

Muhlenberg's Treasures: Inside the College's Permanent Collection

MUHLENBERG

WINTER 2012

THE MAGAZINE

Pillars of Support

Whether physically or learning disabled, or just in need of some extra help, Muhlenberg has a long history of providing support for its students on campus



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cover photo: Patrick Molloy '15 (l) walks Academic Row with classmate Alex Morales '15. Molloy, who is blind, thrives at 'Berg, and credits much of this success to the caring culture, as well as the Office of Disability Services.

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11 Pillars of Support

Disabled students say Muhlenberg is a college that supports its students – whatever their needs may be.

20 Mule Weather

Before “Snow-tober,” there was “Mud-vember.” Muhlenberg football has dealt with some extreme weather in the past decade.



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It's Complicated

I'm pretty sure God knew exactly what would happen when he put Adam and Eve in the garden and told them not to eat fruit from the tree of knowledge. Curiosity is in our genes. It's part of what makes us human. And while it can get us into trouble, curiosity is responsible for every major cultural and scientific advance our species has ever accomplished.

We were not made to accept simple answers, no matter how easy or convenient it might be to do so. And nowhere in God's creation do people take more delight in asking awkward questions, challenging received wisdom, developing hypotheses and debating truth than on a college campus.

We are all so very busy, rushing to get our work done; multi-tasking every waking minute, trying to be in three places at once. We yearn for quick, simple, straightforward, definitive, unequivocal answers. Who has the time for deep contemplation? To question received wisdom? To peel back the hidden layers of meaning in art, or politics, or all the other problems and phenomena that life hurls at us everyday?

Muhlenberg to the rescue! First of all, we provide our students with time: four years to explore, to ponder, to struggle. We throw big questions at them and help them develop well-reasoned answers. We try, in their time with us, so deeply to ingrain these habits of skepticism, critical thinking and close analysis that they will never again take the world or what they are told at face value. Not all the big questions come up in the classroom, which is why our staff – including our Religious Life staff – also understand themselves to be educators.

At Muhlenberg, with our Lutheran heritage, you could say we come by this naturally. Martin Luther was, after all, a professor himself – and not shy about challenging the status quo. Our Lutheran heritage



holds, in the words of former Muhlenberg Professor Darrell Jodock, that

"No inherited ideas or practices are exempt from critique and evaluation. Religion itself can be critiqued...The state can be critiqued. To the distress of presidents and deans, the college itself can be critiqued...Every area can be investigated. The results of such undertakings may vary in value, but nothing stands in the way of their undertaking. The net effect is freedom of inquiry."

Despite our urge to complicate things, sometimes we find that the truest and most profound answers end up being simple ones. Darwin's theory of natural selection and the heliocentric model of our solar system are two examples. Jesus's summary of the commandments and Hillel's summary of the Torah are others.

I knew when the College set out to recruit a new Chaplain that the search would be more complicated than the usual recruitment process. We would need a search committee that involved students, faculty, staff and alumni of diverse religious backgrounds, of course, because that is how we operate when we organize a search. Because our Chaplain has traditionally been an ordained Lutheran pastor (ELCA) the integrity of our community's values and the integrity of the church's process for calling a pastor as Chaplain would both need to be honored in the process.

What sort of person were we looking for?

Well, it was important to remember that we were selecting a Chaplain for the entire College community. The ability to connect with students and assist with their spiritual development is important, perhaps even most important, but it is not the only expectation we have of our Chaplain. Other members of the community – faculty, staff and even alumni – turn to the Chaplain for comfort, guidance and support. While the College Chaplain bears primary responsibility for leading Protestant worship on campus, she or he also coordinates the work of the other chaplains, develops and leads programs that allow community members to act on their values and must be a welcoming, supportive presence to students, faculty and staff of all faiths – and to those who do not consider themselves members of a particular faith.

Furthermore, we needed a Chaplain to be a gifted spiritual adviser to many and a willing and informed guide to other resources for those who prefer to seek guidance elsewhere. We needed our Chaplain to be sensitive and skilled in dealing with individuals in crisis, comforting to those stricken by grief and supportive to those who need advice. When those individuals are Christians, the Chaplain must be able to draw on their shared Christian faith to help them. When they are not, the Chaplain must still be able to relate to them as authentic and supportive, without assuming shared beliefs.

In other words, we needed to find a Chaplain of clear values and powerful faith, who is at the same time respectful of other faith traditions and does not seek to impose his or her beliefs on others.

Fortunately, at the very beginning of the search process we found excellent and understanding partners in Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Bishop Sam Zeiser and in the Rev. Peggy Wuertele, Coordinator for Missional Leadership – Region 7, ELCA. Peggy helped us negotiate the Lutheran pastor placement materials, interpreted Church jargon when we scratched our heads over some of the more arcane phrases in each candidate's "RLP"

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Campus Community Mourns Robert Wood

By Elizabeth Fonseca '13, Public Relations Intern

Muhlenberg trustee Robert Wood died October 29 after a long fight with brain cancer. He was 67. Although Wood, an Allentown businessman, was a graduate of Cornell University, the Wood family has been associated with Muhlenberg for many decades.

In 1948, Wood's family business, Wood Dining Services – at the time run by Wood's father, Milton "Scotty" Wood – provided Muhlenberg with its first food dining services, a partnership that still continues after 63 years. Since its founding, Wood Dining Services had become the fourth-largest food-service company in the nation. In 2001, the company was purchased by the Sodexo Group, one of the largest food-service management companies in the world. Wood worked at Sodexo through 2009. The new campus restaurant at Muhlenberg, dedicated in August 2010, is named the "Ilene and Robert Wood Dining Commons," after Wood and his wife.

The College benefitted from Wood's generosity in other areas as well. Muhlenberg's athletic stadium, built in 1999, is named Scotty Wood Stadium, and Bob Wood served as a chair for another of his father's namesakes, the Scotty Wood Tournament, the annual men's and women's basketball tournament that began in 1982 at Muhlenberg.

Wood and his wife dedicated much of their lives to charitable work. "Bob could have hired servants to do anything he wanted done," says Muhlenberg President Randy Helm. "Instead he chose to serve others." Wood also was involved with the Harry C. Trexler Trust, the Allentown Art Museum and the United Way of the Lehigh Valley. It also was not at all rare to find Wood conducting unplanned acts of charity for those in the area who needed it most, and there are many nonprofit organizations throughout the Lehigh Valley that have been effected by Wood's altruism.

Helm sums up Wood's character best when he says, "He was unfailingly kind, unfailingly generous, always ready with a good idea, a kind word, an offer of help...He had so much to be proud of but was always modest." A memorial service was held for Wood on November 2, in Egner Memorial Chapel.



Robert and Ilene Wood

MUHENBERG in the NEWS



Communication Dr. Jefferson Pooley is quoted about authenticity in the media.

The Washington Post – Director for the Institute of Jewish-Christian Understanding, Reverend Peter A. Pettit, is quoted about an upcoming Mel Gibson movie about a Jewish military hero.

The Philadelphia Inquirer – An article on college polling institutes mentions Muhlenberg's Institute of Public Opinion directed by Professor of Political Science Dr. Christopher Borick.

Knoxville News Sentinel – A report on Muhlenberg Professor of Art Scott Sher's art exhibit of soundscapes in Knoxville called "Mapping Sound."

Harrisburg Patriot-News – Professor of Economics Dr. George Heitmann wrote an op-ed piece on President Obama.

Detroit Free Press – Alums Robert and Carolyn Buzzard are mentioned as having attended 'Berg's homecoming as honorary alumni for a chemistry partnership they've created for students.

ABC News – Muhlenberg alum Ben Walls '11 is quoted on protesting at Occupy Philadelphia.

The New York Times – Associate Professor of Media and

Broadway World – Reports that Kathryn Burke, exhibitions & collections manager of the Martin Art Gallery, was a show juror at The State Theater Center in Easton.

Variety – Alum Steven Grossman '00 is named one of Hollywood's New Leaders in management.

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review – Assistant Professor of African American Studies and History Kim Gallon is mentioned for leading a discussion on Africana Studies.

CBS News – Assistant Professor of Theatre & Dance Troy Dwyer is mentioned for his First Year Seminar on drag theory and performance.

Courier Times – Pearl S. Buck, a Pulitzer Prize winning author and humanitarian, is mentioned as having found sponsors for a young man to attend Muhlenberg.

NOTABLE:

Political science professor Chris Borick quoted or interviewed more than 20 times in a three-month period.

Eight arts-related mentions

Three mentions of Media and Communication Professor Paul McEwan's book *Bruce McDonald's Hard Core Logo*

DOOR TO DOOR

Waste Not, Want Not: College Adopts New Green Initiatives

By Angela Napoletano '12
Presidential Assistant, Public Relations

Muhlenberg has made recycling a whole lot easier.

A new partnership with Sustainable Waste Solutions (SWS), launched in the fall 2011 semester, has eliminated sorting. Members of the campus community can now deposit any waste into containers located throughout the campus, without sorting into separate bins for paper, plastic and bottles. Once the waste arrives at the SWS plant, it is deposited into a pit and then mechanically sorted into categories.

Even the College's non-recyclables are now handled in a sustainable way: rather than sending garbage to a landfill, the SWS converts Muhlenberg's trash into heat and electricity. "This technology, already in use in much of Europe, is considered a more sustainable way of dealing with trash," says Kalyna Procyk, co-creator of Muhlenberg's Office of Sustainability.

At the SWS plant, trash is burned in a fire hot enough to kill most, if not all, contaminants. SWS says the energy generated from the incineration is enough to produce electricity for some 38,000 homes annually. "Waste-to-energy plants emit fewer greenhouse gases, their emissions are tightly monitored by the EPA, and the heat generates steam which is then converted to electricity," says Procyk.

The process is a vast improvement over traditional waste disposal. "Many students are not aware of where their trash goes," says Amanda Meier '13, President of EnAct, the College's Environmental Action Team.

"They do not realize that previously any fork, compostable or non-compostable plate, to-go container, or anything else they disposed of would go into a landfill and never degrade."

Meier says she hopes the SWS initiative will have a far-reaching effect on waste production. "If students can learn about how Muhlenberg is dealing with this problem and the benefits of it, they may be able to bring these ideas and concepts to the places they journey in the future," she says.

The recycling program is just one piece of the College's sustainability initiatives. Recently, the school's "Just Tap It" campaign reduced bottled-water purchases on campus by 95% by installing new filtered water stations throughout campus and excluding bottled water from the student meal plan. New solar panels have been installed throughout the campus to both reduce grid dependence and to educate the student body on renewable resources.

SWS was one of several companies competing to manage the recycling process at

An Unexpected Garden

By Bill Keller
New Media Specialist

Seegers is green – from the top down.

Students in Dr. Rich Niesenbaum's "Sustainable Solutions" class developed and began installing a green roof plan for Seegers Union during the fall semester – a system that uses vegetation to absorb moisture and help reduce precipitation runoff, improve building insulation and absorb carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere.

The project was funded by a gift from the PPL Corporation, a electricity provider headquartered in Allentown that uses green-roof technology in its own facility.

To build the roof, Niesenbaum's class delivered and arranged mats, plant beds and small succulents on the Seegers roof. The installation can be seen from the second floor of the Ilene and Robert Wood Dining Commons.

"A college's architecture, policies, and actions should teach," says Niesenbaum. "Teaching doesn't just go on in the classroom, and a building can teach everyday. Let our architecture be part of our pedagogy."

Muhlenberg. Jim Bolton, assistant director of plant operations, played a major role in the College's initiative. He toured a number of recycling facilities and mechanized plants using processes that Bolton calls "fascinating."

Also fascinating – and exciting – are the results. "We have larger recycling containers now and they are filled," says Bolton, "We are recycling more than we have in the past."



Alexander Beck '12, Nicole Cammisa '14, Sarah Franzel '14 and Evan Schmidt '12 help make sure recycling goes smoothly on Move-In Weekend.



Sustainable Waste Solutions dumpsters



'Seeing Africa' From Allentown

Kim Gallon, assistant professor of history and director of the Africana Studies program, says she is deeply committed to the teaching philosophy of small, liberal arts colleges. "The focus on teaching and the development of students' interests speaks to my pedagogy and scholarship," she says. "However, Muhlenberg's real attention and commitment to interdisciplinary research and teaching makes the College stand out among of some its peers."

Determined not to confine teaching just to her classroom, last fall Gallon created "Seeing Africa," lecture series. Gallon recently discussed the series with Jillian Lowery '00, director of college communications.

1. What made you decide to start the Africana Lecture series?

Charles Anderson, former director of African American Studies and professor of dance, and I submitted a proposal to create discussion and excitement around a theme in Africana Studies. Because Africana Studies is an interdisciplinary field, it offers students and faculty opportunities to engage their own academic interests and study from a different perspective, an Africana one.

2. What motivated you to approach the guests that you did?

I traveled to Senegal and Ghana (West Africa) this past summer. This experience inspired me to bring artists and scholars to Muhlenberg who

could help students and faculty who have never traveled to West Africa see Africa in the way that I had. The ultimate goal of the "Seeing Africa" series to challenge the negative stereotypes associated with the continent.

3. Are you pleased with how the series was received?

I am extremely pleased with the reception of the series. The events were well-attended but, more importantly, student and faculty responses to specific talks have revealed that the series has generated a greater and growing understanding on campus of the significance of Africa's place in the world.

4. What's next for "Seeing Africa"?

Next semester's events will address a broader range of ideas and topics in Africana Studies. The series will stress connections between Africa and the African Diaspora by focusing on issues related to people of African descent in other parts of the world. While there are no plans for a lecture series for the next few academic years, there will be an annual talk that will focus on an alternating theme in Africana Studies.

5. What is the main focus of your teaching and your scholarship?

I teach African/African American history along with interdisciplinary courses on the African American experience. However many people would be surprised to know that I teach courses on the history of sexuality in the United States. My teaching truly reflects my scholarship as I research and write about African American sexuality and the mass media in the early twentieth century.

Ireland Lays Out the Welcome Mat for 'Berg Students

By Liz Fonseca '13
Public Relations Intern

Ireland is well known for its rich history, the warmth of its people and its picturesque countryside. Now Muhlenberg students will have the opportunity to study this unique country up close, as part of a newly designed discipline-specific experience for the Study Abroad program. Based at Dublin City University (DCU), the program is designed for students majoring in media and communication or film studies, although any student who has completed the required prerequisites is welcome to participate. Spring 2012 is the first semester the program is run.

The inaugural group of 13 participating students will be accompanied by Associate

Professor of Media and Communication Dr. Jefferson Pooley during the first eight weeks of the trip. Pooley will teach one required course to the participants. The students also will enroll in two other media and communication electives at DCU.

DCU partners with dozens of media and communication companies to match students with internships that suit their abilities, interests and career goals, and all participants will complete an internship in media and communication during their Study Abroad experience. Participants will choose between video production, public relations, advertising or web marketing jobs. The internships are designed to give them hands-on experience that could prove decisive in the job market after they graduate—as well, of course, as allowing them to put their learning into action.

With half of Ireland's population under the age of 26, the country may be the ideal location for undergraduate study abroad. In addition, Ireland's small size and location near Great

Britain and Europe's mainland make traveling simple. DCU, which enrolled its first students in 1980, is located on an 85-acre campus just a 10-minute drive from central Dublin. Students will be able to take advantage of all the vibrant capitol has to offer, while still returning back to the security and intimacy of the DCU campus, which serves more than 11,000 students. The university hosts more than 100 clubs and societies, providing a huge variety of on-campus events throughout the year.

The Ireland program is just the latest addition to Muhlenberg's vibrant Study Abroad program. More than 52 percent of the class of 2011 participated in the program, and the College now has more than 100 approved overseas institutions to choose from. Other discipline-specific Study Abroad opportunities offered at Muhlenberg include the London Theatre Program at Goldsmiths College and a program for accounting, business and economics majors at the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands, both offered during the fall semester.

DOOR TO DOOR

Business Professor Monitors the Arts' Vital Signs

By Liz Fonseca '13, Public Relations Intern



Students who sign up for Roland Kushner's classes are often surprised when he breaks out his guitar to sing a song related to the day's lecture. But Kushner, an associate professor of business who teaches classes in management, strategy and arts administration, says he has always had "a natural affinity for the arts." That's a passion that served him well as co-author of the latest edition of the National Arts Index, a prestigious annual compilation of 81 national-level economic indicators that measure the health and vitality of arts across the United States.

The second edition of the Index, published last winter by Americans for the Arts, is based on data compiled between 1998 and 2009. It measures indicators such as artist income, volunteering at arts-related organizations, arts-related employment, attendance levels at events and copyright applications.

The breadth of the Index makes it a valuable tool for leaders of arts organizations and policymakers. "The arts have always needed advocacy and support in the United States," says Kushner. "That is why it is vital for us to ask the question, 'How are the arts doing?'"

In some ways, the Index found, the answer to that question is "relatively well." In the past decade, for instance, non-profit arts organizations grew at a faster rate than any other non-profit sector. In fact, between 2003 and 2009, a new nonprofit arts organization was founded every four-and-a-half hours on average, according to the Index. During that time, there also was a 23 percent increase in the number of tourists who visit arts events or take advantage of arts activities across the nation.

A number of Muhlenberg students assisted Kushner in conducting his research. Alumnus Ariel Fogel '11, says the project allowed him to combine his two majors—behavioral economics and music. Fogel worked on the early stages of the "Local Arts Index," which uses many of the same

indicators as the national index to provide a community-by-community comparison of the nation's arts sector, allowing each participating community to see how they compare on a national scale.

Kushner says the arts have always played a critical role in his professional life. Since moving to the Lehigh Valley from Canada in 1980, he has supported and been a leader in numerous local arts organizations. He was Managing Director of Bethlehem's Musikfest from 1984 to 1987 and Director of Development for the Bach Choir of Bethlehem from 1987 to 1990. For seven years, before joining the Muhlenberg faculty in 2006, he led Kushner Management Advisory Services, where he counseled organizations in the arts and other sectors. It was while running this company that Kushner became involved in co-authoring the Index.

Kushner is also a musician who sings and plays acoustic and electric guitars, the long-necked mandolin and the piano. He plays his own material and occasionally performs in venues throughout the Lehigh Valley. On campus, Kushner played an integral role in designing and implementing the new arts administration concentration within the business major, which he expects will have attract about a dozen students each year.

Now, along with Randy Cohen, his co-author and Vice President of Research at Americans for the Arts, Kushner says he looks forward to seeing just what impact the Index has on arts in the United States. He says he hopes the study will "elevate the conversation" about the importance of the arts and will also help legislators, appointed officials and funders as they make arts-related decisions. "The arts are in our hearts; they are in our souls. They motivate so many people and there are so many communities that rely on the arts. They are a part of our identity." And, as it turns out, they're also a perfect fit for a Muhlenberg business professor.



Voyage to the Past

Some 18 alumni and trustees joined President Randy Helm for a fall cruise and lecture series aboard M.S. L'Austral, from Istanbul to Athens. Excursions featured Troy and Ephesus along the Turkish coast and Greece's history-rich islands: Pátmos, Rhodes, Delos (above) and Santorini.



Staying Connected: Advice from a Muhlenberg Grad Back on Campus

By Rebekkah L. Brown '99
Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

What a feeling! I am thoroughly delighted to be writing this article from the Muhlenberg campus, where I returned as a member of the administration last July. Being back at the College has been incredibly rewarding in so many ways already. While some of the physical surroundings have changed – new residence facilities, academic buildings, artistic space and dining options – much of what I remember about Muhlenberg is exactly the same. There is an incredible sense of community, and it exists on so many levels – students, faculty, administrators, alumni and local citizens all interacting and building relationships, many that will last a lifetime.

Since graduating from the College, I have remained connected, even while at a physical distance from the campus. As a student, I established relationships with faculty that have grown even stronger since graduation, and I returned to the campus regularly to see a variety of theatre and dance performances. But returning in this administrative role at Muhlenberg has given me even greater insight into the operations of the College and has made me prouder than ever to be a graduate of this institution. If you have not visited recently, I encourage you to come and walk across campus again. I anticipate that you will be impressed with how the College continues to grow and prosper. If your experience at 'Berg was anything like mine, fond memories will come flooding back about your time as a student.

So much of the work that is done in the Development and Alumni Relations office is only possible with your support. That involvement comes in a variety of formats. While financial pledges are absolutely crucial to the continued success of the College, there are many other ways that every Muhlenberg gradu-

ate can get involved. Following is a list of opportunities for you to stay connected with life at Muhlenberg today.

- **Visit campus.** Take a walk, see a show, attend a sporting event, talk to the students, visit a favorite professor, have dinner in the Wood Dining Commons or the GQ. We'd be delighted to see you and welcome you back.
- **Talk about Muhlenberg.** The best publicity for the College is word of mouth. Brag about Muhlenberg to everyone you know – fellow alumni, prospective students and parents, neighbors and friends. We need everyone's help to spread the word about the institution and all that it has to offer.
- **Stay updated.** The College sends a variety of materials to you regarding what is happening on campus. Take the time to read what we send you and learn more about all of the new developments on campus.
- **Tell us what you think.** We recently surveyed all alumni on a variety of topics via email. I hope you participated, but if not, you can always send us your feedback at bergalum@muhlenberg.edu.
- **Reconnect with your fellow alumni.** Reunion has become a landmark event on campus. If you are celebrating a Reunion this year, please consider coming back to campus next fall and gathering together with your former classmates. If this is not your Reunion year, you can still come back for Homecoming that same weekend, and there are many other events planned throughout the year, both on campus and regionally. We hope you will join us.
- **Hire a Muhlenberg student.** Want someone just as talented, thoughtful and educated as you? Connect with our Career Center and advertise open positions within your company to Muhlenberg students.

I also hope that you will "Feed the Mule" by making a gift to the College. You hear so often about the crucial need for annual support to The Muhlenberg Fund because nothing is more important to sustaining Muhlenberg's mission and the work of our faculty and students. Unrestricted annual giving gives the College the flexibility to make the biggest impact on our future leaders – our students. Tuition only covers approximately 80 percent of what it takes to educate a student at Muhlenberg. We have all benefited from the generosity of those that have come before us, and it takes the support of our entire community to keep the Muhlenberg experience strong. In order for the College to continue upward momentum, we need every graduate to make a contribution, in any amount, to Muhlenberg each and every year.

I support the College with a gift to The Muhlenberg Fund annually. When the new Rehearsal House was under construction, I also made a gift to this new facility. My decision to support this initiative was three-fold: I wanted to assist the faculty members who were so instrumental in my experience, I wanted to help create even better rehearsal spaces for today's students, and I wanted to name something in honor of my mother, who made my Muhlenberg experience possible. Think back to your Muhlenberg experience. Who made the greatest impact on your life at that time? Was it a professor, a staff member, a fellow classmate, your parents? A gift made in honor or memory of an important influence on your life is another terrific way to contribute to the College.

Remember that you carry your alma mater with you for the rest of your life. Do you want Muhlenberg to reach its fullest potential? The only way we can do that is with the engagement of our alumni. Join me in supporting the College. When you finish reading this magazine, go and talk to someone today about your Muhlenberg experience. I think you will be pleased with how good it feels to talk about your time here. I also hope to see you on campus soon – I know you will enjoy your visit.



SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Victory at Last: The Muhlenberg Grad Behind an Important Diabetes Treatment

By Stacey Prohaska,
Director of Communication and Donor Relations

The story of Januvia began in 1999, when Merck scientist Nancy A. Thornberry '79 asked a colleague if she'd be interested in collaborating on exciting new research into type 2 diabetes. "It was very clear to me then that diabetes was becoming an epidemic, and Merck was committed to finding new therapeutic approaches to this devastating disease," says Thornberry.

Her work, with Anne E. Weber, Ph.D., resulted in the first new oral medication for diabetes in more than a decade and the first medicine approved by the FDA to inhibit the enzyme DPP-4. (By inhibiting DPP-4, Januvia helps prevent the degradation of a natural hormone that signals the pancreas to release insulin.) Since its approval in 2006, more than 35 million prescriptions for Januvia have been written in the United States and many more globally. The drug is now available in more than 85 countries.

"Discovering an important new medicine is the goal of every person who works in pharmaceutical research," says Thornberry. "Until it actually happens, though, there is no way to know how absolutely thrilling it is, and how incredibly and deeply satisfying it feels."

Worldwide, diabetes affects some 366 million people. In the United States, adults with type 2 diabetes account for approximately 90 to 95 percent of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. Nationwide, approximately half of diagnosed patients fail to achieve adequate blood glucose control – which can lead to blindness, amputations, heart disease and nerve and kidney damage,

among many other health consequences.

Januvia is different from older therapies in two important ways. "The drug is associated with a lower risk of hypoglycemia, a potentially dangerous event that occurs when glucose levels are lowered too much," says Thornberry. "Januvia also does not produce weight gain, which is important as the majority of diabetics are obese, and obesity is a major risk factor for diabetes."

Thornberry and Weber, are the first two women in Merck's 120-year history to lead a team that discovered a new medicine. They received the 2011 Discoverer's Award, the highest honor from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), for their work.

Thornberry credits her Muhlenberg education with the success she has had in her career. "I selected Muhlenberg because I was interested in a serious science school and I wanted a small-college experience," she says. "Muhlenberg gave me an incredibly strong foundation, and taught me how to think about science and solving problems."

"My personal relationships with professors contributed to my growth as a person and as a scientist. My advisor, Jim Vaughan '52, taught me that in addition to having a strong foundation in biology, it was critical to have an understanding of chemistry to work at the interface between biology and chemistry, which is what pharmaceutical research is all about. He was so right," she says.

"All of my biology and chemistry professors

– Drs. Vaughan, Oplinger, Shive, Mortimer, Smart and Hatch – were outstanding," adds Thornberry.

Thornberry joined Merck straight from Muhlenberg, and her work at the company has proved to be a win-win for both parties. "It gives me incredible satisfaction to work on programs that have the potential to impact human health," she says. In 2008, Thornberry received Muhlenberg's Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the College and her work with diabetes and obesity research at Merck. In September 2011, Thornberry presented a lecture, "A Life in Science," at a Common Hour session open to faculty, staff and students at Muhlenberg.

Thornberry and her husband Archibald "Arch" Knisely '76 have two children, a son, Logan, who is majoring in strategic communications at Elon University in North Carolina, and a daughter, Anne, who is following in her mother's footsteps as a chemistry and possible neuroscience major at the University of Virginia.

The family has supported Muhlenberg financially at a leadership level and plan to direct future gifts to student research. "In an increasingly competitive world, I continue to be impressed with how Muhlenberg has invested in the sciences and its commitment to providing the best possible education for its students," says Thornberry. "My Muhlenberg experience played a major role in my career and I give back because I want to see the tradition of excellence continue."



“Dr. Kenneth G. Ryder '79, a family medicine practitioner in Schnecksville, Pa. who knew Nancy Thornberry as a student, prescribes Januvia to his patients. "I have been very pleased with the beneficial effect Januvia has had for my type II diabetics. It is very effective, side-effect neutral and convenient for patients to take. I use it whenever possible and have told my Merck pharmaceutical reps that it was developed by my friend and Muhlenberg College classmate Nancy Thornberry!"

Partnering for the Future: Alumni Relations and the Career Center Team Up

By Jennifer R. McLarin '86, Director of Alumni Relations

Back in the 1980s, Muhlenberg's Career Center offered a unique opportunity to students: have dinner with a Lehigh Valley-based Muhlenberg alumnus working in your field of interest. For myself, then a senior English major, being placed with Jack McCallum '71, a nationally acclaimed writer for *Sports Illustrated* was a huge thrill and a valuable learning experience; one that helped me establish a my own writing career after graduation.

That sort of mentoring relationship between alumni and students still happens today. In fact, the Alumni Relations Office and Career Center have a long history of collaborating on programming and events. Now, though, the College plans to expand that collaboration, a decision that could dramatically strengthen the relationship between alumni and Muhlenberg students.

In the recent past, the Career Center has planned events to help students explore various careers through initiatives such as the Shadow Program, in which a student observes an alumnus for a day during winter break and gets a first-hand look at his or her field, and "Alumni in the Spotlight," featuring a panel of alumni addressing a group of students about a particular career. Alumni Relations assisted the Career Center by recruiting alumni for and/or funding these events.

During the past few years as the economy tightened, Alumni Relations and the Career Center increasingly were being called upon by students and alumni seeking to connect with one another. Students realized that the Muhlenberg alumni network could be a valuable asset in their job searches, and alumni wanted more than ever to help. The question

became: who could best develop these connections, staff at the Career Center or the Alumni Office? A clear answer emerged: it had to be both.

The two offices joined forces, initiating a standing meeting, and pledged to work closely with the Career Services Committee of the Alumni Board. The overarching goal of all of these meetings was to develop and implement effective ways for alumni and students to connect through career-related programming and events.

Last spring, Alumni Relations and the Career Center began regular full-staff meetings, where both offices met to brainstorm and plan events. The two departments also jointly participated in a four-part "Online Academy" webinar series titled "Strategic Partnerships: Building Collaborative Relationships between Alumni Relations and Career Services." Shortly after, the group met to plan a series of career-alumni events for the fall semester, including:

Alumni/Student Career Dinners: to be held each semester. The first was held Nov. 15, for psychology majors. An alumni panel comprised of former psychology majors in different fields addressed the group and answered questions; during dinner, they broke into small groups with students. Students changed tables during dessert to gain exposure to more alumni.

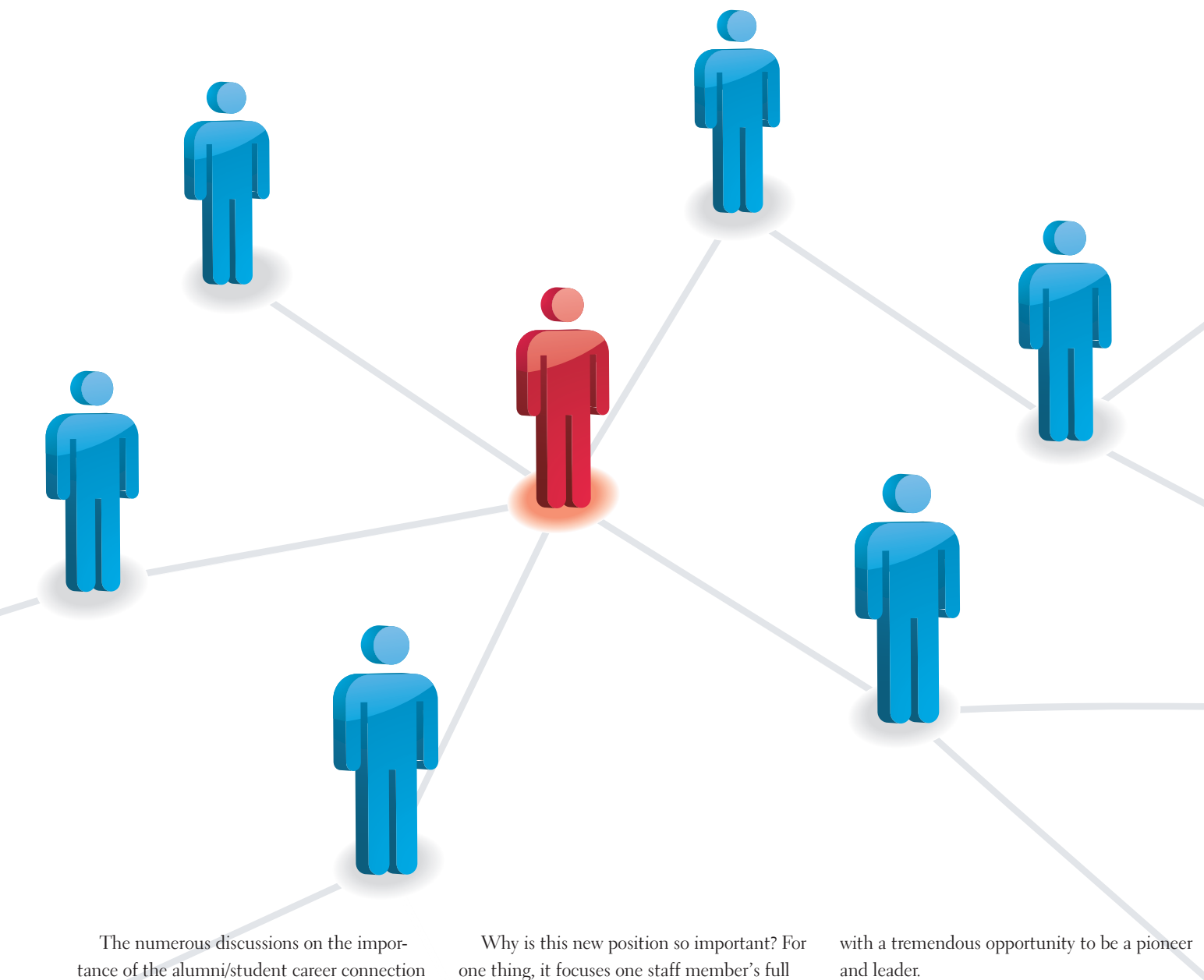
Alumni/Student Networking Events: to be held each semester. These events, which began Nov. 3, encompass a broader representation of majors, focusing on physical sciences, social sciences, fine arts, etc., as opposed to a single major. The first event highlighted humanities majors, and featured alumni in a variety of

careers talking with students about possible opportunities after graduation. These evening sessions are designed to give students opportunities for interaction and networking with alumni and to help them to feel more confident in these situations.

The Career/Alumni connection also was a major topic of discussion for President Randy Helm and his senior staff at its annual retreat last May. To develop the conversation, the group started by answering the question, "How can we make Muhlenberg's Career Center the best of any liberal arts college in the world?" After the retreat, Helm shared the results of that discussion with Alumni Relations and the Career Center, including the following objectives:

- Encourage students to participate more intentionally and thoughtfully in conversations about vocation (from the existential and philosophical to more nuts-and-bolts discussions), leading to self-discovery.
- Create more robust linkages to alumni, parents and faculty.
- Integrate Career Center and Alumni Relations efforts with academic and other departments and programs.
- Provide students with an orientation to a lifetime of career management – beyond getting the first job.
- Develop strong advisors for particular fields – augmenting current pre-health and pre-law advising programs.
- Motivate students to be repeat customers of the Career Center and encourage them to bring friends.
- Offer students opportunities to meet with recruiters in diverse fields (on and/or off campus).

ALUMNI NEWS



The numerous discussions on the importance of the alumni/student career connection by various College constituents made it clear that this was a pressing need that must be addressed. Ultimately, Helm asked the Alumni and Career Center directors to investigate the possibility of creating a unique position: one that would specifically address alumni/student career interaction. The two researched and developed a proposal over the summer and presented it to the president at the start of the fall semester. The position was approved, and an advertisement for the “Associate Director of Alumni/Student Connections” was posted in October 2011. The new staff member will be part of the Alumni Relations team while partnering closely with the Career Center.

Why is this new position so important? For one thing, it focuses one staff member’s full attention on the critical need of connecting Muhlenberg alumni and students in ways that are beneficial to both groups, and to the institution as a whole. For another, it is a new concept that puts Muhlenberg on the cutting edge. Uncertain economic conditions and increased competition for employment have led to alumni and students demanding more of their institutions’ alumni and career offices; as a result, collaborations between the two are becoming increasingly prevalent; however, the idea of one position bridging both offices and providing services to alumni and students concurrently is one that has yet to be realized by most institutions. This presents Muhlenberg

with a tremendous opportunity to be a pioneer and leader.

In addition to finding the right person for the new position, alumni support is critical to the success of future alumni/student engagement and interaction. Alumni interested in being part of Alumni Relations/Career Center initiatives are encouraged to contact the Alumni Office at bergalum@muhlenberg.edu or 800-464-2374.

Editor’s note: In January 2012, Patrick Fligge ’10 was selected as Associate Director of Alumni/Student Connections. Formerly Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, Fligge began his new duties on February 1. Contact him at pfligge@muhlenberg.edu or 484-664-3668.

Evan Karp '02: Weaving a Safety Net Children

By Elizabeth Fonseca '13
Public Relations Intern

Accidental injury. It's the leading cause of death for children between one and 14 years of age. For survivors, it can be a life-changing event. Just ask Evan Karp '02.

At 13, Karp was rollerblading with friends in Buffalo, N.Y., when he was hit by a car. The accident resulted in a seven-month stay in a rehabilitation clinic in Delaware.

It was during those long, painful months that Karp, the son of a pediatric surgeon, decided to make injury prevention his life's goal.

Last year, his ambition met reality when he created Baby Central U.S.A. (www.BabyCentralUSA.com), a website and smartphone app that provides information to families about child safety and recreation.

Karp says the idea for Baby Central came to him during his sophomore year at Muhlenberg, while working on a class assignment to create a business plan. "My passion for child safety, although present since my accident, really blossomed while I was at Muhlenberg," he says.

A business major concentrating in entrepreneurial studies, Karp came up with a plan for Safety Net, a retail store that sells goods for childproofing homes. While working on his M.B.A at Nova Southeastern University, Karp revisited the initiative and decided that the preliminary version of the company "had too much overhead," but an online version could be successful and profitable. The plan eventually evolved into Baby Central.

The site and app are built around search technology that can be used to find virtually any child-safety service a parent may need, all of them certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. By zip code, users can search for anything from baby sign-language classes, to toy stores, to birthing centers. And Karp says the medical resources search tool "has been perfected to the point where it is better than both Google's and Yahoo's."

Baby Central provides information on childproofing homes and gives parents the option of buying recommended products directly from the site. It also displays current product recalls and Amber Alerts.

"If you need quick answers to questions, Baby Central U.S.A. is an invaluable tool," Karp says. "Parents can focus on bonding with their baby, enjoying the milestones of childhood, and leave the worrying to us."



Karp left his mark on 'Berg before he graduated by working with officials to implement the crosswalks that now go from the main campus to the library and the Center for the Arts. He calls the road without the safety measures as "an accident waiting to happen."

Now, in addition to managing his company, Karp often goes to schools and other organizations to speak with children about what they can do to stay safe. He says he is becoming increasingly involved in Safe Kids USA, a network of organizations working to educate families about child safety.

What does Karp hope for the future of his company? "It is my plan to soon be able to license the app out to various hospitals so they are able to use it for their own marketing." The website will soon include interviews with experts on child safety-issues, including retired athletes who will talk about helmet safety and concussion prevention.

"If I could prevent one person from sustaining a life altering injury and going through the arduous recovery that I did, I would feel that my business is successful," Karp says. "I love that I have nurtured Baby Central U.S.A. from infancy and now have seen it through to graduation. I am a very proud father!"

Jennifer R. McLarin '86, Director • Sean Morrow '91, Associate Director

You can contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 2400 Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Phone: 800.464.2374 • Fax: 484.664.3545 • E-mail: bergalum@muhlenberg.edu

COVER STORY

By Lindsey (Aspinall) Getz '04

Whether physically or learning disabled,
or just in need of some extra help,
Muhlenberg has a long history of
providing support for its students on campus

Pillars of Support

Part of the curriculum for his Spanish composition course, says Patrick Molloy '15, includes writing essays and getting the professor's feedback. Sounds pretty standard. But since Molloy is blind, the process posed a problem.

"Obviously I couldn't read the corrections. So my professor and I decided to meet once a week and go through them line-by-line," says Molloy. "That may make me sound like an exception but it's actually what the professors here do for anyone."

That's a story disabled Muhlenberg students tell again and again, whether they have a physical or learning challenge – or just need extra help. Muhlenberg is a college that supports its students – whatever their needs may be. "The fact is that Muhlenberg is known for its interactive and responsive teaching methodology," says Christopher Hooker-Haring '72, P'08, P'10, dean of admission and financial aid. "And that's something that appeals not only to students with disabilities, but also mainstream students as well."

But there's little doubt that being a disabled college student poses special problems for both the student and the institution. And it's becoming an increasingly significant challenge for Muhlenberg and for colleges and universities nationwide.

According to two longitudinal studies by research institute SRI International, 46 percent of young adults with disabilities were attending a college or university within four years of leaving high school in 2009. That compares to 26 percent in 1990. Today, the proportion of all college students with any sort of disability is now 11 percent, according to a report by the General Accounting Office.

The increase reflects population trends, to some extent. But it's also a direct result of the Americans With Disabilities Act, passed by Congress in 1990 and reauthorized in 2008. That law prohibits educational institutions from discriminating against students who are disabled.



Patrick Molloy '15 checks email in Seegers Union.

COVER STORY

Muhlenberg was accommodating long before the law required it, says Dr. Daniel Wilson, Professor of history, who has been on campus since 1978. Due to post-polio syndrome, he began using a scooter several years ago. “In the ’80s, many individual faculty members would make adjustments on their own in order to aid students with disabilities prior to an institutional commitment,” he says. “There’s an attitude of caring here that’s always been obvious, and I think that does make it easier for people with disabilities to adjust.”

In fact, Molloy says that he visited numerous campuses in his college search and that ‘Berg was truly the friendliest of them all. “It really stood out in terms of having such a nice community of people,” he says. “That definitely helped make it a smooth transition here.”

Madison Ferris ’14, who has muscular dys-

trophy, agrees. “I never have to use the automatic door button because students always hold the door for you here,” she says. “And that’s whether you’re disabled or not—it’s just the right thing to do when you see someone coming behind you.”

Development of a Disabilities Office

Dr. Priscilla Howard, director of teacher certification at the Wescoe School, was instrumental in early implementation of disability services at Muhlenberg. In 1988, she ran the first full-time academic support services office and helped coordinate many of the changes that took place on campus to accommodate students with both learning and physical disabilities.

Around 1990, she started a group dubbed PALS for “People with Alternate Learning Styles,” and it became more lovingly known as “Priscilla’s PALS.” By the time Howard left Muhlenberg in 1994 (she’d later return to take on her present position), 150 disabled students had come forward for help, and Howard says she knew that was only the “tip of the iceberg.”

“Back then it was difficult for those students to come forward and talk about their disability because it wasn’t accepted the same way it is today,” says Howard. “But we wanted them to know we had a safe haven here on campus, and that it was okay for them to disclose that they needed extra support in some way. It has really grown from there. I think today’s students feel comfortable discussing their disability needs at Muhlenberg.”



Dan Wilson, Professor of history, uses a scooter due to post-polio syndrome. He says that the College's "attitude of caring" makes it easier for people with disabilities to adjust.

Breaking it Down

Of all students currently attending Muhlenberg who have been identified/qualified as students with disabilities entitled to accommodations and services, these are the percentages of eligible students who had these disabilities identified as the primary area of disability (percentages listed by primary area of disability):

Learning Disability:	
Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder:	38%
Chronic Health Conditions (includes students with mobility impairments):	34%
Deaf/Hearing Impaired:	11%
Blind/Visually Impaired:	1%
Mental Health/Psychiatric Disorders:	2%
Pervasive Developmental Disorder/Aspergers:	.5%
"Other" (includes Neurological Disorders, Tourettes, brain injury, etc.):	2%

In those early days, any disability needs were handled through academic services. Today, there's a separate office of disability services. Pamela Moschini, M.A., M.S., directs that office and works closely with many of the other on-campus offices to coordinate assistance for students as they need it. That has included acquiring important equipment such as talking/screen-reading equipment that Molloy needs. But it also includes some out-of-the-box support. "For instance, if Patrick has to watch a film in class, I arrange for someone to watch it with him and help describe what's going on visually," explains Moschini. "We want to help with anything that would enhance his ability to have a better comprehension of learning. These are the types of added services we do to ensure the student has a full and complete academic experience."

Moschini says that there are many facets of campus life that may need adjustment for a student with disabilities—everything from where they'll live to how they'll get their mail. In the latter case, Moschini will think about the placement of the mailbox if the student is in a wheelchair. It needs to be at eye level. In Molloy's case, one of the mailboxes needed to be switched to a lock and key since most are opened by combination. "It's thinking about the little things," says Moschini. "It may seem like the smallest of details but it's a matter of ensuring that a student doesn't miss out on part of life at college because of his or her disability. My role is to think broadly and in great detail about the life of that student and what we, as a college, need to put in place to meet his or her needs. That means coordinating with the appropriate offices."

Making things go smoothly is very much a team effort, says Moschini. She coordinates with almost every office on campus – depending on the student and his or her specific needs. She works closely with plant operations to help with specialized furniture placements or needs, as well as residential services to ensure students' living needs are met. When it comes to technology requirements such as specialized and state-of-the-art equipment, she works closely with the office of information technology.

According to Moschini, one of the most visible and highly used services (by faculty and students with disabilities) offered by ODS is the Testing Accommodations and the testing facility. "Last year we proctored and administered over 1300 testing appointments," she says. "We facilitated 765 testing appointments in the fall 2011 semester, so we are already on pace to exceed last year's numbers. Extended time for testing it is one of the most highly used accommodations by students with disabilities. We have an entire suite of rooms dedicated to this use." Further, Moschini reports the accommodated testing facility has experienced a 52% increase in the past 6 years --evidence of its importance.

It's also dining, counseling, the health center and individual professors, among others, that help ensure each student is getting a full experience on campus. As a result students report feeling that they are able to have a rich – and complete – college life.

All of that comes at a cost.

Alex Gardner '13 says that his non-progressive muscle disease has always impacted his life but that he's tried not to let it stop him from fulfilling his goals and dreams—including attending college. "Muhlenberg has been an excellent source of support during my years here," he says. "This college's desire and excitement to accommodate me attracted me to the college. I wanted to have the full college experience, living on campus among my peers. Muhlenberg wanted to provide me with that."

"I have a disability that's hard to deal with on my own and it can be scary," says an anonymous sophomore who has narcolepsy and post traumatic stress disorder – and chose Muhlenberg because of the positive outcomes of the Office of Disability Services. "I'm not close to home, I went to school far from home, so having a support system here was really important to me."

Taylor Gold '12, a student with a learning disability, has found that the ODS met more of her needs than expected. "The disability center is a great resource. They've helped me troubleshoot

COVER STORY



Wendy Cole, director of the Academic Resource Center and assistant dean of the college for academic life, meets with one of her learning assistants.

problems. They don't just give extra time for tests, they provide me with someone to talk to and someone to guide me," she says. "When I think of disability center I think of the amount of positive energy and motivation they provide students."

Award-Winning Learning Support

For learning-disabled students, the Academic Resource Center (ARC) is a critical campus resource. Under the direction of Wendy Cole, the office currently helps support 481 students' education whether their learning needs are related to a disability or not. "Muhlenberg is a campus that embraces and celebrates potentiality," says Cole, who is also assistant dean of the college for academic life. "We don't know what that little gem in the rough will be able to do in the world, so we try to make sure that person meets his or her own goals and expectations."

Cole comes back to the team effort that others credit for success. "I couldn't provide the kind of support I'm able to offer students it weren't for the faculty being so involved," she says.

As part of the center's award-winning Peer Tutoring Program, students are offered content workshops, one-on-one student tutoring, and the opportunity for extra support from Learning Assistants in the classroom. Learning Assistants train by taking a course in psychology and are paired with a faculty member, whose classes they audit. They then offer workshops on the course-work to provide extra support for students in need.

According to Cole, the College has received tremendous support from The Oak Foundation in Geneva, Switzerland, an organization that sponsors programs all over the world that improve sustainability and environmental issues, hunger, poverty, women's issues, and students with learning differences. Most of their programs are focused on K-12 students, but Muhlenberg and the

'Let Your Light Shine'

By Deidre Depke

Academics never came easy for Tade Reen '99. Diagnosed as dyslexic as he entered kindergarten, Reen found himself sidelined through his elementary and high school years in New Caanan, Conn.

So he wasn't surprised when his applications to 19 colleges resulted in polite refusals. Muhlenberg College said yes. "The school took a shot at letting me in, and then embraced me in all of my weirdness," Reen says. "They really look at the whole person."

Reen majored in theatre and played football for the College. While auditioning for a production as a sophomore, Reen was asked to perform a three-minute experimental theatre piece. "I told the story of what it's like growing up with dyslexia, about being a smart kid who didn't necessarily get good grades," he says. "To get through school with dyslexia, you must learn resourcefulness, resilience and self reliance. I wanted to show how having dyslexia is gift in many more ways than it is a disability. We view the world in a much different way than most people, and that can be a very good thing when tapped into correctly."

After he graduated, he launched a Broadway and Hollywood acting career, appearing off-Broadway in "Finnegan's Farewell" and in recurring roles on "As the World Turns," "Guiding Light," "The Young and the Restless," and "The Jamie Kennedy Experiment."

In 2001, Muhlenberg contacted Reen and asked him to turn the three minutes into a 30-minute performance piece. The result was "Educating Grover," which had its premiere at the Baker Center for the Arts in 2003.

The play eventually was produced on video and Reen toured schools around the United States, showing "Educating Grover" and talking to parents and children about dyslexia. The experience, he says, was transformative.

Reen, 36, now lives in New York and works in sales on Wall Street. He is married, and his wife is expecting a child. He recently published his first novel, "Glad Tidings," about a New Yorker's reaction to the September 11 attacks.

Reen credits Muhlenberg for his successes: "At the end of the day, there are no excuses about who you are, and what you can and cannot do," he says. "Your job is to get out there everyday and let your light shine."



COVER STORY

University of North Carolina have been supported with money to help college students with learning differences be successful in competitive institutions. The funds from the Oak Foundation cover the cost of the stipends for the Peer Learning Assistants.

For those students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder (ADHD), the graduation rate has been higher than 90% over the past four years of the Oak Foundation Grant (class years of 2007-2011), some in a ninth semester or fifth year.

Steven Mintz '12, is a student who has benefited from some of these programs and is now a tutor and Learning Assistant himself. Mintz has a combination of dyslexia and some other processing delays, yet he's currently in the process of applying for graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in statistics. He works as a Learning Assistant in the mathematics department. "The program is designed to be an additional resource for students who need extra support in all of the college's key introductory courses," says Mintz. "It's not the same thing as a Teaching Assistant, which other colleges use, because we're not helping the professor teach. We are there to truly help the students. We sit in on classes as observers, have weekly meeting with professors to discuss the curriculum, and hold weekly workshops for students to attend."

Cole says a good majority of students who are tutors were first tutored themselves. Being tutored during her freshman year on campus is what inspired Mallory Bernstein '14, to become a tutor herself. Today, Bernstein is also a Learning Assistant. "I learned a lot about myself with my tutors, including how to make my studying effective and less time consuming," she says. "I am currently able to help other students in the workshops that my team runs for Principles of Biology."

Bernstein says she believes the Learning Assistant program is something that sets Muhlenberg apart. "It's a key aspect of why Muhlenberg is such a wonderful college," she says. "The Learning Assistants support students by providing workshops, office hours and more. And because Learning Assistants are undergraduate students and not graduates, we can become friends with the students in the class – which often have high freshmen populations – and help them transition to college life."

Mintz says he's been able to witness students grow more independent and begin to grasp the material on their own. That's been rewarding for him. And as someone with a learning disability, he also understands the value of this independence.

"You never actually get cured from a learning disability, so you have to accept that it's always going to be there and learn ways to work with it," says Mintz. "It's important for the learning disabled student to feel comfortable vocalizing and explaining their issues and understanding the tools that can help them to be successful. I used to take all of my tests in the testing center but I've now gone on to deal with my disabilities independently, and I feel that's one of the most important transitions because in the real world you don't always have someone there to advocate for you. You have to do that for yourself."

In a world that is becoming more accepting of all people, and not accepting of the idea that a disability should hold anyone back from their dreams, it makes sense that colleges like Muhlenberg are posed with the challenge of accommodating a changing student body. "It raises the fundamental question of 'how does a campus deal with difference?'" says Hooker-Haring. "That's a question that faces the education system these days because we are living in a society that is becoming more all-inclusive. Colleges need to think in a larger and more complex way about dealing with difference and Muhlenberg has done a very good job of rising to meet that challenge."

In the end, it seems that the support Muhlenberg has to offer is really available to all students in different ways. "There is no longer such a thing as a one-size-fits-all student body," adds Hooker-Haring. "Today's students are varied and a diverse group of students calls for

Community Service and Service Learning

Muhlenberg College community members connect with local community members of all ages who have disabilities through a student club called Best Buddies, internships, volunteer programs and service-learning classes. Students volunteer with children in autistic support and emotional support classrooms at local public schools and through the Vitalistic Therapeutic Charter School of the Lehigh Valley; and they connect with adult community members through one-on-one relationships in Best Buddies.

Dr. Mark Sciotto's Child Psychopathology class partners with local schools/teachers, ARCH and Vitalistic Therapeutic Charter School of the Lehigh Valley. Students spend two hours per week with children in each of these settings and integrate what they learn in the classroom with their experiences in communities. Each student works toward a particular goal for the semester in conjunction with their community partners, and contributes toward a class newsletter sent to each place. Mark also lead a weekly group this fall at Vitalistic. One student states regarding their service-learning experience that it was: "By far, the most educational of any experience I have had in a class and also the most rewarding."



Pamela Moschini, director of the office of disabilities services, consults with Alex Estis '14, a business major with a marketing concentration.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Karen Dearborn, Director of Dance

Karen Dearborn is the director of dance at the College – a program that’s popular with students and that has received a significant amount of critical acclaim. It has been recognized by the American College Dance Festival Association (ACDFA) every year for the past decade – and four times has been one of only 30 schools across the nation selected to perform at the National Festival. In 2011, the piece “Crucible,” performed at the Kaye Playhouse of Hunter College, was lauded by the *New York Times*. Since arriving in the mid-1990s, Dearborn has built a top-notch dance program from the ground up – an amazing feat for any dancer. But Dearborn’s circumstances are unique. She also has a significant hearing impairment.

Once a professional dancer, Dearborn began losing her hearing at age 18, as a result of antibiotics she’d taken after a car accident. When it became evident that continuing to dance for a living wasn’t feasible, she took it in stride, moving seamlessly to teaching.

In an article that appeared in the October 2008 issue of *Dance Magazine*, Dearborn said:

“I can’t hear the top notes of the piano, but most music for dance doesn’t focus on upper ranges, so I get a good sense of phrasing and tempo. With contemporary dance, such as Cunningham, musicality is not taught as something you listen to as much as it is something you do with your dancing. There is an inner rhythm and phrasing.

“The challenges,” she adds, “are that I have to be a better listener than many teachers with perfect hearing. I also have to pay attention to students when they speak, as well as notice their nonverbal cues in the classroom.”

“Deaf people can excel at dance,” Dearborn points out, “because they’re so attuned to watching and noticing the real rhythms of the world.”

When Dearborn was approached to start the College’s dance program, she was pleased by the opportunity. “I am deeply committed to small liberal arts colleges as the best kind of education for citizens and artists,” she says. “The notion of creating a dance program within an excellent liberal arts college so beautifully situated between the arts centers in New York and Philadelphia was too much to pass up.”

Which doesn’t mean it’s all smooth sailing. Though many people praise Muhlenberg for its accessible atmosphere, Dearborn says that the campus is certainly not perfect. While her lip reading is advanced and her hearing aids do help, there are situations in which she finds herself left out. “I went to a lecture last night and made sure I sat close so I could read the speaker’s lips. After she started her lecture, someone turned the lights down so they could better see the screen with her power point projections, but I lost all accessibility,” Dearborn



photo by Jessica Bich

explains. “I either had to stop the lecture and make a spectacle of myself and demand that my need to lip-read was more important than looking at the screen in the dark for others, or suffer in silence. This kind of thing goes on daily in all the public lectures and meetings I attend.”

But it’s not all bad news. She was quick to praise the fact that Commencement ceremonies have a sign-language interpreter. “This past year they captioned the ceremony and let me know about it in advance and gave me a special seat – it was fantastic!”

And Dearborn does feel quite at home in the company of her colleagues and students.

“Within the (theatre and dance) department, I feel very supported. All the faculty and staff make sure I can see everyone when they speak in meetings or social gatherings,” she says. “Recently, Jessica Bien, the department manager, has worked very hard to provide open captioning for hearing impaired patrons and voice description for the blind in our theatre performances. This is another wonderful change. ‘Godspell,’ done by Muhlenberg Summer Music Theatre in July, and ‘Merrily We Roll Along,’ by the Muhlenberg Theatre Association this fall, were incredibly accessible experiences for me and many other audience members because of her efforts.” (See sidebar on page 17.)

Though Dearborn rarely performs any more – she cites age and opportunity as the culprits, not her hearing impairment – she finds herself remarkably busy with teaching, writing, choreographing and working with the ACDFA. And she considers her work at Muhlenberg incredibly important.

“I think building a first-rate dance program where none existed before has been a remarkable challenge,” she says.

Challenge or not, what with all the accolades and awards, the positive reviews and the thriving students and alumni, there’s no question that she’s succeeded.

COVER STORY



Mallory Bernstein '14 (l), a learning assistant, leads a workshop for her peers.

teaching techniques and approaches that allow them to achieve at their highest potential. That's something Muhlenberg is great at doing—providing a customized and interactive learning environment. This is not a school that takes a cookie cutter approach to education.”

And while this type of environment will continue to attract a variety of students, including students with a host of disabilities that may need support in different ways, the fact is that all students just want to feel like they fit in among their peers. Disability or not, that's not hard to do at Muhlenberg. “Everyone is so accepting here so that certainly made the transition to college easier,” says Molloy. “There will always be people that may be nervous around a blind person like me, but I don't think it takes people long to realize that I'm just a regular college student who happens to be blind. I feel my experience has been similar to any other student, and I certainly want to have the same college experience that everyone else has.”

With the right support, students of all backgrounds seem to thrive at Muhlenberg. “Students with disabilities – whether physical or cognitive – want a good college education,” adds Wilson. “They want to come to a place where they're going to have the support they need to make that possible and in that regard they're no different than any other Muhlenberg student here on campus.”

Muhlenberg's department of theatre and dance is widely known and respected, and the Princeton Review recently named it the country's best theatre program. But the department cares about far more than just putting on a good show – it wants to make performances as accessible as possible for all members of the community.

To that end, certain performances of this fall's *Merrily We Roll Along* featured open captions for patrons who are deaf or hard of hearing and audio descriptions for patrons who are visually impaired. The first time this technology was used was during the Summer Music Theatre performance of *Godspell*, and plans are in motion for it to be available for other shows in the future. The accessible performances were sponsored in part by the Tri-County Accessible Arts Coalition.

The open captioning provides the audience with an electronic text display, located to the side of the stage, displaying lyrics, dialogue and sound effects in real time. Audio captioning is a form of audio-visual translation, using natural pauses to insert narrative that translates the visual image into an audible form. Patrons use headsets to hear the audio description.

“The Tri-County Accessible Arts Coalition is working to accomplish several goals,” says Jessica Bien, general manager of Muhlenberg's Theatre and Dance Department. “The first is to educate local organizations about the need for accessible performances and events in the region. The second is to educate the communities that the accessible performances will serve. Since many individuals have not ever experienced an open captioned or audio described performance, they need to understand what the performance will be like. Finally the Coalition is hoping to be able to secure the necessary equipment for these services so that any organization in the area may borrow the equipment to offer audio description or open captioning.”



How many colleges own a Rembrandt? How about ten?

Muhlenberg does. And that's just the start. Muhlenberg's permanent art collection numbers some 3,300 pieces, including works by Mary Cassat, Salvador Dali, Robert Rauschenberg—and those Rembrandts.

Housed at the Baker Center for the Arts, the paintings, prints, photos, sculpture and objects are maintained by Kathryn Burke, exhibitions & collections manager of the Martin

Art Gallery, known throughout campus as the careful curator of Muhlenberg's treasures.

"You have to be slightly mad, sort of an organizational fanatic to do my job," says Burke, who admits to checking on the collection every day, including weekends. "We have so many wonderful works on paper that are sensitive to spikes in humidity. Good stewardship now will ensure that the collection is available as an academic resource well into the future."

The collection's backbone is formed by the Florence Foerderer Tonner Collection of 1,700 American and European works that span centuries of printmaking from the early 1500s to the 1930s. The College also owns the complete 20-volume set of 722 large-format photogravures from Edward S. Curtis's *The North American Indian*. The collection's modern and contemporary component grew substantially in 2008 when the Warhol Foundation donated 152 photographs by pop-art icon Andy Warhol. Sixty of these photos were displayed this fall at Lehigh University, which added Warhols from its holdings and from those owned by Lafayette College, to create a show called *Andy in the Valley*.

Nearly all of the Muhlenberg collection's works are donations, largely from alumni, but also from friends of the College and exhibiting artists. Gift proposals are evaluated by a committee, led by Burke, who herself is a studio artist. "We're a collecting institution," says Burke. "But we want to make sure we can take care of the gifts we receive."

One way to see these masterworks is to haunt the hallways and offices around campus; Burke maintains an active lending program to faculty and staff. Art department and other faculty often use pieces in teaching their classes. And Burke, with the help of interns, is digitizing the collection. Some 1,300 pieces are available through the Trexler Library's Digital Commons or via the Madison Digital Image Base2. Burke will even schedule supervised visits to the collection on request. "It's impossible to put a value on our collection," Burke says. "But we don't want it to be too precious, so that no one ever gets to enjoy it."



By Deidre Depke

M To see highlights of the collection, visit www.muhlenberg.edu/mIn/aboutus/gallery/collection/



Mosa Mohave Girl, 1906
Edward S. Curtis



Triple Self Portrait, 1972
Norman Rockwell



Untitled, 1961
Marc Chagall



George Gershwin, 1980
Andy Warhol

MULE WEATHER

by Mike Falk, Director of Sports Information



Before “Snow-tober,” there was “Mud-vember.”

The unseasonal Nor’easter that dropped inches of snow on Allentown and many other places in the region on the last Saturday of October forced the Muhlenberg football team to play its game against Dickinson in unusual – to say the least – conditions.

The Mules won the game, 12-0, and it wasn’t the first time they played in such adverse conditions.

In 2002, Muhlenberg ended its regular season at Moravian in a game that came to be known as the “Mud Bowl.” Rain most of the week leading up to the game and freezing rain/ice during the game left the field a mess, and it only got worse. The Mules won that game, 8-0.

Two men who were on the sidelines for both games, Mule head coach Mike Donnelly and photographer Bill Johnson, compared the Mud Bowl and the Snow Bowl.

“Both games were the same in the following respects: The defense didn’t allow a point, the kick game was mistake free (no small accomplishment in extremely bad weather), and the offense dominated up front for 60 minutes,” said Donnelly. “The player enthusiasm level was the same in both – excited to be playing in the game.”

MUHL SPORTS



Donnelly also noted that the 2002 game had more riding on it. The win, combined with a Johns Hopkins win against McDaniel, gave Muhlenberg its first NCAA Tournament berth and the opportunity to host two playoff games.

"The Mud Bowl was fun because you could move around," said Johnson, who took all the great photos seen here. "This year, the snow got so bad, about 6-8 inches deep, that you couldn't move around. It was very difficult to get from one spot to another."

The pictures show one obvious difference between the games. "You could see the field better [in 2002]. There were lots of people in the stands, but you couldn't see player numbers," said Donnelly. "[In 2011] there was no mud, but you couldn't see the players on the field, or for that matter the field, from the sideline."

"In the Mud Bowl you couldn't read jerseys," said Johnson, who was faced with the task of identifying the photos after the game. Some players were identified by their silhouettes. "[In the Snow Bowl] at least you knew who you were shooting."

Postgame presented its challenges both years. "After the game the bus drivers wouldn't let our team on the buses because of the mud on their uniforms," recalled Donnelly of the 2002 game. "We didn't bring a change of clothes, so all the kids that played showered in their uniforms just to remove the mud."

"[This year] we couldn't shower after the game because of a water problem in the building caused by the snow and power loss to campus."

Part of the legend that is the Mud Bowl went unnoticed to fans who left right after the game. The buses got stuck in the mud, so the team had to wait for one bus to take a load of players back to campus, then return for a second load. It took a couple of hours, and by that point Moravian had locked the locker room. So the freezing players stood in the entryway of a bank across the street while Donnelly went to a gas mart to buy snack food for a postgame picnic.

Both men relished being part of the experience, both times.

"From a photographer's standpoint, the games were a lot of fun," said Johnson. "Opportunities like that come very infrequently. When you shoot as many games as I do, you don't get a lot of diversity. In these games you get a lot more different views. Things happen more unexpectedly than in a normal game."



"The 2002 game was famous and unforgettable," said Donnelly. "The 2011 blizzard game will be equally famous, although our equipment men will not have to wash the uniforms five times after soaking them in enzymes."

"Both were wild, unforgettable games and awesome to be a part of."

And the players had similar feelings.

"It was one of those games that sticks out in your mind," said Alfredo Mercuri '03, an all-conference wide receiver who currently works in New York for a television production company. "From a receiving standpoint, it was next to near impossible [to get a grip]. It was like holding a slippery bowling ball. And the footing – you could never really accelerate. Every move was just trying to keep your feet underneath you."

"It really brings you back to the playground days. It was neat because it was the last [regular-season] game of my four-year career. It was the perfect ending."

"The Dickinson game was like nothing I've ever played in before," said all-region cornerback Chris Hartzell. "It seemed as if Dickinson didn't want to be outside in that mess, but our team acted differently. Everyone was excited and ready to play that game. It's definitely something I'll never forget, and it was exciting to be a part of something that people will talk about for a long time."

The football team wasn't the only one forced to compete in the snow on October 29. The cross country teams had their Centennial Conference Championship meet the same day and braved the conditions to perform well in fact, the women's team tied its best finish ever, coming in fourth.

"Friends and family thought we were insane, and I think I might agree with them," wrote senior Kimberlee Yalango. "We knew that rain or shine, snow or sleet, we were racing, and we had to just go out there and embrace it."

"As I finished the race, I couldn't feel anything (literally) but gratitude to be able to put pants on my burning exposed legs. When I finally defrosted hours later, I realized how incredible of a race that was for our team."

CLASS NOTES

1961

Dr. Jan Feldman retired June 30, 2011, after 41 years in practice. He is now engaged in several hobbies, including boating, golf and travel, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Medical Malpractice Joint Underwriters of Rhode Island and Schilder Institute for Advanced Endodontics.

1962

The Lauren Giguere Award of Distinction was awarded to **Malcolm Gross**, attorney and partner at Gross McGinley, LLP, by the Allentown Human Relations Committee. He has spent countless hours in service to and working for numerous entities with a goal of equality and opportunity for all. He lives, works and advocates in Allentown.



Malcolm Gross '62

1964

Edward Bonekemper III has completed the first book-length study of Lincoln and Grant. It is now being formatted for publication as an e-book on Kindle and Nook. Publication as a hands-on book will follow.

1969

David C. thor Straten-Mohr retired on April 13, 2011 from his position as parole supervisor with the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole after almost 42 years of service. (He graduated June 1, 1969 and started parole supervision June 5, 1969 – a great use for the 'Berg psych major!) He was also an adjunct psychology lecturer at 'Berg from 1985-1990 and in the U.S. Navy from 1962-1965.

1973

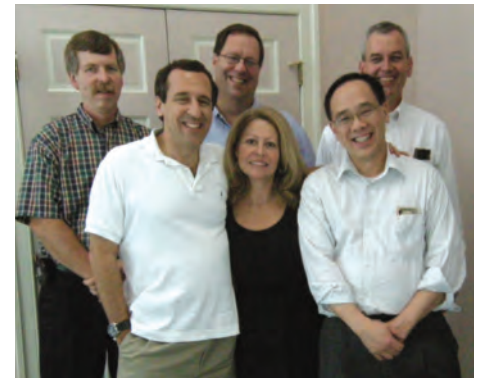
Susan Pobjoy writes, "Two years ago, a number of us who lived together on Walz 2nd North during our first two years at Muhlenberg, decided it would be fun to get together, as it had been 40 years since we moved on from Walz. Not only did we get together, but seven alumni



(L to R): Janey Buser Greber, Susan Kienzle Pobjoy '73, Elizabeth Monroe Dunn '72, Susie Friedman '73, Barb Gunning '73, Robin Richman '73, Jan Stubenrauch Bantz '74, Jean Bjorenson '73.

Taken at Cascade Rouget near Sixt in the Haute Savoie, France.

from classes of '72 – '74 travelled (most with partners) to France in June 2011, meeting at our house near Geneva in the Haute Savoie. We spent a good part of the week together reminiscing and making new memories, near the top of Mt. Blanc, hiking through mountains & waterfalls and enjoying each other's company with food and wine. Thanks to Mary Lou Hanna's daughter, we were able to toast her Mom with remembrance t-shirts. She and Frank would have been with us too but sadly Mary Lou died in Sept 2010. Have a look at <http://animoto.com/play/ZORbNP6shSjJODTk1FZRYw> for a comprehensive pictorial review of our time together."



Members of the Class of 1979 in attendance at the memorial service for Brian Rasco were:

Back row: Bob Jankelunas, Ted Byer, Gary Russell; front row: Stewart Abrams, Jackie Bernstein Weisman, Daniel Hom.

1976

Tom Hadzor continues to oversee fundraising and communications for the Duke University Libraries in Durham, NC. He and his wife welcomed their first grandchild in June 2010.

1979

Several alumni attended the memorial service

for **Brian Rasco**. **Stewart Abram** writes, "We were able to get a small group together, most of whom I hadn't seen for waaaay too long. As fantastic as it was catching up with these guys, the occasion was equally 'difficult.'" • **Rich Romeo** and several TKE alumni participated in a Wine Tasting tour in Bucks County, Pa on May 11, 2010.



TKE brothers and their wives enjoying a wine tour: Rich '79 and Terri Romeo; Jeff '79 and Martina Koehler; Jeff Green '78; Trian Koutoufaris, Brian Clark '84; Dawn McCloud and Marc Seelagy '82; Craig '85 and Awilda Campbell; Lisa Rubin '85; Alex '83 and Linda Cascardo; Jim '82 and Elaine (Light) '83 Price; Karen '81 (Molzahn) Daubert; Ken Rubin '82; Scott Daubert '81; and John D'Angelo '82.

CLASS NOTES



Dr. Craig J. Campbell '85

1985

Dr. Craig J. Campbell served as the Grand Marshal of the 2011 Richmond County St. Patrick's Day Parade. This is the third-largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the nation, and Campbell is the second youngest elected Grand Marshal in the 47 year history of the parade.



Craig Cohen '86

1986

Craig Cohen has joined White and Williams as an associate in the subrogation department. He will reside in the firm's Philadelphia office.

1991

Joe Zeszotarski, a Partner in the Raleigh office of Poyner Spruill LLP, was recently named to

The best Lawyers in Americas 2012 list, in the following categories: Criminal Defense: Non-White-Collar and Criminal Defense: White-Collar.

1993

Detective Lt. Patrick Rotella was named chief of police in Upper Saddle River, N.J.



Joe Zeszotarski '91

1994

Amy (Thornton) Wichterman and Chris Wichterman '96 are proud to announce the birth of their twins, Will and Norah, on October 23, 2010. Big brother, Jake, 7, is their favorite person!



Will, Norah and big brother Jake Wichterman

1996

Heather Blakeslee presented "The Articulate Landscape," a staged reading that included seductive stories woven with earthy illustrations and roots-noir music from Sweetbriar Rose at the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. • Betsy (Schultz) Kachel and Eric Kachel welcomed their third daughter, Leah Rose Kachel, on April 25, 2010. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz. Big

sisters Sophia, 6, and Ava, 2 ½, love their newest addition, and Betsy is lucky enough to stay home with them!

1997

Andrea and Glen Davis welcomed their second son, Evan Lee Davis, on July 1, 2011 at 1:10 p.m. He was 7 lbs. even and 20 inches long. The family of six, which also includes Allie (18), Adam (16) and Christian (3), is doing well. • Susan (Borek) Kuhn completed her certification in applied behavior analysis and is currently employed in the Summit N.J. Public School District.



Evan Lee Davis

1999

It is with great excitement that Jolly Benitez-Becerra and Jorge Becerra welcome Anthony Gerard. He was born on September 22, 2011 in Princeton, N.J. and weighed 7 lbs., 2 oz. Anthony is a wonderful addition to our family. • J. Patrick Boyle married Meg Confrey on September 24, 2010. Many alumni, whose graduation dates spanned almost 40 years, were in attendance. • Aimee (Van Eenennaam) Goodman and Elliot Goodman are proud to announce the birth of twins boys on June 15, 2011 in Jersey Shore University Medical Center,



Anthony Gerard Becerra

CLASS NOTES



Alumni at the wedding of J. Patrick Boyle '99 and Meg Confrey were: Front row: Tade Reen '99, Suzanne (Fabel) Murray '98, Boyle, Confrey, Jan Hooker-Haring '75, Chris Hooker-Haring '72; Back row: Joe McCoy '00, Steve Brady '98, Jim Murray '99, Carey (Hilton) Brady '99, Erin Burke '00, Dave Boelker '99, Jen (Dite) Weaver '99, Darren Weaver '99, Josh Northridge '99, Colin Hooker-Haring '10, Melissa Frey '10, Karissa Harris '09, Ty Hooker-Haring '08, Ryan Butkus '00.



Lucas Benjamin and Henry Theodore Goodman

Neptune N.J. Lucas Benjamin and Henry Theodore were enthusiastically welcomed by big brother, Oliver William. • **Rebecca Wingert** received her first grant as an independent investigator: a 2011 NIH New Innovator Award. It is a five year grant, providing huge resources to her lab. She writes, "Notre Dame never got one of these research grants before, and in even more exciting news I was not the

only faculty member to receive one. Another biology department assistant professor won the award as well (only 49 given out for the whole country this year), and as you can imagine this is a big deal for our department and the College of Science. "These awards are given to new investigators that propose ideas for research that are so-called 'high risk/high reward' studies, for which they don't have tons of preliminary data—just enough that the idea seems feasible and potentially transformative. The NIH invited recipients to Washington for a two-day scientific symposium to receive the awards this week (and I got to bring my graduate students with me!)"

2000

Britton and **Drew Bitterman** announce the birth of their first child, Shane Jackson Bitterman on October 1, 2011. Shane was 5 lbs, 15.5 oz and measured 19.5 inches. Drew and Britton were named directors of Jeff Lake Day Camp located in Stanhope, N.J. • **Christopher and Dana (Yannuzzi) Vandenbrande** are proud to announce the birth of their son, Andrew Christopher. Andrew was born on May 1, 2011, weighing 7 lbs, 6 oz., and measuring 22 inches. The family lives in Stirling, N.J.



Shane Jackson Bitterman



Andrew Christopher Vandenbrande

CLASS NOTES



Serena Anne and Angela Mary Blachowski



Alumni in attendance at the wedding of Bruce Gover, Jr. '02 and Julia Yager Spillman were, from left to right: John Deliso, Peter Topping, John Habeck, Jeremy Gehrke, Pad Dillion, Clem Gover '04.



Norah Catherine and Patrick David McDonough

2002

Kathy (Tomaschko) Blachowski and Jason Blachowski are proud to announce the birth of twin girls. Serena Anne and Angela Mary were born on May 21, 2011, in Rochester, N.Y. Kathy is now a stay at home mom. • On Saturday August 20, 2011, **Bruce Gover, Jr.** and Julia Yager Spillman were married at a ceremony in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. • **Dr. Christina B. Shook** accepted a postdoctoral fellowship in Primary Care/Mental Health Integration at the Salem Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Virginia for 2011-2012.

2003

René Metzler was engaged to Michael Martinez on August 4, 2010. They are planning a July 2011 wedding in New Hampshire. • **Lynsey (Caldwell) Owen** and **Christopher Owen '00** were married on July 1, 2011 in Baltimore, Md. The wedding was attended by many Muhlenberg alumni, including matrons of honor **Kaitlyn (Bishop) Catenaro** and **Dana (Perillo) Russo**, and groomsmen **David Metzger '00**, **Zachary St. Pierre '00**, and **Michael Wu '00**. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia and plans to reside in Alexandria, Va. Lynsey is an obstetrician/ gynecologist at Andrews Air Force Base and Chris is completing his Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Connecticut.



Lynsey (Caldwell) Owen '03 and Christopher Owen '00

2004

Amanda Ellison graduated from Johns Hopkins University with her Masters of Public Health in May 2011. She is planning on staying in Baltimore as she moves into her new career. • **Jaclyn (Minkoff) Goldin** and husband **Andy** are proud to announce the birth of their first



Alexandra Rehm Goldin

CLASS NOTES



Sun Lee '05 and Scott Semel '04 with their wedding attendants

child, Alexandra Rehm Goldin. She was born on April 10, 2011 in Long Island, NY, weighing 6 lbs., 15 oz. and measuring 21 inches. •

Stacey (Moore) Swearengen founded Military Spouse Portable Career Planning in 2010. Services include resume critiques, interview tips, and general career assessments. •

Marissa White became engaged to Anthony Fatovic on December 24, 2010. The couple resides in North Wales, PA and are planning a July 2012 wedding in Radnor, PA.

2005

After graduating, **Elizabeth Colpo**, earned her PA K-12 Music Education Certification at Penn State University in 2007. She is beginning her 5th year as Director of Choirs at Lower Dauphin HS in Hummelstown, PA. Colpo was named the 2011 recipient of the American Choral Directors Association "Outstanding Young Conductor" award for the state of Pennsylvania. She is proud to share that the Lower Dauphin HS Concert Choir was selected to perform at the 2011 State Conference of the PA Music Educators Association. • **Todd Kauffman** and **Casey Gaspartich '07** became engaged on April 17, 2011. Their wedding is planned for



Dorie and Tristan Morgan

August 10, 2012 in Lakewood, NJ. • **Dorie (Gillette) Morgan** and Brian Morgan are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Tristan Thomas. He was born on October 20, 2011, in Pennsylvania Hospital and weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz. Dorie and Tristan are doing very well. The Morgans enjoyed their first holiday season as a family of three. **Becky (Armstrong) Pallone '05** and Jonathon Pallone would like to announce the birth of their daughter Mya Alyse Pallone on November 30, 2010.



Mya Alyse Pallone

2007

Jared Goldstein and **Stephanie (Pilcz) Goldstein** are happy to announce their marriage on May 29, 2011 at The Merion in Cinnaminson, N.J. Mules in attendance included **Josh Goldstein '01**, **Geoff Zinberg**, **Lari Luckenbill '06**, **Marc Gollob '05**,

CLASS NOTES



Guests at the wedding of Michael Joseph and Courtney (Roosa) Joseph '07

Lauren Krisa, Lindsay Galvan, Logan Romm, Matt Spiegel, Seth Rosenwasser, Todd Goldstein '08, Chris Catania '06, Scott Sutton, Greg Bogle, Amanda Clifford '08, and Jeff Mueller. • Michael Joseph and Courtney (Roosa) Joseph are happy to announce their marriage on November 6, 2010 at the Westin Governor Morris in Morristown,

N.J. They currently reside in Hoboken, N.J. The wedding was attended by many fellow '07 Mules including: Tara Large, Kelli Sakonchick, Jonathan Leonard, Ben Schweitzer, Steve Kopecki, Jason Scherr, Eric Roehnelt, Pat Moyle, Teddy Montes, Chris Giannini, Brian Zuravansky, Mike Hart, Andrew Perrelle, Eric Band, Steve Naids,

Mike Ianicci, Frank Citera, Dave Klimik, Maria Tranguch, Neal Regino, Karla Auermuller, Lauren Whitehead, Lauren Schram and Whitney Arons. Several other Mules attended, including Patrick Valli '06, Hallie Miller '08 and Dr. Jefferson Pooley, associate professor of media and communication. The couple honeymooned in Maui and Los Angeles.



Alumni at the wedding of Tiffany Elliott '08 and Matt Johnson '08

CLASS NOTES

2008

Tiffany Elliott and Matt Johnson were wed on September 3, 2011 on Long Island, N.Y. In attendance (photo on previous page; from left to right) were Kara Zimmerman, Match Zimmerman, Megan Eiser, Danielle Losonci, Megan Young, Chris Vinci, Phylcia Lee, Derek DiMattina, Kevin Ciccarello, Chris Frusci, Mike Cassel, David Levine, Jess Anselmi, Kris Domboski, Joe O'Brien, Courtney Tapkas, Jamie Capodiferro, Meg

Healy, Jordon Grube, Kevin Graham, Alissa Constantinople, Jamie Corley, Brett Shaver, Danny Asip, Heather Podvey, Courtney Veltramp, Brian Veltramp, Mike Gawel, Holly Kolesnik, Michelle Yost, Matt Horn, Lisa Harrison.

2010

Kaitlin Nemeth stage managed the production of the play "Prison Lights" in New York City, in November. She has worked in theater since

2009, including: (Stage Manager): "Thieves" - SM (Amerinda at The Public Theater), "The Play About My Dad" - ASM (CollaborationTown at 59E59). "The Skin You Leave Behind" - PSM (Punch Theatre). She was the Stage Direction Intern for the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera (2008) and the Theatre Intern for BIMA at Brandeis University (2010).



Post your class notes online at http://www.muhlenberg.edu/alumni/form/class_notes/html

We want to hear from you!

Reunion Chair and Class Fund Chair volunteers serve as liaisons between the College and your class. If you would like to get more involved with the College or your class, are interested in helping plan your upcoming reunion, or have relocated and are looking for other Muhlenberg alumni in the region – let us know. Please be in touch with your respective class liaison(s) (names and email addresses are below) and share with them your accomplishments, successes and other important life moments. We'll be sure to include your updates as part of Class Notes in the next edition of the Magazine.

1949

William D. Miers – Class Fund Chair
miers@ptd.net

1951

Theodore C. Argeson – Class Fund Chair
tca51mberg@yahoo.com

1953

Joseph H. Jorda – Class Fund Chair
jjorda1010@aol.com

1955

Hans G. Peckmann – Class Fund Co-Chair
mhpeckmann@aol.com

Rev. Dr. Arvids Ziedonis, Jr. – Class Fund Co-Chair
ziedonis@ptd.net

1956

Vincent D. Stravino – Class Fund Chair and Co-Chair, Heritage Alumni
vdstrav@yahoo.com

1957

Wolfgang W. Koenig – Class Fund Chair
wkoenig1@cox.net

1958

Owen D. Faut – Class Fund Chair and Co-Chair, Heritage Alumni
ofaut@frontier.com

1959

Lee A. Kreidler – Class Fund Chair
leebar@ptd.net

1960

Edward M. Davis, Jr. – Class Fund Chair
eddavis@ptd.net

1961

Richard L. Foley – Class Fund Chair
rlfoley4@verizon.net

1962

Duane G. Sonneborn, Jr. – Class Fund Chair
lynnsonneborn@comcast.net

Lona M. Farr – Reunion Chair
lmfarr2485@gmail.com

1964

Patricia D. Hoffman – Class Fund Chair
pathoffman@rcn.com

1965

John E. Trainer, Jr. – Class Fund Chair
trainerj@bolles.org

1966

Timothy A. Romig – Class Fund Chair
timr@evergreenfinancialgrp.com

1967

Dave Nowack – Reunion Volunteer
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Harry Lessig – Reunion Volunteer
hjld@aol.com

1968

W. Russell Koerwer – Class Fund Chair
wrkoerwer@aol.com

1969

Mark Pascal – Class Fund Chair

1970

Diane R. Schmidt Ladley – Class Fund Co-Chair
dianeladley@verizon.net

Diane E. Treacy – Class Fund Co-Chair
tdseaglen@aol.com

1971

Mary Daye Hohman – Class Fund Chair
MaryDaye_Hohman@Vanguard.com

1972

Rev. Eric C. Shafer – Class Fund Chair
ericshafer@hotmail.com

Michael Bodnyk – Reunion Chair
mbodn@aol.com

CLASS NOTES

1973

Jeffrey R. Dundon – Class Fund Chair
jeffreydundon73@gmail.com

1974

Timothy C. Hilbert – Class Fund Chair
coachhil@comcast.net

1976

Tom Hadzon – Class Fund Chair

1977

Steven and Susan M. Ettelman Eisenhower –
Class Fund Co-Chairs
steve@congruencewines.com

Debra J. Higgins Nagy – Reunion Chair
scottseth@gmail.com

1979

Andrew M. Hutter – Class Fund Chair
amhutter@comcast.net

1980

Kim Barth Kembel – Class Fund Chair
kbkembel@verizon.net

1981

Craig Saft – Class Fund Chair
craighsa620@aol.com

1982

William J. and Tambria Johnson
O'Shaughnessy, Jr. – Class Fund Co-Chairs
william.j.oshaughnessy@questdiagnostics.com

Marion E. Glick – Reunion Chair
82marion@gmail.com

1983

Tammy L. Bormann – Class Fund Chair
tlbormann@comcast.net

1984

Michelle Rein Pressman – Class Fund Chair
mjpressman@comcast.net

1985

Carolyn Ricca Parelli – Class Fund Chair
esp6163@msn.com

1986

Paul "Chip" Hurd, Jr. – Class Fund Chair
pmhurf@verizon.net

1987

Eileen Collins Neri – Class Fund Chair
ecneri@verizon.net

Lauren M. Greber Shanahan – Reunion Chair
bhappy100@rcn.com

1988

V. Scott Koerwer – Class Fund Chair
skoerwer@mac.com

1991

Christopher Parkes – Class Fund Chair
cparkes@conceptiii.com

1992

Rebecca Miller Provencal – Class Fund Chair
theprovincals@msn.com

Kristin Krouse Smeins – Reunion Chair
dorker17@hotmail.com

1993

Jill M. Poretta – Class Fund Chair
jporetta@cozen.com

1994

Bret G. Kobler – Class Fund Chair
bret.kobler@morganstanley.com

1995

Alyssa J. Picard – Class Fund Chair
picarda@umich.edu

1996

Mikel and Melissa Wasserman Daniels –
Class Fund Co-Chairs
mdaniels@bcps.org

1997

Courtney (Cooper) Hall – Reunion Chair
Courtenay@bellainyou.com

1998

Joshua A. Lindland – Class Fund Chair
jarjuna@yahoo.com

1999

Matthew R. Sordoni – Class Fund Chair
matthewsordoni@msn.com

2000

Drew J. Bitterman – Class Fund Chair
drewbitterman@gmail.com

2001

Christopher A. Lee – Class Fund Chair
christopher_a_lee@hotmail.com

2002

Christina M. Coviello – Class Fund and
Reunion Co-Chair
ccoviello04@aol.com

Jennifer A. McKee – Class Fund and
Reunion Co-Chair
jnmckee1221@gmail.com

2003

Laura A. Garland – Class Fund Chair
lgarland@muhlenberg.edu

2005

Chelsea M. Gomez Starkowski –
Class Fund Chair
chelseagomez@allstate.com

2006

Elizabeth R. Hamilton – Class Fund Chair
elizabethrhamilton@gmail.com

2007

Jason M. Bonder – Class Fund Chair
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Courtney (Roosa) Joseph – Reunion Chair
Courtney.n.joseph@gmail.com

2008

Allison C. Schnall – Class Fund Co-Chair
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Kristel R. Dow – Class Fund Co-Chair
kristeldow@gmail.com

2009

Brittany A. Barton – Class Fund Chair
brittanyabarton@gmail.com

2010

Jonathan Falk – Class Fund Co-Chair
jfalk715@gmail.com

Trisha Kadakia – Class Fund Co-Chair
trishakadakia@hotmail.com

2011

Kelly E. Frazee – Class Fund Co-Chair
frazee.kelly@gmail.com

Catherine S. Schwartz – Class Fund Co-Chair
c.schwartz89@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

1939

Emil Poeltl died on August 26, 2011. He is survived by daughters, Anita Strahs and Claire Pish. He was predeceased by his wife, Clara.

1941

Hon. James F. Brown died on September 29, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Jean; sons James III and Timothy; and daughter, Helen Gildein. • **Rev. Ralph R. Hellerich** died on October 24, 2011. He is survived by his son, Karl; and daughter, Karen. He was predeceased by his wife, Viola Rose.

1942

Rev. Edwin E. Wisser died on October 20, 2011. He is survived by his daughters, Barbara Glass, Karen Sargent '72 and Cynthia Murphy. He was predeceased by his wife, Ruth.

1943

Dr. Irving R. Plotnick died on November 14, 2010. He is survived by sons, Richard, Bennett, Stephen, Gary and Daniel. He was predeceased by his wife, Estelle.

1944

Arlin Eric Bubeck died on November 8, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Mary; and daughter, Ellen Louise Laurent. • **Arlington L. Lewis** died on August 28, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Norma; and daughters, Marianne Yeakel and Ellen Miron. • **Raymond K. Pierce** died on October 21, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Susannah; and daughter, Carol Landvater. • **Edward C. Stiles** died on October 12, 2011. He is survived by his son, Bruce. He was predeceased by his wife, Lucille.

1946

Dr. William R. Beisel died on August 12, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Betty; daughters, Ruth Piccolella and Beth Beisel; and sons, Kirk, Dan and Carl.

1947

John R. Bogert died on September 1, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Joan; and four cousins. • **Rev. James R. Laubach** died on October 2, 2011. He is survived by his sons, James, Jr. '74,

Robert, and Mark. He was predeceased by his wife, Doris; and brothers, Rev. Howard '42, and Rev. Robert '35.

1948

Joseph F. Fleischmann died on September 25, 2011. • **Leon T. Loch** died on September 6, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; son, Edward; and daughter, Ellen Sheff.

1949

James F. Doorley died on September 20, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Teresa; and sons, William and James. He was predeceased by his sons, Daniel and Thomas; and an infant daughter, Maryanne.

1950

Dr. Paul W. Grunmeier III died on July 5, 2011. He was predeceased by his wife Mary. • **Jack W. Morgan** died on October 18, 2011. He is survived by his brother, Clarke '57.

1951

Abraham Aslanides died on October 17, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Dorothea; sons, Dave, George and Jim; and daughter, Sue Straits.

1952

Rev. Francis I. Moyer, Jr. died on November 24, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Joanne; and stepsons, Ronald Martin and David Martin. • **Warren Gene Reed** died on May 23, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Agnes; daughters, Lori Lloyd and Susan Walton; and sons, Michael and Andrew.

1953

Robert E. Davies died on October 8, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughters, Cathy Fialek and Mary Beth Davies. He was predeceased by his son, Mark. • **Clyde Mart** died on October 1, 2011. He is survived by his son, Eric; and daughter, Vivian Gatta. He was predeceased by his wife, Maureen; and daughter, Lisa. • **Phillips Herlyck Paulsen** died on February 8, 2011. He is survived by his sons, Phillips and Mike; and daughter, Karen Churry. He was predeceased by his wife, Phyllis.

1954

Lawrence Brooker died on September 5, 2011. He is survived by his sons, Michael, Shawn, Kevin, Timothy, and Christopher. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Elizabeth. • **Dr. Harold L. Kruse** died on September 2, 2011. He is survived by cousins. • **Jack E. Mauser** died on October 15, 2011. He is survived by his son, David; and daughter, Debbie. He was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor. • **David O. Newcomer** died on August 24, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Bertha; son, David; and daughter, Janet Hower.

1955

Ralph J. De Stefano died on August 30, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Maribeth Mullen; and son, John.

1956

Ret. Maj. John A. Schray died on June 16, 2011. He is survived by his daughter, Cynthia Schray; and son, John. He was predeceased by his wife, Ginette.

1957

Ted C. Fogas died on September 4, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Gretchen; sons, Bruce, Mark and Michael; and daughters, Susan Joe and Debra Green.

1958

Reginald A. Perry died on September 15, 2011. He is survived by his brother-in-law, Joseph C. Garger and a niece and nephew. He was predeceased by his sister, Gloria. • **Joel L. Pitman** died on August 13, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Wilma; and daughters, Susan Kinney, Abby Smith, and Carey Pitman. He is also the uncle of Dana Pitman '00 and cousin of Andrew Pitman '92.

1959

Frank C. Csaszar died on October 24, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Angela; daughter, Susan; and sons, Jeff and Scott. He was predeceased by his son, Frank, Jr.

1963

David W. Giltner died on October 6, 2011. He

IN MEMORIAM

is survived by his wife, Elaine; sons, Steve and Thomas; step-daughters, Lorraine Layton and Christine Deutsch; and brother, Philip '65. He was also the son of the late Franklin Giltner '32.

• **Dr. John A. Turtzo** died on October 4, 2011. He is survived by his mother, Mary; brothers, Douglas '64, David, Thomas and Richard. He was predeceased by his father, John '33.

1967

Dr. Deanne M. Christiansen died on September 25, 2011. She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Mancini.

1975

Marianne F. Windish died on October 13, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Raymond Gleeson; children, Taye Windish and Barrett Windish. She was predeceased by her first husband, Robert Sr.; and son, Robert, Jr.

2007

Laura B. Sheard died on November 13, 2011. She is survived by her parents, Carol and Eugene Sheard; and sisters, Amanda Ryan and Theresa Ulrich.

SPECIAL NOTES

Ann H. Neitzel died on July 6, 2011. She was a former VP of Development & Alumni Relations and a friend of the College. • **Dr. Sanford B. Weinberg P'02** died on October 8, 2011. He was employed by Muhlenberg College from 1993 to 2004 as the Entrepreneur-in-Residence and Professor of Entrepreneurship. He is survived by his wife, Ronelle Genser; daughter, Amy; son, Joseph '02; and his parents, Florence and Harold Weinberg.

President's Message; continued from page 1

(Rostered Leader Profile) and generally provided wise advice based on years of experience with congregations and bishops.

But our complications were just beginning. As we brought finalists to Muhlenberg for a full day of conversations with the search committee, Religious Life staff, students, faculty and other staff, we found the anxiety level increasing across the campus. Times of transition are always stressful for those who are affected by change. Because religious beliefs (or the choice not to believe) are a deeply embedded, emotionally sensitive and highly personal component of our individual identities, this transition was especially stressful for many members of our community.

For a dozen years, our campus had been accustomed to one Chaplain, and our community had adapted its expectations, programs, behaviors, and assumptions to his leadership, his strengths and his interests. The arrival of a new Chaplain would require us all to adjust – quite possibly in ways that many of us had only begun to consider. Some groups and individuals wondered if they would continue to receive the support to which they were accustomed. Others wondered if they would receive support that they might not have received but had longed for. Others wondered if they would continue to be treated with the respect and tolerance they had come to depend on.

Of its many virtues, I have always thought Muhlenberg's finest quality to be the mutual respect and affection we demonstrate to each other, even when we are of different religious backgrounds. Times of transition put values like this to the test. While on one level, I knew we would pass with flying colors, there came moments of surprise and concern when I encountered expressions of anxiety on campus.

Is the complexity of the position too great for one person, I wondered? Were there factors we had overlooked in our search? Has the challenge of religious pluralism exceeded the capacity of any College Chaplain to serve effectively?

The answers – like the answers to many of life's most vexing questions – turned out to be simple when we found the right candidate.

Coming to us from Yale, where she earned her Master of Divinity and served as associate University Chaplain, the Reverend Callista Isabelle impressed one and all from her first moment on campus as one who could, in her words, “be a pastor to some, and a chaplain to all.” Faculty and staff described her as “vibrant, smart, enthusiastic, energetic, passionate, compassionate,” and “filled with a beautiful, spiritual grace that is immediately obvious.” Students remarked on her “confidence and humility, professionalism and compassion.” Muhlenberg's Catholic and Jewish Chaplains and the other Religious Life staff saw in her a wonderful future colleague and friend. I sensed that she would be a strong addition to the College's senior management team and a potentially transformative leader in spiritual life on campus.

At this moment, before any of us have really gotten to know Callista, we need to remind ourselves that she and her husband Geoff will, first and foremost, be newcomers to our community. We welcome them as we always welcome newcomers. We offer Callista support as she brings new gifts and new ideas to the work of Religious Life on campus. It's going to be an exciting, invigorating time. Stay tuned.

My thanks to IJCU Director and Associate Professor of Religion Peter Pettit, and to our Jewish Chaplain Patti Mittleman for their advice on this essay



Peyton R. Helm
President, Muhlenberg College



THEN AND NOW.

Homecoming has changed quite a bit over the last 50 years! Homecoming 1959 kicked off with a formal dance in Memorial Hall, and while Irmgard Englehard was named Homecoming Queen, no King was elected. Sadly, in Saturday's football game the Mules were defeated by rival Gettysburg in a rainy showdown.

Though Reunion/Homecoming 2011's events were also a bit soggy, there was no raining on this parade. Reunion classes proudly participated in class dinners and activities, and all alumni enjoyed returning to campus and reconnecting with familiar faces.

For more photographs from Reunion/Homecoming 2011, visit: <http://www.muhlenberg.edu/alumni/photos/slideshow/ReunionHomecoming2011Slideshow.html>.



LAST WORD

It's not the Red Doors, although those are nice. It's not the close-knit community, which is there and much better than the alternative. It's not the diversity, yet that is desirable and growing. None of these things made Muhlenberg for me. It's vocation that makes Muhlenberg what it is.

The word vocation grows out of the Latin *vocare*, "to call." Many religions have an understanding of vocation, but it is the Lutherans who have a special curiosity about living one's vocation. For Lutherans, vocation drives a person to hear a call, follow it, and spend a life trying to understand it. Vocation is not solely a "religious thing." It operates through many walks of life – relationships, employment, and studies. It calls to us, beckons us, and yearns for us. It touches all of us, whether we desire it to or not.

During my years at Muhlenberg, and because of the nature of my job, people told me things. I've appreciated that trust. A student once revealed that the medical track that was expected had given way to an arts dream that had to be pursued. Another once confided that leaving Muhlenberg was the only way to pursue the major that was burning inside. This is what vocation does with a person – it calls to them until they must follow. The call comes not from the outside, but from within.

Some think that changes like those are a sign of failure and that Muhlenberg should work harder to retain these students. No. These are success stories, not failures. Muhlenberg does well to be open to these types of decisions. President Helm often quotes Plutarch to the incoming students at Opening Convocation – "The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled." Bravo Muhlenberg, for having the courage to reject the rote rehearsal of family and cultural expectations that demand allegiance to conformity.

Vocation doesn't stop there. Vocation is often linked to passion but if it were merely passion, it would have no power at all. Passion burns out quickly; it is fine for a sports fan, an



By the Rev. Peter S. Bredlau

amateur painter, or a wedding night, but it isn't sustainable. It comes and goes, has its own agenda, and has little regard for its host. Sometimes passion causes more harm than good, clouding judgment, trading the endurance of commitment for the fire of the moment. Vocation, the call, sustains and remains. It is in no hurry, and is tempered by time and patience. It cajoles, haunts, and demands. It sometimes makes "passion" an eagerly anticipated alternative, but even this isn't it for Muhlenberg.

People have shared powerful truths about themselves. Truths from deep within, only occasionally revealing themselves, but always there, looking for some relief, some outlet, some companionship that assuages its loneliness and gives it voice. These are the truths that we all bear, the truths about ourselves that vocation seeks to release, if we aren't afraid. The call is only part of the action of vocation,

the real work is the submission, the waiting, the patience to see where it will go and the courage to stick with it. It isn't enough to hear a call, you have to do something, prove it to yourself and to your sense of yourself. That takes work.

Where does Muhlenberg fit in all of this? The College not only encourages vocation, but it has one itself, one that it struggles with, and continues to grow into each day. I've been most impressed with the College when it has held on to its people lightly, just enough to catch the unexpected fall, but not so much as to interrupt the growth that comes from the fall itself. The College is at its best when it holds us like small birds – enough to give a chance to grow, but not enough to prohibit flying. Vocation holds us like that – if we'll let it. The College, since the time of its founding, is at its best when it seeks less to create and control, but has the courage to let go, step back, and watch creation happen in its midst. That is the College's vocation.

Muhlenberg is a great place because it knows this, but needs to remind itself to trust that impulse. Muhlenberg has been generous enough to hold me and my family just that gently – to discover what we needed to become ourselves, and, when the time came, to fly. Muhlenberg has done this for thousands before us and will do so far into the future. I've learned virtually everything I know about vocation from my time at Muhlenberg, and so this is my last offering to you. The College's vocation is to be steadfast as vocation calls to all of her charges. It's not the Red Doors, or the community, or the diversity that is vocation, but all of these things emerge from it. A call heard more than 160 years ago, a call to proclaim and demonstrate grace in the world, is what drives Muhlenberg to be what it is, and always will be. Thank you friends, for everything. Keep listening.

Bredlau began his tenure as Muhlenberg's chaplain in 2000. He left to pursue a new career in business.

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Samantha Blair Unger '10 | Majors: Accounting and Mathematics
(Dual-degree AB-BS program)

“Education is extremely important to my parents. I came to visit Muhlenberg with my mom in high school. Though we both loved the College, there was no way I could afford it without aid. Fortunately, I was able to get enough financial aid and scholarships to attend.

“During my senior year I received job offers for accounting positions at prestigious firms, but opted to attend graduate school at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland in pursuit of my master’s degree in financial mathematics. In September 2011, I started my career with Deloitte as a consultant in the Enterprise Risk Services Division in New York City.

“Muhlenberg not only gave me an education that allowed me to excel to my highest potential, it also gave me friends and memories to last a lifetime, and for these reasons I am eternally grateful. But in order for me to go to Muhlenberg, someone had to give back. I would not have achieved all that I have without that support. I give back because I want to be that person for someone else.”

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