

SPRING 2011

Goucher  
**Quarterly**

**MAKING  
NEW FRIENDS**



**on the cover:**

Sean Varner '13 shares a story written in Spanish at the Futuro Latino Learning Center (see p. 3).

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The *Goucher Quarterly* is published by Goucher College, Baltimore, MD 21204, as a service to all alumnae/i, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends of the college.

*This is an online-only issue.*

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Goucher College is a private liberal arts and sciences college founded in 1885. For up-to-date information about the college, visit [www.goucher.edu](http://www.goucher.edu).

# 13 success is in the details

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# contributors



Photo by Jack Gohn

## Mary Medland '74

Medland is an award-winning, Baltimore-based freelance writer. Her work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, the *American Bar Association Journal*, *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and other publications. Her article about Goucher's Brooke and Carol Peirce Center for Undergraduate Research in Special Collections appears in this issue (see p. 34).



Photo by Hannah Wojno '11

## Julie Steinbacher '10

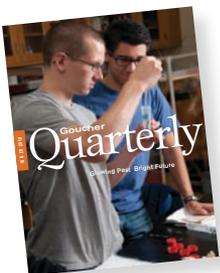
Steinbacher is the assistant editor of the *Quarterly*. The recipient of two Kratz Summer Writing Fellowships, she has spent recent summers writing fiction in Washington and attending the Kenyon Review Writers Workshop. Her short story "Other Women's Demons" was published last January in *Sergeant Sparrow Magazine*, and her article about Humans vs. Zombies, a game invented by Goucher students, appears in this issue (see p. 28).



Photo by David Zimand

## Vanessa Keen '11

A communications and Spanish major, Keen began working as the *Quarterly* intern in Fall 2009. She took a break from her *Quarterly* work last spring and summer to study at the Universidad de Palermo in Buenos Aires. Her profiles—about alumni who are partners in a winemaking venture and an alumna who is earning her master's degree in medieval studies at Oxford—appear in this issue (see pp. 23 and 24).



# feedback?

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# Pleased to Meet You

Visitors to campus on weekend afternoons might be forgiven for mistaking the Athenaeum for an international hub of some sort. Throughout the building, in one or another classroom or meeting space, they might come upon children playing *Pato, Pato, Ganso* (which is Spanish for “Duck, Duck, Goose”) or older adults taking computer courses taught in a mix of Spanish and English. Led by Goucher students, the classes are part of what’s called the Futuro Latino Learning Center (FLLC), a two-year-old community-based learning program that offers English language lessons and social services to members of Baltimore County’s Latino population (see story p. 3).

What struck me one recent Saturday afternoon when I stopped in for a visit—in addition to how bustling the center was and how well many Goucher students speak Spanish—was the obvious camaraderie that had formed between those teaching and those taking classes.

Of course, opportunities to make new acquaintances occur all the time on campus. That’s part of college life. But the FLLC seems to offer the chance to form a less common kind of friendship—one between Goucher students and individuals from outside the campus community, many of whom are recent arrivals from a different culture. As one male student put it, “I started volunteering here last semester as part of a class, but I came back because I realized that I really liked getting to know people from the local community.”

As I watched the student teach a few soccer moves to a small boy who had moved here from Guatemala with his family not so very long ago, I was reminded that the Goucher community includes every student, every faculty and staff member, and, not least, every person who invites us into their lives, even if only for a Saturday afternoon. All of us are the richer for it.

Best regards,  
Holly Selby | Editor  
holly.selby@goucher.edu



Photo by Alexandra Papagno



(Top) It's story time in the children's cultural program as Benjamin Taylor '14 reads a book to community members.

(Middle and bottom R) Sarah Ropp '11 and Sean Varner '13 help young community members with their Spanish vocabulary.

(Bottom L) Michael Lynch, Bilingual Community Liaison for the Baltimore County Office of Planning, answers questions during English language instruction.

Photo by Bruce Weller



Photo by Bruce Weller



## The Language of Learning

On weekends, Goucher's Athenaeum—already teeming with student activity—also becomes a bustling international center. On a recent Saturday, men and women newly arrived from Central and South America and the Caribbean learned English medical vocabulary, while in another room, a man from Mexico set up his first e-mail account, and a few doors down, children acted out a Peruvian folktale.

These activities all are part of the Futuro Latino Learning Center (FLLC), an initiative that provides essential language education and social services to the members of Baltimore County's rapidly growing Latino population.

Established by Goucher's Office of Community-Based Learning and the Hispanic Languages, Literatures & Cultures Department, the center serves the dual purpose of assisting Latino community members and offering Goucher students, who organize and run the programs, a chance to practice their Spanish language skills. For **Stephanie Burgos '14**, the center also offers an opportunity to get to know members of the local community

that she otherwise might not have a chance to meet. "Working here is a great way to give back to the community," she says. "It's especially fun once you get to know the people who come month after month."

Now in its second year, the center, which is coordinated by Americorps VISTA volunteer Alexandra Papagno, attracts nearly 70 participants each week, many of whom have learned of it through churches, schools, or by word of mouth. Programming includes adult computer classes taught in Spanish, a children's cultural program, four levels of English language instruction, and bilingual conversation partnerships.

"We asked ourselves: What does the community need and what do students need—and how do we knit together two communities that otherwise would never get together?" says Michael Curry, Goucher's France-Merrick Professor in Service Learning and one of the founders of the FLLC. "We want to provide skills to people so that they have access to everything the United States has to offer." §

—Vanessa Keen '11



Photo by Julie Steinbacher '10

(L to R) Peter Ramos and Arnie Sanders, associate professor of English

## Just Do It

**Peter Ramos '92** couldn't have been clearer last fall when he visited campus and spoke to young fiction and poetry writers. "If you like your art, do your art," he said.

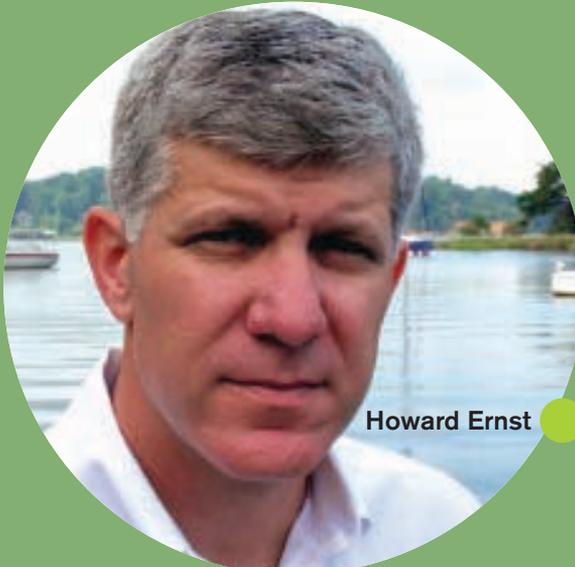
The poet and assistant professor of English at Buffalo State College came to Goucher to read his work and advise current students how to choose a master of fine arts program. A graduate of George Mason University and SUNY Buffalo, and the author of the 2008 poetry collection *Please Do Not Feed the Ghost*, Ramos emphasized that choosing the right program is important, but so is having faith in your artistic vision. "Make it clear during the application process that you will accomplish your goals no matter where you go."

The event was organized by Goucher's English Department and the Kratz Center for Creative Writing. §

green  
spot



David Blockstein



Howard Ernst

# Goucher Brings Mellon Scholars to Campus

By Julie Steinbacher '10

Coral reefs destroyed by changes in the temperature and chemistry of the oceans. Large expanses of land ravaged by wildfires. Coastal regions, home to nearly one-third of the world's population, irrevocably altered by the rising sea level. These scenarios may be part of what David Blockstein calls "global weirding," a phrase that the ecologist says is more appropriate than "global warming."

"There is a major disconnect between what the scientific community, what the public, and what the policymakers know about the environment," said the senior scientist for the National Council for Science and the Environment. Urging students to be "missionaries," he added, "You can educate yourself and others about climate change."

Blockstein is one of two Mellon Visiting Scholars who spent a day on campus last semester lecturing about environmental issues and working with students. He and Howard Ernst, an expert on the politics of

restoring the Chesapeake Bay who also gave a talk at Goucher, were the first in a series of visiting environmental scholars who are being invited to campus during the next two years.

The series—as well as summer workshops for faculty, summer research projects for students and faculty, a visiting professorship, and the creation of an endowed faculty chair in environmental studies—is funded by a \$1.5 million gift from longtime Goucher supporter Robert Meyerhoff and a \$448,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Blockstein and Ernst were invited to campus because their expertise in science and public policy dovetails with the interdisciplinary emphasis of Goucher's environmental studies program, which was launched last fall. "Students benefitted from these events by learning how important it is to integrate concepts from different disciplines," said Germán Mora, the Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Associate Professor of Environmental Studies. He added that even students "on the fence" about environmental issues became more active in class after the visitors increased their awareness of the effects of climate change. §



Photo by Julie Steinbacher '10

## Succeeding in Tough Times

“Searching to Succeed,” an annual event aimed at introducing current Goucher seniors to alumnae/i from the working world, drew 38 students this spring, the largest group in the event’s three-year history.

Advice came in a variety of forms, from job-search tips to instructions on writing a resume and from face-to-face networking tips to how best to navigate professional online networking sites.

A panel discussion offered students the opportunity to listen to and query **Dan Dolan '03**, vice president of policy research and analysis at Electric Power Supply Association, a national trade organization; **Barb Van Winkle '76**, a member of Goucher’s

Board of Trustees and the president of Nancy Adams Personnel, an employment agency; **Steve Klepper '97**, principal at Kramon & Graham, P.A.; and **Charleata Neal '04**, assistant director of Human Resources at Goucher College.

A recurring topic of discussion was the tough economic times—and the difficulty of finding a job. (The resounding response from all the panelists was: “Don’t give up.”)

“Grad school isn’t for everyone,” said Klepper. “If you aren’t committed to a certain program, don’t go straight to grad school. Stick it out and look for a job that is relevant to your qualifications and interests.” §

—Julie Steinbacher '10



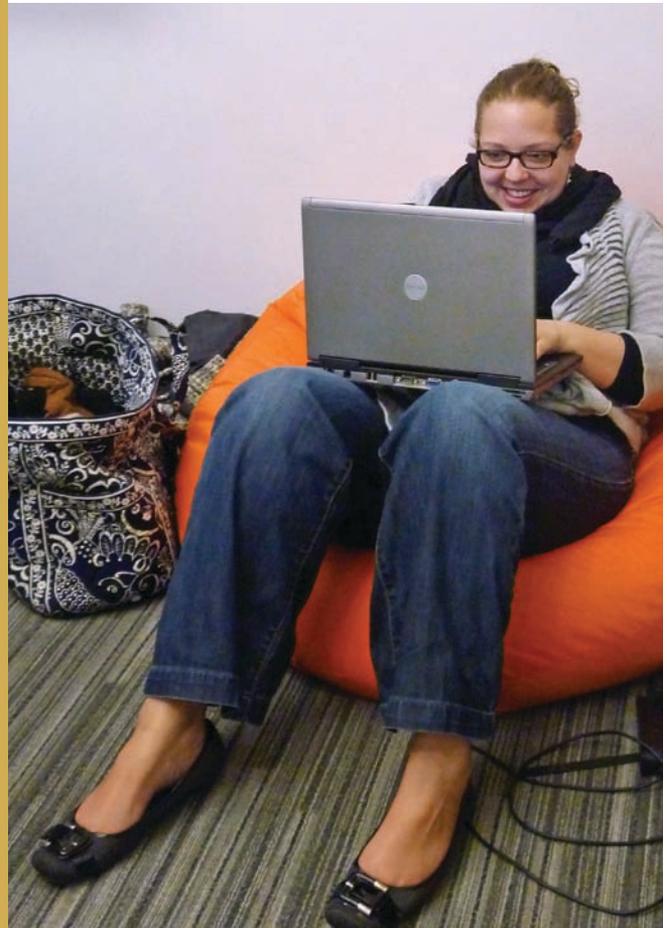
Photos by Vanessa Keen '11

## Business as Usual?

The Athenaeum was packed during the week of January 31, but not necessarily with students cramming for exams. Instead, faculty and staff members were holed up in makeshift offices located in unlikely spaces: group study rooms, the information commons, even Alice's Restaurant. A damaged electrical cable temporarily had caused several office and classroom buildings to be closed, forcing some staff and faculty members from their typical workspaces. About 160 students also were displaced from their dorm rooms for one day. Despite the setbacks, everyone hunkered down wherever they'd landed, in some cases seizing the chance to make new acquaintances. Power was fully restored by February 4. §

A group study room becomes a makeshift office for: Michael O'Leary, vice president for enrollment management; Tom Phizacklea, vice president for finance; Bill Leimbach, vice president for technology and planning; and Wendy Belzer Litzke, vice president for government and community relations.

Lindsay Johnson '05, Goucher's Baltimore community partnerships coordinator, discovers a soft spot for hard work.



# giving goings on



(L to R) Kathleen Hearl '11, Adrien Nguyen '11, Maria Gonzalez Austin '11, and Reema Khanchandani '11

(L to R) Steve Speicher '10, Lindsay Johnson '05, Nenelwa Tomi '11, Morris Johnson '11, Georgann Nedwell '04, and Kate Maskarinec '09



Photos by Nicole Revello



## It's Grape to Meet You

Alumnae/i, friends, and Goucher seniors gathered January 28 to sample a selection of regional wines. Held in the Rosenberg Gallery, the wine-tasting event, which was sponsored by the offices of Development and Alumnae/i Affairs, drew nearly 60 folks.

# giving to Goucher

Photos by Stan Rudick



Pop singer Peggy Davison '91 and President Sanford J. Ungar

## An Opening Night of Note

The evening was cool and the crowd glamorous at Baltimore's France-Merrick Performing Arts Center on opening night of the hit musical *Jersey Boys*. Alumnae/i and friends of the college who attended the event also were invited to a pre-show reception, which included remarks about the history of musical theater by Goucher professor Michael Curry and an appearance by pop music performer **Peggy Davison '91** of The Angels. About 180 Goucher Society members and other theater lovers attended the February event.



Asher Shorter, Minnie Waters Shorter '73, Joel Dackman, and Paget Humphreys Dackman '73

## Leona Morris '35

By Lindsay Stuart Hill '09

**D**uring her long career as an educator, **Leona Morris '35** never dreamed she would one day appear on television made up to look like a cat. But when she heard that Baltimore station WJZ-TV was looking for a news reporter, Morris decided to give it a shot. Then 72 years old and already 10 years retired, she found herself on the air, interviewing an actor from the musical *Cats*. “They put all that black makeup around my eyes. It was terrible,” says Morris. Still, she spent the next 13 years as the senior citizen correspondent on WJZ’s *Eyewitness News*. “I did crazy things [on the show], things I’d never have thought of doing,” she says.

A regular donor to Goucher since her graduation, Morris claims her passion for her first career—teaching—stemmed in part from her observation of professors at the college. “They made me want to do what they were doing,” she says. “I was intrigued by the idea of involving people in problem-solving and analyzing.”

Morris worked in education for 34 years, teaching in Baltimore City public schools and at Baltimore Community College, where she eventually became dean of student

personnel. Although switching from classroom to television studio might seem a big leap, Morris says her two careers were more similar than one might expect. “[On television], I was trying to explain things to people or encourage people,” she says. “I used to say all my broadcasts were really teaching: I just had a larger class.”

Now fully retired at 96, Morris for years was active in many nonprofit organizations, including the Baltimore Jewish Council and Temple Oheb Shalom, where she became the first female president in the congregation’s 132-year history. Her work was recognized in 1986 when she received Goucher’s Alumnae/i Award for Excellence in Public Service.

In addition to her regular donations to the college, Morris served as an alumna representative on the Board of Trustees from 1990–1993, and as the secretary of Phi Beta Kappa. “I felt Goucher had given me so much, and though I couldn’t do a great deal in the way of money, I could do some,” she says. “I was delighted to help when they needed me.”

In 2007, she established the Leona Sarah Morris '35 Endowed Internship Fund, which supports Goucher students who are pursuing internships in communications and



Leona Morris '35

public service. Internships, she says, are excellent opportunities because they allow students to experiment and “get a feel for an occupation.” And, as Morris knows, that first experiment can lead to entirely new experiences. When she started reporting for WJZ-TV, she expected her position to be temporary. “I thought, ‘OK, this will be a good experience. This will be fun,’ ” she says. “Well, I did it for the next 13 years.”



# GOPHERS WITHOUT BORDERS

If you're a Goucher alumna/us, and you live outside the United States, we'd like your help.

We'd like to offer current students who are fulfilling their study-abroad requirement a chance to connect with alumnae/i who are living abroad. If you are willing to share your experiences and knowledge with a current student who is visiting the country in which you live, please let us know.

Contact the Office of Alumnae/i Affairs at [alumni@goucher.edu](mailto:alumni@goucher.edu). Include your mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number. Please also provide a sentence or two about your life and work in your country of residence.



# She expanded Goucher's possibilities.

## Now it's time to return the favor.

In 1944, Julia Rogers' unexpected bequest of almost a million dollars enabled Goucher to build the renowned library that bore her name for more than 50 years. With the Athenaeum's world-class library in place, we now have the opportunity to remake the Julia Rogers building into a true 21st-century academic center: a place where science, humanities, and social science disciplines merge into one academic whole.

The renovation of the 62,000-square-foot building will create a bold new entry point to the academic quad on campus. It will provide more state-of-the-art classrooms, conference rooms, faculty offices, and labs. It will give an expanded presence to our graduate programs and our academic achievement programs. And it will promote a synergy on campus that will benefit both students and faculty for years to come.

The time has come to give Julia new years of glory. To find out how you can help, visit [www.goucher.edu/julia](http://www.goucher.edu/julia).

## EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES

THE NEW ACADEMIC CENTER AT  
← JULIA ROGERS →



Rendering of the new Loop Road entrance

# gopheReport



Photo by John Roemer IV

## Customized Coaching

By Julie Steinbacher '10

**R**uss Drylie '99 is a coach who considers the big picture while sweating the details. A believer in customized coaching—that is, coaching tailored to meet the needs of each athlete—he plans his teams' daily training runs with as much care as his entire strategy for the season.

As Drylie, a co-coach of the boys and girls cross country teams at Hereford High School in Parkton, MD, puts it, "Each individual matters on the team. It doesn't matter if someone is the state champion or an athlete who's trying to break 30 minutes in a three-mile race. We take time to develop programs specific to the individuals in order to achieve their season goals."

His approach is paying off. Last fall, both Hereford High cross country teams won state

championship titles for an individual runner and for a team—a feat that is unprecedented in Maryland history. (Drylie and co-coach Jason Bowman also were named Boys Cross Country Coaches of the Year by *The Baltimore Sun*.)

"It was nice to be recognized for the incredible season," says Drylie, who is also a full-time high school science teacher. "It was a long time coming."

In fact, Drylie's coaching career started at Goucher, where he was a member of the cross country team and then was the team's assistant coach for two years while earning his master's degree in teaching from Towson University. Goucher's Head Coach John Caslin was a strong influence. "He was the first coach I had with a definitive game plan," says Drylie. "The workouts he planned in August had an objective for what we'd accomplish in November."

From the get-go, Drylie and co-coaches Bowman and John Roemer IV planned for the future. Since 2002, they routinely have used their free periods to make recruiting visits to other classes. Their aim was to develop a strong team without losing sight of individual goals.

"Before every big meet, I write each athlete a letter about their goals," says Drylie. "I do this so that the students know I'm invested in them. Coaching isn't something I'm doing for a paycheck; I genuinely care about what they want to accomplish." §

# BRAGGING Rights

## Pass the Competition, Please

Two members of Goucher's men's indoor track and field team shone particularly brightly in the 2010-11 season. **Joey Negreann '12** of Denver, CO, won the 3,000-meter run at the Lebanon Valley Indoor Invitational held January 29 in Anville, PA, and set an indoor record for Goucher. His time of 9:08.12 was 27 seconds faster than the record set last year by **Zach Martin '10**. Negreann broke another Goucher record by running the mile in 4:39.67 at the Susquehanna Invitational held February 13 in Selinsgrove, PA. Negreann, who placed twelfth overall at the invitational, broke the indoor record for the event set in 2010 by **Adam Scipione '11**.

**Troy Browne '14** of Springdale, MD, won the 500-meter dash at the Lebanon Valley Indoor Invitational with a time of 1:11.21. The previous record was set in 2001 by **Ryan Mease '04**. At the Susquehanna Invitational, Browne placed fourth overall in the 400-meter dash—and, with a time of 52:82, broke a school indoor record set in December by **Brian Gautier '14**.



## Blocking Shots, Breaking Records

The men's basketball team's **Trae Lindsay '13** became Goucher's all-time leader in blocked shots—with a career total of 76 blocks—during a game against Drew held in the Decker Sports & Recreation Center on February 12. The player from Baltimore broke the long-standing record of 75 career blocks held by **Predrag Durkovic '98**. Durkovic, who is the leading rebounder and second highest scorer in Goucher's men's basketball history, last year was inducted into the college's Athletics Hall of Fame.

Earlier in the season, Lindsay also broke the single-season record for blocked shots. In a game against Scranton, Lindsay blocked his 31st shot, breaking the record set in 2001-02 by **Thabo Letsebe '03**.

—Mike Sanders

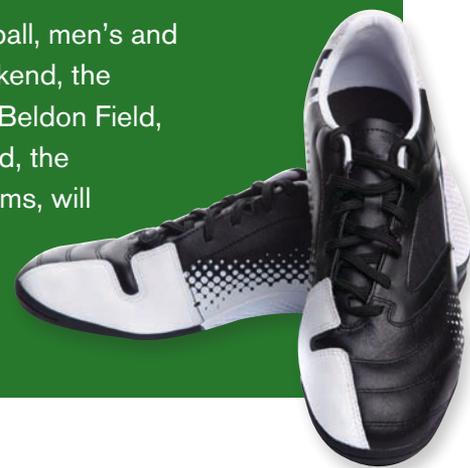


Meaghan Lee '13, of Potomac, MD, who last season was 12-3 in singles play, is one of 10 returning letter winners on Goucher's 2010-11 women's tennis team. The Gophers, guided by head coach Sally Baum, have three home matches this month. Visit [www.goucher.edu/athletics](http://www.goucher.edu/athletics) for information.

## Calling all alumnae/i athletes

Dust off those cleats and come back to campus to play field hockey, volleyball, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's lacrosse. Part of Alumnae/i Weekend, the matches (pitting odd against even years) will be held Saturday, April 30, at Beldon Field, in the Decker Gymnasium, and in Gopher Stadium. As the games are played, the Blue & Gold Society, the annual campaign that supports the athletic programs, will hold a family-friendly tailgating party.

For information, visit [www.goucher.edu/athletics](http://www.goucher.edu/athletics).



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## The 2011-12 slate of incoming board officers and members for the Alumnae/i Association of Goucher College:

### ALUMNA TRUSTEE

**Linda K. Himmelberger '74:** Since graduation, Himmelberger has been an active volunteer for Goucher College, including serving from 2001 to 2003 as AAGC president and ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees. In 1979, she received her DMD degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. She was awarded fellowship in the Pierre Fauchard Academy in 1991, in the International College of Dentists in 1995, and in the American College of Dentists in 1997.

### AAGC OFFICERS

**Kathryn Shaer Ellis '86, president:** Director of development communications at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, FL, Ellis holds a master's degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A 10-year veteran of the AAGC Board of Directors, she has served as vice-president since 2009.

**Steve Klepper '97, vice president:** Principal at Baltimore law firm Kramon & Graham, P.A., Klepper holds a master's degree in

# alumnae|iUpdate



Photo by Mike Ciesielski

**Dear Goucher Alumnae and Alumni,**

**W**elcome to our second annual “green”

issue. I would like to thank all those who participated in our recent online survey; your time and thoughtful comments are appreciated. As you may recall, last year the AAGC conducted Summit 125, a yearlong, online conversation about how best to serve alumnae/i and the college in the future. Although that conversation centered upon graduates of the last 25 years, we followed it with an invitation to all alumnae/i who are registered members of GoucherConnect, our online alumnae/i community, to participate in a survey about their engagement with the college.

The responses sent a clear message that alumnae/i are enthusiastic about forming and enhancing connections with Goucher. In the survey, respondents ranked building relationships between alumnae/i and the college as their top priority. They also gave high importance to broadening opportunities for engagement and developing networking opportunities for fellow alumnae/i. Other priorities included making connections with current

students and faculty and effectively using technology in communications and programming.

The AAGC’s findings have been forwarded to Goucher’s Strategic Planning Group (SPG). Led by **La Jerne Cornish ’83**, assistant professor of education, and former Board of Trustees chair John M. Bond Jr., the group has spent the past year taking a fresh look at Goucher, its accomplishments, and its ambitions. The SPG is scheduled to complete a draft of the strategic plan this spring, and will seek feedback from constituent groups, including the AAGC, throughout the summer. When the AAGC meets for its June retreat, the college’s strategic plan will inform our discussions as we formulate what role we will play during the next three to five years.

Meanwhile, let’s not forget to enjoy ourselves: Alumnae/i Weekend will be here in no time—please plan to join us from April 29 to May 1. As usual, the AAGC’s annual meeting will be held during the weekend. At that time, the slate of new AAGC officers will be approved.

I look forward to seeing many of you!

Warm regards,  
Katherine E. Healy ’78  
President, AAGC

Continued from page 16

history and a law degree from the University of Virginia. In 2007, he received the Jenifer Mitchell Reed '86 Award for outstanding leadership and volunteer service to the college. He has served on the AAGC Executive Committee since 2009.

**Uneda Brewer-Frazier '70, secretary:**

Retired from a career in global talent management at Johnson & Johnson, Brewer-Frazier now works in Jackson, NJ, as a life coach and consultant. She earned a master's degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work. She has served on the AAGC Board of Directors since 2008.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Cory Brewster-Greenstein '99:** A medical practice administrator at the University of Maryland Medical Center, Brewster-Greenstein holds several degrees, including a master's degree in business administration and a doctorate in health and human services from the University of Baltimore. In 2009, he received the Jenifer Mitchell Reed '86 Award for outstanding leadership and volunteer service to the college.

**Tiffany Brody-Blackbull '93:** A master teacher at Tse'ii'ahi' Community School in Standing Rock, NM, Brody-Blackbull lives and works on the Navajo Nation. In addition to teaching, she is involved in outreach services and volunteering in the school's community. She previously has been a member of the AAGC Nominating Committee.

**Tom Rose '95, M.Ed. '00:** The director of admissions and development and head men's basketball coach at Our Lady of Mount Carmel High School in Baltimore County, MD, Rose holds a master's degree in education from Goucher College. He has served on Goucher's Athletic Hall of Fame Committee since 2009.

**AAGC NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Cheryl "Cissy" Fitzgerald '89:** An active tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Fitzgerald is a co-founder with Eleanor Morgan (formerly Stacey Scofield '87), of the Gift of Tomorrows Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Dewey, AZ. Fitzgerald is the director of marketing and event planning for the foundation, which aims to reimburse live organ donors' expenses.

**J. Alice Nixon '99:** A researcher and policy analyst, Nixon is earning her doctorate in sociology with concentrations in development and demography from the University of Maryland, College Park. In 2009, she was the technology coordinator for the inaugural voyage of the Goucher Vagabonds and helped launch GoucherConnect, the college's alumnae/i directory.

**Eloise Tilghman Payne '55:** Retired in 1996 from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Payne worked as a consultant for program distribution and production for several years. She earned a master's degree in communication arts from the University of West Florida in 1981. She has served twice on the AAGC board, including as the representative to Goucher's Board of Trustees, and has chaired the Public Service Awards Committee and served on the Trips and Tours Committee.

**GRADUATE DIRECTOR**

**Betsy Fitzgerald MAAA '07:** A professional harpist and arts administrator, Fitzgerald is the executive director of the Grand Opera House, a performing arts center of Mercer University in Macon, GA.

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The slate is scheduled to be approved at the AAGC Annual Meeting in Merrick Hall on Saturday, April 30, 2011. To submit a name for future pools, contact the nominating committee at [alumni@goucher.edu](mailto:alumni@goucher.edu) or call 1.800.272.2279.



Photos by Stan Rudick

(L to R) Nenelwa Tomi '11, Nadiera Young '12, Morris Johnson '11, Maegan Burke '11, and Niles Finklea '11

## Jewells of Wisdom

Words of inspiration were shared by guests at the fifth annual Jewell Robinson Dinner, held to commemorate the first African-American to attend Goucher. These reflections were drawn from personal interpretations of Ms. Robinson's favorite quotes and concluded an evening of fellowship and fine food. The event, held on February 11, also is a celebration of the contributions of the African-American community to the college.

"This was my third year attending," said **Morris Johnson '11**. "Every year I am reminded of the history of Goucher and its place in the larger span of American history. This event brings home that Goucher was breaking new ground, and there were people like **Jewell Robinson** taking those first steps."

—Julie Steinbacher '10



(L to R) President Sanford J. Ungar and Jewell Robinson



(L to R) Danielle Drakes '01 and Jeremy Wilcox



## Suited to a 'Tea'

Gophers of all ages gathered for an elegant afternoon tea at the Renaissance Chancery Court Hotel in London, England. In proper London fashion, the well-dressed guests were treated to finger sandwiches, pastries, and scones with their tea, as well as conversation. They were joined by Goucher Athletic Hall of Fame inductee (and women's badminton international singles and doubles champion) **Judy Devlin Hashman '58**, and **Pattie Batza '91**, a member of Goucher's Board of Trustees, who shared news about the college with the group.



seen on the scene





Photo by Caroline Bauerle '09

(L to R) John Finegan '93, Rebecca Bruce '92, Christopher Bruce '93, Paul Reyes '93, Joseph Donofrio '93, Woody Ranere '96

## Telling Moving Stories

**Paul Reyes '93** came to campus to discuss the ethical challenges brought about by America's housing crisis. The author of *Exiles in Eden: Life Among the Ruins of Florida's Great Recession*, Reyes told compelling stories about the people and communities affected by foreclosures. The event, presented in February by the Sarah T. Hughes Center for Field Politics, drew more than 50 alumnae/i, students, faculty, and staff.

# mark your calendars

● OUT OF TOWN

● ON CAMPUS

● IN BALTIMORE

**April 15–16**  
ON CAMPUS

### Dance Ensemble Concert

Students perform ballet and modern works choreographed by guest artist Zippora Karz, faculty, and students.

**April 29–May 1**  
ON CAMPUS

### Alumnae/i Weekend

Come sip, nibble, reconnect, laugh, learn, and relax.

**April 28**  
ANNAPOLIS

### Spring Concert

The Goucher Chorus, the U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club, and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra perform Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* at the U.S. Naval Academy.

For information about and tickets to the spring concert, call 410.293.8497. For information about and tickets to the dance concert, call the box office at 410.337.6333 or visit [www.goucher.edu/tickets](http://www.goucher.edu/tickets).

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

# A Week at Chautauqua

Recreation, education, relaxation—surely something for everyone

Sunday, July 10 — Sunday, July 24, 2011

Founded upon the belief that everyone has the right to “know all that he can know,” the 137-year-old Chautauqua Institution offers visitors the chance to attend lectures, book-signings, art shows, and performances. Each week, the workshops, study groups, and morning lectures will focus on a particular theme: From July 10 to 16, the program will focus on *American Intelligence: Technology, Espionage, and*

*Alliances*, and from July 17 to 23, the focus will be *A Case for the Arts*. Join us for either week or stay for both.

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 we will be staying, is a National Historic Landmark that features a splendid view of Lake Chautauqua.

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#### TRIP:

This trip includes transportation, accommodations at the Hotel Athenaeum, meals, gratuities, lectures and programs, and many recreational activities.

#### COST:

The price each week is **\$2,364** per person for a double and **\$2,595** per person for a single.

#### INFORMATION:

Contact trip leaders Ethel Berney (410.363.1332), Dorothy Krug (410.771.9899), or Sharon Beischer (performtraining@comcast.net).

## Other exciting trips include:

**MAY 7** Wok 'N Walk offers an inside look at Philadelphia's Chinatown.

**MAY 19** Savor nature at the Howard County Conservancy's Mt. Pleasant Farm.

For more information on any of the Alumnae/i Tours offerings or to be added to the mailing list, please call 443.921.3599 or e-mail [alumni@goucher.edu](mailto:alumni@goucher.edu).





# '04/ '05

alumni  
SPOTLIGHT

(L to R) Gabriel Froymovich '05 and Roark Emmett Reed '04

## Vintage Goucher

**Good friendships are like fine wines—they get better with age. Few understand that more than Gabriel Froymovich '05 and Roark Emmett Reed '04.**

The two alumni live in Sonoma County, the heart of the Northern California wine country, where in 2007 they joined forces to create their own wine label. Called the Hooper 206 Vintners, the wine is named after the Mary Fisher dorm room in which they each had spent a year. (They later realized their room number actually was Hooper 210, but the erroneous moniker stuck.)

After moving to Sonoma County with **Jessica Smith '04**, to whom he now is engaged, Reed, who majored in history, found it impossible to live in the region and not be involved in the local industry. He began as a “cellar-rat,” sanitizing equipment and filling barrels, and worked his way up the ladder at several local wineries. He is now the head winemaker at Gustafson Family Vineyards. Froymovich, who majored in English, joined Reed in California on a whim. Soon he too joined the wine industry, learning the ropes at part-time jobs in vine-

yards and retail locations. He now is a business consultant for wineries.

Over time, however, both men became frustrated with the American wine industry. To combat what they consider a formulaic product and flawed rating system, the two decided to produce their own wine. “We wanted to do something different; we wanted to make unique wines with their own character,” says Froymovich. “We wanted to pour all of our efforts into our barrels.”

The pair purchased grapes from a nearby Russian River Valley farm and Reed’s boss graciously allowed them to use the Gustafson facilities to produce their wine. Their first vintage, a Sangiovese, was released in 2008. These days, the company, which Froymovich and Reed operate in addition to their regular jobs, produces 100 cases of Hooper 206 annually. “I like to say that this is our volley in a ‘Battle of Stalingrad’ to take wine back from the suit-wearing hordes—one sip, one glass, one bottle, one barrel at a time,” says Froymovich.

—Vanessa Keen '11



Anne McLaughlin '10 (fourth from left)

# '10 alumna SPOTLIGHT

## A Medieval Romance

**While studying as a Mahoney Scholar at the University of Oxford in England, Anne McLaughlin '10 fell in love.** It was the place itself, steeped in tradition and buzzing with intellectual energy, that captivated her. The institution's Bodleian Library, with its collection of nearly 8 million books, left her in awe. She discovered a passion for singing after joining the Christ Church College Choir. And her studies—which included classes on Dante, Latin, and ancient book arts—rekindled a previous fascination with all things medieval. Before the spring semester was over, McLaughlin knew she had to return.

As an art history major with a double minor in mathematics and Spanish, McLaughlin enjoyed a Goucher career that reflected her enthusiasm for a diverse range of subjects. But during her sophomore year, a seminar led by Assistant Professor of Art History April Oettinger piqued her interest in medieval studies. Titled "The Poetry of Venetian Art," the class made an indelible impression. "It was absolutely phenomenal—by far the best

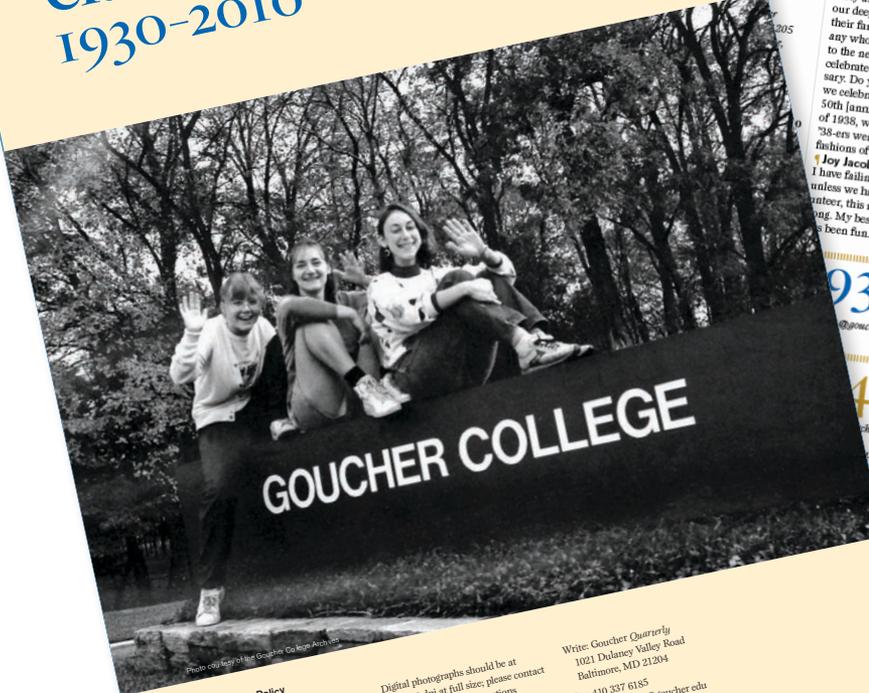
course I took at Goucher," McLaughlin says. "I especially liked the earlier works [we studied], and when I told that to April, she said: 'Well then, you're a medievalist!'"

After graduating from Goucher, McLaughlin returned to Oxford to pursue her master of studies in medieval studies. As a member of St. Hilda's College (one of the 38 colleges that form the university), she spends her days squinting at copies of ancient manuscripts in her paleography class and discussing theological frameworks with doctoral students. "It may sound phenomenally dull," says McLaughlin, who plans to continue at Oxford as a doctoral candidate. "But, really, I love every single moment."

In the evenings, she pulls out her academic gown and heads to the cathedral to sing with the choir. Her robe remains on for a post-performance glass of sherry in the reverend's room and dinner in the gothic Christ Church dining hall, which, McLaughlin reports, "looks, literally, like something out of *Harry Potter*."

—Vanessa Keen '11

# class Notes 1930-2010



#### Class Notes Policy

The opinions and views expressed in Class Notes do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor at the *Goucher Quarterly*, the Alumnae & Alumni of Goucher College, or Goucher College. Notes will be edited for length and style.

Digital photographs should be at least 300 dpi at full size; please contact the editor if you have questions about resolution.

Please submit your news to the Class Notes representative listed by your class; if none is listed, please send it directly to the *Quarterly* office:

Write: Goucher Quarterly  
1021 Dulaney Valley Road  
Baltimore, MD 21204  
Fax: 410 337 6185  
E-mail: quarterly@goucher.edu

home. March 2000 took Anna May Schall Hanhart and May took Nancy Dulaney Rowe. They are greatly missed, and our deepest sympathy goes to their families. We encourage any who are able to return to the new Goucher to help celebrate its 125th anniversary. Do you remember how we celebrated the college's 50th [anniversary] in the fall of 1938, when many of the '38-ers were models of the fashions of the first 50 years? Joy Jacobs Jennings and I have failing eyesight, and unless we have another volunteer, this may be my swan song. My best to all of you. It has been fun.

Ricards called me from Maine, where the Ricards love to go for a summer retreat. Ellie and her husband, Harold, were on their way to pool therapy, which they both enjoy as well as benefit from the exercise. Ellie reported that they are both well, which is terrific news. I also get my exercise with water aerobics classes two or three times per week. My group is named Swimm'n' Wimm'n'!

Both Dorothy and Eleanor were saddened by the loss of another classmate, Pearl Neiman Shiling. Pearl died of cancer on July 10, 2006, at 90 years of age. Dorothy said that it was a surprise to her as they had lunch together only a few months ago. Pearl graduated from Goucher in 1941 with a degree in biology. She raised two children who both became doctors. Pearl also worked as a social worker at Johns Hopkins Hospital and received a master's degree in her field from the University of Pennsylvania. Pearl worked at Jewish Family Services. She received a master's degree from the Johns Hopkins University in public health in the 1970s. Until retirement in the mid '80s, Pearl served at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in its prevention section. Pearl was chief of social work and helped establish the first rape and sexual assault centers in Maryland hospitals. It was important to her that victims had hospital care, and she took the time to study similar new programs in New York City. A co-worker said, "When Pearl wanted something to happen, she was relentless. She was an advocate for the people who did not have a voice." What a fine memoriam that is—she left her world a better place for being lived in! I remember (what you do, too) Pearl as a spirited lady who enjoyed parties and people and plan-

CLASS NOTES

# Looking for Notes?

 Class Notes will resume in the next *Quarterly* issue.

# 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

Although she holds degrees in French, Spanish, and Italian; teaching; and Romance languages and literatures, **Kathryn St. Ours** always has been fascinated with the sciences—in particular, how they connect with the humanities. Since coming to Goucher in 2006, the associate professor of modern languages and literatures has become increasingly interested in “ecocriticism,” a blossoming field that allows her to explore these links.

**You recently published an article in the journal *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* titled “An ecocritical study of *The Story of the Weeping Camel*.” What is ecocriticism?**

In my case, it is literary and film criticism conducted from an ecological point of view. Perhaps the best way to describe it is to talk about *The Story of the Weeping Camel* [a narrative documentary film by Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni]. It tells the story of a Mongolian ritual involving music being played to a camel. The ritual is held if a mother camel rejects her offspring; after the ritual, the camel accepts its baby. It is a beautiful story, and we could leave it at that. But ecocriticism takes it a step further by studying the event from a more scientific point of view. This cross-disciplinary approach opens the study of literature to science; in other words, it attempts to establish connections between the humanities and the sciences. It is very controversial.

### Why is it controversial?

It depends upon which side you are on. Those in humanities might say that to describe the creative process from a scientific point of view diminishes the creativity. Scientists might say: “You are taking our concepts and applying them to literature, and you don’t know what you are talking about.” To me, it is interesting to see how various ideas traverse disciplines. That is one reason that I love to be at Goucher: An interdisciplinary approach is appreciated.

### Describe how you studied the documentary from a scientific point of view.

In this case, I looked at what happens in the movie—the ritual is held, and the camel changes its behavior—and then tried to find a scientific explanation for it. I studied the effect of sound and matter; I studied schematics and the way sound organizes matter. So the story becomes less a “just-so story” and more a story with a scientific explanation for how and why music can change the camel’s behavior.

### This semester you are teaching two French courses. What initially drew you to study and teach languages?

When I used to play school with my sisters, I was always the teacher: I always felt that I would teach. As for the languages, I had teachers who definitely encouraged me. And I always felt intuitively that you kind of become a different person when you are fluent in another language. It adds a layer to you as a person when you are fluent, and that drew me in.

### Beyond your studies and teaching, what are your interests?

I am a practicing yogi, and I still take piano lessons. I enjoy sewing and knitting, and fashion, in general. And I have two children: Anne-Claire, 18, and Daniel, 21.



photo by Stan Rudick



# HUMAN ZOMBIE

vs.

By Julie Steinbacher '10  
Photos by Nony Dutton

# NS ES



Now marking its fifth anniversary, the game invented at Goucher seems to be as infectious as the bites of the undead themselves.

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Although they neither shamble and moan nor dine on human flesh, the zombies that appear on Goucher's campus each fall and spring nonetheless have become a force to be reckoned with. The ghouls—really Goucher students and friends pretending to be zombies—are part of a complex game of tag invented by Brad Sappington '06 and Chris Weed '08.

Called Humans vs. Zombies, or HvZ, the game now is celebrating its fifth anniversary, and is spreading as relentlessly as a horde of the undead in a B horror flick. In the fictitious conflict, which opens with a skit performed by game moderators, and can last up to seven days, humans (wearing bandanas on their arms or legs) use Nerf guns and rolled-up socks to defend themselves against zombies (wearing bandanas on their heads). The zombies' goal is to tag humans, converting them into fellow zombies. If a zombie does not “feed” on a human every 48 hours, he or she “starves” and is out of the game.

Since it was first played by Goucher students in 2005, the game has infected students on hundreds of American campuses, from Texas A&M University to Dartmouth College. Last fall, HvZ also was played on campuses as far away as Australia and Brazil. It has received press coverage in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and on National Public Radio. Comedy Central's Stephen Colbert jokingly named it a “number one threat to America” on his satirical late-night show, *The Colbert Report*.



(L) Ben Mayer '12 gets into the role of a zombie with some fake blood.

(Center) Evan Siegel '11 and Nick Stagno '11 plot an escape from the zombies.

(R) Zombies take off in pursuit of humans.

There's even an HvZ movie in the works. Director Brian T. Jaynes' *Humans Vs. Zombies*, scheduled for release this June, follows a group of students who are playing HvZ on a small college campus much like Goucher. When an outbreak of real zombies occurs, the students must fight their way to safety.

Weed and Sappington, who have formed a company called Gnarwhal Studios that specializes in designing social games, still find it difficult to fathom the game's success. "There are times when I'm like, 'Is this really happening?'" says Weed, who majored in psychology at Goucher. "We just got lucky; I guess it was the right game at the right time for it to take off. 'Zombies' was a good key word, a good theme for us to go with."

He may have a point. In recent years, zombies have permeated pop culture,

shuffling and staggering and wreaking havoc in novels such as the 2009 Jane Austen mash-up *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* by Seth Grahame-Smith; prime-time series such as AMC's *The Walking Dead*; videogames such as Capcom's *Resident Evil* series; and movies such as Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*.

Zombie mass-appeal doesn't stop here. Associated merchandise includes wedding-cake toppers, wine, perfume, Christmas ornaments, bumper stickers, and T-shirts depicting "zombified" iconic images of stars like Audrey Hepburn and Marilyn Monroe. Zombie walks, organized public gatherings of people dressed as zombies that reportedly have drawn up to 10,000 participants, have been held from Chicago to Philadelphia.

Why zombies are enjoying an upsurge



in popularity now is open to debate. The walking dead originated in West African and Afro-Caribbean voodoo culture as *zombis*, mindless slaves under the spell of evil sorcerers. Since their introduction to Western culture, zombies have embodied societal fears: They have been cast as victims of nuclear radiation, mad science, alien possession, and pandemics. To some, the apocalyptic world of the undead mirrors the uncertainty of the times.

“There is a sense in American culture that things are out of control,” says David Zurawik, TV/media critic for *The Baltimore Sun* and assistant professor of communication and media studies at Goucher College. “We don’t know where the next horrible thing will come from, and zombies are a manifestation of that in culture. You can’t get rid of all of them, but you hope you can outlast them.”

**“It was our little brainchild for how to make our hall more interesting, get people out of their rooms, and create a sense of community.”**

**— Brad Sappington '06**

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Photo by Christian Remde



(L to R) Co-creator Chris Weed, movie director Brian T. Jaynes, and co-creator Brad Sappington



Details of each fictitious conflict vary from one HvZ game to another. Dressed as a doctor, moderator Mike Vagenos (above) describes the fall 2009 scenario to players. Vagenos (right) performs an “autopsy” on co-moderator and zombie-bite victim Christie Kliewer '12. Special effects including spaghetti noddles and red jello heighten the game’s drama and add to the fun.



Other pop-culture critics draw parallels between modern life, with its mind-numbing onslaught of e-mails, Facebook messages, and tweets, and the relentless parade of the undead as they march toward society. “Zombies are like the Internet and the media and every conversation we don’t want to have,” author Chuck Klosterman wrote last year in *The New York Times*. “All of it comes at us endlessly (and thoughtlessly), and—if we surrender—we will be overtaken and absorbed.”

Despite the growing interest in HvZ, the game has detractors. At Goucher, some community members have expressed concern that the game—with its use of toy guns—appears to condone violence and killing. These objections were voiced with particular vehemence in April 2007, when 32 people were shot to death at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. At the time of the shooting, an HvZ game was in progress. Goucher College President Sanford J. Ungar met with the game’s moderators to discuss the implications of the event. Saying that he would not overreact to the tragedy by introducing measures that would infringe upon students’ personal freedoms or the character of the campus community, Ungar eventually allowed the game to go on.

“If I thought we could do something about the problem of violence in America by canceling Humans vs. Zombies at Goucher College, I’d do it in a heartbeat,” he says now. “I don’t think we are contributing to violence in America, or to the exultation of violence, in the slightest. If anything, we are demonstrating how silly violence is and

having some good fun along the way.”

Nonetheless, months after the Virginia Tech shootings, on the eve of the fall game, a public forum was held on Goucher’s campus to ensure that all opinions on the matter were heard. The discussion, which was moderated by College Chaplain Cynthia Terry, drew game enthusiasts, skeptics who question the ethical underpinnings of HvZ, and people for whom the public display of a gun—even a toy one—is unacceptable. The forum gave Terry a deeper understanding of the game’s value to students, as well as its complex impact on campus life, she says. “A lot depends on the lens through which the game is viewed and played.”

For co-creators Weed and Sappington, HvZ remains a way of forging bonds between fellow students. “It was our little brainchild for how to make our hall more interesting, get people out of their rooms, and create a sense of community,” says Sappington.

Rooted in “the idea of taking normal life and flipping it on its head so that you see it differently,” the game offers participants a chance to experience an alternate reality, explains Weed. To evade the zombies, players who portray humans

must change their day-to-day routines. Highly trafficked pathways and dining halls are frequented by zombies hoping for easy prey and must be avoided. “It makes [life] more fun, more exciting—and silly,” he says.

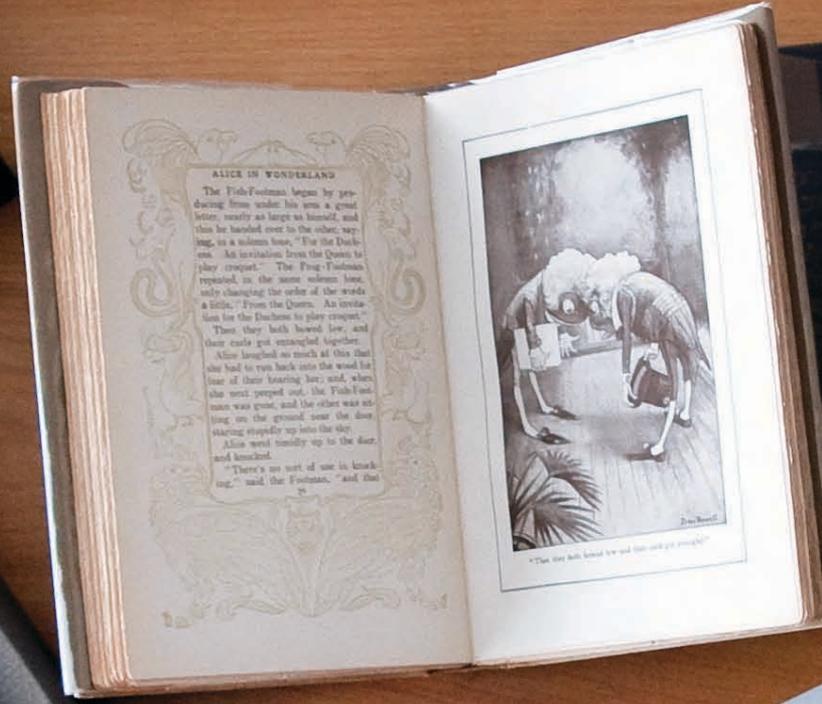
HvZ also gives players an escape from everyday pressures: For about a week, participants are drawn into a fictional world that provides an action-packed antidote from the stresses of midterms or upcoming job searches. “Rather than survival being based on SAT scores or getting the right job, in the game it’s based on how fast you can run, your aim, and who you can trust,” says Weed.

Whatever the reason, college students keep joining in. And at Goucher, at least, it seems as though HvZ is here to stay. “It feels like [HvZ] has settled into the rhythm of things,” says Terry. “It has found its place.” §

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To celebrate the game’s fifth anniversary, an HvZ alumnae/i game is being held during Alumnae/i Weekend. For more information, visit [www.goucher.edu/alumniweekend](http://www.goucher.edu/alumniweekend).







By Mary Medland '74

# The Real THING

At the Peirce Center, students examine original artifacts and documents, from Egyptian statuettes to first editions.

One undergraduate spent a semester researching more than 60 Mark Twain first editions and is using his findings to create an online exhibit.

A second student pored over archived letters from alumnae about Goucher's transformation into a co-educational institution and based her senior thesis on what she learned. Still another is examining Egyptian artifacts—a painted wood statuette of a bird; a bronze mirror; a small, limestone altar—collected by John Franklin Goucher on his travels.

Morissa Rothman-Pierce '13, a current Peirce fellow, examines the illustrations in different editions of *Alice in Wonderland*.



Photo by Bryan Burris

These are a few examples of the projects undertaken at Goucher’s Brooke and Carol Peirce Center for Undergraduate Research in Special Collections. The center, part of the college’s Special Collections & Archives and located in the Athenaeum, offers undergraduates the opportunity to conduct research using original, primary sources—a privilege frequently reserved for graduate students and scholars.

Funded initially by a bequest from Brooke and Carol Peirce, the center, founded in 2008, reflects the couple’s lifelong dedication to scholarship and teaching. “Brooke taught English at Goucher for more than 30 years, and Carol taught English at the University of Baltimore,” says Tara Olivero, the curator of Special Collections & Archives. “Together they shared a passion for Shakespeare and Renaissance literature, as well as a love for teaching the humanities.”

Olivero, working closely with College Librarian Nancy Magnuson and Associate Professor of English Arnold Sanders, conceived of the center as a way to draw current students into the special collections. “We really wanted to support student research in special collections,” says Olivero. “Particularly in this age of Google and Wikipedia, we have a great interest in teaching students to work with primary sources and be critical thinkers.”

The Special Collections—really a collection of collections—includes books, letters, maps, diaries, works of art,

“Particularly in this age of Google and Wikipedia, we have a great interest in teaching students to work with primary sources and be critical thinkers.”  
—Tara Olivero, curator



**The Special Collections—  
really a collection of  
collections—includes books,  
letters, maps, diaries, works  
of art, photographs, and  
artifacts spanning more than  
500 years, and offers fertile  
ground for study.**

photographs, and artifacts spanning more than 500 years, and offers fertile ground for study. For example, after his death in 1922, Dr. Goucher left to the college his personal papers (including letters and sermons written on Methodism, missionary work, and education); a vast collection of books (including 14 *incunabula*, or books printed before 1501); and records of the schools he established in Asia.

Goucher College also is home to North America's largest collection of Jane Austen and Regency Era works, donated in the 1970s by Alberta Hirshheimer Burke '28. More recently, Chrystelle Trump Bond, professor of dance, gave to the college her dance and music collection, which includes American and European sheet music, dance portfolios from the 1820s to the 1960s, and books and other ephemera.

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The Brooke Peirce Endowment Fund, which has been enhanced by gifts from others made in Peirce's memory, enables the center to subsidize student research fellowships, public lectures, course development, and master classes. Additionally, in 2008, Goucher received a \$200,000 grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources to catalogue its James Wilson Bright Collection. Amassed by a renowned Johns Hopkins



**“I spent hours examining minutes from the College Task Force of Coeducation and read dozens of heartfelt letters from alumnae who wished to voice their opinions. ...Doing a Peirce fellowship taught me the value of patient, methodical research.”**

**—Maura Roth-Gormley '10**

philologist, the collection was purchased by the college in 1925 and includes such seminal works on Anglo-Saxon history as *Archaionomia* (1568), the first printed collection of Saxon laws.

38 “We were hugely excited to receive this grant; we were the only small college to be funded,” says Olivero. “When items are not sufficiently catalogued, they are essentially ‘hidden’ from researchers.”

So far, the fellows have chosen widely ranging projects. In 2009, Alayna Giovannitti '10 collaborated with Sanders to study the library's first American edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic novel *The Hobbit*. The project spawned a daylong public reading and a publication on the rare holding. For the last two semesters, Daniel Benyishay '11 has

been working with the Oberdorfer Mark Twain Collection, donated to the college in 1970 by collector Eugene Oberdorfer's wife, Lala Hirsch Oberdorfer '24, and daughters Joyce Oberdorfer Happ '47 and Gail Oberdorfer Straus '53. The collection includes first editions, private printings, biographies, and ephemera.

Last year, Maura Roth-Gormley '10 spent her fellowship gathering information for a senior thesis titled “Better Dead than Coed? Telling the Story of Coeducation at Goucher College.” To complete her project, she combined her archival research with interviews conducted with current and former students, faculty, staff, and President Emerita Rhoda M. Dorsey.

“I spent hours examining minutes

from the College Task Force of Coeducation and read dozens of articulate, sometimes entertaining, and always heartfelt letters from alumnae who wished to voice their opinions, both pro and con, on coeducation to the Board of Trustees,” says Roth-Gormley. “Doing a Peirce fellowship taught me the value of patient, methodical research.” §



To learn more about the Peirce Center, visit [www.goucher.edu/peircecenter](http://www.goucher.edu/peircecenter)

Benjamin Snyder '13 and Morissa Rothman-Pierce '13 are the spring 2011 Undergraduate Research Fellows.



April Oettinger

## An Undisciplined Discipline

Calling them “elusive animals,” art historian April Oettinger described books—whether leather bound or electronically downloaded—as vehicles that transport readers to unknown lands and introduce them to new ways of thinking.

“Books are slippery creatures,” said the assistant professor of art history. “They have a way of crossing disciplinary boundaries.”

As the first recipient of a curriculum development grant from the Brooke and Carol Peirce Center, Oettinger spent last summer at the University of Virginia’s Rare Book School researching the book’s many forms. The specialist in 15th- and 16th-century Venetian art then used her findings to create a class for Goucher students, which she taught last fall and is scheduled to teach in alternating years. “Students realize that books are changing,” Oettinger said. “Many of them came into the class with a mission to do something about it.”

# in Memoriam



Photo by Jim Huff

## Margaret M. Guccione

1943–2010

**M**argaret M. Guccione, retired information technology librarian known by the Goucher community for her patience and willingness to help others, died October 8, 2010 of colon cancer. She was 67.

Mrs. Guccione's passion for research took her from the basement of the former Julia Rogers Library to one of the most important academic institutions in Eastern Europe. As liaison to the English Department, she collaborated with professors, teaching students the ins and outs of the college library catalog and research databases. Her gentle manner and devotion to accuracy inspired students to pursue sound answers in their own research.

In 1993, Mrs. Guccione taught online search techniques to librarians at the University of Bucharest, Romania as a Fulbright Scholar. In 1999, when she became Goucher's first information technology librarian, she trained the library staff in the most recent cataloging system. "She brought people skills to the position and was willing to serve others in their search for knowledge," said Nancy Magnuson, college librarian.

Whether enlisting the help of the library

staff to make a quilt for a coworker or knitting socks for friends, Mrs. Guccione cultivated community. She also chaired the jury of the annual Julia Rogers Research Prize, which awards outstanding research by Goucher students using library resources, and served on the board of directors of the Friends of the Goucher College Library. She channeled a compassion for animals into volunteer efforts for the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter. Even in the late stages of her illness, she could be found taking shelter dogs for walks.

Born Margaret McFarlane in Alton, IL, Guccione graduated from St. Louis University in 1965. She earned a master's degree in library science from the State University of New York at Albany and a second master's degree in English literature from the State University of New York at Potsdam. Before coming to Goucher, she worked as a librarian at Gettysburg College, St. Lawrence University, and John Cabot University in Rome. Mrs. Guccione is survived by many family members, including her husband, Baltimore architect Jon J. Gibbons; three children; and two stepchildren.

— Julie Steinbacher '10



'83

## Laura Beth Sayet Seder

1961–2010

**K**nown for her enthusiasm for life and compassion for others, Laura Beth Sayet Seder, an attorney at law and tribal prosecutor, died on November 18, 2010. She was 49 years old.

Mrs. Seder, an American studies major at Goucher, threw herself into academic pursuits as well as athletic endeavors—whether playing for the tennis team, of which she was captain, or for the basketball team. Her competitiveness, said her friends, was leavened by her exuberant smile and joyfulness. “She was always up for something fun,” recalled friend and former college roommate Jennifer Plotkin Warren Donahue ’83. “She made every event festive, even weekly dinners at the apartment.”

Mrs. Seder’s zest for life was all-embracing, manifesting itself as a passion for helping others. After graduation she went on to receive her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Miami School of Law in 1986. A member of New London County and American bar associations,

she practiced before Connecticut and Florida state courts, various federal courts, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal courts, and the Mohegan Gaming Disputes Court.

Mrs. Seder and her brother, Bart Sayet, were partners in the firm Sayet & Seder in Norwich, CT, which specializes in family, real estate, collection, and Indian law related to child welfare. “Laura was most proud of her work with the Mohegan nation providing them with family law,” said Mrs. Donahue. “She was very effective in helping to protect disenfranchised kids and placing them within other Mohegan families rather than in general foster care.”

Mrs. Seder is survived by her husband of 21 years, Scott H. Seder; their two children, Alexis Seder and Evan Seder; her parents; and two brothers, Mark Sayet and Bart Sayet.

— Julie Steinbacher ’10



'64

## Nancy Jean Engelhardt

1942–2010

**N**ancy Jean Engelhardt, Goucher's registrar from 1984 to 1994, died on December 25, 2010. She was 68.

Ms. Engelhardt graduated cum laude with a major in chemistry from Goucher College. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and remained involved with the organization for the rest of her life, serving as treasurer and a member of the senate of the Goucher chapter.

In 1970, Ms. Engelhardt began working in the Registrar's Office. Over the years, she became a familiar and beloved figure known throughout campus for her dry sense of humor and consideration for others. Her colleagues and the faculty respected her for her intelligence and the facility with which she kept her records. "Nancy and I worked together in various ways, but notably on the



'58

## Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Berry Ewing

1936–2011

**M**ary Elizabeth "Betsy" Berry Ewing died on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at Poydras Home in New Orleans. She was 74.

A New Orleans native, Ms. Ewing was a graduate of Metairie Park Country Day School. She studied art at Goucher College, and after graduating in 1958, trained as a medical illustrator at Massachusetts General Hospital through a Harvard Medical School program, receiving her certificate in medical illustration in 1965. She returned to New Orleans the following year to illustrate surgical techniques at Tulane University Medical Center. Ms. Ewing's illustrations have been published in numerous medical journals and textbooks.

Ms. Ewing maintained a close network of friends from Goucher and organized many mini-reunions. A year after Hurricane

faculty's Curriculum Committee, where I was always in awe of her understanding of the details that need to be attended to in order for students to have a successful learning experience," said Nancy Magnuson, college librarian.

Ms. Engelhardt's connection to the students was particularly strong. "Nancy was a registrar who knew the numbers extraordinarily well. She also cared about the students behind those numbers," said Judy Phair, former vice president for communications at Goucher.

After her retirement in 1994, Ms. Engelhardt worked for AAA Mid-Atlantic for several years.

Ms. Engelhardt is survived by her cousins Tom Cunningham and Joan Ernst of Ohio.

Katrina, says Mary Ann Zavalakes Jackson '58, Ms. Ewing led friends on a tour of small restaurants in support of her home town. "She took us every place; she was very willing to share New Orleans with anyone interested, because New Orleans was her life."

In her retirement Ms. Ewing volunteered at Poydras Home, an assisted living facility, as a board member, committee chairwoman, and president of the Board of Managers. She made art for Mardi Gras and spearheaded the annual Poydras Home Art Show with the late Mrs. Floyd Newlin, a fellow artist. The show will celebrate its 17th year this November. At the time of her death, Ms. Ewing was serving as president of the Poydras Home Emeritus Board.

Ms. Ewing is survived by three godchildren, Michael Lewis, Courtney Churchill Crane, and Michael May.

— Julie Steinbacher '10

## deaths

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'26

**Ruth Whitney Seabold**

November 29, 2010

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'28

**Helen Besley Overington**

December 4, 2010

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'29

**Ruth Atkinson Watson**

May 28, 2003

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'30

**Harriet Cassell Smith**

July 23, 2005

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'31

**Mary Katherine Hance  
Turnbull**

June 22, 2003

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'33

**Louise Bull Herman**

June 1, 2009

**Dorothy McMaster Armstrong**

July 3, 2005

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'38

**Janet Cane Fisher**

December 28, 2010

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'39

**Elizabeth "Libby" Jamieson  
Winstead Rouse**

November 10, 2010

**Eleanor Ann Bailey Patterson**

October 29, 2010

**Marion Hamilton Given**

September 1995

**Margaret Hall Harrison**

December 12, 2010

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'40

**Ruth Slote Schwartz**

October 16, 2010

**Patricia Harrison Husson**

September 10, 2004

# deaths

'41

**Phyllis Miller Reynolds**  
November 10, 2009

'42

**Mary Baker Bowers**  
October 21, 2010

**Elizabeth Ann Hunt  
Schwartz**  
November 29, 2008

'43

**Katherine Commiskey  
Hoffman**  
November 25, 2010

'44

**Dorothy Alexander Watson**  
August 20, 2009

**Betty Lou Raskin**  
December 17, 2010

**Betty Fax Daskin**  
December 10, 2010

**Alicia Raffucci Lockwood**  
October 4, 2010

'45

**Lola Schmidt Merrill**  
October 24, 2010

**Vivian O'Brien**  
December 24, 2010

'46

**Lee Helfgott Naiman**  
September 30, 2010

**Margaret Richards Beto**  
January 9, 2011

'47

**Audrey Sandler Fram**  
November 18, 2010

**Elizabeth Harrison Yancey**  
June 29, 2010

'49

**Claire Dempsey Giller**  
November 9, 2010

**Mary Bull Morgan**  
December 18, 2010

'50

**Margery Blum Jaffe**  
October 16, 2010

'51

**Ellen Levi Zamoiski**  
October 19, 2010

**Nancy Newman Dackert**  
February 15, 2010

'52

**Veronica Cloos Evering**  
November 1, 2010

**Nancy Lee Leonard  
Albright**  
November 21, 2010

**Charlotte Davidson  
Albrecht**  
December 17, 2010

**Adrienne Kennedy  
Marscher**  
November 22, 2009

**Jeanne Dinsmore Dreifus**  
September 10, 2009

'54

**Alice Najarian Essen**  
July 20, 2010

**Carolyn Swanson Drake**  
March 27, 2006

**Sally V. Robertson**  
December 16, 2003

'55

**Jane Soffel Connell**  
December 16, 2009

**Doris Smith Hartman**  
December 16, 2010

**Judith Caplan Gould**  
January 8, 2011

**Patricia Hoth Myers**  
January 11, 2011

'58

**Shirley Smith Landon Lupton**  
October 18, 2010

**Mary Elizabeth Berry Ewing**  
January 11, 2011

'60

**Halle Sanchia Cowen**  
September 19, 2003

'64

**Nancy Engelhardt**  
December 25, 2010

'68

**Andrea Friedman Filler**  
April 26, 2010

'69

**Charlotte King Kaufman**  
July 9, 2007

**Barbara Stix Lipke**  
January 3, 2011

'83

**Laura Beth Sayet Seder**  
November 18, 2010

'86

**Christina Greif-Carlson**  
November 23, 2000

'87

**Stephenie Muskus Tchirakov**  
June 20, 2003

'89

**Ruth Wynkoop McHenry**  
September 23, 2008

'96

**Kathleen Kolsun-Riggs**  
March 5, 2010

'01

**Aleks Kruszewski**  
November 7, 2010

# Goucher at Its Best

by Sanford J. Ungar

Daily life at Goucher College, like anywhere, is occasionally interrupted by unforeseen events and circumstances, and one can never be sure what will happen. We had one such moment in January of this year, and I'd like to think we handled it in a manner consistent with that old self-help bromide: "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." The incident turned into a classic example of how bad events can have positive consequences, so I have a feel-good story to tell.

Here's what happened: In the early evening of the last Sunday in January, just a few days after classes had resumed for the spring semester, lights mysteriously began to flicker in various buildings. Upon investigation, a campus electrician discovered sparks and smoke coming from a manhole near the Haebler Chapel and found that the manhole cover had blown off.

Thankfully, no one was injured. The immediate crisis passed, but it soon became clear that because of damage to underground cables, there was no electricity—or heat—in Dorsey Center, the Meyerhoff Arts Center, Kraushaar Auditorium, or the chapel. Before long, a blown fuse took out the Decker Sports and Recreation Center and the Van Borries Pool as well. Not good, especially in the midst of a severe mid-Atlantic regional cold snap.

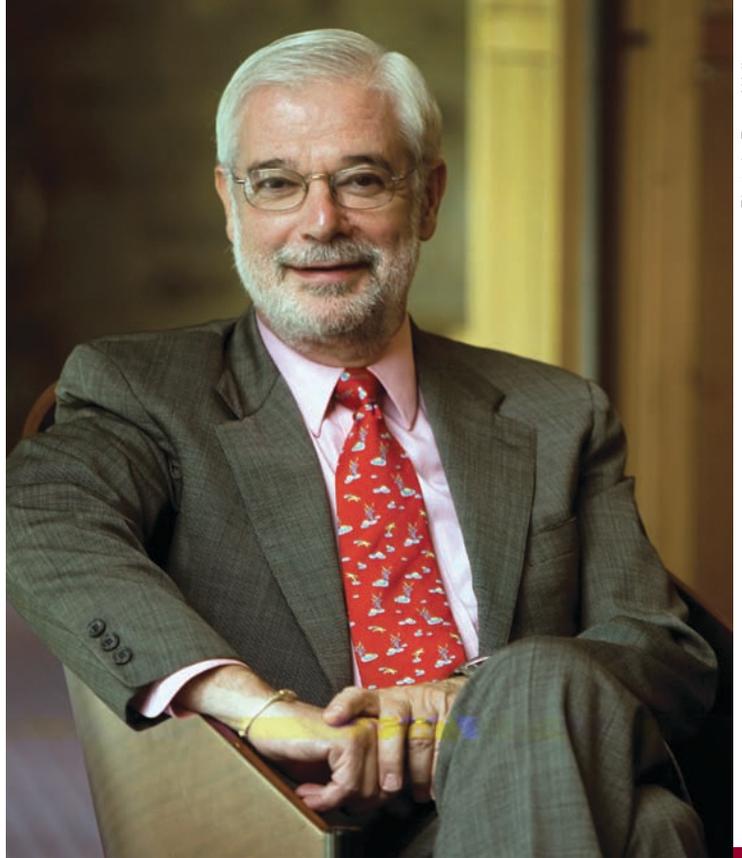


Photo by Bruce Weller

"We may have a situation for tomorrow morning," read the understated subject line on an e-mail sent by Tom Phizacklea, chief financial officer, at 10 that evening to Kate Pipkin, vice president for communications, and me. If evidence were needed that no one who helps manage a college is ever quite off-duty, that night provided it. Before long, the e-mails were flying: Marc Roy, the provost, notifying faculty with offices or classrooms in the affected buildings of the disruption they could expect in the morning; Debbie Lupton, director of human resources, brainstorming ways that the staff could continue to work; Bill Leimbach, vice president for technology and planning, pointing out that there are plenty of computer terminals in the Mikulski Information Commons of the Athenaeum where people could set themselves up; Phizacklea, assuring us all that Harold

Tinsley, director of Facilities Management Services, would be on duty at 6:30 a.m. to assess the situation; and Pipkin, at almost midnight, sending out an “e2Campus alert” to students and everyone else that Monday might be rather complicated. In fact, the whole week was.

During the five-day disruption, Goucher truly rose to the occasion. Early on Monday, people from all across campus began to converge on the Athenaeum. Nancy Magnuson, college librarian, and her staff could not have been more welcoming. Later in the week, when all 163 residents of Mary Fisher Hall were turned out of their rooms at 8 one morning, because the power had to be shut down there while repairs were made, Bon Appétit, our campus food service, set up impromptu food stations in the hallways of the Athenaeum.

I’m still not sure exactly how it all got organized, but computers turned up where they were needed, and phone extensions appeared in what are usually group-study rooms, heightening my appreciation for the mysterious powers of Goucher’s Information Technology department. The admissions, registrar’s, and billing offices were thrown together in a computer classroom; one heard far more laughs than complaints, and they had great snacks for visitors. Not a single application got neglected, and emissaries ventured back to Dorsey from time to time in their overcoats to await any lost visitors by the light of

battery-powered lanterns. The Communications Office took over the Batza Room, and I spotted Traci Martin, director of the Career Development Office, on a computer work station, elbow-to-elbow with students writing papers. Janet Wiley, vice president for development and alumnae/i affairs, conferred with staff members at a little table in one of the balcony alcoves overlooking the Hyman Forum.

And so it went. As far as I can tell, Gail Edmonds, the dean of students, and Michael O’Leary, vice president for enrollment management, rode circuit, taking up issues literally as they found them. Laurie Burton-Graham, our general counsel, and her colleague, Barbara Stob, lawyered on the run. When classes were officially canceled on Thursday (the same day of the week that had already been hit by prior snow- and ice-induced closings or late starts), enterprising faculty members improvised or simply communicated with their students online while new cables were being installed. Alice’s Restaurant, meanwhile, was jammed. And in the Forum, at various times there was a study-abroad fair, club rush, and some capoeira dancing.

As for me, I was diverted early in the week by meetings in Washington, DC, for our Landmark Athletic Conference and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. But then I set myself up in the Kurtz

Seminar Room on the fourth level of the library stacks, just off the Fisher-Compton Stairway, where I worked in a kind of commune with Leimbach, Phizacklea, and Wendy Belzer Litzke, vice president for government and community relations. It may not have been the most productive week of the year for any of us, but it was full of spontaneous, enlightening encounters for students, faculty, and staff. The whole week was like a second opening of the Athenaeum—a winter festival that we never could have planned.

So what is the moral of the story? That a power outage can be fun? Not exactly. Perhaps it is that compared to what many people in the world have to put up with in their daily lives, our little “crisis” was quite minor. That people too numerous to mention here performed magnificently. And that Goucher is an even greater, more adaptive community than we knew.



Sanford J. Ungar | President

