Another summer has flown by and I can’t believe the first month of the fall semester is already upon us! However, it’s comforting to see the Niagara students on campus again.

I would like to share with you two major events that have occurred over the past few months. First, I am proud to announce that James Schell is returning as our graduate assistant and will be participating in graduate school fairs throughout New York state. James’ other responsibilities include overseeing the graduate website, welcoming prospective students to Niagara, and conducting campus tours. If you are interested, you can go to one of his classes with him in order to get the full graduate student experience.

The second point of interest is our 4+1 agreement with Keuka College that enables undergraduate business students at Keuka College to obtain an MBA degree at Niagara University in one year. You can read all about it in the article below.

As always, should any of you (or any one you know) like a campus tour or want to receive a graduate application, we would be glad to accommodate that request. Please feel free to contact me at 716-286-8769 or ctejada@niagara.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.

Carlos E. Tejada
Associate Dean for Graduate Recruitment

Niagara and Keuka Sign Agreement

Niagara University and Keuka College recently signed an agreement that grants Keuka business graduates admission into Niagara’s one-year Master of Business Administration program.

“We are looking forward to a great partnership that will benefit both academic institutions,” said Carlos E. Tejada, associate dean for graduate recruitment at Niagara.

Graduates of Keuka College who have completed the foundation courses and meet the prescribed admission standards will be considered for admission to the Niagara University program. The plan offers graduates an opportunity to plan their academic program carefully and take advantage of the experience afforded by full-time study for the MBA degree.

After five years of college study, the graduate will have obtained both an undergraduate degree from Keuka College and an MBA from Niagara University.

For more information, please contact Carlos Tejada at 716-286-8769.
Greetings from Director Peggy Choong’s Desk

This is another exciting year for all of us. We will welcome into our MBA family nearly a hundred new students this year, more than 20 percent of whom are international and travel from Germany, Hungary, Canada, Spain, Saudi Arabia, and Asia. Our students now represent most continents of the world!

Our MBA club will be making announcements to hold elections very soon. This is a great way to get involved and build relationships with your colleagues. Look for these announcements on the Web and in your e-mails.

This year, we are also blessed to have three new faculty join our department. Dr. Hoontaek Seo joins us from the University of Minnesota, where he was teaching since fall 2009. He earned his Ph.D. in finance from Michigan State University and has research interests in security issues, corporate governance, and divestitures.

Lisa Williams will be teaching our organizational development classes and is a Ph.D. candidate at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Dr. Lei Han has a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Arlington and is also a CPA. Her research interests are in employee compensation, earnings management and corporate governance.

As always, please come by to chat with us. We are always delighted to meet with you.

Ron Winkley Named New CJ Director

I am excited to have the opportunity to be the graduate director of the criminal justice program at Niagara University. After retiring as Lewiston police chief in June 2007 after 26 years on the force, I was proud to join the faculty of Niagara as a professional in residence.

I enjoy working with undergraduate criminal justice majors and minors and will continue to show the same amount of excitement when working with the graduate criminal justice students. As director, I intend to broaden the graduate program by expanding the role our criminal justice professionals play, as well as bringing in new instructors, to offer our students the knowledge, information, and opportunities necessary to prepare them for a professional position in the criminal justice system.

You can contact me at 716-286-8089 or rwinkley@niagara.edu.

Niagara Ranked Among the Best

NU Is Only School in WNY Recognized for Enriching Students’ Experience

Niagara University is again listed among the best colleges and universities in the north, according to annual rankings released Aug. 17, 2010, by U.S. News and World Report. NU is listed 58 among 171 colleges and universities in the northeastern United States that provide a full range of undergraduate and master’s degree programs.

In addition to the regional ranking, U.S. News also highlights schools that are recognized for outstanding programs aimed at enriching the students’ experience. These rankings focus on internships, the first-year experience, learning communities, senior capstone, service learning, study abroad, undergraduate research/creative projects and writing in disciplines. Niagara was recognized in the area of service learning, and it was the only Western New York institution to receive recognition in any one of the categories.

Niagara’s service-learning program was also highlighted in a special listing of outstanding examples of such programs across the nation. Only 29 institutions among all the colleges and universities in the country were selected for the service-learning honor.
Upcoming Events

NU Theatre
Fall 2010 Season
Oct. 28 – Nov. 7
“The Real Thing”
A witty play about love by Tom Stoppard
Nov. 18 – 21
“Wonder of the World”
a comedy set in Niagara Falls by David Lindsay-Abaire
Dec. 2 – 12
Dance Theatre of Niagara
Created by Peter Bennett, Terri Filips, Gary Marino and Stacy Żawadzki-Janusz
Order tickets, select seats and print out tickets at www.niagara.edu/theatre or leave a message at 716-286-8685.
Box office hours: Monday thru Friday 3 – 5 p.m. and one hour prior to curtain.
Hope to see you at our newly renovated theatre!

“Failure to prepare is preparing to fail.”
– John Wooden

Education

Programs in Math, Science, and Technology Now Offered

Teachers who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills in the critical educational areas of math, science, and technology – and be accredited for doing so – can now take advantage of a new program being offered at Niagara University. In response to national and state calls for teachers with additional expertise in these areas, the university will offer a new series of coursework in math, science, and technology instruction that leads to a Master of Science in Education degree or a certificate of advanced study.

“These cutting-edge programs are consistent with the initiatives of the Board of Regents and of the Gates Foundation,” said Robert M. Bennett, chancellor emeritus of the New York State Board of Regents. “As we move forward, we must ensure that teaching and learning will have a greater focus in the areas of math, science, and technology, as these skills are critical in the global economy and in today’s high-stakes professions.”

Niagara University’s College of Education has long been a proponent of increasing the preparation of teachers in these core areas. Federally funded grants, such as the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant, as well as state-funded initiatives, like the Math and Science Partnership Grant, have resulted in gains in student achievement through a partnership between neighboring P-12 schools and Niagara University faculty involved in education and the arts and sciences.

Additionally, the university recently hosted an innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Camp, which was designed to increase academic achievement in science and mathematics by enhancing classroom teachers’ subject matter content knowledge and teaching skills through the integration of appropriate technology.

Educational Leadership Offers Online Options

Niagara University’s College of Education is launching a new, innovative, online master’s degree program in educational leadership. This program, which has been recognized for its excellence in preparation of future leaders, is now available online for candidates seeking administrative certification. Niagara is known for its balance of research and practice as well as qualified and caring faculty.

This online master’s degree program in educational leadership leads to school building and school district leadership certification and offers flexibility, convenience, and collaboration with colleagues around New York state and the United States. The College of Education is NCATE accredited and the educational leadership program is recognized by and aligned with program standards of the Educational Leadership Constituent Council. The ELCC has identified the internship component of this program as an exemplar.

For additional information, please contact the graduate education office at 716-286-8336 or grad-ed@niagara.edu.

MA-IS

MA-IS Program Continues to Grow

With four students having walked across the stage in May with their master’s degrees in hand, and seven new students beginning their graduate studies last month, the Master of Arts – Interdisciplinary Studies program continues to grow and build a reputation as the best graduate degree for students looking for a unique opportunity to create their own curriculum. Strengths in nonprofit leadership and higher education fields have appealed to students looking to enhance their careers or to start building one. Our May 2010 graduates completed capstone projects in nonprofit volunteer recruitment, transfer students and university admissions, college student engagement, and international economic aid.

For additional information on how to self-design a 33-credit hour master’s degree, go to www.niagara.edu/interdisciplinary/index.htm.
NU Recognized

Niagara a “Great College to Work For”

NIU Is Only WNY School Also Named to Chronicle’s Honor Roll

Niagara University ranks as one of the top colleges and universities to work for among medium-size institutions in the United States, according to a survey released in July by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Niagara is also the only Western New York institution to be named to the Honor Roll of “Great Colleges to Work For” based on the number of times it was listed in 12 individual recognition categories examined in the nationwide survey. The Honor Roll features 39 colleges and universities recognized for creating exceptional work environments.

Niagara was ranked prominently in 11 of the 12 categories, including compensation and benefits, confidence in senior leadership, teaching environment, work/life balance, and respect and appreciation.

“Niagara University is certainly proud of the distinction of being named to the Chronicle’s 2010 Honor Roll,” said the Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., president of NU. “But the important thanks belong to the faculty, staff and administrators who are the heart of our university. They are the reason Niagara University is a great place to work.”

This year, 277 institutions participated in the survey, including four-year colleges and universities as well as community colleges. Participants were segmented into a four-year or two-year category, and classified within these categories based on the size of their undergraduate and graduate enrollment.

The results were determined by responses from more than 42,500 administrators, faculty and staff members and an institutional audit that captured demographic data and workplace policies at the participating colleges and universities. It was administered by ModernThink LLC, a human-resources consulting firm that has conducted many “Best Places to Work” surveys for various groups.

This is the third annual report on the academic workplace by the Chronicle. Niagara ranked among the top institutions in both the 2008 and 2009 surveys.