60TH HALLMARKS:
Adaptability & Abiding Relevance

As cicu commemorates its 60th anniversary, I reflect both on the millions of students whose lives have been shaped by the education offered by our member campuses and on our sector’s ability to innovate and adapt. How, over six decades and counting, can this be? The Independent Sector’s laser focus on students, producing leaders in each successive generation, and on disseminating knowledge is its chief asset in my view. We are a nimble sector. We evolve to meet the expectations of new generations of students, while staying true to education models that are proven to work.

The stories inside these pages illustrate just this abiding relevance. In “Meeting the Cybersecurity Demand,” our campuses recognized early the need for talent in cybersecurity. They show, daily, how agile they can be in adding new programs, partnering with industry experts, and delivering solutions to new problems. And they do so with competence and forethought. Most cybersecurity-related majors are multidisciplinary in nature and prepare students both broadly and deeply for an increasingly global and complex society.

Our story on the importance—and ever-increasing relevance—of a liberal arts education also illustrates this, as does our story on the critical work of basic research that our campuses undertake. In the first, by “Championing the Liberal Arts,” our campuses stay current and provide an education that matters in a new world. In the second, by “Seeding the Advances of Tomorrow,” our campuses bring forward new ideas that can become forces of economic vitality and problem solving. In yet a third story on START-UP NY, we display in concrete terms our support for entrepreneurial development.

Since the first private, not-for-profit college opened its doors in 1754 in lower Manhattan as King’s College (now Columbia University), our sector has been able to adapt quickly to the needs of our students, our communities, and the state. This potent versatility has remained a defining characteristic of the Independent Sector during its long 262-year stretch, and it will continue to be so. The strength of private, not-for-profit higher education in New York is tied fixedly to the strength of New York. Our sector is a major employer and purchaser of goods and services within the state, and the extraordinary volunteerism of our students, faculty and staff make a difference in communities from the Niagara Frontier to Long Island.

At cicu, we are enormously proud of the Independent Sector’s strengths—its relevance, reach and adaptability. Today, we celebrate these defining talents inside the pages of this magazine. I invite you to celebrate with us.

Laura L. Anglin
President

The Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities in New York

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For more information about the Independent Sector of higher education in New York State, visit www.cicu.org and www.nycolleges.org

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Going Above and Beyond

Novel approaches to community service distinguish the Independent Sector

Cornerstone to the missions of Independent Sector campuses, community service remains strong and active. The only observable shift lies in breaking new ground into novel, even ingenious, programs and activities. In tackling the complex challenges posed by poverty, unequal access to services, imprisonment, drug addiction and disabilities, Independent Sector colleges and universities have been tapping into their intellectual capital to solve old, seemingly intractable societal problems in exciting new ways. Parsons School of Design at The New School, for example, trains students to construct more than just handy tools and living spaces. In a new field called “service design,” the school explores ways to better connect people and government. One such initiative aims to close the gap between immigrants and the financial empowerment programs created for them. House in the Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability Lab at Parsons, the project investigates innovative ways to improve policies and services, such as how to help immigrants apply for and access loans that pay fees associated with naturalization. Designing for Financial Empowerment is one of a series of public service design projects that pair city agencies, residents, private and public funding, and Parsons to look together at issues of financial barriers.

Reinventing service access for impoverished residents and their families is also the goal of students and administrators at Villa Maria College of Buffalo. Over two years, the college worked closely with a variety of community members to turn the largest food pantry in Western New York into a hub for basic human needs. The Cheektowaga Community Hub opened its doors in March to create more accessible, livable, and sustainable communities. It achieves this by acting as a one-stop shop for a wide assortment of services, such as credit counseling, mental health referrals, legal advocacy, enrollment in employment and training programs, and child care options.

A new $3 million community hub is also in the works in South Buffalo where Trocaire College students are primed to engage in a broad spectrum of disciplines, particularly in health and wellness. Here, practical nursing students are preparing to provide an array of services to the children, adult and senior populations, such as blood pressure assessments and education on colon cancer prevention for seniors, while nutrition and dietetics students are designing a class on healthy eating called “Build a Better Meal.”

The City of Buffalo also gains from a novel initiative by Canisius College. In the Hamlin Park community surrounding the college, homes are being refurbished and upgraded for future owners. The college’s neighborhood revitalization program aims to create stability by ensuring, through a restrictive covenant, that the properties remain owner-occupied for at least 15 years. In nearby Niagara Falls where 70 percent of residents are eligible for food stamps, Niagara University is stepping up to the plate. The university has planned a three-pronged approach to addressing food insecurity in its city. First, local celebrity chef Bobby Anderson showcases how to cook healthy and nutritious meals on a budget. Second, student volunteers and community members engage in outreach activities at events, and, third, nursing students offer free health screenings, such as checks on blood pressure, cholesterol, and Body Mass Index (BMI). These events take place monthly, rotating through the city’s poorest housing authorities.

**ALL ABOUT ‘COLLABORATORY’**

Identifying and forging just the right types of partnerships among a sea of community needs and issues is often a critical step—and challenge—for any campus. Siena College met the challenge with an innovative project called The Siena College Faculty Bus Tour. A collaboration between Siena professors and local community organizations, the project aims to incorporate an organization’s needs into student course work. Essentially, professors travel together to local community nonprofit organizations to gain a firsthand account of how they, through their courses and students, can lend a hand. The tours have led to a number of meaningful collaborations, the Community Justice Outreach Center in Albany and Capital Roots Garden Program in Troy among them. The latter partnership allows Siena students to research the production and waste of food, participate in service work, and ultimately help the organization in a number of meaningful ways.

In the Bronx, the stories of hundreds of African-Americans and whites who have shaped the borough’s character since the 1930s have been made public through a project of Fordham University. Undergraduates recently completed the transcription of audio interviews conducted by researchers from 2002 to 2013, and these files are now placed in a digital archive at Fordham’s Bronx African-American History Project. The touching, vivid stories reflect the incredible diversity of the Bronx in the ’40s and ’50s, and the African diaspora, which include Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latino immigrants, that transformed it.
A COMMUNITY PARTNER

Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) is dedicated to showcasing the folk culture and living traditions of New York’s North Country—and a recipient of an inaugural joint venture between St. Lawrence University’s Career Connections and SLU PIC, the St. Lawrence University Public Interest Corps. The venture partners paid student interns with select local service organizations. Five programs in St. Lawrence County were chosen to host project-specific interns last summer, and TAUNY was among them. Chloe McElligott ’16, majoring in global studies and anthropology, digitized thousands of pages and images in TAUNY’s archives, including their Heritage Award winners and Register of Very Special Places. “Having this internship gave me a better idea about what some of the local traditions are and the traditional locations that are important to people here,” she said. “I’ve gotten to learn much more about St. Lawrence County.”

To be sure, unique and purposeful “partnering” is the key ingredient in most successful community service efforts undertaken by the Independent Sector. Nazareth College won a national award for its innovative “Partners” programs, co-curricular working relationships with schools and human service organizations that focus on poverty reduction, education and community empowerment. Molloy College’s partnership with Baldwin School District on Long Island is also a unique collaboration. Called, in fact, The Collaboratory, it seeks to develop practical skills in digital media literacy and social entrepreneurship among high school students, charting a path for these students to college and job market. Under the guidance of Molloy New Media faculty and Baldwin teachers, students get to experiment with a variety of new media technologies and coding platforms in workspaces designed to enhance teamwork and creativity.

Likewise, Hofstra University launched an innovative partnership with its neighboring high school. Its High School Community Journalism Program positions graduate students to mentor aspiring journalists from neighboring Hempstead High School, guiding them in reporting and producing stories about their school and community. In Buffalo, middle school students have become partners in science learning with Medaille College students. Wildly successful and earning multiple grants after four years running, the program invites middle school students to campus labs where, together with their college student mentors, they conduct experiments and dissections in biology and botany; learn conventional lab techniques through general chemistry, and build skills in molecular biology. The program has expanded this year to include field work, where students conduct seed germination experiments and test growth in control and compost rich soils. “They become partners in learning,” says Dr. Brenda Fredette, professor in Medaille’s Division of Veterinary and Natural Sciences. “When our students have to explain science to a 12-year-old it makes their learning better.”

In Rochester, which has one of the highest child poverty rates in the nation and 90 percent of city school children are not meeting state standards for reading, St. John Fisher College is stepping in. Their “Seuss to Success” project developed by students Nichole Hazilla ’08 and Alex Hager ’10 in 2008 has grown into a successful and innovative outreach program offered collaboratively by a number of community groups and schools. Using the rhyming fun of Dr. Seuss books, the program creates engaging educational experiences that focus on four principles of resiliency as defined by noted researcher Bonnie Benard: autonomy, problem-solving, social competence, as well as purpose and future.

Other populations, in addition to school children, gain from the education and training efforts of Independent Sector campuses. New York University launched a 10-week Veteran Entrepreneur Training (VET) Program for military veterans aiming to transition into the technology industry. Its curriculum combines business and tech to create a hybrid platform for participants to develop startup ventures and to learn from leaders in New York City business-tech. Veterans also gain from Albany Law School’s Veterans’ Rights Project. The project serves the legal needs of veterans by connecting them with free attorneys. Nearly all legal services are provided one-on-one during “Veterans’ Law Days”—from drafting and executing wills and health care proxies to answering questions about VA benefit applications and appeals and addressing tax concerns.

“Partners for Service forever altered the trajectory of my life. Not only did it teach me the importance of reciprocity, cultural sensitivity, and being an advocate, but being a part of the program gave me a niche at school, professional skills, and the ability to apply my experiences both in the classroom and in my future plans.”

Hannah Wright, Nazareth College ’14

With the help of St. Francis College, the formerly incarcerated can earn their college degree and gain social service support through their Post—Prison College Opportunity Program. And creative students at Sarah Lawrence College have been sharing their talents with older adults for more than six years at The Warburg, an award-winning provider of residential and day services. Theater, dance, storytelling, painting, and even puppetry are among the undertakings that allow everyone at any age to “age creatively.”

At Cazenovia College, adults with developmental disabilities visit campus and develop friendships with students through therapeutic recreation, such as bowling and arts and crafts. This long-time community collaboration in inclusion was honored for its successful outcomes. In another effort to optimize the work and lives of adults with disabilities, Clarkson University put its biomedical engineering students on task at a bottle redemption center. The team worked on processes to make sorting bottles easier, saving the redemption business close to $15,000 in revenue annually and improving the jobs of employees with disabilities. The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, in turn, used its student talents to help New York City better enable the visually impaired to navigate construction zones. In answer to a call by city agencies, the college presented “Tactile City,” a proposal for wayfinding that incorporates texture into sidewalks and handrails pointing direction and marking off quadrants.

IGNITING SOCIAL VENTURES

Another mark of service projects that go “above and beyond” is entrepreneurship. Some of the most innovative projects rise out of the call to start fresh results-oriented ventures. Emily Moschovits ’16 of Hamilton College turned a summer-long study of how to promote local sustainable food in Upstate New York into a venture that will provide low-income Utica residents with greater access to fresh, local produce and educate them about farming and local foods. Her organization will work with existing urban gardens around Utica to
improve maintenance, distribution and educational programs. She also plans to work with the health department to create new urban gardens, specifically hydroponics or indoor vertical farms that will provide fresh produce year-round. Moschowits, a Levitt Social Innovation Fellow at Hamilton, also received a $5,000 Resolution Fellowship, which includes mentoring and legal advice, to support her venture.

Another social entrepreneurship program is newly underway and organized by the University of Rochester. The Challenge is an intercollegiate business plan competition created to improve the lives of 125,000 Tibetan refugees through self-sustaining and replicable business ideas. In Ithaca, a local business incubator that uses the valuable advisory resources of Cornell University, launched a program last May that supports and mentors women entrepreneurs. Passenger to Pilot: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in Upstate New York is a breakaway success with its growing network of women entrepreneurs representing a range of local companies.

HEALTH MATTERS

It is hard to name something more essential than good health, and of the most innovative service efforts undertaken by Independent Sector campuses focuses on just this. Project iLEAP (International Learning Activity for Pharmacy Students) at Long Island University, for example, exposes students to the challenges of pharmacy practice in underserved communities, such as rural Guatemala, Sierra Leone, Haiti and Honduras. Students gain both valuable professional experience and a deeper understanding of the world around them, enabling them to work across cultures, a valuable skill in an increasingly globalized world. “Today, I learned that happiness is not dictated by what we have, but what we make of it,” said Myrna Girgis, ’16.

Similarly, but on a local level, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences opened the first “student-operated” pharmacy in New York State. Located in Schenectady and named College Hometown Pharmacy, the pharmacy provides a unique learning experience for students, while also bringing a range of pharmacy services to a medically underserved community. The college will open a second student-operated pharmacy (College Parkside Pharmacy) in Albany later this year. In partnership with the New York City Department of Health, St. John’s College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at St. John’s University also teaches students how to contribute as pharmacists to the greater public health initiative. Assistant Clinical Professor Dr. Vibhuti Arya and her students worked on the issuance of a standing order allowing independently owned pharmacies to dispense Naloxone, the opiate overdose antidote, on request. Currently, they are supporting the effort by creating an outreach plan to train pharmacists throughout the city.

Albany Medical College participates in a unique community initiative aimed at curbing hypertension, a major cause of heart attacks, strokes and kidney disease disproportionately affecting African-American men. “Cut Hypertension!” takes place at Brick’s barbershop in Albany, an event that offers all customers who have their blood pressure read a $5 discount on a haircut. Traditionally, barbershops are hubs where people meet, socialize and support each other in taking care of themselves. For those who discover they have high blood pressure, encouragement to visit their primary caregiver and essential information are also provided. Medical students check blood pressures, and Albany Medical College professionals are on hand to assist participants with questions about insurance paperwork and obtaining a primary care provider.

In another unique approach to health care, New York Institute of Technology medical students learned a bit about clowning around from a recognized expert, Patch Adams. Students worked for more than a year to secure a visit from Adams who lectured and led an afternoon of clowning with pediatric patients at Good Samaritan Medical Center in West Islip. Medical students gained a clear sense of the importance of empathy and joy in helping patients through their healing processes. The successful visit is leading to more clowning sessions led by the students at Good Samaritan.

All over New York State, in fact, residents benefit from free health services provided by Independent Sector students. Daemen College physician assistant students regularly provide free health screenings to residents in Buffalo’s Seneca Babcock neighborhood. Due to the efforts of Le Moyne College nurse practitioner faculty and students, the Poverello Health Clinic in Syracuse is able to expand access to free, high-quality medical care for individuals without medical insurance by expanding its hours of operation. And students at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine work within Harlem communities, where rates of diabetes are at near-epidemic levels, to conduct foot screenings and distribute information about foot health care.

BEYOND ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

Independent Sector campuses also take a lead role in organizing alternative spring break trips—where students spend their time off participating in various service projects, often in areas affected by natural disasters. St. Joseph’s College (SJC) takes the traditional trips one step further by cultivating a service learning culture in which students, staff, faculty and alumni work together to create lasting projects that extend and apply what students are taught in the classroom. Since 2007, for example, 200 SJC students have traveled to Sutiaha, Nicaragua to build homes, repair roofs, install washing sinks, plant fruit trees, help form a women’s craft-making cooperative and establish a children’s scholarship program. “We are people from two different worlds, but we came together and shared experiences,” said Jacqueline Poppo, B.S. ’15, M.S. ’17. “It taught me not to take anything for granted. There was so much strength in the connections that we made in those short nine days.” As a way to continue helping the people of Nicaragua, a group of alumni formed the Nicaragua Program Alumni Group in 2009. More than 60 young people in Nicaragua can now attend their local school due to sponsorships by the SJC community. Students who participated in previous trips also formed SJC’s Nicaragua Project Club to expand on the works of SJC’s faculty-driven Nicaragua Project.
Meeting the Cybersecurity Demand

The Independent Sector delivers talent and solutions

How vital is the protection of digital systems to America’s economic and national security? Consider, for one, that 2015 was the most active year for cybercrime, with more than half a billion personal information records stolen or lost, according to Symantec Corporation, a global leader in cybersecurity. Consider, too, that hacking operations disrupt both commerce and governance, including public infrastructure, such as power, water and law enforcement. Add to this a shortage of talent—currently 300,000 positions for cybersecurity workers are unfilled in the United States alone, according to a Stanford University report—and the urgency to train qualified candidates is clear. Looking ahead, the demand magnifies. The need for cybersecurity expertise is on track to reach six million positions worldwide by 2019.

Across New York, Independent Sector campuses are diving into cyber space to address this growing threat. Many are designated National Centers for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Among them is Utica College, the seventh institution in the nation to earn a National Center for Digital Forensics Academic Excellence Award from the Defense Cyber Crime Center, a U.S. Department of Defense agency.

The college sits at the center of a cyber hub in Upstate New York, due largely to the long-standing presence of the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory in nearby Rome. Utica has long produced a high number of qualified graduates. Its popular bachelor’s in cybersecurity alone offers five areas of specialization. The college also offers six online certificates across the span of cyber fields, and graduate students can choose between two master’s programs. On the drawing board are plans for a Doctor of Professional Studies (DPS) degree in cybersecurity.

Another Independent Sector campus advancing in the field for the last 10 years is New York Institute of Technology (NYIT). In addition to its well-established undergraduate and graduate cybersecurity-focused degree offerings, the university attracts partners, grants and new research to work with experts at NYIT’s School of Engineering and Computing Sciences. In fact, the university recently received a $400,000 award to build a new cybersecurity research facility on Long Island. NYIT also was named Long Island’s first NSA-DHS National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense. This prestigious designation will help faculty vie for an even greater number of research grants, as well as help students secure government and private-sector scholarships in cyber defense.

Another early pioneer is Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), which created some of the first graduate and undergraduate degree programs in computing security and networking a decade ago. Enrollment in the program has grown ten-fold, with 400 students on a path to careers across the private and public sector—from Google and Cisco to the federal government. In 2012, RIT also became one of the first universities to create an academic department focused solely on cybersecurity, and in 2015, the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded RIT a five-year, $4 million grant to establish a CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service program, a project of the DHS.

Overall, enrollments in undergraduate computer science programs across the state’s Independent Sector have seen enormous growth. NYIT’s has grown by nearly 70 percent in the last five years, with its master’s programs increasing fivefold. St. John’s University has seen enrollment in its cybersecurity systems B.S. degree program double since 2010. To keep up with this trend, the university has hired top leaders in law enforcement and corporate security and is planning to build a state-of-the-art cybersecurity lab. Adelphi University’s concentration in cybersecurity has grown in line with growth in its computer science major, roughly tripling in size over the past five years. Mercy College has a dedicated Mercy Cybersecurity Education Center (MCEC), with 20 workstations and four servers for identifying and addressing solutions relating to information assurance and cyber defense.

Broad & Interdisciplinary

At first glance, the field of cybersecurity may seem narrow, but the opposite is true. At Pace University’s Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems, students interested in business, for example, are encouraged to pursue a cybersecurity career track related to IT auditing, compliance and risk. Students interested in mathematics are encouraged to explore cryptography, or data science-related careers. Students interested in criminal justice are encouraged to explore a career track related to computer/digital forensics.

‘Top Secret’ Facts about Cybersecurity Careers:

- Job growth rate through 2022 according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: 37% 
- Average salary: $86,170 
- Cybersecurity jobs cut across public and private industries—from banking and corporate retail to federal security. Learn more at National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Study (NICCS). 
- Cybersecurity professionals are on the front line of protecting our nation’s infrastructure.

Rochester Institute of Technology created some of the first graduate and undergraduate degree programs in cybersecurity.
Multidisciplinary is a key word at Canisius College where information systems majors get comprehensive training in several areas—and exposure to a wide range of business areas, such as marketing, finance and business strategy. The Sage Colleges also touts an interdisciplinary approach. Its online B.S. in information technology and cybersecurity has students first undertake a comprehensive curriculum in information technology, then complete a specialization in cybersecurity. The college complements its offerings with a cybersecurity certificate program that prepares students to sit for a dozen professional cybersecurity certifications—portals to well-paying jobs such as intrusion detection specialists, cryptologists and vulnerability assessors. Le Moyne College received a $197,000 grant to enhance its cybersecurity curriculum for both computer science majors and non-majors alike.

In another move to broaden the study of cybersecurity, Fordham University transitioned its master’s program from its School of Professional Studies to its Graduate School of Arts and Science. This move was initiated this year by Mohammad S. Obaidat, Ph.D., a new department chair and world-renowned cybersecurity expert, and author of the book Smart Cities and Homes: Key Enabling Technologies. Obaidat also established a master’s in data analytics.

In a cross-campus interdisciplinary approach, St. Bonaventure University and Hilbert College are joining forces to provide the best of both cyber worlds: technical and social/managerial. The partnership will offer a major in cybersecurity that combines the university’s expertise in computer science with the college’s strength in computer security and information assurance.

It comes as no surprise that nearly all cybersecurity programs in the Independent Sector offer online components, including full degrees. Excelsior College has teamed up with the National Cybersecurity Institute (NCI) to offer a host of online cybersecurity learning opportunities. In fact, more than 700 students are enrolled in the seven different academic cybersecurity programs at the college. The NCI offers a variety of face-to-face training, including boot camps to prepare students for certifications and symposiums on breaking topics such as cyberwarfare and cyber insurance. This is also true of Long Island University, which offers a 15-credit advanced Certificate in cybersecurity policy at its Homeland Security and Terrorism Institute. The curriculum uses a case study approach, crafted to reflect the complexities and multidisciplinary character of cybersecurity policy and practice.

**OUR CYBER FUTURE: ‘CONNECTED EVERYTHING’**

Cyber-attacks are accelerating in number and sophistication as our world becomes ever more mobile and connected. Gadgets and objects wirelessly transmitting sensor data to each other and central computers are dubbed the “Internet of Things,” or IoT. Connected cars recording driver behavior data for insurance purposes, smart watches and other wearables delivering health data and even diagnoses. . . . such are the IoT expected to blossom in 2016—and add unforetold risks to life and property through improper remote access.

On the forefront of combating such intrusions is research conducted by Independent Sector campuses known for their influence on industry, nonprofit and government practice. The work of Cornell Tech at Cornell University, for example, spans data encryption, cryptography, cryptocurrency, machine-learning and IoT privacy and security. The expert faculty there, including four new hires and six researchers receiving grants totaling more than $3 million as part of NSF Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC) program, consults regularly with industry practitioners to identify new vulnerabilities and advance the state of the art in modern security. Cornell Tech research has focused largely on building systems that are inherently secure, rather than patching vulnerabilities when they crop up. Similarly, faculty and students involved with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s $60 million Institute for Data Exploration and Applications (IDEA) are addressing cybersecurity challenges and opportunities through research and the analysis of big data.

Clarkson University research, in turn, focuses on biometric vulnerabilities and intelligence—a critical effort since more and more of the electronic world is secured by one’s fingerprint, voice or iris. In fact, the NSF has designated the university as the lead site for its Center for Identification Technology Research. Our increasingly technology-driven, globally connected world has also prompted a need for legal specialists in data protection, privacy and cybersecurity. In recognition of this need, Albany Law School announced it will be offering a new concentration in law and cybersecurity in the fall of 2016. The program will prepare J.D. graduates to provide counsel on an array of legal matters, from data breach to digital media privacy to compliance with privacy laws and regulations.

“Cybersecurity touches nearly every aspect of our daily lives, from consumer privacy to the security of corporations and governments and, increasingly, to criminal investigations.”

Dan Huttonlocher, dean of Cornell Tech, Cornell University
Seeding the Advances of Tomorrow

The abiding role of basic research

The source of most new ideas and scientific breakthroughs in the world can be traced to an activity that takes place every day—often far into the night—on university and college campuses across New York State. Basic research forms the basis of progress, and it stretches into a vast array of fields. Without it, there would be no antibiotics, no lawnmowers, no smart phones, or effective policies to combat child labor. Yet basic research, being experimental or theoretical at heart, does not start out with a specific application or use in view. It starts hungry for new knowledge, and an insatiable curious.

It is just this type of research—farsighted, exploratory, framed by halos of promise—that is necessary in our world and that private, not-for-profit universities and colleges provide so well. To be sure, Independent Sector campuses are the busy incubators of tomorrow’s solutions. Twenty-five years ago, for example, children’s wards were filled with infants fighting off infections caused by Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b). Overnight, it seemed, this predominant disease all but disappeared due to an innovation in vaccine technology discovered at the University of Rochester. Further innovations by Rochester researchers led to a highly effective vaccine against pneumococcal meningitis, another dangerous infection that has now become rare.

Rochester, along with Columbia University, Cornell University, New York University, and others are among the powerhouses of research and development in the state, with 96 percent of all R&D coming from just 20 colleges and universities. In another more recent example, researchers have been trying for more than 40 years to achieve successful in vitro fertilization in a dog. In December, the first litter of puppies was born by in vitro thanks to work by Cornell University researchers. This breakthrough opens the door for conserving the genetics of endangered species, eradicating heritable diseases in dogs, and studying genetic diseases in general. Meanwhile, basic research to understand gene splicing mechanism at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory’s Watson School of Biological Sciences developed into a drug now in clinical trials to reverse spinal muscular atrophy, a deadly childhood disease. These examples illustrate the way university-based research resonates throughout the economy. The dollars, whether federal funds or private royalties, allow campuses to invest in new faculty and programs, and begets more funding which begets more invention and spinoff companies.

This same cycle is apparent, on a more modest scale, on the campuses of smaller liberal arts colleges and universities. Students in public policy programs, and begets more funding which begets more invention and spinoff companies.

students in her research

Students in public policy programs, and begets more funding which begets more invention and spinoff companies.

Development of a high-speed research-oriented network at Siena College allows students to connect to national research.
“We are looking so far back into the history of the unseen universe that it is the most awesome experience that I, as a scientist, could ever imagine.”

Astrophysicist Zsuzsanna Márka, Columbia University

A MONUMENTAL DISCOVERY

When the first plots appeared at 5:51 on the dawn of September 14, 2015, those staring at their screens in the observatory got goosebumps. Buzz quickly followed, and it was not long before the discovery confirming the existence of gravitational waves hit the world news airwaves. “This is an historic moment in science,” said by Manuela Campanelli, director of the Gravitational Wave Group was instrumental in the building of the detector network called Advanced LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory). Each of LIGO’s two sites holds large vacuum chambers connected with vacuum pipes arranged in an L shape with 2.5-mile arms. Lasers shoot beams along those lines and measure tiny displacements, smaller even than the size of the atoms the detector is built of. Columbia built the complete timing system for Advanced LIGO, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges were also among New York’s private, not-for-profit institutions that played a significant role in this discovery—one that marks the dawn of the field of Gravitational Wave Astronomy. A trio of physicists from Syracuse’s Gravitational Wave Group was instrumental in the building of the detector network called Advanced LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory). Each of LIGO’s two sites holds large vacuum chambers connected with vacuum pipes arranged in an L shape with 2.5-mile arms. Lasers shot beams along those lines and measure tiny displacements, smaller even than the size of the atoms the detector is built of. Columbia built the complete timing system for Advanced LIGO, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges were also among New York’s private, not-for-profit institutions that played a significant role in this discovery—one that marks the dawn of the field of Gravitational Wave Astronomy. A trio of physicists from Syracuse’s

STIMULATING NEW WAYS OF THINKING: A SAMPLING OF RESEARCH NOTABLES

Pace University: Improving Perceptions about Poverty
Nursing student Colleen Spang ‘15 worked with Angela Northrup, Ph.D. on a poverty simulation exercise that put a class of undergraduate nursing students through the day-to-day realities of life in poverty. The team collected and processed data to measure the students’ attitudes before and after the simulation, showing that students’ perceptions of people living in poverty improved significantly. Their work won top honors at Pace’s annual undergraduate student-faculty research showcase and an award to attend a national conference.

St. John’s University: Research about Research
Assistant Professor of Management Turanay Caner, Ph.D. is one of three researchers tracking the relationship between multidisciplinary alliances in research and the creation of innovative ideas. Dr. Caner and her colleagues are using the research on cell function performed by an inter-disciplinary team of scientists to determine if professionals from multiple backgrounds working together will result in higher quantity and/or quality of research that could lead eventually to increased application in treating and curing medical ailments. Her work has received a $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

New York Institute of Technology (NYIT): Affordable Housing in America’s Most Expensive City
Affordable housing in New York City may seem an oxymoron, but it has a long history that can bring light to today’s urgent need. The urban studies research of Dr. Nicholas Bloom, associate professor of social science and director of the NYIT’s Urban Administration program, accomplishes just this. His recently published book, Affordable Housing in New York, co-edited by Matthew Lasner, professor of urban studies at Hunter College, demonstrates that the future cannot be imagined without an understanding of the past.

Long Island University (LIU): Grapes as the Elixir of Life
At LIU Pharmacy, the ways in which grapes exert health benefits are explored in a number of ongoing studies. Resveratrol, a chemical found in grapes and grape products, is being evaluated for both its cancer-prevention aspects and potential to effect longevity and health. Underway is a study of the biomarkers of various disease states with a mouse model given a daily lifetime supplementation of the diet with grapes. The cancer chemo-preventive or therapeutic potential of other compounds from natural sources, such as withanolides, azaphilones, flavonoids, and phenazines is also a research focus at the university.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FISCAL YEAR 2014 TOP 10 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS FOR R&D EXPENDITURES IN NEW YORK STATE

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>R&amp;D Expenditures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia University</td>
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<td>University at Buffalo, SUNY</td>
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<td>University of Rochester</td>
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<td>Syracuse University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upstate Medical University, SUNY</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Science Center at Brooklyn, SUNY</td>
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Top 20 Total | $5,383,911,000

Prepared by: Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (www.cicu.org)


“Working side-by-side with my students on real research projects allows them to learn the ropes of scientific inquiry, be creative, apply knowledge to real problem and understand the significance of scientific research applications,” she said. At Iona College, about 100 students present their research annually at Iona Scholars Day. Among the presenters this spring were computer science major Sean Campbell ’16, whose work makes improvements on past methods in determining the author of an unknown work, and marketing major Cassandra Gill ’16 who investigated the attitudes, intentions and purchasing patterns of Genetically Modified Organisms among consumers. Research opportunities exist for high school students in the Biology Department at Manhattanville College. High school senior Anna-Sophia Boguraev has conducted her own experiments, with the aid of the college’s faculty and cutting-edge technology. Her project, which is for NASA, explores the compromised immune systems of astronauts after their return from space.

Manhattan College’s annual Research Scholars Presentation Day is held in the fall, with more than 65 students from all academic disciplines taking to the podium to report on a summer of inquiry and experimentation. And at Elmira College, a student research conference is held every spring, highlighting the best of the best in Elmira student research to regional businesses and the broader community. It’s not uncommon, even, for undergraduates to gain national attention for their research efforts. Niagara University senior biology major Sonja Oppen won the Outstanding Research Presentation award at the 70th Annual Eastern Colleges Science Conference this April. Oppen’s research, conducted with Professor of Biology Mark A. Gallo, focused on the movement of antibiotic resistant genes in Staphylococcus.
Accelerating New Businesses

START-UP NY builds momentum

The Independent Sector has long supported entrepreneurial development, spurring the creation of jobs and improving communities. Most recently, these efforts include the state’s START-UP NY program. To date, 20 Independent Sector campuses participate in START-UP—spanning from small liberal arts colleges to large research universities (see map). They currently host 21 companies, resulting in more than 600 new hires.

These jobs are in several key industries: biotechnology; manufacturing, research and development in the physical, engineering and life sciences; breweries, wineries and distilleries; and software-as-a-service and software development. One of the earliest START-UP ventures, Datto Inc., was drawn to Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), the first private university selected to participate in the program. Datto is a leading global vendor of hybrid cloud-based intelligent business continuity and backup, disaster and recovery solutions based in Norwalk, CT. It was launched in 2007 by RIT graduate Austin McChord, who acknowledges that the Rochester community has the high-quality workforce needed to support the company’s continued growth. RIT also hosts Darkwind Media, a graduate of the university’s Venture Creations business incubator. Darkwind develops gaming software and provides consulting services to game development studios. The company employs 15 people and plans to create 11 new jobs in its expansion to meet international demand. A third company, Optel Inc. provides services to companies in the medical device field, and a fourth, ClearCove Systems, is a renewable energy company in wastewater treatment.

While START-UP NY ventures vary across industries, a few information technology trends are notable. Big data is one. Big data works to harness vast sets of information in order to learn more about society, the economy, science or any number of things about the world that are potentially transformative. Big iron is another. Big iron refers to large, ultra-fast computers used for number crunching. Iona College’s new START-UP NY partner, Syncsort, encompasses both. This global software company is taking up 50,000 square feet of space adjacent to Iona’s graduate center in Pearl River. Syncsort’s products are deployed in top Fortune 500 companies where they provide powerful, secure software that spans “Big Iron to Big Data.” The college’s partnership with Syncsort also gives new scale to internship, research and employment prospects of Iona students.

Another new big data company is making its home at New York University: Rabt Technologies, Inc. is developing a content recommendation system based on a patent-pending algorithmic personalization model. Rabt is expected to create 23 new jobs and invest $465,000 to launch its new technology development. Another fast-growing company, Avanan Inc. is developing cloud-based security software at NYU Polytechnic Incubator. In addition to a number of other IT companies, NYU is hosting Board Vitas, a physician-run company created to provide a high-quality, affordability board review tool used by practicing physicians, nurses and medical students.

Incomeda3D, the first company accepted into START-UP NY under the university’s charter, is an internationally recognized expert on innovation and location. It is just this atmosphere for innovation that draws businesses to Independent Sector campuses. Cornell University, for example, is the home of Incomeda3D, the first company accepted into START-UP NY under the university’s charter. Incomeda3D specializes in 3D printing and works with the school’s engineering and material science departments, offering Cornell engineering students internship opportunities and employment on graduation. The company plans an investment of more than $30 million in capital equipment and the creation of more than 50 new jobs.

Long Island University became the first private university on Long Island to be approved for START-UP NY by Empire State Development. Businesses starting or relocating to this campus enjoy benefits that extend beyond the tax incentives. The LIU Post College of Management’s business programs are accredited by AACSB—a gold standard designation held by fewer than five percent of the world’s business schools—and dean Dr. Robert Valli is an internationally recognized expert on innovation ecosystems and the convergence of higher education, business and technology. One of the companies to locate to LIU’s University Center in Brookville is SavvyRoo, a social media platform for sharing the data behind the debates shaping the world.

To be sure, the sheer diversity of the Independent Sector is its strength, and businesses seeking the right “fit” are sure to find it among the state’s 100-plus private, not-for-profit colleges and universities. Together, through START-UP NY, the worlds of academia and business are helping reinvent the economic landscape across New York State.
Championing the Liberal Arts
The currency for success in a global economy

In the midst of increased attention on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields, a false battle has been shaping up: between “pre-professional training” on one side and “liberal arts” on the other. This debate has been fueled by politics, funding and misconceptions about what is meant by a liberal education. Private, not-for-profit universities and colleges, however, have long recognized that in this particular contest the emperor has no clothes. Their focus remains resolutely on preparing students to succeed—indeed thrive—in an increasingly complex global world and marketplace. They know that this can be achieved through providing rich, diverse curricula that combine technical and pre-professional skills with lasting, transferrable skills—exactly those exercised by liberal arts study.

Colleges and universities know intimately what corporate recruiters seek. Again and again, recruiters emphasize the importance of communication and critical thinking skills, mental dexterity and creativity in solving problems in prospective employees. A survey conducted by Inside Higher Ed found that 84 percent of the business leaders believe the ability to think creatively is just as important as the ability to think critically. Six in ten of these business leaders also responded that broadly applicable skills, such as oral and written communications and problem solving, are most important for college graduates to possess. They recognize that in a world of rapidly changing technology, technical skills of today can quickly become obsolete.

Leaders and alumni of liberal arts colleges in New York’s Independent Sector are finding that their age-old missions are more relevant today than ever. “More than ever, success in business today is about agility and managing, or even leading change,” writes Hamilton College alumnus A. G. Lafley who majored in French and history and is currently executive chairman of Proctor & Gamble. “By studying art, science, the humanities, social science and languages, the mind develops the mental dexterity that opens a person to new ideas, which is the currency for success in a constantly changing environment. It is true that businesses want employees with mastery. An accountant must understand accounting and a chemist must understand chemistry, but an education that is too specialized produces graduates who may be limited in what they can contribute in the workplace.”

Adelphi University, Niagara University and other champions of the liberal arts among smaller and/or historically religious campuses underscore the importance of teaching moral responsibility. Ethical leadership, which sits at the heart of liberal education, is more important than ever. And as the world shrinks and grows more diverse, the need for graduates who have gained exposure to different cultures, varied ways of thinking, and new methods of assessing situations and solving problems is paramount. These traits are precisely those nurtured in a liberal arts environment.

Nevertheless, these universities and colleges are constantly refining how they impart liberal arts within pre-professional programs. Hofstra University has organized its College of Liberal Arts and Sciences into three schools all informed by the liberal arts tradition and structured so that graduates gain the skills of critical thinking and effective oral and written communication that are essential to professional success as well as constructive in one’s community. In the university’s liberal arts and business program, for example, students acquire a strong background in general business and hone business skills while pursuing their academic interest.

“I value that a liberal arts education, particularly one in the humanities, underscores that nothing in the world is closed off. A liberal arts education encourages both rigorous engagement and a breadth of experimentation towards the development of a critical voice.”

Carlos Kong ’15, Cornell University
Major: Comparative Literature & History of Art

Students at Hamilton College receive rich and diverse experiences through the Liberal Arts curricula

“...the independent difference...”

THE INDEPENDENT DIFFERENCE

THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR

in literature, history, the arts, foreign languages, philosophy, biology, astronomy, mathematics, or in any one of the 45 liberal arts majors available in its College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Daemen College’s PLUS Pathways program offers students a way to enhance their liberal arts degree with academic and experiential learning that readies them for employment or graduate school. Whether students pursue health policy or global business, they explore one academic discipline in depth while gaining a rich liberal arts experience through course electives such as Class and Society, Facing Crisis, and Biodiversity, which help students form links between their professional and personal aspirations and the world at large.

Technological universities such as Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Clarkson University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute are seeking new ways to integrate liberal arts disciplines into their intensive STEM curricula. Their leaders understand that many of today’s challenges cannot be solved by technology alone, and many STEM professionals lack the broad skills to play a role in driving change. For this reason, RIT is participating in a Teagle Foundation grant to transform how liberal arts coursework and content are delivered in undergraduate engineering curricula. The grant, “Liberal Arts in the Professions,” challenges students to think about ways their work can change society. “We’re asking students to tackle some of the most challenging global problems—problems such as reducing hunger, expanding renewable energy and ensuring clean water for a growing world population,” said Harvey Palmer, dean of RIT’s Kate Gleason College of Engineering. “We want our engineering students to be mindful of the social context in which they will work, to understand ethical problem solving, to be adept at communicating ideas and to exhibit problem solving and critical thinking skills that one exercises in liberal arts disciplines.”

At Rensselaer team-taught classes in an initiative called Art X bring together artists, scientists, engineers, architects and business experts to discover the art in STEM disciplines. “The core concept is that art is a serious cognitive activity, and a way of knowing and...”

THE INDEPENDENT DIFFERENCE

THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR

Students at Hamilton College receive rich and diverse experiences through the Liberal Arts curricula

“...the independent difference...”
WHAT IS "LIBERAL EDUCATION?"

The Association of American Colleges and Universities weighs in:

"Liberal education is an approach to learning that empowers individuals and prepares them to deal with complexity, diversity, and change. . . . It helps students develop a sense of social responsibility, as well as strong and transferable skills, and a demonstrated ability to apply knowledge and skills in real-world settings."

"More than nine in 10 business and community leaders stress the importance of college graduates demonstrating ethical judgment and integrity, intercultural skills, and the capacity for continued new learning—again, core goals of a liberal education."

From a survey conducted by the Association of American Colleges and Universities

“Human Rights Watch Center for Court Innovation and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, among others. Paired with a graduate student from The New School for Social Research, the students work on research projects directly related to their internships. Manhattan College student Kyleigh Panetta ’17 in the School of Liberal Arts spent a semester collecting footage around New York City for a news story that will eventually become part of her broadcast portfolio. She also shadowed an education beat reporter on a long-term feature about New York City trademark locations. Such experiences stay with students long after they have graduated. Jim Scully graduated from Siena College in 1987 and is now Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Avon. "Even if you are an English major, you have the opportunity to study subjects like sociology, art history, business and more. The liberal arts teach you to be proficient in communications, conceptual problem solving and analytical thinking. With such a wide range of experience, this allows you to start an interesting conversation with anyone, a skill than can open doors in any career."

The work of imparting real-world experience to liberal arts degrees is undertaken in novel ways by Independent Sector campuses. When Pratt Institute launched its MFA in Writing program in 2014, for example, it took an unconventional approach. The program asks students to relate their writing directly to a rapidly evolving political, cultural and media landscape in New York City. It engages students in activism and politics, and their writing is exercised through weekly immersive all-student, all-genre, all-faculty collective critiques. Excelsior College is also introducing new concentrations in the liberal arts that span genres and resist categorization. Its BS in Liberal Arts in Professional and Technical Writing, Industrial Organizational Psychology/Strategic Sales and Population Health all remain true to the tenets of liberal arts while giving students the knowledge and skills to compete in the 21st century workforce.

This spring students at Union College got the opportunity to tackle head on the debate surrounding the “worth” of the liberal arts. In the course, students explored questions about how studies in the arts and humanities affect them, their future and professional opportunities. They took sides exploring arguments for and against the value of liberal arts. In the process, the students discovered that they are sitting at a crossroads—one where the liberal arts and STEM merge in a phenomenon that Professor Christine Herseler calls a “Millennial Renaissance of the Arts and Humanities.”

ALUMS SPEAK OUT about their liberal arts education

Some of the most passionate advocates for a liberal arts education are alumni who have risen to command influential roles in society and business. Le Moyne College invites alumni to regional student recruitment events and accepted student receptions to speak to prospective students about the value of a liberal arts education in today’s society. Donna Robinson Esteves, who received her bachelor’s degree in English from Russell Sage College, has taken her commitment one step further. Esteves has donated and pledged more than $18 million to dozens of organizations and causes; the greatest beneficiary, by far, being The Sage Colleges. She attributes her success—first as a teacher, then as a sales and marketing director, then as an entrepreneur and business owner—to her “Sage experience.” Esteves says, “The education in confidence that I gained at Russell Sage has proven invaluable to me . . . in empowering my decisions at critical junctures throughout my careers.” Esteves is returning this “priceless gift” to Sage not only as a philanthropist, but as a trustee, completing the maximum three terms as board chair, and as chair of the college’s $50 million centennial campaign.

Business tycoon Geoff Thompson parlayed his degree in liberal arts from Pace University into a career as a news reporter before co-founding preeminent firm in public relations and marketing: Thompson & Bender. Thompson is well known as a spokesperson for a wide range of clients and as a strategist for public relations campaigns and handling crisis management situations. He also started Thompson’s Cider Mill (recently featured in Rachael Ray’s magazine), now in its 38th year, which presses more than 3,500 gallons of artisanal cider each fall. Long active in land preservation and protection, he has twice served as trustee and board chairman of the Teatown Lake Reservation, a leading regional environmental education center, and has twice been the recipient of the organization’s prestigious Environmental Leadership Award.

Elizabeth M. MacDonald began her relentless search for truth as a fresh graduate from Canisius College in 1984. Earning dual degrees in English and communication studies, she set off for New York City to become a journalist, taking the beats no one else wanted to cover, specifically the IRS, taxes and corporate accounting. She was among the first journalists in the 1990s to sound the alarm about the coming wave of accounting scandals. Her investigative series on IRS abuses in Money and The Wall Street Journal resulted in improved taxpayer rights and reforms and led to her testifying before Congress. MacDonald also exposed behind-the-scenes bailout controversies at the U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve. While senior editor at Forbes, she developed the magazine’s annual list of “The World’s 100 Most Powerful Women.” Today, MacDonald is stocks editor for “FOX Business” and “FOX News.”
HONORING STUDENT LEADERS

On March 7, 2016, during CIU’s 60th annual meeting in Albany, ten students from CIU-member campuses were recognized for their leadership in volunteerism at the second annual Independent Sector Student Community Service awards. Each of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) students received a $500 Henry D. Paley Scholarship along with their award.

Though their service varies, each student is an exemplary model of an emerging leader. Nick Dvorak, a senior at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute majoring in chemical engineering, not only engages in life-changing cancer research, he tutors and mentors his peers. Alisha Battaglia, a graduate student at Niagara University, provided young women with college and career readiness skills. David Bryant, St. Bonaventure University, spent three years welcoming guests at the university’s soup kitchen, the Warming House. Sarah Fiordaliso, a junior at Sarah Lawrence College, spent countless hours at Iglesia Memorial de San Andres, offering after-school programs for some of the neediest children in the area.

Sha-King Graham of Metropolitan College of New York is helping to mobilize and inform the residents of impoverished neighborhoods regarding the importance of climate change and its connection to nutrition-related illnesses. Kevona Jackson at The College of New Rochelle works closely with Family Services of Yorkers to provide tutoring and mentoring to children. Kiana Miller, a senior at Union College, facilitates workshops on decision-making and advocacy for her college peers and young women.

Clarkson University junior Bakari Smith works with the Southwest Area Neighborhood Community Band in Rochester to provide free performances and mentoring for beginners on how to play instruments. Dilruba Sultana of Long Island University Brooklyn provides medical services in underdeveloped countries through iGIVE. Sade Swift facilitates leadership workshops, coordinates college tours, and helped to lead the 2015 Sadie Nash Leadership Project summer institute at The New School.

Maria College Health and Occupational Sciences BSN students have an educational advantage with the most technologically advanced visualization system for anatomy education. Similar to a life-size iPad, students can change an image with the swipe of a finger as they learn. mariacollege.edu

Memorial School of Nursing has officially changed its name to Memorial College of Nursing. The college has also been granted an initial accreditation for five years by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. nehealth.com

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute received a $500,000 state grant to help complete a $2 million network of smart sensors that are part of the Jefferson Project, a collaboration to make Lake George a global model for ecosystem understanding and protection. rpi.edu

The Sage Colleges kicked off its yearlong centennial celebration in January with a special “Sage Night Out” and the lighting of its campuses green. Sage has a full slate of events planned for 2016 including a gala, 5k run, centennial-themed lectures and a centennial commencement. sage.edu

CAPITAL REGION

Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences was the #1 ranked school in the country in a Brookings Institution report that measured the impact of colleges on their students’ outcomes. A total of 3,173 two- and four-year institutions were evaluated in the study. acphs.edu

Albany Law School’s Government Law Center and Community Loan Fund secured a $500,000 grant to form the Regional Innovation Lab, which will assist critical housing, economic, infrastructure, sustainability and transportation initiatives in the 11 counties of New York’s Greater Capital Region. albanylaw.edu

The Biomedical Acceleration and Commercialization Center (BACC) at Albany Medical College, under the START-UP NY program, is helping businesses discover and develop breakthrough biotechnologies. amc.edu

The College of Saint Rose hosted Les Paul’s Big Sound Experience May 4 - 5, a 53-foot long interactive traveling exhibit celebrating the “Father of Modern Rock”’s 100th birthday. The college’s placement on Billboard’s Top 11 Schools in North America for music business prompted the Les Paul Foundation to pick Saint Rose for its Albany stop. strose.edu

Excelsior College secured a $2.9 million federal grant to build the Diagnostic Assessment and Achievement of College Skills (DAACS). excelsior.edu

The College of Saint Rose and BACC hosted an interactive traveling exhibit celebrating the “Father of Modern Rock”’s 100th birthday. The college’s placement on Billboard’s Top 11 Schools in North America for music business prompted the Les Paul Foundation to pick Saint Rose for its Albany stop.

Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing, which recently relocated its campus to St. Mary’s Hospital in Troy, was granted an initial five-year accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. nehealth.com

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Siena College announced its new bachelor of science degree in nursing completion program for RNs who hold an associate’s degree on April 6. The Baldwin Nursing Program, a “fast-track” 16-month program, will begin in the fall of 2016. siena.edu

This spring, Union College completed construction of its new cogeneration plant that will dramatically reduce the college’s carbon footprint, ease demand on current aging systems and result in significant energy saving costs. union.edu

FINGER LAKES

Finger Lakes Health College of Nursing received institutional accreditation from the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) in January 2016 and was recognized for a perfect accreditation visit. The college’s surgical technology program also received program accreditation from both ABHES and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). flhealth.org

Hobart and William Smith Colleges were named among the nation’s top institutions with the most U.S. Fulbright Student Award recipients. Fourteen members of the classes of 2015 and 2016 have earned Fulbrights. hws.edu

Keuka College’s Kuanyin Meditation Garden was a gift from Dr. Pi-Hua Chen, chair of Chlitina Group of China, to honor the college’s 125th anniversary and its 16-year-long partnership with Chinese universities. keuka.edu

Journalist and author Michele Norris met with students and spoke to an audience of 500 at Nazareth College about The Race Card Project. naz.edu

LONG ISLAND

Adelphi University hosted TEDxAdelphiUniversity. The theme “What If?” inspired an impressive lineup of speakers from the Adelphi community. adelphi.edu

Hofstra University launched a Center for Entrepreneurship to expand its entrepreneurship curriculum and the local economy. It will achieve this through business competitions, fellowships and programs to assist start-up companies. hofstra.edu

Long Island University is partnering with the Sanford Education Collaborative, leading the national advancement of two groundbreaking educational programs—Sanford Harmony (for pre-K through 6th grade students) and Sanford Inspire (for teachers)—impacting nearly 33,000 students in more than 1,400 classrooms in the Northeast. liu.edu

CENTRAL NEW YORK

Cazenovia College has named Ronald Chesbrough, Ph.D. as its 29th president after completing a seven-month nationwide search. He will assume this position beginning July 1, 2016. cazenovia.edu

The trustees of Colgate University announced Brian W. Casey as the university’s 17th president. Most recently the president of DePauw University, Casey will take office on July 1, 2016. He holds a BA in philosophy and economics from the University of Notre Dame, a JD from Stanford Law School, and a Ph.D. in the history of American civilization from Harvard. colgate.edu

Thanks to a $6.5 million gift from John ’65 and Kathy ’66 Purcell, Le Moyne College announced the Purcell School of Professional Studies in 2015. lemoyn.edu

Syracuse University is now in the top tier for research activity among doctoral universities, according to the 2015 Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Syracuse moved from an “R2” designation to an “R1*” designation. syr.edu

New York Chiropractic College is celebrating 25 years in Seneca Falls. In 1991, the college moved from Long Island to the Finger Lakes, occupying the former Eisenhower College campus. nycc.edu

The New York State Education Department has approved Roberts Wesleyan College to offer a Homeland Security & Applied Intelligence BS, a Sports Management & Marketing BS and an MS Online Health Administration, three of the fast-growing and in-demand majors. roberts.edu

Rochester Institute of Technology leads a $1.6 million National Institute of Health study to improve the health of the deaf and hard-of-hearing with tools to assess their health-related quality-of-life in American Sign Language. rit.edu

On Friday, October 16, 2015 St. John Fisher College celebrated the inauguration of Dr. Gerard J. Rooney as the seventh president of the college. sfc.edu

The University of Rochester is a key partner in the new $600 million American Institute for Manufacturing Integrated Photonics (AIM Photonics) consortium to develop the next generation of integrated photonics technologies. rochester.edu

John Smillie Chris Bergmann

ALEX SHUKOFF
Molloy College on Long Island hosted a conference on “Catholics, Capitalism and Climate” that featured a keynote address from Cardinal Peter Turkson, the primary contributor to the recent papal encyclical on the environment. molloy.edu

New York Institute of Technology has received the prestigious Senator Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization from NAFSA: Association of International Educators for its commitment to global engagement both inside and outside the classroom. nyit.edu

At Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Watson School of Biological Sciences, Professor Tony Zador’s technique to barcode every neuron connection in the brain leads a $21 million contract from the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA) to map the brain. cshl.edu/gradschool

MID-HUDSON

Bard College student and Syrian refugee Sana Mustafa ’17 received a standing ovation at the United Nations in February where she spoke on behalf of displaced people. bard.edu

The College of New Rochelle was awarded a $1.062 million New York State Higher Education Capital (HECap) Matching Grant Program award that will allow for upgrades to its science programs and facilities. cnr.edu

The Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D. has been named the ninth president of Concordia College New York. He succeeds Viji D. George, who is retiring after 16 years of service. concordia-ny.edu

The Egg is a new student-dining venue at The Culinary Institute of America with panoramic views of the Hudson River. Among its many concepts, The Egg features a student-run pop-up restaurant each semester and working brewery-classroom. ciachef.edu

Dominican College was awarded $592,688 from the National Science Foundation to provide scholarships to biology students to boost the nation’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce. dcs.edu

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business reaffirms Iona College’s prestigious Business School accreditation earned by less than five percent of the world’s business programs. iona.edu

Sarah Lawrence College announced the winners of the first International Audio Fiction Awards competition, aka “The Sarahs,” which took place on April 1 at WNYC’s The Greene Space. Known for creative approaches to education, including a strong focus on writing, the college launched the competition in January as part of its mission to inspire intellectual curiosity and creative experimentation. slc.edu

Marist College named David Yellen, currently Dean of the Loyola University Chicago School of Law, as its fourth president. Yellen replaces Dennis Murray, who will become President Emeritus after having served 37 years in office. marist.edu

The expansion of Mercy College’s Music Industry and Technology program’s exclusive recording studio represents the growth of its music and arts activities, while providing hands-on experience to help students land dream jobs. mercy.edu

Mount Saint Mary College will launch a criminology major in the fall 2016 semester. It will explore victimization, the criminal justice system, why people break the law and more. msmc.edu

Nyack College/Alliance Theological Seminary completed the purchase of its New York City campus housed on eight floors at 2 Washington Street, adjacent to Battery Park in Lower Manhattan. nyack.edu

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The Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D. has been named the ninth president of Concordia College New York. He succeeds Viji D. George, who is retiring after 16 years of service. concordia-ny.edu

The Egg is a new student-dining venue at The Culinary Institute of America with panoramic views of the Hudson River. Among its many concepts, The Egg features a student-run pop-up restaurant each semester and working brewery-classroom. ciachef.edu

Dominican College was awarded $592,688 from the National Science Foundation to provide scholarships to biology students to boost the nation’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce. dcs.edu

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business reaffirms Iona College’s prestigious Business School accreditation earned by less than five percent of the world’s business programs. iona.edu

Sarah Lawrence College announced the winners of the first International Audio Fiction Awards competition, aka “The Sarahs,” which took place on April 1 at WNYC’s The Greene Space. Known for creative approaches to education, including a strong focus on writing, the college launched the competition in January as part of its mission to inspire intellectual curiosity and creative experimentation. slc.edu

Marist College named David Yellen, currently Dean of the Loyola University Chicago School of Law, as its fourth president. Yellen replaces Dennis Murray, who will become President Emeritus after having served 37 years in office. marist.edu

The expansion of Mercy College’s Music Industry and Technology program’s exclusive recording studio represents the growth of its music and arts activities, while providing hands-on experience to help students land dream jobs. mercy.edu

Mount Saint Mary College will launch a criminology major in the fall 2016 semester. It will explore victimization, the criminal justice system, why people break the law and more. msmc.edu

Nyack College/Alliance Theological Seminary completed the purchase of its New York City campus housed on eight floors at 2 Washington Street, adjacent to Battery Park in Lower Manhattan. nyack.edu
**NEWS FROM THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR**

**St. Thomas Aquinas College** recently introduced its participation in the Disney College Program, providing students with the opportunity to intern at Walt Disney World and take courses through Disney for college credit. *stac.edu*

On the heels of record enrollment, **Utica College** announced last fall that the college is resetting the on-campus undergraduate tuition price, beginning fall 2016. The new tuition price will be under $20,000, and the college will continue to offer both need-based and merit-based financial aid to lower even further the cost to qualified students and their families. *utica.edu*

**The King’s College** made history on Feb 19, 2016 with its premier production of “A Pound in Your Pocket,” an original musical by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams. *tkc.edu*

**Mohawk Valley**

David Wippman, University of Minnesota Law School dean, will become **Hamilton College**’s 20th president on July 1. President Joan Hinde Stewart is retiring after serving as the college’s president for 13 years. *hamilton.edu*

On January 22, **Hartwick College** officially launched its Center for Craft Food & Beverage. Local and state officials took part in the ceremony. *hartwick.edu*

**Columbia University**’s School of International and Public Affairs named Philadelphia’s former mayor, Michael Nutter, as the inaugural David N. Dinkins Professor of Professional Practice in Urban and Public Affairs. The professorship honors David Dinkins, New York City’s first African-American mayor and current SIPA professor. *columbia.edu*

**Alexander van Tulleken, M.D.,** the Helen Hamlyn Senior Fellow at **Fordham University**’s Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs, produced a BBC1 TV film titled “Frontline Doctors: Winter Migrant Crisis” which aired in the UK in March. He spent two weeks visiting European migrant camps, border crossings and medical clinics to understand the conditions and medical problems migrants face. *fordham.edu*

**The Cooper Union** for the Advancement of Science and Art Summer Art Intensive for pre-college students received a donation to fully fund 13 New York City high schools students to attend the program. *cooper.edu*

Beginning fall 2016, **Manhattan School of Music** becomes the first independent music conservatory in New York, and the second in the nation, to offer a degree program in musical theater. *msmnyc.edu*

**The Environmental Protection Agency** awarded a student team from **Manhattan College** a $15,000 grant in support of research on sustainable concrete. *manhattan.edu*

**NEW YORK CITY**

In March 2016, the **College of Mount Saint Vincent** received approval from the New York State Education Department for an M.S. in Adolescent Education and Special Education Grades 7-12, which will provide a 14-month teacher residency program that prepares candidates for dual-certification in special education as well as in a biology, history, English or mathematics content area. *mountsaintvincent.edu*

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In summer 2015, **Marymount Manhattan College**’s Division of Communication and Media Arts installed a fully integrated digital media production studio, which features advanced equipment for student use on par with leading professional spaces. [mmm.edu](http://mmm.edu)

Classes at the new Manhattan campus of the **Metropolitan College of New York** kickoff summer 2016, featuring the new Learning Commons, which house library and academic support. In addition, the college’s new Bronx facility opens fall 2016. [mcny.edu](http://mcny.edu)

Over the past year, **The New School**’s Healthy Materials Lab, an initiative funded by The JPB Foundation, has worked to optimize the health and transparency of building materials, particularly those used in the affordable housing industry. [newschool.edu](http://newschool.edu)

The students of Peter Barbosa, Ph.D. at the **New York College of Podiatric Medicine** have donated used lab equipment to the nonprofit Seeding Labs, which provides universities in the developing world with these vital resources, helping to advance research in HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB among other areas. [nycpm.edu](http://nycpm.edu)

On March 10, **New York School of Interior Design** held its annual dinner to celebrate outstanding design and designers as well as its 100th anniversary, commemorated by the presentation of the NYSID Centennial Medal to James P. Druckman, president and CEO of the New York Design Center. Other honorees included interior designer Elie Cullman, president of Jamestown, LP; Michael Phillips and landscape architect Deborah Nevins. [nysid.edu](http://nysid.edu)

**New York University** welcomed its 16th president on January 1, 2016: Andrew Hamilton. Dr. Hamilton served as the vice chancellor of Oxford University since 2009 and as a professor of chemistry at Oxford. He is also an award-winning, widely published chemist who continues to maintain his scholarly work—including an active research laboratory—while holding leadership positions. [nyu.edu](http://nyu.edu)

**Pace University**’s $100 million project features an expanded student center, new residence halls, environmental complex and athletic fields and field house. [pace.edu](http://pace.edu)

**Pratt Institute**’s new Center for Art, Design, and Community Engagement K-12 offers studio instruction in art, design and architecture and related fields for young New Yorkers and advocates for increased opportunities in art and design for underserved communities. [pratt.edu](http://pratt.edu)

Holocaust survivor and painter Frederick Terna showed his inspired paintings and spoke at **St. Francis College**’s annual Yom HaShoah commemoration. [sfc.edu](http://sfc.edu)

“Sharing Knowledge” presented by **St. John’s University** launched on Telecare-TV in March. The show is hosted by President Conrado “Bobby” Gempesaw, Ph.D. and tackles religious and secular issues that concern society today, including Catholic vocations, the future of learning and the changing demographics of education in America. [stjohns.edu](http://stjohns.edu)

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**NEWS FROM THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR**

**NORTHERN NEW YORK**

Clarkson University has a new Capital Region Campus in Schenectady as a result of Union Graduate College merging into Clarkson on February 1. [clarkson.edu](http://clarkson.edu)

The Adirondack Watershed Institute Stewardship Program at Paul Smith’s College secured more than $1 million to combat invasive species. [paulsmiths.edu](http://paulsmiths.edu)

**SOUTHERN TIER**

Ithaca Startup Works, a business incubator in downtown Ithaca started by Cornell University in collaboration with Ithaca College and Tompkins Cortland Community College, held its first Women Redefining Entrepreneurship & Leadership conference this year, engaging more than 2,500 female entrepreneurs in the area. [cornell.edu](http://cornell.edu)

Elmira College continues its outreach with downtown Elmira, recently presenting Garrison Keillor and Eli Young Band in partnership with two downtown venues. [elmira.edu](http://elmira.edu)

**WESTERN NEW YORK**

Canisius College received a prestigious grant from the Lilly Endowment. The $583,000 grant will establish the Be the Light Youth Theology Institute at the college. [canisius.edu](http://canisius.edu)

Houghton College has launched programs in Data Science and Music Industry, putting the college at the forefront of preparing students to meet the growing demand of technology-related job fields. [houghton.edu](http://houghton.edu)

Medaille College and Lake Shore Behavioral Health recently opened the Medaille Family Counseling Center, a fully licensed mental health outpatient treatment location that also serves as a counselor-in-training facility for Medaille students. [medaille.edu](http://medaille.edu)

St. Bonaventure University’s inaugural Education Forum, funded by an anonymous gift, was held April 11. Dr. Irene Carney of Richmond, VA discussed “Uncommon Classrooms/Common Core: Creative Options for Fostering Knowledge.” [sbu.edu](http://sbu.edu)

Thanks to funds from the Statler Foundation, Trocaire College has completely transformed an underutilized space into a hospitality learning lab/café, library area and event space. [trocaire.edu](http://trocaire.edu)

Villa Maria College of Buffalo launched two new academic programs during its 2015-2016 academic year: Digital Filmmaking & Digital Media and Communications. Each is a four-year program; Digital Filmmaking results in students earning a B.F.A. while Digital Media and Communications results in a B.S. [villa.edu](http://villa.edu)

A NYSERDA grant is helping fund construction of a 2.9 megawatt solar array that will provide enough electricity to meet approximately 10 percent of Ithaca College’s energy needs. [ithaca.edu](http://ithaca.edu)

**NEW YORK CITY**

Rooted in the liberal arts, St. Lawrence University’s new statistics major fulfills an important discipline in today’s information era. [stlawu.edu](http://stlawu.edu)

Hilbert College hosted a Sports Career Day on April 15 in Swan Auditorium. It featured the “Voice of the Bills” John Murphy as the keynote speaker and four panels that discussed various careers in sports, including Sports Marketing, Sports Sales & Sponsorships, Sports Media & Content and Sports Media Relations & Communications. [hilbert.edu](http://hilbert.edu)

William J. Mariani, Ed.D., D’Youville College’s vice president for administrative services and external relations, has been appointed to serve as the college’s interim president on the retirement of Sister Denise A. Roche, Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, Ph.D. on June 30, 2016. Dr. Mariani is a graduate of St. Bonaventure University and received his Ed.D. from D’Youville. [dyc.edu](http://dyc.edu)

Daemen College has opened its new Academic and Wellness Center, a $5.6 million refurbishment project that provides state-of-the-art learning facilities for health-related academic programs and fitness and recreational space for the college community. [daemen.edu](http://daemen.edu)

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Celebrating 60 Years
cIcu achieves keen “sense of sector”

After six decades, the mission of The Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities in New York (cIcu) remains highly relevant. It has worked steadfastly to bring together a diverse membership—one that also happens to be the largest in the nation and a tremendous asset for the State of New York. There is also a distinctly noble aspect to cIcu’s work: its successful advocacy on behalf of students and their families to meet the expenses of higher education, and its efforts to support students in their search among the sector’s array of 100+ colleges and universities.

Of all the activities undertaken by cIcu since its founding in 1956, one central effort endures. James C. Ross, president of cIcu from 1994 to 2002 and active in the organization since 1975, calls it “the collective effort.” The abiding role of cIcu, he says, “is to develop an appreciation for the collective presence of independent colleges and universities.” In fact, he says, “the concerns that resulted in the establishment of the commission in 1956 are basically the same concerns today. We have successfully instilled in the public, in our elected officials, and in our membership what Hank Paley called “the sense of sector.””

Current president Laura L. Anglin echoes this central mission of cIcu to “speak with one voice on behalf of our member institutions and our students,” adding that “the exchange of ideas between institutions and what we can learn from each other” plays an equally important role. “We open doors for people allowing them to meet with colleagues and exchange ideas. This is invaluable.”

To achieve “a sense of sector” among such an incredibly diverse membership is no small feat. Consider the distinct choices presented to students—and not just in location and campus. The Independent Sector is home to women’s-only campuses, Hispanic-serving institutions, engineering schools, dental colleges, medical schools, law schools, and historically-religious institutions. In fact, New York’s private sector of higher education has the greatest concentration of historically religious and/or faith-related campuses in the United States.

The sector’s diversity is one of its chief assets, along with its ability to adapt quickly to the needs of students in a fast-changing world and business landscape. “I have been with cIcu for seven years,” says Anglin, “and in that short time, we have seen ever more institutions adding new programs of study and making higher education accessible through evolving delivery methods. This is working; enrollment continues to hold steady with a more than 10 percent increase in the last decade.”

Communicating to the public this enduring strength and vitality of the Independent Sector is another enduring goal of cIcu. In fact its research and policy analysis work is cited by former president (2002 – 2009) Abraham M. Lackman as extremely useful. “The figures that cIcu produces for the sector reveal the power of the sector—as an economic engine, as a major employer, and as serving a strong public mission.”

“The private sector serves a public mission. This is an important finding which came from the research at cIcu.”
Abraham M. Lackman, cIcu president 2002 – 2009

In 2013, New York’s Independent Sector generated $74.3 billion in economic activity and employed 394,400 individuals (190,500 direct employees in addition to 203,900 indirect and induced jobs).

“Students are at the core of what we do. When the Independent Sector of higher education is vibrant and supported, students have a remarkable array of choices, from small, focused schools to truly world-class research universities.”
Laura L. Anglin, cIcu president 2009 - present

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There are similar organizations in 37 other states and DC, but cIcu gets high marks for effectiveness.”

60 YEARS OF CICU PRESIDENTS

Francis H. Horn 1956-1971
Jack Kirkpatrick 1971-1975
Henry D. Paley 1975-1984
C. Mark Lawton 1985-1994
James C. Ross 1994-2002
Abraham M. Lackman 2002-2009
Laura L. Anglin 2009- present

FREE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS FAMILIES AND COUNSELORS

2013 figures:

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(continued on next page)
NEW YORK’S 100+ PRIVATE, NOT-FOR-PROFIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Adelphi University
Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Albany Law School
Albany Medical College
American Academy McAllister Institute
American Museum of Natural History, Richard Gilder Graduate School
Bank Street College of Education
Bard College
Barnard College
The Belanger School of Nursing
Borcuia College
Canisius College
Cazenovia College
Clarkson University
Cochran School of Nursing
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Watson School of Biological Sciences
Colgate University
College of Mount Saint Vincent
The College of New Rochelle
The College of Saint Rose
Columbia University
Concordia College
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art
Cornell University
The Culinary Institute of America
Daemen College
Dominican College
D’Youville College
Elms College
Excelsior College
Fei Tian College
Finger Lakes Health College of Nursing
Fordham University
Hamilton College
Hartwick College
Helene Fuld College of Nursing
Hilbert College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Houghton College
Iona College
Ithaca College
Keuka College
The King’s College
Le Moyne College
Long Island University
Manhattan College
Manhattan School of Music
Manhattanville College
Mary College
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
Medaille College
Memorial College of Nursing
Mercy College
Metropolitan College of New York
Molloy College
Montefiore School of Nursing
Mount Saint Mary College
Nazareth College
The New School
New York Chiropractic College
New York College of Podiatric Medicine
New York Institute of Technology
New York School of Interior Design
New York University
Niagara University
Nyack College
Pace University
Paul Smith’s College of Arts and Sciences
Phillips Beth Israel School of Nursing
Pratt Institute
Relay Graduate School of Education
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Roberts Wesleyan College
Rochester Institute of Technology
The Rockefeller University
The Sage Colleges
Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing
Sarah Lawrence College
Siena College
Skidmore College
St. Bonaventure University
St. Elizabeth College of Nursing
St. Francis College
St. John Fisher College
St. John’s University
St. Joseph’s College, New York
St. Joseph’s College of Nursing at St. Joseph’s Health
St. Lawrence University
St. Thomas Aquinas College
Syracuse University
Teachers College, Columbia University
Touro College and University System
Trocare College
Union College
University of Rochester
Utica College
Vassar College
Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology
Villa Maria College of Buffalo
Wagner College
Webb Institute
Wells College
Yeshiva University

Find us on the web:
www.cicu.org
www.nycolleges.org