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"The Obama Phenomenon: What's Next?" a President's Forum Lecture by Political Strategist David Plouffe



When Barack Obama clinched the Democratic presidential nomination last summer, his longest thank-yous went to his grandmother and to his campaign manager, David Plouffe, whom he cited for having "built the best political organization in the country." Plouffe will discuss American political strategy and "The Obama Phenomenon: What's Next?" on Monday, April 27, at 8 p.m. in Goucher College's Kraushaar Auditorium.

This lecture, a presentation of the President's Forum lecture series, is free and open to the public. Tickets must be reserved, however, by calling 410-337-6333 or by e-mailing

boxoffice@goucher.edu.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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Kratz Center for Creative Writing Presents Jessica Anya Blau



Jessica Anya Blau—whose first novel, *The Summer of Naked Swim Parties*, was a fixture on summer reading lists last year—will read from her works on Thursday, April 23, at 8 p.m. in Goucher College’s Haebler Memorial Chapel.

Presented by Goucher’s Kratz Center for Creative Writing, this reading is free and open to the public. Tickets must be reserved in advance, however, by calling 410-337-6333 or e-mailing boxoffice@goucher.edu.

Part memoir, part fiction, Blau’s debut novel is set in Santa Barbara, California, in 1976 and chronicles the coming of age of a 14-year-old girl whose eccentric, pot-smoking parents throw naked swim parties in their backyard pool. The main character, Jamie, is mortified by her parents’ casual lifestyle, which eventually turns the family into pariahs in their middle-class neighborhood. Regardless of the tragedy, the summer changes the way Jamie sees the things that matter: family, friendship, love, and herself.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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Let’s Talk About Politics (Again)

Saturday, April 25
2 p.m., Merrick Lecture Hall

Political journalist Sherry Bebitch Jeffe ’64 and Goucher President Sanford J. Ungar reprise the September 2008 dialogue they had in Los Angeles on political issues of the day, and assess the first few months of the Obama administration.

A senior scholar at the University of Southern California, Dr. Sherry Bebitch Jeffe is also a national political analyst, providing political commentary for NBC Nightly News, MSNBC, The Today Show, and National Public Radio. Based in Los Angeles, she appears regularly on KNBC-TV and has a political column on the station’s website at www.knbc.com/politics. Dr. Jeffe holds a Ph.D. in government from Claremont Graduate University and a master’s degree in political science from Rutgers University.

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History Professor Robert Beachy Wins Prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship



Robert Beachy, associate professor of history at Goucher College, has been named a 2009 John Simon Guggenheim Fellow for his work on homosexuality in German history.

Since 1925, Guggenheim fellowships have been awarded both to academicians and to unaffiliated musicians and artists who have demonstrated exceptional capacity for creative scholarship. Fellows are appointed on the basis of unusually distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishments. The 180 fellowship winners for 2009 are artists, scholars, and scientists who were selected from nearly 3,000 applicants.

Beachy's forthcoming work, *Gay Berlin* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2011), situates the origins of homosexual identity in debates about nationalism, politics, and masculinity in Germany from the 1860s through the 1920s. His current project, *Long Knives*, focuses on homosexuality under the Nazi regime and suggests there was a complex evolution of policies toward homosexual political and social organizations inside and outside the Nazi party from 1933 to 1945, ranging from open tolerance to persecution.

Click [here](#) for more information about Beachy's work and the Guggenheim fellowships.

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Dr. Bernard L. Herman Gives the 2009 Irwin C. Schroedl Jr. Lecture

Dr. Bernard L. Herman, the George B. Tindall professor of American culture at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, will give a lecture titled "Black Duck and Dumplings, Oyster Cakes, and Hayman Sweet Potato Pies: Foodways, Material Culture, and Human Ecologies" on Thursday, April 30, at 7 p.m. in Goucher College's Kelley Lecture Hall.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact April Oettinger, Ph.D., at april.oettinger@goucher.edu.

The lecture explores food traditions and how they can help preserve a sense of place and sustainable economic development. Drawing on objects, recipes, oral histories, and written accounts, the presentation examines the ways in which material culture scholarship contributes to the preservation of place and spurs public engagement. The presentation is based on research of the distinctive foodstuffs and foodways of Virginia's eastern shore, which date back to the 19th century.

Click [here](#) for more information.

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Goucher Honors Margaret King's Years of Dedicated Service



In 1968, at a peak of nationwide racial tension, Margaret King, a young African-American woman, made the "taboo" trip from inner Baltimore City to Baltimore County to begin work at Goucher College. She had dropped out of high school her senior year to have a baby. She'd spent the next year-and-a-half on public assistance but decided she "didn't want welfare taking care of me and my family."

A woman who lived in King's East Baltimore neighborhood was running the laundry at Goucher, and she got King a job at the college washing and mending students' clothes. The job was a nine-month position, and by the end of the semester, King knew she wanted to stay on at Goucher. She

switched over to the full-time housekeeping division and has been at the college ever since.

This year marks her 41st year at Goucher. She went from working as a "maid," which was her actual job title back then, to now serving a managerial role as the college's housekeeping administrative coordinator.

King has worked very hard to get where she is at Goucher and has overcome tremendous personal issues along the way. To read more about her story, please go to www.goucher.edu/x32773.xml.

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Goucher Earth Week Events

Tuesday, April 21

Climate Change and the Chesapeake Bay

Hear from the experts during this in-depth panel discussion about the effects of the science, policy, and politics of global warming on the Chesapeake Bay. Panel members include Kim Coble, the Maryland director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Dr. Christopher Pyke, CTG Energetics' director of climate change services; and Lewis C. Linker, the modeling coordinator for the Chesapeake Bay Program Office. Refreshments will be provided. Kelley Lecture Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22

Low Carbon Diet Day

To help celebrate Earth Day, Goucher's food services provider, Bon Appétit, is declaring

April 22 Low Carbon Diet Day. The college's dining facilities will serve foods that help illustrate key principles of how food production and consumption can help reduce climate change. Click [here](#) for more information.

Thursday, April 30

Farmers' Market

In keeping with the ongoing emphasis on raising awareness about environmental sustainability—including how food choices affect the global ecosystem—Goucher College will host a farmers' market. Click [here](#) for a list of vendors.

11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Alumnae/i House courtyard

For more information on eco events at Goucher or in the Baltimore area, check out our Environmental Events calendar at www.goucher.edu/green. Click [here](#) to sign up for our Environmental Sustainability RSS News Feed for updates on environmental-related events and information at Goucher.

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Goucher's Grounds Are Getting Greener

In keeping with Goucher's overall commitment to help protect the environment here on campus, as well as on a larger scale, the college's grounds maintenance department diligently researches new landscape practices and works to modify older procedures to be more biologically sustainable. The department's new strategic landscaping plan has the campus looking greener, literally, by employing environmentally "greener" practices, such as by using tested organic products, planting more indigenous species, and reducing litter.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

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2009 Dancers in Action Spring Dance Concert

The 2009 Dancers in Action Spring Dance Concert—held on Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24—will feature Goucher students performing works by guest artists Armando Luna and Mino Nicolas.

Both days' events will take place at 8 p.m. in Kraushaar Auditorium and are open to the public. Reservations can be made by calling 410-337-6333 or e-mailing boxoffice@goucher.edu; tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Click [here](#) for more information about the works being performed.

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Celebrate Gaypril 2009



Goucher College is raising awareness of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender issues with a month-long series of programs. Everyone is welcome to attend any of these events, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Saturday, April 25

Drag Ball at the Maryland Institute College of Art

Join PRISM and MICA's Queer Alliance for their second annual cooperative drag ball. This year's theme is "glam rock." Come dressed in drag and have a ball!

9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in MICA's Gateway building, 1601 Mt. Royal Ave. Take the Collegetown shuttle from

Welsh Hall; the last bus returning to Goucher leaves MICA at 12:22 a.m.

Cost is \$1 for attendants in drag and \$3 for those not in drag.

For more information, contact Duncan Gray at duncan.gray@goucher.edu or Aiden Simon at jsimon@mica.edu.

Monday, April 27

Goucher's Second Annual Rainbow Reception

The reception honors all LGBT and ally graduates from the class of 2009. PRISM will also present its annual awards to honor students, faculty, and staff who have contributed to the LGBT and ally community.

5:30 p.m., Buchner Hall

For more information, contact Candace Doane at candace.doane@goucher.edu.

Wednesday, April 29

The Second Annual Coming Out Monologues

The Coming Out Monologues is a community-based theater project celebrating the diversity of experience and identity of Goucher's LGBT and ally community. Students, faculty, and staff are invited to submit monologues to be read at the event.

7 p.m., Buchner Hall

Gaypril is sponsored by Goucher's Office of Student Engagement, PRISM, and Office of Community Living and Multicultural Affairs, and MICA's Queer Alliance and Office of Student Activities.

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Take Back the Night

Tuesday, April 21

8 p.m., Residential Quad

Take Back the Night events and initiatives aim to create safe communities and respectful relationships by helping to end sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual abuse, and all other forms of sexual violence.

Goucher's event program will include: a drum circle, selections from The Vagina Monologues, a self-defense demonstration, a march around campus, student speakers, an anonymous survivor speak-out (with counselors available), and an original song performance by Cat Lapham.

For more information, go to www.takebackthenight.org.

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Peer-Network Engagement Internship Comes to Goucher Hillel

Goucher Hillel wants to bring the Peer-Network Engagement Internship to our campus for the 2009-2010 academic year. Applications must be submitted by Thursday, April 23.

Selected interns will build relationships with fellow students over the course of the year to connect those students with enriching Jewish opportunities, experiences, and mentoring. The interns will receive stipends and will participate in a special training seminar in August with their national cohorts.

Applicants must be Jewish, and preference will be given to next year's sophomores and juniors.

In a special partnership between Hillel and MASA Israel Journey, one of the Peer-Network interns will also serve as a MASA campus representative. This intern will connect peers with opportunities to participate in long-term, MASA-sponsored programs in Israel, as well as increase awareness of MASA programs, universal grants, and study-abroad and post-college opportunities.

Applications are now available for download at http://www.campusinitiative.org/peer_network. Submission instructions are included in the application document. Contact Yona Gorelick at yona.gorelick@goucher.edu for more information.

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Post-Leave Presentations

Please join Professor Judith Levin and Associate Professor Irlin François for their post-leave presentations on Wednesday, April 22, at 3:30 p.m. in Heubeck Multipurpose Room.

Biology Professor Judith Levin will give a talk titled "The Long and Winding Road: The role of DNA shape in the expression of genetic information." Levin's research focuses on the ability of the enzyme RNA polymerase (which carries out the transcription of genetic information from a DNA template into an RNA copy) to overcome physical barriers to its movement along the DNA as it elongates the RNA chain.

Women's Studies Associate Professor Irlin François' presentation is titled "Gender and Migration: Fucus Female Americanus: What does it mean to un-belong?" The presentation is about the contemporary experiences of immigration. It examines the ways that Caribbean and North African women writers from Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Algeria disrupt and transform traditional definitions of nationhood and citizenship in the era of transnationalism.

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Kudos

Assistant Professor of Communication and Media Studies **Daniel Marcus'** article "William Wyler's World War II Films and the Bombing of Civilian Populations" was published in the March 2009 issue of the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*.

Danielle Faulkner '10 and **Laura Merrill '11** were chosen as semifinalists in the Variations on Hope Project for the Run of the Mill Theatre in Baltimore. If they make it to the top 10, Faulkner's play *The Slave* and Merrill's play *Eloise's Garden* will be presented at Load of Fun Studios in May. Click [here](#) for more information.

Goucher alums are sponsoring and participating in the Station North Spring Music Festival on Saturday, April 25. The free event—which features food, music, dancing, and art—will run 5-11 p.m. at the surface lot at 2 E. North Ave., and at several businesses in the Station North Arts and Entertainment District including Joe Squared, Windup Space, Metro Gallery, Hexagon, I-Bar, and The Zodiac. The money raised will help fund participation in Artscape. For more information, go to www.stationnorth.org.

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Goucher in the News

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

["Sign of the Times"](#)

Baltimore City Paper, April 15, 2009

Article Abstract: A review of Letters, Words, and Phrases, a Rosenberg Gallery exhibit that "explores the tenuous relationship between languages, representations, and meanings."

["Denmark delights"](#)

The Baltimore Sun, April 12, 2009

Article Abstract: J. Wynn Rousuck shares her explorations of Denmark while visiting her stepdaughter, Julie, during the girl's semester in Copenhagen at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad as part of her senior year at Goucher.

["Web Extra: A Who's Who of Baltimore Green Groups"](#)

Urbanite, April 3, 2009

Article Abstract: Goucher's Zipcar program was listed in the car-sharing section of this "Who's Who" article of Baltimore's top green groups.

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

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Deadline for the next Goucher Digest

The deadline for submissions for the May 4 issue of the Goucher Digest is Thursday, April 30. Send all submissions to digesteditor@goucher.edu.

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Missed an issue of the Goucher Digest?

Check out past issues of the Goucher Digest e-newsletter online at www.goucher.edu/digestnewsletter.

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