

WINTER 2011



Goucher
Quarterly

What's NEXT?



8 of poetry and problem-solving

Carol Fain Walters '57 has a knack for finding solutions—and teaching poetry.

18 electrifying performances

Four Goucher alumni (and a friend) have founded the Baltimore Rock Opera Society.

22 looking forward

Sanford J. Ungar, college president, reflects on a decade at Goucher and the opportunities that lie ahead.

3 | goucher TODAY

8 | giving to GOUCHER

11 | gopheREPORT

13 | alumnae/iUPDATE

17 | impromptu

27 | class NOTES

57 | viewPOINT



on the front cover:

Sanford J. Ungar, college president, teaches a first-year class on free speech.

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as of September 2011

total students: 1,446 undergraduates,

727 graduate students

total undergraduate faculty: 213

alumnae and alumni: 19,967

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Many thanks go out to all the talented people who help produce this publication.

Quotable

As a class, we've come through a lot together, and I'll always be grateful for the community we became that day and for the community we continue to be.

— Lindsay Johnson '05, writing about the 10th anniversary of 9/11 (p. 49)



photo by Christopher Moiles P'15

contributors

Gwendolyn Moiles '15

A member of the International Scholars Program, the women's cross country team, and the German club, Moiles is interested in journalism, photography, and environmental sustainability. She began working in October as the *Quarterly* intern.

Jim Burger

Baltimore photographer Burger has for years photographed the college's Commencement. A graduate of the Maryland Institute College of Art, he has worked at Baltimore's *City Paper* and *The Baltimore Sun*. His freelance photography has appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, and elsewhere. On the cover, he captures Sanford J. Ungar in what may be the college president's favorite setting: the classroom.



NEED A PROFESSIONAL TOUCH?



Goucher's Professional Network on LinkedIn connects you online to fellow Goucher alumnae/i, parents, faculty, and current students.

Visit www.goucher.edu/linkedin to request your GPN membership now—and get in touch with Goucher community members who share your professional interests.



A Community's Reflection

The first semester always seems to rush by—along with brightly colored leaves and chill winds—bringing with it everything new: new students, new courses, new faculty members, new ideas. This year, the semester also brought somber reason to slow down and reflect upon the past. As part of a two-day, campus-wide commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, members of the Goucher community shared memories and recorded their thoughts. Other events that marked the occasion included a photography exhibit, a screening of a documentary about the aftermath of the attacks, and a discussion offered by a panel of faculty members.

What became clear during the commemorations was the role community can play, especially when its members are struggling for understanding or searching for solace. In times of trouble, as President Sanford Ungar notes in his essay (p. 57), or as **Lindsay Johnson '05** writes in her Class Notes report (p. 49), the experience of drawing together—and either offering support or asking for it—can be invaluable.

This issue of the *Quarterly* offers other examples of the power of community. An article about documentarian **Cintia Cabib '83** shows how a neighborhood garden can become a force for good. The photos of students and their parents taken during Goucher's Family Weekend (p. 16) confirm that new relationships are built each year through the college, and a feature article about the Baltimore Rock Opera Society, founded by four Goucher alumni (and a friend), offers an exuberant example of how art can unite folks from all walks of life (p. 18).

I have this good news to share with our community: As of this academic year, the spring issue of the *Quarterly*, which in recent years has been published as an online-only magazine, also will be published in the traditional print format. The spring issue will once again include Class Notes—one of the features readers say they value the most—along with all the other Goucher news and articles. Happy reading.

Best regards,
Holly Selby | Editor

holly.selby@goucher.edu



We Asked; You Answered

Several *Quarterly* readers correctly identified the woman pictured in the summer/fall issue as **Gabrielle "Gabbi" Hayes Moseley '89**.

Here is what she's been doing since leaving campus: After attending Goucher from 1985 to 1987, Moseley left to work at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Washington, DC. She later received degrees from Trinity College's Weekend College and George Mason University. She also took the U.S. Department of State's Foreign Service exam, and in 2003 she became an economic officer.

Now on a one-year tour at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Moseley works on trade and investment issues and is married to a telecommunications consultant from England.

As for the photo? "Can't remember the exact circumstances, but it was probably along the lines of being overwhelmed with assignments and papers," she says. But "keeping a sense of humor was, and is, always important."



We want to hear from you!

Letters should be 250 words or fewer (longer letters may be edited for length) and must be accompanied by the sender's name, daytime phone, and current address. Submissions will be edited for clarity and style. Publication will be as space permits.

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✉ by email
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feedback



In the Company of Women

The *Goucher Quarterly* Summer/Fall 2011 issue arrived yesterday. I am so inspired by the Goucher community. I especially *loved* the piece on Elsie Goedeke Shutt '48. ...What she set out to do many years ago is still what many women in mathematics hope to accomplish today.

✉ Della Fenster P'15

Bart Houseman

I was pleased to read the interview with Dr. Houseman; it truly brought a smile to my face. One of the few regrets of my life is not taking the pilot "Nuts and Bolts" during the January mini-term. Great to learn there's a book so I can do the course anyway—40 years later.

✉ Lisa Geiser Dashman '72

What's Going On?

The picture in the Class Notes section was taken my senior year in Dulaney House. The girl's name was Gabbi [Moseley '89], I believe. I remember her as a funny, bright soul—enjoyed her positive energy, especially when I was an RA! I think the occasion may have been finishing a paper near the end of first semester.

✉ Linda Schaide Moehlman '87

Marriage

As 1966 Class Notes writer, I thought I would respond to your questions in the editorial letter in the last *Quarterly*. You asked if the notes from the recent classes were spending too much time and space on births and marriages. I did a quick review of the notes from classes 1990-2010, and I would say I don't think so. I was not our class representative for our first 30 years, but I read them regularly, and in the early years our class also had considerable interest in marriage, engagement, and baby news. Matter of fact, remembering back to my dorm mates in junior and senior years, our first topics of conversation were exams and papers and our second were boyfriends, dates, and who might be getting engaged.

✉ Margaret Warden '66

As one who has practiced marital therapy for over 30 years, I applaud the honesty in Pamela Haag's provocative book, *Marriage Confidential*. Though I try very hard never to offer unsolicited advice, I offer it now. I urge Ms. Haag to think very carefully about ever divorcing one who is truly, sincerely a best friend. With best friends it is very common for the sexual sizzle to de-sizzle, or perhaps the sizzle has never really been there in the first place. Here is the truth: Sometimes really nice guys have trouble turning a gal on, especially if he really values her. Sometimes also, a really nice gal has trouble allowing a really nice guy to work his and her potential magic. In situations like these, with a little time and patience, a marital and sex therapist can work wonders.

✉ SaraKay Sherman Smullens '62

Remembrance of 9/11

By Gwendolyn Moiles '15

One student recalls his fifth-grade teacher weeping when the news broke about the terrorist attacks of September 11. A second student remembers sitting alone transfixed by terrifying TV images, not able fully to comprehend their significance. Still another mourns the loss of a family friend.

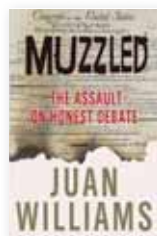
These are a few of the memories scrawled on a poster inside Pearlstone atrium: As part of a two-day, campus-wide commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the attacks, members of the Goucher community were invited to describe where they were and what they were doing when the news reports first began. Other events held to mark the anniversary included a community gathering at which instrumental music, songs, poetry, and spoken reflections were shared; an opportunity for community members to videotape their memories and feelings; a screening of the CNN documentary *Footnotes of 9/11*; and an exhibit of photographs taken by Baltimore artist Denny Lynch in the aftermath of the attacks in Manhattan. §



photos by Denny Lynch



photo by Stan Rudick



An Exchange of Words

Expressing frustration at the difficulties in engaging in “honest intellectual exchange,” Juan Williams, award-winning journalist and policy analyst for the Fox News Channel, spoke October 14 to an audience of more than 400.

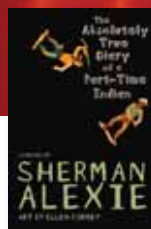
As the featured speaker of the college’s Family Weekend, Williams gave a talk titled “America Today: Can We Have an Honest Debate?” Paraphrasing the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who said, “Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts,” Williams added, “in the current political environment, even the truth is subject somehow to be spun, distorted, and used by one side or another with impunity. The extremes come to dominate the conversation.”

Williams, whose most recent book is *Muzzled: The Assault on Honest Debate*, which details the circumstances surrounding his dismissal by NPR last year because of remarks he made on Fox News, also answered questions from audience members after the event. §

photo by Mike Navare



Author Sherman Alexie had the audience guffawing during his September 21 visit to campus.



Resilience and Ribaldry

Calling himself an “ironic, indigenous immigrant” to American culture, National Book Award-winning author Sherman Alexie discussed his life and books at Goucher on September 21. As the Kratz Center for Creative Writing’s visiting author, he also met with students.

In a talk that occasionally resembled a comedy routine, Alexie, a Native American of the Spokane and Coeur d’Alene tribes, peppered his descriptions of growing up on a reservation with ribald humor and colorful anecdotes. He then fielded questions from the audience that ranged from the professional (“Where do your ideas come from?”) to the personal (“Would you have married a white woman?”).

His works, many of which are semi-autobiographical, reflect an irrepressible sense of humor and a resilience that served him well throughout a childhood marked by poverty. “A lot of my stance [as a writer] is on revenge: Proving the world wrong on what I’m supposed to be,” said Alexie.

The author’s 2007 novel, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, was selected by the Maryland Humanities Council for its 2011 One Maryland One Book program. §

— Julie Steinbacher '10



David S. Ferriero from the National Archives talked about making government more transparent.

Sharing Secrets

In recognition of Constitution Day, David S. Ferriero, 10th archivist of the United States, spoke on campus about what he calls “the best-kept secret in Washington”: the National Archives. In a lecture titled “Secrecy and Democracy,” Ferriero described the contents of the archives—including more than 400 million classified pages—and his responsibilities. He is the chief official overseeing operation of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and was appointed head of the National Declassification Center by President Barack Obama, who has charged the NARA with making government more transparent. The event, held September 19, was sponsored by the Peirce Center for Undergraduate Research in Special Collections. §



A Real Downpour

Fiona Cansino '12 captured this image of rainwater pouring down the staircase on the north side of Katharine and Jane Welsh Hall. The downpour, which occurred on September 7 and led to flooding in parts of Maryland and surrounding states, wasn’t the only outbreak of severe weather in the region: On August 23, a rare earthquake rattled much of the East Coast, and on August 27, Hurricane Irene blew through.

photo by Pam Thompson



(Left) Students inspect the effluent of the Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Right) Sarah 'Sally' Ratrie '15 gets a whiff of fertilizer pellets, one of the plant's byproducts.



Murk As Muse

by Julie Steinbacher '10

On a clear September day, the members of Pam Thompson's "Visual Thinking" class stood in front of several large vats of dark, goopy liquid hoping for inspiration. They were touring Baltimore's Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant and were charged with gathering impressions that could be used when creating their final art projects.

As part of a yearlong, campus-wide program aimed at promoting environmental responsibility, Thompson is incorporating lessons about water and its preservation into her course. Each year, the Goucher Environmental Sustainability Advisory Council (GESAC) and the President's Office choose a topic integral to environmental sustainability and encourage faculty and students to explore any and all of its facets in their lessons and activities. This is the second year that water has been emphasized.

Thompson is particularly intrigued by how water has been portrayed in art throughout the centuries. By visiting the treatment facility, she said, "I'm familiarizing [the students] with less romantic notions of the theme of water. I want to get them away from the preconceived notion of artwork about water."

Historically, water has been depicted sentimentally in

works of art, from the Trevi Fountain in Rome to Monet's *Water Lilies*. The sights and smells encountered by the students on their tour of the facility, however, were decidedly unromantic. The plant treats 180 million gallons of wastewater from the city and county daily. In a four-part process, organic pollutants and chemicals are removed from wastewater before it enters the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

One of the plant's most dramatic features is the facility that houses anaerobic bacteria used to break down the sludge. Visible from the highway, its two giant, golden domes are known as "the eggs" by local residents. "I drove past them my whole life and never knew what they were for," said Sarah "Sally" Ratrie '15.

At the end of the morning, both the students and the water left the plant changed. The same swampy liquid that flowed into the plant exited it sparkling clean. And the students, many of whom had never given a thought to water treatment, were impressed by the process. "At first I thought it was gross," Ratrie admitted, "but I did learn a lot."

When Thompson assigned the final projects, "I immediately thought of the beach, but after seeing this, I don't know...it makes you think about water in a different way," said Kirsten Seibert '13. §

GIFT OF GREEN



THE MARGARET A. CARGILL FOUNDATION, which champions sustainability and an enhanced quality of life, this fall awarded Goucher a grant of nearly **\$384,000**. In conjunction with a **\$1.5 million** gift from Robert Meyerhoff and a grant of **\$448,000** previously awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this award will support the campus's green efforts and the recently created environmental studies major.



Teach For America

A record number of graduates from Goucher's Class of 2011 were selected to participate in Teach for America, a national, nonprofit program dedicated to eliminating educational inequity. For the next two years, eight young Goucher alumnae/i will aim to make a difference by teaching in under-resourced public schools throughout the country.

Brittany Gemme, Michaela Haber, Morris Johnson, Kelley Moran, Emily Mullin, Matthew Phillips, Sarah Ropp, and Katherine Steinhardt are based in Baltimore; Washington, DC; Philadelphia; Newark, NJ; St. Louis, MO; and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Johnson and Moran, both placed in Baltimore, also received Goucher's Elizabeth Deale Lawrence '66 and Bryan Huntington Lawrence Prize for Innovative Teaching, which awards \$25,000 annually to each of two graduating seniors or alumnae/i in good academic standing who join Teach for America. §



photo by Bruce Weller

Uta Larkey, associate professor of German studies, is the co-author with Rebecca Boehling of *Life and Loss in the Shadow of the Holocaust: A Jewish Family's Untold Story*. The nonfiction book, which follows the letters of a Jewish family scattered by the Holocaust, was published in July by Cambridge University Press.



photo by David Grossbach

Jessica Anya Blau, writer in residence for the Kratz Center for Creative Writing, is the author of *Drinking Closer to Home*, published last January by Harper Perennial.



photo by Bruce Weller

Mark Ingram, associate professor of French, wrote the nonfiction study *Rites of the Republic: Citizens' Theatre and the Politics of Culture in Southern France*, published in February by the University of Toronto Press.



photo by Bruce Weller

Mark McKibben, associate professor of math and computer science, wrote two textbooks: *1001 Algebra Problems*, published in January by LearningExpress LLC, and *Discovering Evolution Equations with Applications: Volume 2—Stochastic Equations*, published in June by Chapman & Hall/CRC.

KUDOS

Praise and honor received for an achievement.

ORIGIN: 19th century. Kudos comes from the Greek kýdos and means "glory."

Goucher College was ranked No. 1 on the list of schools with the "Most Popular Study Abroad Program," and No. 18 for best campus food in The Princeton Review's annual college guide, *The Best 376 Colleges* (2012). The college also was included in *The Princeton Review's Guide to 311 Green Colleges* for "ushering in a new era on campus, one that could be called 'green.'" In addition, it was included in the *Fiske Guide to Colleges 2012* and was among 49 institutions designated a "Best Buy" based on academic quality, price, campus setting, and other principles.





GRADUATE

COMMENCEMENT 2011

On August 7, 134 men and women graduated from the Robert S. Welch Center for Graduate and Professional Studies with master's degrees in arts administration, creative nonfiction, education, historic preservation, or teaching.

Noting that he was the first in his family to graduate from college (and, subsequently, to earn a doctoral degree), the keynote speaker, Roy Peter Clark, described the value of working hard to gain an education. Although Clark, the vice president of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, expressed deep gratitude to Goucher for presenting him with an honorary doctorate of humane letters, he said to the graduates, "Your earned degree, I assure you, is more valuable than any honorary degree presented or received."

The author or editor of 15 books about writing, Clark peppered his keynote speech with fond memories of his father, an allusion to Elvis Presley, and a cautionary tale of a do-it-yourself household project and challenged the graduates to remain forever open to new ideas and solutions. Recalling that his late father, who was forced to leave school at an early age, never stopped experimenting, Clark said, "No matter how many degrees you have, how many books you've authored or money you've made or honors you've earned, you never earn the right as a human being to stop learning."



GOUCHER TODAY

"Look back over your shoulder and behold the glory of all the effort that has gotten you to this moment and all the people who helped you arrive. No, this is not a sunset, but the promise of a new dawn of life, and love, and learning. Keep experimenting. Keep learning." — Roy Peter Clark, vice president of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies





Giving Spotlight

Of Poetry and Problem-Solving

Carol Fain Walters '57

There's no question that Carol Fain Walters '57 has a knack for recognizing a problem and fixing it—or at least designing a way to fix it.

Over the years, Walters has developed an information management system that tracks faculty personnel data for the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, established a state-wide tumor registry for epidemiological research as part of a \$13 million contract awarded by the National Cancer Institute to the Rhode Island Department of Health, and created a nationally recognized training program for professionals who wish to leave the corporate world to offer pro bono consulting services to nonprofit community organizations.

"I like a challenge," says Walters, a consultant who specializes in advising nonprofits about organizational development, strategic planning, and board governance. "I like being creative. I like to look at issues and see where the needs are and then do something about them."

In college, Walters majored in English and worked on the *Goucher College Weekly*. While a student, she was asked by the American Red Cross to help develop a program that would entice her classmates to volunteer at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. "Someone gave them my name, but I don't

know who, and I don't really know why," she says.

To an extent, the project launched Walters on her professional path: After designing the Red Cross program, she joined it, working as a student-volunteer at the pediatric unit of the Wilmer Eye Institute, an experience that piqued a lifelong interest in social work.

After graduation, Walters, who married Bernard "Biff" Fain during her junior year, had three children. She briefly attended Simmons College School of Social Work, later earning a master's degree in public administration from Nova University, and in the early '70s, she began working as a pediatric social worker at the Miriam Hospital in Providence, RI. She was struck by how difficult it was for parents of children with cerebral palsy to keep track of all the necessary specialists, medications, and therapies.

"I saw this need, and, being a risk-taker, went to the president of the hospital and said, 'The situation is intolerable,'" she says. "And he said, 'Write a grant.' So I did, and the Rhode Island Department of Health funded it." Later, the program, which outlined a method of providing coordinated care for cerebral palsy patients, was replicated by other hospitals.

After designing a Massachusetts-based award to recognize medical caregivers who provide exceptionally compassionate patient care, Walters watched it

grow into a multimillion-dollar fundraising program. And she designed a way to replicate on a national level an economic opportunity program, developed in Lowell, MA, that offers aid to low-income, Latina, African-American, and Cambodian women.

About two years ago, Walters, who marked her 25th Reunion by funding a scholarship that offers need-based aid for undergraduate study abroad, and named Goucher as the beneficiary in three charitable gift annuities (one of which commemorates her 50th Reunion), decided to try something new. She's now teaching a continuing-education course at Brandeis University. In a way, she has come full-circle: Her class, "The Metaphysical Poetry of John Donne and Its Influence on Emily Dickinson," draws upon research she did for her English honors thesis at Goucher.

As she planned her poetry course, however, Walters noticed something. "This subject hasn't been treated in depth in this manner," she says. "The students, who are wonderful, would have to buy an awful lot of books to cover the subject." As usual, she designed a solution: a 68-page course manual that addresses the need.

by Holly Selby

giving to Goucher



Sips from Around the World

The Senior Gift Committee kicked off its campaign to encourage seniors to donate to the Greater Goucher Fund with an international beer tasting. At the September 21 event, held in Buchner Hall, members of the Class of 2012 (who were at least 21 years old) sampled beer from nine countries, nibbled tasty hors d'oeuvres, and met young alumnae/i. Bob Welch, senior lecturer in philosophy—and beer connoisseur—was on hand to answer questions about the beverages. Participants were asked to contribute \$20.12 and will have their names etched on the Class of 2012's Senior Gift: a study carrel in the library. §

Top Left: (L to R) Heather Sell '12, India Kushner '12, Kayla Prince '12, Marc-Adam Soyka-Steinman '12, Elaine Best '12, Ian Hutton '12, and Hannah Kroll '11

Bottom Left: (L to R) Rachel Williams '12, Mark Hucks '07, and Greg Permison, annual giving officer



photos by Jasmin Stanley '12



Edgar Feingold and Faith Miller Feingold '60



Steve Klepper '97, Malcolm David Klepper, Meredith Klepper, Anne Henderson, and Marilyn Fisher '77

Goucher Society Reception

About 40 alumnae/i, friends, faculty, and staff gathered October 12 for a reception held in honor of the John Franklin and Mary Fisher Goucher Society (which comprises the college's philanthropic leaders). Held in Buchner Hall, the event preceded a talk called "How to Change the World with Your Bare Hands," given by Cory Booker, mayor of Newark, NJ. Booker, who has been featured in *Time*, *Esquire*, *The New York Times*, and the award-winning documentary *Brick City*, is known for his innovative leadership style and hands-on approach to urban transformation. §



Edgar Sweren, Betty Applestein Sweren '52, and J. B. Wogan

photos by Erin Shipley '13

New Scholarships

According to *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*, a scholarship is "a grant-in-aid to a student (as by a college or foundation)." But that definition seems far too narrow. For those who give or receive one, a scholarship may also represent a knock at the door to the future, an act of generosity, an opportunity that should be seized with both hands, a reward for hard work, a gesture of appreciation and encouragement, or a thank you for a college's diligent commitment to its mission.

In the spirit of that broader definition, Goucher College is pleased to announce the following new scholarship funds:



The Lois Blum Feinblatt '42 Scholarship Fund

Created by Lois Blum Feinblatt '42

Offers need-based financial aid to undergraduates, with preference granted to participants in the college's Equal Opportunity Program.



The Theresa Wimmer Goetzke Scholarship Fund and the Clara Wimmer Hopkins 1912 Scholarship Fund

Created thanks to the estate of Betty Lee Goetzke

Supports deserving juniors and seniors who need financial assistance to complete their education.



The Elizabeth Gardner Reinicker '36 Scholarship Fund

Created thanks to the estate of Elizabeth Gardner Reinicker '36

Provides assistance to students majoring in mathematics or computer science.



The Sarah Coulter Hofstetter '61 Scholarship Fund

Provides need-based financial aid to undergraduates, with preference

granted to graduates of Baltimore City Public Schools who have achieved above-average academic standing.



When the Unexpected Happens

When the fall semester began with an earthquake, a hurricane, and an unrelated electrical outage, it was no wonder that some folks were asking, "What's next?" They needn't have worried, however.

When facing unexpected expenses, the college draws upon the Greater Goucher Fund, which consists of unrestricted donations that may be used on an as-needed basis. Although the extreme weather and power outage caused more

than \$250,000 damage—in downed trees, flooded spaces, and crumpled fences—repairs have been made. In 2011–12, the college has raised (as of November 2011), \$389,133 for the Greater Goucher Fund.

If you're interested in giving to the Greater Goucher Fund, please visit www.goucher.edu/gift or call 1.800.619.7564. (Remember, there's still time for members of the Reunion classes to donate to their class gifts.)

gopheReport

Two Alumnae/i Return as Assistant Coaches

By Holly Selby

There's no denying that the assistant coaches of the men's and women's lacrosse teams understand what it's like to be a Gopher.

Both **Emily Blatter '08** and **David Jadin '10** played lacrosse while at Goucher, and both returned last year to work as assistant coaches.

As an undergraduate, Blatter, who majored in English with a minor in peace studies, was named the 2005 Women's Lacrosse Rookie of the Year in the Capital Athletic Conference and, from 2006 to 2008, recorded a 43-game goal-scoring streak (at least one goal scored in every game)—at the time, the second-longest streak in NCAA Division III history. In 2008, she received the college's Coaches Award, which is given each year to the top senior athlete.

After graduation, Blatter was hired by the English Lacrosse Association (ELA) to be the head coach of England's Durham University. The ELA, a national lacrosse organization, hires about 70 American lacrosse coaches annually as part of a program to strengthen British lacrosse. "Usually they hire club or high school coaches, but luck was on my side," says Blatter. "I was hired for this really unique opportunity."

Because eligibility rules are different in England, Blatter was able to recruit five former Gophers to play for Durham: **Omar DuPree '07**, player-coach; **Mark "Max" Walters '09**; **Andy Nielsen '09**; **Steven "Austin" Main '09**; and **Marlo Tersigni '09**. (Each earned a master's degree while playing for and attending the university.)

After two years in Durham, Blatter returned to Goucher to work with the head coach, Katie Trainor, as the assistant coach for the women's lacrosse team. She also is earning her master's degree in education at Goucher and plans to work with at-risk students. "I love coaching and definitely like being here at Goucher, where I can contribute to a program that did so much for me. I would like to stay involved with lacrosse—maybe coaching at-risk kids," she says.

Jadin, who majored in communications, was selected as a Division III Scholar All-American by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association, and played in all 66 games during his college years, a feat that remains a record. He also was the recipient of Goucher's Coaches Award in his senior year.



Emily Blatter '08 and David Jadin '10

"I love coaching and definitely like being here at Goucher, where I can contribute to a program that did so much for me. I would like to stay involved with lacrosse—maybe coaching at-risk kids." — Emily Blatter '08



Hired soon after graduating by Kyle Hannan, head coach for the men's lacrosse team, Jadin also is earning his master's degree in education and plans to pursue coaching as a career. In a way, he says, it felt like he never really left the field: "When I began as assistant coach, I knew exactly what we needed to do and that made it a good transition. Being close in age and even friends with some of the players never was an issue because I had developed some really good relationships." §

BRAGGING Rights



Fast Women

The women's cross country team hit the ground running this fall under the leadership of John Caslin, head coach. The Gophers finished in first place in the Cross Country Classic, held at Goucher on October 15. **Katherine Currier '15** placed second in the 6,000-meter race with a time of 25:28; York College's Misty Parshall came in first.

On October 29, the Gophers placed second out of seven teams in the Landmark Conference Cross Country Championships held (despite an early snow) in Bethlehem, PA. Moravian College came in first with 43 points. Goucher, with four runners among the first 12 to cross the finish line, had 51 points.

At the Landmark Conference, Goucher's Currier once again shined: The first-year student came in fifth place and was voted Female Rookie Runner of the Year and named first-team all-conference. Her teammates, **Taylor Burr '14**, **Katelynn Zidanic '14**, and **Hadley Couraud '13**, who placed eighth, 10th, and 12th, respectively, were awarded second-team accolades.



(L to R) Meaghan Lee '13; Kelsey Myette '12; Joey Negreann '12; Karli Postel '13; Sisley Pumilia '11; Patte Zumbrun, director of the equestrian program; Rory Averett '12; Amory Brandt '12; Geoffrey Miller, director of athletics; Justin Dunn '11; Jaclyn Kellon '13; and Matt Lynch '12

photo by Billie Weiss '11

Top Student-Athletes Recognized

Goucher has a new way of showcasing its top athletes. Called the All-Goucher Team, the annual honor, which was presented October 15 for the first time, will recognize the college's 10 most distinguished athletes and its most outstanding coach.

Structured to resemble an All-Landmark Conference team, the award is given to two sets of students who are chosen on the basis of their athletic achievements. The student athletes are named to first and second "teams," according to the number of votes each receives from a panel of Goucher head coaches and athletic administrators. The person who receives the most votes is named "team captain."

Members of the first team are: **Rory Averett '12**, lacrosse; **Amory Brandt '12**, equestrian; **Justin Dunn '11**, lacrosse; **Jaclyn Kellon '13**, track and field; and team captain **Matt Lynch '12**, lacrosse. Members of the second team are: **Meaghan Lee '13**, tennis; **Kelsey Myette '12**, cross country; **Joey Negreann '12**, cross country; **Karli Postel '13**, equestrian; and **Sisley Pumilia '11**, soccer. Patte Zumbrun, director of the equestrian program, was named Coach of the Year for 2010-11.

The award is made possible by the gifts of alumnae and alumni, parents, and friends of the Blue & Gold Society, a campaign that supports Goucher's athletic programs.

Hot, Hot, Hot

The men's basketball team is scheduled to travel to Puerto Rico, where on December 17 its members will compete against Iowa's Central College and on December 18 against a Puerto Rican college club team. The team then will head to the Virgin Islands, where its members will compete against a team that, at the time of publication, had not yet been announced.

The women's basketball team is scheduled to travel to Nassau, Bahamas, where its members will compete in the Bahamas Sunshine Shootout. On December 20, the team will play Pennsylvania's Washington & Jefferson College and, on December 21, the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

In January, the swimming teams will go to Puerto Rico for a 10-day stay during which they will train and compete against Virginia's University of Mary Washington.

— Gwendolyn Moiles '15

alumnae|iUpdate

Alumnae & Alumni of Goucher College 2011–12 Board of Directors

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AAGC Nominating Committee,
Facilitator

Vacant
Chair, Alumnae/i Fund

Dear Goucher Alumnae and Alumni,

I am honored to have been elected as your new AAGC president. During my years on the AAGC Board of Directors, I have worked with many of Goucher's most talented and committed alumnae/i leaders. I want to thank all of the directors and past presidents with whom I have had the privilege to serve for their invaluable contributions to the AAGC. I especially want to thank my predecessor, **Kathy Healy '78**, whose leadership has significantly advanced the AAGC, further solidifying our place in the life of our alma mater.

Indeed, as we look ahead to the next two years, it is important to reflect on the remarkable successes of the last two. Conceived by past AAGC President **Robert Bull '93** and championed by Kathy, Summit 125 brought alums from across four decades together for a yearlong, online conversation about how to enhance alumnae/i engagement with the college. This spirited discussion led to several new initiatives, most notably the Goucher Professional Network (GPN) on LinkedIn, intended to meet needs that alumnae/i identified as most critical.

Another important outcome of Summit 125 is the opportunity it afforded the AAGC last year to provide the college's Strategic Planning Group with informed input regarding the role of alumnae/i in furthering Goucher's mission. As a result, I am delighted to share that the college's new strategic plan, *Transcending Boundaries and Transforming Lives*, approved by the Board of Trustees at its October 2011 meeting, includes as one of its initiatives "Building a Community Committed to 'Goucher for Life,'" which outlines specific strategies for involving alumnae/i as partners in the ongoing work of the college. I offer special thanks to Alumna Trustee and AAGC Director **Janet Farrell '73**, whose representation of the AAGC in Strategic Planning Group discussions yielded this noteworthy achievement.

Using the Strategic Plan as our framework, the AAGC directors identified at our October board meeting several key goals to guide our work during the next two years. Intended to foster increased alumnae/i engagement, these goals include growing participation in the GPN by launching new subgroups, targeting regional groups to organize alumnae/i events, coordinating Goucher's popular Trips and Tours program, and offering workshops and other programs to facilitate career networking for alumnae/i and current Goucher students.

In the coming months, I will share more details in the *Goucher Quarterly* and in other media about our plans and, most importantly, about opportunities for you to be involved with Goucher. With your participation and support, I am confident that we will successfully expand the accomplishments of the last two years and help build a community committed to Goucher for Life.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Shaer Ellis '86
President, AAGC





ALUMNAE/
PROGRAMMING
OPPORTUNITY

A Week at Chautauqua

Recreation, education, relaxation—surely something for everyone

Sunday, June 24, to Saturday, July 7, 2012

Founded upon the belief that everyone has the right to “know all that he can know,” the Chautauqua Institution offers participants the chance to attend lectures, book-signings, art shows, and performances. A different theme will be featured each week in workshops, study groups, and morning lectures. From June 24 to 30, the institution presents *Roger Rosenblatt and Friends on the Literary Arts*, featuring the renowned author as he holds conversations with Norman Lear, creator of the classic television series *All in the Family*; cartoonist Jules Feiffer; writer Meg Wolitzer; American lawyer, educator, and author Derek Bok; and sociologist and philosopher Sissela Bok. From July 1 to 7, the program, titled *The Lehrer Report: What Informed Voters Need to Know*, will focus on issues from national health care to job creation. Retired PBS *NewsHour* anchor Jim Lehrer will lead policymakers, analysts, and government leaders in discussions. Join the Goucher group for either week or stay for both.

Rest assured that there also will be opportunities to enjoy ballet, opera, or musical performances in the evenings, as well as to walk, play golf, or swim. The Hotel Athenaeum, where the group will stay, is a National Historic Landmark featuring a splendid view of New York State’s Chautauqua Lake.

THIS TRIP INCLUDES: Transportation, accommodations at the Hotel Athenaeum, meals, gratuities, lectures and programs, and many recreational activities.

COST: The price each week is \$2,600 per person for a double and \$2,830 per person for a single. (Reserve your place with a \$500 deposit per week; this includes a \$250, tax-deductible contribution to Goucher College.)

For more information, contact trip leaders Ethel Berney '46 (410.363.1332), Sita Kurkjian Smith '54 (443.578.8210), or Betty Hanna Kansler M.Ed. '62 (410.821.9243).

mark your calendars

Mar. 20

ON CAMPUS

Bestselling Author

The Kratz Center for Creative Writing presents “reading and conversation” with award-winning writer Beverly Lowry.

Apr. 19

ANNAPOLIS

Spring Concert

The Goucher Chorus, U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club, and Annapolis Symphony Orchestra perform at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Apr. 27–29

ON CAMPUS

Alumnae/i Weekend

Come have fun with your classmates.

● OUT OF TOWN ● ON CAMPUS ● IN BALTIMORE

For information about the Beverly Lowry event, contact the Kratz Center for Creative Writing at kratz@goucher.edu.

For information about and tickets to the spring concert, call 410.293.8497.

For a complete schedule of events or information about Alumnae/i Weekend, visit www.goucher.edu/alumni or call toll-free, 1.800.272.2279.



Open to Opportunity

Uneda Brewer-Frazier '70

Uneda Brewer-Frazier '70 likes to plan before leaping into action. But her strategy always includes this caveat: Don't be afraid to finesse your plan.

"Sometimes I just say, 'Let's throw out the plan; this is the more interesting way to go,'" she says.

Her philosophy seems to be paying off. These days, Brewer-Frazier, a former Johnson & Johnson executive who recently moved from Jackson, NJ, to Poinciana, FL, works as a consultant and life coach. Her specialty is advising professionals who wish to change their lives, and—perhaps this should come as no surprise—helping them envision, plan, and implement that transformation. "I encourage you to think deeply about what you really need to be fulfilled. Once you have uncovered that, I help you stay focused on getting to where you want to go," she says.

Her own career path has taken her from working as a social worker to traveling the globe as a corporate development executive to running her own international consulting company. The common thread, she now realizes, is that each job offered her new ways of helping people do their best. "I really enjoy seeing people reach their highest potential and maybe even accomplish what they didn't think they could," says Brewer-Frazier, who for years has served on the AAGC board of directors.

The key may lie in remaining focused on specific goals while being open to opportunity, Brewer-Frazier suggests. "It is having the mindfulness to be fully present in the moment and being able to recognize opportunities while remaining committed to your goals," she says. "And that is not easy, either as a coach or as a human being."

While growing up in Rocky Mount, NC, Brewer-Frazier wanted to be a translator at the United Nations. She even wrote a letter to the U.N. asking how best to get hired. "I was trying to plan," she says. While she was a teenager, her parents helped lead efforts to desegregate the local high school. "I was one of a handful of students who integrated the high school, so when I was graduating, my father said, 'I hope you broaden your horizons and go to college somewhere beyond North Carolina.'"

True to form, Brewer-Frazier began to draw up a plan by reading college catalogs in alphabetical order. "I got as far as the Gs. I got to Goucher, and I said: 'I want to go there.'"

At college, however, she realized she didn't want to limit herself to a particular career, so, although she studied French, she didn't major in languages. "I thought, 'I will take everything,' and the best way to do everything was to major in American studies."

After graduation, she was hired as a social worker at the Baltimore Department of Public Welfare. She later married (her husband, Anthony, is a retired Verizon network operation technician), earned a master's degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work, was recruited by a Philadelphia bank to develop management training programs, and eventually was hired by Johnson & Johnson as a global talent manager. In that latter capacity, she traveled routinely to countries including Argentina, Belgium, Canada, China, and Germany and oversaw development of training programs with a standardized core curriculum and elements that could be adapted to different cultures. And frequently, she says, she was struck by the serendipity that can arise from simultaneously being committed to goals and open to opportunity. "Sometimes when I was flying somewhere, I'd think: 'Wow, I grew up in Rocky Mount, and here I am sitting in first class on my way to Bangkok. This is just mind-boggling and fabulous at the same time,'" she says. "I am so glad I had these opportunities. It's like I had my own little U.N. experience."

— Holly Selby

Family Weekend

Beautiful fall weather set the scene October 14–16 for Family Weekend. More than 250 families enjoyed a variety of activities, including a crab feast, a talk by journalist Juan Williams, the 19th annual Renie Amoss Memorial Road Race/Walk, a tour of the original campus, and a screening of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2*.



Maryland-style steamed crabs diverted diners at the crab feast on October 14.



Daniel Montoya-Camacho '14 placed first in a field of 220 runners in the 2011 Renie Race with a time of 19:57.



(L to R) The gopher; Hadley Couraud '13; Amory Brandt '12; George Amoss P'93, race founder; Victoria Adinolfi '12; and Sanford J. Ungar, college president, gathered after the 19th annual Renie Amoss Memorial Road Race/Walk.



A panel discussion on studying abroad showcased diverse perspectives from students and faculty members.



Students and their families mingled at the Parent Council reception.



Phi Beta Kappa inductees (L to R) Jackson Gilman-Forlini '12, Jeffrey Bessen '13, Peter Krause '12, Kayla Prince '12, Christina Murphy '12, and Emily Kinkaid '12 with Milena Rodban '08, president of the Goucher College chapter.



seen on the scene

Chocolate Tour

A group of 15 alumnae/i and guests on September 24 sampled some of Baltimore's finest confections during a chocolate-appreciation tour coordinated by the Alumnae/i Association of Goucher College Trips and Tours program. The delicacies included hand-rolled hazelnut truffles prepared at Little Italy bakery Piedigrotta by Carminantonio Iannaccone, the baker widely credited with inventing tiramisu. Participants also sampled savory dishes, including macaroni and cheese topped with Colombian dark chocolate at Jack's Bistro in Canton. A sweet time was had by all.



impromptu

(*im·promp'tōō*) *adj.* Something made or done offhand, at the moment, or without previous study; an extemporaneous composition, address, or remark.

By Holly Selby

How willing people are to take risks with their money—and why—long has fascinated **Victor Ricciardi**. The assistant professor of financial management, who came to Goucher in 2010, is an expert in behavioral finance. A graduate of Hofstra University, he holds a master's degree in business administration from St. John's University, has contributed to numerous business management textbooks, and does a great impression of Bill Clinton.

Behavioral finance is considered a relatively new and growing field. How would you describe it?

Behavioral finance emerged in the last decade, but has roots going back about 25 years. What is known as the classical model or standard finance is based upon the idea of rational decision-making and, in my viewpoint, is incorrect. Much of the theory of standard finance was found to be flawed, so people began researching decision-making from the cognitive and emotional points of view and applying this to financial decision-making.

What drew you to this field?

Three teachers who were my mentors had a major influence on me by encouraging me to pursue this. As an investor myself, I also realized that many of the financial theories I had studied didn't seem to have application in the real world.

You taught a first-year course in the psychology of money and a personal financial-planning course last fall. What do you most hope your students learned?

I have them answer various personality questionnaires about decision-making, including risk-taking behavior. I tell them, "Don't just pick a major, think about where you want to go with it." I tell them to balance what they like, what will make them happy, how to add value to society, and what will help them maintain their standard of living as they go through their careers. I have students who are dancers, who love finance, who want to open a studio. I say, "Don't be a starving artist, think about how to run a successful dance studio."

What is risk tolerance?

It is a way of assessing your overall risk-taking behavior [as it applies to investing]. I try to help the students assess what kinds of decisions they may make about different categories of investments so they can develop a hypothetical investment strategy to take over the long term.

Other than your research, what are your interests?

Music, anything with hard rock. I'm a passionate Mets fan. I am not a golfer, but I like to play golf. I also want to be known as the funniest professor on campus. Studies have shown that if you use humor in the classroom, it has a direct correlation to improving student performance.

What kind of humor do you use in class?

Impressions. As an Italian-American, I do good impressions of people I know from growing up in my neighborhood in New York City. I also do a really good impression of Bill Clinton.



photo by Billie Weiss '11

To follow Victor Ricciardi on Twitter, visit <http://twitter.com/victorricciardi>.

ROCK & BREW GODS

FOUNDED BY FOUR GOUCHER COLLEGE ALUMNI (AND A LONGTIME FRIEND),
THE BALTIMORE ROCK OPERA SOCIETY IS ALL ABOUT 'EPIC' PERFORMANCES.

BY JULIE STEINBACHER '10 • PHOTOS BY BRYAN BURRIS



(L to R) Actor Jack Sossman, and BROS founders
Eli Breitburg-Smith '08 and Jared Margulies '08,
discuss plans for a summer performance.

The lingering odor of mildew mixes with the scent of wet paint, hot glue, and National Bohemian beer in the newly renovated Autograph Playhouse in Baltimore's Charles Village.

In the darkened house, formerly a 285-seat cinema, two-by-fours and unused art supplies are strewn amid the red upholstered chairs. Stray electrical cords snake along the aisles.

The stage crew scrambles to add last-minute touches to a set that includes lofty pillars and a golden dome. In a nearby prop room, a handful of twenty-somethings frantically glue paper-twine suckers to dozens of screaming-red foam tentacles—the limbs of a giant alien puppet. Operatic riffs, wafting in from the alley where the chorus members are warming up, mingle with the screech of power drills and the pounding of hammers.

It is two days before opening night of the double feature *Amphion and The Terrible Secret of Lunastus*, an original production of the Baltimore Rock Opera Society (BROS). Rehearsals are behind schedule, the anticipated budget has been surpassed, and the theater lacks effective air conditioning, meaning there is no respite from the humid, 90-degree weather that plagues Baltimore from May through August. Nevertheless, the crew is determined that the show, a Byzantine-era tale of star-crossed lovers paired with a campy, 50s-style sci-fi romp, must go on as planned—and that it will be “epic.” After all, BROS, as the society and its members are called, is used to such constraints: For the last three years, it has succeeded in putting on shows despite space concerns, an uncertain budget, and a lack of official organization.

The BROS sound is a little Bowie, a little Judas Priest, and a little Rolling Stones. Add props like magical guitars, lasers, and giant battleaxes; actors dressed as Minotaurs, alien trees, and ancient emperors; and the tableau is nearly complete.

“We’re trying to go for what Wagner would have done if the electric guitar had been invented back then,” says co-founder Dylan Koehler '08, a grant writer for the Baltimore Child Abuse

Center, a nonprofit that serves metropolitan-area children who have been affected by sexual abuse. “We want it to be just as giant, as big and outlandish, as it can possibly be.”

Larger Than Life

In addition to Koehler, the BROS founders include Goucher alumni Eli Breitburg-Smith '08, Aran Keating '05, and Jared Margulies '08; as well as John DeCampos, who grew up in Annapolis, MD, with Keating.

“Aran and John had this vision of putting on a stage production of the [1974] Brian De Palma film *Phantom of the Paradise*,” says Koehler. “I was living with Eli at the time, and the four of us just decided, ‘Let’s combine forces and make this thing happen.’ We began coming up with as many idiotic ideas as we could and cramming them into this three-hour epic.”

With the addition of the script-writing talents of Margulies, the five “founding BROS” began to write their first rock opera, *Gründlehämmer*. They had a rich well of sources to inform their production: Rock-opera concept albums have been around since the late 1960s. Some of the most influential include The Who’s *Tommy*, David Bowie’s *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, and Pink Floyd’s *The Wall*. In 1969, the concept album for *Jesus Christ Superstar* was released, and the musical was performed on Broadway two years later.

Since then, the rock-opera concept album has been flavored by punk and indie-folk styles of music. Recent Broadway shows, such as Lin-Manuel Miranda’s hip-hop- and salsa-infused *In the Heights*, have further diversified the genre. *Gründlehämmer* tells the classic tale of a boy-hero who must save a medieval kingdom from the clutches of an evil ruler. It premiered in 2009 at Baltimore’s 2640 Space, a 240-seat theater on



Actors on the set for *Amphion*, the BROS' Byzantine tragedy, run lines during a rehearsal.

St. Paul Street, and was performed again in 2010, each time to standing-room-only audiences.

"The closing night of the second run of that show is probably the proudest moment of my entire life," says DeCampos. "You could feel the electricity in the air. There was just this profound feeling of us doing something bigger than ourselves."

Making Über Art

As the rehearsal begins, Keating, the company's "Executive Visionary Commando" (aka artistic director), twists knobs on the lighting board in the cramped technical booth at the back of the theater. One of the show's 30 or so volunteers is teaching him how to set the more-than 150 lighting cues necessary for the 10 acts of the double feature.

"I'm an audio guy. Lighting's not my specialty," explains Keating, scrubbing a hand through his hair. "We all do everything. I just kind of oversee whatever I can."

Keating also is the production manager and co-writer of *Amphion*, as well as a producer of the double feature. While the performers run through their lines, he is in constant motion, repairing faulty microphones, working on sets, adjusting the lights from a ladder teetering atop a scaffold. During productions, he often spends at least 20 hours a week in the theater.

"It's just one of those things that takes everything," he says. "It's the über art—the ultimate art; it requires that you have expertise in all pieces of it."

The volunteers, many of whom come to the theater after a full day of work, help with everything from building sets to running ticket sales for the double feature. They include video-game testers, editors, teachers, singing waiters, accountants, baristas, nurse practitioners, and, of course, aspiring actors and actresses. A number of them are Goucher alumnae/i, of course,

and there are also a few current students. Every volunteer is considered a member. Some of the stalwarts are a part of the "Uber Palladium," and participate in an advisory capacity.

"Anybody who can kind of jive with our way of working can find themselves a place in the organization," says Keating.

John "Johnno" Marra '06, an artist for Civic Works, a Baltimore offshoot of AmeriCorps, and the "Quartermaster of Puppets," has been with BROS since *Gründlehämmer*.

"BROS has been a magnet for creative people slowly coming out of the woodwork," he says. "The rock 'n' roll element allows all of us—from a techie, to the actors, to the people that just come in to crack a beer and sweep the back room for an afternoon—to be everything that we are."

'Unrestrained Creativity'

Each of the founding BROS has at least one foot in the arts scene, though none of them majored in theater, music, or art. Keating minored in music and operates a disc jockey business. He is a member of the hip-hop duo AK Slaughter (with Emily Slaughter '06), which performs in Baltimore. Koehler plays in the Amphion Lunastus Orchestra and wrote many of the riffs that became songs in *Amphion*. As BROS' "Grand Viceroy of Harmonious Operations" (aka managing director), he spearheaded the musical direction of *Amphion*, managed the production's finances, and oversaw publicity. DeCampos, the band's second guitar, plays professionally with local acts The Motorettes and Super Entertainment System, and has worked for Baltimore music festivals. He was the music director for *Gründlehämmer*, and he creates art for BROS fliers and T-shirts. Margulies, a program officer for the Center for a Livable Future at the Johns Hopkins University, has contributed to scripts for the shows, assistant-directed *Lunastus*, and built props used in the double feature.

Finally, Breiburg-Smith, who spent a year learning how to brew beer with the Great Basin Brewing Company in Reno, NV, stage-managed and co-wrote *Grndlehmmer* and now hopes to create a BROS signature beer "with the power and flavor that would satisfy the palates of the Rock and Brew Gods," he says.

"It's a goal of ours to become professional," says Keating, "but we don't want to lose our energy and unrestrained creativity. We are going to have a blast up here on stage, and you're going to have fun just because of the enthusiasm."

Outside the Comfort Zone

So far, this approach has met with success. As word spread about BROS' inaugural show, *Grndlehmmer*, the group was featured in several local newspapers, invited to perform at Baltimore and D.C. arts festivals, and, in the three years since its debut, has presented several more rock operas, including a production of *Phantom of the Paradise*.

"We don't have any trouble putting on shows," says Keating. "The hard part is building an organization and making this thing sustainable. If we want BROS to grow and become a [full-fledged] nonprofit, it's going to be tough."

While BROS has a home for at least a year at the Autograph Playhouse, located on 25th Street and owned by retired government worker Billie Taylor, it faces a number of challenges, including raising funds, before it even can apply for official nonprofit status. The founders know that to survive, BROS will need to grow and take on the trappings of a more mature organization.

"There's this infectious aspect to [the Baltimore Rock Opera Society] where people just want to be involved in what they're doing ..."

— J. Buck Jabaily, executive director of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance

BROS founders (L to R): Jared Margulies '08, John DeCampos, Dylan Koehler '08, Eli Breiburg-Smith '08, and Aran Keating '05

"We're waiting for the right moment to incorporate as a nonprofit," Koehler says. "But it's going to happen in the next 12 to 18 months."

In the meantime, BROS is a member of Fractured Atlas, an umbrella nonprofit that allows smaller arts groups to receive tax-deductible donations and makes them eligible for grants. The fledgling company also gets help from more established arts groups including the Baltimore Love Project, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, the Baltimore Experimental Dance Collective, and the Effervescent Collective (founded by Lily Susskind '09).

"There's this infectious aspect to [the Baltimore Rock Opera Society] where people just want to be involved in what they're doing, and they want to involve as many people as possible in what they're doing," says J. Buck Jabaily, executive director of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, of which BROS is a member.

Even as the hammering continues and sweat pours from their faces, the BROS founders say they're already planning their next few shows. One of them, an original production called *Valhella*, follows the journey of three Viking brothers who discover their godly lineage and must fight for their place in Valhalla. It is scheduled to open next spring.

Ultimately, says Keating, "We just want to keep this thing alive and keep making sure we challenge ourselves by doing something each time that is just outside of our comfort zone.

"I'm never satisfied," he admits. "I'm never, ever satisfied with this kind of stuff. I always want it to be bigger and better the next time." **S**



AN INTERVIEW WITH
SANFORD J. UNGAR

RightTime RightPlace



e



ON OCTOBER 26, 2001,
Sanford J. Ungar was inaugurated
as Goucher’s 10th president.

In the decade since then, the college has increased its undergraduate enrollment by 21 percent, is conducting its most successful capital campaign (raising \$109 million thus far), and has completed the Athenaeum, a 100,000-square-foot, flagship building that has won awards for its innovative use of green strategies. Under Sandy Ungar’s leadership, Goucher in 2006 also became the first liberal arts college to require every undergraduate to study abroad at least once before graduation.

Here, Ungar, whose contract with the college this fall was extended through 2016, talks about the role of a liberal arts education, describes what Goucher may look like in the future, and reflects upon the “best gig” he’s ever had.

Q What does Goucher need to accomplish to remain vibrant and successful?

We must continue to stabilize our financial situation. One way is to grow the undergraduate enrollment a bit more, from 1,450 to perhaps 1,600. I think the campus is still under-utilized; we have very low density. I don't want it to feel like we're in Manhattan, but I think these facilities could be more fully used. There is also potential for growth in our wonderful graduate programs; two of the newest ones have really taken off.

Goucher faces the same issue that many other institutions face, which is how to keep doing what we do well without raising costs to a ridiculous degree. Our students' families cannot cope with runaway tuition increases, particularly given national and international economic conditions and even with generous financial aid packages. We need to find some new sources of revenue. It's the great quandary of the future: How do we continue to shine, but find new ways to pay for it?

Q What will Goucher look like five years from now?

The new Strategic Plan, which was approved in October by the Board of Trustees, calls for, among other things, recruiting more international students and internationalizing the curriculum. This is not a radical concept; it reflects what is happening in America and the world. We've hired some wonderful young faculty members in recent years with rich international backgrounds and experience; their teaching and scholarship brings a whole new dimension to the academic program, and in some cases they are leading the students to exciting overseas adventures. It has been inspiring to watch this emerging generation of faculty begin to come into its own.

The international contingent in our undergraduate student body is growing steadily, along with the diversity among domestic students. Michael O'Leary, the vice president for enrollment management, is traveling to China and elsewhere in Asia to recruit excellent students who intend to come to America, and I am helping out a bit in Europe this year.

Q The job of college president is sometimes described as equal parts politician, CEO, educator, fundraiser, manager, referee, diplomat, public speaker, and lobbyist. Has the reality of being a college president differed from what you expected?

When I first began, I had to do a lot of on-the-job learning about the financial issues that face not just liberal arts colleges, but the higher education sector generally.

And I was perhaps naive in not anticipating the extent to which higher education would become a whipping boy in American politics and culture. I happen to agree that the increase in costs is a terrible thing. But I don't understand why college costs get singled out for particularly vitriolic criticism. Why isn't everybody complaining about the rising cost of refrigerators? Or cars? Unfortunately, I fear that the answer is partly one of values: that some middle-class people are more willing to spend more money on material things these days—possessions and vacations—than on the education of their children; and that is very distressing.

Q Did any other aspect of the job surprise you?

I didn't expect the degree to which one must be concerned with government actions—on the local, state, and federal levels—at all times. At the federal level, the rhetoric about access to higher education is right on. It really is wonderful, but it is all symbolic. The money doesn't follow the rhetoric, and that's why the United States is falling far behind other western countries in our level of educational attainment.



s. Make them the center of your daily life.

Q Imagine that a friend has just been offered a job as president of another liberal arts college. What advice would you offer him or her?

The people who might call me about that would likely be non-academics like me. Even though I had been a dean—of the School of Communication at American University—I essentially came to this world from the outside.

So to a non-academic, I would say, “Spend as much time as possible getting to know the institution’s mission, goals, and the complicated nature of the job. And don’t complain about the need to raise money for such a good cause.”

And I would say, “It is also important to learn how to have real conversations with faculty members rather than symbolic ones. Get to know as many faculty and staff members as possible, in order to understand their commitment, their motivation, their fears, their hopes, and their ideals.”

I would also give this advice to any prospective college president: “Eat with students, walk with students, talk with students, listen to students. Make them the center of your daily life.”

Q Have you developed any practical techniques for coping with the demands of the job?

I try to swim as often as possible. Swimming for me is—I shouldn’t say an “escape”—but the fact is that when you are in the water, you can’t hear anyone, you can’t talk on the phone. And you can write emails in your head that you never send. Besides, I think that swimming in the middle of the day is good, because no one who takes his clothes off at lunchtime can take himself too seriously.

Q Since your inauguration, which was just weeks after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, much has happened to transform the world. Have you seen a change in Goucher’s students, their hopes, or aspirations?

Students are more worried about the world out there than they used to be. Some are personally anxious about what their lives are going to be like. They feel a lot of pressure.



I think part of that is because costs are skyrocketing, and they think, “I’d better not waste my parents’ money.” That is not a bad thing to think, but I have noticed a real anxiety among some students about whether they’re going to be able to stay in school from one semester to another, and that is really a shame.

As for other changes? Well, I am reluctant to say that our students are getting better and better, because there have been generations of brilliant people attending this college. But I think our students today are amazing. They arrive here as individuals shaped and driven by many different things, and, once here, they are sort of mysteriously empowered to discover even more about themselves that is unique and compelling.

I do credit this environment, this academic program, this community, and the chance to go overseas—all of these things—with allowing them to find themselves in very creative ways.

Q Given the economic realities, what is the role of a liberal arts education?

I’m convinced that a liberal arts education is more essential than ever to living the fullest, most satisfying life. When students say to me that they feel pressure to get a more “practical” or “career-oriented” education, all I can think is how obsolete that notion is becoming, given that many “skills” become irrelevant overnight, and no career provides insurance against dramatic change.

There is a new, intensely practical argument for the liberal arts, which is that the job you choose to study for now may no longer exist in 10 years or 20, and then what? Life is a complex experience, not just a job; we should be training people to live a rich and fulfilling life, not just to make a living.

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Q What advice would you give to prospective parents about how to help their sons and daughters prepare for college?

I am more convinced than ever that taking 12 Advanced Placement courses in high school is not the best way to prepare for success in life—or college. I think a lot of colleges are beginning to realize that.

One of the nice things about Goucher students—and I can only speak to the 10 years' worth that I've seen and the many alums that I've met—is that they prove there are many things at least as important as high test scores. I don't think being put under the steamroller by your parents and your school is the best way to prepare for the next stage of your education.

Q What would you tell prospective students?

Taste as many different parts of life as you can. Learn how to ask questions, to challenge authority on a smaller or bigger scale, to be skeptical, and to evaluate critically what you are told. Learn to understand that the teller very often shapes the message.

Q In your inaugural address, you said, "I am very happy to be here today. It is exactly where I want to be." Now that you've recently extended your contract with the college through the year 2016, do those words hold true?

I love what I do. I just got back from my 45th reunion at Harvard, and every five years our classmates write about their lives and their feelings for a report that is published and circulated to us all. I found myself writing this time that, looking over all my many jobs, this is the best gig I've ever had. §

I love what I do.



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From Adversity to Inspiration

by Sanford J. Ungar

There is something about anniversary commemorations—especially of sad and tragic events—that understandably sparks individual and group memories and recollections. These recollections can seem self-indulgent, or even maudlin, but they bring us together and somehow make us feel better. They hold clues to how we conduct ourselves in the present.

This past September 11, we held a recollection at Goucher of what we had experienced on campus ten years earlier, and I was asked to recall that tragic day as I had personally experienced it.

It was, as so many have remembered and remarked, a beautiful, clear morning, September 11, 2001. There was a trace of early autumn in the air, and it was a thrill for me to see Goucher students walking to and from their early classes with a spring in their step, an air of optimism, yet still combined with a trace of trepidation, about something new. I regarded the first-year students that fall as my classmates. I was a new arrival, too. I had been on the job as president for just two months and ten days—I had a sunny innocence, an optimism, an enthusiasm of my own, a sense that nothing could possibly go wrong.

That morning we had the first meeting of a search committee looking for a new academic dean, in the conference room next to my office, and also my first meeting ever of the Executive Committee of the Goucher College Board of Trustees. I've participated in at least 73 of those Executive Committee meetings now. But this one was the first, and so I was a little nervous about how it would go. I was in a new role and really did not know exactly what to expect.

At some point, our colleague Tom Phizacklea, vice president for finance, came into the room and handed me a note: A terrible accident had occurred; a plane had flown into one of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. I announced the news. From there on, it's a blur. Information came in waves, and it was all very bad. Everything stopped. Any semblance of doing the college's business as usual that morning was clearly ridiculous. We didn't really

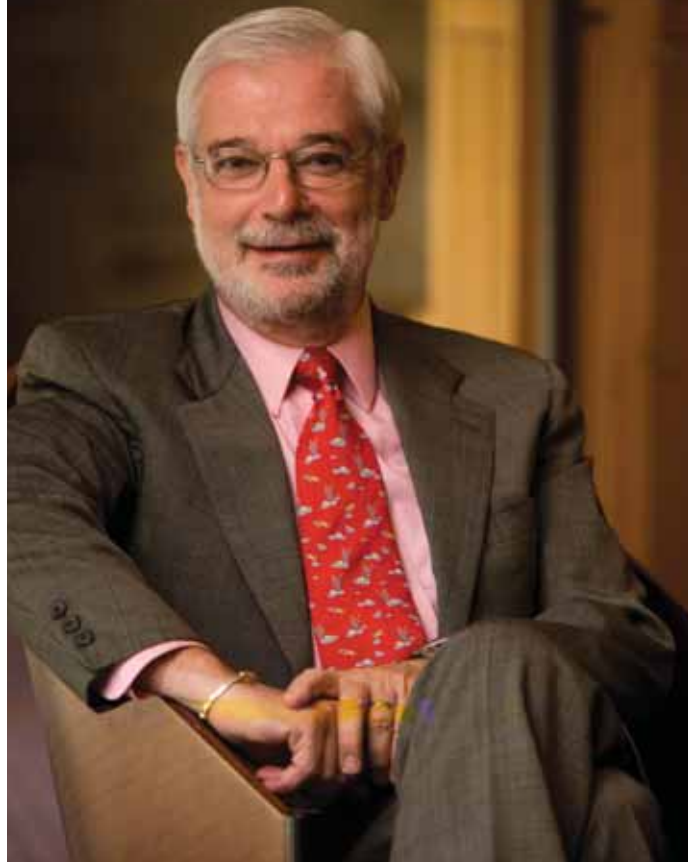


photo by Bruce Weller

know what to do. One of the trustees, George Thomsen, offered a prayer, and we eventually dispersed. I remember hurried conferences in the hallways that led to the suspension of regular classes and the convening of special seminars about what we all knew would be a changed world. For some of us, it was a flashback to the '60s—to the so-called “teach-ins” about the Vietnam War, where people who seemed to have all the answers spoke.

For the rest of the day, most of us wandered. We checked to see if everyone was okay, and we worried along with members of the Goucher community who had family in the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, or on stranded airplanes. There were drumming circles in the residential quad, songs, and poetry—a kind of congeniality and conviviality inspired by panic and a search for comfort and companionship. I remember that a new freshman—her name was Max Weselcouch—asked me if we could have dinner together; she and I settled in with a group in the Stimson dining hall and talked for what seemed like hours. We had no answers (we barely knew what questions to ask), but it was comforting just to get to know each other.

Many of us wandered that night, too. I remember those who did it with me—especially Professor Tom Kelliher from the Math and Computer Science Department. That's the night he became my friend. We and others were all in and out of the residence halls, along the paths and in the nooks and crannies of campus, just wondering what might come next and trying to reassure the students. I remember feeling

continued from p. 57

very vividly that I was personally responsible for the well-being of more than a thousand of other people's children. My own were safe—my daughter then a senior at her college in New England, my son a senior at his high school in Washington, DC—but how could we comfort the parents who had sent theirs to us for an education and a new phase of life?

Every cliché about 9/11 is true, and yet none is adequate: The world changed. We lost our innocence. We became wary of potential terrorists, and sometimes, horribly, of each other. Things would never be the same again. But the sense of community we all felt that day on the Goucher campus set the tone here for the years ahead.

In the days and weeks that followed, we learned about and adapted to each other at an abnormally fast pace. For me at least, any tentativeness about the relationships we would ordinarily form at the start of a school year was swept away by the unfolding events and our reaction to them. In the face of this almost abstract adversity, I believe we learned to care even more about each other—and to indulge ourselves in every possible opportunity to come together as a community.

We're ten years older now, all of us, wiser perhaps, less innocent, but determined to keep discouragement at bay. At Goucher we have managed to find hope and to make time to explore the big issues confronting our community, our country, and our world, despite some of the madness out there. Our new first-year students this year were seven or eight years old at the time of 9/11, and we want them to join us in reverting to what may seem like an old-fashioned idealism. There are leaders to train, and there is important work to be done. We're on it.



Sanford J. Ungar | President







Coming in the next issue

We ask Eliot Grasso '05—and other alumnae/i—what inspires them.

A PEEK INSIDE



- **Planting ideas:** A visit to a wastewater treatment plant challenges students' romantic notions of water.



- **Psychology of spending:** Victor Ricciardi talks about personal finance and why he impersonates Bill Clinton.



- **Viewpoint:** President Sanford J. Ungar describes how the events of September 11 have shaped his vision for the college.