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New at Goucher

Students Launch Peace House

Early this semester, 10 students launched Goucher’s Peace House, a special housing option for students who are devoted to social justice activism and education. The idea for the house began last year when three first-year students – Faith Bailey ’14, Ananas Khogali-Mustafa ’14, and Jillian Lipman ’14 – met in a peace studies class called Nonviolence in America.

“The three of us were really moved by that class,” Lipman said. “We were really excited to be a part of the social justice movement.”

When the class ended, the students searched for a club to join to continue their education and become more active in the movement. While Goucher offers many clubs, none are as active in social justice as the women wanted to be.

Khogali-Mustafa decided to petition the Office of Community Living to create a special-interest house specializing in social justice. The house will serve as an active club, giving members a chance to live and learn from one another at the same time. Students who are not living in the same residence hall are still encouraged to participate in the club.

“I’m really excited for it because we’re all interested in the same type of thing so we can not only learn about it, but be active together,” Bailey said. “We can share bookshelves and have documentary nights.”



Each semester the house will choose two topics on which to focus – one related specifically to Goucher and another targeting the greater community. The topics will be chosen unanimously using consensus decision making, which ensures every member’s opinions are acknowledged and addressed.

“We want everyone to be as passionate as possible about what we’re doing,” Khogali-Mustafa said.

For the fall semester, the house will focus on ethical consumption in the Goucher community and the fight against fracking and mountaintop mining removal. Khogali-Mustafa said the house will be split into teams to address each topic.

The group focusing on ethical consumption in the Goucher community will raise awareness about the origins of food and other products used and sold on campus. Khogali-Mustafa said they will examine the college’s ethical standards for purchasing items and, if necessary, lobby the administration for improvements.

Khogali-Mustafa said the group chose fracking and mountaintop removal because the debate about fracking in Western Maryland has made it relevant to the state.

“We didn’t want to attack topics that are less relevant to our community,” Khogali-Mustafa said, “not because they’re not important, but because we’ll be more successful if we show our community how their lifestyle affects the world and the community around us.”

She said their focus will go beyond the environmental issues, to the human rights problems created by these practices.

Each group will create a timeline and plan with education initiatives and events related to their topic.

“Part of our approach to being leaders and activists is that we want to bring opportunities to acquire more knowledge to campus, be it film screenings, speakers or panels, as well as hosting dialogues and other events in order to really involve the Goucher community in our journey,” Khogali-Mustafa said.

For more information about the club, contact Ananas Khogali-Mustafa at

Ananas.KhogaliMustafa@mail.goucher.edu.

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Peace of Cake

Inspired by their Nonviolence in America class and their love for baking, Faith Bailey '14 and Jillian Lipman '14 launched Peace Bake, a club that sells baked goods to raise money for social justice organizations.

“We wanted to combine baking and peace studies,” Bailey said. “With the club, we bake, and the money goes toward activism in Baltimore.”

Lipman said they will offer their services to other clubs, fellow students, and parents who want to send a comfort food care package.

“Everyone comes together through food,” Lipman said. “If you say there’s going to be food there, people will come. At Goucher there’s no grandmother baking goodies for you, so we’d like to fill that absence.”

Both Lipman and Bailey come from baking families – Lipman grew up cooking with her grandmother, while three generations of women in Bailey’s family bonded over a hot stove in her rural hometown in West Virginia.

The club was granted the use of the Pinkard Center’s kitchen and received funding from the Student Government Association for supplies. They will offer an array of treats, including cheesecakes and Hershey Kiss cookies.

Their list of charities includes the Baltimore Station, a rehabilitation and homeless center for veterans, and the Viva House soup kitchen.

To order treats, e-mail Jillian Lipman at jillian.lipman@mail.goucher.edu.

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President Ungar’s Open Hours

President Ungar will be available in his office in Dorsey Center Friday, September 16, 9:30-10:30 a.m. to see anyone who would like to talk with him. No subject is off limits; no appointments are necessary. If there is a line, he asks that each visitor take only 10 minutes; another meeting can be scheduled at a later date to continue talking. If the weather is good on some of these days, he may move the conversation to the gazebo; his office will let you know when you arrive.

If these times do not work for your schedule, feel free to call Shelly Hillebrand in the President’s Office (x 6040) to set up an appointment.

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Upcoming Events

Ten Years After: Academic Reflections on 9/11

A panel of faculty members from a range of academic disciplines will discuss the many ways the world has changed post-9/11 during a panel discussion on Monday, September 12, at 7 p.m. in Batza Room of the Athenaeum.

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Remembering 9/11

To mark the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, local photographer Denny Lynch has mounted a moving exhibition of his photographs concerning New York City in the Lenrow Gallery in Goucher's Athenaeum.

The exhibit will be on display from Friday, September 9, through Tuesday, October 4, and is free and open to the public. It will be one of several events the college will be holding in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of 9/11. [Read more.](#)

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Donors Needed for Upcoming Blood Drive

The Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Goucher's campus on Thursday, September 15, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Heubeck Multipurpose Room.

To schedule your life-saving donation please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code 692 or call Frieda at 610-731-4167 or 1-800-RED-CROSS. *A photo ID is required for all donors.*

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Goucher Presents a Screening of 'Flow'

Goucher College will present a screening of *Flow*, a documentary investigation into the worldwide water crisis, on Thursday, September 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Kelley Lecture Hall. A dessert reception will follow.

This event is free and open to the public, and tickets are not necessary. For more information, contact Kristen Keener at 410-337-6316.

Experts have deemed the worldwide water shortage to be the most important political and

environmental issue of the 21st century. In this award-winning film, director Irena Salina builds a case against the growing privatization of the world's dwindling fresh water supply with an unflinching focus on politics, pollution, human rights, and the emergence of a world water cartel. [Read more.](#)

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Goucher Celebrates Hispanic Heritage History Month

Goucher will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, held from September 15 through October 15, with a series of arts presentations, lectures, discussions, film screenings, and social events.

Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States and celebrates Hispanic heritage and culture. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence for five Latin-American countries — Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.



Goucher's Hispanic Heritage Month events are free and open to all students, faculty, staff, and the greater community. For more information, contact Visiting Instructor of Spanish Maria Gomis-Quinto at maria.gomisquinto@goucher.edu.

The schedule of events includes these events:

Opening Reception/Spanish Guitar Concert

Tuesday, September 13

Opening Reception, 7 p.m.

Concert, 8 p.m.

Merrick Lecture Hall

Spanish guitarist Francesc de Paula Soler is touring the United States with a tribute to Federico García Lorca on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the poet's death. Light refreshments will be served. Funded by the Elizabeth B. and David Allan Robertson Lectureship.

Potluck Dinner

Thursday, September 15, 6 p.m.

Pinkard Room, the Athenaeum

Bring a dish to share and enjoy dinner with the faculty of the Department of Hispanic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and members of HOLA, Goucher's Spanish club.

Movie Presentation and Discussion: *Biutiful*

Monday, September 19, 7 p.m.

Heubeck Lounge

Biutiful is the story of Uxbal (Javier Bardem) - a single father who struggles to reconcile fatherhood, love, spirituality, crime, guilt, and mortality amid the dangerous underworld of modern Barcelona - all before he loses his battle with cancer. Florencia Cortes-Conde and Frances Ramos-Fontan of the Department of Hispanic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures will conduct a discussion following the film screening.

Salsa class

Wednesday, September 21, 6:30 p.m.

Pearlstone Atrium

This kick-off event of Goucher's Salsa Club will feature salsa lessons from professional dance instructors. [Read more.](#)

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Constitution Day 2011

Goucher College will celebrate national Constitution Day on Monday, September 19, with a lecture by David S. Ferriero, the archivist of the United States, titled "Secrecy and Democracy." The lecture will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchner Hall of the Alumnae/i House.



This event is free and open to the public, but tickets must be reserved in advance at www.goucher.edu/tickets.

Confirmed as the 10th archivist of the United States in 2009, Ferriero is the chief official overseeing the operation of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). President Barack Obama has charged NARA with making government more transparent by overhauling the way documents created by the federal government are classified and declassified. In a December 2009 executive order, Obama mandated the release of all government documents. He appointed Ferriero head of the new National Declassification Center, which has been given four years to go through 400 million pages of top-secret federal documents dating back to World War I. [Read more.](#)

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The Kratz Center for Creative Writing Presents Sherman Alexie

Sherman Alexie—the award-winning Native American author, poet, and filmmaker—will read from his works, answer questions, and sign copies of his books on Wednesday, September 21, at 8 p.m. in Goucher College's Kraushaar Auditorium.

A presentation by the Kratz Center for Creative Writing, this reading is free and open to the public, but tickets must be reserved by logging onto www.goucher.edu/tickets.

In addition to the reading, Alexie will participate in an informal meet and greet at 3:30 p.m. in the Siebert Curriculum Resource Center in the Athenaeum. For more information about Alexie's appearance at Goucher, e-mail kratz@goucher.edu.

Alexie, a Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian, draws mainly from his experiences as a Native American both on and off the reservation. In his short-story and poetry collections, Alexie illuminates the despair, poverty, and alcoholism that often shape the lives of Native Americans living on reservations. His poems, novels, and short stories evoke sadness and indignation yet also leave readers with a sense of respect and compassion for his seemingly hopeless characters, who continue to struggle against the constant battering of their minds, bodies, and spirits by white American society and their own self-hatred and sense of powerlessness.



He is the author of several novels and collections of short fiction, including *Flight* (2007); *Ten Little Indians* (2003); *The Toughest Indian in the World* (2000); *Indian Killer* (1996); *Reservation Blues* (1994), which won the Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Award; and *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* (1993), which received a Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award. [Read more.](#)

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Goucher Participates in the Talk Israel Program

On Wednesday, September 21, Goucher College and 20 other campuses nationwide will be hosting large tents all day to initiate civil discourse on the topic of Israel. Goucher's tent will be situated on Van Meter highway between the Athenaeum and Welsh Hall, above the Winslow Great Lawn, and will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The program, sponsored by Hillel's Israel Engagement Center, is called Talk Israel. For more information about the program, see <http://www.ita.org/news/article/2011/08/09/3088922/hillel-to-launch-its-own-tents-for-israel>.

Hillel is reaching out to all members of the Goucher community to ask for active participation in the program. The Talk Israel initiative is designed to increase students' engagement with Israel rather than to build advocacy. Multiple viewpoints on multiple topics concerning Israel will be welcomed.

Anyone interested in participating by hosting or co-hosting a discussion or having a class in the tent should e-mail hillel@goucher.edu. [Read more.](#)

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The Pilates Center at Goucher College

The Pilates Center at Goucher College will be offering small group mat classes and private apparatus lessons August 29 through December 17, Mondays through Saturdays.

Register online at www.goucher.edu/pilates or call 410-337-6469.

Pilates is based on a unique series of exercises to develop and improve strength, stretch, and control. Certified instructors lead all classes to ensure that the qualities of the exercises are properly maintained. (Mat classes are not recommended for individuals with serious injuries or health problems; private lessons are recommended instead.)

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Kudos

Yale Summer Conservatory for Actors Participant Niles Finklea '11

This summer, Niles Finklea participated in the prestigious Yale Summer Conservatory for Actors, an intensive five-week program that is a distillation of the acting curriculum at the Yale School of Drama. The conservatory gives select students an intensive, personalized, hands-on introduction to the basic techniques of acting, including play analysis, to comprehend the material being acted; acting class, to explore the basic techniques of acting; voice and speech, to improve vocal production, articulation, and interpretive skills; improvisation and mask, to develop imagination and spontaneous self-expression in character development; movement, to strengthen the body and encourage its use in creative expression; and scene study, to understand how the elements above come together to create a solid foundation in the basic techniques of acting.

The competitive program attracts students from across the country and across the world. The admissions committee looks closely at students' academic history, personal statements, recommendations, acting experience, and whatever test scores apply, and ultimately fewer than 50 students are chosen from among more than 1,000 applicants.

Finklea, who will graduate this December as a theatre major, said that while the program was incredibly rigorous, and that he averaged only three hours of sleep each night while he was there, "it was the greatest experience I've had, and it was the happiest I've ever been." He expressed deep gratitude to his family for their encouragement and support and to faculty and staff members who encouraged him to apply and who made the program a feasible option for him, including Maureen

Marshall in the Career Development Office; Michael Dixon and Allison Campbell in the Theatre Department; and Johnny Turtle, director of operations for the Kratz Center for Creative Writing, which sponsored Finklea through a summer writing fellowship.

After he graduates, Finklea has many options in mind — he may work for Teach for America, or he may pursue a master of fine arts. He also has upcoming auditions with two talent agencies later this fall, which he hopes could get him closer to his ultimate goal: a career in film.

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Goucher Ranked One of Sierra's 'Cool Schools'

Sierra magazine's "Coolest Schools" ranking is open to all four-year undergraduate colleges and universities in the United States. Colleges were asked to submit data and information to complete a lengthy questionnaire that covered eight categories related to sustainability: efficiency, energy, food, academics, purchasing, transportation, waste management, financial and additional green initiatives. Each category was worth a maximum of 10 points, for a possible total of 100 that schools could earn.

Goucher's score improved from No. 116 in 2010 and No. 83 in 2009.

Click here to see the final rankings: <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201109/coolschools/all-schools.aspx>. And click here to see Goucher's full profile: http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201109/coolschools/pdfs/2011_coolschools_GoucherCollege.pdf.

Goucher Among the Washington Monthly's Top Liberal Arts Colleges

The *Washington Monthly* magazine has included Goucher among its 2011 liberal arts college rankings. Schools are rated based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and doctorates), and service (encouraging students to give something back to their country). See here for more information and for Goucher's scores:

http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/rankings_2011/liberal_arts_rank_2nd_page.php.

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Goucher in the News

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

["Minorities are majority in US major urban areas"](#)

From *The Voice of Russia*, September 2, 2011

Abstract: Associate Professor of Communication and Media Studies Nsenga K. Burton discusses the minority population's shift to the majority during the last decade.

["How to create financial security in retirement"](#)

From *MarketWatch*, September 1, 2011

Abstract: Assistant Professor of Management Victor Ricciardi gives advice on how to alleviate fears about saving for retirement.

["New Mendelssohn Exhibit Sparks Debate | The Jewish Week"](#)

From *The Jewish Week*, August 30, 2011

Abstract: Jerome Copulsky, assistant professor of Judaic studies, discusses Enlightenment philosopher Moses Mendelssohn as a symbol of a modern, but essentially secular, Jewish identity.

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Digest Deadline: The deadline for submissions for the September 26 issue of the Goucher Digest is Thursday, September 22. Send all submissions to digesteditor@goucher.edu.

The *Goucher Digest* is published regularly by the Goucher College [Office of Communications](#).

Volume 3, Issue 2