

DePaul University
School for New Learning
Competence-Based Programs for Adults

May 26, 2007

Patricia A. Fennell
President, Albany Health Management Associates, Inc.
582 New Loudon Road
Latham, NY 12110

Dear Pat,

On behalf of all of us who attended Wednesday's Chronic Illness and Postsecondary Education Symposium, I want to thank you for an incredible presentation. People were really blown away both by the material and your skill at presenting it. I think you have made a huge difference in their understanding of chronic illness, from both the inside and the outside, which can have nothing but a helpful effect on our program – and the wider audience we try to reach.

Some representative comments:

“Speaker was outstanding”

Patricia Fennell's presentation was like a biography of the last 12 years of my life. I truly experienced a profound ‘moment of clarity’ during her presentation.”

“[I developed] More empathy for CI students and sensitivity to the four stages.”

“I learned even more about how widespread the need is.”

“I finally felt hopeful of being able to integrate the new chronically ill me with the old me!”

I look forward to finding other ways to collaborate in the future. We began that conversation on the way out of the building, and I would very much like to find ways to continue it. I think all of us have been made more aware of what my husband, after hearing you, named the ‘tsunami’ of chronic illness that we will all have to cope with in the future.

.... Thanks again so much for your time and your brilliance.

Sincerely,

Lynn Royster, Ph.D.
Director, Chronic Illness Initiative