

# UHA News



The monthly newsletter for the community and partners of the University Heights Association.

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## ACP celebrates start of historic Student Center project

Celebrating the start of its most significant construction project since finishing its flagship building in 1927, Albany College of Pharmacy officially broke ground Oct. 2 on a Student Center that will be the jewel of a newly expanded University Heights campus.

“This is an historic day for ACP,” said President James J. Gozzo, Ph.D. “The Student Center will be the centerpiece of our campus, an inviting, versatile space that will provide a central gathering place to bring our growing community together, a welcoming space that will greatly enhance the environment in which our students live and learn.”

Joining Dr. Gozzo as speakers at the Family Weekend event for approximately 100 guests were Albany Mayor Gerald D. Jennings, ACP Board of Trustees Chair Kandyce J. Daley, Student Government Association President Nicole Griffiths, John Egan, President of Renaissance Corp. of Albany, and Jeanne H. Neff, D.A., President of The Sage



Colleges and Chair of the UHA Board of Directors. State Sen. Neil Breslin also was among those in attendance.

The 54,000-square-foot Student Center will blend contemporary and traditional architecture, featuring a unique 1,800-square-foot angular glass atrium entryway as its signature design element. Inside, visitors will find a 500-seat auditorium that can be converted into two 250-seat lecture halls, and a 350-seat cafeteria and 5,000-square-foot bookstore that will serve students at ACP and its UHA partners – Albany Law School, Albany Medical Center and The Sage Colleges.

The facility, with a construction budget of \$11

million, also will include a mezzanine lounge, private dining room, student offices, a game room and offices for ACP’s Office of Student Affairs.

When it is completed in early 2006, the Student Center will be the focal point of a campus undergoing a remarkable evolution at the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. ACP is in the midst of a strategic growth plan that will see the student population double to approximately 1,400 students from 2001-07 through the addition of new academic programs and enhancements to its core Doctor of Pharmacy degree program. The college has nearly 1,000 students currently.

The University Heights Association was created to benefit Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Law School, Albany Medical Center and The Sage Colleges and any other nonprofit entities that may subsequently be included. UHA enhances the economic vitality and quality of life of its constituents and neighbors.

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## UHA fall enrollment update

Addiction Among Professionals: Vulnerability, Diagnosis and Intervention, a symposium held Oct. 29 at Albany Law School to address the serious and complex issues of substance abuse among professionals, was a huge success.

This University Heights Association collaborative symposium, held in the Dean Alexander Moot Court Room, attracted students, faculty and alumni from each of the four member institutions – Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Law, Albany Medical Center and The Sage Colleges.

Participants had the opportunity to hear

experts address vulnerability in the professions of medicine, law and pharmacy, attend a presentation by noted researchers on the science and biology of addiction, hear the compelling first-hand story of a recovering professional, view a mock intervention and develop their own intervention skills by participating in profession-specific scenarios.

Attendees gave the symposium an enthusiastic review and ended the day armed with valuable diagnosis and intervention skills, and a deeper understanding of addiction within their profession.

## Thoughts from the Executive Director:

The University Heights campus is dynamic and constantly evolving, as are the relationships and collaborations among its member institutions. When one envisions the new student center, it is hard to remember what the 31 acres looked like before the completion the new law school building, the residence halls, the Center for Medical Science building and the renovation of the CBA building. Each piece has contributed to making this campus a reality, and ACP's new student center is the glue that will bring it all together.



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