Student and Faculty Awards

Commencement 2005

For more information, go to www.pace.edu/commencement.

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.

Timur Rakhmanov, Westchester

BBA, finance; BA, economics; minor in mathematics

On the dean's list for six consecutive semesters, Rakhmanov has been very active on campus—as president of the Pace Finance Society, founder and president of the Pace Auto Club, president of the Pace International Club, cofounder and vice president of the Pace Hedge Fund Club, and treasurer and outstanding delegate of the Pace Model UN team. He is a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society, the Beta Gamma Sigma National Business Honor Fraternity, the Golden Key International Honor Society, the Pforzheimer Honors College, and Lubin Leaders and Scholars. Rakhmanov worked as an intern at the Navigators Insurance Company, Clarfeld Financial Advisors, and Lehman. Upon graduation, Rakhmanov will be working with Union Bank of Switzerland. He is also receiving a Scholastic Achievement Award this graduation.

Anthony J. Reinhart, New York City

BBA, marketing and management (dual major)

Reinhart's many campus activities include being president of the Senior Class Committee; marketing manager, business manager, layout editor, and journalist for the Pace Press; tutor for the Writing Center; chairman of the Senior Week Planning Committee; and a University 101 Peer Leader. He was nominated to represent Pace at the American Advertising Federation's National Student Advertising Committee and attended the Lubin Leaders field study trip to Japan. He has interned at L.J. Altfest and Co. Inc. and plans to work there full-time after graduation.

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.

Jessica A. Andrepont, New York City

BA, anthropology/sociology; minor in women's and gender studies

A member of the Pforzheimer's Honors College, Andrepont has been on the dean's list from 2001 to 2005 and received a Pace Setter Key for Student Leadership, a Students in Action Honorarium from Alternative Spring Break Club, and a Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship. Her campus activities include volunteering for Body Positive and T.H.I.N.K. Environment, coordinating delegations to D.C. for March for Women's Lives and anti-war protests, and being a member of the delegation to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Conference. Andrepont hopes to attend the London International Film School and obtain a MA in filmmaking.

Christine Friary, Westchester

BBA, business management and business marketing (concentration in advertising and promotion)

Friary's numerous campus activities include being a member of the Pace University Student Government Association; the Pace University Greek Council; Sigma Iota Chi Sorority; Pace University 101 Peer Adviser; Pace University Marketing Association; Pace University Advertising Team; Pforzheimer Honors College Adopt-a-Frosh Program; and Scholastica. Her community service includes volunteering at the Pleasantville Cottage School & Children's Village; ARCS (AIDS Related Community Service); Sigma Iota Chi's Pace Pageant Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Research Foundation; St. Jude's Children's Hospital (Up 'til Dawn Program); Voter Registration Drive 2004; Blood Drive American Red Cross; March of Dimes Walk; City Harvest Food Collection Program, and the "Greeks Go Greek" Campus Clean Up. She is a member of the Pforzheimer Honors College. Her plans include returning to school to earn a MBA. She is also committed to continuing her participation in community service activities.

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.

Milena Kats, New York City

BBA, finance; minor in psychology

A member of the Pforzheimer Honors College, Kats was on the dean's list every semester and was inducted into the Alpha Chi Honor Society, the Golden Key National Honor Society, and Beta Gamma Sigma, the preeminent national honor society in business. She is also the recipient of the BBA Finance Department Award in recognition of her excellent 4.0 QPA in her finance major courses. After graduation, Kats will work as a financial analyst for Goldman Sachs. She is also receiving a Scholastic Achievement Award this graduation.

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.

Edward Carapola, Westchester

BS, computer science; minor in mathematics

A Pforzheimer Honors College student, Carapola has worked for the Tutoring Center for three years and has taken on a leadership role in that department. In addition, he has served as a University 101 Peer Leader and has done volunteer work through the Pace Environmental Center. Carapola's leadership roles have extended to extracurricular activities as well, in that he was the founder and president of the Pace Computer Organization, social chairperson of the Pace Outdoor Recreational Club, and copresident of the Pace Environmental Club.

Sylwia Hodorek, New York City

BA, psychology

Hodorek began her studies at Pace in 2001 as a student in the

Challenge to Achievement at Pace program and immediately distinguished herself as one of the program's top students. She also quickly demonstrated her commitment to service at Pace. After her first year, she served as a peer leader in the general University 101 program and also as a CAP University 101 peer leader and mentor. While continuing to maintain a high QPA, Hodorek also proved herself a model of academic and community involvement: she has served as vice president, then president of the Pace Psychology Club; she is a member of Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology; she tutored in the English department; she has worked at the Hunter College Center for Community and Urban Health on an ongoing longitudinal study on HIV+ populations; and she has worked with international students through the Study Group Organization, where she will assume a full-time position after graduation. Her future plans include graduate study in clinical psychology.

Scholastic Achievement Award

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

Dyson College of Arts and Sciences

Nataliya Baytalskaya, New York City

BA, psychology; minors in business and Spanish

Baytalskaya graduates with a BA and two minors after three years of study. She is currently completing research with Richard Velayo, PhD, on the effect of art and paranormal media on creativity and imagination. During her years at Pace, she has served as treasurer of the Psychology Club and secretary of Psi Chi. Baytalskaya will be pursuing a PhD in industrial and organizational psychology at Penn State.

David Grazioli, Westchester

BA, mathematics; minor in photography

During his seven semesters at Pace, Grazioli achieved a CQPA of 3.96 and a mathematics QPA of 4.00. He has made dean's list seven times. He is a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society, the Golden Key International Honor Society, and the Kappa Mu Epsilon National Honor Society. Grazioli plans to obtain a master's degree in education so that he may pursue a career as a high school math teacher.

Anita Mignone, New York City

BS, criminal justice; minor in political science

Mignone earned her degree while working full time as the general manager of a medical translation company. Her studies have included participation on Pace's Model UN Team. Under the guidance of Professor of Criminal Justice Benjamin Tucker, PhD, Mignone completed her honor's thesis on Arthur Niederhoffer's 1960s study of police cynicism in New York City. Mignone plans to go on to law school after graduation.

Timur Rakhmanov, Westchester
BBA, finance; BA, economics; minor in mathematics
Since, he came to the U.S. from Uzbekistan four years ago, Rakhmanov has displayed remarkable academic excellence; his intellectual curiosity has led him to take the challenge of a dual major and he has accomplished the required coursework in four years instead of five. His academic success and willingness to help other students has resulted in him providing tutoring in economics, finance, management, and calculus. Rakhmanov has been a spokesperson for the Lubin School and the Department of Finance as well as Dyson College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Economics at open houses. He is also receiving a Scholastic Achievement Award from the Lubin School of Business.

Lienhard School of Nursing
Renneth Marie Cornelia, Westchester
BS, nursing
Currently working at Westchester Medical Center in the coronary care unit or ICUB, Cornelia intends to obtain a master's degree as a nurse practitioner.

Veronica Dibble, Westchester
BS, nursing
After graduation, Dibble plans to return home to San Francisco, California, and hopes to work as a registered nurse in a psychiatric emergency department. Her future plans include attending graduate school to obtain a nurse practitioner's license in psychiatry.

Jose A. Gancayco, Westchester
BS, nursing
In addition to being a nursing student and a Marine Corps reservist, Gancayco works at the University Health Care Unit in Pleasantville. His goals include a commission in the Army Nurse Corps and an advanced degree as a nurse anesthetist.

Lubin School of Business
Milena Kats, New York City
BBA, finance; minor in psychology
See the Henry Birnbaum Endowed Scholastic Achievement Award above.

School of Computer Science and Information Systems
Sharon G. Guillory, New York City
BS, professional computer studies
Guillory originally dropped out of college to pursue an acting career. However, she developed a strong interest in computer technology and decided to enroll at Pace to complete her undergraduate degree. She is currently employed as the director of technology at a private school in Brooklyn and has begun work on a MS in information systems.

Shizuka N. Katsumi, Westchester
BS, computer science
Katsumi came from Japan at the age of 13 to study English and stayed on to pursue a degree at Pace with the support of a Trustee Recognition Award. While at Pace, she was named to Alpha Chi, a national honor society, and to the Golden Key International Honor Society. She has also held two co-op internships at IBM, one as a preprofessional programmer and one as a software engineer. She hopes to pursue a MS in information systems.

School of Education
Erika L. Balic, Westchester
BA, MS, education
Over the past five years, Balic has been very involved at Pace—she was the president of the Future Educators of America as well as the Commuter Network. Last year, she received the Alumni Achievement Award and Silver Gavel Award in recognition of her devotion and hard work. She has also been inducted into various honor societies such as Pi Lambda Theta, Psi Chi, Alpha Chi, and the Golden Key International Honor Society. A member of the Pforzheimer Honors College, she has taught in the Greenburgh School District as an AIS (Athletes in Service to America) afterschool teacher and has substitute taught both in the Greenburgh and Chappaqua School Districts. She will be receiving her teacher certification in both childhood education and special education and looks forward to starting her career as an educator.

Cherisse M. Donaire, Westchester

Christine Kalipetsis, New York City
BA, childhood education
Throughout her four years at Pace, Kalipetsis participated in field work and student teaching in public elementary schools in New York City. After graduation, she plans to attend Teachers College, Columbia University, where she was selected as a Carrol and Milton Petrie New York City Fellow. She plans to get a master's degree as a reading specialist.

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

Dyson College of Arts and Sciences
Frank E. Brittan, Westchester
MS, counseling
A career changer from investment banking. Brittan now holds a QPA of 4.0 and is the recipient of the Psychology Department Award. He has continually exhibited in his classes a high degree of expertise in a wide variety of counseling techniques and approaches. He is well respected by his peers and faculty, and his leadership is apparent both in the classroom and in his position at St. Christopher's Inn at Graymoor, a homeless shelter, where he serves as a full-time case manager. He works with a population of homeless males in a residential treatment center and is responsible for intakes and assessments, educational lectures, relapse prevention groups, small group therapy, and one-on-one counseling.

Pasqualina Caggiano, New York City
MA, psychology
While enrolled in school, Caggiano served as a counselor at the Midtown Pregnancy Support Center in addition to volunteering in an early intervention classroom at the New York Foundling Children's Hospital. She recently began working at the Antonio G. Olivieri Center for Homeless Women as a case manager. Her goal is to pursue a doctoral degree in school-clinical psychology.

Veronica Smith, New York City
MS, publishing
Smith earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Toronto. While there, she also minored in professional writing and English. As part of her graduate studies in publishing, she did an editorial internship at Working Mother magazine. She also contributed to Pace Magazine with an article on Professor Claudia Green, PhD, and civic engagement. For Smith's master's thesis on consumer magazine launches, she created a business plan for her own magazine. She is currently completing a second internship at Working Mother while interviewing for editorial positions.

Beatrice Truica, New York City
PhD, psychology
Truica demonstrated true excellence in all aspects of her graduate training at Pace. She was consistently at the top of her class and demonstrated a commitment to excellence in her research. For her dissertation, Truica conducted a longitudinal assessment of Pace University students' reactions to the World Trade Center attack. Her work provided important insights into the process through which individuals cope with traumatic events and how effective interventions might be better tailored to meet the needs of individuals affected by such events.

Mathew Varughese, Westchester
MPA, public administration
Varughese received a BS in international relations from Syracuse University. He began Pace Law school in 2001 and the JD/MPA program (specialization in health care) in the fall of 2002. This spring he completed the Capstone Seminar project and graduates with a 4.0 QPA.

Lienhard School of Nursing
Tara Russo, New York City
MS, family nurse practitioner
Russo currently works in the Trauma/Surgical Intensive Care Unit at New York Presbyterian Hospital at Cornell. She hopes to work with adolescents dealing with obesity, drug use, and depression.

Julie Tomich, Westchester

MS, nursing, with specialty in case management
A clinical nursing supervisor in a Medicare Certified Home Health Agency, Tomich plans to assist in the development of new projects including home telehealth and implementing a point of service documentation system.

Lubin School of Business
Justyna Malgorzata Tuniewicz, New York City

School of Computer Science and Information Systems
Avrom Pancer, Westchester
MS, computer science
Pancer graduated cum laude from Providence College with a BS in accounting before coming to Pace to study computing. He plans to pursue a doctorate in the future.

Haridass Ramachandran, New York City
MS, computer science
A software developer at Morgan Stanley, Ramachandran says his goal in pursuing a MS in computer science was to learn more about the core concepts of computer science from an academic viewpoint.

Rony L.S. Rodrigues, New York City
MS, computer science
Although Rodrigues wanted to pursue graduate study in computing for many years, he was unable to do so until his current employer, Morgan Stanley, afforded him the opportunity. He hopes to pursue further study in either business or public administration.

Roli G. Wendorf, Westchester
DPS, computing
Wendorf teaches for CSIS as an adjunct assistant professor and has already presented at several professional conferences. Her doctoral dissertation is titled “Channel-Change Games in Spectrum-Agile Wireless Networks.”

School of Education
Vaughn W. Watson, New York City

School of Law Faculty Award and Valedictorian
Presented to the student with the highest academic achievement.

Jeanette Tanner, JD
Boasting a QPA of 3.93, Tanner has been part of Pace Law Review and the Pace Federal Judicial Extern Honors Program. She received the Pace University School of Law Merit Scholarship, was a Pieper Representative, a Dean Scholar, and was a member of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, the Lichtenstein ABA Client Counseling Competition Champion, and the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

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.

Janice A. Dean, day division
Dean came to Pace Law School to pursue a career in environmental law. Upon entering the law school she was awarded a Law Trustee Merit Scholarship and the Lawrence and Louise Ottinger Public Interest Scholarship. During her tenure she excelled academically and as a leader. She made the dean's list every semester, served as editor-in-chief of the *Pace Law Review* and won numerous awards, including the American Bar Association's ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award. In addition, she founded the Pace Law School Democrats, worked as a Teaching Assistant for Criminal Law courses, and served as an active member of the Public Interest Law Students Scholarship Organization, and the Environmental Law Society.

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