

MUHLENBERG

DECEMBER 2010

THE MAGAZINE OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE



Inside!
Talents Entrusted to
Our Care Report



Dealing with Difference

I was nine years old when I first heard about Hell – from my neighbor and playmate Johnny Lumpkin who told me I was going there because I wasn't a Baptist. It didn't trouble me too much. First, the Lumpkins (and therefore, I assumed, all Baptists) put chopped nuts in their brownies – to my mind a revolting habit. Second, I was an Episcopalian and even at nine knew that God was too.

Human beings don't deal well with diversity. Suspicion of those who are different seem to be hardwired into our brains. From the beginning of recorded history mankind has noted the differences among tribes, villages and nations – and inevitably found something to despise about other groups. The historian John Balsdon collected Roman ethnic slurs directed at Sardinians, Pannonians, Thracians, Phrygians, Carians, Cappadocians, Paphlagonians, Syrians, Jews, Arabs and Egyptians. The Roman officer and writer Velleius Paterculus, who served on the Rhine around 9 A.D., opined that Germans were not really human beings at all.

Research by anthropologists, behavioral and developmental psychologists and other scientists has demonstrated that human beings are quick to form groups and that groups, once formed, are inclined to be exclusionary (if not openly hostile) toward non-group-members. Some researchers have cited linguistic evidence from various tribes whose word for "human being" is synonymous with members of the tribe, while the word for non-tribe members is synonymous with the words for "prey" or "food."

Inevitably each of us has grown up thinking of ourselves as a member of one or more large groups. Some of these groups we chose consciously and these affiliations may change as our tastes and interests evolve. But some of them – particularly those linked to our gender, culture, ethnicity and family background – shape us profoundly, molding our perceptions of what is beautiful, disgusting, profane, sacred, flattering, insulting,

logical, irrational, delicious, inedible, normal and perverse. These perceptions have been fundamental coping mechanisms, enabling us to live within the norms of our "tribes."

But just because prejudice is human nature doesn't make it helpful. Perhaps several hundred thousand years ago natural selection favored those who could detect (and eliminate) "others." (Some say that our Homo sapiens ancestors exterminated Neanderthal man.) Today? When global communications constantly thrust us into contact with other cultures and belief systems; an interdependent global economy binds us all together; and we have weapons that can deliver lethal payloads around the world? In these circumstances an inability to understand our differences seems likely to result in catastrophe.

American society has probably struggled harder to accommodate diversity than any other modern culture – probably because we have welcomed more diverse groups and are more ethnically and racially complex than most other countries. And while we can congratulate ourselves that we espouse tolerance as a virtue (unlike, say, those perpetrating the genocides in Rwanda, Darfur and elsewhere), we also have a fairly dismal record in achieving equality and a long way to go before we can say, in the words of the old hymn "Earth shall be fair and all her people one."

Colleges play a crucial role in teaching the next generation how to engage constructively with difference. The issues are more complex than most people imagine. "Teaching diversity" goes far beyond exposing students to the ethnic cuisines and music of other cultures. Such multicultural "festivals" are harmless, but are about as sophisticated an introduction to the issue of ethnic differences as "Chopsticks" is to a Chopin Polonaise. To grapple successfully with ethnic tensions requires us to understand uncomfortable and non-obvious

concepts like, for example, "stereotype threat," and "white privilege" and the revelations of Implicit Association Tests (IATs) discussed by Malcolm Gladwell in *Blink*.

Why should colleges care at all? Isn't this "obsession" with diversity simply a politically correct fad distracting us from the real business of higher education? I don't think so. Here are three good reasons why it's important for Muhlenberg both to be diverse and to thrive with diversity:

1. Keeping the American Promise. Our democracy promises equal opportunity to those who have talent and are willing to work. Today, opportunity means access to higher education. If we fail to recruit and educate students who are representative of the diversity of our society, we are breaking this promise. Our society will squander human capital and become even more polarized by race and class – a formula for economic and political instability.

2. Appreciating the Richness of the Human Experience. One of the things that I value most about teaching and learning at a Lutheran College is the conviction that none of us has a monopoly on wisdom. Each of us can glimpse a piece of the truth, but we accept that others also have valuable insights to share. You might think I'm likely to write a book entitled *Everything I need to Know I Learned from Homeric Epic*, but you would be wrong. Our students learn important truths from Spanish courses where they serve as hospital translators; from study trips

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Almost 1,000 alumni and friends of the College flocked to campus for Homecoming/Reunion weekend. Were you, or someone you know, caught on film?

12 Diversity at Muhlenberg College

Of the 604 students in the current freshman class, about 12 percent fall into ethnicities that include African American, Hispanic, Latino, Asian or otherwise of color. It's not exactly the United Nations, but it's much more diverse than it ever was. For a small, private, liberal arts institution, it's a quantum leap. Nobody denies, however, that there is plenty more to be done.

18 Just Like Old Times

After an outstanding regular season in which they lost only once and a double-overtime loss in the Centennial Conference championship game, the men's soccer team received an at-large berth to the NCAAs. Two wins away from home put them in the "Sweet 16," and a couple of fortunate circumstances allowed them to host.

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New Campus Restaurant Named

Muhlenberg College has named its new campus restaurant the “Ilene and Robert Wood Dining Commons.” The name honors long-time friends and benefactors, Bob and Ilene Wood of Allentown.

“Bob and Ilene are great friends of the College,” said President Randy Helm. “The College has been associated with the Wood family over a period spanning eight decades. Any other name for this beautiful space is simply inconceivable.” In announcing the naming of the new Wood Commons, Helm remarked that the decision to honor the Woods recognized not only the long relationship with the Wood family and the many contributions of its employees, but also Bob and Ilene Wood’s exemplary volunteer service in the Lehigh Valley Community. “Virtually everywhere you turn in Allentown



and beyond,” said Helm, “you find Bob and Ilene as an energetic presence promoting the arts and the overall well-being of Lehigh Valley residents. They are an inspiring example not only to Muhlenberg’s volunteer leadership, but to our students and alumni as well, of how to live a life of leadership and service.”

Bob Wood is currently a trustee of the College. Scotty Wood Stadium, built in 1999, is named after Bob’s father, Milton W. “Scotty” Wood.

Muhlenberg College and the Wood family have had a relationship since 1948, when the College awarded its first outside dining contract to local restaurant owner Scotty Wood. From that first contract, Wood Dining

Services grew into a corporation that serviced more than 400 institutions. The College recently signed a long-term contract with Sodexo, which acquired the Wood Company several years ago.

The spectacular Bob and Ilene Wood Dining Commons is part of the \$20 million expansion and renovation to Seegers Union, which was completed in August 2010. The campus restaurant seats 610 people and features seven different dining platforms, including independent kosher meat and dairy kitchens.

The new dining facility has already been featured in *University Business* magazine, *Food Service Director* magazine and *Kosher Today* magazine.



Trustee Bob Wood and his wife, Ilene

Robert Gerken Takes Over as Director of Campus Safety

Robert Gerken of Schnecksville, Pa., has been named Director of Campus Safety and Security for Muhlenberg College, effective October 4, 2010.

“We are so pleased that Robert Gerken has accepted our offer to be at the helm of the College’s Campus Safety department,” said Karen Green, dean of students and vice president for student affairs. “His training and experience leave him poised for great success in our campus community.”

Christa Houck, the student representative on the search committee, after speaking with an Albright student, said, “I think

that if we end up with Mr. Gerken, we are going to be a very lucky campus. He was described as a compassionate, hardworking man who is thoroughly dedicated to his campus.

The Albright students will truly miss this much beloved man.”

Since 2000, Gerken has been the Director of Public Safety for Albright College in Reading, Pa. Prior to that, he served as Pennsylvania state police officer for 25 years and worked as a licensed private investigator.

He is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and has a B.A. in police science from Alvernia College. He has extensive training in a variety of issues, including emergency response planning, narcotics investigations, mental health issues of adolescents and other best practices in the field.

President Helm’s Contract Renewed

Muhlenberg College President Peyton R. Helm has received a new five-year contract. The announcement was made following the summer meeting of the College’s Board of Trustees.

In making the announcement, Muhlenberg College’s Chair of the Board of Trustees Richard F. Brueckner ’71, P’04, P’10 stated that “Randy Helm has provided outstanding leadership to Muhlenberg College over the past seven years. This action recognizes the tremendous strides the College has made during his tenure, the great momentum we have heading into the next five years and the confidence we have in President Helm’s continued leadership.”

Helm took office July 1, 2003. Under his presidency, the College developed and executed a five year Strategic Plan (2004-2009), and the Board of Trustees approved a new five-year Strategic Plan at its October meeting. Helm spearheaded the College’s \$105 million capital campaign, *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care*, which concludes June 30.

“There has not been a single day in the last seven years that I did not feel privileged and excited to serve as Muhlenberg’s president,” says Helm. “The prospect of serving the College for another five years is, therefore, absolutely thrilling. What we have achieved since my arrival in 2003 we have achieved together – as a community of trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and parents who embrace a shared vision and are committed to a single goal: positioning Muhlenberg as one of the nation’s finest private liberal arts colleges.”

Since Helm’s arrival, Muhlenberg has completed construction of an addition to its Life Sports Center, a new science building, two major residential facilities and a sizable addition to Seegers Union. Current construction projects include a significant

expansion of the Hillel House (opens 2011), the conversion of a former fraternity house into rehearsal space (see feature story on page 8) and another major renovation of Seegers Union, which includes an updated servery, a spectacular campus restaurant with a Kosher meal plan, offices, and greatly enhanced student space. The Union space was completed in September.

“President Helm has been instrumental in the development of our College,” says Samuel Landman ’11, President of the Student Government Association. “He has always been open with students and is accessible on a regular basis. All the decisions that he makes for Muhlenberg are always with the students in mind and he has always been a strong advocate for the College.”

“President Helm is such a prominent part of the Muhlenberg campus,” adds Rebecca Liben ’12, student observer to the Board of Trustees. “As a student who works closely with President Helm, I am honored to see how much he cares about our school, and cares about the students on a personal level. President Helm has always recognized me by name and has always been interested in my

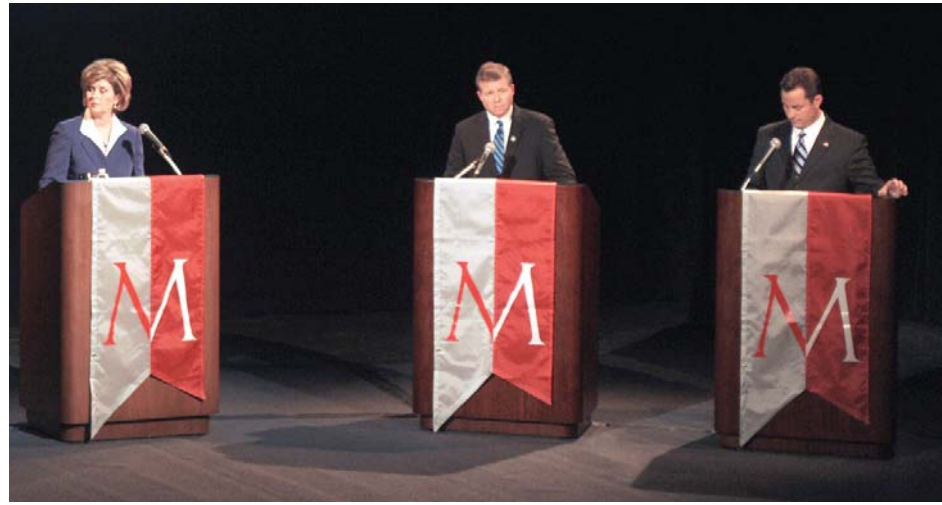
experience at Muhlenberg. He always strives to know the students, and is invested in our future.”

In addition to the construction projects, the College added a film studies major along with minors in African-American studies and public health. Eight new faculty positions were also added. The College has continued to have tremendous success on the admissions front, receiving more than 4,300 applications for admission in each of the past five years, and enjoying increases in all academic quality indicators.

“Under Dr. Helm’s leadership the College has expanded students’ options for majors and minors,” says Dr. Laura Edelman, professor and chair of the psychology department. “Our facilities have been both updated and expanded. He has been a driving force for curricular change including an emphasis on service learning, expanded research opportunities for students and a revision of the core curriculum.”

Muhlenberg College had an economic impact on the Lehigh Valley of \$127 million in 2009. The College has an annual budget in excess of \$100 million.





CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE HELD IN BAKER THEATRE

The College hosted the 15th Congressional District debate at Baker Theatre in the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre and Dance at Muhlenberg College. Republican Charlie Dent and Democrat John Callahan faced each other one-on-one before a live audience in a program that was televised live on PBS 39.

The debate was co-sponsored by The Morning Call, PBS 39 and the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Amy Burkett, senior vice president of production at PBS39, moderated the debate, which included panelists from The Morning Call as well as questions from Muhlenberg College students and from Tony Iannelli, president/CEO of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce. Colby Itkowitz, The Morning Call's Washington correspondent, and Scott Kraus, a Morning Call veteran political reporter, were on the panel.

The public was able to submit video questions via Facebook in advance.

Family Weekend Fly-Over

This Family Weekend, right before kickoff of the Muhlenberg-Ursinus football game, five single engine planes flew over campus in a "tiger" formation. The group flew over the stadium again at halftime. The fly-over was arranged by the parents of Ashley Porter '11.



WMUH Honored by Allentown's Human Relations Commission

Muhlenberg College's radio station, WMUH 91.7 FM was honored by the Allentown Human Relations Commission.

The station was recognized for more than 20 years of multicultural radio programming in the City of Allentown. WMUH, the College's student-run radio, provides programming with the intent to reach local Indian, Latino, Arab, Jewish, and Eastern European Communities each week. The station reaches a 30-mile radius from Muhlenberg College.

WMUH 91.7 FM has been a part of Muhlenberg's campus since 1948. There are more than 100 students involved in the station who interact with a variety of community DJs. There are more than 100 community members who participate as volunteers for the station as well.

A sampling of the variety of programming that airs on the radio are modern, Indie, alternative, jazz, folk, blues, classical and reggae genres. Aside from the various types of music, Muhlenberg airs interviews with nationally-known speakers who give talks at the school. A broadcast of the Candlelight Carol service during the holiday season is a special feature on the station. Going above and beyond what a community radio station is capable of, and its multicultural programming, are two reasons why WMUH 91.7 FM uses its tagline – "The Only Station That Matters."

'Berg Named A Top Value by Kiplinger's

Muhlenberg College once again has been named one of the best values among private institutions across the country by Kiplinger's. The College was ranked 46 out of 50. This marks the fourth straight year that Muhlenberg has been in the Top 50.

The annual Kiplinger rankings appear in the December 2010 issue of Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Additionally, for the first time, Kiplinger ranks an additional 100 private institutions on its website. The expanded list, totaling 200 schools, is accessible now at www.kiplinger.com/links/college.

Selected from a pool of more than 600 private institutions provided by Peterson's, schools on the Kiplinger list were ranked by academic quality and affordability – with quality accounting for two-thirds of the total. Because liberal arts colleges focus on undergraduates and universities include graduate students, Kiplinger's divides the schools into two categories. The rankings factor in both the data and the results of Kiplinger's reporting.

Muhlenberg College inducted three new members into its Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 23: Thomas Auchenbach '96, Will Elson '03 and the late Harry A. "Haps" Benfer.

Auchenbach was a key member of some of the best men's soccer teams in College history. The starting center back helped the Mules to a four-year record of 60-14-6, which included two Centennial Conference championships and one trip to the NCAA Division III iFinal Four. Auchenbach was a first-team All-American in 1995 and a first-team All-CC selection in 1994 and 1995.

Elson was the first athlete in school history to compete in the NCAA Championships in three sports (cross country, indoor track and outdoor track). He earned All-America honors three times in 2003, graduated as the holder of 12 school records (four of which still stand) and was a seven-time Centennial Conference champion. Elson also excelled as head coach of the cross country teams from 2006 to 2008, leading the men to their first team qualification for the NCAA Championships.

Benfer, inducted as an honorary member, coached the football, basketball and baseball teams to winning records during a four-year period beginning in 1925. His greatest contributions, however, came in the other roles in which he served during his



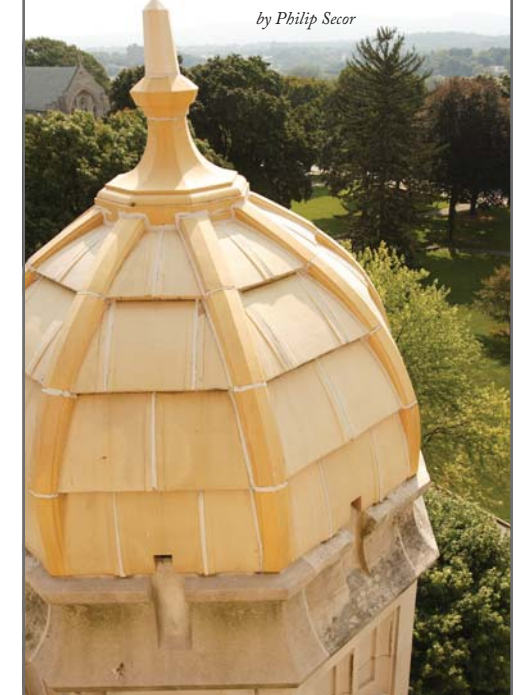
Pictured from left are Elson, Michele Sabler (granddaughter of Haps Benfer) and Auchenbach.

40-year association with Muhlenberg: registrar, director of admissions, dean of freshman and director of dormitories. Benfer consistently impacted student-athlete behavior through his fatherly discipline, sound but firm advice and genuine concern.

The Muhlenberg Story

History of an American College

by Philip Secor



Each and every alumni has fond memories of Muhlenberg – but do you know the full story of how our great alma mater came to be? Noted historian Philip Secor delves into the history of Muhlenberg College in his latest book, *The Muhlenberg Story*.

Secor is the author of seven previous books, including *Richard Hooker Prophet of Anglicanism*, *Patriot John the Man Who Saved America* and *Presidential Profiles*. At Muhlenberg, he was dean of the college and associate professor of political science from 1967 to 1974, and in 1986, he returned to campus to serve as special assistant for capital development.



Available for \$29.95 in the 'Berg Book Shop

Alumni Board Convenes First Meeting

By Harry J. Lessig M.D. '67, P'93, P'00, P'01, P'03,
President, Muhlenberg College Alumni Association

On September 11, 2010, the Muhlenberg College Alumni Board met on campus for its first meeting of the new fiscal year. The meeting started on a reflective note as we observed a period of silence to remember those who had died on 9/11, and honored Alumni Board member Art Hill '43, who passed away in June 2010.

The new members of the Alumni Board; Bruce Albright '74, Anna Marie Licenziato-Fanelli '83, Jenifer Martin Gilio '98 and Christopher Rogers '01 were warmly welcomed to their first official meeting. A revised Orientation PowerPoint created by Kent Brustlin '92 and Susan Procina Rhoads '03 was presented. It contained an overview of the Alumni Board and its mission; a helpful tool for new members as well as a great refresher for everyone else.

Our Committee chairs were then called upon to discuss the work of their committees:

Career Services (Chair, Todd Rothman '97; Co-Chair, Stefan Miller '99): This committee works closely with the Career Center and Alumni Relations Office on programming to benefit students. This year, committee members plan to seek more input from faculty to determine the needs of the students.

Alumni Achievement Awards (Chair, Carl Oplinger '58; Co-Chair, Sharon Gleichmann '89): The committee hopes to get Reunion Chairs involved in the Alumni Achievement

Award nominating process. An outstanding PowerPoint about the 2010 honorees, produced by Carol Taylor Winkie '64, was shown at the meeting.

Regional Alumni Support Team (RAST) (Chair, Liz Hamilton '06; Co-Chair, Jodi Seligman Bird '04): This committee supports the established regional alumni clubs in New York City, New England,

Philadelphia, Central N.J. and the Lehigh Valley and seeks opportunities for new alumni clubs to be established, possibly in Chicago, Baltimore and Los Angeles.

Nominating (Chair, Greg Adams '05; Co-Chair, Sheryl Le Blanc Guss '81): The committee is working on refining the nominating process, including making the February Alumni Board meeting (February 26, 2011) open for potential nominees to the Board. A question-and-answer session will be held for these interested persons at the end of the meeting. Nominations will be due in March 2011, with elections in April. This new vetting process will enhance our selections.

The main focus of the Alumni Board in the coming year will be to begin the implementation of the recommendations made by the Alumni Governance Ad Hoc Committee and approved by the Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees at their April 2010 meeting. The Chair of the Board of Trustees Rich Brueckner '71, P'04, P'10, established this committee in August of 2009 to review

the structure and governance of the Alumni Board. Trustee Tammy L. Bormann '83, chaired the ad hoc committee which included several trustees who either served as president or were otherwise significantly involved in the Alumni Board along with our Executive Committee.

To begin working on the implementation of the recommendations, the Alumni Board has established ad hoc committees on New Member Orientation, Undergraduate, Development, Bylaw Revision and Document Revision. These special committees are being overseen by Alumni Board Vice President Michael Krouse '84 and Treasurer Jen McKee '02. The work of these committees will be discussed at future meetings of the Alumni Board and in future articles.

The dates of the Alumni Board Meetings are February 26, 2011, and April 30, 2011. (A snow date for the February meeting has been set for March 26, 2011.) If you have any questions about the Alumni Board, I encourage you to contact us at bergalum@muhlenberg.edu.

Prior to closing I would be remiss if I did not state that Reunion/Homecoming Weekend, September 24-26, 2010 was a great success with students and alumni enjoying a summer-like weekend while experiencing the new and improved 'Berg spirit and campus. This joint activity was appreciated by all. Remember to come to next year's Reunion/Homecoming on September 16-18, 2011 and support and feed our Mule!



Combined Reunion/Homecoming Draws Huge Crowd

More than 800 alumni and guests came back for this year's combined Reunion/Homecoming, September 16-18, 2010! Due to summertime construction on Seegers Union, Reunion was moved to the same weekend as Homecoming. The decision was made to keep this model in place for two years; therefore, Reunion/Homecoming 2011 will be September 16-18, 2011.

Highlights of the weekend included:

- The Class of 1960 celebrated its 50th Reunion and enjoyed a brunch with the President on Friday, in addition to its other special events during the weekend.
- A Heritage Alumni (those who graduated 50+ years ago) event on Saturday morning featuring Michael Pocalyko '76. Pocalyko, a Beirut veteran whose father, Walter, is an alumnus from the Class of 1950, spoke on "A Muhlenberg Moment: How World War II and Returning Veterans Transformed the College."
- President Helm's "State of the College" address on Saturday, which drew a standing-room only crowd and featured a pop quiz.
- A Class Recognition tailgate luncheon before the game, where Reunion classes from 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005 presented President Helm with their class gift checks; and a procession of these classes and student groups to the football field.
- An exciting football game versus Gettysburg that saw the Mules win in overtime! (33-27)
- Special receptions on Saturday afternoon for multicultural alumni; media & communication alumni; Wescoe alumni; psychology alumni; Greek alumni; and theatre, dance and music alumni.
- An Alumni Achievement Awards reception and program on Saturday that honored William Raines '49 - Heritage Recognition Award; J. Ralph Borneman '60 - Alumni Lifetime Achievement; Deborah Schneider '77 - Alumni Achievement in Education; Rudolph Favocci, Jr. '79, P'12 - Alumni Leadership; Dr. Alfred Nicolosi '80 - Alumni Achievement in Science; and Kent Dyer, P'07, P'10 - Service to the College by a Friend.
- Eleven dinners on Saturday night: 10 Reunion class dinners, and a dinner for non-Reunion class alumni.

- A huge dance party in the former Garden Room, and karaoke outside on Parents Plaza.
 - A chapel service on Sunday featuring alumni pastors and an Alumni Choir led by George Weckman '60.
 - A tribute to deceased classmates and veterans after Sunday chapel.
- Thanks to everyone who came back and made this weekend so much fun. For those who missed it, mark your calendars for September 16-18, 2011!

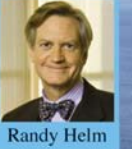


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New Places to Work and “Play”

Music and theatre move into new, custom-designed spaces for instruction, rehearsal and performance

by Ken Butler, Executive Assistant
to the President

During Family Weekend on Saturday, November 6, the former Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity house was re-dedicated as the Rehearsal House, a 13,000 sq.ft. facility that contains music and theatre studios and rehearsal spaces, as well as faculty teaching studios and offices. The lower level is dedicated to music and boasts six faculty and guest artist teaching studios/offices, an Electronic Music Studio and a music performance/choral rehearsal studio. The upper level is devoted to theatre and features a spacious acting/directing studio, a rehearsal studio and four theatre and dance faculty offices. Two special features of the facility include a second-floor patio with a dramatic view of Cedar Beach Park, and The Harry C. Trexler Amphitheatre set into the hillside which will serve as an additional performance area. Both the patio and the amphitheatre have been fitted with special weather-resistant ‘soft’ paving tiles that allow actors and dancers to perform without the risk of injury that can come from performing on concrete surfaces.

Faculty from both departments were involved in the design process from the beginning, and were present at all early design meetings. Dr. James Peck, associate professor and chair of the theatre & dance department, felt that the faculty’s concerns were heard at all stages of the process. Though it was inevitable that some items would have to be cut due to budgetary concerns, Peck said, “We got what we asked for, and it’s wonderful!” Dr. Douglas Ovens, professor and chair of the music department, was thrilled with the level of input he was afforded in the design process, as well. “Not only did I get most everything I asked for, I was actually given things I didn’t think to ask for! [Director of Information Technology] Harry Miller was very helpful to us in the technology area, anticipating things that he felt would be important for us to include in the spaces. I know it’s an over-used term,” Ovens continued, “but the electronic music studio is truly a state-of-the-art room – and it will not become obsolete in ten years, as it will be able to evolve with changing technology.” Sound-proofing and acoustics were important in all the rehearsal spaces, and the architects hired an acoustician to make sure there was no sound-bleed between studios, and that the rehearsal areas were appropriately “live.”

With dramatic increases in the number of performing arts students – dance majors have increased by 132%, theatre majors by 156%, and music majors by 165% in the last five years – this facility fills a vital need by both departments. According to Peck, “We had so many majors that we were no longer able to teach classes in our existing classrooms; we’d resorted to renting space off campus, and

using spaces that were not designed as teaching studios, simply to offer enough instruction for our majors.” Some of those spaces were ill-designed for acting work and offered no technology for classroom instruction. “The new acting/directing studio has allowed us to move our classes back into proper instructional spaces. In fact, the acting/directing studio has new aesthetic potentials not available in any other rehearsal space on campus – a tech wall, a simple lighting grid, and panels to effect a full black-out in the room. These features are very useful in directing classes, as more media technology is being incorporated into studio projects,” Peck said.

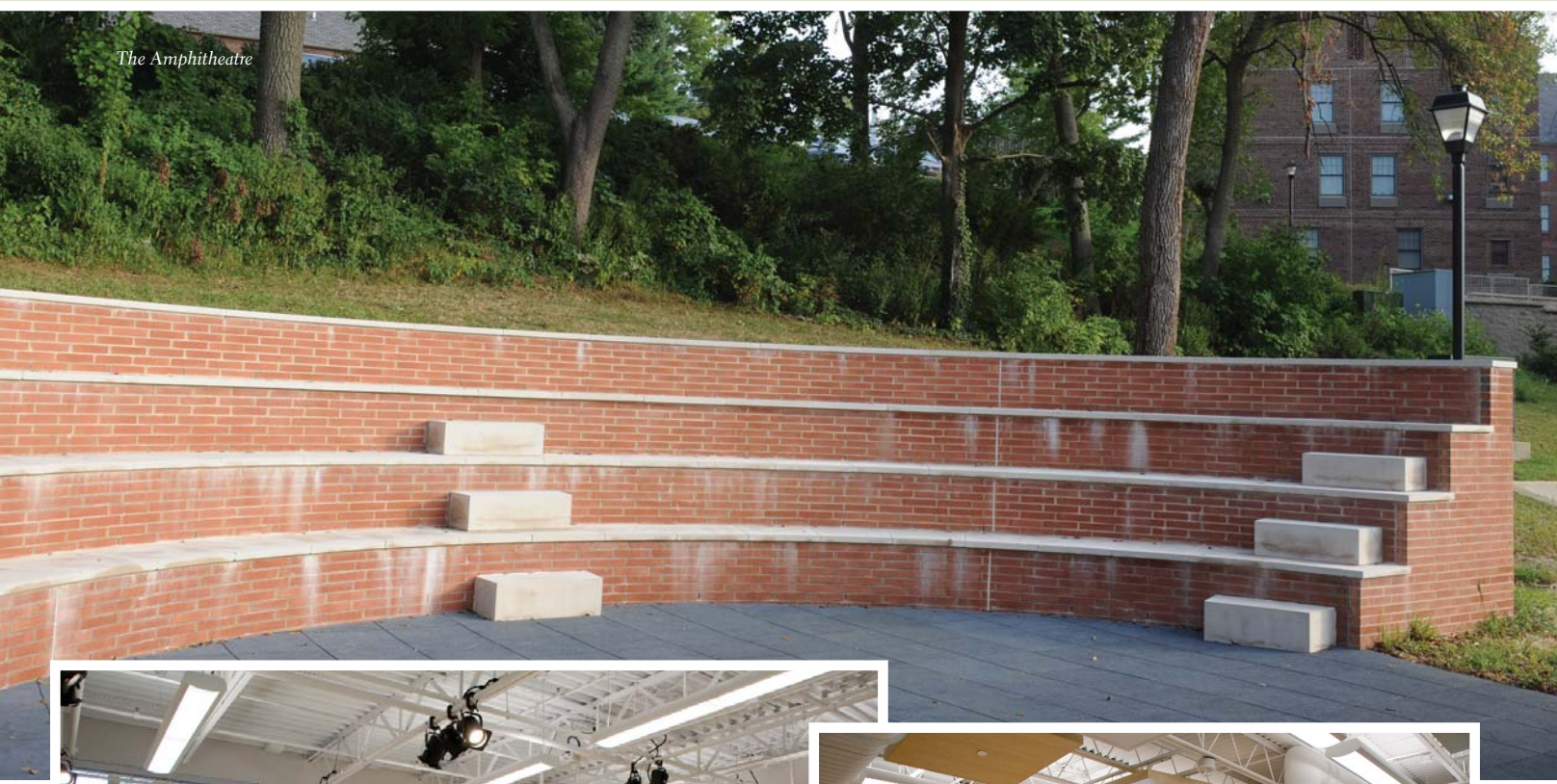
The rehearsal studio is a first on campus. “Despite the fact that we have 200 majors, we’d never had a dedicated space for students to rehearse scenes for their acting and directing classes,” Peck said. The new rehearsal studio cannot be reserved for main stage theatre or dance production rehearsals; it may be reserved solely by students to do scene work for their acting and directing classes.

Students are equally enthusiastic. Angela DeAngelo ’12, said, “The new rehearsal studio for my acting class is so accommodating because it can turn into a black box performance space. I feel very comfortable working in the space. My favorite feature about the rehearsal house is that there is a specific rehearsal space just for acting students taking various acting classes.” Casey Gill ’11 added, “As a senior, I’ve spent quite a bit of time rehearsing, acting, and taking class in the Trexler Pavilion’s rehearsal hall, where the close quarters and the lack of natural light often stifles the creative process. Being in the new Rehearsal House, the openness, the scenic surroundings, and the amount of rehearsal space allows my fellow classmates and I to feel more free and alive during class. We’ve even utilized the outdoor amphitheater and discovered how not only can theater exist on a stage with four walls around us, but anywhere in the world if we let it.”

Five rooms on the lower level are dedicated to teaching individual music lessons, nearly doubling the department’s capacity. “With over 350 individual lessons taught each week, these new studios were desperately needed,” Ovens said. He also noted that the choral rehearsal room is a huge improvement over the recital hall, which was the only space large enough to hold rehearsals for the College’s 90-voice choir.

One of Peck’s favorite places in the new facility is the Trexler Amphitheatre. “Faculty have already been teaching in the space during the warm weather of the early fall. It was delightful to see [Assistant Professor of Theatre] Troy Dwyer teaching a classical acting class out there. Students will schedule performances in the amphitheatre in the spring, when a simple lighting grid will be available for night performances.”

The music and theatre & dance departments haven’t rubbed shoulders on a daily basis since the Trexler Pavilion opened in 2000. Peck said, “Having music and theatre programs in the same building again will enhance our chances for collaboration and interdisciplinary, inter-artistic work; this was a successful collaboration of design between the departments and I hope it will lead to more artistic kinds of collaborations.”



The Amphitheatre



The Music Rehearsal Studio

The Acting/Directing Studio has new aesthetic potentials not available in any other rehearsal space on campus – a tech wall, a simple lighting grid, and panels to effect a full black-out in the room



Combining Homecoming and Reunion into one huge celebration turned out to be a smashing success! To read about highlights, please see the page 7.



Diversity at Muhlenberg College

by Mariella Buckelew Savidge

Ask a dozen people at Muhlenberg College – whether students, faculty, alumni or administration – about diversity on campus, and you’ll likely get a dozen different answers. For some, it’s life itself. Others feel the College is on the right path, but has miles to go. Others say it’s a hot-button issue that nobody wants to confront. Another says it’s a joke.

Of the 604 students in the current freshman class, about 12 percent fall into ethnicities that include African American, Hispanic, Latino, Asian or otherwise of color. It’s not exactly the United Nations, but it’s much more diverse than it ever was. For a small, private, liberal arts institution, it’s a quantum leap. Nobody denies, however, that there is plenty more to be done.

Indeed, what everyone wholeheartedly agrees on is that Muhlenberg is deeply committed to the concept of becoming more diverse, no matter how successful the College is at this very moment. All say diversity is an essential part of a well-rounded education, and one that prepares students for the world in which they’re going to work and live.

“When students are exposed to different ideas, perspectives, spiritualities and ethnic

and racial communities, they are offered the opportunity to explore how and why they see things the way they do. When we see things through the eyes of another we gain a different perspective of who we are,” says Robin Riley-Casey, director of Muhlenberg’s five-year-old Multicultural Center at 2252 Chew Street. The Center is the first effort mentioned when anyone is asked about any aspect of diversity at Muhlenberg College.

Riley-Casey calls herself a woman of color, a Christian and a social justice activist. “These categories are incomplete and limiting – there is so much more to learn about who I am and will be.” She grew up in Ohio, not terribly far from the Motor City; her choices of music favor Bob Seger, Journey and a sprinkle of Motown.

“I never thought it was odd how I lived my life as an African American woman, until somebody told me it was....That I was not black enough, that I did not live up to whatever stereotype they held about black people and black culture.”

She is a bit dismayed that the Multicultural Center is still under-used, she says, but she feels the College is on the verge of greatness when it comes to diversity. The Center is a place for students to continue important con-

versations, to be themselves and to be with their friends. It includes an open space furnished with comfy couches on the first floor. There’s also a classroom, a sun porch and a fully equipped kitchen, and the Education Abroad program is housed on the second floor. The basement has a lounge and a washer and dryer that students can use without cost.

At about 12 percent, this freshman class will be the most diverse ever at Muhlenberg. “Everybody will see students of color every day. There will be more students of color sharing the same living space, so nobody can turn their head. Times are changing, and there’s no way to deny the demographic shift.”

She’s happy and excited that Muhlenberg is making progress. The College acknowledges it has work to do to achieve a more diverse student body, but it can be proud. What now needs to be done is for the school to engage more students and to show majority students why diversity is important.

Alumni efforts are needed, as well, she says. “We need to reach out to alumni of color and those in the gay, lesbian, transgender and bi-sexual (LGBT) community who may not have had a good experience here. We need to show them our progress because



Karen R. Green, Dean of Students

current minorities need their support. If there is racism, sexism or homophobia in the student population, we need alumni who ‘made it through’ to share their experiences and help students who may be struggling,” she says. “And we have current students who can show alumni how things are better because we have traversed boundaries.”

The other very obvious push toward diversity comes from the college’s admissions office.

Christopher Hooker-Haring, dean of admission and financial aid, 1972 Muhlenberg alum and a parent of two ‘Berg graduates, notes that the College is spending millions of dollars to attract and retain talented students with diverse backgrounds. He

defines diversity as anything that brings difference to campus, and says it’s important because students learn from each other, just as, in time, they’ll learn from co-workers and neighbors.

“The more exposure they have, the better prepared they’ll be to live,” he says.

Muhlenberg’s current climate of hospitality is much stronger than it was when he was a student, because there is much more energy and intentional effort being channeled into creating diversity. Affiliations with groups such as Prep for Prep, whose mission is to develop leaders through access to superior education and life-changing opportunities; the TEAK Foundation, which prepares students from low-income families

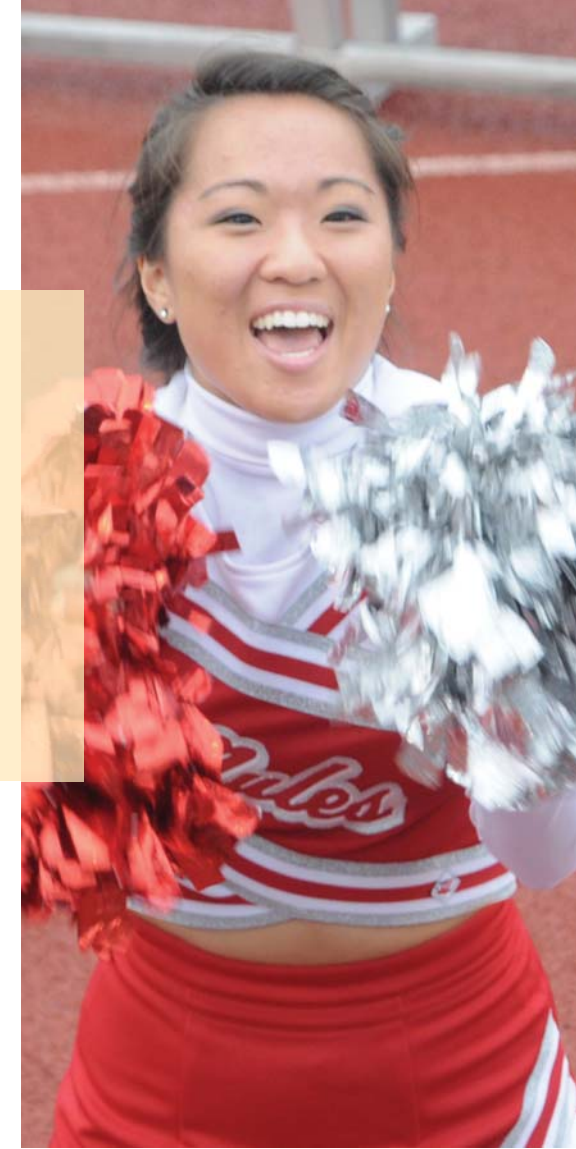
to enter and succeed in college; and Aspira, a national nonprofit organization devoted to the education and leadership development of Puerto Rican and other Latino youth, were not easy to establish, he says. But when the College gained the groups’ trust with fair financial aid and evidence that Muhlenberg graduates about 80 percent of its students in four years, their bonds became stronger.

“We might be a Johnny-come-lately, but they could see we were serious,” Hooker-Haring says.

Muhlenberg College graduated its first three African American students in the Class of 1951. In 1957, the College became co-ed, though there were women taking



...diversity means layers. It includes differences of any kind including race, gender, socio-economic status and geography.



classes as early as 1910 through the continuing education program. By the time Hooker-Haring graduated, enrollment included 901 men and 630 women for a total of 1,531.

The number of students of color, however, stagnated at around 2 percent for many years. By 1998, the student population was about 8.5 percent students of color, he says, but then it reached another plateau.

"Lots of people were frustrated with where we were, so we became more creative, and we tried harder," he says. That's when planning for the Multicultural Center and for creating a minor in African American studies became part of the College's strategic plan.

"Muhlenberg College needed to mature in its hospitality to diversity in order to make the next push. Surpassing 12 percent is another leap forward. There is real commitment here," he says. "We will continue to make progress. It will be frustrating, and sometimes not as fast as we would like, but there is a critical mass of people who will continue to push."

He also points to the Multicultural Center as a symbol of diversity and a hub for students, but it's not the only physical evidence. The expansion of the Student Union also shows commitment.

The student body at Muhlenberg College was originally mostly German Lutherans, explains Hooker-Haring. Today, 34 percent

are Jewish and 33 percent are Roman Catholic. Part of the plan to enlarge the Student Union was to add a kosher kitchen including the hiring of two mashgiachs, who provide rabbinical supervision of the purchase and preparation of kosher meals.

The Admission Office invests a great deal of time and energy identifying interested students with diverse backgrounds -- not only making personal contact with them, but also putting them in touch with enrolled students of similar backgrounds and academic interests who assure them they will be welcome at Muhlenberg.

The College is also taking steps to increase diversity among its faculty. According to Provost John Ramsay, the Consortium for Faculty Diversity (CFD) accepted Muhlenberg's application for membership this past winter. The Consortium includes 42 national liberal arts colleges, all committed to recruiting talented and diverse teacher-scholars to join their faculties.

"Membership provides each college with access to the Fellows database, so that diverse candidates can be identified early in the search process," says Ramsay.

"Dr. Kim Gallon came to Muhlenberg from Sewanee where she had an appointment as a CFD Fellow for the past two years. Professors Charles Anderson and Kate Richmond attended the annual CFD conference with me last year, so we have done our

homework."

"Our goals are to inform and enrich the campus conversation about differences, deepen Muhlenberg's commitment to a challenging curriculum and strengthen multicultural collaborations as we build a talented and diverse faculty."

As Dean of Students, Karen R. Green's job is -- among other things -- to make sure students feel welcome once they arrive. She is also responsible for creating and maintaining a safe, healthy and supportive environment and culture that synthesizes the intellectual, physical, social, emotional, and spiritual development of students in a holistic way.

As a woman of color, Green is a huge proponent of making sure students feel comfortable. She knows it's essential because there have been times and places in her life when she has not felt comfortable herself. She does not separate her job from being African American, she says.

She feels comfortable in her current position because, she says, "Diversity has been part of the fabric of Muhlenberg College for a long time. It's a Lutheran tradition. The large and growing number of Jewish students speaks to religious pluralism." Over the years the student body has become much more open. First there were men of other faiths, then African American men, then women and so on. It's a slow process

for sure, but the College has a history of persistently making progress.

Green has been "the first black woman to..." several times, she says, but being a trailblazer can be a burden because it forces that person to be a teacher at times when she might not care to be. At times, it's tiring. Sometimes people just want to be themselves. That's where the Multicultural Center comes in, she explains. It's a place where students and a growing number of faculty go just to hang out.

Where the College currently falls short, Green says, is in providing a faculty that is diverse enough to mirror the growing number of student faces.

"We're not where we need to be, but we're on the path," she says. She would like to see more students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds earn their degrees from Muhlenberg, and points to the College's Camp Imagine as a summer arts program that welcomes elementary school students from downtown Allentown onto the campus. She would also like to see growth in the number of lesbian, gay, transgender and bisexual students.

But even though there is movement in the right direction, there is more to be done, Green agrees.

"You have to be intentional in your commitment," she says, "And the trustees are the ones who decide on that level of monetary

commitment to build a diverse population. This is a good place and an exciting time. We're at the brink and ready to explode. We have our ducks in a row."

Some, however, believe that efforts might better be directed toward a broader selection of ducks.

Dr. Kate Richmond '00, assistant professor of psychology, defines diversity as social justice, dealing with privilege and balancing power disparities. These areas create conflict because privilege is normalized and not readily noticed by dominant groups of people. This is not unique to Muhlenberg, she says. "But in order to fulfill the mission of a liberal arts education, we must be willing to rigorously engage with these issues and help our students navigate difficult dialogues.

Diversity is important because nobody can be educated without knowing ways to eradicate injustice, she says.

Of the Multicultural Center, on whose board she sits, she says "there is a need to mainstream our mission into all aspects of campus life."

Richmond wants to see a more diverse faculty and student body, but she would also like to see the existing faculty involved in this important work.

Trustee Tammy Bormann '83 couldn't agree more. She is totally committed to the presence of the Multicultural Center, but says she feels Muhlenberg took an outdated

approach 15 years ago when it established the Office of Multicultural Life and later the Multicultural Center.

"It's good to have a space where multicultural students and their allies can go to feel comfortable and supported, but I believe the Center should be a place where the entire campus community acknowledges that each of us is 'diverse;' each of us brings multiple identities into any social setting; each of us has a responsibility to understand and engage the issues that surround diversity. Each of us has a race, a culture, a cluster of identities that reflect who we are as individuals. As a community, we must embrace the notion that 'diversity' naturally includes all of us; consequently, the issues of diversity naturally involved all of us. If we fail to do this, then we risk segregating and isolating students from one another and we lose the ability to engage a larger, systemic analysis of diversity. Diversity becomes 'their issue' instead of 'our identity.'"

Some say that diversity, by its very nature, creates conflict, she says, “But I think the absence of diversity creates conflict. If the school is not diverse, it can’t be excellent. If students are not pursuing their studies through a multicultural lens, whole bodies of knowledge are excluded.”

The concept lets white students down, too. “They’re no better prepared. The Multicultural Center is a cocoon of support for students of color...but there’s little to empower white students to understand the historical and contemporary issues that inform our experiences of diversity today,” she says.

Muhlenberg College has a strong reputation for being a caring and nurturing place. Students, faculty, administrators and management are all profoundly committed to each other and the school, Bormann says. The resistance to talking about the issues may come from the desire not to upset the community, an environment that is so very highly valued.

“Our caring community may shut out dissonance, but the reality is that because we are such a caring community we can face the issues. Muhlenberg can raise awareness without the fear of upsetting the balance of the happy community.”

Elia Wright ’10 knows all about the happy community. The Asbury Park, N.J., native was part of it for four years until the young African American graduated in May. Today, she lives in Ann Arbor, Mich., where she’s pursuing a doctoral degree in biochemistry. She was very involved with Muhlenberg’s Multicultural Center, where she made good friends with older students. “I realized there were people like me who were interested,” she says.

She was also part of a retreat at which students, faculty and administrators talked about how to more effectively raise awareness of the issues.

Wright agrees that the College is more racially and socio-economically diverse in general. “But they’re still small numbers,” she says, “And when you look at the majori-

ty, then it’s almost nothing.”

Diversity on campus is a big issue for the students who know about it, she says, “But not enough students want to know,” she says.

To her, diversity means layers. It includes differences of any kind including race, gender, socio-economic status and geography. It’s important, she says, because if you live your life in a place populated only by people who look exactly like you, you’ll never grow.

Muhlenberg’s diversity credit, earned for taking a required course that Wright says is designed to “broaden horizons,” can be good. Certainly the school is trying to get students on the right track when a course such as Introduction to African American Studies fills the requirement. She wishes she had known about Muhlenberg’s academic minor in African American studies before her junior year because she definitely would have taken more advantage of the opportunities to learn more about authors, topics and issues.

Wright also agrees that there is a problem attracting and retaining students and faculty of color. So why did she stay?

“I got a good education,” she says, “I had two amazing advisors. I was and still am impressed by Muhlenberg’s science program. I liked having the opportunity for more contact with the faculty that a small school provides, the opportunity to be more involved.”

She feels the diversity credit issues and the establishment of a campus definition of diversity go hand-in-hand. “You can’t create graduation requirements for diversity when there is no campus-wide definition.”

The College does have the Muhlenberg diversity statement, developed by students, faculty and staff. It is posted the College’s website. This explains how and why the College thinks diversity is important. Yet, the definition of diversity remains a topic of continuous conversation.

“People who don’t want to address it should be forced to,” she says. “Whether positive or negative, people must talk.”

A few years ago, the College produced the Sedehi Diversity Project, named for its founder Desiree Sedehi ’07. This is a

provocative, controversial and educational theatrical piece performed during Orientation. This has sparked many campus conversations about diversity and multicultural life on campus.

Wright points to campus “Shout Outs” as a great place for students to discuss race, class and sexuality in an informal setting. Shout Outs also provide students who are not engaged in discussion through coursework with the opportunity to learn about sociology, psychology etc, through discussion of real world issues.

“More faculty should attend, even if they don’t participate. While the topics discussed may not be directly related to their subject of expertise, items discussed do affect their students. Knowing what concerns students outside of the classroom can help professors to reach students more effectively inside the classroom.”

And people should look toward Muhlenberg’s theatre and dance department for inspiration, she says, for several reasons. Even though it includes only a limited number of students of color, there is some amazing and thought-provoking work, which critically examines ideas about race, power and privilege, going on. She points to “CAW,” a collaboration of dance and theatre that invokes the rich, raucous oral tradition of Southern storytelling, created by professors Charles O. Anderson and Troy Dwyer. It was produced at Muhlenberg in March 2009.

“They enjoyed making people think,” Wright says.

Anderson is an associate professor of dance teaching courses ranging from technique to the role of dance and the performance of race in African and American culture, and he is the director of the African American Studies program at Muhlenberg.

To him, diversity is a commitment to recognizing and appreciating the variety of characteristics that make individuals and groups unique in an atmosphere that promotes and celebrates individual and collective achievement.



Trustees Tammy Bormann '83 and Mark Paris '80 with students.



Trisha Kadakia '10 who delivered the commencement speech to classmates in May.

“Promoting diversity demands progressive approaches for transforming education that holistically critiques and responds to historical and contemporary policies and practices in education,” he says.

Anderson is committed to encouraging discourse about diversity and social justice, both through his pedagogy and through his artistic work on campus.

He says conversations on diversity have evolved at Muhlenberg over the years. “At one time such conversations were immediately shut down. Some were quick to tell me I was being unfair.”

Though the conversations are still careful and tentative, there have been small and incremental steps. What concerns him is that there are few if any institutional mechanisms to ensure forward momentum.

Anderson points to the recent joint appointment of Kim T. Gallon, who will teach African American history and Introduction to African American Studies this fall as part of the African American Studies program. Dr. Gallon is the first African American tenure track hired since Anderson was hired almost eight years ago.

“While it is a momentous event that we

were able to recruit and hire such a talented scholar as Kim, it is still somewhat embarrassing to say that we have doubled our African American faculty by hiring one person.”

“I want to be clear,” he says. “I stay because I care about Muhlenberg College and the students, but I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge that it has been a constant struggle to stay as the sole African American faculty voice for this long. I don’t want Kim to have to go through that as well.”

According to Anderson, more faculty and administrators of color must be hired and there must be continued and greater commitment to placing the ideals of diversity and social justice at the center of our academic and social initiatives at Muhlenberg. “If we have come this far, then we should all understand we can and should go further.”

Muhlenberg College President Randy Helm agrees the College has not come far enough fast enough. If institutions such as Muhlenberg don’t go out of their way to provide diverse educational experiences, they’re not helping to promote a democratic society. He believes that if a student has talent and is willing to work, he or she must have opportunity – and that means access to higher

education. (See President’s Message, page 1.)

He calls himself an impatient person. The College’s progress, while substantial, is not developing as quickly as he would like. He wants more diversity and at the same time he knows that matters of ethnicity are complicated in American life. While he realizes it will take time to increase campus diversity, he believes Muhlenberg must continue to work hard on accelerating the pace of change within the structure of the College’s liberal arts mission and values.

“If an alumnus from the 1940s visited the campus today, he would see that it’s very different. But if he spent time here, he would find the same aspects he knew to be a part of a good liberal arts education,” Helm says.

Helm is staunchly committed to increasing diversity on campus. He knows problems exist when students in the majority refuse or decline to engage in the essential conversations that must occur.

“Those who are not interested and don’t show up are the ones who need to be part of the conversation. It’s our job to get them to grapple with the complexity of differences among people.”



Just Like Old Times



by Mike Falk, Sports Information Director

Like many college students, Muhlenberg junior Marc Brookland has a routine for waking up on Saturdays in the fall. He'll open his eyes in the morning, check the time, go back to sleep, check the time again in another couple of hours, go back to sleep, and repeat as necessary. He normally doesn't get out of bed until the early afternoon.

But something happened on Saturday, November 20, that made Brookland, the 2010 Centennial Conference indoor long jump champion and school record-holder in the triple jump, leap out of bed at 8:15 in the morning. And he was just one of many unusually early risers that day.

What happened was the Muhlenberg men's soccer team hosting the "Sweet 16" of the NCAA Division III Tournament.

After an outstanding regular season in which they lost only once and a double-overtime loss in the Centennial Conference championship game, the Mules received an at-large berth to the NCAAs. Two wins away from home put them in the "Sweet 16," and a couple of fortunate circumstances allowed them to host.

Game time for the sectional semifinal game against Merchant Marine was a student-unfriendly 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, but that didn't deter Muhlenberg's students from coming out to support the Mules. Throngs of students, clad and/or painted in red, lined the east sideline of Varsity Field, cheering, chanting and yelling for the whole 90 minutes.

"It was fantastic," said Muhlenberg senior goalie Jason Daniels. "Once we found out we were going to host, I knew we were going to have a large contingent. They were great, showing all that energy.

They really kept us going through the game."

Although the large crowd went home disappointed after Merchant Marine won, 1-0, it provided a great atmosphere. And it brought to mind the last time the Mules hosted a game that far into the NCAA Tournament, when they beat Ithaca in a quarterfinal game in 1995 to reach the "Final Four."

One person who was on hand for both of those games is Sean Topping '98, a player on the 1995 team and the current head coach. "I remember looking across and seeing rows and rows of fans," he recalled about the Ithaca game. "And I felt at one point on Saturday looking across and all you could see was a sea of red. It was pretty cool."

It's also pretty cool that after 15 years, Muhlenberg still supports its soccer team like few other schools do. "When I came here, there was a junior on the track team who went to all the games, so I went with him," remarked Brookland. "It kind of became a tradition that we'd go to all the games. Most of the players on the soccer team are good friends of ours, and it's fun to watch our friends play. The most exciting nights are Wednesdays and Saturdays when we go to see them play."

Brookland and classmates Ryan Ganley, Jon Kalb and Peter Rice were diehards, following the Mules to an important road game at Johns Hopkins, to the Centennial Conference playoffs at Swarthmore, and to the first rounds of the NCAA Tournament at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N.J. Along with a couple of players from the Muhlenberg women's soccer team, they stayed at Ganley's house on Friday night, went to the games on

Saturday and Sunday, and seemed to drown out the home team's fans for the game against Stevens, which the Mules won 2-1 in double overtime to advance to the "Sweet 16."

"Our kids are very outgoing and personable, and they do a good job broadcasting their games to the rest of the campus," said Topping in explaining the support for his team. "Since we started playing most of our games at night, that has helped. And our consistency and success help. Our fans expect us to be good every year."

For the most part, they haven't been disappointed. Muhlenberg has finished .500 or better each of the last 25 seasons – one of the longest current streaks in Division III. The Mules have earned 12 bids to the NCAA Tournament in the last 21 years and have received regional and/or national rankings almost every season during that span.

The 2010 season was no exception. Muhlenberg set a school record with a 15-game unbeaten streak, outscored its opponents 52-14,

and with a 9-0-6 record heading into the last week of the regular season was one of the last two undefeated teams in Division III. The Mules were ranked as high as 17th during the season and virtually guaranteed themselves an NCAA berth by



thumping nationally ranked Franklin & Marshall, 4-0, in the CC semifinals.

After a 2-0 win against Keene State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, Muhlenberg squared off against a Stevens team (coached by Topping's good friend Tim O'Donohue '98) that had reached the NCAA championship game in 2008, losing on penalty kicks, and had not lost an NCAA Tournament game in regulation or overtime since 2005. The Ducks came in with a 34-game home unbeaten streak and had allowed only four goals all season, but Josh Luginbuhl's score with 3:21 left in the second overtime gave the Mules the win.

Muhlenberg was the third seed among the four teams that advanced past the first weekend in that part of the bracket, but top seed Messiah couldn't host because it was hosting the women's soccer tournament, and Merchant Marine couldn't host because it was closing early for Thanksgiving break. So the sectional fell into the lap of the Mules, much to the delight of their players and fans.

"Our friends were just as excited as we were," said Daniels. "As the week went on, more and more people found out."

The team used traditional methods – word of mouth, hanging up banners – to spread the news, as well as means that weren't available in 1995, like Facebook and texting. One of Daniels' professors made an announcement about the game before class. Topping received dozens of well-wishing e-mails from alumni, former players and parents of former players.

It all came together on a day that made many proud to be Mules.

"I think anyone who left that game had a very enjoyable day, even though the outcome didn't go our way," said Topping. "Our guys had a very good feeling."

"I know we lost that game, but we played our hearts out," said Daniels. "The atmosphere at that game is something I'll always remember."



November 20 was a busy Saturday for Muhlenberg athletics. Not only did the Cardinal and Grey host the NCAA men's soccer sectional and the Scotty Wood Tournament (which both Mule basketball teams won), but it also had its football team competing in the NCAA Tournament in Delaware and a cross country runner competing in the NCAA Championships in Iowa.

Of the more than 400 schools in Division III, Muhlenberg was one of only two (the other was Wis.-Whitewater) to have its men's soccer, football and men's cross country teams in action that weekend.

Pictured are Centennial Conference defensive player of the year Patrick McDonough and two-time cross country national qualifier Bobby Torphy.





PKT members, from left to right: Mick Miller '70, Jeff Gilbert '70, Bob Major '72, Ned Rahn '70, Tom Burkholder '70, Walt Roetting '72, Tim Hilbert '74, Jim Longley '72, Bill Apple '71, Ron Tuma '70, Tom Bennington '74, Scott Soffen '74, Bruce Reitz '70, Barry Waterhouse '71, Hoss Ergood '74, John Bowen '72, Don Atkiss '72, Tom Dunkel '72, Rod MacKenzie '70, Robin MacMullen '72, Dale Hava '72.

1970

Twenty one PKT alums attended the Phils vs Indians game at Citizens Bank Park on June 24.

1972

Keri Burrows writes, "On April 24th, I completed my 200th platelet apheresis donation. Platelets are so important to people undergoing chemotherapy or organ transplants. This year marked my 15th at Ben Venue Laboratories, where I'm currently a Scientist III in Product and Process Development for injectable drugs, including many chemotherapeutic agents (but not platelets). It continues to be a challenging and rewarding position." In her spare time, she enjoys exploring greater Cleveland area and going around the country on birding expeditions.



Keri Burrows '72, celebrating her 200th platelet apheresis donation

Nancy Williams Walters writes: "Fifteen girls had a reunion from the classes of 1972 and 1973 for one weekend in New Hope, Pa. Folks came from Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania."

1975

Sherri Lander Flynn was recently awarded the 2010 GMIS Outstanding Professional award. Flynn works as a systems development administrator. This annual award recognizes



Fifteen women had a reunion from the classes of 1972 and 1973 for one weekend in New Hope, Pa. Folks came from Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

IT professionals whose meritorious performance is representative of service delivery excellence in the public sector.

1976

Michael N. Pocalyko has been named by the International Association of University Presidents to the United Nations Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace. He is C.E.O. of Monticello Capital in Chantilly, Va., and married to Barbara Snelbaker Pocalyko '76.



Michael Pocalyko '76

1978

Paul Silverman shares the annual photo from another terrific trip to South Carolina with friends from the class of '78 (right).



Left to right: Mark Schwartz '79, Mitch Goldblatt '79, Paul Silverman '78, Drew Shulman '79, Rudy Favocci '79, Jeff Koehler '79

1991

David Pfisterer recently accepted a position at Casa de Campo in La Romana, Dominican Republic as head golf professional. Casa de Campo is the only 5-star resort in the Caribbean and is home to 5 golf courses, including the world-renowned Teeth of the Dog (ranked #43 in the Top 100 courses in the world). David was previously employed at The Everglades Club, in Palm Beach, Fla., for 15 years, most recently as head golf professional.

1992

Lauren E. Dobrowalski writes, "To celebrate all of us turning 40 this year, Kristine Morgan Wirth, Dana Kuhnast Lago, Susan Sabatino Elias, Karen Nave Scott and I spent a weekend, sans husbands and children, in Philadelphia. We had a great time ringing in our 5th decade together." The group, who lived together in Benfer 201 for two years, has been getting together regularly, twice a year.



Kristine Morgan Wirth '92, Lauren Dobrowalski Holweg '92, Dana Kuhnast Lago '92, Susan Sabatino Elias '92 and Karen Nave Scott '92 celebrate their 40th birthdays together.

1994

Jeremy Warnick and Sarah (Runke) Caswell-Warnick are happy to announce their marriage on December 22, 2009 in Gainesville, Va. They currently reside in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Sarah and Jeremy have four children between them: Morgan (age 11), Emily (age 8), Abigail (age 6) and Cole (age 5).



Anderson & her fiancé Allen Coco. Wedding date: June 2011, West Ossipee, NH

1999

Elisabeth Anderson and Allen Coco are celebrating their engagement and are looking forward to a June 2011 wedding that many Muhlenberg alumni will attend. The wedding will be held at Camp Calumet Lutheran in West Ossipee, N.H.

2000

Helen (Wojciechowski) Sernett recently accepted a position at Seattle Children's Hospital located in Seattle as director of development - annual giving. She was previously employed at Seattle University as assistant director of annual giving. Helen writes, "I will be leading the annual giving efforts and working with donors at this major regional center for pediatric medicine and research. I'm looking forward to creating a program that will strengthen the already outstanding work of this organization. Look me up if you're in Seattle, I love getting together with fellow alumni!" • Carolyn (Nurnberg)

and Scott Spungin were married at the Doral Arrowwood in Rye Brook, New York on October 23, 2010. Alumni in attendance included Katie Mattis, Larissa (Poveromo) and Nicholas Noto '01, Melissa (Catalanello) Pasquariello, Jenny (Dickerman) Rich '99, Stefan Miller '99, Richie Legouri, Kerri-Lynn Young '99, Andrew Leber '02, Perri (Magit) '01 and Adam Brenner, Jodi Siegel '01 and Dustin Stein '01, Lindsay (Blaker) Fox '02 and Sara (Monaco) Scipioni.

2003

Kimberly (Wert) Dallinga and John Dallinga are happy to announce their marriage on July 17, 2009 in Gwynedd, Pa. They currently reside in Blue Bell, Pa.

2004

Alumni present at the September 2009 wedding of Rachael (Wexler) and Shannon Ryan were: Mark Lee, Evan Smallwood, Patrick Ryan, Adam Matteo '97, Sharon Seggel, Rebecca Toth, Amanda Pettineo, Gretchen Herbert, and Danielle Kline. • Robert Saenz de Viteri, founder of the NYC theatre company Greenpoint Division, will direct a premiere of a new play by Rachel Bonds (whose work the *New York Times* recently called "lovely...delicate...powerful") starring fellow Muhlenberg alum, Matthew Micucci.



Wexler & Ryan '04 wedding
Alumni present at the wedding: Mark Lee '04, Evan Smallwood '04, Patrick Ryan '04, Adam Matteo '97, Sharon Seggel '04, Rebecca Toth '04, Amanda Pettineo '04, Gretchen Herbert '04, and Danielle Kline '04.

2005

Meredith Cole and Brad Braverman are happy to announce their marriage on June 5,



Phi Mu sisters at the wedding of Meredith Cole Braverman '05. Left to right: Rachel Barber '07, Liz McNierney '07, Alex Raymond '07, Jackie Appel '07, Jess Lauer '05, Becca Ehrlich '06, Meredith (Cole) Braverman '05, Allie DeKorte '02, Brii Weinberg '05 and Laura Packer '07.

2010. They currently reside in Philadelphia, Pa. Alumni in attendance were bridesmaid Laura Packer '07, Allison DeKorte '02, Jessica Lauer, Briindal Weinberg, Becca Ehrlich '06, Jackie Appel '07, Rachel Barber '07, Liz McNierney '07, Alexandra Raymond '07 and Tom Prevete '07. Meredith and Brad were happy to share their special day with such wonderful friends and family.

2006

Kristin Burkhardt received an M.S. in counseling and college student personnel from Shippensburg University on May 7, 2010. Prior to graduation, Kristin was inducted into both the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society and the Chi Sigma Iota Counseling and Professional Honor Society. She recently accepted a position at Mount St. Mary's University located in Emmitsburg, Md., as assistant director of learning services. Kristin recently was employed at Penn State Mont Alto as a learning specialist. She writes, "This new position is exactly what I was looking for after my graduation in May.

It will allow me to continue helping students receive the tutoring services and the disability accommodations that they need, and it will also give me a unique opportunity to begin looking at new student retention strategies to implement at the Mount." • Lori (Giesberg) Shekari and Seena Shekari '05 were married by Father John Krivak on May 3, 2009, in Lori's hometown of Washington Township, N.J. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii and resides in New York City. Present from Muhlenberg were: Abby Vanhouten '05, Valerie Robuck, Allison Colino, Gary Wiczenski '93, Joshua Cohen '04, Michael Loughlin '05, Thomas Novak, Mathew Menard '04, Sonya Martinez Hunsicker, Joshua Obuch, Lydia Hill '07, Brian Schwab '05, Melissa Kenig '05, Lauren Wiesner '05. Not Pictured: Tiana Shekari Lennert '98, Father Krivak, and Sam Laposata.

2007

Ashlen Froelke became engaged to John Kakolewski '05. The couple will be married on September 10, 2011 in Alexandria, Va. •

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Mini Mules

1995

Gregg and Jennifer (Perry) Mossburg are thrilled to announce the arrival of their daughter, Lyden Jeanne Mossburg. Lyden was born on July 23 (her daddy's birthday!) in Fairfax, Va., weighing 8 lbs, 3 oz. She's even already been to visit the 'Berg, joining Mommy, Daddy and friends for Reunion Weekend 2010.



Lyden Jeanne Mossburg

1997

Lori (Grohs) Padgett and John Padgett are proud to announce the birth of their baby boy, David Logan. He was born on June 14, 2010 in Freehold, N.J., and weighed 8 lbs, 11 oz.

1998

On April 27, 2010, Cindy Gutierrez-Fasolino and her husband Pietro welcomed the birth of their third beautiful girl, named Sophia Margaret Fasolino. Sophia weighed 6 lbs, 15oz. Her big sisters Isabella and Gabriella adore her, and the family couldn't be happier. • Melissa (Osorio) Siegrist and her husband Billy happily announce the birth of their son, William Emmanuel Siegrist, on December 11, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz and was 21 inches long. The family lives in Manhattan.



Isabella, Gabriella and Sophia Gutierrez-Fasolino



William Emmanuel Siegrist

2000

Chuck and Peach (Reigle) Draper are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Sunday Sky. Sunny was born on March 21, 2009, weighing 7 lbs, 1 oz., and measuring 20 3/4 inches. The family lives in Quakertown, Pa.



Sunday Sky Draper

2001

Dylan and Reina (Tyson) Sapir '02 welcomed their first child, a 'Berg baby boy, Tyson Jeremy, to the world on April 8, 2010. He was born in Allentown, Pa., and weighed in at 5 lbs, 4 oz. Reina writes "He will be trying out for the Mules baseball team very soon!"



Tyson Jeremy Sapir

Class Notes

continued from page 22



Present at the wedding off from Muhlenberg were: Abby Vanhouten (05), Valerie Robuck (06), Allison Colino (06), Gary Wiececki (93), Lori Giesberg Shekari (bride, 06), Seena Shekari (groom, 05), Joshua Cohen (04), Michael Loughlin (05), Thomas Novak (06), Mathew Menard (04), Sonya Martinez Hunsicker (06), Joshua Obuch (06), Lydia Hill (07), Brian Schwab (05), Melissa Kenig (05), Lauren Wiesner (05). Not Pictured: Tiana Shekari Lennert (98), Father Krivak, and Sam Laposata.

Kristina (Roth) Mefford and Brandon Mefford are happy to announce their marriage on October 2, 2010 in South Jersey. They currently reside in Florham Park, N.J. Many Mule alumni were in attendance. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. • Steven Toto and Kaitlyn Rossetti, both of whom majored in international business, are happy



Matt Johnson '08 and Tiffany Elliott '08

to announce their engagement. The couple was engaged on May 27, 2010. Both Steven and Kaitlyn are employed at Mars Chocolate North America. The couple currently resides in Hackettstown, N.J., and is planning a wedding in Florham Park, N.J. for April 16, 2011.

2008

Matt Johnson and Tiffany Elliott were wed on Long Island in Huntington, N.Y., on September 3, 2010.

2010

On July 18, 2010, Collin James Wolfer signed a contract with Apple Incorporated. Apple chose two of Wolfer's band, Alex and James' singles, "sky diving," and "the questions," are now on iTunes. • Danielle Yavorski writes, "I just recently graduated and took a summer job working with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Program as a Health Assistant at Washington College in Chestertown, MD. Surprisingly enough, I met two other alumni in two different



Christie Pearsall '05, Karl Adler '92 and Danielle Yavorski '10

positions there; one was the site director (Karl Adler '92), and another was an Instructor (Christie Pearsall '05). I had always been told about the spread of Muhlenberg once we leave the "bubble," but was surprised that I came across this so soon."



The Muhlenberg College landscape has certainly changed since 1931.

THEN AND NOW.



photo: Lee Butz

In Memoriam

1934

Dr. Morton L. Silverman died on July 18, 2010. He is survived by his sons, David '65 and Richard. He was predeceased by his wife, Dama.

1936

Rev. Phares O'Reitz died on July 15, 2010. He is survived by his daughters Ruth Grim and Martha Reitz; and sons Thomas P'11 and Phillip P'11; also, grandsons, Michael Reitz '11, Joel Reitz '11; and nieces, Doris Gross '68, Kathryn Henry '68 and Carol Reitz '72. He was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor.

1937

George Marshall died on May 1, 2010. He is survived by his daughter, Marianne Saponaro; and son, Richard. He was predeceased by his wife, Marion.

1939

Rev. Robert M. Lamparter died on October 1, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Hildegard; son, Robert; and daughters, Satya Barbara Jaech, and Priscilla Landis.

1940

Philip F. Hoffman died on August 11, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; children, Adrian, Julian and Johanna; and, son-in-law, Richard Holmes. He was predeceased by his daughter, Judith.

1942

Maj. Gen. John R. Kern, Jr. died on May 5, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Doris; and sons, John R III, James and Douglas.

Rev. Verne E. Snyder died on July 12, 2010. He is survived by his daughters, Ruth Correll '69, Bonnie Nilsson '73, and Kathy Kramer; five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Lena.

1946

Dr. Stanley Edeiken died on September 5, 2010. He is survived by daughters, Louise and Linda; and longtime companion Nicole Joyce Brown. He was predeceased by his wife, Evey and son, Steven.

1947

Richard H. Geissler died on October 13, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jane; sons, Richard '74, Jeffrey, Eric and Christopher; and daughters, Julie Marks, Linda Wood, Jill Kemner and Amy Whildin.

1949

Francis Yanoshik died on August 26, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Rita; son, Paul; and daughters, Kim Wing and Ann Wutrich.

1950

Morris William Dimmig died on May 26, 2010.

Dr. Maurice S. Fagan died on August 23, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Norma; son, Thomas; and daughter, Barbara Davis.

Donald J. Mahoney died on August 23, 2010. He is survived by his sons, Michael and James; and daughter Mary Jo Rosenberger. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary.

Wallace C. Stefany died on June 24, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Irene; son, Andrew; and daughter, Mary Elizabeth Barham.

Carl A. Utsch, Jr. died on May 11, 2010. He is survived by his daughter, Carol Rushow.

1951

Harry E. Bradley died on July 5, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Anita; sons, Mark and Lance; and daughter, Kim Johnson.

Louis W. Duerr died on September 3, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Helen.

John E. Hoffman died on September 13, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Christina; son, Robert; and daughters, Julie Hoffman and Margaret LaViers.

Carl J. Knauss died on September 9, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Marie; sons, Rodney and Kevin; and daughter, Sheila Sweger.

1952

Richard Benter died on August 16, 2010.

Robert Kerekes died on October 6, 2010. He is survived by his sons, Bruce and Steven; and daughter, Robyn Hashem. He was predeceased by his wife, Mildred.

1953

Dr. Howard E. Erdman, Jr. died on May 30, 2010. He is survived by his sons, Stephen and Peter. He was predeceased by his wife, Sally.

1954

Rev. Charles E. Mertz died on June 10, 2010. He is survived by his sons, John and Eric; and daughters, Elisa Gordon and Katherine Jacoby. He was predeceased by his wife, Jean.

Edward George Musgrave passed away in April, 2010.

1955

Ralph A. Schiavone died on June 21, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Eileen; and daughters Gail Handy, Donna Falkowski, and Patricia Johnson.

1957

Albert N. Ferraro died on June 11, 2010. He is survived by his son, Pablo; daughter, Ana Maria; and former wife, Theresa.

William S. Taylor died on August 1, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Joan; sons, Michael, Jonathan and Jeffrey; daughter, Beth; and brother, Clay '51.

1958

Francis T. Fix died on October 16, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Joan; and sons, Brian and Glenn.

1959

Spencer J. Tuchinsky died on May 5, 2010.

1960

Theodore Rindfleisch died on September 16, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Ellen (Bergheim) Rindfleisch '62; and son, Glenn.

1961

Edward R. Callahan died on October 2, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Gwendolyn.

Irwin B. Ravin died on April 11, 2010. He is survived by his children, Dean & Jules Ravin and Misha James-Ravin.

1962

Donald F. Greene died on July 2, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; daughter, Karen Meinert; and son, Douglas.

1964

Donna Markowitz Drennan died on July 15, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Robert; son, Robert; and daughter, Samantha.

1965

Gary K. Spengler died on July 1, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Diana; and son, Justin. He was predeceased by his son Adam.

1966

Lynn J. (Reynolds) Seaman died on August 3, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Gary; and daughters, Nicole Calloway and Jessica Berenbroick.

1968

Margaret V.K. Shannon died on June 13, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Robert '70; daughters, Dyan Branstetter and Robin Coons; and parents, Samuel and Frances von Kummer.

1970

Dennis E. Keller died on September 17, 2010. He is survived by his mother, Jean; sister, Joan Deming; and brother, Emil. He was predeceased by his father, Emil; and sister, Margot.

Wayne B. Lingle died on July 28, 2010. He is survived by his sister, Anita S. Wagner.

1973

Dr. Patrice A. Clemson died on July 6, 2010. She is survived by her husband Dr. John G Hennon; daughter, Meredith; and son, William. She was predeceased by her father, William Clemson '49.

Mary Lou Hanna Jabbour-Carl died on September 11, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Frank; daughter, Renee Jabbour Olewine; and son, Elie Jabbour.

1997

Andrew S. Fisher died on July 22, 2010. He is survived by his father, Wayne; brother, Tim; and former wife, Erika McKeon Fisher. He was predeceased by his mother, Kathy.

2007

Michael Ryan Zodda died on July 2, 2010. He is survived by his parents, Rob and Judy Zodda; and brother Geoffrey '04.

continued from page 1

to China and Bangladesh; from ecological field work in Central America where they work with coffee farmers or document the lives of miners; from studying the traditions of African dance; or from worshipping at Union Baptist Church (Allentown's oldest African American congregation). They learn equally important truths from interactions in the classroom, in student clubs, and on athletic teams with students whose backgrounds are different from their own.

3. Preparing Students for Success. Does anybody really believe that the next generation can succeed as leaders without knowing how to work with people of different ethnicities, religions, nationalities and genders? Whatever the field, the ability to negotiate a diverse world successfully will be crucial to success. Muhlenberg would provide our students with a poor education indeed if we did not equip them with such skills.

We have our work cut out for us. Our Multicultural Center and its role in stimulating campus dialogue about diversity is a step in the right direction. "Shout Outs" by the Black Student Association (BSA) have provided important opportunities to discuss racial profiling and other complex questions. The Class of 2014 is the most diverse in our history – another step forward. We've added a tenure-track faculty position to beef up African-American Studies. The new strategic plan calls for additional efforts to increase student and faculty diversity, stimulate intergroup dialogue and recruit international students.

The road to diversity, like the road to Dublin in the old Irish folk song, is likely to be a rocky one. Muhlenberg has made a start on the journey, but it is only a start. We need to remember that we may not reach the destination in our lifetime, but that the journey itself is worth the effort. You will read more about that pilgrimage in this issue of Muhlenberg Magazine.



Peyton R. Helm
President, Muhlenberg College

Answering Big Questions, Dreaming Big Dreams

By Christopher Hooker-Haring '72, P'08, P'10
Dean of Admission and Financial Aid



Applying to college should be about dreaming big dreams. It's a step on the road to adulthood, a step on the road to each student's future, and an important time of transition for students and parents alike as each prepares to take on a world that will be changing for each of them.

While much is written these days about all that is wrong with the college application and admissions process, I think there is still much good to be found in many of the outcomes. Most students still find their way to a good college match. Many discover important things about themselves and about the world as they go through the crucible of filling out applications, writing essays, taking standardized tests, visiting campuses and thinking hard about which educational environment will be best for them.

For sure, the process isn't perfect. It involves human beings at every step of the long march from high school junior to college freshman. Parents, counselors, teachers, friends, college admissions officers and others all play a role along the way, and wherever people are involved the potential for human error, bias, wrong assumptions, carelessness or plain old mistakes is rampant. And yet, despite all of that margin for error, most students find their way through the forest of forms, deadlines and decisions, and end up at a "good fit" college.

This isn't accidental. For most students, there is at least one person – sometimes a whole host of people – who makes a difference. Someone who takes time to listen, to encourage, to push, to soothe and then to step back at the right moment so that ultimately the student can decide. These people are the heroes of the college application process. They are the people who push

back against all the forces that threaten to warp the process in ways that will undermine thoughtful student decision-making. Often it can be the right word at the right time, the right note of encouragement, the right willingness to listen deeply and push forward that makes all the difference.

One of the things I have truly loved about Muhlenberg since my return to this campus in 1987 is the degree to which we try to help students make good decisions as they move through the application and college selection process. There are many on this campus, from admissions staff to faculty to the president, campus safety officers, current students and others, who take the time to stop and help, to answer a question, to offer a word of encouragement. Over and over, we hear from prospective students and parents that "Muhlenberg just feels different," as they visit our campus. In a very competitive marketplace, that "feels different" characteristic, rooted in empathy and caring, can be an important differentiator as families make the college choice.

The college application and selection process should, indeed, be about dreaming big dreams – whether those dreams eventually lead to medical school, the Broadway stage, a career in business, law, public service or any among dozens of other possible life choices. At Muhlenberg, we are prepared to be helpful to students as they make the initial choice about where to go to college, and then to help them follow and realize their dreams if that choice leads them to this campus. In the process, we help student after student figure out the important "Who am I?" questions that are ultimately where the college application and selection process leads.



Meet the Press



THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education
Washington—Much has been said about the mystique of the SAT, the nation's most infamous test. But there's also a sense of mystery about colleges that don't require applicants to submit standardized-test scores. A common question: How, exactly, do admissions staffs at such colleges evaluate the applications of non-submitters? And what's life after dropping testing requirements?

At the College Board's annual conference here, several admissions officers at "test-optional" colleges have shared some answers. Melissa Falk, associate dean of admission and financial aid at Muhlenberg College, said reading the files of a non-submitter requires more time than reading the files of other applicants. That's because Muhlenberg requires applicants who don't send their scores to submit a copy of a graded paper, and to participate in an interview, either in person or by telephone. "It adds another level of subjectivity," Ms. Falk said. Typically, colleges that go test-optional must do a lot of explaining, to faculty members, alumni, high-school counselors, prospective applicants, and—last, but not least—campus.



On a campus with few Jewish students, Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., where 750 of the students are Jewish, said, "There's nothing like word of mouth in the Jewish community."

Recipe for Success

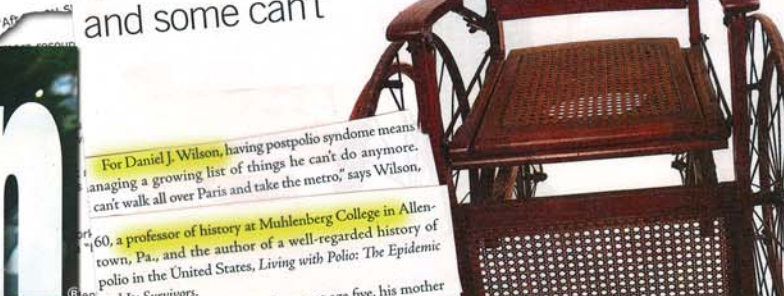
kosher kitchens with a broader dining program



The integrated Kosher option and vegetarian focus will be the model for the future.



Polio survivors
Some can walk away, and some can't



For Daniel J. Wilson, having postpolio syndrome means managing a growing list of things he can't do anymore. He can't walk all over Paris and take the metro," says Wilson.



Women clergy bring good
Platz first female ordained 40 years



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A day of...

Calendar Year

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Employees’ health insurance | \$11,618 |
| Electricity | \$3,408 |
| Telephone Service | \$1,968 |

Academic Year

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Mainstage Theatre Season | \$400 |
| Tutoring | \$165 |
| Independent Student Research | \$75 |
| Financial aid (per student) | \$47 |

