



## Dr. Spiro Tzetis | PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS

DR. SPIRO TZETZIS '91 IS PROUD OF HIS GREEK HERITAGE, although his name can be a bit of a tongue twister. "When people see two Zs they just stop," he says. "If you drop the first T and spell it Zetzis, it's easy to pronounce." That advice will come in handy in his new position as medical director of the Department of Health Services. A board certified physician of the American Board of Family Medicine, Tzetis brings a wealth of expertise and community connections that will help him provide quality care to more than 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students, and their spouses. According to Rebecca Dayton, associate vice president for health and wellness in the Division of Student Affairs, Tzetis was chosen because he is a caring, sensitive, and skilled physician. "We wanted a combination of confidence, professionalism, and genuine care for students," she says. "Dr. Tzetis exhibited all of that and more."

A Syracuse native, Tzetis decided to attend the university on the Hill because his parents—who emigrated from Greece in 1956 and established a neighborhood market—wanted him to stay close to home so he could continue to work in the family business. With an eye toward medical school, he majored in biology with a focus on microbiology. "I had a wonderful experience with great professors and mentors in the biology program," Tzetis says. "And I made lifelong friends." After four years at Chicago Medical School, Tzetis returned to Syracuse for his family practice residency. "I came to think of Chicago as home, so it was a difficult decision to do my residency in Syracuse," he says. "The main reason I came back was for family."

Now, after 13 years in private practice, Tzetis is ready to broaden his professional horizons. An avid Orange football, basketball, and lacrosse fan, he says he's always felt a connection to the University and jumped at the chance to become

more involved with SU students. On the job since June, Tzetis is getting used to his new role as head of a 30-member team of health care providers and business staff, including a full-time information technology employee who manages thousands of digital medical records. Tzetis also supervises a lab, a pharmacy, and SU's student-run volunteer ambulance service. "I'm working with a marketing committee to make sure students are aware of the many health services available to them," he says. "I want them to feel comfortable coming to us for help."

Tzetis's years of experience as a family physician have prepared him well for the sheer volume of students who come to Health Services with an assortment of injuries, illnesses, and psychological issues. "I was exposed to so many things in family practice that I'm comfortable knowing how to deal with a variety of situations and crises," he says. "I had the whole spectrum of patients, but now I'll be focused on students at various stages of maturity."

When he's not treating flu outbreaks, teaching students how to take care of body piercings, or issuing cold weather advisories, Tzetis participates in activities associated with his Greek culture. A lifelong member of St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church, he has served on the parish council for 15 years and is involved in organizing the church's annual festival. In 2005, he received the American Hellenic Progressive Association's Community Service Award for his active role in the local Greek community. "My main hobby is my children," says Tzetis, whose daughter and son, ages 10 and 8, share his love of SU sports. "My kids enjoy coming to the games with me, and I've even converted my wife from a St. John's supporter to an Orange fan. It's good to be back in the SU family."

—Christine Yackel

Brianna Carrier |

## ADVENTURES FAR AND WIDE

LAST SPRING, BRIANNA CARRIER '12 WAS ON A Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute Sea Education Association vessel, the *SS Corwith Cramer*, in the Caribbean studying and documenting changes in water quality when word came that she had been named a 2011 Udall Scholar. Caught up in her research on the floating lab, she had almost forgotten she'd applied for the prestigious scholarship. "I was surprised when I found out I'd been chosen," says the Niagara Falls native, a geography and policy studies major in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Udall Foundation, an independent nonprofit agency established by Congress, provides federally funded scholarships for college students intending to pursue careers related to the environment and Native American students whose career plans include the areas of tribal policy and health care. A member of the Turtle Clan and Mohawk Nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, Carrier is one of only 10 Native American and Alaska Native scholars in this year's Udall Scholarship class—chosen from among 510 candidates at 231 colleges and universities. The award comes with a \$5,000 grant, which Carrier can use for housing and tuition. It also puts her in touch with other Udall Scholars via listserv—a valuable way to network with her peers. "I've been able to connect with a number of people, which will help me in my career," she says. "After graduation, I plan to apply to Teach for America, or the National Congress of American Indians to work at the tribal embassy."

For Carrier, the scholarship represents another accomplishment in a college career that has featured research trips to the warm climes of the Caribbean and the northern reaches of the North American continent. A summer 2010 internship with the Office of Polar Programs of the National Science Foundation was supplemented by a trip to the Canadian Arctic community of Clyde River, helping ignite her interest in sustainability science and the impact of climate change on indigenous peoples. The area is too far north and remote to reach by car; the only way to get to Clyde River is by airplane. "It's a completely different landscape," Carrier says. "When I got off the plane, I couldn't stop looking at the ground. It's all just glacial till—no dirt at all, just black, red, white, and yellow shiny rocks."

In her week-long stay in Canada with a researcher who



studies support services for Inuit women, Carrier experienced firsthand how warmer temperatures due to climate change are affecting those living close to the Arctic Circle. "The people there had never seen bees before," she says. "Until a few years ago it had always been too cold for them. But now there are bees and many people—especially the children—are afraid of them." Carrier notes the residents have many modern amenities, such as computers and satellite TV, but continue to maintain traditional practices, including hunting, fishing, and gathering berries. An expedition by boat to an island to do some low-bush berry picking with a group of local women was an adventure, complete with a seal hunt and a nail-biter of a return trip in the dark.

It was yet another exhilarating, if a bit scary, experience for Carrier, a self-proclaimed homebody who spent little time away from her family before coming to Syracuse University. "Being at SU has been very good for me, with so much opportunity," she says. "There is a good Native population here, so I can stay connected with my culture." Her inspiration to pursue a career dedicated to the betterment of her people comes from her grandmother, Nora Carrier, a teacher on the Six Nations reservation who works tirelessly to instruct Haudenosaunee members in the Onondaga language. "She is a huge influence on me and keeps me going to longhouse," Carrier says. "A lot of what I do is because of her."  
—Paula Meseroll

## J. Michael Haynie | GAME CHANGER


**BARNES  
PROFESSOR OF  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
**Recipient:**

J. Michael Haynie,  
Martin J. Whitman School  
of Management

**Background:**

The Barnes Professorship is named for SU trustee and Whitman School alumnus Steven W. Barnes '82, a member of the Whitman Advisory Council. Barnes has demonstrated loyalty to Whitman and the University throughout the years, and in 2010, endowed the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities. Barnes, a certified public accountant, is managing director at Bain Capital.



J. MICHAEL HAYNIE WENT FLY FISHING IN Montana this summer—his first vacation in five years. It's not surprising he has little time to indulge his favorite pastime, given the whirlwind pace of his teaching, research, and administrative responsibilities as the Barnes Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Whitman School of Management, founder of the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV), and executive director of the newly formed Institute for Veterans and Military Families. "Higher education has something to offer this generation of veterans beyond access to education," says Haynie, who served in the military for 14 years. "Within higher education, we have knowledge, skills, abilities, and resources that have yet to be brought to bear on solving some of the most pressing problems faced by vets and their families."

A native of North Wales, Pennsylvania, Haynie joined the Air Force ROTC as a freshman at the University of Delaware and was commissioned as a second lieutenant at the onset of the first Gulf War. "In college you start thinking seriously about what matters and what doesn't matter to you in the context of what you're going to do with the rest of your life," he says. "What motivated me to join the military was this idea of being part of something bigger than myself."

Ten years into his military career, Haynie was selected to teach at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. As part of the assignment, he was sent to the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he earned a Ph.D. degree in entrepreneurship and business strategy, an interest he developed as an aide-de-camp to a four-star general who was in charge of Air Force Materiel Command. "He wasn't the stereotypical general officer," Haynie says. "He approached what he did in a very entrepreneurial way, and I was fascinated at how that changed what we did for

the better. It was that experience that got me intellectually interested in studying entrepreneurship."

When Haynie left the military in 2006 to pursue an academic career, he was drawn to the Whitman School because it has one of the top entrepreneurship programs in the country and because of SU's Scholarship in Action approach. "I got the sense SU was a place where there would be opportunities for me to use my skills and interests as an academic to actually make a difference in the world one way or another," Haynie says. "While I enjoy academic research—and I've been successful in terms of publishing—it's not what motivates me to get out of bed in the morning. Instead, it's this idea of service and what I can bring to the table to make a difference."

It only took Haynie about five months on the job to see an opportunity and act on it. He was working with a doctoral student who was examining why many immigrants turn to entrepreneurship when they come to this country. Haynie came across similar data about people with disabilities: They are self-employed at a rate two to three times higher than the general population because it allows them to accommodate some of their disability-related issues. "At the time I'd also been reading about the unprecedented number of post-9/11 service members leaving the military with a disability, and those two things came together in my head," he says. "I said to myself, 'Here I am a military veteran, I teach entrepreneurship at a school where the dean is a Vietnam War vet, so why don't we take what we do well and create a social venture that uses our expertise to help veterans with disabilities become business owners?' And that's how the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities was born."

EBV ([whitman.syr.edu/ebv](http://whitman.syr.edu/ebv)) is a game changer for many of the veterans who go through the rigorous training program. It draws on the skills and attributes they learn in the military that are suited to business ownership—self-reliance, single-mindedness on accomplishing a mission, and persevering until the goal is realized. "We try to fill their toolbox with what they don't have, such as the technical and practical skills needed to write a business plan, develop a marketing



strategy, and deal with legal and supply chain issues,” Haynie says. “We also weave disability-related issues into the curriculum to help them understand what resources are available and how to overcome challenges.”

Haynie’s brainchild has proven so successful that EBV is now offered at seven universities nationwide and has expanded to include three new programs: the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans’ Families; Women Veterans Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship; and Operation Endure & Grow, an intensive online entrepreneurship and small business training program for National Guard and Reserve soldiers and their families—all under the umbrella of SU’s new Institute for Veterans and Military Families.

In recognition of the impact these programs are having on the nation’s veterans, Haynie was present at the White House launch of Joining Forces, an initiative spearheaded by First Lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden L’68, H’09, to support and honor service members and their families. “Never in a million years could I have imagined EBV would be so successful,” Haynie says. “We didn’t have a grand plan to take the program nationwide. It was just something we were going to do here at SU because it was the right thing to do and because we could. It was a classic entrepreneurial moment.”

—Christine Yackel

## A NEW MISSION

TODAY IN AMERICA 22.5 MILLION military veterans are facing an urgent crisis: 15 percent are unemployed; 30 percent of veterans ages 18 to 24 can’t find work; 200,000 are homeless on any given night; and 17 young veterans commit suicide on any given day. Syracuse University’s new Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), which officially opened on campus this past Veterans Day, was created to tackle these critical issues head on.

Established with a \$7.5 million gift from JPMorgan Chase, IVMF ([vets.syr.edu](http://vets.syr.edu)) serves as a national center in higher education focused on the social,

economic, education, and policy issues affecting veterans and their families. The institute also acts as an umbrella for all of the Whitman School’s veteran-focused entrepreneurship programs, including the highly acclaimed Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities.

IVMF’s 20 staff members conduct in-depth analyses of the challenges facing the veteran community, capture best practices, and serve as a forum to facilitate new cross-sector partnerships that can offer innovative solutions to some of the service members’ most critical problems.

“We’re excited about the institute’s potential to make a historic difference for this generation of veterans,” says J. Michael Haynie, IVMF founder and executive director. “Higher education has an important role to play because we have skill and experience dealing with trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, and suicide prevention, among other areas of expertise. Now, world-class experts from around the country will have a platform to leverage their knowledge to help service members and their families live more prosperous and productive lives.”

## SUPEOPLE

## Paul Longchamps | HITTING THE TRAIL



WHEN PAUL LONGCHAMPS GOES FOR A WALK, HE covers distances most people only travel in cars. For Longchamps, a 10-mile hike is a breeze. Lately, he's been logging more than 80 miles a week. He regularly walks the several miles between his Liverpool home and campus, where he is a general maintenance worker. "Yesterday I did 25.6 miles," he says one late summer day, checking the pedometer on his smart phone. "If I'd walked around the block when I got home, it would have been a marathon."

Stride after stride, mile after mile, Longchamps is preparing for a lifelong dream, the biggest hike of his life: On February 29, he plans to hit the Appalachian Trail in Georgia and keep hiking for nearly 2,200 miles until he reaches Mt. Katahdin, Maine, in late August. It's an idea that has stirred in him since he was 15, when his mother gave him a backpack and he first heard about the trail at Boy Scout camp in the Adirondacks. And that royal blue backpack, loaded with about 30 pounds of absolute essentials, including a portable solar panel to charge his mobile phone, will accompany him on the journey. "I want to take this backpack because of what it represents to me from 35 years ago," he says.

Longchamps grew up in the Rochester area, struggled with a tumultuous family situation, quit school at age 16, and set out on his own, often finding solace in walking. "I literally walked to Maryland once," he says. "When I'm out there hiking, especially with a backpack, I can go anywhere."

Longchamps, who is taking a personal leave of absence to tackle the Appalachian, began working at the University in 1987, holding positions as a custodian, food service worker, baker, and housing zone worker. During that time,

he and his wife, Karen, have seen their two children come to the Hill to study: Daughter Jolie is a 2008 graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences, and son Carl is a sophomore at SUNY ESF. As an homage to his work as a "light bulb changer," as he puts it, Longchamps launched a blog, "Orange Lightening," to document his trip and has T-shirts for sale at the SU Bookstore, bearing a logo with that title designed by staffer Larissa Deyneka, with profits benefiting the SU Outing Club. "I walk five mph, which is about twice as fast as the average person walks," he says. "I can tell you where I'm going to be and when I'm going to be there, like a freight train."

Setting that kind of blistering pace is routine for Longchamps. He credits Keith Berger, his longtime friend and hiking partner, whom he met at SU, for prodding him back onto the trails nearly a decade ago. They routinely hike twice a week in all sorts of conditions, and because of their work schedules, often find themselves strapping on headlamps and navigating trails in the dark. "My legs just do their thing," he says. "Sometimes it feels like I'm riding a horse. I think about my foot falls being a couple inches farther than I can reach and make the very best of each stride."

A consummate planner, Longchamps lets no detail escape him. Along with preparing his gear and all the logistics involved, he plans to celebrate his 50th birthday, 27th wedding anniversary, and a family reunion during the six-month journey. Through it all, he enjoys the meditative state—the time to think—that long-distance walking provides. "I don't slow down," he says. "It's like nothing to me. I just love to walk."  
—Jay Cox

## Chase Catalano | SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION

DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH STUDENTS ABOUT VARIOUS forms of oppression, Chase Catalano doesn't need them to agree with him. In fact, it's great they disagree, he says. Whether in his role as teacher or social justice advocate, Catalano, director of SU's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center, wants students to interrupt their thoughts, examine their beliefs and experiences—and engage others in conversations. "I want them to make an argument and feel connected to thoughts that are complicated," he says. "College students have an amazing capacity for social change and activism, but it needs to be thoughtful social change and activism."

Students saw powerful examples of activism during October's Coming Out Month events planned by Catalano and the LGBT center staff. Among the events was a keynote lecture by Amy Sonnie '98, a writer and activist who discussed her book, *Revolutionary Voices*, which contains essays from LGBT youth and was named one of the top 10 most challenged books of 2010 by the American Library Association. In November, for the Transgender Day of Remembrance event, the LGBT staff brought in Ryka Aoki, an inspirational trans woman activist and writer. "There is a place and a reason to remember those who have been victimized, but we can also celebrate the enduring spirit of trans identities," Catalano says.

As someone who identifies as a transgender man, Catalano represents a role model to some students and provides a different perspective to others. "They can say they've met someone who is trans, who is queer, who identifies as a man and a feminist, and who is white and talks about anti-racist work," Catalano says. "They can understand my experience and know there is a center where queer people have jobs, and it's a job that's integral to the University."

Catalano, who is originally from Long Island, earned a bachelor's degree from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania. At the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Catalano worked in fraternity and sorority affairs and earned a master's degree in higher education administration. He spent two years at the University of Vermont as a residence hall director before returning to UMass to pursue a doctorate in social justice education. His dissertation, which he plans to finish next spring, focuses on how trans males—people who once identified as females and now identify as males—perceive and embody masculinity and how they negotiate campus life. "They have amazing stories that need to be shared. And obviously some of my understanding comes from my own experience," says Catalano, who also taught Social Diversity in Education at UMass. "While I wasn't trans as an undergradu-

ate, I saw the ways colleges struggle to understand and support trans students."

When he arrived at SU in August 2010, Catalano was impressed with the 10-year-old LGBT center's programming agenda, support services, and connection with LGBT studies—all established through the leadership of his predecessor, Adrea Jaehnig. "It was like walking onto a well-run ship and someone had charted a strong course," he says. His partner, Stephanie Hovsepian G'04, who is a judicial counselor in the Office of Judicial Affairs, also was familiar with the campus as a School of Education graduate.

The fundamental work at the LGBT center remains constant—



advocacy, education, and supporting students as they come out to peers and family members. But Catalano is also planning new initiatives, including reaching out to alumni through center events and social groups, and expanding the center's reach on trans issues by restarting a transgender task force.

Catalano says the resource center continues to make the campus a safer place for students, faculty, staff, and alumni who are LGBT or questioning. "For me, the work is about being aware, not being complacent, and finding out how we can do more," he says.

—Kathleen Haley