“Cultivating Innovation,” has been selected as the theme for the College’s 100th Anniversary celebration, which will take place during the 2011-12 academic year. The announcement was made by President Keen following the decision of the 100th Anniversary Steering Committee and greeted enthusiastically by students, faculty, and staff.

The logo—the number 100 in a green, block style with an atomic symbol interwoven over the second zero—will be used throughout the centennial in advertising, publications, alumni events, and many other internal and external uses. It was the unanimous choice of the Steering Committee, which is being chaired by Senior Vice President and CFO George LaRosa.

The theme was developed by the Office of Institutional Advancement and the design by Creative Director Jon Goldstein. Both incorporate references to the College’s birth as an agricultural institution with its evolution into SUNY largest college of technology. Over 300 logos for such anniversaries held by colleges and other institutions throughout the country were researched to spark ideas that would fulfill the objective of blending Farmingdale’s rich past and the promise of its future.

“The theme and logo accurately express Farmingdale’s development and its history,” LaRosa said. “It’s a terrific symbol of our progress, one we can all be proud of.”

The committee is developing a series of events throughout 2011-12 to celebrate the anniversary and sub-groups focusing on marketing, advertising, alumni, student events, external relations, physical plant, and a variety of other areas are contributing ideas for the celebration. The sub-groups include representation from campus constituencies such as administration, students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

“There were many wonderful ideas for logos and themes, and it was not an easy decision—and the discussions were spirited,” said Patrick Calabria, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, who is serving on the Steering Committee. “But, ultimately, the committee embraced one concept, and Jon Goldstein did a splendid job in developing the final product based on the input that was provided.”

The rollout of the logo and theme will begin this month and will be incorporated in advertising beginning in the summer. Offices are urged to use the 100th Anniversary logo on any premiums being distributed for 2011-12 as well as on any publications that are appropriate for its use.
New Director of Veterans' Services is Named

Eric Farina, who has served with U.S. forces in Afghanistan, has been named Director of Veterans' Affairs. Farina, of East Northport, will be responsible for coordinating a variety of veterans’ services on campus, including registration and financial aid, and will also develop events and activities to engage the veteran population on campus in student life. The College has about 70 student veterans.

“I am really looking forward to this new challenge,” Farina said. “Farmingdale has a growing veteran population and I wanted to be part of an effort to provide excellent services to this specific and deserving group. The College should be commended for making this a priority.”

Farina began his military career as a Military Policeman for the U.S. Army in Stuttgart, Germany in 1988. While teaching World Geography, World History and Political Science in high school in Georgia, he served in the infantry of the Army National Guard from 2003-10, spending a year in force protection in Afghanistan as a Non-Commissioned Officer. He was named the 69th Infantry Full-Time NCO of the year in 2009.

In his most recent assignment, Farina was a Training NCO for Company B of the 69th Infantry, managing military school attendance, coordinating tactical and commercial transportation, and serving as a rifle squad leader.

“Eric is going to be the most important component in not only making veterans feel welcome, but in assisting them in their transition to students in a variety of ways,” said Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Tom Corti. “He is a great addition to the student affairs staff, but more importantly, a great addition for our student veterans.”

Patricia Polenz and Dylan Sullivan Recommended for Fulbright Honors

Two Farmingdale students among the six that submitted applications have been “recommended” for scholarships by the National Fulbright Screening Committee—a major hurdle toward a potential Fulbright scholarship, one of the most prestigious awards in academia.

Patricia Polenz, a Technology Studies major (with a concentration in psychology), and Dylan Sullivan, Visual Communications major (with a concentration in graphic design), have advanced in the process, which began in October. Polenz hopes to conduct graduate study and research in social policy and aging at the University of Helsinki while Sullivan hopes to do studies leading to an MFA in Graphic Arts at the Estonia Academy of Arts.

Those recommended will now be reviewed and ranked by the supervising agency in the host country abroad. Final selection of scholarship recipients will be announced by the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board this spring.

Indoor Track Teams Nationally Ranked

Farmingdale’s men’s and women’s indoor track teams were nationally ranked in the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association’s first poll of the 2011 season. The men’s team was ranked eighth in NCAA Division III and fourth in the Atlantic Region while the women’s team was ranked 22nd nationally and ninth in the Atlantic Region. The rankings represent the first time in the College’s history a team has been ranked in the Top 10 in the nation.

The Rams have four players qualified in five events at the NCAA Division III National Championship in Columbus, Ohio. Junior Deshaun Thomas of Jamaica, N.Y has qualified in the 55 meters, senior Qasim Ellis of Farmingdale has qualified in both the triple jump and long jump, sophomore Corine Magee of Mastic has qualified in the 55 meters, and sophomore Victoria Mandat of West Babylon has qualified in the 55 meter hurdles.
Implementing additional recommendations made by the Students First committee, President Keen last month announced several steps to address issues related to academic success and degree completion, advisement and orientation, and campus technology. Reports on developments in those three areas will be delivered to Dr. Keen in May as part of the on-going Students First effort.

Initially, Provost Lucia Cepriano will explore with Deans, academic department chairs and faculty whether there are barriers within academic programs and among course offerings that hinder student progression. Among her responsibilities in this area will be to begin a study of the Undeclared Major population to better understand the needs of this student population and the pathways they take after the first year, as well as an analysis of both credit and curricular requirements.

She also will develop a system of academic advisement and tracking for all students, work with the technology staff to speed up implementation of the computerized degree audit function, and to devise a comprehensive system of early intervention to identify students performing below levels required for retention. In addition, regular surveys of students at each stage of their academic program will be conducted to detect areas needing improvement in the advisement and orientation system, and an integrated academic advisement and orientation system for new students will be organized.

To assist in those efforts, Dr. Keen named Dr. Marie Hayden-Miles as Acting Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Miles will also continue to serve as Dean of the School of Health Sciences.

“Those areas require day-to-day administrative attention, and there is no one better to do it, or more committed to the enhancement of these areas, than Dr. Miles,” Dr. Keen said.

Finally, a Task Force on Technological Aspects of Student Records and Advisement has been organized and will be chaired by Assistant Vice President for Administrative Services Kevin Rooney. The task force will develop technological systems to support data acquisition and reporting, and academic advisement. It also will take steps to ensure the integrity of data incorporated into the College’s IT system.

STEM Summit at FSC

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Diversity Summit will be held in Roosevelt Hall from 8AM-4:30PM on Thursday, March 31. Organized by Dr. Veronica Henry, the summit will feature presentations on sustainable energy technologies and biotechnologies by leading national, regional and local businesses. National and local leaders from education, business and non-profits are expected to attend, as well as our elected officials. SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher has been invited to give opening remarks. For more information, contact veronica.henry@farmingdale.edu or call 631-420-2622.

In cooperation with the Stony Brook School of Dentistry and the Dental Societies from both Nassau and Suffolk Counties, the dental hygiene department invited neighboring children and teenagers to have their teeth examined and treated as part of GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY.

President Keen drops ceremonial puck at last month’s game between the club hockey team and the University of Albany squad. The game, played to raise funds for cancer awareness, was won by Farmingdale.
People in the News

- Nursing student Ed Figueroa won the 2010-11 Vanguard Award which recognizes outstanding secondary and postsecondary-level students who are enrolled in CTE programs that are not traditional for their gender. Ed was nominated by Professor Kupferman.
- Computer Systems Professor Jill O’Sullivan has been elected to the Manufacturing Executive Leadership Council.
- Save the Date for the April 9 Open House 10AM-noon, Nold Hall Volunteers are needed. Please contact Kathy Valentino at 631-420-2050.
- Know a Farmingdale Grad? Please help the Alumni Office locate our oldest alumna/alumnus so the office can honor him or her during upcoming celebrations. The Office also wants to identify the family with the greatest number of graduates in the family. Contact Eileen Hasson at eileen.hasson@farmingdale.edu or 631-420-2369.
- FSC adjunct visual communications professor Irina Lee has created First Person American <http://www.designigniteschange.org/projects/357-first-person-american>, a project by School of Visual Arts graduate Lee. She aims to document the modern immigrant experience.

Eileen Magri, Winthrop Hospital Among the Honorees at Annual Alumni Awards Dinner

The Nursing Department will be the focus when Eileen P. Magri (Nursing,’78) will be honored as Alumna of the Year at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner to be held Friday, March 25 at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. Magri is the Director of Nursing for Maternal Child Health at Winthrop University Hospital, where she is responsible for the daily operation and patient care activities of Labor and Delivery, Neonatal Intensive Care, Mother/Baby, High-Risk Antepartum, Pediatrics and Pediatric ICU.

Other honorees include EOC assistant director Karen Coutrier (Nursing ’89) as Outstanding Alumna and Mary Stedman, long time professor of Nursing, as the Outstanding Alumni Supporter.

A Winthrop University Hospital employee for 32 years, Magri began her Winthrop career as a Staff Nurse on Pediatrics and quickly assumed increased responsibility in the roles of Assistant Nurse Manager and then as the Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist. During her tenure on the pediatric unit, she was part of the team which opened the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit to care for critically ill children. She eventually was named Operations Planning Specialist, coordinating design teams of over 400 employees, department managers, and physicians to identify cost savings and develop quality, service, and cost monitoring systems to track progress.

Winthrop Hospital also will be honored as the Outstanding Employee Partner, with CEO John Collins accepting the award, and Diane Bachor (Technical Communications ’02) will receive the Outstanding Alumni Winthrop Employee Award. For information on tickets, journal ads and sponsorships for the event, contact Eileen Hasson at x2369 or Sylvia Navarro Nicosia at x2529, or visit www.farmingdale.edu/alumni.

Family of Computer Systems student Edward Beloyianis at Awarding of Posthumous Degree. L-R: Marion (aunt), Leo (uncle), Michael (father), Cousins Alexa and Martina, Tina (grandmother), Edward (grandfather) and President Keen