

WINTER 2010

Goucher

Quarterly

WATER RITES

13 one big, happy, family weekend

Homecoming, held in conjunction with Family Weekend, drew nearly 600 participants.

18 beyond victory gardens:

How Goucher 'Farmerettes' Helped Feed America

22 where are they now?

The Class of 2010 was the first to be required to study abroad. We check in with a few of Goucher's most recent graduates.

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Andrew Gethins '12 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2010 Goucher Track & Field Classic.

photo by Ryan Murray



on the front cover: A yearlong, campus-wide program to promote environmental responsibility this year focuses upon water management (see pg. 6). (L to R) Adam Scipione '11 and Nicholas Stagno '11 conduct an experiment for their "Environmental Alternatives" biology class. Photo by Bryan Burris.

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as of September 2010
total students: 1,479 undergraduates,
820 graduate students
undergraduate faculty:
(full-time) 130, (part-time) 83
alumnae & alumni: 17,136

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

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.



photo by Rachel Stark '09

contributors

Lindsay Stuart Hill '09

Hill worked last year as the poet-in-residence at Baltimore's Carver Center for Arts and Technology and the editorial assistant at the *Quarterly*. At Goucher, she received two Kratz fellowships to write poetry in Ireland and at the Zen Mountain Monastery in New York. Hill now is a volunteer at an organic goat farm near Portland, OR, where she continues to write. Her article about Elaine Weiss' book, *Fruits of Victory*, appears in this issue (see p. 18).



photo by David Zimand

Vanessa Keen '11

Keen, who interned at the *Quarterly* in Fall 2009, spent last spring and summer studying at the Universidad de Palermo in Buenos Aires. A communications and Spanish major, she again is an intern at the magazine and is a supplemental instructor for the introductory cognitive science class. Her article about the campus-wide efforts to explore the sustainability of water as a natural resource appears in this issue (see p. 6).

WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT THE OLD GANG IS UP TO?



Join **GoucherConnect**, Goucher's new alumnae/i community:

- A password-protected alumnae/i directory
- Up-to-date information about exciting college events
- Innovative programming unique to Goucher
- A bridge to Facebook

Keep up with old friends, form your own clubs, start discussions, and even plan your own get-togethers—with just a few clicks.

Register today at www.goucher.edu/goucherconnect



Quarterly Online FAQ

As part of the college's efforts to be environmentally responsible, the spring issue of the *Quarterly* will for the second year be published in an online-only format. To protect the privacy of Goucher's alumnae/i, Class Notes will not appear online. They will appear in the following issue, which will be published in the traditional print format.

How will I know when the magazine is published?

We will send you an e-mail telling you the *Quarterly* is available online and giving you a link to the magazine.

What if Goucher doesn't have my e-mail address?

Go to www.goucher.edu/goucherconnect, register for GoucherConnect, the alumnae/i online community, and update your contact information.

What if I want to read a paper copy?

You will be able to go to the link and download a printable version of the magazine.

What Grows Around

Few of us know much, if anything, about “farmerettes.” These daring and patriotic women kept the nation’s food supply plentiful by working as farmhands when large numbers of men were called to fight in World War I. I was fascinated to learn about this little-known chapter in our history—all the more so when I realized how much resonance the farmerettes’ story has today.

Based upon the book, *Fruits of Victory, the Woman’s Land Army of America in the Great War*, by journalist Elaine F. Weiss, the article featured in this issue (see p. 18) provides a glimpse of the role farming played in American society in the years just before WWI. One of the farmerettes was **Hortense Powdermaker ’19**, who is among Goucher’s most illustrious graduates. After learning to farm while an undergraduate, Powdermaker went on to become a renowned anthropologist whose field studies in Mississippi formed the basis of a book that became *de facto* required reading for civil rights activists.

These days at Goucher (and elsewhere), the role of farming—particularly as it pertains to environmental sustainability—is again the focus of attention. Barely a week goes by without a related event being offered, from an “Eat Local Challenge,” during which campus dining halls serve meals made solely from foods produced within a 150-mile radius of campus, to lectures about how food is made and labeled.

And perhaps there’s poetic justice in the fact that **Lindsay S. Hill ’09**, the *Quarterly* editorial assistant who wrote the article about farmerettes, literally has moved on to greener pastures. She is working on an organic goat farm in Vermont while continuing to cultivate her skills as a poet.

Her experiences and those of the Goucher students who nearly 100 years ago also took to the fields may serve as reminders that learning comes in an infinite variety of forms. Those who attend Goucher learn, of course, in classrooms and laboratories, through the books they read and papers they write, and from faculty and staff members. But they also learn from one another, from their studies abroad, and even from the choices they begin to make about the foods they eat.

Best regards,
Holly Selby | Editor

holly.selby@goucher.edu

Introducing New Faculty Members

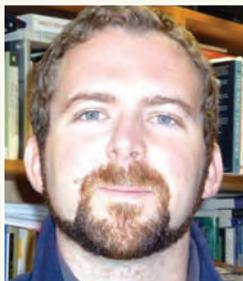
In addition to the 391 students of the first-year class, Goucher welcomed several new full-time faculty members to campus this fall. Here they are:



Joseph W. Cutrone is a new visiting assistant professor in the Mathematics and Computer Science Department. Previously, Cutrone was an instructor of linear and abstract algebra, calculus, and number theory at the Johns Hopkins University. This spring, he expects to earn his doctorate in algebraic geometry from Hopkins' Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.



Germán Mora is the Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Associate Professor of Environmental Science and the chair of the new Environmental Studies Program. He received a doctorate in geology with a minor in environmental sciences from Indiana University. He previously was an associate professor at Montgomery College in Maryland and at Iowa State University.



Nathan M. Dinneen is a visiting assistant professor in Goucher's new Environmental Studies Program. He earned a doctorate in political sciences from Northern Illinois University and a master's degree in environmental ethics from the University of North Texas. His specialties include environmental ethics and political theory; environmental politics, history, policy, and law; and food and agricultural politics.

Victor Ricciardi joins Goucher as an assistant professor of financial management in the Business Management Department. He is the coordinator of behavioral and experimental research at the Social Science Research Network, a global professional group that disseminates social science research, and a board member of the *International Journal of Behavioural Accounting and Finance*. He previously taught at Kentucky State University's School of Business.



Mel M. Lewis '02, whose undergraduate majors were women's studies and sociology, returns full-time to Goucher as a visiting instructor in the Women's Studies Program. Her areas of specialization include feminist theory; gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender studies; and media studies. She is completing her doctorate on bodies, gender, and sexualities at the University of Maryland, College Park. She earned master's degrees from the University of Maryland and Towson University.



Rick Southerland is a visiting assistant professor in the Dance Department. He received a master's degree in performing arts from American University and a master's of fine arts degree in dance from Hollins University. He has served as the arts education director at Sierra Arts Foundation and as adjunct professor of dance at East Carolina University, and he sits on the board of directors for the National Dance Education Organization.

goucher Today

people | programs | events

Mad about Digital Arts

Beginning this spring, artists who are mad about digital arts will be able to hone the marketing, management, and business skills needed to succeed in this burgeoning field—while earning a master's of arts degree in digital arts.

Called MADArts, Goucher's newest graduate degree is earned through a combination of distance-learning and short-term residency. This innovative format, a hallmark of the college's newer graduate initiatives, such as the M.A. in cultural sustainability, allows the college to recruit a faculty of top professionals from around the country who lead two one-week residencies and conduct online classes. This format also provides students the flexibility to balance classes with their professional and personal lives. S

For more information, visit www.goucher.edu/madarts.



Digital artist Christopher Willits performed experimental electronic music in Goucher's Merrick Lecture Hall on September 18 in celebration of the college's new master's of arts in digital arts.

GOUCHER TODAY



The Quindecim Gets a Makeover

Goucher's student newspaper, *The Quindecim*, has a new, crisp look this year and now features a section aimed at showcasing news and photographs about Goucher students who are studying abroad.

"We're aware that many larger newspapers have had to forego their foreign reporting," wrote the editor-in-chief, **Billie Weiss '11**, in a letter to readers. "At *The Quindecim*, we're lucky enough to still have the ability to gather information from around the world, and we feel this is a great opportunity to highlight Goucher's increasingly international focus."

Once known as the *Goucher College Weekly*, *The Quindecim*, which was renamed in 1985, has been published for 94 years. S

To read *The Quindecim* online, visit www.thequindecim.com/.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month



Salsa dancing. Musical theater depicting Mexican painter Frida Kahlo. A debate about Arizona’s controversial immigration law.

These were just a few of the events offered during Goucher’s Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15). The festivities began with a potluck dinner featuring Spanish and Latin American cuisine and continued with screenings of Spanish-language short films, and the musical theater production *Tres Vidas*, which portrays three legendary Latina women, and a President’s Forum panel discussion on Arizona’s immigration law. The month-long program was sponsored by the department of Hispanic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; the Office of the Provost; the Office of the Dean of Students; and the Stimson Lecture Endowment. §

— Vanessa Keen '11

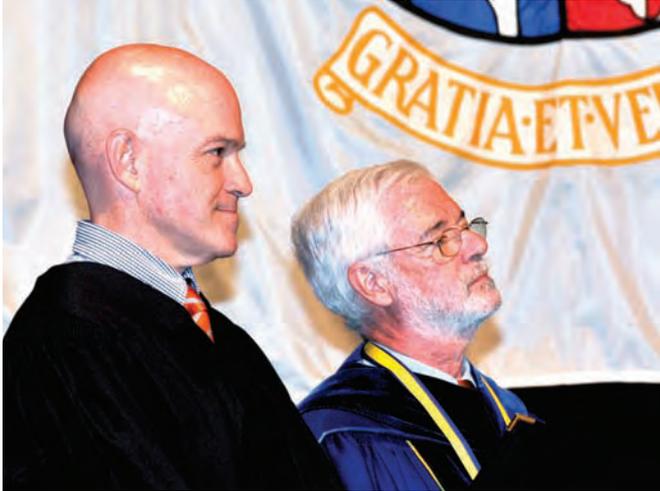


Panelists discussed “The Arizona Immigration Law: Protecting America or Subverting America?” on September 28.

Immigration Panel

The President’s Forum at Goucher College last fall presented a panel discussion titled, “The Arizona Immigration Law: Protecting America or Subverting America?” Participants on the panel were (L to R) Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, a think tank that promotes stricter immigration enforcement; Tamar Jacoby,

president and CEO of ImmigrationWorks USA; moderator Sanford J. Ungar, Goucher president; Ali Noorani, executive director of the National Immigration Forum, an immigrant advocacy organization; and Jenny Beth Martin, co-founder and national coordinator of the Tea Party Patriots. The discussion, which drew about 200 audience members, was held in the Hyman Forum of the Athenaeum. §



“Far too little attention is paid consciously to the ‘Why?’ Why have you committed yourself to this work? Why does this work matter to the larger world? Does pursuing this work keep you in harmony with the life you want to lead? ...”

— Ben Cameron, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Graduate Commencement 2010: A Bit of Last-Minute Wisdom

by Holly Selby

On August 8, 138 students graduated from the Robert S. Welch Center for Graduate and Professional Studies with master’s degrees in arts administration, historic preservation, creative nonfiction, education, or teaching.

Noting that he was charged with dispensing to the class “those last shreds of wisdom we forgot during the last three to four years or that you chose to ignore,” keynote speaker Ben Cameron urged the graduates to celebrate their differences while remaining true to their most dearly held values.

Cameron, the program director for the arts at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Yale University, described a “world of heightened competition,” beset by increasingly polarized media and a rancorous political atmosphere. Nonetheless, he encouraged members of the graduating class to think less about how to advance in their professions and more about why they chose them. “Far too little attention is paid consciously to the ‘Why?’” he said.

“Why have you committed yourself to this work? Why does this work matter to the larger world? Does pursuing this work keep you in harmony with the life you want to lead? What do you want your life to stand for? What are the larger values that undergird your sense of life purpose?” he added.

During the ceremony, which was held in Kraushaar Auditorium, Cameron was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the college. §



Photos by Bill McAllen



Photos by Bryan Burns

green
spot

Catching the Environmental Sustainability Wave

By Vanessa Keen '11

Midge larvae, eastern mosquito fish, and bullfrog tadpoles were a few of the creatures scooped up last fall when 17 students used minnow traps, shovels, and sieves to gather samples from a muddy pond on the north side of campus. Their goal was to capture a range of aquatic life forms to analyze the biodiversity of the pond. Later in the semester, the students returned to the pond to collect water samples, which they used to determine the nutrient and bacterial levels necessary to sustain such creatures.

Called "Environmental Alternatives," the class is one of several Goucher courses that this year had lessons about the importance of water and its management woven throughout lectures, discussions, and reading lists. The watery theme is part of a campus-wide effort—initiated by the Goucher Environmental Sustainability Advisory Council (GESAC) and the President's Office—aimed at emphasizing the precious nature of water as a natural resource. "[We hope] to raise awareness and educate people about the importance of water on our campus, in our county and state, in our nation, and in the world at large—and weave water into the integral role that environmental stewardship can play at Goucher," explains Wendy Belzer Litzke, vice president for government and community relations and the co-chair of GESAC.

Water and the roles it plays—from agricultural to political—were explored in several courses outside the biology lab, as well as in campus events. An economics class investigated the environmental and fiscal consequences of the Gulf oil spill. A political science class explored the impact of national and state policies on the Chesapeake Bay. And a class in the newly formed environmental studies program studied the water quality of the nearby Jones Falls River. Even the English Department was able to catch the wave with an academic writing course focusing on the history, culture, and ecology of rivers. Water-related events held during the fall semester included a cleanup of a campus stream; a panel discussion about the aftermath of the Gulf oil spill, and a screening of *Waterlife*, a documentary that follows the journey of the Great Lakes' water as it flows from Lake Superior to the Atlantic Ocean.

"I'm a marine ecologist, so water comes up in all my classes," says Cynthia Kicklighter, an assistant professor of biology, who, with Birthe Kjellerup, co-taught the "Environmental Alternatives" class. "But I think it's important to approach environmental responsibility from multiple perspectives." §

giving to Goucher

Goucher Society Reception:

A Thank-You Toast

Three generations of Goucher supporters gathered on October 13 to toast the college—and each other. Held in the Athenaeum, the reception was sponsored by the development office in honor of members of the John Franklin and Mary Fisher Goucher Society (Goucher’s philanthropic leaders), associate members of the Goucher Society (supporters of the college who graduated in the last 10 years), and Gophers for Goucher (current students who support the college).

“The diverse generations that are represented here tonight are a tribute to the support that Goucher enjoys from its community of friends,” said **Milena Rodban '08**, a member of the Goucher Associates committee. “We appreciate each and every one of you.”

After the reception, guests attended a public lecture by Jane Goodall, the world’s foremost expert on chimpanzees and Goucher College’s Fall 2010 Robert and Jane Meyerhoff Visiting Professor. §



Giving to Goucher Just Got Easier

Giving back to Goucher College has just gotten a little easier: Anyone who wishes to make a donation to the college may simply specify an amount to be charged automatically to a credit or debit card each month. The charge or debit may be halted at any time.

“A number of our supporters have told us that convenience is a priority, so we are pleased to be able to offer this new way of giving back,” said Rosemary Straub, director of annual giving. “It is truly a hassle-free way to support Goucher.”

Visit www.goucher.edu/gift to find out how to set up your own recurring donation.

Giving Spotlight

Shirley Abelson Pechter '42

A lifelong philosophy of giving back

The way Shirley Abelson Pechter '42 remembers things, she began taking piano lessons at age five because her mother, a violinist, needed an accompanist. But soon after mastering the scales and the arpeggios, Pechter, who began performing with her local orchestra at age 8, realized the piano offered her far more than merely a way to please others. The piano, she says, will always offer her the deep, personal joy that comes with self-expression.

"The enjoyment that you take from playing is always yours, even when you play for others," Pechter says. "It is a purely selfish kind of thing. I don't know the proper words to express it: Perhaps more than with any other instrument—the voice is good, but you can lose your voice; the violin needs an accompanist—a piano becomes yours once you learn it. You will always know how to play, and nobody can take that away."

Perhaps that is why Pechter, an avid philanthropist who over the years has given much to many, has taken particular pleasure in donating pianos to several institutions. Her most recent musical gift was made last fall to Goucher College: a handsome, ebony, rebuilt 1927 Steinway C. Housed in a newly renovated, climate-controlled environment within Merrick Lecture Hall, it will be brought out for performances.

At Goucher, Pechter, who attended the college for two years while also studying music at the Peabody Conservatory, frequently played for

then-President David Robertson. "It was the beginning of a wonderful semi-career for me," she says. "I thought it was time to give back." In 1940, she left college to marry Frederick Pechter, a businessman and philanthropist who died in 1994. "In the beginning of our marriage, I played and studied in New York," she says. "I played with WQXR [a radio station that that broadcast live music] for almost a year. But once I had children, they became the most important thing in my life."

The couple had four children; in 1964, their 10-year-old daughter died from a brain tumor. At that time, Pechter, who lives in Altoona, PA, and New York City, began a long-term association with the American Cancer Society that includes serving three terms as president. She also founded the Healing Patch, an organization with two centers in Pennsylvania that offers free bereavement services to children.

But her philanthropy and volunteer service do not end there. In 1999, Pechter became the first woman president of Altoona's Temple Beth Israel in the temple's 125-year history and the fifth woman nationwide to serve in that position for a reform temple. In 2000, Mrs. Pechter's daughter, Donna Satow, established the Jed Foundation after the suicide of Pechter's grandson, who was a college sophomore. The foundation offers support and information about suicide prevention on college campuses. And in 2002, Pechter received the local YWCA's Tribute to Women Award for Community Service. **"I believe that if you are lucky**



Penn State Altoona

enough to have happiness and to do what you like, then certainly, your heart should tell you to give back. I love giving back, and I love that my children give back. It is the philosophy of my life," she says.

At age 80, however, Pechter decided to do something for herself: She became an off-Broadway and Broadway producer. In the past decade, she has co-produced such shows as *Shout!*, and *Come Fly Away*. "One of the best that I have [co-produced] is *Shout!* That was quite good; it had legs and toured all over on cruise lines and in Asia. When you get to be older, you want to do something different, but I didn't even tell my kids until I was sure it was a hit." §

— Holly Selby

gopheReport

Tom Gray '12 goes to Marine Officer School by Jeremy Field

It's hard to imagine that any Division III athlete trained harder for the fall season than Goucher College's **Tom Gray '12**.

For many athletes, summer training takes a back seat to vacations and seasonal jobs. But for Gray, a junior defender on the men's soccer team, the off-season meant spending six weeks at the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA. It proved to be a demanding full-time job.

"It was non-stop," Gray recalled. "We got three or four hours of sleep per night, and we had hour after hour of physical training every day. Our usual day went from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. There were no breaks."

Although his Marine Corps training didn't necessarily translate directly into success on the soccer field, Gray returned to campus for his third season at Goucher feeling that he was more than prepared. "We did absolutely grueling physical activities that pushed us beyond anything you thought you could do before."

During the summer, Gray lost 10 pounds in training and improved his endurance. When the soccer team ran its two-mile test during preseason camp, he was among the first to cross the finish line.

"I've always been a speed guy," he said. "But I haven't necessarily had the endurance. You might not notice it after a specific practice, but over the span of a week, I definitely won't be as tired as everybody else is. My body has just gotten used to it."

Because the Marines also look for intellectual vigor in potential officers, Gray may have another edge over fellow athletes: mental fortitude. "Everything since then has seemed so much easier," he said. "It's tough making big decisions when you're exhausted, but we trained to do just that."

The Hampstead, MD, native has noticed some similarities between Officer Candidate School and training under first-year head coach Bryan Laut as well. "I'm really pleased with Coach Laut's attitude. He really pushes us physically. After this summer, it's great to see how much he demands of us physically. I think we've taken very well to him, and he's taken well to us."

Next summer, Gray will spend six weeks completing the second half of Officer Candidate School, after which he will return to Goucher for his senior year. Officer candidates who complete the training and have obtained their college degrees are then commissioned as second lieutenants. §



Tom Gray '12, men's soccer team defender

BRAGGING Rights

by Holly Selby / photos by David Sinclair

Success is in Her Hands

Kellen Matthews '11 became the first goalkeeper in the history of Goucher's women's soccer team to reach 500 career saves during a game played against Drew University on Beldon Field on October 2.

Matthews, who comes to Goucher from Northborough, MA, reached the milestone by halting a shot taken by Drew's Christine Meconi in the sixth minute of the game. It was Matthews' first save of the game—and she went on to make 13 more. Although the Gophers held a 1-0 lead for more than 18 minutes during the contest, the Rangers ultimately prevailed; the final score was 3-1.

"I was pleased to hear that Kellen had reached this milestone," said Head Coach Tati Korba. "Kellen has been a solid keeper for us. She was a Landmark All-Conference keeper last year, and she has the ability to make huge saves in big games."

A graduate of Algonquin Regional High School, Matthews is majoring in psychology with a minor in cognitive studies.



Top Flight

You could say two members of Goucher's women's tennis team took flight on October 3 at the Goucher Open. **Mara Bergman '12** and **Addie Maxwell '13** both won three matches while on their ways to winning flight III and flight IV of the tournament, respectively.

Bergman, who comes to Goucher from Summit, NJ, defeated players from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and Penn State Behrend in the quarter- and semifinals. She went on to overcome Chelsea Donde from Gwynedd-Mercy College 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (11-9) in the flight III finals.

Maxwell, of Southwest Harbor, ME, overcame players from Penn State Behrend and Richard Stockton on her way to earning a spot in the flight IV finals. She then defeated Heather Morgan from Gwynedd-Mercy 3-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-5).



Notable Feat

For the past decade, the top 20 times for an 8,000-meter race run by a Goucher cross country team member have been held by one man: **Jeff Olenick '00**.

Not anymore. On September 25, **Joey Negreann '12** completed an 8,000-meter race in 26:33. That time is the 18th fastest for the event in the history of Goucher's men's cross country program.

Negreann of Denver, CO, competed at the Mideast Regional Preview Meet in Slippery Rock, PA, where he placed ninth in a field of 198 runners. (Seniors Dan Addis and Nate Bussiere from Carnegie Mellon University placed 1-2 in the race; Addis won with a time of 25:41.)

Negreann's successes continued on October 30, when he finished second at the Landmark Conference Championships, which were held at Goucher. With a time of 26:49.8, Negreann earned a spot on the first team, all-conference as well as capturing the 20th fastest time in the event in Goucher history.

Meanwhile, since graduating, Olenick, who in 1999 was first-team All-American, has been working for the U.S. Department of Defense (Surface Deployment and Distribution Command). After completing his third 18-month assignment in the Middle East since 2003, he now is the traffic management specialist at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. "I haven't ruled out a fourth assignment, but for now I'm just enjoying the peace and quiet," he says.

As for his running? "I'm married now with two kids, but I still try to squeeze in some running whenever possible."

alumnae|iUpdate

Dear Goucher Alumnae and Alumni,

mark your calendars

Mar. 1

ON CAMPUS

Bestselling Author

Novelist and essayist Beverly Lowry, the Kratz Center for Creative Writing writer-in-residence, reads from her work and signs books.

Apr. 28

ANNAPOLIS

Spring Concert

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

Apr. 29-May 1

ON CAMPUS

Alumnae/i Weekend

Come join the fun.

For a complete schedule of events or information about Alumnae/i Weekend, visit www.goucher.edu/alumni or call toll-free, 1.800.272.2279. For information about the Beverly Lowry event, contact Johnny Turtle, director of operations for the Kratz Center, at 410.337.6179 or johnny.turtle@goucher.edu. For information about and tickets to the spring concert, call 410.293.8497.

With the end of Goucher's 125th anniversary comes a perfect opportunity to take a deep breath, savor the successes of the past year—and turn toward the future.

Last summer, for the second straight year, the Goucher Vagabonds took to the highways. The Vagabonds, all four of whom are members of the Class of 2010, traveled from New England to Washington, DC, to bring news of the college to alumnae/i and friends. Covering nine states and more than 2,200 miles, the team attended seven Send-Off parties (which attracted more than 200 Goucher alumnae/i, parents, and current and incoming students); stopped by five other alumnae/i events; made more than 25 personal visits; and met with alumnae/i representing classes from 1940 to 2014. That's a lot of "connecting" for a two-week period!

None of these activities would have been possible were it not for the Office of Development and Alumnae/i Affairs. The staff's tireless dedication and hard work should not be overlooked, and I would like to extend heartfelt thanks on behalf of all of us who benefitted from its efforts.

Last fall, the AAGC also wrapped up Summit 125, a yearlong, online conversation about how best to serve both alumnae/i and the college in future years. Although Summit 125 focused upon graduates of the last 25 years, its findings also drew upon many informal conversations held over the last three years with alumnae/i regardless of when they graduated.

Our preliminary findings point to a need for, among other things, building stronger relationships between alumnae/i and the college, broadening opportunities for alumnae/i engagement, effectively using technology in communication and programming, and developing alumnae/i networking opportunities. Our plans include further quantifying these findings and submitting them to the college's Strategic Planning Group (for more information about the SPG, see p. 53). All of this will be completed by December 2010, and I will report our final findings to you in my next letter.

Last, I would like to welcome onto the AAGC Board our newest members. They are: **Melinda Burdette '72**, vice president of development and planning for Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, CO; **Todd Hawkins MAAA '10**, project manager for Public Art for Public Schools at the New York City School Construction Authority; **Paul Powell '03**, founding principal of the True North Troy (NY) Preparatory Charter School; **Odette Ramos '95**, founding president and chief executive officer of Strategic Management Consulting in Baltimore; and **Minnie Waters Shorter '73**, human resources project manager at the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. They recently have begun serving three-year terms on the board and look forward to connecting—and reconnecting—with as many of you as possible during that time.

Warm regards,

Katherine E. Healy '78
President, AAGC



Photo by Mike Ciesielski

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Collegeville, PA

EX OFFICIO

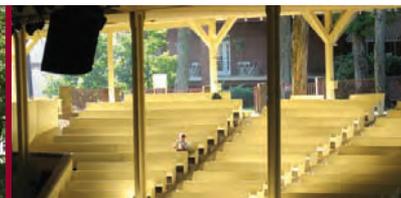
Janet Wiley
Vice President for Development
and Alumnae/i Affairs

Margaret-Ann Radford-Wedemeyer
Assistant Vice President for
Development and Alumnae/i Affairs

Robert Lee Bull Jr. '93
AAGC Nominating Committee,
Facilitator

Vacant
Alumnae/i Fund, Chair

alumnae/i trips + tours



A Week at Chautauqua

RECREATION, EDUCATION, RELAXATION—SURELY SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Sunday, July 10 — Saturday, July 23, 2011

Founded upon the belief that everyone has the right to “know all that he can know,” the 135-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: During the first week, the program will focus on *American Intelligence: Technology, Espionage, and Alliances*. During the second, 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 you will be staying, is a National Historic Landmark that features a splendid view of Lake Chautauqua.

For more information, contact a trip leader:

Ethel Berney (410.363.1332), Dorothy Krug (410.771.9899), or Sharon Beischer (performtraining@aol.com).

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.

More exciting trips in 2011:



MARCH 13
Madame Butterfly
at the Kennedy
Center



APRIL 9
New York City
Ballet at the
Kennedy Center



APRIL 12
Naval Academy
in Annapolis, MD

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.

welcome home

October 8 - 11

A crab feast, a foot race, and panel discussions all were part of Goucher's annual **Homecoming**, held October 8-11 in conjunction with **Family Weekend**. From start to finish, nearly 600 folks enjoyed events ranging from a ballet performance to a screening of *Toy Story 3* and a jazz brunch to an a *capella* concert.



seen on the scene

ALUMNAE/ UPDATE

Photos by Stan Rudnick



President Sanford J. Ungar welcomed parents, alumnae/i, and students alike at the Parent's Council reception.



A record-breaking 350 diners grabbed mallets and ate shellfish to their hearts' content at the annual crab feast.



Panel discussions explored issues of diversity and showcased student-faculty research projects.



Photos by Billie Weiss '11



The Reverend's Rebels, a student-run, all-female a *cappella* group, performed at the Family Weekend lunch in the Athenaeum.



All 242 runners and walkers put their best foot forward at the 18th annual Renie Amoss Memorial Road Race/Walk. The 2010 winner was Thomas Chelulei, with a time of 15:32:20. (L to R) Chelulei; George Amoss, race founder; and the gopher.

Volunteer Spotlight

Tammy Gomez '85

Goucher Alumnae/i Award for Excellence in Public Service

Tammy Gomez '85 remembers the first time she received her grades from Goucher and showed them to her mother. "I burst into tears of happiness at how well I'd done," she says. "But my mother could only smile and nod. I had to accept that my family couldn't fully understand."

Born in Texas to Mexican parents and raised to consider college to be "an extravagant notion," Gomez deviated from her family's expectations in more ways than one. "Both my parents grew up in large, post-Depression-era families, so they had meager resources. My father, who was raised by his father, left school at the sixth-grade level. My mother had to drop out in tenth grade," Gomez says. "So for me, even attaining a high school diploma was seen as a great family milestone."

The decision to attend college was an enormous step for Gomez, who chose Goucher in part because when she visited campus as a high school senior, the students seemed "content, well-adjusted, and very serious about their academic ambitions," she says.

Now a poet, playwright, and performance artist, Gomez says she was introduced to the possibilities of performed literature by poet Maya Angelou, who spoke at Goucher's Kraushaar Auditorium.

Gomez, who this year was one of two alumnae to receive Goucher's Alumnae/i Award for Excellence in Public Service, has presented her work throughout the United States, Mexico, and Nepal. (The second award recipient, **Esther Hyneman '60**, was profiled in the summer/fall issue of the *Quarterly*.)

In her art, Gomez frequently explores themes of eco-feminism, spiritual strength, and cultural identity. She also runs the Tejana Tongue Press, a publishing company that showcases marginalized voices, particularly those of women in Texas.

Her latest performance piece, *Saliendo Abierta (Emerging Open)*, was inspired by an incident in which she accidentally trapped herself in a bedroom closet for several days. The piece employs original music, words, dance, and PowerPoint projections. "It touches on universal themes of isolation," Gomez explains. "It's about the ability to face hardship and come out alive and more whole than before."



Photo by Stan Rudick

Although her performances are rooted in Latino culture, Gomez believes that their themes can be understood by all. "People don't have to be Spanish-speaking to understand my work," she says. "I'm an American artist, a United States artist. I just happen to have brown skin."

by Lindsay Stuart Hill '09

“...for me, even attaining a high school diploma was seen as a great family milestone.”

freshly pressed: recent alumnae/i + faculty books

— Abby Becker '10, Lindsay Stuart Hill '09, and Julie Steinbacher '10



risa
miller '75

My Before and After Life

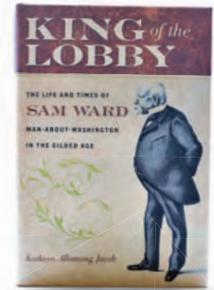
St. Martin's Press, 2010, 245 pages

When Honey Black hears her elderly father has become a “born-again” Orthodox Jew on his trip to Israel, she feels certain he has gone crazy. Taking her sister with her, she boards a plane to Jerusalem to rescue him from the throes of his newfound religious fervor. But the task is far more complex than Honey imagined, and she is forced to re-examine her own beliefs. The book, Miller's second novel, is an engaging story about family, loss, and the nature of faith.

King of the Lobby: The Life and Times of Sam Ward, Man-About-Washington in the Gilded Age

The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010, 212 pages

Corruption was commonplace on Capitol Hill in the late 1800s: Lobbyists came to Congress with suitcases full of cash, and congressmen exchanged their votes for stock certificates outside the Senate. But Ward had a different approach. He charmed political elites with sumptuous feasts and stimulating conversation. A mathematician, linguist, and California '49er, Ward was a colorful character, and Jacob has created a portrait so rich and exquisite that the King of the Lobby himself would have undoubtedly approved.



kathryn allamong jacob '72

Meditation for Therapists and their Clients

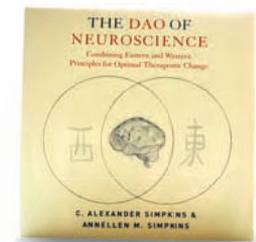
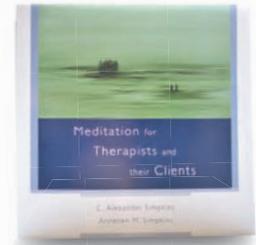
Norton, 2009, 324 pages

The Dao of Neuroscience: Combining Eastern and Western Principles for Optimal Therapeutic Change

Norton, 2010, 278 pages

Simpkins and her husband, both psychologists, explore the intersection between Eastern and Western philosophies about the brain. Whether they are describing the evolution of the cortex or offering meditation instructions, both write with clarity and ease. Their well-constructed theories and simple yet powerful meditation techniques will resonate with anyone who has an interest in the human mind. The couple's next book, *Neuro-Hypnosis: Using Self-Hypnosis to Activate the Brain for Change*, also is being released this year.

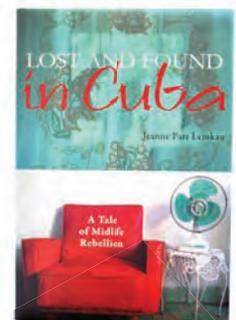
c. alexander simpkins/
annellen m. simpkins '69



Lost and Found in Cuba: A Tale of Midlife Rebellion

Orton Road Press, 2010, 196 pages

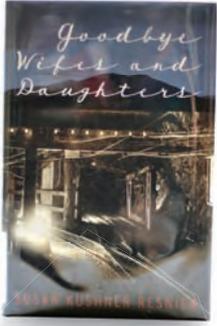
A clinical psychologist and professor emerita of family medicine at Wright State University, Lemkau first traveled to Cuba on a whim. She returned to conduct research on health care and wound up writing a memoir. As one reviewer noted: “This is escapist literature, yes, but who else works out her midlife malaise in a leprosy sanatorium among nuns?”



jeanne parr lemkau '69 mfa '03

freshly pressed

GERWIN '61 BECKWITH '67 BASS '68 SIMPKINS '69

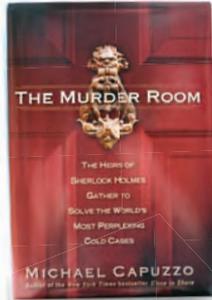


susan kushner resnick mfa '00

Goodbye Wives and Daughters

University of Nebraska Press, 2010, 227 pages

One tragic day in 1943, nearly 80 miners went to work in the Smith coal mine in Bearcreek, MT; three came out alive. In this, her second book, longtime journalist Resnick uncovers the story of what happened that day and in its aftermath. Told through the eyes and voices of the wives and daughters of Bearcreek, the story explores the questionable ethics of the managers, illuminates the heroic efforts of those who tried for nine days to rescue the trapped men, and describes the impact the disaster had on the entire community.



The Murder Room: The Heirs of Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases

Gotham Books, 2010, 439 pages

The 82 members of the Vidocq Society have made it their mission to solve the unsolvable: cold cases from the murder of a millionaire's son to a slaughter at a fast-food eatery. Capuzzo follows a powerful trio of investigators, which includes the society's big-hearted president, a forensic sculptor with a connection to the supernatural, and an expert profiler known as the living Sherlock Holmes. A thrilling true crime story starring the world's greatest detectives, Capuzzo's book reads like fiction. Once you've picked it up, don't expect to put it down until the cases are closed.

michael capuzzo mfa '11

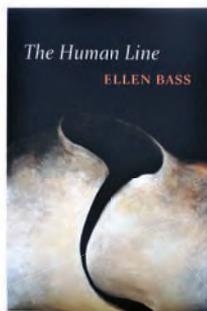


Theorizing the Sexual Child in Modernity

Palgrave Macmillan, 2010, 190 pages

Type the words "child" and "sex" into any library search engine, say Egan and Hawkes in the introduction to their book, and you either will get materials addressing sexual abuse or nothing at all. Why is the sexual child such a taboo concept in the Anglophone west? In a detailed sociological investigation, the authors trace the development of societal attitudes toward child sexuality, from 19th-century masturbation phobia to the 2008 controversy surrounding artist Bill Henson's photographs of naked adolescents.

gail hawkes/r. danielle egan '95



The Human Line

Copper Canyon Press, 2007, 91 pages

In her latest collection, award-winning poet Bass turns her unshakably honest eye to the fragile beauty of the human condition. Co-dedicated to Bass' mentor, Goucher Professor Emerita Florence Howe, *The Human Line* weaves a "god of plutonium and penicillin," a "galaxy of endearments," and "a heart huge as a gray whale/breaching" into an intimate collection that Billy Collins calls "full of real stunners."

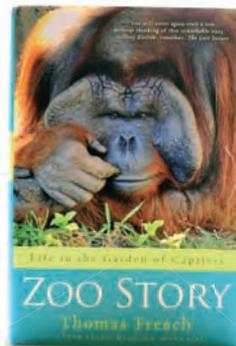
ellen bass '68

Sugar and Sand

Full Court Press, 2009, 133 pages

Boiled cow's tongue for dinner. Story hour on a summer evening. Chorus rehearsal before the assassination of President Kennedy. An unexpected pregnancy. "Recollections as sweet as sugar, as abrasive as sand," writes Gerwin in the introduction to her poetic memoir. With a keen eye for detail, she uses photographs, memories, and family stories to reconstruct a past as textured and flavorful as the title of her collection.

gail fishman **gerwin '61**

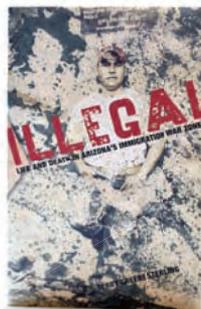


Illegal: Life and Death in Arizona's Immigration War Zone

Lyons Press, 2010, 241 pages

Beginning with a poignant description of trash left behind in the desert by undocumented immigrants as they attempt to cross the United States border, Sterling illuminates the violent world of illegal immigration in Arizona. A long-time journalist, she draws upon hours of interviews to tell the story of the undocumented, a group that makes up an estimated 3.5 percent of the United States' population. By focusing on people such as Angie, a little girl who finds out while watching TV that her parents have been arrested, and Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, the self-described toughest sheriff in America, Sterling puts a human face on this hotly debated issue.

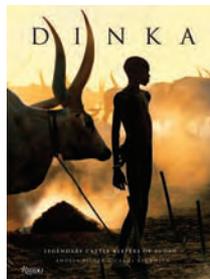
terry greene **sterling mfa '04**



Dinka: Legendary Cattle Keepers of Sudan

Rizzoli, 2010, 224 pages

Through stunning photographs and detailed observations, photographers Beckwith and Fisher document the vanishing lifestyle of the Dinka of southern Sudan. The book, based upon 30 years of study, illuminates the extraordinary day-to-day lives of this indigenous people. At puberty, boys are given a namesake ox with which they form a spiritual connection; men compose songs and dances about their oxen. The authors were recipients of the 2010 Women of Discovery Lifetime Achievement Award presented by WINGS Worldquest, an international organization dedicated to women who are advancing scientific inquiry and environmental responsibility.



angela fisher/carol **beckwith '67**

thomas french

(core faculty member in the MFA in creative nonfiction program)

Zoo Story: Life in the Garden of Captives

Hyperion, 2010, 288 pages

"Eleven elephants. One plane. Hurtling together across the sky." From his very first words, the Pulitzer-Prize winning author illuminates the secret life of Lowry Park Zoo in a book that is both funny and deeply thoughtful. Starring a menagerie of loveable characters including Herman, the chimp with affection for his blonde female keepers, and Enshalla, the haughty tigress with a scintillating love life, this enthralling story blurs the line between animals and humans to explore some of the most pressing global issues of our time.

Beyond Vic

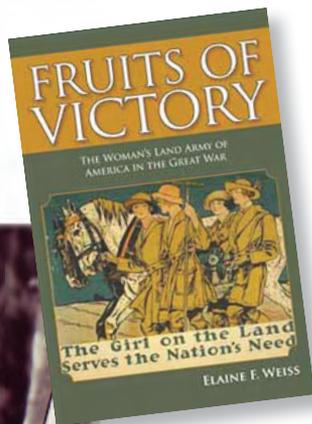
How the 'Farmerettes'



tory Gardens *Helped Feed America*

The year was 1918. Hortense Powdermaker had been attending Goucher for several semesters, but still she felt out of place. Although she was an exceptional student, the college's sororities denied her admission because she was Jewish, and she was finding it hard to find her social niche. All that changed when she read the headline in the

Goucher College Weekly: **"To Farms! To Farms! Ye Maids."**



Photos courtesy of the Goucher College Archives

It was a call for the formation of a Woman's Land Army, and it was heard across the country during World War I. As American men entered the battlefields of Europe, American women marched into the fields the men had left behind. Long before Rosie the Riveter, there was the *farmerette*. "She was the toast of Broadway, the darling of the smart set, and the star of the wartime cinema newsreel," writes Elaine F. Weiss in her book, *Fruits of Victory: The Woman's Land Army of America in the Great War* (Potomac Books, 2008). "Victor Herbert and P.G. Wodehouse wrote songs about her... Theodore Roosevelt championed her... and Flo Ziegfield put her in his follies. And then she disappeared."

That is until Weiss, a former *Quarterly* editor who now works as a freelance journalist, stumbled upon the story. It all began while she was putting together an oral history project for which she interviewed a storyteller from a small town in Vermont. When the 80-year-old woman revealed she had served in the Woman's Land Army, Weiss was intrigued. "But when I went to check it at the library, I couldn't find anything," she says. "It was totally unknown, and that was part of the attraction. [The story] had never been told before."

Weiss' research brought her to the libraries of several women's colleges that had students who participated in the movement: Barnard, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley, as well as Goucher. She pored over copies of the *Goucher College Weekly* and microfilms of *The Baltimore Sun*. "I sometimes liken it to archaeology: You locate, dig up, and piece together," she says. "There is no one place where the entire narrative is intact."

Even before the United States entered the war, there was concern across the country about food supplies and the shortage of farm laborers. After the nation went to war, many solutions—from using German prisoners of war as farm workers to urging city dwellers to volunteer their time in the fields—were debated or tried, and women began to see both a need and an opportunity. A grassroots movement, inspired by the British Women's Land Army, which predated its American counterpart, blossomed. Although it received little government support, the Woman's Land Army organized units drawn from campuses, garden clubs, and factories. Goucher's Land Army, which began in the spring of 1918, consisted of 38 women, including Baltimore native Powdermaker, who was finally able to find her niche with the farmerettes. During her senior year, Powdermaker chaired the college's Farm Committee, acting as a liaison with the Woman's Land Army. She graduated from Goucher with honors in history and immediately went on to become a labor organizer for the Women's Trade Union League. In her book, Weiss quotes one farmerette's description of life on a farm in Fallston, MD: "We took to naming the weeds. There was the Hun which sent its thorns through the strongest kid glove, and there was German Propaganda

that spread all over three or four rows, but which could be all traced back to one little root."

The Goucher farmerettes and their widespread compatriots faced much discrimination and ridicule while first attempting to establish themselves as valuable workers. When they arrived at new farming sites dressed in men's clothing, people stared at them "like they were aliens," Weiss says. "We look at those pictures where the women are wearing overalls, and to us it's no big deal, but this was 1918." Farmers had other reasons for their reluctance to hire the farmerettes. "[The work] was not in the domestic sphere," says Weiss. "Men were comfortable asking women to be nurses, but to make them go out there and sweat? It was embarrassing." Although farm owners were used to employing poor black and immigrant women, they hesitated to take on white, middle-class ones. "[A few towns in Maryland] even brought in the governor to do a scolding or a pep talk for the farmers," says Weiss.

But the farmerettes gained acceptance eventually, and the women's reputation among the farmers became "sterling and secure," Weiss notes in the book. After the end of the war, the Woman's Land Army died out because of lack of support; many believed that the Army had served its purpose—to boost the economy and provide a steady food supply during the war—and that the women should now step down from their posts. Although the movement experienced a resurgence during World War II (thanks largely to the support of Eleanor Roosevelt), the image of the farmerette soon faded from the public memory, and most people today remain entirely unaware of her existence.



Why was the Woman's Land Army erased from American history? It's a question that has acted as a driving force in Weiss' research. Although she concedes that World War I was not a popular war, Weiss believes that larger issues were at work. "[The Land Army] was tied to suffrage: Women were proving themselves," she explains. "It was also tied to labor reform—these women did not just work, they demanded an eight-hour day and equal pay. Men were threatened by that. People in power were threatened by that. I think they wanted to forget."

Almost 100 years later, Weiss is determined to help people remember. Although her book was published in 2008, she feels that her work is not finished. She has begun traveling around the country to speak about her book and the Woman's Land Army. "There's a kind of missionary zeal that I have," she says. "I promised myself not to just send this out there and let it sink." As the months have passed, Weiss has been surprised by the wide range of groups and individuals—from organic farmers and members of women's clubs to veterans and gender studies professors—who are intrigued by the story her book tells. Each time she speaks about the Land Army, the author finds that her listeners are deeply affected by her words. "All of them are finding something in this story that speaks to them," Weiss says. "It seems to strike a chord." §



Photos courtesy of the Goucher College Archives

To do her bit
she's ready,
Of work she's
not afraid,
She's waiting for
the summons,
In fitting garb arrayed;
She'll grasp the
tools of labor
And never pine nor fret,
But do her stunt
appointed,
The plucky farmerette.

The first stanza of a poem that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* on June 24, 1918



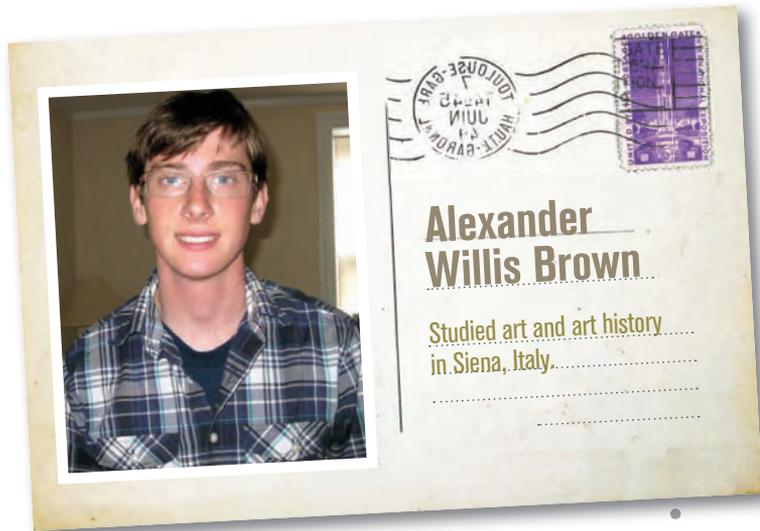
From Farmerette to Famed Anthropologist

The late **Hortense Powdermaker '19** was a renowned anthropologist who perhaps is best known for her 1939 book on race relations in a Mississippi town. Called *After Freedom: A Cultural Study in the Deep South*, the work became required reading for activists in the Civil Rights movement a generation later. After graduating from Goucher, Powdermaker, the daughter of a wealthy Baltimore businessman, became a labor organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. In 1928, she earned a doctorate from the London School of Economics and spent 10 months studying the Lesu people in what is now Papua New Guinea. She also conducted field research in Africa. Later, in a book titled *Hollywood, the Dream Factory*, she examined the inner workings of the film industry from a sociological perspective. Powdermaker, a Goucher College trustee from 1958 to 1961, founded the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at Queens College in New York City. In 1957, Goucher awarded her an honorary degree. Powdermaker died in 1970.



Along the Road of Learning

GOUCHER'S CLASS OF 2010 was different from all preceding graduating classes in one particular way: Its 362 members were the first required by the college to study abroad as part of their undergraduate experience. In the most literal sense, we already know where they journeyed: Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. In a more profound way, however, their international travels helped further a larger intellectual and professional journey, the destinations still unknown. Adventures that are works in progress are among life's most energizing experiences. **We asked several members of the Class of 2010 where their studies abroad have taken them so far, and about what may lie ahead.**



Major: Art history and psychology

Now: I'm studying curatorial practice at the California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA.

A typical day: I rise at 7 a.m. to commute to San Francisco. The day is filled with classes, meetings, homework, probably a museum visit, and, finally, a long, but satisfied ride back to Oakland, where I settle in and unpack my brain for the night, only to do it all over again the next day.

Impact of study abroad: It gave me new confidence. Almost every weekend was spent in a different Italian or European city, learning the ways of the world. These little trips built up my confidence about letting things come and really being comfortable experimenting with and adjusting to different people, places, and events.

What next: I am unsure about a doctoral degree, but it is a possibility. Formally, I am training to be a fine-art curator, which could put me in any number of roles or parts of the world as an art professional.

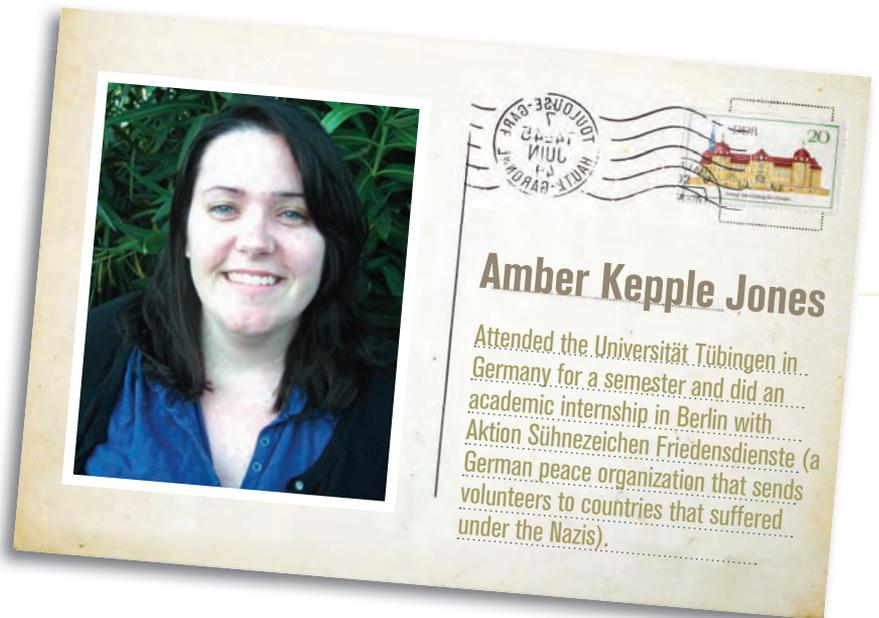
Major: History with a minor in German

Now: I am an English teaching assistant at the Kurfürst-Moritz-Schule Boxdorf in Moritzburg, Germany, through the Fulbright Program. I also help in the fifth- and sixth-grade band classes. In my free time, I take a course at the Technische Universität Dresden, and I am studying Norwegian.

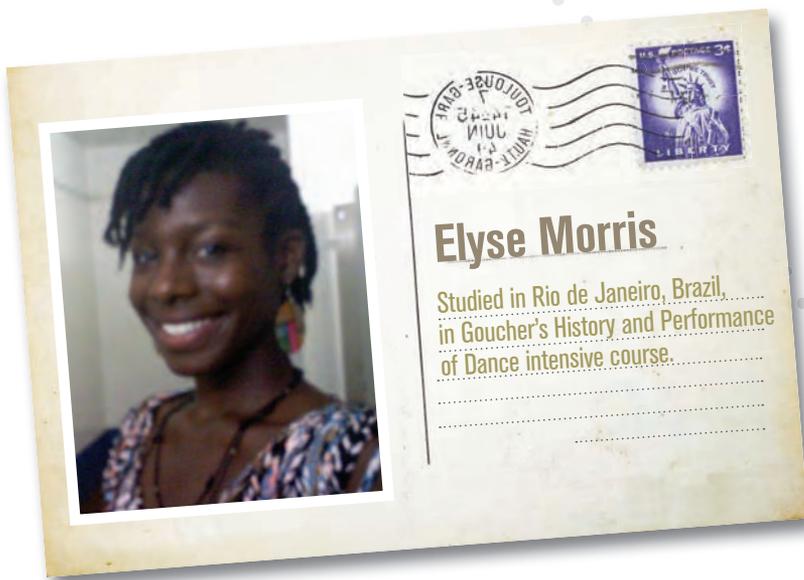
A typical day: I take a tram and then a bus from Dresden to the little village where I work. Recently, I have been doing small conversation groups during classes, where the students and I are able to get to know one another. In the evening, I might go to my Norwegian class, work on graduate school applications or meet with friends.

Impact of study abroad: I am much more globally aware, and I can't imagine doing something with my life that doesn't have some international component. When I got back to Goucher from Tübingen, a group of students and I started the project *A Moving Narrative: Facing Immigration*, which was inspired by the feelings of foreignness one has when abroad. We interviewed immigrants in the Baltimore area from all over the world and photographed them for the project. We started this project in 2009, and I am happy to say that the project continues this year with new Goucher students.

What next: I want to attend graduate school in Germany.



“I can't imagine doing something with my life that doesn't have some international component.”



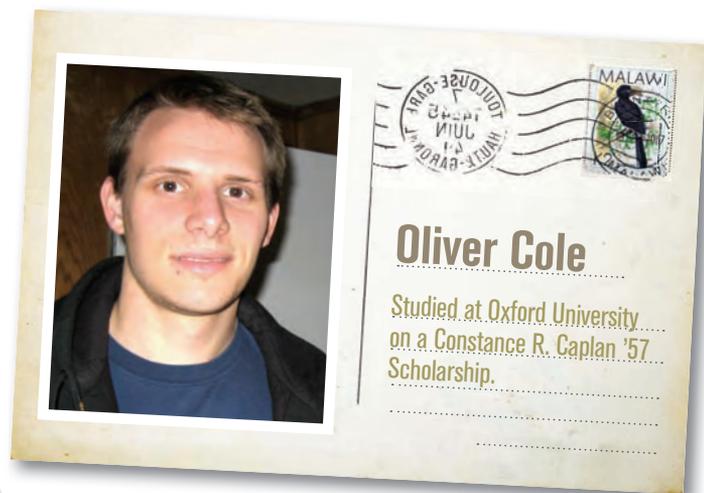
Major: Dance, with concentrations in performance and dance science

Now: I am dancing with two New York-based companies: Seán Curran Company and Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion. I had my professional debut with Kyle A. on October 1 and will travel to Ireland with him. I am also going on tour to Indianapolis with Seán Curran. I have a part-time job at the Juilliard Store (music bookstore), and am a development and folk arts intern at the Brooklyn Arts Council.

A typical day: There isn't one. But this week, a typical day is wake up, make lunch and dinner, attend my Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion rehearsal from noon to 2 p.m., attend my Seán Curran Company rehearsal from 4 to 9 p.m. (or from 2 to 6 p.m.). The hours vary. Usually I work at the bookstore about 20 hours a week, but I took two weeks off to rehearse for the upcoming tour with Seán C.

Impact of study abroad: It inspired me to have new dreams for my future (to strive to be a dance anthropologist), and it gave me a global view of socioeconomic and racial oppression, and heightened my interest in South America.

What next: I have just started working professionally with two companies so that is No. 1 right now. I want to continue to grow as an artist, and I would like to start holding arts events and programs in my community. ... 'Next' is happening every day: Art is forever changing.



Major: English

Now: I am a health advisor in the Peace Corps in Thambani, Malawi.

A typical day: I wake up at 5:30 a.m. and draw water from the boil (a deep well). There is no running water and no electricity here. I start a fire to cook a breakfast of rice and beans. I go to the health center and work in the office for an hour or two. I perform assessments, talking to people about what health problems exist in their area. I meet with focus groups and have formal interviews with the village chiefs. Then I go home and start a fire to cook lunch. After that, I may do village inspections and other field work—inspecting latrines and other hygiene assessments. At about 4 p.m. or so, I cook dinner. Then, I read by candlelight. I'm in bed before 8 p.m.

Impact of study abroad: I had never been outside the country, so it allowed me to see what the world was like outside the U.S. It sparked my interest in the Peace Corps. Oxford also changed me. It was a very intense environment and changed my work ethic. It really prepared me to do very stressful work and prepared me to feel more comfortable whatever I am doing.

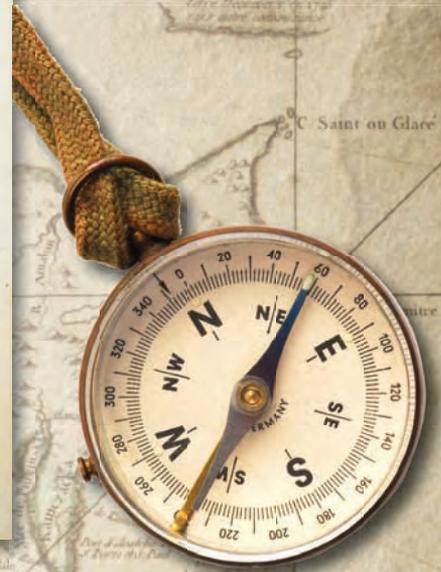
What next: I would like to join the U.S. Coast Guard to do rescue work. I've always been interested in technical rescues, and I like working in the field.

“There is no running water and no electricity here. I'm in bed before 8 p.m.”



Marissa Kluger

Studied in China on an intensive course abroad called *China: Past, Present, and Future*.



Major: English and communication

Now: I live in Xi'an, China, a city similar in population to New York City. It is the capital of Shaanxi, a central province, and about an overnight train ride from Beijing. I teach conversational English to first-year students in the Tourism Department at Xi'an International Studies University.

A typical day: Getting *jien bien gyoza* (a crepe filled with vegetables) for breakfast, teaching, writing for two expat magazines, proofing a manuscript, and working on my Chinese. My department is also beginning an English tourism-focused magazine for the students to write and edit, and I hope to be the adviser for the publication.

Impact of study abroad: I felt humbled and grateful for the life I have in the United States. We didn't even travel to the poorest regions of the country, but I still felt as if I caught glimpses here and there—beggars hoping to get a few *yuan* from tourists at the various temples we visited, or peasants who climbed the steps of the Great Wall in hopes of selling T-shirts to foreigners. I was greatly affected by China's historical past and its quick transition to join the global market. You can read as much as you can get your hands on about a place, country, people, or culture, but until you experience it firsthand, you cannot fully understand it.

What next: My contract is for one year, but I can easily extend it for a second year. If not, I will return home and start my job search over again, focusing on editorial positions in New York City. I would really like to stay in China and have even given thought to the possibility of getting a master's degree here. Professionally, I have aspirations to work as a journalist.



impromptu

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

By Dana Kulchinsky '10

An author, mother, educator, and Episcopalian minister, **Kelly Brown Douglas** is Goucher's Elizabeth Conolly Todd Distinguished Professor of Religion and a renowned scholar of womanist theology. She has written several books, including *Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective* (Orbis Books, 1999).

You've been teaching at Goucher for 10 years. What has the experience been like?

Goucher is truly a place that is alive with intellectual chatter, and I really value that. My experience has been filled with meaningful engagement with the students and my own theological pursuits. The size of my classes allows me to structure the course around the students' needs and growth throughout the semester. And I have been able to design courses that reflect my own passion and research, which is an unbelievable gift.

What drew you to religion as an academic field of study?

My family belonged to an Episcopal church in Dayton, OH, but was not particularly involved. We attended weekly services, and as a young child, I enjoyed going. I remember feeling very safe in that space. Church-going, however, is not what piqued my interest in theology.

At Denison University, the chaplain gave me James Cone's *A Black Theology of Liberation*. It completely changed me. I had always had this other sense of my place in the world, and I was aware of my privilege, in comparison to other black families in my hometown, but after reading this book, it really struck me how little I had examined my relationship to God in the context of race.

You explore theological studies using a womanist lens, a phrase that describes the perspective of women of color. When did you first begin viewing your studies through this lens?

While I was writing my dissertation at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, I peered up from a book I was reading and found Alice Walker's *In Search Of Our Mothers' Gardens: Womanist Prose*. Something inside me told me to pick up the book. Open it I did, and there was Alice Walker's definition of 'womanist,' a term she coined from the black cultural expression "you acting womanish," to describe black women's perspective and experience. It was my 'aha!' moment. As a black woman, I struggled with defining myself as a feminist because certain elements of that definition could not and never would fit me. I was searching for something that would; little did I know it had been sitting on my shelf for months.

Beyond Goucher, how do you spend your time?

I love sports, particularly college football. I am the assistant priest at Holy Comforter, an Episcopal church located in Washington, DC. I'm also married and have a son.



photo by Stan Rudick



'97

alumnus
SPOTLIGHT

Keith Guinto

Taking the Leap

Whether transforming himself from a shy high school student to a successful television producer or quitting a job to move from East Coast to West Coast, **Keith Guinto '97** thrives on quick decisions and sweeping change. Guinto, whose producing credits include A&E's documentary reality series *Obsessed*, never expected to work in television. The son of an advertising executive and a bookkeeper, Guinto grew up in Westminster, MD. "My parents lived way out in the woods, and I was an only child," he says. "I was an introverted kid."

Goucher, Guinto says, opened his eyes. He plunged into college life, playing on the lacrosse team, and working as an intern at a Baltimore advertising firm. "There were so many opportunities for me to realize my potential and my dreams."

After college, Guinto worked in advertising for about 18 months—until a cross-country road trip with former Goucher lacrosse buddy Tim Duffy '97 galvanized him to make a change. The friends' initial plan had been for Duffy to move to California, and Guinto to return to Baltimore at the end of the 10-day trip. But instead of goodbye, Guinto told his friend: Expect me back in two months.

"I just knew," he says. "There was so much more out there."

Once in Baltimore, he turned in his two-week notice and began to pack. His first job in the entertainment industry was as an office manager at Digital Ranch Productions, which is based in Sherman Oaks, CA.

"I made it known from the very beginning I wanted to do more than that," says Guinto. In two years, he had climbed the ladder from office manager to supervising/writing producer of the History Channel documentary, *Mail Call*. Since then, Guinto has produced Discovery Channel documentary *Investigation X* and last summer wrapped up Season 2 of *Obsessed*.

Guinto—who has worked in locations from Iraq to France and garnered credits as a writer, director, and producer—describes his vocation as part storyteller and part visual artist. "I've traveled to obscure parts of the world, seen things I never imagined, and met some amazing people," he says. "But if I had to pick the most memorable experience, it would be working on *Obsessed*."

In that show, Guinto and his team follow patients suffering from obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) for 12 weeks as they seek treatment. "To work with people who truly care about the welfare of others, to see this unbelievable transformation of patients who were debilitated by an illness get help and, ultimately, find the freedom in life to manage their fears—nothing can compare to being a part of that."

For those who are wary of risks, Guinto, who is wrapping up a pilot for True TV, has this advice: "Take the leap of faith. Follow your dreams. There are a lot of opportunities out there."

— Dana Kulchinsky '10



Priscilla Pan '07 and her Harlem Success Academy 3 class

’07
alumna
SPOTLIGHT

Raising Expectations

Although **Priscilla Pan '07** knew she wanted a career helping children—perhaps as a school administrator or a community organizer—she had no intention of standing in front of a classroom, lecturing. “Even though I was an education major, I swore up and down that I would not be a teacher,” she says.

But an essay written by a second grader titled “I Hate School” changed her mind. Pan, who then was working for Goucher’s after-school program at Yorkwood Elementary School, expected the boy to complain about too much homework or too little recess. Instead, the student yearned for hot lunches, clean bathrooms, and compassionate teachers. The simplicity of his needs was striking, Pan says. “That’s when I realized I wanted to teach.”

After graduating, Pan taught for two years in Baltimore before becoming a second-grade teacher at Harlem Success Academy 3, a public charter school in New York City. Founded by Eva Moskowitz, a former New York City councilmember, the Success Charter Network aims to instill in each student from kindergarten on the expectation that he or she will graduate from college. Classrooms are named for their teacher’s *alma mater*, and students are identified by the year of their college graduation. Pan, who admits she had never before owned so much as a Goucher T-shirt, found herself plastering gophers across her classroom walls.

Pan’s students study math, language arts, and science, as well as chess, dance, and poetry. (The Success Charter Network, which includes seven schools, is featured in *The Lottery*, a documentary released last summer).

For Pan, the school offers a way to close the achievement gap between high-income, mostly white students and the mostly low-income African American and Latino children she teaches. As an Asian American originally from Queens, she is keenly aware of the lack of diversity at many colleges. Although she describes her college years as “one of the best experiences of my life,” she sees the Harlem Success Academy as “a bridge that wasn’t there before,” connecting Harlem and the Bronx to schools like Goucher.

“I have 24 Hispanic, Latino, and African American students from the Bronx and Harlem who believe that they are Goucher students. In 2024, Goucher could have 24 students from Harlem!” she says. “These kids truly believe at seven and eight years old that they are going to graduate college, and that they’re going to be world leaders.”

—By Dana Kulchinsky '10



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. 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.

EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES

THE NEW ACADEMIC CENTER AT
← JULIA ROGERS →



Rendering of the new Loop Road entrance

Planning for a Greater Goucher

by Sanford J. Ungar

What is Goucher College today, and how should it evolve in the future?

These may seem like easy questions to answer. We are well aware of the great advantages of the small, residential, coeducational liberal arts college, and we trumpet them far and wide to all who will listen (and some who do not, but for whom we have not lost hope). We believe we are providing the best “career education” possible—teaching our remarkable students how to think critically and embark on a lifetime of learning, along the way preparing them for jobs that do not yet even exist.

Alas, not everyone shares our faith in this particular kind of educational enterprise, or thinks it is necessarily worth the cost. In difficult economic times, Goucher, like other liberal arts colleges, finds itself having to “sell” what it does much more aggressively. Indeed, we have to defend ourselves against persistent critics of American higher education, including some in the political world whose motives may not be the purest. The heightened attention we pay to the validity of our cause is not without reward, however. Quite honestly, this level of introspection can only improve our performance.

I remember that when I first became president of Goucher in 2001, my friend Morton Owen Schapiro, an economist of higher education who then was president of Williams College and now leads Northwestern University, imparted to me an important bit of wisdom: Not all of these noble liberal arts institutions are sure to survive, he said, and the way for each one to improve its prospects of doing so is to try to become distinctive. In a competitive and sometimes brutal marketplace, a college has to know what it is and how the education it offers is uniquely valuable.

That mantra has never been far from my thoughts over the past nine-and-a-half years. For many of us involved in the strategic planning process of 2001-2, it was an explicit or implicit guidepost. And the plan approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2002—committing us to build the Athenaeum and to develop what would become the country’s only true study-abroad requirement for undergraduates, among other things—seemed to be a major step in the right direction.

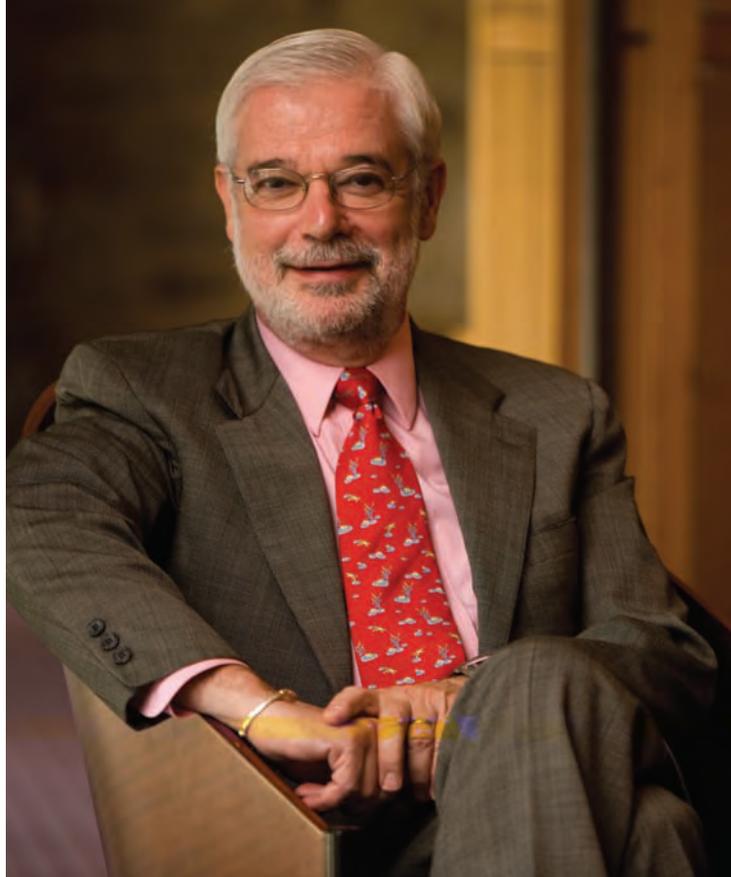


photo by Bruce Weller

But much has happened since then, and even if the times were not so turbulent, it would be prudent for Goucher to take a fresh, and self-critical, look at its accomplishments and its ambitions. In short, it is time for a new strategic plan.

Over the summer, a small group comprising board members, faculty, students, and staff met to review the progress the college had made on implementing the 2002 plan. Its conclusions—including lists of what had been accomplished and what remained to be done—were passed along to a new, somewhat larger Strategic Planning Group (SPG) that convened in the fall.

That new group, led by LaJerne Cornish '83, associate professor of education, and former board chair John M. Bond Jr., is seeking input from all college constituencies on a vision for Goucher’s next ten years, with a special focus on issues to be dealt with in the next five.

Among the many questions being asked are these:

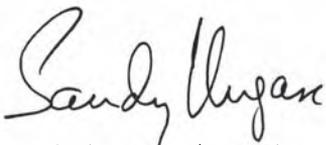
- How should Goucher’s academic program, while hewing to core values and principles, evolve to remain relevant and competitive?
- What remains to be done, in addition to the study-abroad requirement, to deliver on the promise to create an international environment on campus and train students for global citizenship? How well are we handling the build-up to, and the return from, study abroad?
- What is the appropriate long-term size and character of the undergraduate student body, as well as the shape of the graduate programs?

continued from p. 53

- How can Goucher use the latest developments in distance learning to enhance what it does well now, without distorting the college's fundamental and ongoing mission?
- Are there ways to improve the undergraduate student experience at Goucher on- and off-campus?
- What are the next facilities needs, after the renovation of the Julia Rogers building into a state-of-the-art academic center, and how will Goucher pay for them?
- How can the college find new sources of revenue, while also looking for savings in its day-to-day operations, in order to try to stem the tide of tuition increases?
- How can we better connect our students with a dedicated alumnae/i body, half of whom graduated in the past 25 years, and enhance the involvement of alumnae and alumni with the college, philanthropically and otherwise?

And so it goes. The overall goal is to produce by the fall of 2011 a plan that convincingly addresses Goucher's intellectual and financial future. Along the way, outside experts in a number of areas will be invited to share their insights with the SPG and help us reflect on future choices. Early drafts of any tentative conclusions will be broadly shared in the college community for comment. In the meantime, the SPG would welcome input from anyone interested in Goucher's future; the best way to offer ideas and comments would be to e-mail the group at strategicsuggestion@goucher.edu.

Formulating the "Transcending Boundaries" strategic plan was a critical step in bringing this extraordinary institution, with such a distinguished history, back to national prominence. Now we must create a new blueprint for Goucher's future, one that capitalizes on our inherent strengths as well as our recent achievements. The political, financial, social, and technological changes that await us are considerable, but the possibilities before us—and the talented, dedicated people around us—are truly inspiring.



Sanford J. Ungar | President

Advanced students from Goucher's Dance Department rehearse as members of the "corps of Ravens" for the October 9 world premiere of *The Myth and Madness of Edgar Allen Poe*. This program, choreographed by Goucher dance instructor Christopher Fleming, was the first full-length ballet performed at Goucher in more than 17 years.



photo by Billie Weiss '11





photo by Julie Steinbacher '10

Coming in the next issue

April Oettinger, assistant professor of art and art history, discusses the undisciplined nature of the art of the book.

A PEEK INSIDE



- **Near and Far:** A look at the paths taken by Goucher's Class of 2010, the first class to be required to go abroad



- **Sense of Place:** Kelly Brown Douglas, professor, author, mother, Episcopalian minister and renowned scholar of womanist theology, discusses examining her relationship to God in the context of race.



- **Viewpoint:** President Sanford J. Ungar asks, "What next for Goucher?" and calls for a new strategic plan.