Goucher Quarterly
Summer/Fall 2010

Glowing Past, Bright Future
A professor and student collaborate to explore a rare neurological phenomenon.

alumnae/i weekend 2010
A man on a horse, great friends, and a 125th birthday bash

colorful research
A professor and student collaborate to explore a rare neurological phenomenon.

toasting the '10s
Goucher’s 119th Commencement celebrates the past and future.
Lindsay Stuart Hill ’09

Lindsay Stuart Hill is the editorial assistant at the Goucher Quarterly. At Goucher, she majored in English, with a creative writing concentration, and received two Kratz fellowships to write poetry in Ireland and at the Zen Mountain Monastery in upstate New York. Her poem “One Life” was recently published in The Norton Pocket Book of Writing by Students, and last fall, she was the poet in residence at Baltimore’s Carver Center for Arts and Technology. Her profile of Florence Hochschild Austrian 1910 appears in this issue (see p. 6).

Billie Weiss ’11

Billie Weiss, editor-in-chief of The Quindecim, is majoring in communications and media studies. He spent the summer working as the multimedia intern for The Baltimore Sun. During the summer of 2009, he was the photography intern for the Baltimore Orioles. The Orioles chose one of his photos for their “This Is Birdland” campaign; it can be seen on billboards, street signs, and buses throughout the city. His photos, including those of the Kente cloth ceremony, appear throughout this issue.
A Family Celebration

For the past year, we’ve been celebrating Goucher’s 125th anniversary: We’ve shared stories of years gone by, thrown parties, and sent a team of students called the Vagabonds up and down the Eastern Seaboard to introduce themselves to alumnae/i. Goucher’s friends and supporters have toasted the college at events held from Baltimore to Boston and Bangkok to Jerusalem. Some of the gatherings were considerably larger than any party I am likely to have for myself—the 125th Anniversary Gala Reception held April 24 in the Athenaeum (see p. 17) attracted more than 500 people. A few events were held in impressive places such as the Restaurant at the Getty in Los Angeles or were hosted by illustrious folks such as Monica Pope ’85, a critically acclaimed chef whose Houston, TX, restaurant hews to environmentally conscious practices.

Throughout the year, members of the Goucher community were also busy with other activities that celebrate John Franklin Goucher’s deep belief in the transformative power of education in a very different way. Inside the magazine, you’ll find a story about research into a rare neurological phenomenon called synesthesia conducted jointly by Carol Mills, Goucher professor emerita of psychology, and Shari Metzger ’07 (see p. 18). You’ll find information about the college’s new environmental studies major (see p. 5) and a profile of Esther Hyneman ’60, who, after retiring as a college professor, found a new passion: working to support women living in Afghanistan (see p. 12). There’s also a letter home from College Trustee and U. S. Marine Corps Major Percy Moore ’95 (see p. 44), who celebrated his birthday with fellow Goucher alumns and former soccer teammate Major Steve Taylor ’95 while deployed in Afghanistan. As Moore mentions in his letter, Taylor’s presence represented a chance to mark a special occasion with the closest thing he has to family in a faraway land—a fellow Goucher graduate.

Anniversaries and birthdays are often occasions when we look ahead as well as back. Members of the class of 2014 are just now getting to know the campus and the faculty and staff—and just beginning to chart new paths. And in the years to come, they, too, as members of the Goucher family, will be invited to toast the college and its future.

Best regards,
Holly Selby | Editor
Don’t miss the fun!
Mark your calendars; it is never too soon to begin planning for Alumnae/i Weekend.
Here are the upcoming dates:

2011
April 29, 30, & May 1

2012
April 27–29

2013
April 26–28

2014
April 25–27

2015
April 24–26
Moments of reflection—and of thanks
Goucher’s Kente cloth ceremony

Amid the hustle and bustle of the end-of-semester festivities, 14 students paused for a few moments to reflect and to thank those people who have supported them with love, mentorship, and friendship. The Donning of the Kente Cloth is a rite of passage undertaken by graduating seniors on college campuses nationwide. Now in its fifth year at Goucher, the ceremony allows student members of the African diaspora and communities of color to use stories, songs, or poetry to honor their heritage, experiences, and achievements, as well as those who have helped them along the way.

“In a society that tends to shy away from acknowledging and exploring the differences among us, this ceremony celebrates those differences and puts them on display,” says Kimberley Gordy ’06, assistant director of admissions and coordinator of multicultural recruitment. “It allows these individuals to integrate their heritages—verbally and symbolically—into the meaningful milestone of college graduation.”
Cooking the books

On April 1, students, staff, and faculty gathered at the library to display their culinary creations at Goucher’s first Edible Book Fest. Sponsored by the Goucher College Library, the lighthearted competition had only two rules: Entries had to refer to a work of literature, and they had to be edible. Viewers voted for their favorites. The winners? Goucher Librarian Nancy Magnuson’s pig-shaped cake titled Mansfield Pork was named Most Culinary; Are You There, God? It’s Me, Margarine, submitted by Maura Roth-Gormley ’10, took the prize for Funniest entry; and the student team of Debra Lenik ’10 and Miriam Cummons ’11 won Most Literary and Best in Show for a cake titled All Quiet on the Western Bundt. $

TOUGH ECONOMY?
Put your best link forward

By Dana Kulchinsky ’10

A half-dozen alumnae/i came to campus last spring to share anecdotes and advice with students who were about to plunge into the job-hunting process. Called “Hungry for Success,” the annual event is sponsored by the college’s Career Development Office (CDO) and showcases alumnae/i who are working in fields ranging from nonprofit programming and business management to scientific research and Web development. “This is a great way to inspire students, particularly in the face of the current challenges in the economy,” said Traci Martin, director of the CDO.

Over lunch, professionals including Aaron Wallace ’04, a branch manager for Enterprise Rent-a-Car, and Cara Peckens ’05, a Web developer for Goucher’s Office of Communications, offered students advice ranging from what to wear to an interview to what should be included in a follow-up e-mail. Some alums suggested big-picture strategies (conduct in-depth research on each potential employer); others gave detailed instructions (always bring business cards). And nearly all offered tips for—and cautionary tales about—using social networking media such as Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Possessing an aptitude for social networking may be more important now than ever, said Damon Highsmith ’03, an environmental protection specialist who works in the Office of Water at the Environmental Protection Agency. “It’s not about putting your best foot forward anymore; it’s about putting your best link forward,” he said. $
Beginning this fall, Goucher students with a passion for sustainability will be able to major in environmental studies. Aimed at preparing graduates to tackle complex ecological, societal, and policy issues, the new program will offer courses on topics ranging from food and agriculture to environmental ethics.

“It is now well understood that any environmental issue needs to be resolved by involving multiple disciplines,” says Germán Mora, the program’s new director and the Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Associate Professor of Environmental Studies. “At Goucher, we have created a program that brings together different fields of study, so that students will learn how to address these issues.”

Created by the Environmental Studies Advisory Council, a team of faculty members, the major is built upon the notion of collaboration between departments. A class called “Biosphere and Society,” for example, will be taught by both a social scientist and a geologist. “There are already strong programs in the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences at Goucher,” says Mora, a geology professor who left Montgomery College in June to step into his new role at Goucher. “Now there is an opportunity to integrate the strengths of those different programs.”

Funding for the new major comes in part from a $448,000 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant and a gift of $1.5 million from Robert Meyerhoff. The Mellon grant will support student-faculty summer research and fund visiting scholars, who will offer public presentations as well as interact with students and faculty in the classroom. The Meyerhoff donation endows a faculty chair in environmental studies. Although environmental studies majors may concentrate in either the social or natural sciences, they must also fulfill “breadth” requirements. These ensure that students are well-versed in areas beyond their concentrations (biology and chemistry for those focusing on society, economics and politics for those focusing on natural science).

“Graduates in the major will have learned to grapple with environmental problems from multiple angles,” Mora says. And not a moment too soon: Crises such as the recent oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico highlight the need for a holistic approach to sustainability. “It is important to understand how the oil is affecting ecosystems in the oceans and on the coastline, but an equally important aspect is how the people of Louisiana are coping with the situation,” he says. “And a broader perspective includes how our environmental policies need to be addressed in order to prevent these catastrophes.”

Students will also be encouraged to put knowledge gained in class into practice in a variety of ways, from working in on-campus garden plots to participating in environmentally oriented study-abroad programs in Costa Rica, Honduras, or Brazil. “A key goal of the program is for the students to apply the concepts they have learned,” says Mora. “One of the best ways to learn something is by doing it.”
A resident of Eutaw Place in Baltimore, Florence Hochschild Austrian often declared that she lived on “the most beautiful street in the world,” and she wasn’t about to take its desecration sitting down. When the wing of an iron goose that perched atop a nearby fountain went missing, she called the Baltimore parks department and demanded that they “look on every dump heap” to see if they could find it. Whenever fountains and sidewalks were scheduled for removal, she fought to keep them in place. And when the 48 flowering crabapple trees she had planted on the median strip for her father’s 100th birthday were damaged by local children, she had them replanted. “It will show the city that someone cares,” she said.

Austrian, who was known for her oil paintings of Baltimore street scenes and her commitment to urban renewal, died in 1979 at age 90. Her devotion to her community has outlived her not only through her artwork, but through several charitable remainder trusts, the funds of which have been distributed to beneficiaries—including Goucher—at the recent deaths of her children, Janet Fisher and Robert Austrian.

The daughter of department store owner Max Hochschild, Austrian majored in art history at Goucher and went on to take classes at the Maryland Institute College of Art, where she studied with Leon Kroll and John Sloan, members of a group of artists known as the Ashcan School. Both colleges awarded her honorary degrees. Her paintings have been exhibited at galleries in Baltimore; Washington, DC; and New York.

Katy Rothkopf, a senior curator at the Baltimore Museum of Art, believes Austrian’s passion for Baltimore’s small neighborhoods comes through in her work. “She’s not concentrating on grand major motifs, not choosing something recognized throughout the city,” Rothkopf says. “There’s a freedom to it, the way she’s depicting these neighborhoods. She’s abstracted the figures to their bare essentials, concentrating on the quality of light.”

Austrian’s husband, Charles R. Austrian, was an associate professor of medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and chief of medicine at Sinai Hospital before his death in 1956. The couple lived in their house on Eutaw Place for more than 40 years.

Several of Austrian’s relatives are also Goucher graduates: her sister, Gretchen Hochschild Hutzler 1909; her cousins Mary Kraus Weis 1910 and Beatrice Kraus Stern ’21; and her niece, Bernice Hutzler-Stein ’39.

by Lindsay Stuart Hill ’09
Music was in the air on April 22 at Goucher’s 14th annual Scholarship Luncheon. The event, which was held in the Athenaeum’s Hyman Forum, celebrates Goucher alumnae/i and friends who support the college’s scholarship program. “We have a lot to celebrate this year: It is the 125th anniversary of the college, and this is a unique opportunity for students to meet with scholarship donors,” said President Sanford J. Ungar. “We’d like to thank all donors to Goucher, all of you who make it possible for us to have an active scholarship program. Please do understand that we rely on you.”

Particular thanks were extended to Henry A. Rosenberg Jr., who has been a member of the college’s Board of Trustees since 1981. In 1971, his mother, Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg ’21, established the Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Scholarships, which provide aid to students in music, visual arts, and dance. In the past four decades, the scholarships have supported more than 300 students. “My mother deeply loved Goucher College,” said Rosenberg, who is director and chairman of the board of Rosemore Inc. and Crown Central LLC. “It was important to my mother to promote art here at the college. She loved giving back; she was raised that way, and so was I.”

As part of the celebration, internationally renowned pianist Claudia Knafo ’84 performed. A former Rosenberg scholar, Knafo noted that the scholarship—with its emphasis on the arts—played a role in her decision to attend Goucher. Nodding to Rosenberg, she said, “You were a catalyst in my decision to come here, and I feel honored to share my music with you. I thank you for helping me to pursue my career in music.”
A Landmark Success Makes History

Goucher’s men’s lacrosse team won the 2010 Landmark Conference title on May 8—a success that represents the first time the team has won a conference championship.

Playing in front of 519 fans—the largest crowd to watch an outdoor athletics event in Goucher athletics history—the team defeated the Catholic University Cardinals 11-4. The win guaranteed the Gophers a spot in the NCAA Division III playoffs—another first for the 19-year-old program.

On May 12, the team played in the opening round of the 2010 NCAA Division III Men’s Lacrosse Championship. Led by Coach Kyle Hannan, the Gophers competed against the Middlebury Panthers at Middlebury College in Vermont, a program that has won the NCAA Division III title three times in the past 10 years. After a tough battle—with five minutes remaining in the game, the Gophers were just two goals behind—the Panthers won 10-6.

The Gopher’s Landmark Conference victory extended the team’s 2010 winning streak to nine games, the longest in program history. It also left intact Goucher’s perfect 15-0 record against Catholic in men’s lacrosse. In addition, the Landmark Conference title game represents Hannan’s 100th win in 10 seasons as head coach of Goucher’s men’s lacrosse team.

Flexing Their Intellectual Muscles

Goucher’s women’s field hockey team was ranked No. 5 in the nation in academics among Division III teams, according to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association. The Gophers earned an average GPA of 3.46.

The hockey team with the highest GPA was Springfield College; its players earned an average GPA of 3.52. The other top teams were Richard Stockton College, Swarthmore College, and Washington & Lee University; all three teams were tied with a GPA of 3.47.

START TRAINING NOW

The 18th annual Renie Amoss Memorial 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, October 10, at 9 a.m. For more information, visit www.goucher.edu/athletics or call Sally Baum at 410.337.6389.
Unveiling the Goucher College Athletics Hall of Fame by Dana Kulchinsky ’10

Two world-champion badminton players. A record-setting basketball player. A beloved coach and teacher. These athletes became the first inductees to the Goucher College Athletics Hall of Fame on April 24 in a ceremony that hailed past accomplishments while celebrating the college’s current athletics program. The event, held in conjunction with Alumnae/i Weekend, drew a crowd of hundreds of alumnae/i, faculty and staff members, and current student-athletes.

“The new Hall of Fame—and its inaugural ceremony—exceeded our expectations,” said Athletics Director Geoffrey Miller. “The ceremony was a marvelous celebration of our athletic history. When our current student-athletes arrived to shake the hands of the inductees and welcome them into the Hall of Fame, it was a perfect blend of past and present.”

Located in the Virginia and Alonso Decker Jr. Sports and Recreation Center (SRC), the Hall of Fame is a digital and interactive display that showcases Goucher’s athletic legends. The inaugural inductees are Susan Devlin Peard ’53, a six-time winner at the All-England Open Badminton Championships; her sister, Judith Devlin Hashman ’58, who won the women’s world badminton championship 10 times and is often cited as the sport’s greatest female player; Predrag Durkovic ’98, the leading rebounder and second-leading scorer in the history of Goucher’s men’s basketball program; and the late Josephine Fiske, a past coach and longtime teacher of physical education.

“It’s about time we recognize the athletic department of the college and its participants. Their accomplishments are inspiring,” said President Sanford J. Ungar. “It is important to recognize that Goucher athletes also are citizens and scholars beyond the field, in the classroom and the community.”

Several former college athletes, including former college basketball players Clay Nunley ’98 and Tom Rose ’95 M. Ed. ’00, attended the ceremony. About 175 current athletes also were on hand to meet and congratulate the inaugural inductees.

“It’s a tremendous honor to witness the first class being inducted into the Hall of Fame,” said Reggie Suggs ’10, co-captain of the men’s basketball team. “It’s a tribute to the hard work and dedication of the athletes that came before my teammates and me.”

“It is important to recognize that Goucher athletes also are citizens and scholars beyond the field, in the classroom and the community.”
— President Sanford J. Ungar

(L to R) Eric Fiske, nephew of Josephine Fiske; Judith Devlin Hashman ’58; Susan Devlin Peard ’53; Predrag Durkovic ’98; Trustee Susanne Emory ’56; President Sanford J. Ungar; Clayton Emory
A Temple, a Museum, and a Mansion

Explore three architectural treasures and learn about Freemasonry in Washington, DC.

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Have you read Dan Brown’s bestseller *The Lost Symbol*? Then you’re already familiar with the House of the Temple, the national headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, and the first stop on our tour. We will also visit the former site of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, which re-opened as the National Museum of Women in the Arts in 1987. The grand Perry Belmont Mansion, international headquarters of the Order of the Eastern Star, will be our final stop. The group leaves Goucher at 8:30 a.m. and returns around 5 p.m., as traffic allows. Lunch is on your own at the museum.

For more information, contact a trip leader:
President Emerita Rhoda Dorsey (410-828-6161), Dorothy Krug (410-771-9899), or Carolyn Litsinger (301-774-0680).

**THIS TRIP INCLUDES:** Tours and transportation

**COST:** $67

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**OCTOBER 16**
George Bernard Shaw’s *Misalliance*  
Olney Theatre, Olney, MD

**DECEMBER 11**
Lights and Sights by Limousine  
Washington, DC

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.
Dear Goucher Alumnae and Alumni,

As we wrap up our 125th anniversary events, we can look back upon a year filled with celebrations, the renewal of old ties, the beginnings of new connections, and the continuing “magic” of what it means to have attended Goucher College. Stories of individual experiences were shared at gatherings held from coast to coast in living rooms, museums, restaurants, and even neighborhood pubs. Tales drawn from classrooms, laboratories, and beyond were relayed. Anecdotes about great professors, never-ending academic demands, dormitory life, and longtime friendships offered glimpses into each person’s college experience.

The “green” issue of the Quarterly, published last spring, generated many comments and observations; we thank all those who shared their thoughts and will bear them in mind as we move forward. I would again invite you to join GoucherConnect, our password-protected, online community. If you have not yet done so, please visit us online to register (www.goucher.edu/goucherconnect). Once you’ve registered, you’ll be able to stay connected with your fellow alumnae/i—and we’ll be able to keep you informed of events both on campus and around the country.

The culmination of the year’s festivities occurred during a beautiful spring weekend when we gathered for Reunion. The weather cooperated; the campus was gloriously green, and the alumnae/i could not have been more energized. Goucher’s newest building, the Athenaeum, provided a breathtaking setting to an internationally flavored Gala reception that attracted more than 500 attendees. This year marked the end of a five-year trial in which we celebrated Alumnae/i Weekend during the academic year, allowing alumnae/i opportunities to connect with students and faculty. I am happy to say that the trial was a success, and that we will continue to schedule the festivities while classes are in progress.

The Class of 2010 was sent forth in May, its members eager to make their marks on the awaiting world. This class, however, is unique in that it was the first to have been required to participate in Goucher’s international study initiative. We welcome the new graduates to the AAGC and trust they will maintain their ties to Goucher no matter where their international experiences lead them.

For the past year, the AAGC has been conducting an ongoing discussion about how to strengthen its ties to alumnae/i, particularly those who graduated in the last 25 years. While much has been accomplished, we anticipate continuing the conversation this fall, and I hope to report our findings to you in the next Quarterly issue.

I thank all of you for your continued support of Goucher College. Chairing the annual meeting of the association was, indeed, a privilege for me, but meeting many of you in person was even more rewarding. Your loyalty to Goucher College and encouragement to all is most appreciated.

Warm regards,

Katherine E. Healy ’78
President AAGC
Volunteer Spotlight
Goucher Alumnae/i Award for Excellence in Public Service

Esther Hyneman ’60

Soon after Esther Hyneman ’60 retired from teaching at the end of August 2001, her world changed completely. Eleven days later, hijacked planes hit the World Trade Center. Hyneman soon developed an interest in women’s issues in relation to terrorism and began attending meetings about the status of women in Afghanistan under the Taliban. It was there that she met the founders of the human rights organization Women for Afghan Women (WAW). “They were a young, energetic group, and very committed,” she says. Hyneman was intrigued: Although she had majored in English at Goucher and taught literature at Long Island University for 37 years, she had long been interested in humanitarian work. A few months later, she began volunteering for WAW. She was elected to its board of directors in 2002.

“I have the utmost respect for academics, but I don’t think I was personally cut out to be one,” says Hyneman, who, in April, was one of two Goucher alumnae to receive the Alumnae/i Award for Excellence in Public Service. “I’m a hands-on person, so for me, this work is more interesting. It’s a completely new life.”

Funded in part by the U.S. State Department, the European Commission, and the New York Women’s Foundation, WAW has established a children’s support center, three family guidance centers/shelters, and five schools in Afghanistan since its inception in 2001. Hyneman, who is based in New York but spends half of the year in Kabul, represents WAW to the press and regularly advocates for women’s rights in Afghanistan and in Washington, DC. She has helped to provide shelter, emotional encouragement, legal assistance, and education to more than a thousand Afghan women.

Over the years, Hyneman has seen countless examples of abuse. One woman’s husband beat her with a poker and hung her by her own hair from a hook on the ceiling of her house. Another was sold into marriage with an old man when she was 9 years old.

“Domestic violence is a mild term compared to what really happens,” says Hyneman. “These women are not just pushed and kicked around; they are tortured.” With several support centers already in place, the foundation’s next step may be building halfway houses where women can live communally after obtaining divorces from abusive husbands, because it is not culturally acceptable for women to live alone in Afghanistan.

Hyneman admits that it is difficult to witness so much injustice, but ultimately, she finds her work as a volunteer rewarding. “I hate to say I’m fortunate to have gotten involved, because my work depends on the suffering of others, but I do feel grateful to be doing this,” Hyneman says. “And the positive side is that we can help these women. They have already run away [from abusive situations], which takes great courage. We hope we can empower them to take charge of their own lives.”

by Lindsay Stuart Hill ’09

On the Road Again

For the second year, the Goucher Vagabonds hit the road, blogging as they went. Team members were four 2010 graduates: Debra Lenik, Matthew Cohen-Price, Maura Roth-Gormley, and Aislyn Rose, a veteran from last year’s trip. Their mission was to travel along the Northeastern Seaboard from Maine to Virginia, visiting alumnae/i, sharing stories about life on campus, and collecting stories about life after Goucher. They even attended a number of Send-Offs, or events held to welcome incoming first-year students. The Vagabonds program is sponsored by the Development and Alumnae/i Affairs Division.

To learn more, visit www.goucher.edu/alumni and click on Vagabonds.

(L to R) Vagabond 2010 team members: Aislyn Rose ’10, Debra Lenik ’10, Matthew Cohen-Price ’10, Maura Roth-Gormley ’10
A Jewell of an Evening

The second time was the charm this year—at least as far as Goucher’s annual Jewell Robinson Dinner was concerned. Named in honor of the first African American to attend the college, the occasion offers alumnae/i a chance to reconnect with old friends and all members of the college community—past and present—to celebrate African-American contributions to Goucher. Typically one of several events held on campus to mark Black History Month, the dinner—initially scheduled for Feb. 12—had to be postponed because of the blizzard of 2010.

Nonetheless, when finally held March 31, the dinner was a grand success. More than 60 alumnae/i and guests gathered in the Hyman Forum of Goucher’s newest building, the Athenaeum, to mingle, recall fond memories, and toast the college’s latest achievements.

“Under President Sandy Ungar’s leadership, I have personally noticed a far more positive atmosphere at Goucher College than when I attended with regard to Goucher more fully embracing African Americans and other people of diverse races and backgrounds,” said Romaine N. Williams ’78. “I have felt more welcomed, more included, and more appreciated than ever before—even though I have always loved Goucher.”

Parties here, Parties there

All in all, more than a dozen parties were held throughout the country—and, in a few cases, beyond—to mark Goucher College’s 125th anniversary. Indeed, alumnae/i and friends toasted the college in cities from Boston to Bangkok. Some parties, such as the elegant event held May 12 at the Embassy of the German Federal Republic in Washington, DC, or the cocktail party held March 20 at the Restaurant at the Getty in Los Angeles, were large gatherings organized by the college. Others were more intimate affairs, such as the January get-together held in Louisville, CO, at the home of Buel and Beverlee White ’65.
This year, Alumnae/i Weekend, held April 23-25, was particularly festive because it offered participants the chance to celebrate Goucher's 125th anniversary. From a tour of the original Goucher campus in downtown Baltimore and the dedication of the new Athletics Hall of Fame to the Digital Arts Showcase and Professor Bob Welch’s beer tastings, the three-day event was filled with opportunities to:

CONNECT...

Whether at the Parade of Classes (led this year by President Sanford J. Ungar on horseback), class dinners, or impromptu get-togethers on campus, there were plenty of chances throughout the weekend to catch up with old friends and make new ones, too.
LEARN...

On Saturday, the air fairly crackled with intellectual energy as alumnae/i attended workshops and lectures, including a presentation by Esther Hyneman ’60 about her work supporting the women of Afghanistan; a panel discussion about poetry; and a conversation with Peggy Brooks-Bertram ’70, co-editor of the anthology *Go, Tell Michelle: African American Women Write to the New First Lady.*

REMEMBER...

Goucher’s new labyrinth, located between Haebler Memorial Chapel and Mary Fisher Hall, was dedicated on Saturday. Given to the college by an anonymous donor, the stone-lined path is flanked by benches placed in memory of Jamie Deutsch ’10 and Dana Flax ’10 and offers community members a place of peace in which to meditate, pray, grieve, or give thanks.
At the AAGC annual meeting, President Sanford J. Ungar presented a state-of-the-college briefing to alumnae/i and fielded questions. AAGC Awards also were presented to Tammy Gomez ’85, Esther Hyneman ’60, Lindsay Johnson ’05, and Eloise Tilghman Payne ’55.

The Goucher College Athletics Hall of Fame was unveiled at a ceremony Saturday afternoon. The inaugural inductees were Susan Devlin Peard ’53, a six-time badminton winner at the all-England championships; her sister, Judith Devlin Hashman ’58, who won the women’s world badminton championship 10 times; Predrag Durkovic ’98, the leading rebounder and second-leading scorer in the history of Goucher’s men’s basketball program; and the late Josephine Fiske, a past coach and physical education teacher.
More than 500 members of the Goucher community attended the 125th Anniversary Gala Reception held in the Athenaeum. Guests toasted one another and the college while enjoying fare inspired by John Franklin Goucher’s travels (delicacies ranged from Kashmir lamb skewers to a dark-chocolate fountain). Entertainment was provided by Reverend’s Rebels, singer Peg Espinola ’57, dancer Chad Levy (husband of Amy Marshall ’92), and the Goucher Jazz Ensemble, among others.
Shari Metzger ’07 long had known that she saw things differently from others. But by collaborating on a research project with her Goucher psychology professor, she learned why—and provided insights into a rare neurological phenomenon called synesthesia.
When Shari Metzger ’07 gets stumped by a Sudoku puzzle, she doesn’t try to find the right number. Instead, she looks to see what color is missing from the row. And if she were to buy a lottery ticket, you can bet she wouldn’t choose the number 37; it is an unappealing mix of “olive green and nasty orange—the colors bleed together,” she says.

Metzger, who is studying applied developmental psychology at the University of Maryland, has synesthesia, a rare neurological phenomenon that causes her to see numbers and letters in color.

“It’s not obtrusive or a handicap, it’s just the way I see things. It took me a long time to realize not everyone sees things the way I do.”

—Shari Metzger ’07

Metzger was a teenager when she began to realize she saw things differently from most people. One day she looked at the digital kitchen clock and remarked to her mother, “Oh, it’s 6:23! That’s my favorite time!” Metzger’s mother, a non-synesthete, looked puzzled. “It’s a really nice color combination,” Metzger explained.
SYNESTHESIA is a rare neurological phenomenon that causes Metzger to see numbers and letters in color.

When she entered Mills’ cognitive psychology class at Goucher, Metzger was still unaware that her experience had a name. Mills, whose research on synesthesia based upon experiments conducted with Metzger was recently published in the scientific journals *Perception* and *Cortex*, had been studying the neurological phenomenon since 1994.

“Working with her allowed me to explore when my synesthesia came up, when it didn’t, and how it affected the academic work I did,” Metzger says. “I learned a lot.” Interested in exploring how color-grapheme synesthetes perform mathematical operations, Mills invited Metzger to participate in an experiment she had designed. She hoped to expand upon previous research, which showed that color-grapheme synesthetes were slower to recognize numbers printed in colors that did not correspond to their own photisms. Mills wanted to find out if synesthesia would similarly influence a subject’s ability to solve mathematical equations.

In Mills’ study, Metzger was asked to solve equations made up of digits that were printed in three different ways: in colors that matched Metzger’s photisms, in colors that did not match her photisms, and in black. Metzger’s responses were compared to those of non-synesthetes, who were the control in the experiment. The equations with mismatched colors took Metzger longer to solve than those printed in black or in her photism colors, while it took the non-synesthetes about the same amount of time to solve the equations in all conditions. This supported Mills’ hypothesis: that Metzger’s photisms influenced her performance in solving addition problems.

Though her research focuses on synesthetes, Mills says the findings have a lot to tell us about the human brain in general. “We probably all had synesthesia, or have it,” Mills says, “so it’s something that’s important to understand.”

Scientific inquiries aside, Metzger finds her synesthesia quite useful. It’s a conversation topic that never fails to entertain—“Almost everyone I talk to has new questions about it,” she says—and it helps her remember digit sequences, such as telephone numbers. Not to mention that it’s fun. “If I have to remember some sort of sensitive number, like a Social Security number, I can actually write out the colors, and no one else will know what I’m talking about,” she says. Besides, she adds, “it just makes everything look prettier.” §
Looking to the
Celebrating the Past

Photos by Jim Burger
“This ceremony is always a special occasion and a great celebration in the Goucher community, but there are unique aspects to it this time as we conclude our observance of the college’s 125th anniversary year,” said President Sanford J. Ungar.

In acknowledgment of the college’s rich history, the Baccalaureate was held May 20 at the Lovely Lane United Methodist Church in Baltimore. In the mid-1880s, the church and college were built side by side under the guidance of John Franklin Goucher. The young minister and his wife, Mary Fisher Goucher, provided funds and land to help establish a college for women that stood next door.

At Commencement, former astronaut and current administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Charles F. Bolden Jr. gave the keynote address and received the degree of doctor of humane letters, *honoris causa*. Honorary degrees were also awarded to Janice M. Benario ’43 and Patricia A. Goldman ’64. Henry A. Rosenberg Jr. and George E. Thomsen both received a John Franklin Goucher Medal.

“One thing I know—and want to make sure you do, too—is that these are wonderful, creative, thoughtful people with a social conscience,” Ungar said of the graduates. “As one of the student speakers put it at Baccalaureate in Lovely Lane Church, they are someplace ‘west of ordinary.’ We at Goucher are very proud to have been a part of their lives, and we have learned from them, even as they were learning from us.”
“Remember this: Today we are graduating the first class of women and men at any college or university in America who have been required to study abroad. They have come back here with knowledge and wisdom and perspective, and have had an unusual opportunity to educate each other about the world they have seen.” — President Sanford J. Ungar
“May these graduates be blessed with creativity and vision, with courage and curiosity for the unknown nature of the beyond.”

— The Rev. Cynthia A. Terry, chaplain

“We are Goucher scholars because, for the past four years, we have made Goucher College, each and every day.” — Jill Bratt, senior class representative
impromptu

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

By Lindsay Stuart Hill ’09

Mark McKibben begins his 12th year as a Goucher mathematics professor this fall. He has co-authored several textbooks, and his most recent, Discovering Evolution Equations with Applications: Volume 1—Deterministic Equations, was released last summer. In the spring, he received Goucher’s Caroline Doeble Brucker ’25 Award for excellence in teaching, research, and service. Here, he talks with the Quarterly about what it’s like to teach math.

What sparked your interest in mathematics?
I think it was the mystery embodying the subject, coupled with its elegance. Math connects to all fields; the power of it is that you can talk about phenomena that occur in the natural sciences, social sciences, and economics, all under the same umbrella.

What brought you to Goucher?
What drew me here is what draws many people: a small, intimate atmosphere where you can truly teach, rather than a large university with classes of 400 where professors just tell a story rather than involving the audience in its development. As an instructor, I want to take students on a journey where they are active participants.

A lot of your work has involved evolution equations. Could you describe what those are?
There are phenomena in different fields that can be described with differential equations, which involve rates of quantities that are changing with time. An evolution equation is an abstract differential equation. I extract the commonality among differential equations across disciplines and study them all in the form of an evolution equation. For example, infectious disease epidemiology, spatial pattern formation, financial markets, and neural networks—these are disparate fields for which the models can all be subsumed under a common abstract equation.

How long does it take you to complete a research problem?
I work on several problems simultaneously. For some, I come to a resolution in a month or two. There are others that I’ve been working on for a decade. Some problems will probably be around as long as I am.

How do you feel about long division?
Honestly, I haven’t done it in more than 20 years.

Algebra or geometry?
I’m much more of an algebra person. I’m an abstract thinker. Geometry is more visual.

How do you keep the students in your classes engaged?
I employ what I call a discovery approach. I have an idea of where I want to go, but the lecture develops as a sequence of questions posed to the audience and a back-and-forth banter. A little humor goes a long way.

What do you do in your spare time?
I’m an avid tennis player. And I’m ashamed to admit it, but I’m as addicted to video games as the modern generation.
A Letter Home

Percy Moore ’95—college trustee, former Goucher soccer player, U.S. Marine Corps major, husband, and father—was deployed to Afghanistan last spring. Early in his tour, he discovered that he and former Goucher soccer teammate Major Steve Taylor ’95 were stationed at the same base. Both men are serving one-year tours and hope to return home around April 2011. What follows is a note (edited for space) that Moore sent via e-mail to friends.

I walked into the chow hall my second day in-country and heard a familiar voice call out my first name (usually rank and last names are used). It was my great friend from college, Steve Taylor ’95, historic preservation major, former teammate. The connection was immediate—as though 15 years had gone by in just one day.

We met in August of 1993. Steve was a transfer student and a sought-after prospect for the Goucher men’s soccer team to fill a void at the right fullback position. We soon came to know each other well, as I was the right midfielder. I have fond memories of playing soccer with Steve. He intuitively knew my strengths and consistently played the perfect ball, bypassing the defense and putting me in great scoring position. Conversely, I could always count on his phenomenal defensive talents to slow the opponent’s attack long enough to allow me to make the 40-yard sprint back to aid in the defense.

At the end of our senior year, I mentioned to Steve that he would make a great Marine Corps officer, and after graduation, we both signed up for Officer Candidate School. Our paths would not cross again for years, but our travels were similar. Both Steve and I became infantry officers—by far, one of the hardest military occupational fields in the Marine Corps. After Infantry Officer School, he was stationed in Hawaii, and I was stationed in San Diego.

Now, 15 years removed from the soccer fields of Goucher, the task remains the same: to use our strengths to defeat a determined opponent. Only this time, the stakes are much higher. As we reminisced about our Goucher years and discussed our military careers, we discovered one common experience: Both of us had been singled out on numerous occasions by senior military officers, not only for our tactical prowess, but also for our ability to write. We laughed and put all the blame on Goucher.

As I write this on June 2, 2010, it is my 40th birthday, and it was great to spend it with my friend, Steve Taylor, who represents the closest thing to family I have in Afghanistan.
A Colorful Career

Captivating, mesmerizing, dramatic—all are words that describe Iva Gueorguieva’s paintings. Her large canvases are flooded with bright colors that swirl with darker hues and hint of deep complexities.

Born in Sofia, Bulgaria, Gueorguieva studied for two years at the Academy of Applied Arts in that city. In 1989, her artistic training was interrupted by political upheaval when the Communist government was dismantled. For the next six months, she was active in the movement for democratic change, but as the situation in the country continued to deteriorate, her family decided to leave.

Within a year, the family had immigrated to the United States. Gueorguieva’s mother, a pediatrician, and her father, an engineer, initially worked in a Baltimore candy factory. Gueorguieva, then 16, stayed at home to care for her two younger siblings. A neighbor, who noticed the children at home during the day, helped the family get acclimated to American life. Soon the younger children were enrolled in elementary schools, and Gueorguieva had been accepted at the Baltimore School for the Arts.

She flourished in art school, subsequently winning Goucher College’s Trustee Scholarship, which subsidizes the costs of tuition, room and board, and other supplies. That scholarship, she says, is “the most amazing gift I have ever received.”

At Goucher, Gueorguieva—who already knew she wanted to be an artist—decided against taking formal art classes and instead threw herself into her other coursework. “I wanted to try everything,” Gueorguieva says.

After graduating from Goucher, Gueorguieva earned a master of fine arts degree from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University in Philadelphia. In 2002, she moved to New Orleans to work as an artist. Three years later, she and her husband, Matthew McGarvey, who is a musician and a philosophy professor, moved to Los Angeles. Although primarily a painter, Gueorguieva also collaborates with her husband to create installations using sound and video. Her works have been exhibited widely, including in solo shows at the gallery Stichting Outline in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and the Pomona Museum of Art in Claremont, CA.

Always grateful for the opportunity to share her work, Gueorguieva says, “I hope that people will stop and look with sustained and quiet attention. To look at a painting is to open oneself to another’s thought.” — Dana Kulchinsky ’10
Community Ambassador

When he graduated from Goucher, Wil Gutierrez was sure of two things: He wanted to work in politics, and he wanted to give back to the community that had welcomed him as a young immigrant. In 2009, both aspirations were realized when he was hired as a legislative assistant for Duchy Trachtenberg, a councilmember-at-large of Montgomery County.

Gutierrez, who was 11 years old when his family moved from El Salvador to Silver Spring, MD, manages the councilwoman’s electronic communications, including her website and social media tools, such as Twitter and Facebook. Thus far, his most visible project has been the launch of her bilingual blog, which was created to support the Spanish-speaking population in Montgomery County.

“Montgomery County includes the largest Spanish-speaking Latino population in Maryland,” Gutierrez explains. He is charged with making sure its members have access to information.

As the main contributor and editor of the blog, Gutierrez keeps its content up to date with local news and links to the most important local, state, and federal websites that serve Spanish speakers, as well as other Spanish-language sites, such as El Tiempo Latino, El Zol radio (99.1 FM), and Univision.

At Goucher, Gutierrez majored in political science. He also served as a community assistant for the Office of Community Living and Multicultural Affairs. His college experience helped prepare him for his professional life, he says. “I learned how to express my thoughts in an articulate manner, something that continues to help in my job today.”

For Gutierrez—who is deciding between pursuing a career in politics or international diplomacy—this position is a perfect first job. “I am doing something very positive for the greater community while learning new exciting things each day.” — Dana Kulchinsky '10
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Membership in GoucherConnect is exclusive and free to alumnae/i only. For more information, e-mail alumnionline@goucher.edu.
Of Quasquicentennials and Celebrations

by Sanford J. Ungar

It’s been a lot of fun, but we’ve now reached the end of our extended celebration of what word purists would call Goucher’s quasquicentennial. We’ve reminisced and recounted the college’s history, bragged and boasted a bit, and rallied the troops around the country. We’ve also fed quite a few people assorted variations on Hutzler’s old Goucher birthday cake. My favorite moments have come at events that combined 125th anniversary parties with receptions for admitted applicants or incoming-student “send-off” receptions, along the way creating intriguing and eclectic glimpses of the college’s present, past, and future. Our final party in late June may well have been the apogee: At t’afia, the environmentally conscious Houston restaurant owned and run by chef Monica Pope ’85, we assembled a group spanning 77 years, from an alumna in the Class of 1938 to a prospective applicant for the Class of 2015.

I had a unique opportunity, just a few weeks earlier, to celebrate on the other side of the world. As most members of the extended Goucher family know, John Franklin Goucher was instrumental in establishing and helping fund, with support from his wife, Mary Fisher Goucher, schools at various levels in Asia—in Japan, China, Korea, and India. Pai Chai (pronounced “pay jay”), one of the first Korean schools to benefit from the Gouchers’ generosity, has grown to become Pai Chai University. It, too, was celebrating its 125th anniversary, and the organizers of the festivities invited me, along with Marilyn Southard Warshawsky ’68, former Goucher board chair and the ultimate college historian, to participate in the program and a related conference in Daejeon, about an hour south of Seoul by express train. Michiko Mitarai ’66, a Goucher trustee from Tokyo, also attended the events.

Marilyn and I gave a joint presentation on Dr. Goucher’s remarkable international involvements. Marilyn also offered sermons that artfully wove Bible verses into the chronology, and I had an opportunity to draw the link between our namesake’s extraordinary career and Goucher College’s current intense focus on the global dimension of a liberal arts education.

How the Methodists became involved in Korea makes a very good yarn: By chance, while traveling across the United States by train in September 1883, Dr. Goucher encountered a group of envoys from Korea who had been sent by King Kojong to meet with President Chester A. Arthur; they were seeking to learn about American schools, post offices, and military installations. In an important precedent for the future, Dr. Goucher seemed to learn as much as he taught during that railroad encounter. He was apparently impressed by what he heard about this culture previously little known in America, and within a matter of months, he was urging the Methodist Missionary Society in New York to begin work in Korea—and offering to pay part of the costs for doing so.

Missionary work, of course, led inevitably—and directly—to education and a focus on its importance in strengthening family, church, and civil society. Just as Dr. Goucher played a central role in the establishment in Baltimore of a college for African Americans and another for women—now Morgan State University and Goucher College, respectively—he promoted the creation of educational institutions in Asia that would broaden access to learning beyond the traditional elite. In the early 1880s, he met the Rev. Henry Appenzeller, who would become the first Methodist missionary to Korea, and there is evidence that the pair kept in touch after Appenzeller launched the Methodist presence and opened Pai Chai in 1885. We can only imagine that Dr. Goucher pressed his strong feeling that education must be egalitarian, erasing barriers of gender, race, caste, and religion.

Rev. Appenzeller, until his tragic death at sea in 1902, was a key player in the development of Pai Chai and other Methodist institutions in Korea, and the commemorative
events in Daejeon were held in a magnificent new chapel and meeting hall built into a hillside and named for him. But the image of Dr. Goucher accompanied us, literally and figuratively, during these celebrations and at a gala orchestral and choral concert held in Seoul two nights earlier. I had the feeling at times that we were treated as significant guests—and given an embarrassingly effusive welcome—in part because we were from a place that had actually dared to name itself for the great man. (On previous visits to Aoyama Gakuin, a 20,000-student, pre-K-through-grad-school institution in Tokyo that also traces its origins to the generosity of the Gouchers, I had sensed a slight amusement that our college had appropriated the name.)

This seemingly anomalous circumstance of our college’s name—in truth, as many know, a renaming 100 years ago of the Woman’s College of Baltimore for its benefactor and second president and his wife—leads to interesting conversations in Asia. Some of the Chinese delegates to these festivities, in particular, assumed it meant that Goucher College had hewed especially closely to its origins as a Methodist institution. One minister from Beijing was stunned to learn that we do not still have a required chapel service at least once a day. Indeed, the secular direction that much of American higher education has taken was a whole other area ripe for cross-cultural communication on this occasion. The question of whether Goucher and other Methodist institutions in the United States and around the world were intended primarily to promote education through religion, or religion through education, is a rich one worthy of future study.

Meanwhile, as we begin our 126th year, we’ll find new things to celebrate and ponder at Goucher College.

Sanford J. Ungar  |  President
Coming in the next issue
Priscilla Pan ’07, a second-grade teacher at the Harlem Success Academy, aims to raise a new generation of Gophers.

A PEEK INSIDE

- Reaching Out: Esther Hyneman ’60, recipient of the Alumnae/i Award for Public Service, is helping the women of Afghanistan.

- By the numbers: Professor Mark McKibben discusses the power and elegance of math.

- Major news: Beginning this fall, Goucher students may major in environmental studies.

- Viewpoint: A visit to Korea offers President Sanford J. Ungar a chance to ponder John Franklin Goucher’s global vision.