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New at Goucher

Welcome back!

The *Goucher Digest* team hopes everyone had a relaxing summer! This year is already shaping up to be a busy one at Goucher.

Those returning to campus will notice several new changes. Goucher's crowning jewel, the Athenaeum, is finally here! This signature building will be a vital point of connection between the academic, cultural, and social pursuits for community members — both on and off campus. Events celebrating the Athenaeum's opening begin Wednesday, September 9, and culminate in a grand-opening ceremony on Saturday, September 12, at 1:30 p.m. Click [here](#) for a complete listing of Athenaeum opening events, and click [here](#) for more about the grand opening. Also stay tuned for lectures, concerts, and other special events that will be held at the Athenaeum throughout the semester.

The fall semester also marks the start of Goucher's 125th anniversary. Throughout the year,



the college will be holding a series of events to commemorate its long history of educating young women and men and its role as a community resource for Greater Baltimore. Go to www.goucher.edu/125 for more information about the anniversary.

Goucher is also launching a new logo this year. The new design embodies all that is unique about Goucher. The word "Goucher" is in a typeface called Bembo. It is a traditional, distinguished font that reflects the rich legacy of Goucher's history, as well as its rigorous academic program. The word "college" is in a more modern font called Neutraface and is indicative of Goucher's innovative spirit and

willingness to try new things. In short, the college feels this new logo helps reinforce Goucher's place as a leader among liberal arts institutions.

The logo was rolled out this month with the installation of a new lighted sign at the front entrance of the campus. Click [here](#) to view the new logo.

The *Digest* will be your source for this year's exciting events and interesting stories about the goings-on around Goucher. We want to hear from you! If you have a story idea or want to share an achievement, e-mail the *Digest* at digesteditor@goucher.edu.

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Goucher College Welcomes the Class of 2013

The Goucher community is pleased to welcome our talented group of new students and looks forward to their continuing achievements over the next four years.

Here are some data and facts about the members of the Class of 2013:

- The 400 first-year students were chosen from 3,647 applications (the second-largest pool of applications in the college's 125-year history).
- This year's first-year class is 11 percent larger than last year's, despite the troubling economic climate domestically and abroad.
- They come from 350 high schools in 35 states, the District of Columbia, and seven countries.
- 45 percent applied to the college through the Early Action option.
- More than a quarter graduated in the top 10 percent of their classes.
- Nearly half were in the top 20 percent of their high school graduating class.
- Seventeen students are Advanced Placement scholars.
- Their average SAT (combined critical reading and math) is 1,170, up 28 points from last year.
- Their average ACT composite score increased from 26 last year to 27 this year.
- 21 percent are multicultural students, compared with 15 percent of last year's class, making it the most diverse class in the college's history.
- 55 percent received academic awards in high school.

- 69 percent were involved in the fine and performing arts in high school.
- Half were involved with athletics in high school.
- 70 percent performed community service in high school.
- One new student is sponsored through the Iraqi Student Project.
- Two students are recipients of benefits provided through Goucher's participation in the Veteran Administration's Yellow Ribbon Program.
- 81 percent of the first-year class are receiving some form of financial assistance (from all sources), with an average financial aid award of \$28,586.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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The Penurious Professor

By Associate Professor of English Jeffrey Myers

When my paper, "Grading Papers Electronically: 25 Years Later," was accepted at a conference in Barcelona, Spain, I had visions of Sagrada Familia and Dali whimsies. Instead, I presented the paper while working during vacation in South Carolina on a project for my fall classes. What went wrong?

The economy's recent nosedive! When President Ungar asked us all to economize, I decided to deliver my paper virtually instead of in person. So, I created a PowerPoint presentation with voiceovers, which attendees at the conference could view without me being present. Savings to the college: about \$2,000. (You can see the presentation at my college website: <http://faculty.goucher.edu/jmyers/jmyers.htm>.)

I also realized that my electronic grading system (probably familiar to some of you) had been saving the college and students money for my 24 years at Goucher. For example, this year I will teach about 120 students. These students will give me approximately 1,875 pages of writing to grade, which doesn't include drafts and error logs. That's a lot of paper and ink, not to mention wear and tear on printers, all of which is eliminated.

Inspired, I looked for savings in my fall courses. One expense for every student in every course is a handbook of grammar and composition. Since I already had comments on grammar and punctuation built into my electronic grading system, creating an electronic handbook with links to full explanations and exercises would save students the cost of a book. So, while my paper was virtually presenting itself in Barcelona, I was creating an electronic handbook in South Carolina. It now resides on the Blackboard sites (Blackboard is an online course-management tool Goucher uses.) for my fall courses. Savings: \$450 for composition students (plus \$15 for each literature student who uses it).

Next, I realized I could save comp students (English 104 in both fall and spring) even more money by creating a reader from writing readily available online. The reader I previously used in this course costs \$53 on Amazon.com. I could also put composition lessons (outlining, thesis, syntax, diction, etc.) on Blackboard instead of ordering a composition text (\$91 at Amazon). Both reader and composition lessons are also now on Blackboard. Savings: \$4,320 for my English 104 students.

For my *Hamlet* seminar (English 350), I bought 14 used copies (and one new) of the edition I use in the course. Students can either pay me \$5 to keep their copy at the end of the semester or return their copy to me (to be used the next time I teach the course). Amazon's price for an equivalent (newer) edition is \$79. Savings for my English 350 students: \$1,185.

Unfortunately, students in my third course, "*Beowulf* to Dryden" (English 211), will have to purchase textbooks. But who knows? Perhaps I will be able to figure out a way to save money for the students in this class next year.

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Goucher College Announces New Cultural Sustainability Program



Goucher College has begun accepting applicants to its new Master of Arts in Cultural Sustainability program. The program—the only one of its kind in the country—brings together tools from anthropology, history, communications, business and management, linguistics, and activism, and it teaches students how to sustain cultural traditions in an era of increasing homogeneity and globalization.

Cultural sustainability is a new discipline that combines activism, fieldwork, academic scholarship, and grassroots communications to help preserve cultural traditions and communities—whether these are neighborhoods, villages, cities, ethnic groups,

religious or spiritual groups, tribes, or any other populations with shared traditions and values.

Goucher's Master of Arts in Cultural Sustainability coursework is conducted as a limited residency, distance-education program, meaning classes are primarily held online and are complemented with two one-week residencies on campus.

Applications for the program are accepted twice a year. The deadline for January 2010 admission is October 15, 2009; the deadline for August 2010 admission is April 16, 2010.

For more information about the program, please see www.goucher.edu/culture or contact Debbie Cebula, director of professional graduate programs and lifelong learning, at 410-337-6296 or deborah.cebula@goucher.edu.

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Upcoming Events

"Devil In The White City" Author Erik Larson Speaks at Goucher

Erik Larson, a bestselling author and National Book Award finalist, will present a free, public lecture on Monday, August 31, at 7:30 p.m. in the Hyman Forum of Goucher's new Athenaeum.

His *The Devil In The White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair That Changed America* was assigned as Goucher's 2009 summer reading for incoming first-year and transfer students. For more information about the event, please call 410-337-6333.

Larson spent decades as a cultural affairs and business reporter and as a part-time author and unpublished mystery writer before he turned to historical nonfiction. In 1999 he published *Isaac's Storm: A Man, A Time, And The Deadliest Hurricane In History*, an account of how one meteorologist failed to predict the devastating 1900 Galveston hurricane and the social, political, and scientific backdrop to the tragedy.

He followed that book with the bestseller *The Devil In The White City*, which tells the story of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893 to commemorate Christopher Columbus's discovery of America. The book intertwines the true tales of two men: Daniel Hudson Burnham and Dr. Henry H. Holmes. Burnham, the chief architect and mastermind of the exposition, inadvertently created a perfect setting for Holmes, one of America's first serial killers. *The Devil In The White City* was nominated for a National Book Award and won the 2004 Edgar Award in the Best Fact Crime category.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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The President's Forum Presents Karl Rove



Karl Rove, the "architect" of George W. Bush's successful 2000 and 2004 presidential campaigns, will speak at Goucher on Wednesday, September 16, at 8 p.m. in Kraushaar Auditorium.

His lecture, titled "Lessons from the Architect: Karl Rove Looks Back and Looks Forward," is a presentation of the President's Forum. Goucher students, faculty, staff, and alumni may reserve tickets by calling 410-337-6333 or by e-mailing boxoffice@goucher.edu. The doors will open at 7 p.m. For security reasons, certain items are not permitted at this event. Please be prepared to have your bags hand-checked. Beverages and food are also not

allowed in the auditorium.

Before Rove strategized President Bush's 2000 and 2004 campaigns, he was president of Karl Rove and Company, an Austin, Texas-based direct-mail firm that primarily worked for Republican candidates. It is estimated that Rove and his firm worked on hundreds of campaigns at all levels and secured wins for 80 percent of their clients, including George W. Bush (2000 and 2004 presidential elections, 1994 and 1998 Texas gubernatorial elections),

Senator John Ashcroft (1994 U.S. Senate election), Bill Clements (1986 Texas gubernatorial election), Senator John Cornyn (2002 U.S. Senate election), and Phil Gramm (1982 U.S. House and 1984 U.S. Senate elections).

Following on a three-decade-long relationship with the Bush family, George W. Bush named Rove as his senior adviser from 2000 to 2007 and as his deputy chief of staff from 2004 to 2007. At the White House, Rove oversaw the offices of Strategic Initiatives, Political Affairs, Public Liaison, and Intergovernmental Affairs and was deputy chief of staff for policy, coordinating the White House policy-making process.

In August 2007 he resigned from the administration.

Since leaving the White House, Rove has been a political analyst and regular contributor at Fox News; he also writes a weekly op-ed for *The Wall Street Journal* and is a *Newsweek* columnist. He is now working to complete a book that will be published by Simon & Schuster.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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“The College Library in a Changing World”

Wednesday, September 9

1:30 p.m.

Hyman Forum

Join the following distinguished panelists as they discuss the future of the college library during this symposium held in celebration of the opening of the library in the Athenaeum.

- Carla Diane Hayden, Goucher College Board of Trustee member and chief executive officer of the Enoch Pratt Free Library
- Kathryn Allamong Jacob '72, curator of manuscripts at the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, Harvard University
- James Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia University
- Joseph Rizzo, principal and library specialist for the RMJM Athenaeum project team
- Roberta Stevens, outreach projects and partnerships officer at the Library of Congress, project manager for the National Book Festival, and president-elect of the American Library Association

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“The Shape of Things to Come: Goucher and the Future of Liberal Arts Education”

Thursday, September 10

Hyman Forum in the Athenaeum
7:30 p.m.

This special community conversation will examine how to preserve and protect the universal values embodied in the uniquely American concept of a liberal arts education, at a time of economic and political crisis and in the context of pressure for more “practical” and “relevant” forms of study.

The panelists are Don Randel, president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Ron Daniels, the new president of the Johns Hopkins University; Margo Jefferson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning former critic for The New York Times; and Cristina Page '93, an author and activist.

This program is part of a series of events that celebrate the opening of the Athenaeum and launch the 125th anniversary of the college.

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Lunch and Learn: Judaism and Animals

Wednesday, September 9
Buchner Hall, Noon

Join Goucher Hillel Director Rabbi Josh Snyder for a luncheon text study and discussion examining what Jewish texts say about humans’ relationship with animals. Texts and translations will be provided. No prior knowledge required. Bring your lunch. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP by calling 410-337-6545 or e-mailing hillel@goucher.edu.

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Farmers' Market at Goucher

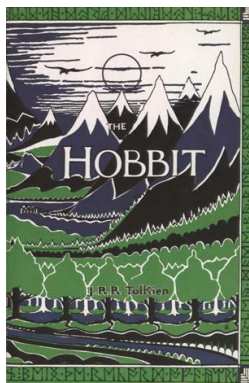
Friday, September 4
Alumnae/i House Courtyard
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In keeping with the ongoing emphasis on raising awareness about environmental sustainability—including how food choices affect the global ecosystem—Goucher and Bon Appétit Management Company, the college’s food services provider, will host a series of farmers’ markets throughout the fall semester.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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The Hobbit Project



Among Goucher's rare books is an American first edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*. On Saturday, September 26, Goucher will hold a cover-to-cover reading of the book in honor of its 72nd anniversary. Students, staff, faculty, and alumni are invited to sign up to read portions of the book. The readings will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Hyman Forum of the Athenaeum. Click [here](#) to view the schedule. The full-hour readings are between 27 and 32 pages each. If more than one person asks to read any one chapter, the reading will be divided into two or more episodic segments.

E-mail Arnie Sanders at asanders@goucher.edu by September 11 if you want to volunteer to help read or to reserve a particular passage.

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Kudos

In June, Associate Professor of Physics **Sasha Dukan** was awarded a \$120,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Division of Materials Research for her theoretical research in the area of condensed matter physics. The three-year project, *Thermal Properties of Strongly Coupled Extreme Type-II Superconductors in the Mixed State*, will focus on enhancing our understanding of two new classes of superconducting materials that have been discovered in the past decade – magnesium diboride and iron-based superconductors.

Danielle Faulkner '10 was chosen to attend the playwriting workshop at the 2009 Sewanee Writers' Conference. Supported through the estate of the late Tennessee Williams, the conference offers selected students a chance to work with premier American playwrights.

Professor of Dance **Chrystelle Bond** discusses George Washington Smith, a historic American dance teacher and choreographer, in this webisode "America's First Great City: Philadelphia." The webisode, accessible [here](#), focuses on the life and career of George Washington Smith and his role in making Philadelphia the cultural center of America during the 19th century.

The following Goucher faculty have received promotions as of Fall 2009: **Elizabeth Ahearn**, Department of Dance, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed; **Lesley R. Brown**, Department of Chemistry, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed; **Mark Hiller**, Department of Biological Sciences, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed; **Uta Larkey**, Department of Modern Languages and Literature, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed; **Daniel Marcus**, Department of Communication and Media Studies, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed; **Isabel Moreno-Lopez**, Department of Hispanic Languages, Literature, and Cultures, promoted to associate professor and tenure conveyed.

Master of Arts in Arts Administration student **Rhea Patterson** performed during the Tony

Awards on June 7 as part of the cast of *Guys and Dolls*. The Broadway musical was nominated for Best Revival of a Musical. Patterson is a cast member.

Hannah Kosstrin '01 received a 2009 Selma Jeanne Cohen Award from the Society of Dance History Scholars for her paper titled "Of Dreams and Prayers: Topographies of Anna Sokolow's Holocaust Work During and After World War II." Kosstrin, who is working on her doctorate in dance studies at Ohio State University, also has been awarded the 2009-2010 Samuel M. Melton Fellowship from the Melton Center for Jewish Studies at Ohio State and a Coca-Cola Critical Difference for Women Graduate Studies Grant for Research on Women, Gender, or Gender Equity from the Women's Studies Department at Ohio State University. She also was named a 2009-2010 Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Scholar from the P.E.O. International Sisterhood.

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction alumna **Sheri Booker** '07 has sold her memoir *Nine Years Under* to the Penguin Group. The book chronicles her years working for a Baltimore funeral home.

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction alumna **Terry Greene Sterling** '04 has signed a contract with Globe Pequot Press for a book about the changing face of immigration. She also was honored by Sigma Delta Chi in Arizona with a Silver Key award for "25+ years of notable journalism" and won three Arizona Press Club awards in May.

Master of Arts in Historic Preservation alumnus **James Hare** was named executive director of Colorado Preservation Inc. in May 2009. The organization is dedicated to promoting and advancing historic preservation in Colorado.

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Goucher in the News

Check out the latest media coverage of Goucher College and its community members.

["On the Wisdom and Merits of Exploring 'Less Visible' Colleges"](#)

From *New York Times*, July 28, 2009

Article Abstract: When searching for colleges, high schoolers should look beyond name recognition and open themselves up to more possibilities. Oftentimes, less well known schools, such as Goucher, provide the best fit for academically talented students.

["Uncle Sam to the rescue"](#)

From *The Baltimore Sun*, July 21, 2009

Article Abstract: Sharon Hassan, Goucher College's director of financial aid, helps explain the Income Based Repayment Plan, which tailors a person's student loan payments based upon how much he or she earns and potentially requires much smaller payments over a longer period.

["An Experiment in Merit-Based Student Aid Is Likely to End"](#)

From *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 26, 2009

Article Abstract: Angelo Haskins graduated in 2006 from an inner-city, East Baltimore high

school with a transcript showing a challenging course load and a 3.6 grade-point average.

["College admissions officers see little change"](#)

From *The Baltimore Sun*, June 21, 2009

Article Abstract: Though Goucher's applications were down slightly this year, students applied and committed to Maryland colleges and universities, public and private, at robust levels this spring. Unquestionably, however, the economy affected the number of financial aid requests. At Goucher, aid requests were up 64 percent.

["Pack college kid off with money smarts"](#)

From *The Baltimore Sun*, June 14, 2009

Article Abstract: Sharon Hassan, Goucher's director of financial aid, discusses how the college works to educate students about how to be financially responsible and how to avoid mismanaging their credit cards.

["Down economy boosts grad programs in Maryland"](#)

From *The Daily Record*, May 29, 2009

Article Abstract: Donna Mollenkopf, director of the master of arts in teaching program at Goucher College, discusses how the faltering economy is driving more people to look for training and career opportunities in education.

["Maryland's virtual campus"](#)

From *The Daily Record*, May 29, 2009

Article Abstract: Goucher College's distance learning programs, such as the master's of fine arts in creative nonfiction, reach not only a geographic breadth of prospective students, but also a range of people throughout their careers.

For more news stories, check out the [Goucher in the Media](#) section of Goucher's website.

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Digest Deadline: The deadline for submissions for the September 14 issue of the *Goucher Digest* is Thursday, September 10. Send all submissions to digesteditor@goucher.edu.