



2008E Britton



2011W Kraft and Smeltzer

Chambliss Distinguished Professor of Medicine at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

1976 Louis Siegel (MD), '79M (Res) has published his first work of fiction, *Exam Room Confidential: The Wellborne Files* (self-published), a medical mystery novel that serves as a critique of the modern American medical profession and health care system.

1997 Thomas Schneider (D) (see '90 College).

1998 Jayakrishna (Jay) Ambati (Res) is one of 10 recipients of the 2014 National Institutes of Health Director's Pioneer Award. The award of \$3.76 million over five years is granted to scientists proposing exceptionally imaginative approaches to major challenges in biomedical research, which could result in a high

payoff for human health. Jay will use the award to support his study of a new type of DNA and its role in ocular and neurological disorders. An expert on age-related macular degeneration, he's a professor and vice chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Kentucky.

2004 Roger Di Pietro (Pdc), a Rochester-area psychotherapist, has published a book, *The Anxiety Code: Deciphering the Purposes of Neurotic Anxiety* (Lulu).

2005 Mai Le (MD) has been appointed chief medical officer at OncoSec Medical, a San Diego-based company that develops DNA-based intratumoral cancer immunotherapies.

School of Nursing

1974 Christine Thurber Ervin '76W (MA) writes that she's moved to Sarasota, Florida, where she continues to work part-time in a free care clinic, and enjoys tennis and traveling with her husband.

1996 Christine Tebaldi '01 (MS) (see '98 College).

2001 Alexandra Boyer Reidmiller (see '99 College).

Simon Business School

1983 Scott Pomerantz (MBA) (see '81 College).

1989 Philip Yawman (MBA) has been named senior vice president of business development at Finger Lakes Technologies Group. Previously, he was an executive at Frontier Communications.

1994 Art Smith (MBA) has been named MUFJG Union Bank's chief communications and marketing officer for the Americas. Art joined Union Bank in 2010 from Wachovia.

2002 Tamika Nurse (MBA) has written a guidebook for young women professionals, *The It Girl Rules: Get Hired and Stay Hired—Tips on Navigating Your Corporate Career* (It Girl Industries). . . . **Sandra Rowland** (MBA) has been named chief financial officer of Harman International Industries, an audio and entertainment equipment company

based in Stamford, Connecticut.

2010 Marcus Cano (MBA) has been named market director of program execution at the Sierra Providence Health Network in El Paso, Texas.

Warner School of Education

1976 Christine Thurber Ervin (MA) (see '74 Nursing).

2011 Ashley Smeltzer (MS) and **Melissa Kraft** '13 (MS) were married in July in Wilmington, Delaware. Melissa writes: "Each of us was previously an assistant in the athletic department, and are now head coaches in our respective sports (Ashley in field hockey and I in women's basketball) at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia.

2013 David Hamilton (EdD) (see '97 Eastman). . . . **Melissa Kraft** (MS) (see '11).

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Lillie Kreisberg '32N, October 2014

Helen Holly Stiefel '35, June 2013

Janet Burt Russell '37, September 2014

Herbert M. Brill '39E, October 2014

Lorran Latham '39E, October 2014

Irwin I. Eisenberg '40E, July 2014

Cathrine Zaenglein Weisenbeck '41, September 2014

Donald N. Groff '42, October 2014

William B. Mason '42, '50M (MD), October 2014

Winifred Freisem Phetepplace '42N, October 2014

Francis Briggs Tenny '42, April 2014

Esther Conwell '44 (MS), '11 (Honorary)

Henry W. Jann '44, October 2014

Mary Donowick Olin '44N, October 2014

Sarah Bergh Brooks '46E (MA), October 2014

Lucia Crocheron Greer '46E, September 2014

Adon M. Foster '47E, '48E (MM), October 2014

Max Landsman '47, September 2014

Jeanne Tarr Moreland '47E,
July 2013

Leo F. Smith '47,
September 2014

Clawson Y. Cannon '48E,
October 2014

Geraldine Denering Gamburd '48,
September 2014

Elaine Scott Sewell '48N,
October 2014

Jo Anne Patton Steubing '48E,
October 2014

Leslie A. Walker '48M (MD),
November 2014

Horace V. Appgar '49E,
September 2014

J. Carl Hornberger '49M (MD),
October 2014

Galway M. Kinnell '49 (MA),
October 2014

George H. Matter '49,
August 2014

Lillian Rubin Scott '49E,
November 2013

David I. Wells '49,
July 2014

John V. Adkin '50,
October 2014

Richard W. Eckler '50,
October 2014

Dale C. Lindenmuth '50,
April 2014

John T. Miller '50E (MM),
October 2014

Donald A. Wormer '50,
October 2014

John A. Garnish '51,
October 2014

Helen Moresh Kennedy '51,
November 2014

Ralph W. Keyes '51,
February 2013

Raymond H. Nagell '51, '52 (MS),
October 2014

Harold Silver '51,
November 2014

Ralph F. Rauch '52E (MM),
September 2014

Daniel Klein '54 (PhD),
July 2014

Lois Laymon Lyddon '54E,
September 2014

William M. Mack '55,
October 2014

William L. Sutton '55M (MS),
March 2014

Phyllis Owens Weber '55,
November 2014

James L. Ferro '56,
November 2014

Carrie Shaw Groppe '56N,
September 2014

Monica Laughlin '56E (MM),
October 2014

Ruth Anne Williams Parker '56,
'57N, October 2014

Marie Dephillip Vella '56E,
October 2014

TRIBUTE

Rita Shane: 'A Unique Star Among Us'

A little bit of sunshine left Rochester when my dear friend and colleague Rita Shane, professor of voice at Eastman since 1989, died in October after a brief and courageous battle with cancer at the age of 78. Rita was a world-renowned opera singer of a rare vocal category (dramatic coloratura soprano) and equally rare as an artistic colleague. A native of New York City, she didn't attend a music school but studied at Barnard College under Beverly Peck Johnson, a brilliant vocal technician whom I knew later in my own studies in piano accompanying at the Juilliard School. Rita became a leading soprano at the Metropolitan Opera for 10 seasons after her 1973 debut in what became her signature role, the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. She also sang at the Chicago Lyric, San Francisco, New York City, and many other American opera companies, as well as in Milan, Vienna, Munich, and a dozen other houses in Europe and South America. She performed roles in *Manon*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Carmen*, and *La bohème*, as well as creating the title role of *Miss Havisham's Fire* by Eastman alumnus Dominic Argento '58E (PhD) for New York City Opera.

Rita taught her students with a sunny disposition and an ebullient smile that was not only figurative, but a vital element of the vocal technique that she cultivated with her devoted and successful Eastman students. Many of them would move to New York City after completing their degrees, where she generously helped them with their careers whenever she could. One of the earliest of these alums was tenor John McVeigh '93E, who when not at Rita's bedside during her illness this fall, was rehearsing himself at the Met for seven productions this season.

Every week for 25 school years, this command-

ing but eminently practical diva found it worth her while to rise at 5 a.m. on Tuesday mornings at her home on the Upper West Side, deal with the vagaries of the airlines and whatever the weather threw her way, and teach a nearly full load of voice majors before heading back to New York on Thursday afternoons to coach professional singers on the weekend. I've known this about Rita since I joined Eastman's Department of Voice and Opera in 1995; another soulmate of even longer standing, Eisenhart Professor of Voice



COLORATURA: Shane's signature role was the notoriously difficult Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

Carol Webber, said that "Rita's extraordinary voice, truly one of a kind, was matched by her warmth, generosity, and fierce loyalty." Rita loved quality in all things—good singing, good scotch, late night meals at Max or the Inn on Broadway, which was her home away from home, and mostly, the well-deserved admiration of her students and colleagues. She was a unique star among us, dauntless, ageless, and unforgettable. **R**

—RUSSELL MILLER

Miller is the chair of the Department of Voice and Opera at Eastman. A memorial concert for Rita Shane will take place in Eastman's Kilbourn Hall at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 19.

Dale H. Goodfellow '57N,
September 2014

Robert K. Johnson '57M (MD),
October 2014

A. Donald Smith '57 (PhD),
October 2014

Margaret Thurston Wrisley '57,
October 2014

John E. Kampf '58,
October 2014

Edwin L. Alderman '59,
October 2014

James H. Taylor '59,
October 2014

Peter B. Heinrich '60,
October 2014

Eloise Jarvis '60E (PhD),
October 2014

Paul J. Olscamp '62 (PhD),
October 2014

David J. Statt '63, '65 (MS),
November 2014

Sandra Sue Quick Kuehn '65E (MM),
October 2014

Sylvia Bonavilla Schwartzman
'66N, October 2014

Peter J. Knapp '67 (MA),
September 2014

Peter Dwyer '68,
November 2014

Douglas I. Quinney '68,
September 2014

Marlin D. Schutte '68 (MS),
October 2014

Tansukh G. Dorawala '69 (PhD),
October 2014

TRIBUTE

Esther Conwell '44 (MS): 'Lived and Breathed Science'

Esther Conwell '44 (MS) first came to the University in 1942 to pursue a PhD in physics, immediately after graduating from Brooklyn College that same year. It was at Rochester that Esther, working with Professor Victor Weisskopf, made one of her most important scientific contributions, one that helped her to earn the National Medal of Science in 2010.

It was the development of a theory that describes the scattering of electrons by impurities in a semiconductor. Ultimately, this work would lead to an understanding of how transistors operate, which are the building blocks of integrated circuits. But at that time, physicists were just beginning to study silicon and germanium materials; and the Conwell-Weisskopf theory helped to explain how impurity atoms would affect the transport of electrons through the semiconductor.

Remarkably, Esther completed this signature work in effectively a few months, as Weisskopf was being sent to Los Alamos to aid in the war effort there. She would receive a master's degree in physics from Rochester in 1944, and move on to the University of Chicago for her doctorate, which she earned four years later.

The seminal paper describing the Conwell-Weisskopf theory did not appear in print until 1950, as it was deemed classified material.

Meanwhile, Esther went on to a career largely in industry, working first at Bell Laboratories (1951 to 1952), and then at GTE laboratories until 1972. It was at GTE that she studied the effect of high electric fields on the transport of "hot" (or highly energetic) electrons in semiconductors. In fact, for one of my own research projects we were interested in understanding the transport of "hot" electrons in nanometer scale semiconductors, and we discovered that Esther had literally written the



PRESIDENTIAL HONORS: President Barack Obama named Conwell a National Medal of Science winner in 2010.

defining book on this topic some 30 years earlier!

In 1972, Esther returned to Rochester to work at Xerox, where she investigated the conduction of electrons in organic molecules, which had direct relevance to the xerographic process. After "retirement" from Xerox in 1998, Esther joined the chemistry department at Rochester, with an appointment in physics coming several years later. At Rochester, she was interested in understanding the conduction of electrons through DNA molecules, and especially how the electrons would interact with the DNA molecular vibrations to create "polarons."

Esther lived and breathed science. Her accomplishments earned her many accolades even before President Barack Obama honored her with the National Medal of Science. She was the only Rochester faculty

member to be a member of the National Academies of Science and Engineering and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1997, she received the Edison Medal. In 2011, the University awarded her an honorary doctorate.

When Esther died last November at the age of 92, she was still actively working, coming to her office almost daily. It is important to note that besides her scientific contributions, Esther's lasting legacy will be her inspiration to women around the globe to enter the physical sciences. Often the only woman, at times unwelcomed, in a field ruled by males, Esther had to overcome countless barriers to achieve the success and recognition that she deserved. **R**

—TODD KRAUSS

Krauss is chair of the Department of Chemistry at Rochester.

Robert Glassman '69M (Flw),
April 2013

Anthony A. Scribani '71,
November 2014

Eileen North Livingston '72,
November 2014

Philip L. McEniry '72S (MBA),
October 2014

Edgar E. Riecke '72 (Flw),
October 2014

Lila Gribbroek Miller '73W (MA),
October 2014

Jerome M. Alvermann '74S (MBA),
October 2014

Gerard F. Driscoll '74S (MBA),
October 2014

Roberta Flesh '75M (Res),
September 2014

Timothy J. Mauer '75,
October 2014

Suzanne Shapiro Presser '75,
October 2014

Juvenal Casaverde '76 (PhD),
October 2014

Margaret Ashida '78,
October 2014

Lisa Kilburne-Huson '79,
October 2014

David C. Ratajczak '80,
October 2014

Antonio E. Castellvi '81M (Res), '82M
(Flw), February 2014

Steven E. Fritz '86M (MD),
September 2014

Mark A. Redline '87S (MBA),
August 2014

Robert J. Warth '87S (MBA),
November 2014

Derrick J. Smith '88E (MM),
November 2014

Charles L. Dowling '91,
October 2014

Harriet Koning '92W (MS),
August 2014

Scott J. Theriault '95,
October 2014

Desiree Stockholm '12N (MS),
November 2014