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For Release: Immediate

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United Nations Representative from El Salvador Speaks Tuesday Night at University at Albany

ALBANY, N.Y. - Ambassador Ricardo Castaneda, El Salvador's representative to the United Nations, will discuss El Salvador's guerrilla civil war tonight (Tuesday, Dec. 7) at 7 p.m. at the University at Albany. Castaneda's talk, which is free and open to the public, will be in Room 310 of Draper Hall on the University's downtown campus on Western Ave. In addition to the civil war, Castaneda is expected to discuss El Salvador's settlement and political future.

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UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Education Reporters, Photographers and News Directors, please note: Interested in interviewing or photographing December graduates about their job prospects? Are companies looking to hire young college graduates at entry level wages to cut costs? And, since many college students have grown up with computers and used the latest software in college, does this give them an advantage in looking for a job?

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greta Petry (518) 442-3095

University at Albany Salutes 500 December Graduates

ALBANY - An estimated 500 students will be honored at the December Graduates' Assembly at the University at Albany on Sunday, Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. in the Recreation and Convocation Center on the uptown campus.

This honors students who will finished event have requirements for a bachelor's degree by the end of the fall semester. Although degrees are formally conferred in May during commencement, the smaller size of the December ceremony allows the University to acknowledge these students in a more personal way. (Each student's name is announced. He or she shakes hands with President Patrick Swygert and receives graduate's certificate.)

One advantage of finishing degree requirements in December is that these students have four extra months in which to enter the job market before having to compete with thousands of May graduates.

The numbers of University at Albany December graduates have risen slowly but steadily over the past three years, according to the University's Office of Institutional Research. There were 462 graduates in December 1991, 492 graduates in December 1992, and an anticipated 500 undergraduates completing degree requirements this year.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greta Petry (518) 442-3095

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY HOSTS RECEPTION TO WELCOME R. BYRON PIPES

ALBANY - University at Albany President H. Patrick Swygert will host a reception to welcome R. Byron Pipes, the new president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, December 13, in the University Art Museum on the uptown campus.

Through this unusual reception, President Swygert plans to introduce Pipes to the Capital Region higher education community and to extend a warm welcome to Pipes, who became the 17th president of RPI in July 1993.

Prior to moving to RPI, Pipes was provost of the University of Delaware. As chief academic officer and second-ranking administrator of that institution, he cut \$30 million from the budget by enhancing efficiency without undermining academic vigor. During this period, faculty salaries grew by about five percent a year, \$600,000 was invested in new scholarships, and \$15 million was allocated to renew the physical plant.

When he was dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Delaware, Pipes expanded the reputation of the department of chemical engineering and strengthened the departments of civil, mechanical and electrical engineering and the material science program. During his tenure, the College of Engineering had one of the nation's best minority engineering programs with a participation rate, 11.2 percent, that is more than twice the national average of 4.8 percent.



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UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

MEDIA ADVISORY

News Directors, Education Reporters and Photographers

If you are interested in doing an advance story on the University at Albany's December Graduates' Assembly instead of going to the event itself Sunday, December 12, at 1 p.m. at the Recreation and Convocation Center on the uptown campus, you may want to contact one of our December graduates.

Graduating senior Scott Lantzman of Randolph, N.J., is available to speak with reporters. He can be reached at 432-6216. Mr. Lantzman majored in Judaic Studies and Communication, and will begin work in January at a New Jersey Jewish community center.

The December Graduates' Assembly honors students who will have finished their requirements for a bachelor's degree by the end of the fall semester. Although degrees are formally conferred in May during commencement, this is a smaller, more personal ceremony to salute the achievements of the students who are finishing up at this time.

December 10, 1993

