustees' Award

Presented to the student whose positive contributions to University life and whose academic accomplishments exemplify the highest level of achievement attainable for an undergraduate.

#### Dov-Sara Magit, Westchester

*BA, political science, with a minor in English*

A member of the Pforzheimer Honors College, Magit has aspired to achieve in a myriad of ways. She is president of the Model United Nations team, founder and president of CHILD, a UNICEF campus initiative project, and a Pace Presidential ambassador. She is also founder and president of the Pace Westchester Pre-Law society, vice president of Freedom through Knowledge student organization, and a Periclean leader with Project Pericles. Magit wrote for the Paw Print as well as the literary magazine Vox; she worked for the Muslim Student Association and took part in countless community service and civic engagement events. She is a member of the prestigious Alpha Chi Honor Society and the Phi Kappa Theta National Honor Society and president of the Pi Gamma Mu International Social Science Honor Society. She is also a member of the Golden Key international Honor society as well as vice president of Sigma Tau Delta English National Honor Society. She made the Dean's List with high honors every semester and has been recommended for a Fulbright Scholarship to France. Magit intends to study in France, attend law school upon returning to gain a juris doctorate in international human rights and a doctorate in international relations and foreign politics.

#### Reggie V. Thomas, New York City

*BA, economics and political science*

As the first student body president at Pace to be elected for three consecutive terms, Reggie Thomas has unquestionably left his mark on the University through his intense involvement in campus life. In addition to his role as student body president, Thomas founded the Pace College Republicans and the Pace Democrats Society. He served as a student adviser and delegate in Model United Nations, was a study skills peer leader with the Center for Academic Excellence, and was a client support office aid with the Division of Information Technology. Thomas excelled in the academic arena as well. He was a member of the Pforzheimer Honors College and the Dyson Society of Fellows. During his time at Pace, he received the prestigious Jeanette K. Watson Fellowship, which allowed him to intern with the Bronx Defenders. Through the Watson Fellowship, Thomas also received the Ford Motor Company International Fellowship of the 92nd Street Y. Thomas has accepted a position through the MV Foundation in India for summer 2007. He plans to attend graduate and/or law school and will explore running for office in lower Manhattan.

#### Community Service Award

Presented to the undergraduate student whose active contributions to the life of the University community and to the endeavors of our neighbors in the surrounding community most admirably embody an appreciation for the value of social responsibility.

#### Ashley R. Marinaccio, New York City

*BFA, theater (concentration in directing), and BA, sociology/anthropology; minors in women's and gender studies and Middle Eastern studies*

Marinaccio has made the most out of her time at Pace. A member of the Pforzheimer Honors College and the founder and president of Pace CARE, she volunteered at the Center for Community Outreach and Project Pericles. Ms. Marinaccio was also a feature and news writer for the Pace Press, served as president of the Women's Action Network, and studied abroad in Lebanon and South Africa. She shared her talents with the Pace community as a director, actor, and choreographer of many Schimmel Center and Schaeberle Theatre productions, including The Laramie Project and Alice in Wonderland. She received TADA! Theatre's Young Writer of the Year Award in 2004–2005, and the production of The Vagina Monologues that she directed won a national award for outstanding production from Luna Bar. Marinaccio plans to further her education by earning her master's degree in performance studies. She intends to continue into the PhD program and hopes to start a not-for-profit organization that introduces performing arts and theater to refugee children.

#### Meaghan G. Wagner, Westchester

*BA, English with a concentration in writing*

As a member of the Pforzheimer Honors College, Wagner has sought out much experience in writing and media. She was the cofounder and editor for the campus newsletter Paper Airplane, in addition to serving as a staff writer and news editor for the student newspaper, the Paw Print. She has worked with the WPAW radio station, served in the Student Association and was a member of the Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society. Wagner also showed great care for the community by joining the ASPCA of Briarcliff Manor in a civic engagement project as well as interning with the Hudson Stage Company to participating in the CVS/Pharmacy internship in corporate communications. She has also received the Pace University Silver Gravel award for excellence in academics and cocurricular activity as well as becoming an essayist for the Salem Press. Wagner's goal is full-time employment in the publishing industry.

---

#### Henry Birnbaum Endowed Scholastic Achievement Award

Presented to a full-time undergraduate or graduate student on the New York City campus who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement.

#### Hong Zhang, New York City

*BBA, public accounting*

---

#### Project Pericles Leadership Certificate Award

Presented to students who have completed the rigorously structured certificate program, which challenges them to demonstrate leadership in civic engagement.

The hard work and creativity of these students has made a significant contribution toward advancing Pace University's mission to educate for citizenship and social responsibility.

**Faiza N. Ali, New York City**

*BA, political science; minor in Middle East History*

Ali plans to continue to work in the field of civil and human rights. Faiza is currently the Communications Coordinator for the Council on American Islamic Relations, New York Chapter, the largest nonprofit Muslim civil rights advocacy group in the U.S. As a member of Project Pericles and the Muslim Students Association, she has contributed to university life by organizing and participating in several panel discussions surrounding issues of civil liberties, immigration, and human rights.

**Michael Brady, Westchester**

*BA, mathematics, applied concentration*

Michael Brady began his involvement with Project Pericles as a first-year student. His first experience involved an alternative Spring Break to Washington, D.C. While away he helped to transform an old school into affordable housing for the disadvantaged. Brady's involvement with Project Pericles has grown to involve a semester working as a TA in a civic engagement course where he acted as a go-between and moderator for a class that made frequent visits to a home for elderly residents. He also helped to design a website for a non-profit organization, as well as writing the book that would given to the organization instructing them on how to interact with the site. Brady has also been the Opinion editor of the campus paper the Paw Print for his four years at Pace. In this capacity he commented on many societal issues, he also volunteered to run a workshop on writing a letter to the editor for Project Pericles.

**Mariama Diallo, New York City**

*BBA, international marketing*

Diallo has made significant contributions toward educating the Pace community about Darfur and the current wars affecting Africa. She has also taken on important leadership roles at Pace including that of founder and president of the African Students Association and founder of the Pace Stand (Students Take Action Now: Darfur), a national coalition of college students committed to ending the genocide in Sudan. She was responsible for organizing some of the most vibrant and engaging events on campus with regard to the ongoing genocide. Her hard work and creativity has made an impact on the Pace community in raising awareness about global human rights.

**Dov-Sara Magit, Westchester**

*BA, political science, with a minor in English*

(See Trustees' Award for biography.)

**Ashley Marinaccio, New York City**

*BFA, theater (concentration in directing), and BA, sociology/anthropology; minors in Middle Eastern Studies and women's and gender studies*

(See Community Service Award for biography.)

**Courtney Shannon, New York City**

*BA, political science, and BA, environmental studies; minors in anthropology and biology minors*

Shannon has been involved with several on campus organizations, and it was these involvements that lead her to join Project Pericles. While on the New York City campus, she was an active participant with the Center for Community Outreach, a member of THINK, the University Affairs Committee, and traveled to New Orleans with the Alternative Spring Break Club to help in rebuilding efforts. While a student at the Westchester campus she became president of NATURE, joined the Model United Nations team, and became very involved with a new organization Freedom Through Knowledge, which she and other students would like to turn into a nonprofit organization.

---

**Academic Leadership Award**

Presented to the student who best exemplifies academic citizenship through the integration of academic achievement and leadership to serve as a role model for other students through the Center for Academic Excellence.

**Dennis E. Michels, New York City**

*BS, Biology*

---

**Scholastic Achievement Award**

Presented to students excelling in scholarship, effectiveness in class discussion, research, and general performance in a baccalaureate program.

**Victoria Monaco, New York City**

*RN/BS*

**Dov-Sara Magit, Westchester**

*BA, political science, with a minor in English*

**Rebecca T. Miller, New York City**

*BA, Economics*

**Frances Parisi, Westchester**

*RN/BS*

**Megan T. Sullivan, Westchester**

*RN4*

**Alexis N. Stevens, Westchester**

*BS, Criminal Justice*

---

**Outstanding Student of the Year**

Presented in recognition of scholarship and exceptional dedication to the ideals of their school.

**James F. Kile, Westchester**

*DPS, Computing*

**Shonda Lackey, New York City**

*MA, Psychology*

**Stacey Gravelle Lawrence, New York City**

*MS, Publishing*

**Nicole Marin, New York City**

*PhD, Psychology*

**Michael F. Dougherty, Westchester**

*Nursing*

**Erna Ho, New York City**

*Nursing*

**Rawlinson Isaac, Westchester**

*MPA, Health Care Administration*

**Susan Potter, Westchester**

*MS, Counseling*

**Julia Sofia Washington, Westchester**

*MS, Information Systems*

---

#### **School of Law Faculty Award and Valedictorian**

Presented to the student with the highest academic achievement.

**Laurie Rollins, JD**

---

#### **School of Law Dean's Award**

Presented to the day and evening division graduates of the Class of 2005 who have made the most outstanding contributions to the School of Law.

**Douglas Edward Jones, JD, Full Time**

**Jennifer Lee Stewart, JD, Part Time**

---

#### **Guidance Counselor Award**

Presented to guidance counselors who have been chosen for the integral role they play in the transition of students from high school to college.

**Ralph Lilore, Lyndhurst High School, Westchester**

Ralph Lilore's career as an educator spans 37 years, 20 of which have been dedicated to Lyndhurst High School. Principal Anita Pesceovich says Lilore is "the type of man who always contributes to others, yet never asks anything for himself" and is "considered one of the best on our staff." In addition to his demanding guidance counseling responsibilities, Lilore serves as adviser to the Ski Club and coach to the Varsity Softball Team. Prior to becoming a high school guidance counselor, he was an elementary school instructor, teaching history and math. Pace University first-year student Christopher Uhlick recommended Lilore and characterized him as approachable, hard-working and dedicated to the success of his students.

**Bryn Will, Midwood High School, New York City**

Since 2001, Bryn Will has worked as a high school guidance counselor at Midwood High School and most recently as the senior college counselor. Through her demonstrated skills, support, and encouragement, she has assisted the graduating seniors of Midwood High to receive over \$25 million dollars in scholarships and grants. Will has presented to parents on the topics of college planning and financial aid, and she supervises Midwood High School's Annual College Night Fair. Her colleague, Fern Bren, describes her as "not only knowledgeable, she is caring and concerned for our students." Respected by students, faculty, administration, and parents, Will has helped countless juniors and seniors navigate the process of college admission, taking time to reach out to the younger freshmen and sophomores and prepare them for the college search.

---

#### **Kenan Award for Teaching Excellence**

Presented to faculty by their colleagues in recognition of classroom performance, understanding of students, high standards of intellectual integrity, and ability to serve as an inspiration.

**Alfred Ward, PhD, New York City**

*Associate Professor of Psychology*

For more than 20 years, Alfred Ward has played a central role in the research training of undergraduate and doctoral students within the Department of Psychology. He received his Ph.D. in 1985 from Fordham University and joined the Pace faculty on a full-time basis that same year. He currently teaches quantitative methods, psychometric theory and the doctoral research seminars in the PsyD Program in School-Clinical Child Psychology and has taught experimental psychology in the undergraduate program. He has published in the area of psychometrics and has developed a number of psychological tests. He has coauthored articles and presented at conferences with both colleagues and students in areas ranging from clinical to social psychology. He has served on a variety of university committees, including a four-year tenure as chair of the Dyson Curriculum Committee during an important period of Core Curriculum revision. He has coordinated doctoral research training within the PsyD program for many years and has supervised more than 100 doctoral research projects.

**Robert Chapman, PhD, New York City**

*Associate Professor of Philosophy and Environmental Studies*

Robert Chapman is Edward J. Mortola Scholar in Philosophy, University coordinator of the Environmental Studies Program, director of the Institute for Environmental and Regional Studies (PIERS), and editor of *Vera Lex*, the journal of the international natural law society. Chapman's area of expertise is

environmental philosophy, specifically ethical issues concerning the relationships between nature and culture. Lately, Chapman has been teaching interdisciplinary courses and Learning-Communities with his colleagues in Economics and Literature, for example: "Environmental Studies: Economic, Ethical, and Political Perspectives" (with Ghassan Karam, PhD), "The Hudson River and the American Tide," (with Geoff Brackett, PhD), "Beats, Bongos and Buddhism" (with Walter Raubicheck, PhD), and "The Rhetoric of Environmental Discourse" (with Jeannie Chui, PhD). Chapman is also active in curriculum development, his most recent courses being "Nature and Culture: A Study in Connections" and "Natural Beauty: Introduction to Environmental Aesthetics." Professor Chapman received his BA from the College of New Rochelle and his PhD from Fordham University, where he was a Loyola Fellow for four years. He was a visiting scholar at the Hastings Center for Ethical Research and at the School of Architecture of Pratt Institute. He is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Rene Dubos Society for Human Environments.

**Joseph M. Pastore Jr., PhD**

*Professor Emeritus of Management Science*

Dr. Pastore has been a member of the higher education community for 42 years, having held tenured faculty appointments at St. Bonaventure University, Pace University, and Boston College. For 23 of those 42 years, he served as a dean, provost, or executive vice president at those institutions, including four years as dean of the Lubin School and 11 years as executive vice president for academic affairs and provost here at Pace. Teaching and scholarship have been at the center of Dr. Pastore's professional life. He is proud to claim that he has managed to teach in virtually every year of his academic career, including those decades spent in administration. His undergraduate and graduate teaching and scholarship have centered on corporate ethics, public policy, and strategy. He has been awarded major grants from a variety of sources, to include the Coleman and Kauffman Foundations, designed to support student internship experiences with non-profit organizations. Dr. Pastore has also served as a lecturer and consultant for a number of organizations to include IBM, Verizon, British Telecom, many small businesses, and a variety of not-for-profit organizations. He has authored more than 40 articles, monographs, and book chapters and has served for three decades as an arbitrator and mediator, to include nearly 20 years of service as a U.S. District Court appointed Special Master in *United States v. Yonkers*—a school desegregation case in which he mediated a \$300 million settlement thereby ending 25 years of litigation. Dr. Pastore has been devoted to a life of public service and he currently serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of Siena College; as a member of the Bucknell University Business Advisory Board; as a member of the Board of Trustees of Abbott House; and as a member of the President's Advisory Council, Northern Westchester Hospital.

---

**Source URL:** <http://www.pace.edu/commencement/commencement-2007/student-and-faculty-awards-0>