



**Building a
Community
of Scientists**

Haverford and the Howard
Hughes Medical Institute



**Getting In:
America's College
Admission Hysteria**

Jess Lord
Dean of Admission & Financial Aid



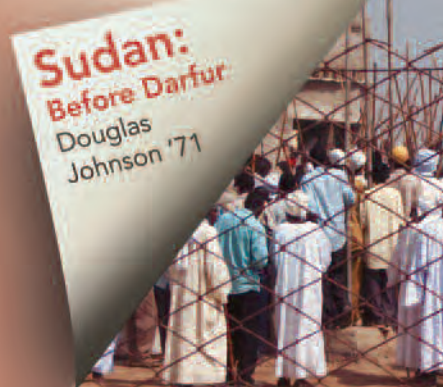
**Dark Victory:
The Life of
Bette Davis**

Ed Sikov '78

HVERFORD

The Alumni Magazine of Haverford College

WINTER 2008



**Sudan:
Before Darfur**
Douglas
Johnson '71

The Emerson Era Begins

That Gummere Living Room Thing

For me, Fords remain, as a group, the most interesting, interested, engaging people I've ever met. This office—figuratively and, at times, literally—is becoming the administrative equivalent of a Gummere living room (minus the puddles of Gennie Cream Ale): who knows where the conversation will go and who will join in; I just know I'm going to enjoy it.

Judging by alumni reaction to both our more "peopled" website (which is quick and eager to showcase our lives and interests) and to the previous issue of the magazine (again, heavy on people) I don't believe I'm alone in these feelings.

Certainly, the web is mission-critical in our effort to do a better job of showcasing who we are. But print remains a key part of our plan, and I was recently reminded that many of us downright love it.

Asher Spiller and Scott Sheppard, class of 2006, are launching a business and got in touch hoping to get some coverage. As their news release pointed out, their new baby is a literary magazine called *Spur*. But here's the thing: It's a real magazine. Printed matter, bound by a machine, distributed via the U.S. postal service and at select newsstands. As someone who witnessed at close range the demise of the Knight Ridder newspaper chain, seeing a pair of Generation Web-ers jump into print made me gasp.

And yet...*Spur* has what sends me into rapture every time this office gets samples of our printed product from the presses. For starters, there's the realness of it. The weight and texture of the stock and what that says about the message being sent; the utility of something that is portable, disposable, and doesn't require electricity; and, for me, the killer attribute: its smell. Blame it on record albums I once bought, and how removing the shrinkwrap enveloped me in the world of the artist audibly, visually – and olfactorily. "Ah yes, I detect notes of Jethro Tull's 'Aqualung,' with its faux-canvas surface..." I once claimed to my older brother that I could discern by scent alone which of Capitol Records' three plants (identified on the jacket margins) had manufactured any given Beatle album...

Right! So. I invite you to flip the pages of this ultimate random-access document and find out why these guys are investing in print. And just to balance the ledger, that same page-space has the story of another group of young Fords who are also launching a business: this one on the web and exploiting all of the Internet's promise. The online version of their story bears the superhead "Haverford Conversations" as in "Jawboning With Your Ford Friends Just Like You Used To."

In short, doing that Gummere living room thing.

Best,



Chris Mills '82

cmills@haverford.edu

P.S. Send me a note if you and a friend or two would like to create a "Haverford Conversation" for us all to enjoy.



32

John R. Van Ness

Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Chris Mills '82

Director of College Communications

Brenna McBride

Staff Writer

Acquire, LLC

Graphic Designer
www.AcquireVisual.com

Contributing Writers

John F. Anderies
Jeanine Basinger
Charles Curtis '04
Douglas Johnson '71
Stephen Leonard '95
John Lombardi
Caroline O'Halloran
Gail Sklar

Virtual Communications Committee

Norman Pearlstine '64,
Chairman

Editorial Advisory Committee

Jody Romano
John R. Botti '92
Kaye Edwards
Gregory Kannerstein '63
Bradley J. Mayer '92
William E. Williams

winter 2008



FEATURES

- 24 It's a Hope**
Dr. Bruce Agins '75 has spent his career fighting HIV and AIDS, and training up-and-coming health professionals to do the same.
by Charles Curtis '04
- 32 European (Re)Union**
Find out why these Fords call Europe home.
by Stephen Leonard '95
- 38 Building a Community of Scientists**
The Howard Hughes Medical Institute transforms today's students and faculty members into tomorrow's cutting-edge research scientists.
by Brenna McBride
- 44 Dances with Words**
Richard Lingeman '53, distinguished biographer of Theodore Dreiser and Sinclair Lewis, is one of the few true humorists and men of letters still editing magazines.
by John Lombardi
- 50 The Emerson Era Begins**
Meet Stephen G. Emerson '74, Haverford's thirteenth president.
by Caroline O'Halloran
- 64 Sudan Before Darfur**
The tragedy of Darfur, Sudan, is now well-known. Douglas Johnson '71 has devoted much of his life to understanding—and ending—another Sudanese conflict that was in the news so long it ceased to be news at all.
By Douglas Johnson '71

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 View from Founders**
- 4 Main Lines**
- 11 Reviews**
- 15 Ford Games**
- 19 Faculty Profile**
- 72 Notes from the Alumni Association**
- 85 Class News**
- 100 Roads Taken and Not Taken**



SPECIAL REPORT

77 State of the College

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Six months on the job and I'm here to report that it isn't what I expected...

by Stephen Emerson '74

view from founders

Six months on the job and I'm here to report that it isn't what I expected...

In fact, it's better. And while I certainly had high hopes for the Haverford I'd be coming home to—realistic, yet high nonetheless—frankly I'm astonished by where this community finds itself, and the eagerness with which it is looking to the future. I couldn't be happier about returning, or more optimistic about the days and years to come.

Blanket statement: Our college is thriving. Considering the students who come here (and whom I'm meeting every which way I can) that isn't surprising. It's really very nice that this column is called "View from Founders," because I've set aside Friday afternoons for students to come by and share their thoughts as we sit on some newly-acquired rocking chairs on Founders porch. It is my favorite standing appointment, and our porch chats are becoming better attended by the week as students introduce themselves—and introduce me to their concerns and ambitions.

Jack Coleman was president when I arrived here in 1970 as a 16-year-old from Long Island. The President was friendly and personable, yes. But he was a firebrand, passionate almost to distraction about an America at war—in Southeast Asia and, in many ways, with itself. Jack forged a role that was largely outward-facing and deeply engaged with the issues of the day. This was a man who meant business, and the business often meant joining us in protest on the Mall in Washington, or taking a sabbatical to study life as lived by those in blue collar roles. Such experiences informed his notion of stewardship and, in turn, inspired us to consider our place in the world and how we can effect change—indeed, how our every action impacts upon others.

Three decades later, that uniquely Haverfordian commitment to what I call "finding oneself in the process of making the world a better place" seems stronger than ever. In a worldwide-web of opportunity, it's possible to connect with difference (and work for change) in ways that those of us from older generations couldn't have imagined. These idealistic, forward-looking students can bridge time, space and difference at will, and their lives speak to that end. To do right by them, I will try to give them the tools and resources to energize will to action, and live up to their standards as I use my office to enable their greatest success—inside and outside the classroom, here on campus and beyond. These students inspire confidence both in the future of our institution, and our world.





I am similarly, and profoundly, moved by our faculty. As a professor myself, I have a sense of what it takes for a department or an entire academic institution to succeed. As I thank my predecessors for preserving and enhancing a Haverford that serves as a beacon to students whom I would easily consider among the most gifted and giving I have met, so too am I appreciative of all that has been done to attract and retain such a dynamic and committed faculty.

It goes beyond their brilliance (goes without saying, I'm pleased to report!) as it goes beyond the currency of their expertise. And it's more than their accessibility, and their faith in an exclusively undergraduate setting that involves uttering statements such as "These are my office hours; feel free to drop by" or "Here's my home number if you need it; please call" or "I liked the point you made in last week's paper; have you considered exploring it further over the summer?" For me, it has to do with flexible, creative thinking that is grounded in the real world—of both their scholarship and the lives of those with whom they interact while pursuing it. For them, it seems all about how academics matter, here and after students move on. In essence, the more you engage with our faculty, the more exciting that engagement becomes. They are there for us, and I will be there for them.

And then there is the larger campus community above and beyond faculty and students, who sustain the College. While not claiming to speak for anyone else, I don't get the impression that folks here regard this as a "designated workstation" where you

put in time and get a paycheck. Why do I believe that? Because, in my experience, people who smile this much and say "Thank you!" this much, who never seem to miss a co-worker's birthday and get excited by the beauty and magnificence of our campus-as-arboretum, aren't watching the clock. They care, deeply—just as those who founded Haverford College cared. People here work hard and feel they are part of a mission; people here respect and feel respected. I hope to serve with such dedication.

I will soon mark four decades as a Haverfordian. At times—and it's often Friday afternoons, as my personal "view from Founders" includes this newest generation of Fords—it takes my breath away to think that the people here and the place we share have trusted me with this current role. So often, I am moved to silence.

It's great to be back, and great to be working with you all for an even brighter future. 🐾

Editor's Note: As this issue was going to press, Haverford announced a dramatic transformation of its Financial Aid policies. The text of President Emerson's letter to the community is reproduced on the inside back cover of this magazine.



“ In essence, the more you engage with our faculty, the more exciting that engagement becomes. They are there for us, and I will be there for them. ”



main lines

BIG SMALL SPECIES DIG

Looking at Prehistoric Plankton-Feeders
with Brian Johnson '08

What happened to life on Earth after that infamous asteroid hit the Yucatan more than 65 million years ago? That's a question Brian Johnson '08 pondered during his summer internship with paleontologist Neil Landman at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

Johnson is a geology major, but his true passion lies in paleontology—which, contrary to popular belief, doesn't always involve dinosaurs. "In fact," he says, "most paleontologists focus on invertebrates." One of Johnson's geology professors at Bryn Mawr, Bruce Saunders, knew Neil Landman as a colleague and co-author and recommended Johnson for the prestigious internship, knowing that Landman's research would mesh with Johnson's interests.

Johnson, Landman and their colleagues pursued their

project in Freehold, N.J., at a near-shore marine environment where diverse forms of life from immediately preceding and following the asteroid impact have been preserved. The researchers hoped to discover the kind of life forms that were able to survive and thrive at the Cretaceous/Tertiary Boundary: "Dinosaurs lived during the Cretaceous period," Johnson explains, "but the impact of the asteroid brought about a new



Brian Johnson (foreground) works in the New Jersey streambed where Neil Landman (right) identified fossil-bearing layers.

geologic era called Tertiary." Scientists can tell when one era ends and another begins because of something called the Iridium Anomaly.

"Iridium is an element extremely rare on Earth but abundant in asteroids," says Johnson. "When an asteroid hits Earth, it blows dust into the air and spreads a thin layer of it all over the planet." At the Cretaceous/Tertiary Boundary, evidence of the anomaly can be found in increases of parts per million of iridium.

In New Jersey, Neil Landman was concentrating on the Cretaceous portion of the site and asked Johnson to study the Tertiary layer to determine what kinds of species survived in that era, as well as what made them thrive. They were fortunate in finding that these layers formed the floor of a creek, and were worn down so thin that Johnson easily pried them off in slabs using a large axe called a maddock. He then took those slabs back to the museum lab, broke them into segments the size of marbles or golf balls, and extracted pieces of any fossils he found.

Instead of just identifying species, Johnson was more interested in learning how that species evolved, and what kind of lifestyle it led. This project is now being continued as his senior thesis. "I'm using these species and their lifestyles to paint a picture of ecology in the Tertiary era. What modes of life were dominant, and why?"

In seeking the answer to this question, he has noticed a

surprising trend. Most of the animals from that era are suspension-feeders; they sit at the bottom of a body of water and wait for food to come to them. They are also planktotrophs, feeding mainly on plankton. What's unusual about this, says Johnson, is that according to most of the papers he's read on this subject, there was a stark decrease in planktotrophs during the Tertiary period. "It makes sense that when a huge asteroid hits and blows dust into the air, it blots out the sun, and plant life

Instead of just identifying species, Johnson was more interested in learning how that species evolved, and what kind of lifestyle it led.

decreases or dies," he says. "All animals that eat plankton then suffer." However, it appears that nearly 70 percent of the animals Johnson discovered this summer feed off of plankton.

"So something different is going on here," he says.

Johnson may spend the rest of his senior year attempting to solve this mystery, but after graduating in May, he hopes to leave the lab behind and break into science writing and journalism. "I found that what I liked most was reading research papers and writing up my findings," he says. 🐼

H

averford College welcomes

five new tenure-track professors to the faculty:

Terrence LaMark Johnson has been promoted from Visiting Assistant Instructor to Assistant Professor of Religion. Johnson holds a bachelor's degree in English from Morehouse College and a master of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Brown University. His research interests include religious ethics, moral philosophy, and African American religious thought and philosophy. He received the Woodrow Wilson Foundation's Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship, and will soon have an essay published in *The Souls of Black Folk: New Essays Reflections*.

Weiwen Miao, new Associate Professor of Mathematics, received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Beijing University and a master's and doctorate in probability and statistics from Tufts University. She comes to Haverford from Macalester College, where she was an associate professor in statistics; she has also taught at Mt. Holyoke College and Colby Colleges. She has been published in a wide range of journals, including *The American Statistician*, *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, *Scandinavian*

Journal of Statistics, the *Journal of Probability and Statistical Science*, and *International Statistical Review*.

Barak Mendelsohn joins the department of political science as an assistant professor.

A recent post-doctoral fellow at Tel Aviv University, Mendelsohn holds a bachelor's degree in Middle East studies from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, a master's in security studies from Tel Aviv University, and a master's and Ph.D. in government from Cornell University. His research focuses on terrorism and the evolution and ideology of the Jihadi movement; hegemony and interstate cooperation; the politics of the Middle East; the proliferation of WMDs; religion and international relations; psychological theories of decision making; theories of foreign policy; and the causes of

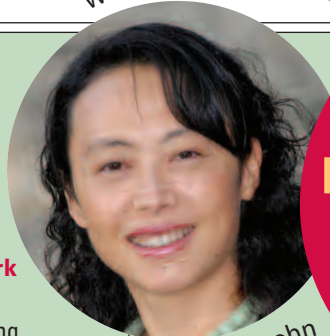
interstate and intrastate conflict.

New Instructor of Spanish **Aurelia Gómez Unamuno** earned a licentiate's degree (with a thesis entitled "Revaloración del discurso utópico americano") in Hispanic languages and literatures from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and a master's in Hispanic languages and literatures from the University of Pittsburgh, where she is currently a doctoral candidate. She is finishing a dissertation called "Marginal Narratives and Politics in Mexico after 1968." Her areas of expertise include 20th-century Latin American narrative and culture, the new historical novel, and Latin American criticism. In March 2006 she organized a panel on "Narrativas marginales en América Latina" for the Latin American Studies Association Conference. She is interested

in such topics as the presence and representation of marginal subjects as well as their dealings with power in Latin American narratives.

The religion department welcomes Assistant Professor **Travis Zadeh**, whose research focuses on the formative periods of Islamic intellectual history with particular attention given to the intersections between religion and literature. His work draws on Arabic, Persian, Syriac, Latin, and Spanish sources to explore concepts of translation and alterity in premodern Islam, and includes studies on sacred geographies and cartography, as well as theological issues surrounding the translatability of the Quran. Zadeh holds a B.A. in literary studies and Spanish from Middlebury College, and an A.M. and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in comparative literature. He has conducted research in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and South America. Zadeh lived in Syria on a Fulbright-Hays dissertation research grant in 2003-04. During the summer of 1998, he walked over 500 miles on a medieval pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint James the "Moor-Killer" in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. 🦉

Five Tenure-Track Professors New to Haverford's Faculty This Year



Weiwen Miao



Terrence LaMark Johnson



Travis Zadeh



Barak Mendelsohn



Aurelia Gómez Unamuno

One small step for man, one giant step for goatkind

Seattle gives them pet status,
Goat Justice League Prevails



Jennie Grant '87, president of the Goat Justice League, with her minigoats in Grant's Madrona backyard. The Seattle City Council voted Monday that miniature goats could be kept as pets.

On Monday, the City Council acknowledged the miniature goat's attributes as human companion, weed whacker and milk maker, and unanimously voted that the goats could be kept as pets.

"One small step for man, one giant step for goatkind," said Councilmember Richard Conlin, who sponsored the legislation.

As of late, goats have gained the environmental status of hybrid cars and bovine-growth-hormone-free milk, prized for their ability to mow lawns without using fossil fuels. University of Washington and Seattle City Light recently hired herds to clear slopes of blackberry brambles.

Monday's vote marked yet another gain for miniature goats, which are about the size of a large dog. Also known as pygmy or dwarf goats, the animals weigh between 50 and 100 pounds and grow to about 2 feet tall. Owners keep them as pets and sources of milk.

People who want to keep goats

Koffi Anyinefa, professor of French and department chair, gave a talk called "The Peace Corps Novel and African: Atruistic Alterity" at the Internationales Humboldt-Kolleg 2007 meeting, held December 4-8 in Lome, Togo.

Assistant Professor of Computer Science **John Dougherty** attended a meeting of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges, held October 12-13 at St. Joseph's College in Patchogue, N.Y., where he gave a talk on "Using Lyrics and Music to Reinforce Concepts." This was also a paper published in the *Journal of Computing Sciences in College*.

Stephen Emerson, president of Haverford and professor of biology, was co-author of the article "Osteoblasts support B lymphocyte commitment and differentiation from hematopoietic stem cells," which appeared in Vol. 109, Issue 9 of the journal *Blood*.

At the 41st American Chemical Society Western Regional Meeting 2007, held October 9-13 in San Diego, Associate Professor of Biology **Rob Fairman** gave a talk called "Effective Mentoring of Teaching Experiences Can Provide Invaluable Training for Future Faculty."

Hank Glassman, assistant professor of East Asian studies, attended the American Academy of Religion Meeting, November 17-20 in San Diego, where he was a presenter on a panel covering "Screening and Streaming Japanese Religions: Integrating Visual Media into the Classroom," sponsored by the Japanese Religions Group. His article "Shaka no Honji: Preaching, Intertextuality, and Popular Hagiography" appeared in Vol. 62, Issue 3 of the journal *Monumenta Nipponica*.

Emeritus Professor of French **Marcel Gutwirth's** article "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, Comedie a Double—a Triple Fond?" was published in Vol. 107, Issue 1 of the journal *Revue d'Histoire Litteraire de la France*.

Laurie Kain Hart, Edwin and Margiana Stinnes Professor of Global Studies and professor of anthropology, contributed a paper and took part in a workshop on "The Politics of Difference and Boundaries" at the "Revisiting the Political: Anthropological and Historical Research on Greek Society" International Symposium, sponsored by the

will have to license them like a dog or cat and get them dehorned. Male goats must be neutered—the unaltered male gives off a musky scent that some find offensive, goat experts say. To protect sidewalk gardens and park vegetation, goats will not be allowed in off-leash areas or anywhere outside the owner’s yard, with an exception: They can be lent to other owners to graze in their yards. Portland and Everett have passed legislation legalizing the goats.

University of Washington and Seattle City Light recently hired herds to clear slopes of blackberry brambles.

Under the previous land-use code in Seattle, farm animals could not be kept on lots smaller than 20,000 square feet. The law passed Monday classifies minigoats as small animals rather than farm animals, and the new licensing requirement treats them like dogs, cats, exotic animals and

potbellied pigs. Jennie Grant, a Madrona resident and outlaw goat owner, asked Conlin’s office to consider changing the old law after a neighbor alerted the city to Grant’s goats and complained about potential public-health risks. Grant is president of the Goat Justice League, which she says has 100 members.

Her goats, Brownie and Snowflake, “are happy, they have each other, they have enough space to do the things goats like to do,” Grant said at a public hearing. “Every day they harvest blackberry bushes. Every day Snowflake gives a half gallon of delicious milk. I make cheese and I bring it to the neighbors.”

After researching the health risks and finding they were low, Conlin said, he proposed the new law because the goats can provide local milk and serve as “another link to the reality of where food comes from.”

Animal lovers, advocates of urban sustainability and children testified in favor of legalizing the goats at the hearing Thursday. One person criticized the change, saying goats can escape any enclosure and they prefer to eat roses.


...Snowflake and Brownie seemed oblivious to the legal reprieve. In fact, they seemed much more interested in a reporter’s notebook...

Grant sees a pastoral future for Seattle populated with minianimals. “We would be a really charming city if we were a place people could keep minifarms with chickens, goats, a vegetable garden and fruit trees,” she said.

At her home, Snowflake and Brownie seemed oblivious to the legal reprieve. In fact, they seemed much more interested in a reporter’s notebook that was just out of their reach.

Grant also handed out tips on raising minigoats: Build a 5-foot fence and a rain shelter, keep at least two goats, do not tether them and do not keep them indoors. Seattle Tilth plans to

provide classes on goat-keeping, she said.

Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck said there was more to be done. “Why stop there? Why not sheep, llamas ... ? I think there is an argument that there are greater heights to be achieved with urban sustainability.” 

Sharon Pian Chan, *Seattle Times staff reporter*

This article originally appeared in the September 25 edition of the *Seattle Times*. It is reprinted with permission.



Department of Social Anthropology and History, School of Social Sciences, University of the Aegean, Greece. It was held November 7-11 in Mytiline, Greece, and was the first symposium of its kind to bring together researchers in the field to evaluate the past 20 years of research. **Shizhe Huang,** CV Starr Professor and chair of East Asian Studies, presented a paper on “A Type-matching Theory on the Modifier-Modifiee Construction” at the 4th International Conference on Comparative Linguistics, held October 27-29 in Wuhan, China.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Music **David Kasunic** attended “Chopin in the 1840s: The Last Decade,” the VII International Academic Conference organized by the Fryderyk Chopin Institute, held December 6-8 in Warsaw, Poland. He gave a talk entitled “A Musical Disease: Tuberculosis, Music, and Diagnostic Pathology in 1840s France.”

Hee Sook Kim, assistant professor of fine arts, displayed her work in a variety of exhibits across the country: *Spiritual Medicine* at the Prints Hallway Gallery in Philadelphia; *Encounter* at the UNM Art Museum in Albuquerque; *Images from Nature* at the Indianapolis Art Center; *Power of Nature* at the Art Gallery of Yavapai College in Prescott, Ariz.; *Fountain New York* and *Six Degrees of Separation* at the Chi Gallery in Brooklyn; and *Revealed: Selections from the Fine Arts Collection* at Haverford’s Magill Library.

Associate Professor of Religion **Naomi Koltun-Fromm** was an invited respondent on a panel concerning Jewish and Christian relations in late ancient Syria at the Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religion meeting, which took place November 16-20 in San Diego.

Associate Professor of Music **Thomas Lloyd’s** article “Hope in the Unified Language of Music: Teaching Sacred Music in a Secular Context” was published in Vol. 47, Issue 9 of the *Choral Journal*.

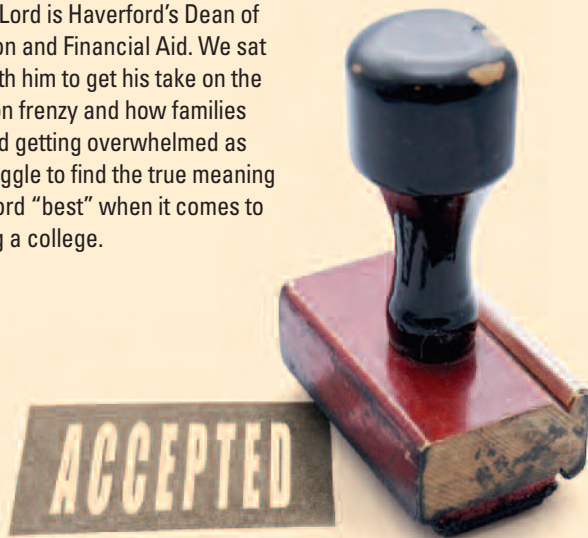
Getting In: America's College Admission Hysteria

**A Q&A with Dean of Admission
and Financial Aid Jess Lord**

Has America gone college admissions mad? In a society that compulsively ranks doctors, neighborhoods, cars, sports teams—and, online, everything from toaster ovens to cordless drills—it's no surprise that college admission is also subject to hierarchical ranking and, in turn, has become a means to acquire—or lose—prestige.

But even if you don't fall victim to status consciousness, is a parent being remiss by not hiring an SAT tutor? And what about that ad for an "application coach" that you saw in the local paper? (Just what do they do, anyway?)

Jess Lord is Haverford's Dean of Admission and Financial Aid. We sat down with him to get his take on the admission frenzy and how families can avoid getting overwhelmed as they struggle to find the true meaning of the word "best" when it comes to choosing a college.



Many parents seem incredibly anxious about the college admission process, and a lot of that anxiety appears tied to the notions that your child must attend a "prestigious" school in order to succeed in life and that parents have failed if their children don't get in to such a school. It's almost as if "getting in" is the only goal.

I believe we are certainly overemphasizing the importance of rankings and perceived prestige in the college admission process. It seems to me that over time, a shorter and shorter list of schools is being deemed "acceptable" or truly "prestigious," and that is a real shame. Students are made to feel that the hard work they've done and the great things they've accomplished should somehow be diminished because they don't go to whatever school happens to be #1 in *US News* in that particular year. We are blessed as an institution to have such a strong reputation and to attract such incredible students, but what makes Haverford such a special and amazing place is not our prestige. It is the combination of the extraordinary individuals who choose to come to Haverford with the experiences

they have together once here that defines and distinguishes us. Our students have such an extraordinary four years while here—they grow deeply intellectually and personally, in ways that impact them for the rest of their lives. They go on to lead full, engaged lives and make their mark on the many communities they are a part of. This is the sign of a good education, and should be the standard for judging whether or not one's college experience has been successful.

I am often asked about the pressures that exist as a part of this process, and I'd like to be one of the first in line to find ways to reduce the stress and anxiety that is so often created. At the same time, however, I think it is important to remember that this is a challenging process to go through and it is not only realistic to expect that parts of it will be hard but it is actually OK that this is the case. In life, such important experiences and decisions like this one are rarely without their challenges, and I think if this notion is embraced and you are prepared for it, the whole process goes much smoother. My aspiration is always for the college admission process to truly be the first step

Ana Lopez-Sanchez, instructor of Spanish, presented a paper called "Revisiting the Construction of 'Self' in Light of Cross-culturally Differentiated Requestive Behaviors" at the XXXVII Simposio Internacional de la Sociedad Espanola de Linguistica, held December 17-20 at the Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain.

T. Wistar Brown Professor of Philosophy **Danielle Macbeth** opened the conference on The Philosophy of Pragmatism: Salient Inquiries, held September 26-29 in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, with a paper called "Pragmatism and Objective Truth." She also spoke at the Diagrams in Mathematics Workshop, October 4-6 at Stanford University; the subject of her talk was diagrammatic reasoning in Euclid, presenting a new account she has developed of the nature of such reasoning.

Chair and Associate Professor of Political Science **Steve McGovern** presented a paper entitled "The Creative Class as a Catalyst for Progressive Change in American Cities?" at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, which took place August 30-September 2 in Chicago.

Barak Mendelsohn, assistant professor of political science, attended the annual convention of the American Political Science Association, held August 30-September 2 in Chicago, where he presented a paper entitled "God vs. Westphalia: The Longer World War."

Associate Professor of Mathematics **Weiwon Miao** was co-author of the article "Robust directed tests of normality against heavy-tailed alternatives," which was published in Vol. 51, Issue 5 of the journal *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*.

Roberto Castillo Sandoval, associate professor of Spanish, wrote a chapter titled "El cumpleaños de nuestra soledad" for the book *Writing Toward Hope: The Literature of Human Rights in Latin America*, published by Yale University Press. His chapter deals with the "performance of historical memory in Chile."

...anyone who uses jargon about "guarantees" or about the process as a "game to be won," or who promises they can get you in to one of your top choices, is someone to be suspicious of.



Jess Lord with his admission committee, including Michael Keaton.

It seems like every other parent is hiring an SAT tutor, and every third parent is hiring an "application consultant." What services does one get from each, and in what cases should I hire one?

I have some mixed feelings about such consultants. As with most things, there are good apples and bad apples in the independent counseling arena and so I think it is most important to ask yourself why you are interested in hiring such a consultant. If you are looking for a certain level of personal attention from someone who can answer questions and provide some direction on how to approach the college admission process, there are many very qualified and experienced people out there who will work with your child and you in this way. But anyone who uses jargon about "guarantees" or about the process as a "game to be won," or who promises they can get you in to one of your top choices, is someone to be suspicious of. It is my experience that consultants like this are simply preying on existing anxieties and don't have as their primary objective the counseling of students.

How does the Haverford office of admission feel about the use of such resources?

My main concern in the admission process is that students are able to put their best selves forward, giving them the best chance possible to get into the schools that are right for them. If an independent counselor is part of making this happen, then that is terrific. But I don't think such a counselor is a necessity in order to reach this outcome. Students can find advice and support from many sources—family, friends, teachers, high school counselors, even admission officers! And going back to my previous comment, I do have concerns that the use of consultants has the potential to derail students from what should be most important in this process; not all consultants are going to be concerned with truly counseling a student, helping them to understand themselves better, and leading students to gain a better sense of which schools are right for them. In a "big picture" sense, I also have concerns that the use of such consultants creates further inequities in the overall college admission process, putting at

in a student's college experience. In that light, I think the admission process offers students not only the chance to learn a lot about a particular school and what it might be like to go there; it also offers them the opportunity to learn a lot about themselves. By putting the

time and energy and self-reflection into this process, I think students do gain a sense of what is important to them and set themselves up to take full advantage of the extraordinary experience that lies in their very near future.

Visiting Associate Professor of German **Heidi Schlipphacke** attended the annual conference of the German Studies Association, October 5-7 in San Diego, where she gave a talk called "Before Foucault, Before Freud: Polygamy and Erotic Excess in Lessing's 'Miss Sara Sampson' and Goethe's 'Stella'" as part of a panel on "Dogma and Critique."

At the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, held November 3-7 in San Diego, Chair and Associate Professor of Psychology **Wendy Sternberg** presented a paper titled "Associations Among Empathy, Human Social Relationships, and Pain," which she co-authored with Assistant Professor of Psychology **Benjamin Le** and former students **Heather Shafi '07** and **Stephen Selsor '07**. The abstract of the paper was selected as one of 700 from among the 16,000 submitted to appear in the press book associated with the meeting.

Theresa Tensuan, assistant professor of English, gave a talk called "Breaking the Frame: Reviewing Discourses of Disability in Epileptic, Cuckoo, and The Spiral Cage" at the Graphic Storytelling Meeting, October 25-27 at Ohio State University.

Professor of Political Science **Sidney Waldman's** book *America and the Limits of the Politics of Selfishness* was published by Lexington Books.

Associate Professor of Computer Science **David Wonnacott** had two pieces published in Vol. 22, Issue 3 of the *Journal of Computing Sciences in Colleges*: "Attribute Grammars and the Teaching of Compiler Design and Implementation" and "Unifying the Undergraduate Applied CS Curriculum around a Simplified Microprocessor Architecture."

...we try to evaluate some fairly generalized, and sometimes abstract, qualities like intellectual curiosity, willingness to take risks, engagement with ideas and with others, motivation, and desire to be a part of and contribute to a community.

even greater disadvantage those students and families that don't have the resources to take advantage of such services.

Is an admission officer generally able to detect the hand of a consultant? What are the giveaways?

This may come as a surprise, but most people who work in college admission are incredibly confident in their ability to correct for the over-influence of a consultant (or anyone else, for that matter) in an application. It may not always be clear that it was the hand of a consultant, per se, but I do think we can detect when an application has become inauthentic. This can happen for all sorts of reasons—it might be because of the over-involvement of a consultant, or it could be that a parent has become over-involved, or it could even be just from a student “trying too hard.” Our admission evaluations are fundamentally about projecting what kind of students and community members candidates might be once they arrive at Haverford. To get a sense of this, we try to evaluate some fairly generalized, and sometimes abstract, qualities like intellectual

curiosity, willingness to take risks, engagement with ideas and with others, motivation, and desire to be a part of and contribute to a community. The more smoothed over and slick an application becomes, the more the evidence of these kinds of qualities and characteristics actually starts to disappear. Part of this is because the aspects of an application that an outside hand might help with (or interfere with!) the most—the essays, the presentation of extra-curriculars, and other elements of what we call the “self-presentation”—will stop resonating with the other parts of the application. We won't see the same qualities corroborated in the teacher recommendations, for example, or in the course choices, or in the interview. And as a result, the individual parts of the application don't come together as a whole. We're making an effort to get to know each candidate as broadly and as deeply as we can, based on a great deal of information about them. In the end, we are looking for the consistent messages about an applicant, and an application that has been overly packaged reads more like a sales pitch than anything else.



How is the “legacy applicant” experience different today than it was when most of our alumni were Haverford students?

In some very important ways, the experience is no different today than it was in the past. We continue to value deeply our legacy applicants. Their decision to apply to Haverford is an incredible statement both on the lasting impact that Haverford has had on the parent (or parents!) and on the present day resonance of that positive Haverford experience for the student. And we have the

deepest respect for the Haverford “family”—it is an essential part of what makes Haverford the special place that it is. But in other ways, the legacy applicant experience today is very different as well. We continue to receive more and more applications to Haverford, making the admission process ever-more competitive. And while we feel a strong sense of obligation to a legacy candidate, we do feel some obligation to every student who has applied to Haverford—out of respect for the hard work they have done, for all that they have accomplished, and for their feeling that Haverford might be the right next step in their education and life. As the applicant pool continues to grow, it becomes more and more difficult for any individual to gain admission, and for us to accommodate the many different qualities and qualifications that we value. 🦉

From left to right: Admission Counselor Andrea Ravich and Assistant Director of Admission Lydia Dagenais '04.



book reviews

Howard Wood '44

The Dendrobiums

A.R.G. Gantner Verlag K.G., 2006

When opening the epic botanical tome *The Dendrobiums*, be prepared to travel on many different journeys. Take a trip to distant lands of high elevations and rain forests. Or, go back in time to an era before the continents moved and in some cases, collided. A reader will not finish or digest this book at one sitting or even after several successive readings. It has much to offer those people who are interested in a variety of different areas: dendrobium orchids, geology, botany, environmental diversity of birds, climate, or the fabulous 656 colored plates (dendrobium orchids, map, and historical items) included. There is something in this book from which all can learn.

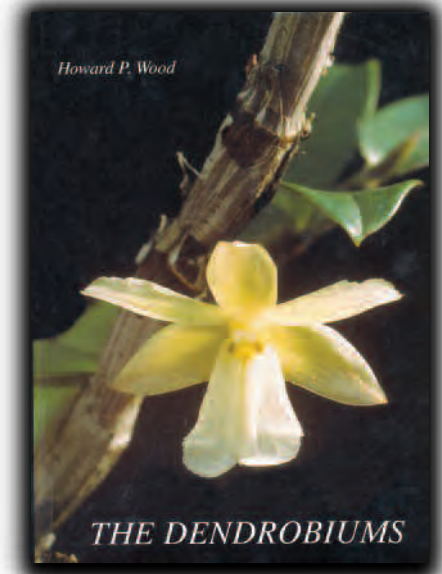
Dr. Howard P. Wood, Haverford College class of '44, spent 36 years writing this book, which is dedicated to L. Wilbur Zimmerman, D.D.S., who introduced Wood to orchids. Wood's love affair with orchids began in 1956, when he received his first orchid. He did not start out to study this wonderful genus of orchids, dendrobiums, as his life's

work, nor did he plan to spend all this time writing a book. Wood "hoped to produce a manual for identification and culture of certain species of dendrobiums..." as his initial project. True to Wood's character, the

He was able to connect another of his avid interests, photography, to this new passion and began photographing all his orchids.

more he studied, the broader his goals for the book became. It wasn't long before he added orchids, especially dendrobiums, to his list of beloved hobbies. He was able to connect another of his avid interests, photography, to this new passion and began photographing all his orchids.

The book's organization is intriguing. He does not attempt to list every dendrobium species, but rather discusses this sub tribe of orchids by clades, which means family lines. The photographic plates of dendrobiums at the back of the book are similarly organized and not in the usual alphabetical order. Wood



himself took all 656 photographs.

The book opens with a helpful list of abbreviations along with a listing of taxonomic changes that have been recently acknowledged and the text is divided into 10 sections: Introduction, Evolution and Distribution, Morphology and Anatomy, Cultivation, Scientific topics, Taxonomy and nomenclature, Geographical

Want to grow your own dendrobiums at home?

Here are some tips from the American Orchid Society (www.aos.org):

- Pot dendrobiums in porous, free-draining media.
- Provide them with up to 50 percent sunlight. In the home, set them in an east, west, or lightly shaded greenhouse, or place them directly under four 40-watt fluorescent tubes and two 40-watt incandescent bulbs.
- Mature plants need a 15 to 20 degree Fahrenheit difference between day and night. Night temperatures should be between 60 and 65 degrees; day, between 80 and 90. Temperatures below 50 may cause leaf drop.
- Dendrobiums need 50 to 60 percent humidity. It's best to place them on trays over moistened pebbles. In a greenhouse, use a humidifier if conditions are too dry.
- Fertilizer should be provided on a regular basis during the active growing period. Apply a balanced (10-10-10, 12-12-12, or similar) fertilizer every week at one quarter to one half the recommended dilution.
- Potting should be done every two to three years before the mix loses its consistency. Pot firmly, giving air and ample drainage, allowing enough room for two years' growth. Dendrobiums grow best in pots small for the size of the plant.



survey, Genera and sections in the Dendrobiinae, Notes on Species, and fifteen Appendixes which range from Photographic Notes to his Travel Notes.

The section on cultivation is richly detailed and Wood's candor about his growing successes—and failures—is refreshing. One often assumes that an experienced grower such as the author never kills any of their plants, or that all of their orchids thrive magnificently. Wood tells the truth, pointing out that even seasoned growers lose plants for many different reasons. He also spends time discussing various growing conditions, potting mediums, fertilizers—tremendously helpful to both novice and experienced orchid growers.

Overall, *The Dendrobiums* is a fascinating reference text that addresses many related subjects in a scholarly and orderly manner.

Wood's research is complete; apparently he has read every article connected to every aspect of this text. There are 45 pages of listed references to more than 900 articles and books. He has also included 142 pages of notes on 537 species of this orchid family, noting that there are 1400 "good" species in all; we'll take him at his word.

Like some specimens of the plants themselves, however, this text—though a treasure—does have flaws. For one, it doesn't have an index. As Wood puts it, "I just couldn't face doing an index," which, while understandable given the scope of this epic, ultimately detracts from its value. Neither does it list all of the species of dendrobiums.

Overall, *The Dendrobiums* is a fascinating reference text that addresses many related subjects in a scholarly and orderly manner. While not a coffee table book, its offerings will interest many and for those who love dendrobiums, it is the most complete book written on this genus of orchids. 🐿

-Gail Sklar teaches at Temple University and Harcum College, and has won ribbons at the Philadelphia Flower Show and Longwood Gardens.



Ed Sikov '78

Dark Victory: The Life of Bette Davis

Henry Holt & Company, 2007

The legendary film star Bette Davis was what might charitably be called "a real piece of work." According to Ed Sikov, author of *Dark Victory: The Life of Bette Davis*, many who knew her often put it more bluntly. Barbara Stanwyck, no slouch herself in the legends category, described Davis's "creative ruthlessness," and her co-star Brian Aherne said "nobody but a mother" could have loved her.

One beleaguered colleague reported that on set Davis needed to be the entire band and all the instruments, "including the bazooka." (I had my own adventures with Davis. I was once the goat elected to inform her that she couldn't smoke at a dinner honoring Frank Capra, whose asthmatic wife, Lu, had stored her oxygen tank under the table. "Well, get her out of here!" Davis bellowed at me, by way of a suggested solution.)

Mr. Sikov, author of biographies of Peter Sellers and Billy Wilder, is both a respected scholar and a delicious gossip, which makes him perfect to chronicle Davis's bravura life. His research skills are worthy of a truffle hound. (Who knew that Davis had been a Girl Scout leader?) Mr. Sikov studied Warner Brothers studio records and Davis's personal archive at Boston University. He conducted in-depth interviews with her co-workers, lifelong friends and employees.

This new material, combined with his own perceptive point of view, makes *Dark*

Victory essential reading for anyone interested in Davis, even though much has already been written about her. Besides her autobiography, *The Lonely Life*, ghosted by Sanford Dody, and her *Mother Goddam*, written with Whitney Stine, there are full-length books by Barbara Leaming, Charlotte Chandler, James Spada and Charles Higham.

Mr. Sikov covers the familiar facts about Davis with enough zing to make them fresh. His muse is apparently Addison DeWitt, the acid-tongued columnist in the Davis film *All About Eve*. He writes vividly about Davis's New England birth in 1908 to a classic show-biz mother and a cold, indifferent father who abandoned the family (setting "the course for Bette's relationships with men"). He describes Davis's early passion for theater and dance, her arrival in

She was a bad drunk who picked fights and threw tantrums. She was mean to her mentally ill sister, ran through more than 18 agents and never passed up a chance to insult the famous at cocktail parties.

Hollywood in 1930, her first movies, fights with Warners, patriotic establishment of the Hollywood Canteen in World War II, two Oscars, various affairs and four disastrous marriages. (Husband No. 3, an artist named William Sherry, tossed a trunk at her and threw her out of their car. And that was on their honeymoon.)

The value in *Dark Victory* lies in Mr. Sikov's original analysis of the Davis films and acting style. He suggests that her early study of dance inspired the staccato speech rhythm and odd physical "swing and strut" so beloved by her imitators. "Davis," Mr. Sikov writes, "is one of melodrama's greatest dancers." He pinpoints her role as the cockney waitress in *Of Human Bondage* (1934) as "the first defining moment" when she began to "deliver her lines like punches," giving audiences "the sweet chance" to despise her.

Mr. Sikov is particularly astute in providing insight into Davis as a gay favorite,

interpreting *Now, Voyager* as “a coming-out story.” He grasps the genuine pain, anger and disappointment she channels into her character. Admitting that she sometimes roars out of control (“mistaking shouting for emotional depth”), Mr. Sikov nevertheless respects camp classics like *Beyond the Forest* (1949): “Madame Bovary played as pulp fiction.”

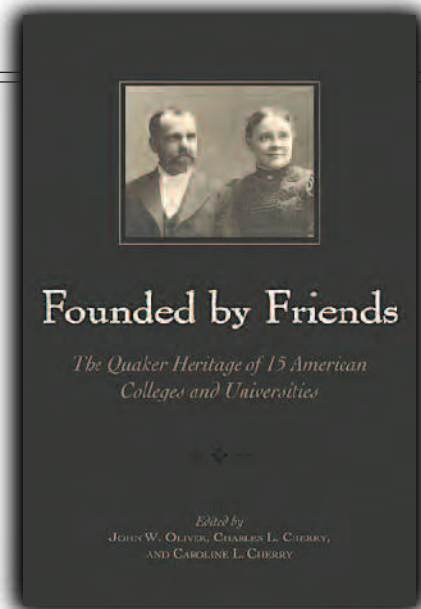
Mr. Sikov doesn't flinch in describing the Davis warts. She was a bad drunk who picked fights and threw tantrums. She was mean to her mentally ill sister, ran through more than 18 agents and never passed up a chance to insult the famous at cocktail parties. (“Why the hell don't you do something about your skin?” she once

Despite her temperament— or possibly because of it— Davis trooped onward until the very end.

roared at Andy Warhol.) According to studio records many Davis films ran over schedule and over budget because she caused delays, storming off sets and faking illnesses. She fell down stairs, broke bones, caught bugs and suffered nervous breakdowns. Dogs bit her. Mr. Sikov presents this appalling information almost cheerfully. Davis may have been a monster, but she's his monster. (“Speaking as a Davis drunk—one can never get enough.”)

Mr. Sikov's passionate appreciation keeps him from ultimately answering a question that can't help but occur to any reader. What the heck was wrong with her? Lindsay Anderson, the director and critic, remarking that Davis was “difficult because she's Bette Davis, not because she's a star,” suggests an answer: She was “essentially mad.” Considering that her sister was subjected to electroshock therapy, it's a sobering judgment. Mr. Sikov only briefly discusses the possibility that she had a “borderline personality.”

In 1949 Davis left Warner Brothers (“free to be truly impossible”), her home studio, where she had made the majority of her signature films. She had two enduring performances ahead of her: her perfect portrait of the aging actress in *All About Eve* (1950), and her seriously cuckoo one as



a former child star in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* (1962). Baby Jane was Davis's own Norma Desmond, and it kicked off the “I am a monster, but I'm still Bette Davis” phase of her career (*Dead Ringer* and *Hush ... Hush, Sweet Charlotte* in 1964, *The Nanny* in 1965). Even as a young woman Davis had been willing to look terrible and risk unpopularity for her art, so becoming a gorgon didn't stop her.

Davis's post-Warners career never regained its consistent high quality, and *Dark Victory* follows that pattern. Although Mr. Sikov covers Davis's later movies as well as her forays into television and onto the Broadway stage, he abandons analysis for anecdote. He stops short of a full dissection of her indestructible superstardom. Despite her temperament—or possibly because of it—Davis trooped onward until the very end. She survived the pain of a mommie-dearest book by her daughter, B. D. Hyman (who was disinherited) as well as a debilitating stroke and breast cancer. “Old age is not for sissies,” Davis warned, but she remained a working professional until her death in 1989 at age 81.

A caring biographer, Mr. Sikov sums up Davis as a woman “who sacrificed her personal life for the sake of her work, and it hurt.” He admits that he could not “fully understand” what caused her unrelenting anger, but his book, like the lady herself, is never boring. 🐾

-Jeanine Basinger is Corwin-Fuller Professor of Film Studies at Wesleyan University, founder and curator of the Wesleyan Cinema Archives, and author of nine books on film, including Silent Stars (1999) and The Star Machine (2007).

Edited by John W. Oliver Jr., Charles L. Cherry, and Caroline L. Cherry

Founded by Friends: The Quaker Heritage of 15 American Colleges and Universities

Scarecrow Press, 2007

What makes a college unique? In the introduction to his chapter on Earlham College, Thomas D. Hamm points out that “all colleges see their stories as unique.” Haverford grads overwhelmingly believe that their education was special in some way and the 315 incoming freshmen this fall surely believe they picked Haverford for its distinctive qualities. The essays in *Founded by Friends* describe the genesis, history and present state of 15 very different American colleges and universities with a claim to a “Quaker heritage”—certainly a “unique” quality. And yet even within this distinctive group it's possible to draw still further distinctions.

The collection is edited by John Oliver Jr., Charles L. Cherry and Caroline L. Cherry, and the essays are written by archivists, historians and other academics from the respective institutions included in the book. The length, form, tone, and content of the essays is as different as the schools they represent. Some present a straightforward chronological view of the history of their institutions while others treat issues topically. Some are tightly organized or even disappointingly short and others may not have received as much editing as they might have.

Woven throughout each of the essays is a selection of issues clearly meant to pull the disparate collection together. These include the institutions' records on gender equality, racial and ethnic diversity, and their performance of the Quaker peace testimony. In addition, essays address the aims of religious versus secular education, vocational versus liberal arts curricula, town and gown controversies, and early and ongoing relationships between the schools and their founding Quaker communities.

The 15 schools presented in this work include, in the order of their founding, Haverford College, Guilford College, Earlham College, Swarthmore College, Cornell

University, Wilmington College, William Penn University, Johns Hopkins University, Bryn Mawr College, George Fox University, Whittier College, Malone College, Friends University, Azusa Pacific University, and Barclay College. Such an assortment of colleges and universities include those originally founded as secondary boarding schools, same-sex as well as co-ed schools, sectarian and non-sectarian institutions, elite liberal arts colleges and evangelical schools, vocational schools and Bible colleges.

The stage for understanding this diverse group of schools is set in an introduction by Hamm called "The Search for the Quaker College." Hamm outlines the historical and theological principles that preceded the founding of the first Quaker College, Haverford College, and how Quaker movements (both geographic and theological) shaped the founding and development of the other fourteen schools.

In short, the present characteristics of the schools owe a great deal to the theological controversies and divisions that characterize 19th-century Quakerism in America. An early controversy divided American Quakers into Orthodox and Hicksite groups. Later, Orthodox Friends divided into Gurneyite and Wilburite groups. Additionally, Southern Quakers who were increasingly uncomfortable with the practice of slavery began a great migration across the mid-west and west. Following the Civil War most Gurneyite Quakers (except those still located in the northeast) were influenced by the evangelical revivalism sweeping the country.

Haverford's institutional history is familiar to our community but it never hurts to be reminded. Those who have special feelings for the presidential portraits often hung in the library's Sharpless Gallery will be pleased to get an overview of the College given by College Archivist Diana Franzusoff Peterson. Peterson divides her essay into eras marked by terms of the college's principals and presidents. One might even visit the gallery with her essay in hand for a particularly informative reading experience.

Essays on Swarthmore and Bryn Mawr Colleges will also appeal because of Haverford's close ties with these institutions. Swarthmore was established in 1864 by a group of Hicksite Quakers who wanted co-educational instruction for their sons and

daughters. While the schism between Orthodox and Hicksites took more than 125 years to be reconciled, the efforts toward such a reunification were underway by the time of Swarthmore's founding and the long-standing relationship between the two schools is evident.

Bryn Mawr's story is particularly interesting. While it was founded by trustees from both Haverford and Johns Hopkins, its

Readers may be surprised to find Johns Hopkins University as well as Cornell University in this book.

early impetus was to be a women's version of Johns Hopkins rather than of Haverford. As such it dropped most of its connections to the Quaker community under the long and passionate leadership of its second president, M. Carey Thomas.

Readers may be surprised to find Johns Hopkins University as well as Cornell University in this book. Neither was intended to be a Quaker institution, but in both cases their founders were Friends. Cornell University is perhaps the greatest stretch in this book, as Ezra Cornell was a disowned Quaker, and while his upbringing affected his life's pursuits, few of his religious views found their way into his university.

Johns Hopkins was a devout Quaker and left the funds to establish his university and hospital upon his death. Like Cornell, Johns Hopkins was intended to be non-sectarian, but in this case some Quaker influence may be presumed from the seven Friends who sat on the original Board of Trustees.

In direct contrast to these non-sectarian universities are a set of evangelical colleges and universities located throughout the mid-west and west. For instance, Malone College, located in Canton, Ohio, was founded by Quakers who were part of the 19th-century Holiness movement. Malone has a long and distinguished history of training Christian missionaries and today its students continue to be prepared for careers of service in fields such as nursing, theology, and education.

George Fox University, in Newberg, Oregon, also grew out of the Holiness movement and is still owned today by the evangelical Northwest Yearly Meeting. Like most evangelical colleges

George Fox enforces for its students a strict code of abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and extramarital sex. Yet it is a highly successful educational institution, the fastest growing of all the colleges included in this book.

Founded by Friends is, first and foremost, a fascinating insight into the religious and educational strivings of Quakers across America. It also shows how the institutions we know today have been profoundly affected by their roots. And if we consider not only what an institution is, but also, by comparing it to others, what it is not, it is clear that each college has a right to see its story as unique. 🐾

- John F. Anderies is Coordinator for Special & Digital Collections at Magill Library

Additional Alumni Titles

Gurdon Brewster '59

**No Turning Back:
My Summer with Daddy King**

Orbis Books, 2007

Richard Lederer '59

**Literary Trivia
Classic Literary Trivia
Presidential Trivia: The Feats,
Fates, Families, Foibles, and
Firsts of our American
Presidents**

Gibbs Smith, 2007

**The Ants are My Friends:
A Punderful Celebration
of Song (co-written with
Stan Kegel)**

Marion Street Press, 2007

Rob Riggan '67

The Blackstone Commentaries

John F. Blair, 2007

Mike Rogers '79

The Third Eye

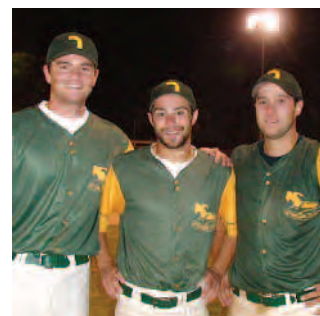
Edicions 30 km/s, 2007

Edward O. Shakespeare '49

**Sex and Consequences:
A Bioethical Guide for Youth
and Parents and Teachers**

AuthorHouse, 2007

A League of Their Own



Three members of the Class of '07 help inaugurate baseball in Israel.

by Charles Curtis '04



Top, left to right: Travis Zier, Nat Ballenberg, Ben Field.

Above: Travis Zier signs baseballs for fans.

Top of the sixth: The home team holds a 4-2 lead, the heart of the visitor's order is due up and it's key to get three quick outs. Bright lights shine down on the uniformed players as the scattered crowd relaxes, enjoying the game from the stands. With a crack of the bat, a lazy fly ball sails toward right field. The outfielder takes a few steps forward as he calculates where the ball will land. But first, he must contend with the giant light pole that stands in his way. He runs around it, while attempting to keep his eye on the white missile heading toward his glove. Finally, after avoiding the obstacle, he makes the catch.

The light pole in right field serves as a metaphor for what players experienced in the inaugural season of the Israel Baseball League (IBL)—professional baseball in its nascent stages, with a league working out the kinks that arise from unusual field conditions, disorganized team travel and other start-up issues. But for Ben Field, Nat Ballenberg and Travis Zier, members of Haverford's class of '07, the fact that the fields weren't up to professional standards, living conditions were cramped and overheated, and only a smattering of fans attended every game didn't matter. They got to experience what baseball-crazy kids everywhere grow up dreaming about: playing a game they love for a living. Furthermore, they

will go down in history as part of Israel's first-ever professional baseball league.

According to a recent article, the IBL was created in part as a way for founder Larry Baras "to support Israel without sitting on committees," as well as create a sport to generate homegrown Israeli players. Ideally, the teams would be supported by a growing national fan base. As the idea began to take shape this past year, Haverford's Dean of the College and former Athletic Director Greg Kannerstein '63 got involved. "I sent an email to Larry and told him my background and asked if he would like my help in any way," says Kannerstein, who had previously helped start a baseball league in Ireland and brought the Haverford baseball team to Poland and the former Czechoslovakia as head coach in the late 1980s. "Larry responded, 'Great! With that kind of experience, we want you to be on the board.'" The dean was appointed to the

IBL's Advisory Committee along with such luminaries as Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig and New York Yankees President Randy Levine.

After Kannerstein took on his role with the league, the IBL began its search for players to fill six teams overseas for a two-month, 45-game season. A draft took place on April 29, 2007, with the biggest headline coming from the final symbolic pick—former Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers great Sandy Koufax, known as one of the greatest left-handed hurlers in baseball history as well as one of the sport's more observant Jews. Around that time an email from both Kannerstein and Haverford's head baseball coach Dave Beccaria reached the seniors on the team, mentioning an open tryout for the league taking place in Florida. Field and Ballenberg, roommates at the time, knew immediately they wanted to join the IBL, almost without a second thought. "Both Nat



and I realized that we had no plans for after graduation and decided it would be great to try out," says Field. Ballenberg agrees: "It's always been a dream of mine to play professional baseball, so obviously I jumped at the opportunity."

Within weeks, both made their way down to Miami for a workout in front of former Major League General Manager Dan Duquette. "Each pitcher got to warm up and show what kind of stuff they had," remembers Ballenberg. "After about 11 pitches, the coach told me he had seen enough. I thought my tryout, just five minutes old, was over."

Five Alumni Inducted Into Thomas Glasser '82 Hall of Achievement

The Haverford Athletic Department held its first annual Thomas Glasser '82 Hall of Achievement Awards Banquet on September 29, recognizing outstanding athletic accomplishment across all fields of play. Named in honor of a Haverford track star who lost his life on 9/11, the inaugural event brought dozens of Fords and their families to the Douglas B. Gardner Integrated Athletic Center (Gardner was also a victim of 9/11), where they shared recollections and renewed acquaintances. For student athletes, it was also a chance to meet living legends in their sports and compare notes about how play has changed over time.

"Haverford College has a strong tradition of athletic excellence and the opportunity to hear the stories about these stellar athletes and their accomplishments told by former coaches, friends, and the athletes themselves made for an extremely memorable evening," says Athletic Director Wendy Smith '87. "I have very distinct visions of a legend in Haverford's oldest varsity sport, cricket, our men's basketball team using flashlights to look for their one basketball in the woods behind Ryan Gym after it had bounced through a window during a practice, the white football used during practice to increase visibility as darkness fell with only three 250-watt light bulbs for help, a pitcher ensuring, the hard way, that a base runner would not steal home, and a pioneering female athlete setting the stage for an intensely competitive women's athletic program at the newly coed institution."

John A. Lester, Sr., Class of 1896

Called "one of the great figures in American cricket" by Wisden Cricketers' Almanack, Lester was a star of Dr. James Babbitt's incipient athletic program. Besides his varsity exploits, he played baseball, wrestled, won the College singles and doubles tournaments in tennis, and established school records in the hurdles, long jump and shot put. A guard and field goal kicker in football, he helped shut out Swarthmore, 24-0, as a senior to snap his team's five-game losing streak versus the Garnet, in which it had been outscored, 196-18. In cricket he averaged 100.5 runs per innings as a freshman, the first of four years he won the Cope Prize Bat. He captained the College XI on its first overseas tour in 1896, and averaged over 84 runs including 105 against the MCC on his first appearance at Lord's. Before his death in 1969, the pavilion at Cope Field was renamed in Lester's honor. Earlier, as author of the 1951 book, *A Century of Philadelphia Cricket*, he had proposed the library annex that was eventually dedicated in honor of his fellow Haverford cricketing great, C. Christopher Morris, 1904.

E. Hambleton "Ham" Welbourn, Jr., '38

Welbourn starred on the mound as a sophomore, winning four of his team's five 1936 victories against St. John's (Md.), Stevens Tech, Guilford and Swarthmore. He limited both the Johnnie and Garnet nines to a team-low two runs in those season-opening and season-finale wins. Pitching nearly half his team's innings in the field, he sported a 7-2 record over the next two regular seasons, with wins over Johns Hopkins and Swarthmore as a junior, and Lehigh as a senior and captain. He was the winning pitcher in 11 of the Fords' 15 wins during his three years as a baseball letterman. In his soccer career, Welbourn and his teammates were undefeated against Lehigh and notched winning marks against Princeton, Navy and Cornell. As a sophomore in 1935, he scored against Navy and Penn as the team struggled under first-year head coach Jim Gentle. He scored three of his five goals as a senior in consecutive wins over Ursinus, Lafayette and Lehigh.

From left to right: Lydia A. Martin, Ham Welbourn, Jr., and Phil D'Arrigo





Opposite page, left to right: Nat Ballenberg and Ben Field at Masada.
Left: Travis Zier in the dugout.

Field also found the audition nerve-racking. A few days later, both received another email inviting them to play. However, because they were still playing in Haverford's spring season and on the way to giving their team a 22-13 record, neither could sign a professional contract for fear the NCAA might punish the team and college for rule violations. After the Fords' final game of the season, Field and Ballenberg left the field, walked to their dorms and signed contracts to don the green and yellow uniforms of the Ra'anana Express.

The third member of the Haverford trio to play in Israel was pitcher Travis Zier. The San Francisco native was nearing the end of a Haverford career in which he tied Adam

Huron for second on the college's all-time wins list with 19 total. Zier said he was approached by Kannerstein and asked if he wanted to play. Zier didn't make it to Miami to try out, but with a resume that also boasted 203.2 career innings pitched and 163 strikeouts, according to Kannerstein, he was accepted "sight unseen." Zier learned he had landed on the Express with close friends Field and Ballenberg. "When I found out that all three of us were going to play on the same team, I was ecstatic. It was a relief."

In mid-June, just weeks after graduation, the three landed in Israel after 31 grueling hours in transit due to travel delays. They quickly found that the living conditions they would endure for the next two months were as tough as their initial trip overseas. Because the league was a startup with very little money to spend, teams were placed into a bungalow colony in a youth village called

Hakfar Hayarok, in what Ballenberg describes as "a boarding school, camp, farm—and circus. The rooms were about the size of an average-sized double dorm room at Haverford, and each housed two to four players." Most mornings began at 5:30 a.m., to the sound of peacocks shrieking near the dorms. The pay wasn't that much better either. Field reports that he and the other players received \$2,000 for the summer, plus compensation for airfare.

Ranging from Israeli players with barely a year of experience to a shortstop who had played in Major League spring training, the IBL and its hodgepodge of international participants could at times be mistaken for a New York City public school league or a group of single-A teams. "It was the widest range of skill I'd ever seen. There were guys literally inches away from being part of a Major League roster and then there were

James R. Grosholz, '49 Grosholz showed promise in his initial year at Haverford with a 10th place finish in the 1942 IC4A freshman cross country run. His academic and athletic career interrupted by World War II, he lowered the college records in the mile and half-mile upon his return to college as a 22-year-old sophomore, new husband and father. He won the MAC harrier title in 1948, then recorded the year's fastest intercollegiate 1,000-yard run time at the Boston AA Indoor Meet. Outdoors, he tied and later lowered to 49.7 seconds the Haverford record in the quarter-mile held by Walter Palmer since 1910. Grosholz (1:53.3) held off Michigan State's Jack Dianetti at the wire to win the IC4A 880 at Randall's Island in New York City. Grosholz saved his best for last, however, winning his preliminary 880 heat (1:54) in the all-divisions NCAA Track & Field Championships on June 17, 1949, at the Los Angeles Coliseum. He placed fifth in 1:51.2 in the 880 final behind Olympic champion Mal Whitfield (Ohio State) and fellow Olympian Herb Barten (Michigan) the next day to come within three seconds of the then-world record.

Philip "Phil" D'Arrigo, '56 D'Arrigo lettered in football his first three years at Haverford, scoring two touchdowns in 1952 and another in 1954. Emerging as a basketball star, he set a Haverford single-game record with 41 points against Drew early in his junior season. As a senior, team captain D'Arrigo reset the standard to 48 points in a 132-91 win over Pennsylvania Military College (now Widener University) on Feb. 15, 1956. Three nights later, he then upped his game-mark to 52 points in a 115-89 win over the University of Delaware. D'Arrigo's 100 points in the two games combined, and his team's 247 points, are likely to stand as Haverford consecutive-game records for many years to come. His 21-of-37 shooting from the floor against the Blue Hens, meanwhile, and his 18-of-25 free throw shooting versus the Cadets, remain the most highest-ever totals at Haverford in those categories, as does his 27.8 points per game season scoring average. D'Arrigo's 1,300 career points, the college record upon his graduation, still ranks sixth all-time, and his career scoring average of 23.2 is second only to the 23.4 average of Dick Voith '77. A three-year tennis letterman, D'Arrigo had a 9-2 singles record for the 9-3 Fords in 1954, then won the Virginia Cup as tennis' top player despite a 7-8 record in 1955. D'Arrigo went 7-1 in singles as a senior.

Lydia A. Martin, '86 Haverford's first female Varsity Cup winner recognized as the sole outstanding athlete in her class—regardless of gender—and the college's first female All-America selection, Lydia Martin was lacrosse's Most Valuable Player all four years she played. She recorded 19 goals, 13 assists and 186 ground balls in lacrosse, and was the team's leading scorer as a freshman. A team captain and Philadelphia Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women all-star each of her last three lacrosse seasons, she was all-Middle Atlantic Conference, all-region and first team Brine and United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association All-America as a senior. Playing defensive wing, she led the Fords to an undefeated regular season, MAC and PAIAW championships, and the NCAA Division III tournament in 1986. Martin was field hockey's MVP and a repeat PAIAW all-star in 1984 for posting eight defensive saves and one assist on coach Penny Hinckley's PAIAW Division III championship team. She had scored a goal with three assists and four defensive saves on field hockey's nationally ranked ECAC tournament team that went 11-2 in 1983.

You have to call it chutzpah to decide in January or February to put a league together and play that summer in another country that has no baseball tradition.

people who would have struggled to make my high school team,” Field recalls with a laugh. The Express’s first game was a no-hitter through the sixth inning—for both teams. Ra’anana managed to squeak out two hits, and at the end of the regulation seven innings, as the IBL rules state, the game was decided on a home run derby. The Express won, but not without the opposing manager unsuccessfully protesting that the hitter used an illegal bat made of composite material. Clearly the Fords weren’t in Pennsylvania — or on the Class of 1916 Field — anymore.

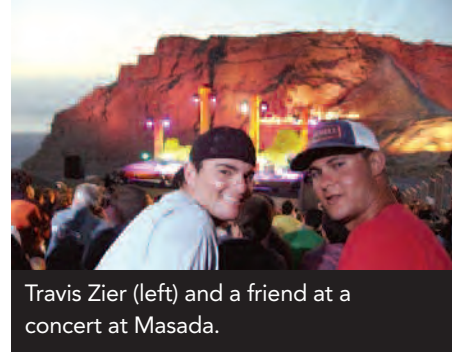
To these three alumni, the playing conditions, sparse crowds and less-than-desirable fields (including a ballpark with the aforementioned light pole in right field) were a fair exchange in order to experience a small taste of life in professional baseball. Zier remembers receiving celebrity treatment when he and his teammates were recognized and allowed to cut lines at local clubs and bars. Field found the newfound star status surreal. “During my entire career, from high school to Division III baseball, I never had thousands of fans watch me play,” says Field, who was inundated by children asking for autographs after games. That’s because Field had a terrific season for the Express, batting .330 with five home runs and 35 RBIs in 40 games; he was subsequently named to one of the All-Star teams. He also recorded the first outfield assist in IBL history. Ballenberg led Ra’anana in appearances with 15 games pitched and a respectable 5.12 earned run average.

Zier was less fortunate. After posting a 1-2 record with a 3.86 ERA and holding opponents to a .190 average, he injured his shoulder and sat out the rest of the season. “The problem was that the league didn’t put enough players on each team,” he says. “You

can’t have a 40-game-plus schedule in two months with 25 guys and no minor league system to draw from. It was incredibly physically demanding. It’s not like college baseball where you get days off. Your arm hurts, but you have to throw because they’re paying you.” Despite spending the rest of the summer watching games from the bench, Zier still enjoyed an experience that included bonding with Dominican teammates over games of dominos and trading stories about their respective cultures, despite the language barrier. “We became extremely close,” he remembers, discovering “they had to send their money home to take care of their kids.” Unlike the Americans, they weren’t in Israel just to play ball.

Off the diamond, there were moments of deep meaning for the three Fords as they explored Israel. All of them cite trips to Masada, an ancient fortress on a rock plateau overlooking the Dead Sea where hundreds of Jewish revolutionaries committed suicide rather than be captured by the Romans. In a blog about his experience (<http://haverfordalumnibaseball.blogspot.com>), Field wrote a description of the early morning trip he took with Ballenberg: “The spectacular sunrise revealed a pristine view of the sea, the rugged mountains where the original Roman encampments are visible and the region where the Dead Sea has retreated over the years and formed a field of desolate peaks and valleys. You can really feel something special in the air as you climb this mountain and explore the place where the Masada martyrs spent their final days.” Zier, in a separate trip, watched a midnight concert below that included singer/songwriters Jackson Browne and Shawn Colvin while he stood atop the summit of Masada. He described the moment of watching the sun come up during the concert as his best night in Israel.

While all six teams made the playoffs regardless of record, the Express lost in their first round matchup against the Netanya Tigers. Soon after the championship game was played, the three headed to their respective hometowns to begin their American post-college lives. Field works in the hotel industry in Charleston, S.C., and plans to attend graduate school in the near future. Zier is working as a contract specialist for the U.S. Navy, and lives in Washington. And Ballenberg is teaching at the Baseball School



Travis Zier (left) and a friend at a concert at Masada.

in Edison, N.J., and is the pitching coach for nearby Linden High School.

“Leaving was bittersweet. I miss a ton of people I met over there, but it was good to come home,” says Ballenberg. And Field took pride in the history he and his teammates made. “It took me a while for the whole thing to sink in,” he says. “I can now say I was able to be the starting point of spreading the game in Israel.”

But it wasn’t only the players who were raving about the experience. Kannerstein reflected on the season and saw a future for the league. “Considering they faced some real obstacles, I thought they did very well,” he says. “The league brought Americans over into a situation that’s going to be stressful and put them through six or seven games a week. You have to call it chutzpah to decide in January or February to put a league together and play that summer in another country that has no baseball tradition. They did it and they made it work. Next year, they can get the bugs out.” Already there are announcements popping up for tryouts for the 2008 season and perhaps improvements in the works for the fields. Kannerstein believes other Fords will be interested in participating in future seasons of the IBL.

League founder Baras, in a statement written after the season, spoke of some Jewish themes that might sound like the Quaker themes Haverford students encounter daily: “There is a popular phrase in Hebrew... *Hineh Ma Tov U’ma Naim, Shevet Achim Gam Yachad*. How good and sweet it is, brothers sitting together. That wistful phrase became personified at the baseball field in Israel. Grandparents and grandchildren, Americans and Israelis, religious and secular, men and women... it didn’t really matter. Everyone was there as one community, reveling in the splendor of baseball being played in Israel.” Someday, when Israeli fans fill up Israeli stadiums and watch Israeli athletes play ball, Haverford can claim a share of glory in the birth of this historic new league. 🐾

When Worlds Collide



The intersection of religion and politics is Assistant Professor of Religion Terrence Johnson's forte. **By Brenna McBride**



Terrence Johnson encourages discussion and debate in his "Religion, Ethics and Politics" class.

Religion and politics have long been considered the two most taboo subjects to discuss at a social gathering. But feel free to broach these topics if you're talking with newly appointed Assistant Professor of Religion Terrence Johnson. In his courses at Haverford and in the book he's currently writing, Johnson explores the influences people's religious and moral convictions exert on their political motivations, particularly with African Americans both past and present.

Johnson majored in English at Morehouse College, but was always intrigued by religion, par-

ticularly its affect on African-American politics. "But I had no idea what to do with a religion degree," he says. "While I loved to wrestle with ideals, I still needed some sort of guidance."

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Johnson spent four years as a business reporter for newspapers including the *Dayton Daily News* and the *Cleveland Plain-Dealer*. Although he loved having the opportunity to hone his writing skills and meet influential leaders of the business world, he sensed a void in his life. "I was trying to find my next path. I wanted to push the envelope a bit, and do something that to

others might seem frivolous, but was definitely out of the ordinary.” The rising popularity of religion sections in newspapers inspired his decision to attend Harvard Divinity School for a master’s, and then Brown University for a Ph.D. in religious studies.

Now, he is in the process of expanding his dissertation, “Tragic Soul-Life: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Redemption of American Democracy,” to book-length. His goal is to bring Du Bois into a larger conversation about justice. “I try to use him as a model for imagining how religion and race influence our political discourse, to show how in many ways our moral convictions cause us to act politically.” This concept

“I’m trying to build in areas of politics and religion,” he says, “and I use Du Bois as a starting point for understanding the relationship among politics, class, and poverty.”

dates back to antebellum times, when Du Bois believed that, post-slavery, there was a possibility for poor whites and former slaves to unite for common causes. However, the sad reality was that poor whites joined with landowners.

“One reason Reconstruction didn’t work is because the moral conviction of racism had more influence than issues like class in uniting workers,” says

Johnson. “What I argue is that moral convictions support our views on race, inferiority and difference.” As a contemporary example of this, he cites the push for welfare reform during the Clinton era: “The ‘welfare queen’ became a symbol of an overweight, lazy black woman, lazy not because there were no jobs but because of something about her blackness.” Even Du Bois, during his land-



Johnson poses challenging questions to his students.

mark 1890s examination of African Americans in Philadelphia, found that the problems affecting the people he studied were equated with the color of their skin.

“When we look at crime today in North or West Philly, it becomes an issue of, ‘Well, it’s black crime,’” says Johnson. “But when there’s a shooting at a high school by someone white, we never say, ‘Oh, those are issues with white men.’ Instead, it’s a societal problem. That’s where our moral understanding of blackness informs our political reality.”

Johnson also focuses on how Du Bois used African-American religion and spiritualism to shed light on the idea of freedom, and how it was achieved. Du Bois used the metaphor “veil of blackness” to describe the separation between the black and white worlds in the late 19th century; “The veil,” Johnson explains, “represents ways in which African Americans were forced into a marginalized space, from which they could see the white ‘other.’ But they could never lift the veil to engage the white world in their own context.” Behind that veil, Du Bois said, a small world emerged, where the black church (which Du Bois saw as a public sphere) played a prominent role, particularly in its use of spirituals.

“The spirituals spoke to Du Bois about the existence of black life in ways he had never heard or imagined, coming from New England,” says Johnson. “He argues that the spirituals represent the ‘Negro’s gift to America;’ it’s a raw, authentic expression of human suffering that wasn’t found outside the church.” The church became a safe haven where individuals could express their frustration with racism, or convey messages that helped slaves escape.

While his dissertation examined spirituals as a form of discourse but didn’t delve deeply into African-American religion, Johnson plans to deal specifically with this topic in his book. “I want to show that there isn’t really one sort of Christian tradition, that Du Bois used black religion to pull out some fragments of a black morality that can be used in a broader debate—not just in loaded Christian terms, but in a vocabulary

“...it’s certainly difficult to fight for people outside of your context—you have to question your own existence and livelihood...”

much more accessible to a larger group of people.” Ultimately, with his book, Johnson wants to use Du Bois in two ways: to explore methods of discussing human suffering and giving it “a moral vocabulary that is palatable within the public sphere and deepens our political life in America,” and to show how Du Bois used black religion to build an ethical framework rooted in African-American traditions like spirituals.

Johnson hopes his book will inspire readers to imagine new possibilities for dialogue and deliberation in public spaces. “Now, in some ways, our political imagination is somewhat limited because we presume that we can only present one type or representation of the self in public,” he says. “I want to argue that in order for us to have a deeper, more meaningful debate, we have to look at ourselves as a body circumscribed by all kinds of traditions.” And, by using specific traditions to speak to a broad audience, he wants to amplify marginalized voices, often neglected because they are believed to be addressed solely to a similarly marginalized group.

“Du Bois allows us to see how a particular world view can speak to human problems,” he says. “If we can begin to see how African Americans are afflicted with the same problems as everyone else, then possibly we can see beyond blackness as an ontological problem.”

Johnson also brought Du Bois into a speech he recently gave for the Politics, Communication, and Society Workshop at the University of Chicago, titled “When Silence is Betrayal: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Moral Crisis of the Talented Tenth.” Johnson retrieved Du Bois’ criticism of the Talented Tenth—a term popularized by Du Bois to describe the phenomena of one in 10 African Americans becoming influential in the world—as a starting point for, he says, “illuminating the blood that drips on our hands when we remain silent and refuse to stand against evil. I use Du Bois to think more broadly about moral accountability and how to determine when our silence symbolizes our implicit support of injustice.” Du Bois criticized the Talented Tenth for ignoring the plight of poorer blacks as they pursued their own ambitions and acquired economic and political stature; he believed they had a moral obligation to disrupt the systems that perpetrated African American oppression.

“I’m trying to build in areas of politics and religion,” he says, “and I use Du Bois as a starting point for understanding the relationship among politics, class, and poverty.”

Johnson himself deals with these issues in his Haverford courses on “Religion, Ethics and Politics” and “Religion and American Public Life” (which he taught during the fall semester), where he tries to rethink how political discourse might be imagined outside the contexts of such categories as political liberalism. “That’s my next project: how I can respond to the old political religious debate, whether or not it’s appropriate.”

Is there an ideal way for politics and religion to intersect? Johnson isn’t sure. But he points to one of his heroes, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., as someone who exemplified the use of religion in the public sphere. “He’s applauded for using

**Elana Bloomfield '08 on Johnson:
“A professor such as Terrence Johnson is unusual not only in his ability to foster an intellectual community within class but also in his desire to create a more moral society within the Haverford community-at-large.”**

“His classes epitomize the interdisciplinary study of the fundamental issues of humanity—issues that intertwine religion, spirituality, and morality...”

religion where appropriate, because in many ways he pushed democratic ideals,” says Johnson. “The problem is, what happens when religion begins to push us out of our comfort zone and really challenge ideas like the redistribution of wealth or basic capitalism? That’s when people say you’ve gone too far.” But it’s at this juncture, he argues, that real political debate should begin.

“I think King, and the civil rights movement, are eloquent examples of how in many ways religion pushed a movement and forced people to adopt a political language,” he says. “I think today we need a moral vocabulary that really allows us to face our deep flaws and begin to attend to some of them. Clearly we can’t build a utopia, but how do we deal with the fact that we sit within a country that’s viewed as an empire? How do you, at a point of privilege, begin to talk with people who are poor and in prison? I want to argue that it’s certainly difficult to fight for people outside of your context—you have to question your own existence and livelihood and recognize that you’re implicit within a system that oppresses other people. It takes a lot of courage to admit this, and then it becomes a matter of how do you address that issue?”

In all of his classes, Johnson makes sure his students know that he wrestles with the meaning and implications of the readings as much as they do. “There are competing debates about our texts and I’m not looking for one particular answer,” he says. “My job is to open the text to the student, problematize the arguments that I’ve learned, and use these arguments to fuel discussion and allow their own intellectual hunger to drive our debates. I try to open up about my own intellectual vulnerabilities so they know I’m learning as well.”

Elana Bloomfield ’08 first encountered Johnson as a visiting professor during the fall of ’06 in a class called “Black Religion and Liberation Theory.” “I

began the course with an appreciation of religion’s impact on society—of the way in which religious belief can act in a dualistic way to oppress and, conversely, to react against oppression—but I understood it from an observer’s perspective,” says Bloomfield, who, as research assistant for the religion department, is aiding Johnson with his research this year. “I had no theoretical basis nor any way to ground what I had read in the newspapers or observed in daily life.” Johnson took the emotional observations held by Bloomfield and her classmates and led them into a scholarly debate about the political, moral and philosophical meanings of those observations.

“He challenged us to question our assumptions about what we noticed from our individual experiences and to rework them within an intellectual framework,” she recalls. “More than anything else, he provided us with a vocabulary with which to think about and to discuss these issues of oppression and liberation.” Bloomfield was so impressed with Johnson that, when she learned of the impending end of his contract with Haverford, she collaborated with fellow student John Duronville ’07 to draft a letter to then-Provost David Dawson urging him to offer Johnson a tenure-track position. The letter was signed by many of their classmates.

“A professor such as Terrence Johnson is unusual not only in his ability to foster an intellectual community within class but also in his desire to create a more moral society within the Haverford community-at-large,” says Bloomfield. “His classes epitomize the interdisciplinary study of the fundamental issues of humanity—issues that intertwine religion, spirituality, and morality—and the questions we posit in class spill into the worlds that each of us lives in daily.”

“The student letter crafted by religion majors Elana Bloomfield and John Duronville was a further affirmation of the sentiments already shared by the sen-

ior administration and the Department of Religion,” says Tracey Hucks, associate professor of religion and chair of the department. “We were very supportive of the collective student opinion which stated that ‘Professor Johnson’s presence at Haverford affirms the college’s commitment to the academic and communal values of social justice, ethical living, and interdisciplinary connections’ and that Professor Johnson ‘is academically challenging, supportive of students inside and outside of class, and openly invested in the integrity of his courses and in the well-being of the Haverford community.’” Terrence Johnson, along with our new Islamicist Travis Zadeh, brings increased rigor, intellectual breadth, and invaluable interdisciplinary foci to the department’s current curriculum.”

Looking ahead to his first year as a full-time tenure-track professor, Johnson hopes, he says, to “grow as a teacher and learn how my research can best serve Haverford and work as a tool for improving the intellectual lives of students on campus.” He also wants to see how his courses can connect with the major academic centers (such as Humanities and Peace and Global Citizenship) on campus.

“I recognize this year as the starting point for what I hope will be a long, productive relationship with the College and the students,” he says. 🐾



Connecting with alumni at www.haverford.edu/conversations

The Haverford website now has a regular feature called “Haverford Conversations.” Intended to capture the spirit of dialogue we enjoyed while students, these interviews and canned online chats are a first step toward relaunch (late in 2008) of a more robust alumni website where we can connect on any number of levels, in real time.

We recently featured conversations with two sets of alums, each of whom are launching labors of love in the communications market; notably, each takes a diametrically opposite approach in the media used.



Left to right: Scott Sheppard and Asher Spiller


Datespaces.com is brought to you by Larry Bomback, Eric Acton, Charles Curtis and Jason Coleman, all class of '04. Not a personals site, it's set up to help you find—and share news about—the right place for whatever sort of date you desire. Loud, intimate, outdoor, romantic, fun...you'll find it at Datespaces.com.

“I was dating a girl who I really liked but I was troubled because I really wanted to impress her and I couldn't think of good places to take her,” notes Larry in the chat. “And I said to myself, ‘I wish there was a website that would just tell me where to go’ so I wouldn't have to stress about this stuff. So I searched and I searched and couldn't find a thing. The closest stuff I found on the web were sites like ‘Bob's website for great date ideas’ which were far too general and then directory sites like Citysearch and Yelp but Citysearch and Yelp don't tell you whether or not a particular location is a really good place for a date.”

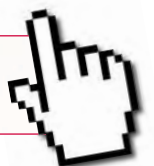
Two weeks later, Asher Spiller and Scott Sheppard (both '06) delivered their start-up bombshell: They were launching a magazine—in print. “I'm sure there is an element of nostalgia in our decision to print the magazine,” reports Asher. “Though on another level, I think there are certain kinds of writing that still lend themselves more to the printed page than the computer screen. Different mediums demand different stylistic choices. You are less likely to print out a blog and read it on the subway on your way to work than you are to grab a book. Perhaps someday novels will be rolling by like stock-tickers on your iPod screen for you to read while you're watching a television show or surfing the Internet. Who knows? Right now I still like to read fiction on sheets of paper.”



Clockwise from top left: Larry Bomback, Eric Acton, Jason Coleman and Charles Curtis

“For now, our hope is merely for the project to sustain itself. It is a labor of love and we'd love to keep it going ad-free. We are currently looking for outside sources of funding to assist our production of our second issue scheduled for print in the spring of 2008.” Find out more at www.spurjournal.com. 

Read more conversations at www.haverford.edu/conversations

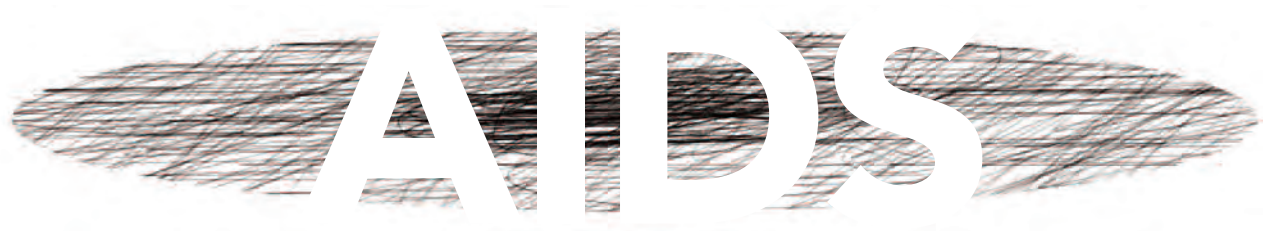




IT'S A

Dr. Bruce Agins '75 has spent his career fighting HIV and AIDS, and training up-and-coming health professionals to do the same.

By Charles Curtis '04



AIDS

HOPE"

Imagine a young doctor fresh from medical school, working in a hospital during an internship or residency, experiencing a level of responsibility completely different from the previous hours of classes and taking tests. This is the real world, complete with sick patients, an overworked hospital staff and long, killing hours.

But what if, just as this first exposure to professional medicine begins, there's a crisis in the making. Patients are showing up very, very sick and no one knows why; there is a mystery as to how this as yet unknown disease is spread and which population is most vulnerable. As the medical world puzzles over this epidemic, it continues to spread at an alarming rate.

Dr. Bruce Agins '75 experienced precisely this confluence of events.

As he puts it, his career "paralleled the HIV epidemic." But entering the field wasn't an obvious career choice. And there were many doctors who turned away from treating patients, as Agins remembers some of his colleagues doing in the early days when not much was known about the disease.

Ultimately Agins rose to the challenge and has continued to fight the HIV and AIDS epidemic head-on. He now commands a top position at the New York State Department of Health's AIDS Institute as the organization's Medical Director. The Institute coordinates programs for HIV and AIDS prevention and care, hoping to reduce new infections through education, and provides quality care to those in need. As Medical Director, Agins runs programs that include monitoring and improving quality care for HIV patients throughout the country and now, in nations all over the world.

“It’s a Hope”

Sitting in a conference room in his downtown New York offices, Agins tells his stories with a slight, shy smile beneath his graying mustache. Beginning with his accounts of HIV going back to the early days when it was called Gay Related Immunodeficiency Disease (GRID), he conveys an endearing ease; call it a classic “good bedside manner.”

But when asked about his memories of working closely with some of the first cases of AIDS in New York City in the early 1980s, the smile disappears. There is a pause, pregnant perhaps with memories of dying patients, families and friends losing loved ones and the cure that has still not been discovered. When he speaks again, his voice wavers as he talks about that period: “It’s really hard to put it into words. It was a profoundly intense time for those of us who were on the front lines. There was a sense of being able to provide service and comfort to people and families who were experiencing this grief and loss. We developed a certain level of intimacy and closeness with our patients because they were often disowned by their families. Our teams in these hospitals became a surrogate family. They would confide things about their lives and experiences that I think they told to few people because of that level of what was happening to them.”

He explains that the role of doctor can become more than just concern about and care for physical health. “For those of us on the front lines, we were doctors, supporters for our patients and advocates, functioning at both a societal level and a governmental level advocating for better care and services for people with HIV and AIDS,” he says. Those feelings and mem-



ories illuminate the side of Agins that inspired him to dedicate his career to fighting and containing the AIDS epidemic.

Agins didn’t intend to work in the field of medicine when he first arrived at Haverford. Born in Oak Park, a suburb of Detroit, he went to the College to study anthropology. He was attracted to the school’s sense of social justice and Quaker values, two qualities that Agins believes go hand in hand with his career choice. “I was totally comfortable and impressed with Haverford and what it stood for,” he says. “The year before, the entire campus community had packed up and marched in Washington to demonstrate against the Vietnam War. There was a political commitment to peace and progressive thinking.” Agins originally intended to become an academic, specifically in anthropology, but during his sophomore year he found another interest: medicine.

This led him to Case Western Reserve University and, post-graduation, to a residency at Roosevelt Hospital in internal medicine. Unsure if he wanted to do a subspecialty, he chose to go into infectious diseases, for very particular reasons. “I like the problem-solving approach to diagnosis of infectious diseases, hunting for the right pathogen, trying to synthesize the clinical information into an appropriate diagnosis,” he explains. “At that time, infections were treatable. There was this wonderful feeling that if you could just identify the right bacteria, you could find the right antibiotic and treat someone.” That philosophy changed during his time at the hospital, as he began to see and treat cases of AIDS and HIV, some of the first in New York City as the epidemic had just begun to spread. Neither Agins nor his coworkers knew exactly what they were treating. “At the time, it was called GRID. We didn’t

A TIMELINE: MILESTONES IN THE TREATMENT OF AIDS

June 1981

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recognizes a rare form of pneumonia in men in Los Angeles that turns out to be related to what would later be called AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

1985

The FDA approves a screening test for HIV that detects antibodies to the disease.

September 1986

Drug company Burroughs Wellcome begins clinical trials on Zidovudine, better known to the public as AZT, a drug scientists hoped might help keep HIV from further spreading in the human body and thus prolong the life of the patient. It will become clear that AZT, combined with other medications, does indeed help stave off further infection. Today, as Agins says, the drug is a “mainstay of both post-exposure prophylaxis regimens and those used to prevent mother-to-child transmission.”



Left to right: Kagadi Hospital AIDS Project Building; Bruce Agins (top right) and the Uganda HIVQUAL Team in front of a clinic.

know if it was infectious disease or ontological. There was a sense of being on the cusp of something going on. And because we thought it was only a gay-related disease, we didn't realize that we were treating women too. We were treating their infectious complications without understanding the primary nature of the disease." Agins had encountered something new in his experience with infectious diseases: a problem without a solution.

Agins followed up his residency with a fellowship at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in New York City, declining a fellowship in oncology in order to continue his work in HIV. Agins believes that there were important reasons, both medical and personal, why he and other doctors continued to care for AIDS patients. "In the history of medicine, it's not often that a major epidemic occurs. There's always a sense of paradox: On one hand, there's this

tremendous intellectual excitement about finding out what's going on and discovering something new about disease," he says. "It's coupled with a sense of service or social medicine. At the time, people were being discriminated against terribly. It was a struggle to get some staff to walk in the door and bring food trays to people with AIDS." Agins reflects for a moment on the not-so-distant past and finally says, "It really was a very different time."

Bibhav Acharya '06, who interned with Agins from 2006 to the summer of 2007, says that those stories felt especially close to his own experience. "The most memorable stories he shared described the advent of the AIDS epidemic in the early 80s when no one knew what they were dealing with and patients were shunned by doctors and left to die. Sadly, those are very similar to my experience in recent years working with HIV patients in Nepal,

where they are without treatment and most clinicians do not want to treat them," says Acharya, who is currently a medical student at Yale University.

Agins continued treating patients in his new job as the director of the infectious disease clinic at the Nassau County Medical Center. As a young doctor in New York he was rising fast, which he says had become something of a trend among his colleagues at that time due to the fact that they, as infectious disease specialists, had the most hands-on experience dealing with patients suffering from AIDS.

That experience is what finally led him to the New York State Department of Health in 1990, where he was asked by the state to set up a program for quality HIV care. Agins became the principal architect of what is now known as the HIVQUAL program, established in 1995. He says the purpose of the program was simple: "Find people who have HIV, get them into care, and get them on treatment for their own health, to help prevent further transmission. It's an issue of service, coordination, system strengthening, and the organizational components of health care that need to really be focused on." More specifically, the program works with clinics to put structures in place to care for patients and build an infrastructure that can be utilized even when the staff turns over. Additionally, the program provides metrics so staff members are able to measure their performance.

1987

AZT is approved by the FDA.

1994

AZT is recommended for HIV-positive expectant women to help reduce the transmission of the disease during pregnancy.

1995

Treatment known as Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) is introduced and helps reduce AIDS-related deaths in subsequent years.

2003

President George W. Bush creates the Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), which provides money to help other countries control their HIV and AIDS epidemics.

“It’s a Hope”

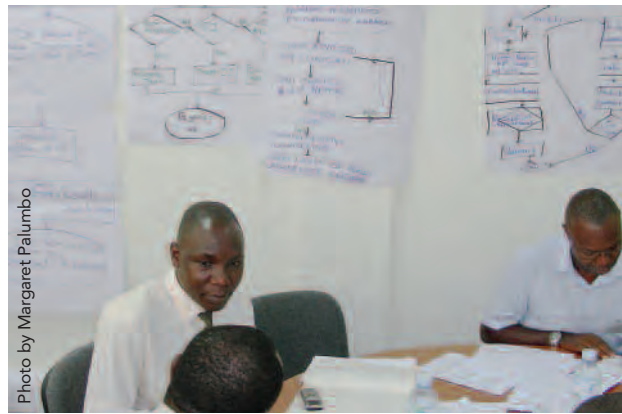
Agins moved from the front lines as a foot soldier in the war against HIV to the offices and responsibility of a general, mapping out battle. The fight against AIDS sent him to the top medical post at the AIDS Institute while, at the same time, he earned his master’s degree in public health. His administrative work also helped him discover that although it was a sacrifice, he could give up working day to day with patients while he developed full-scale treatment programs. “I really liked being involved at the system level. I was encouraged to go forth and set up programs. It was hard to give up clinical care, but I had to,” he says.

Agins’ new responsibilities gave him the opportunity to treat thousands of patients. The AIDS Institute implemented the HIVQUAL program in 150 locations throughout the country, hiring consultants to work with AIDS and HIV care programs and teaching them to implement quality and improvement programs. This consolidation gave Agins a way to provide a consistent standard of care for clinics and hospitals that utilized the Institute’s program; prior to HIVQUAL, no such uniform system existed.

During the past five years, as the program became successful, the U.S. government began to explore solving the AIDS crisis overseas through HIVQUAL, to be funded by the Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPAR). Agins’ lifelong work was going international.

“An opportunity arose where the government was looking for a program that provides technical assistance to countries that were building HIV services and somebody suggested to Thailand to consider looking at HIVQUAL,” he says. Soon after that global breakthrough, the program expanded from 12 to 142 sites, including Uganda, Mozambique, Nigeria, Namibia, and Haiti.

“We’re not opening up offices in these countries,” he says. “We ultimately want this to be a sustainable activity whereby these countries will be able to monitor and manage their own quality programs for HIV services.” While Agins doesn’t directly say so, he seems proud to see the success of the national HIVQUAL program slowly become a worldwide standard.



The other source of pride and interest for the doctor is the Institute’s internship program. This year, Agins’ interns will become part of what the AIDS Institute calls desk support, which means they will

“We’re not opening up offices in these countries; we ultimately want this to be a sustainable activity whereby these countries will be able to monitor and manage their own quality programs for HIV services.”

work with the aforementioned countries, coordinating conference calls and helping prepare documents to assist in improving quality care overseas. One of the interns will be able to travel with Agins to take a look at one of the clinics served by the Institute.

The internship itself was actually inspired by Agins’ experience at Haverford. The school’s externship program had just started when he attended the College in the 1970s. Agins went to New Haven for three days to spend time with a pediatrician, Dr. Morris Wessel, who was also a father of one of his classmates (David Wessel ’75). “He showed me different things about health care providers and real-

ly thought through different ways to be a physician.” Those three days inspired him to share the same experience with Haverford students, and he tries to take at least one applicant from the school per year for the internship program. Agins uses the experience to open the eyes of his somewhat sheltered interns, such as when he took two of them to an AIDS conference in Toronto last year. “I think it was an incredible experience for them, to see this whole international community of people meeting to focus on HIV, on social science and clinical medicine. They came back energized and motivated to do a lot,” reports Agins, who believes the internship serves to demonstrate the reality of working in health care. “It’s an eye opener for them to go out in the real world and see what it’s like to provide care in a community center in the Bronx or an adult day program in Manhattan or a community hospital in Brooklyn.”

The former interns agree with their mentor. “My experience gave me a broader understanding of what it takes to address a major public health issue,” says Shehzaad Zaman ’03, a medical student at the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and a National Disabilities Coordinator at the American Medical Student Association. “The experience at the AIDS Institute convinced me to pursue a master’s in public health along with my medical training and also got me involved in collaborating with other medical student leaders from across the country on key public health issues. In addition, I feel that the quality of care focus at the Institute will also allow me to look beyond just the medical aspect of a disease when working with patients.”



Left to right: Flowcharts detailing clinical processes to determine the best areas for improvement during QI training in Uganda; Agins and patients waiting at a TASO clinic in Gulu, Uganda; meeting with a District Health Officer in Oyam in Northern Uganda before orientation with providers in the district; meeting with providers in Gulu District. Bottom: Visiting a clinic in Neak Loeung in Cambodia.

“Dr. Agins is a wonderful mentor, teacher, and friend,” Gavin Imperato ’02, a medical student at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine, reports. Imperato benefited from his summer internship with Agins to such an extent that he returned after graduation to serve the Institute as a research assistant. “The popularity of AIDS Institute internships is due to his warmth, attentiveness, and excellence as a mentor. I was amazed to see how much Dr. Agins valued the thoughts and input of his students. He views them all as junior colleagues, and insists they address him by his first name. I was always impressed with his ability to hold an intellectual ‘dual citizenship’ in the disparate worlds of medicine and anthropology.”

Jennie (Epstein) Anderson ’01, who spent two years at the Institute, can’t agree more. “I had a great experience working at the AIDS Institute—one of the highlights was going out into the field and seeing the array of the services people with HIV and AIDS were receiving,” she says. “I visited a wide range of places from methadone clinics, to a syringe exchange program, to a prison on Staten Island—Bruce provided me with many opportunities to see the issues. It’s easy to sit at a desk and write papers, but talking to people who are providing direct services and care made me want to pursue public health even more.” Indeed, Anderson’s experience led her to pursue a

master’s degree at the Harvard School of Public Health. She now works for John Snow, Inc., a public health care consulting firm, where she is working on a national HIV/AIDS awareness campaign for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy. Agins’ interns all seem to feel they receive a great deal of extremely useful on-the-job education and experience that help them even if they don’t choose to stay in the public health field.



And even when the interns didn’t ultimately pursue a career directly involved in medicine, Agins’ worldview still had its effect. In fact, Abigail Baim-Lance ’01 has combined two of Agins’ passionate interests. “I am currently a Ph.D. student in anthropology, conducting fieldwork in South Africa around home-based care and HIV/AIDS among rural, impoverished

South Africans,” she reports. “I came to the AIDS Institute wanting to think about the intersections of health and social life and was given projects there that helped me explore those interests. The projects I worked on with Dr. Agins also helped frame some of the challenges that I would later encounter.” The AIDS Institute internship is more than just a job; it’s a classroom and a launching pad.

With all of Agins’ achievements and the advancements in HIV care he has developed, one would think he’d pick one of them as his proudest accomplishment. But instead of speaking about his own personal success in his life work, he chooses to discuss the success of the Institute. “I think we’ve been able to contribute a framework for people to monitor the quality and care of services, with the hope that by doing this some improvements were made and had an impact for people with HIV,” he explains. But then he uses a word that ties together what he has given to his interns—and thousands of HIV and AIDS patients around the world.

“It’s a hope,” he says.

Agins helped to improve an entire system of health care and, in so doing, has given hope for the future to HIV and AIDS patients as well as to those who will ultimately care for them. 🐾

Fords at the AIDS Institute

Many Haverford students have benefited from their experiences interning with Bruce Agins and witnessing the fight against AIDS from the front lines.

At the AIDS Institute, **Bibhav Acharya '06** developed a deep and broad understanding of the role of the State Health Department in working with healthcare facilities that provide HIV care. "My experiences at the Institute have deepened my interest in public health and helped me appreciate the impact that policy and the government can make in improving healthcare," he says.

Under the mentorship of Bruce Agins, he pursued an independent project to understand the work that healthcare facilities are doing to help HIV-positive patients who are on treatment but not showing better clinical outcomes. He corresponded with several facilities and developed a set of recommendations to improve ARV management, both for the healthcare facilities and for the AIDS Institute. Acharya was also involved in piloting an individualized profile for every healthcare facility in the state, assisting with the international work of the AIDS Institute, and managing a collaborative of community health centers that focuses on common problems to find practical solutions.

Acharya's experience at the AIDS Institute was enriched by the relationships he developed with the staff, interns and especially with Bruce Agins. "The internship was a great learning experience," he says, "and it will help me perform international public health work focusing on

healthcare delivery systems in low-resource settings."

During the summer of 2007, Acharya went to Achham, Nepal to help set up a free clinic as a member of the Board of Directors of Nyaya Health, an NGO committed to improving healthcare in rural Nepal. He is currently a student at Yale Medical School.

A graduate of Harvard School of Public Health, **Jennie Anderson '01** is currently a consultant at John Snow, Inc. (www.jsi.com) in Boston. Recently, she has been working on a national HIV/AIDS



awareness campaign for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy. She learned a lot about HIV during her time at the AIDS Institute and that has been very useful for her current work. "I had a great experience working at the AIDS Institute and I'm thankful to have been exposed to such a wide range of activities," she says. She especially enjoyed visiting various health facilities and interviewing people for a best practice guide.

"Working at the AIDS Institute confirmed that public health was the right path for me, and strongly influenced my decision to go to graduate school in public health," she says.

Abigail Baim-Lance '01, currently a Ph.D. candidate in the anthropology department at Johns Hopkins University, has begun dissertation research in South Africa. Her commitment to using social science to understand the dimensions of HIV/AIDS as a complement to medical and public health approaches was nurtured by the projects she participated in as an intern at the AIDS Institute.

"My time at the AIDS Institute showed me that it is possible to pursue a life that is intellectually stimulating while being passionately committed to one's concerns for the world."

—Abigail Baim-Lance

Baim-Lance was involved in the development of a best practice booklet following New York State guidelines for the testing of pregnant women for HIV, so that they could be offered prophylaxis to prevent mother-to-child transmission. She traveled to various hospitals to interview staff and administrators and learned their strategies to encourage testing and monitoring of HIV. "This was a tremendous opportunity to understand how hospital institutions deal with the complexities of people's lives," she says, "and the way HIV testing becomes situated within routine prenatal care."

Another significant project for Baim-Lance was the planning of the parallel session sponsored by the AIDS Institute for the UNGASS special session on AIDS, held during the summer she worked at the Institute. She planned a meeting of international health care providers to discuss the process and status of developing guidelines for HIV/AIDS in their respective countries.





“My time at the AIDS Institute showed me that it is possible to pursue a life that is intellectually stimulating while being passionately committed to one’s concerns for the world,” she says.

Currently a medical student at the State University of New York Downstate College of Medicine in New York City, **Gavin Imperato '02** believes that the insights on the medical, social, economic, and political dimensions of the care of people living with HIV/AIDS he gained from his internship greatly enrich his perspective as a medical student. At the AIDS Institute, he was inspired by the degree to which the members maintained the core principles of the Institute’s mission in their everyday work. “It was great to be part of an institute whose culture is suffused with an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of others,” he says. “Being a part of this culture reinforced my calling to medicine.”

As an intern, Imperato worked on projects related to prevention and quality improvement. He assisted with the compilation of the clinical guidelines for post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV, which sparked an interest in the wonders of HIV pharmacology. As a graduate student in the biological sciences at New York University, he completed his master’s qualifying paper on the topic of immunotoxin therapy for HIV infection. His exposure to the clinical and public health-related aspects of HIV prevention and treatment at the AIDS Institute were the springboard



with HIV/AIDS at a clinic in Manhattan. “It is a tremendously rewarding experience to be able to translate much of what I learned at the AIDS Institute toward the care of patients,” he says. “As an intern, I gained an appreciation for all the work the AIDS Institute does to develop and maintain myriad programs and initiatives that aim to improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS.”

For **Shehzaad Zaman '03**, working at the AIDS Institute and collaborating with other health officials to address key public health issues was “a great eye-opening experience.” It convinced him to pursue a master’s degree in public health along with his medical training. Now he is a medical student at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in the DO/MPH program

“The internship gave me increased understanding of the way a state health department can address the clinical reality of diseases such as HIV/AIDS through the development of an institute with individuals dedicated to the cause and implementation of various programs to help accomplish a mission,” he says. “It also gave me a better understanding of some of the issues and difficult decisions that are made in the process and the tools that are needed in

for this research project, which focused on the molecular and cellular biology of a novel therapeutic modality for HIV infection.

As a medical student, he spends one afternoon per week assisting in the care of patients living

order to assemble a large group of people to work together to help accomplish an important goal.”

Most of Zaman’s work involved putting together a best-practices manual aimed at promoting mental health care for those with HIV and improving the quality of care and prevention services for HIV patients who are deaf or hard of hearing. As a part of this project, he visited hospitals, community health centers and drug treatment programs, interviewing medical staff and collecting important information. He also organized a successful provider training workshop for those working with deaf and hard of hearing clients, gave a presentation at an Office of the Medical Director Staff



Meeting, helped to select members of the consumer advisor committee and developed a laminated card with communication tips for clinicians working with deaf and hard of hearing clients.

All of these experiences, in addition to collaborating with other members of the AIDS Institute and sharing ideas,

helped Zaman to develop the skills that he believes are important for anyone interested in a medical career that intersects with public health, as well as those necessary for handling his current national leadership position with the American Medical Student Association/Foundation, where he makes frequent visits to Capitol Hill, serves on the Community Public Health Action Committee, and chairs the Committee on Disabilities.

“The internship is unique,” he says, “because of Dr. Agins’ willingness to train and mentor recent or current students from Haverford as they transition from academia to young professionals in pursuit of their career goals.”

-Bibhav Acharya '06



European (Re)Union

by Stephen Leonard '95

Many Fords have found a number of reasons to call Europe home.

Europe. To American ears, the very word conjures up a rush of images: the bustling streets of London, the delectable patisseries of Paris, the majestic Tuscan countryside. For many, it is an exotic playground, which we discover first as young adults, “studying” abroad in its universities’ hallowed halls, or backpacking our way across the continent. For some Haverfordians, Europe brings another image to mind. Europe has become home.

Haverford graduates pepper the continent, many having arrived rather serendipitously, some to take jobs that turned into careers, others for love, and at least one came because he “heard Sweden needed music teachers.” Others are native Europeans attracted to Haverford because of its academics or its sense of cooperative spirit, who have since returned to their home continent. For whatever reason, each who has forged a life in Europe has met unique challenges, be they language barriers, cultural differences or tax systems that could flummox the heartiest accountant. But each has also found those challenges worth enduring, the rewards outweighing the difficulties.

Haverford’s European alumni community is a small but diverse bunch, these “Eurofords” reflecting the College itself. And while one’s post-Haverford life travels may have taken him or her far from Founders Hall and Lloyd Green, lessons learned at Haverford, in more cases than not, seem to have made the voyage as well.

Kevin Bishop '83 and Ishi Buffam '94

Kevin Bishop '83 never intended to leave America. “I just went away for a year, and I never came back,” he says, happily ensconced in Sweden for the past 21 years. Bishop, Professor of Environmental Assessment at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, originally went to Cambridge, England, to work on a master’s in the mid-1980s. There he became involved in acid rain research, the popular environmental concern of the day. Lab study in England led to field work in northern Sweden, where he first noticed how even though acid rain was less predominant in the north than in the southern part of the country, the streams became very acidic after the spring snowmelt.

Deciding to hunt for the cause of northern Sweden’s stream acidity problem, Bishop went to work on a Ph.D., spending several years in such lonely outposts as Svartberget (pop. 8), and Abbotjärn (pop. 40). While Bishop felt immediately at home in the tiny, remote villages from which he conducted his water research, his Swedish wife Karin was less enthusiastic. Thus, eventually they moved to the teeming metropolis that is Flurkmark (Population 400).

Bishop’s studies showed that it was not so much acid rain that was lowering pH levels in northern streams, but organic acids found in the soil. His research has begotten more research, as one problem has yet to be solved. “There still aren’t a lot of fish... You can get the pH levels up... but you don’t get back the complete ecosystem.”

Enter Ishi Buffam '94, a researcher brought in by Bishop five years ago to work on his own Ph.D. and tackle the question of how landscape elements such as forests and mires affect the neighboring aquatic ecosystems (streams and lakes). Benefiting from his fellow Ford’s research, Buffam has aimed to get “a little more specific about how these soil patterns affect acidity... and looking at how acidity among other factors affects acid-sensitive fish distributions.”



European (Re)Union

Buffam lives in the northern university town of Umeå, where he has also closely monitored the snowmelt-driven spring flood. Over “a period of one to one-and-a-half months, streams increase by a hundredfold, and the chemistry changes a lot... It’s a trying time of the year for many aquatic species... Almost all streams in the region experience a pH decline during spring melt, with pH in many streams dropping from around 6.0 to around 4.5. That’s a 30-fold increase in hydrogen ion concentration.”

Bishop is proud of his fellow alum and colleague. “It’s really been a pleasure to give Ishi a chance to work with this... and see that he did so much more than anyone could have expected from a Ph.D. student.”

More than colleagues, the two Haverford grads—both from upstate New York—have become good friends. Buffam remembers a connection from their first phone conversation. “I just felt like I was talking to an old friend. I think it’s partly because we shared a Haverford experience, and also we came out of Haverford with perhaps the same goals... about what we wanted to do next in life.” Bishop and Buffam—scientists, colleagues, and friends—are proof it’s good to have the help of a friendly Ford when fording life’s next stream.

Jessica Dunne '98

As a child, Jessica Dunne '98 used to mix perfume from flowers she found in her yard and sell the intoxicating concoctions at her lemonade stand. “It’s always been part of my life, but I thought it wasn’t practical. I never thought I’d make a career out of it,” she says.

With the launch of her first perfume, Ellie, last January, and its follow-up fragrance Ellie Nuit last fall, Dunne is doing just that. Inspired by her grandmother Eleanor Dunne, from whom the perfume takes its name, Dunne has seen her dream come to fruition through collaboration with master French perfumer Michel Roudnitska.

Dunne’s idea started to take form in early 2005 while she worked for an art gallery in New York. “I started doing it on the side, putting feelers out.”

She was aware of Roudnitska’s reputation. “He’s very well known. But at the

same time, he works out of his father’s studio. It’s very much a family business. It does not have a corporate feel, which is why it appealed to me. Many celebrities are created in a lab in the middle of Manhattan... I wanted to go the traditional route.”

Dunne emailed him, outlining her idea. He responded, and a few emails later she was on a plane to France, where she made her way to Grasse, the world capital of the perfume industry, a 40-minute drive north of Nice. There, she and the master perfumer began the difficult task of developing a new fragrance based on Dunne’s childhood memories. “It’s hard to have an idea and to be able to express it—with the language barrier—then to be able to get a sample and to know what you want to change,” Dunne says. “You know it’s not perfect, but you have to be able to know what to do to make it right.”

Dunne detailed her grandmother’s favorite notes, the individual components that make up a scent, such as lily of the valley, gardenia or jasmine. Wanting “to create something classic and bold, based on these notes,” Dunne and Roudnitska picked a base and began work in earnest.

When Dunne’s husband Brian Reshefsky was offered a job in London a few months after her visit, it gave her the chance to pursue the idea full-time. “It was the perfect opportunity to make a clean break and take a risk.”

In Roudnitska, she found a kindred spirit, one who valued her dedication to the work at hand. Says the master perfumer, “She really knew what she wanted and ably defined that in precise terms, something that is not often the case, even with [more experienced] professionals. I prefer working with people who have a passion for perfume, which is the case

with Jess... We communicate on the same wavelength.”

After around 75 trials, Dunne and Roudnitska arrived at Ellie. “It’s an updated version of a classic,” Dunne says. “It does have some floral notes that make it old-fashioned, but at the same time, it’s youthful.”

Ellie hit the shelves of upscale New York boutique Henri Bendel in January 2007, and has already made inroads into Los Angeles and Florence, with talks underway for distribution in London and Moscow.

Dunne has proven an excellent multitasker. While she was working on Ellie and adapting to London life, she was also carrying another of her creations, her daughter Laine, born in September 2006. Firmly installed in London with husband Brian and one-year-old Laine, Dunne looks forward to a sweet-smelling future.



Kevin Bishop '83 and Ishi Buffam '94

Jessica Dunne '98



Daniel Katz '82

Daniel S. Katz '82 was so bored with the Jewish Sunday School his parents sent him to that by the age of 10 he told his father, “Enough already!”

The instruction, he says, “was poor. I wasn’t learning and I didn’t find it interesting.” Without much religion in the home to give sense to what he heard during his weekly lessons, Katz let his Jewish roots wither, “basically ignoring being Jewish” during his adolescence and through his Haverford years.

It was only in Bologna, Italy, in 1985 on a Fulbright grant while working toward a Ph.D. in musicology at Duke University, that he discovered a different perspective on being Jewish. Soon after his arrival,

Palestine Liberation Front members hijacked the Italian liner Achille Lauro, killing a wheelchair-bound American Jew, and in December of that year, terrorists bombed and opened fire on the El Al ticket counter at the Rome airport, killing 17. In addition, Katz could not help noticing the many plaques on buildings around Bologna that memorialize Jews and others killed by Fascist terrorists of an earlier era.

Katz began attending synagogue regularly for the first time, while police patrolled outside. "We needed 11 for a minyan [prayer quorum, which usually consists of 10], because one of the congregation had to stand guard. It was all very new to me. It was a very different atmosphere."

Upon finishing his research, he returned to the U.S. and became more involved in the Jewish community at Duke and neighboring UNC-Chapel Hill. A friend asked him to help lead services during the High Holidays, and Katz agreed, though he admits, "I knew only two melodies and

didn't know what they meant or what their liturgical connection was."

Katz worked increasingly within the universities' Jewish communities until he completed his Ph.D. in 1989. Then he enrolled as a cantorial student at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. Around the same time, he changed the focus of his research from medieval Latin writings about notating musical rhythm ("a hot topic in the 14th century") to historical synagogue music. "I realized I knew a lot more about Christian music than Jewish music."

His cantorial work led to rabbinical studies. "My interest in music is ultimately what brought me into the synagogue....

I'm sure if I had thought all this over to begin with, I would have taken a more direct path, but it probably wouldn't have been so interesting."

In 1996 Katz received a second Fulbright for the program "Germany and Jewish Studies Today." A year later he began working as a rabbi within German Jewish communities. Today, having completed five years of work in Duisburg, he has endured the frustrations of a Jewish community in the midst of an identity crisis. A large influx of Russian Jews after the fall of the Iron Curtain has

greatly changed the face of German Judaism, and according to Katz, both the leadership and the congregants have had difficulty adjusting. "There's a lack of what



Daniel Katz '82

Meet More Fords in Europe

Barbara Navé '92 credits Haverford professors as inspirations in determining her career path. "Until I started doing biochemistry at Haverford, I always thought I would be a doctor... but there I was encouraged to try new things and realized that I really enjoy doing science much more than being a doctor, and it set me off on the career I have now." Navé, who was born in Philadelphia but grew up in Munich, Germany, is a researcher screening new compounds that can be used in agricultural products, and currently lives in Deidesheim, Germany.

Mark Sadoff '82, a lawyer in Paris and resident of France since 1989, cites the overall Haverford experience as having marked him personally and professionally. Haverford's "influence goes well beyond my actual studies... The College and my classmates instilled such a sense of community... The most important thing that I feel I came away with is the need to learn and to challenge your own ideas and those of others."

Katherine Craddock (née Wipf) '87, who spent eleven years in Hamburg,

Germany, before moving to Oxford, England in 1999, is a computer help center manager at Oxford University. Thanks to Haverford, she gained "the skills to build a motivated team by respecting individual opinions and requirements and treating people fairly."

Fourqueux, France, a quiet village of 4,000 located 15 miles west of Paris, is home to **John Schoonover '67**, who along with his wife moved to Paris in 1983 "on a whim." Having raised his children there, he now looks forward to impending retirement, when he will stroll through the old village center, with its Romanesque church and small-town coziness.

Gioia Marini '90, originally from Tokyo, Japan, has called Amsterdam, the Netherlands, home for 12 years. An investment writer at a bank, she likes Amsterdam for its cosmopolitan atmosphere, as well as its "magical canals and brick buildings."

Caroline Hansen '00 is a relative newcomer to the European scene, having lived for four years in London, where she works for Universal Music Group. She came orig-

inally to earn a master's in music business management from the University of Westminster and stayed because of "excellent career opportunities" and social benefits not available in the U.S., such as 28 vacation days per year and a less stressful working environment.

Sharing the continent with his fellow Eurofords is **Jonathan Lutz '74**, who has called Ekenäs, Finland home for the last 23 years. He has raised a family in the Baltic island town, where he teaches music. When he isn't traveling the world conducting his choir, Lutz can be found picking berries and mushrooms in the woods around his house. Lutz, who originally came to Scandinavia to help combat the aforementioned Swedish music teacher shortage, has stayed for the "shared society" lifestyle as well as the fact that as a foreigner, he is "expected to be a little 'different,' and can be different to [his] heart's desire and blame it on that."

Haverford's European residents, to one extent or another, have all found that it's embracing the "different" that has made all the difference.

European (Re)Union

I can only call 'American initiative' to try and do different things, to experiment, to see what works.... In many instances, nobody is really serious about religion. Some people think that the blacker your coat and the longer your beard the more authentic you are."

In an effort to support a variety of approaches to Judaism and discuss solutions to these problems, Katz became a founding member of the General Rabbinical Conference in Germany. "Whether Judaism can be saved in Germany, I don't know... but if you want to belong to a minority religion, you have to take action." The Jewish year 5767 (2006-2007) ended on a positive note in Germany: At the end of August, Katz attended the rededication of the country's largest synagogue, with 1,200 seats, in Berlin.

Tom Kessinger '63/65

"There really is a place called Timbuktu, and I have been there," Tom Kessinger '63/65 says nonchalantly. He could probably announce he's been to the moon just as casually, and it would not sound at all outrageous. One gets the idea that the former Haverford president has set foot on just about any piece of land—terrestrial or otherwise—imaginable.

Kessinger, who left the leafy confines of Haverford in 1996 after an eight-year tenure, has lived in Geneva, Switzerland, with wife Varyam for the last 11 years, in charge of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and then, since 2002, the Aga Khan Foundation. The foundation, part of the larger Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), is a group of non-denominational, private, development agencies which encourage social and economic development and cultural revitalization, primarily in Asia and East Africa. In his role as general manager, Kessinger spends nearly 200 days on the road each year, visiting sites in all the countries in which the foundation works.

A mid-summer visit to Afghanistan afforded Kessinger the opportunity to work in the country where the foundation has its largest operation. The AKDN as a whole has a yearly operating budget of around 200 million dollars in

Afghanistan alone, the foundation contributing nearly a quarter of that sum. Concentrated in the country's northeast quadrant, the foundation chiefly works to rebuild the rural health and education system, as well as improve agriculture and rural livelihoods. Attempting to combat poor, small farmers' temptation to grow poppy, Kessinger says, "We're trying to continually provide alternatives so that farmers can indeed earn a living without having to... get involved with the drug culture, which is as rough at that level as it is at any other. We've got our necks out in a few places."

The risk is worth it, says Kessinger, when he sees the good being created. "Going through parts of rural central Asia and looking at what's coming off the fields and available at roadside markets that simply wasn't there... in Afghanistan five years ago... is really quite extraordinary. The resilience of people in the developing world is truly amazing."

One of Kessinger's proudest accomplishments through his AKDN work is a park in a densely populated, run-down quarter of Cairo. The park, nearly two-thirds the size of Haverford's campus, is a green oasis amidst a sand-colored expanse of low-rise buildings. "Every time I go back and see it as the vegetation is maturing... I find it very touching, there's no doubt about it."

The juxtaposition between the places of poverty in which the foundation works and his residential life in Geneva is profound. Kessinger speaks of driving around Kabul in an armored vehicle with an armed guard at his side, and a few days later strolling through the botanical gardens outside his Geneva office. "You cannot but be profoundly touched and moved by the great gap between the day to day living cir-

cumstances of... people in some of these countries... and here in Europe."

While Kessinger is admittedly "delighted" to be in Geneva, one wonders if he could ever settle down there... or anywhere. "I'm certainly comfortable with living and working where I am, but I am getting old, and at some point I guess I'm going to have to retire. I don't frankly look

forward to that, because I really do love what I'm doing."

As long as that remains the case, expect to find Kessinger pretty much anywhere, from here to Timbuktu.



Tom Kessinger '63/65

Koichiro Matsuura '61



Koichiro Matsuura '61

Koichiro Matsuura '61 may be the only Haverford alumnus who can claim honorary citizenship in the city of Mostar, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Matsuura, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), was bestowed with that title by Mostar's mayor upon the classification of the town's bridge as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005.

The Mostar bridge, a pedestrian passage spanning the Neretva River, had united the two parts of the multiethnic community for more than 400 years when it was destroyed in 1993 by a Croatian tank during the civil war that rocked the Balkans at the time. One of UNESCO's main purposes is the protection, and when needed, the rebuilding of culturally significant monuments around the world. UNESCO lent its technical and scientific knowledge in helping the city reconstruct the bridge in 2004.

More than bricks and mortar, Matsuura says, the bridge stands as a "reconnection between various ethnic groups. This is one of the examples of which I am very proud. Cultural heritage is important in itself, but

many cultural heritage sites have political importance as well.”

Matsuura seems the perfect man to lead the call for rebuilding. After all, it was he who, after his 1999 election as UNESCO Director-General, found he had a lot of rebuilding to do within UNESCO itself. After internal audits revealed that too much money was spent on salaries for highly placed officials and not enough was going to fieldwork, Matsuura instituted mass reforms within the organization, resulting in a refocusing of UNESCO’s financial and manpower resources. At the end of a successful six-year term, Matsuura was reelected to a four-year term in November 2005.

Six months after his reelection, Matsuura had the opportunity to return to Haverford and receive an honorary degree at Commencement, where he gave a speech to the class of 2006 and spoke of the importance of building bridges. It was only the second time since the Tokyo native graduated that he had had the chance to revisit the campus, but he cites the College as having a dramatic impact on his chosen profession. “Looking back through my Japanese diplomatic career, then as the head of an international organization here in Paris, what I learned at Haverford was a very important asset... I learned how to participate in discussion. I couldn’t get that kind of training back in Japan. In my day, we didn’t have that kind of interaction between professors and students.”

Dating back to shortly after his own graduation day in 1961, Matsuura has beaten a winding path to Paris, with notable stops in Ghana, Hong Kong and Washington, D.C., working in various diplomatic roles. A resident of Paris since 1994, Matsuura remembers arriving in the French capital to take up the reins as Japanese Ambassador to France: “After having visited most of the capitals in Europe, I believe that Paris is a unique city, and I’m very happy to live here. In France they give priority to preserving cultural heritage.”

Though the mayor of Paris has not yet given him honorary citizenship, Matsuura’s UNESCO work indicates he is one of its most honorable residents.

Trisha Thomas ’86

Trisha Thomas ’86 has written a book. She just doesn’t know it yet.

A journalist working in Rome, Italy, since 1993, Thomas has a natural flair for



Trisha Thomas ’86 with Pope John Paul II

storytelling, reflecting her chosen career as well as the attitude of southern Italians. Though she didn’t speak much of the language when she arrived, she dove right in and found that despite her limitations, she had plenty of willing interlocutors.

“Italians love it when you try and speak their language,” she says, remembering one of the first stories she covered in Italy. “A bus full of tourists crashed along the Amalfi Coast near Naples, and I was talking to the fire department in Naples about the crash... Neapolitans have really strong accents, and I wasn’t understanding any of what they were saying, and they were passing me from fireman to fireman. Everyone wanted to explain it to me, and they were so patient... having so much fun, and that’s the Italian way.”

Though her original career goal was to be a CNN correspondent in Vietnam or Cambodia, plans changed when during graduate school at Columbia University, she met an Italian named Gustavo Piga, whom she married in 1993. She and Piga, an economics professor at the University of Rome-Tor Vergata, have three children: Niccolò, Caterina, and Chiara.

Although it’s not always easy, Thomas has managed to balance home life with her career. When three months’ pregnant with Niccolò in the fall of 1994, she found out the Associated Press was starting up a television wing. During her interview, she was told how the Rome bureau was a traveling job, and that she would likely be sent to places like Sarajevo, in the throes of war

at the time. “It was my dream job, and I didn’t want to just say, ‘Hey! I’m pregnant!’” When they eventually found out, AP hired her anyway. After five months’ maternity leave, she proved her dedication by taking assignments in war-torn Liberia and Sierra Leone before realizing she had to make some compromises. “I sort of got a grip and said, ‘Okay, I really can’t do *everything* I want to do.’”

While evading most wars, Thomas has not shied away from hotspots within Rome. Spending about half her work time covering the Vatican, the non-Catholic, American woman has run up against the occasional barrier but now proudly counts cardinals and Swiss Guards among her contacts. As a woman, she is expected to wear dark pants or skirts past the ankles, and cannot reveal her shoulders when on official press visits to the Vatican, basically “dress(ing) like a nun.”

But such sacrifices have their heavenly rewards. Thomas has traveled with two popes, personally meeting John Paul II on one occasion. Current Pope Benedict XVI, she says, is remarkably different from his famously gregarious predecessor. “His background is that of a university professor. He’s not comfortable kissing babies, whereas John Paul II would stay all day... mixing with the crowd. He loved it. This pope is more shy, timid, intellectual.”

Whether covering world religious leaders or loquacious local firefighters, Thomas is happy to have found “an exciting and stimulating job.” And as she continues to accrue anecdotes, she looks forward to a day when she has time to write them all down. “When I retire from my job, I’ll try and find the time to do it.”

Until then, each day in Rome is just more grist for the mill. 🐿

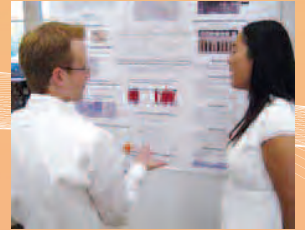
Stephen Leonard ’95 is a writer who has lived in Russia and Italy and currently resides in Paris, France, with his wife Odile.

Haverford



Medical
Institute

Howard
Hughes



College

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute transforms today's students and faculty members into tomorrow's cutting-edge research scientists—and Haverford is the only institution to twice receive HHMI's maximum grant award.

Hernan Sanchez '08 was 15 when he took his first chemistry class. "Everything clicked," he says, realizing he wanted a career in research. But because such jobs were difficult to find in his home country of Argentina, he planned on attending college in the U.S. He turned to the International Institute of Education (which recommends foreign students to small liberal arts colleges in the United States) and picked Haverford from a list of 10 schools because "it had the best

chemistry department of all of them."

After working in the labs of several professors during his first two years at the College, he applied for and received funding from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Interdisciplinary Scholars program to continue his research with Assistant Professor of Chemistry Alexander Norquist. Working on a project involving oxomolybdate crystals, Sanchez and Norquist often use techniques borrowed from physics and biology. The math classes Sanchez had been taking (he would

go on to declare a math minor) also helped him understand different functions and models used for structures and statistical processes. "There's so much interdisciplinary potential to what we do," he says. "It really enriches our understanding of the research."

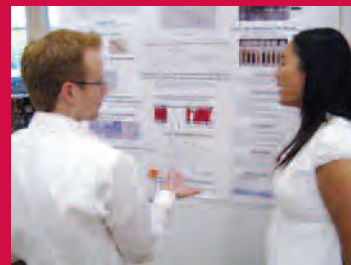
Now applying to graduate school for chemistry, Sanchez feels that HHMI and the Interdisciplinary Scholars program have prepared him well for the road ahead. "I can understand science better because I've been exposed to more areas," he says. "The principles I've learned here have led me to think of unique solutions to problems on my own."

Sanchez is just one of numerous students who have benefited from the generosity of HHMI, one of the nation's largest philanthropic organizations, which awards \$80 million a year in grant support for science education. Haverford has received approximately \$5.85 million since 1988, and has the distinction of being the only institution to receive the maximum award from HHMI for two consecutive grant cycles—\$1.7 million in 2000 and \$1.6 million in 2004.

Building a Community of Scientists

by Brenna McBride

The HHMI grant also affords Haverford the opportunity to groom future faculty members—and introduce different areas of expertise into the curriculum—by bringing postdoctoral fellows to campus.



One of the main inspirations for this extraordinary occurrence is the College's science faculty, says John Mosteller, Assistant Vice President for Academic Resources. "In part because of the history of HHMI support, and also the culture of the institution, the faculty actually do collaborate with each other," he says. "It is very real and complex, not what you see at most institutions. It's extensive and integrated."

Rob Fairman, associate professor of biology and HHMI faculty advisor, also credits the innovative ideas Haverford has put forth in previous grant proposals. "They are consistent with HHMI's long-term views of undergraduate education," he says. "For example, in the last granting cycle, HHMI wanted applicants to think seriously about developing postdoctoral programs, and we proposed a significant set of ideas to pursue this interest." Haverford's program offers postdocs valuable teaching opportunities: "Many colleges these days are looking for significant teaching experience in hiring faculty."

In February of 2007, HHMI invited more than 200 colleges and universities to compete for \$60 million in science education grant funding; the awards will be announced in May. According to the Institute's website, small or undergraduate colleges receive less than five percent of all federal research money, so HHMI hopes this competition will strengthen the teaching and research capacities of college science departments, and encourage them to

find methods of integrating the life sciences with other disciplines such as mathematics and computer science. HHMI wants its grantee schools to hire faculty members in emerging disciplines, purchase cutting-edge laboratory equipment, recruit and mentor underrepresented students, and improve pre-college science teaching.

Haverford's own grant proposal was completed in October, and was primarily written by Rob Fairman; Suzanne Amador Kane, Associate Professor of Physics and director of the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center (KINSC); and instructor of biology Kate Heston, with help from John Mosteller. "We needed to make sure that there was a thematic coherence," says Mosteller, "which is critical for having a competitive grant."

Many of the hopes and plans outlined in the new grant proposal build on the success of programs and initiatives that have been made possible with HHMI's help. The Institute's years of funding have enabled Haverford to support the academic development of faculty members and postdoctoral fellows; encourage interdisciplinary research, courses and activities for undergraduates; and enrich outreach opportunities for elementary and secondary school students and teachers, as well as groups traditionally underrepresented in the sciences.

Faculty Development: Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Dialogue

"When people ask me what it's like working at a place like Haverford," says Suzanne Amador Kane, "I explain to them that I don't work in a department of six people. I work in a science center of 33 people. I feel like we have this larger scientific community, and one of the ways

that's best realized is through faculty development seminars."

Bringing faculty from across disciplines together to learn about new issues in a specific field and create new course modules, the semester-long faculty development seminars were first proposed seven years ago by former professor of physics Lyle Roelofs; they were later incorporated into an HHMI grant proposal, in the hopes that an explicit space for faculty to gather and share ideas could be created. "One of the challenges of small colleges is that you don't have the same density of speakers or opportunities for enrichment as larger institutions," says Kane, who has been involved with the seminars from the beginning and helped coordinate last fall's presentations on imaging in science. "You have to create those opportunities, and we didn't think we had to go off-campus to do this."

The first seminar, "Computing Across the Sciences," was held in the spring of 2001, followed by sessions on bioinformatics in the fall of that year, science and society in 2002-2003, and statistics in fall 2003. Often these seminars have resulted in tangible changes to the college curriculum; for example, the presentations on computing across the sciences led to the design of two new courses in scientific computing, the hiring of Assistant Professor of Physics Peter Love, whose research is focused on computational science, and the creation of a scientific computing working group and, in 2006, a major in computer science.

The fall 2007 seminar on imaging in science brought together professors not only from the natural sciences, but also the social sciences and humanities. Corresponding events included talks by Penn neurologist Geoff Aguirre, who spoke about the use of functional MRI in neuroscience; University of California, Davis anthropologist Joseph Dumit, who



Geoff Aguirre



Left to right: Postdoctoral fellow Matthew Willmann (left) with a poster by Jennie Hwang '09; Josh Havassy '04 (in baseball cap) and his MAST group in a chemistry lab; Adaobi Nwaneshiudu '03 (in gray sweater) with her MAST students.

revealed how medical images from PET (positron emission tomography) scans take on meanings in a broader culture as metaphors for mental illness; and noted science photographer Felice Frankel, whose work was exhibited in Haverford's Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery along with student- and faculty-generated scientific images.

"These seminars are a wonderful opportunity for us to have true intellectual dialogue across departmental lines, on interdisciplinary topics that are of genuine interest to us," says Kane. "We can offer the outside world this vision of true interdisciplinarity; we approach things as a common community of scientists."

Faculty development initiatives ultimately benefit students as well as professors. "The faculty get busy with the administrative and curricular needs of the College," says Fairman, "and start to fall behind if they're not keeping up with the newest trends and fields. Faculty development is a way of invigorating ourselves in certain areas. For example, we may want to bring systems and network biology and genomics into the biology department, but we don't have a faculty member with this specialty, so we need to learn more about it. As we develop our own understanding and skills in this area, we can communicate it to the students."

The HHMI grant also affords Haverford the opportunity to groom future faculty members—and introduce different areas of expertise into the curriculum—by bringing postdoctoral fellows to campus. Matthew Willmann, currently a visiting assistant professor of biology, received his Ph.D. from Harvard in 2004 and specializes in plant genetics and development; he is, at present, the only plant scientist on staff at the College. He co-teaches two courses with faculty members from the

biology department, runs labs, and works with the Sunday evening undergraduate HHMI fellows seminar, with this year's goal to give Haverford students exposure to life at a research university. Willmann also led a seminar in November on the use of microarray technologies in the study of plant gene expression, and is working with Professor of Biology Karl Johnson to create a new lab module based on this topic.

Willmann enjoys teaching in general, but loves doing it at Haverford: "The students are very intelligent and genuinely enthusiastic. It's rewarding to help guide undergraduates as they decide what to do next with their lives." Although he spends his mornings at Penn pursuing his research, his afternoons at Haverford are, he says, "the best part of my day." And, as someone fresh from graduate school, he feels well-equipped to answer questions and give advice for students with similar aspirations.

Student Research: Cutting-Edge, Cross-Disciplinary

Of the \$1.6 million awarded by HHMI in 2004, at least one-third goes towards students. HHMI is particularly invested in interdisciplinary research of the kind in which Hernan Sanchez is involved; this has been the case as far back as 1992, when Kate Heston first became administrator of the grant. "Interdisciplinary Scholars has been a flagship program from the beginning," she says. "This approach strengthened the connections between biology and chemistry and led to the creation of the biochemistry concentration." This was a time when the biology and chemistry departments weren't even in the same building; now, not only do they share close quarters and resources in the KINSC, they collaborate with the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship on public health initiatives, internships, and programs like

Science and Society, for students interested in exploring cultural issues raised by modern science (such as public health or biomedical ethics).

Claire Roden '07 applied to be a Science and Society scholar during her junior year, when she had a chance to intern with a hospital in Paris serving an HIV-positive African immigrant population. As an S&S Scholar, she received funding for the internship from HHMI, and the experience marked a turning point in her life. "It was the most amazing thing I've ever done," says Roden, now a research technician at Thomas Jefferson University who hopes to study public health and medicine in the near future. "I can't stress enough how fundamental it was to the way I see the world right now."

The Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP) is another HHMI-funded initiative that has given students countless opportunities in research and leadership. Serving as a mentoring system and resource for all students, MSP offers workshops on such topics as graduate school applications, time management, and choosing courses, and assigns upperclass students to be "buddies" with freshmen. Multicultural students in the program can take subsidized summer classes and receive stipends for summer research.

Akriti Mathur '08 has been involved with MSP since her first year at Haverford; now she is head coordinator of the program. With the help of MSP, the biology major was able to spend two summers working with Professor of Biology Jenni Punt on her T-cell projects, one of which is the basis for Mathur's senior thesis (she's studying Notch, a specific protein in T-cell development). "Haverford has a unique research program for science majors," she says. "Sometimes, at other schools, the students leave college never having set foot in a lab."

“It’s such a jump to go from learning something in a classroom to seeing it put to use in an experiment.”



Mathur, like many of her peers, plans to apply to graduate school, and feels that MSP has helped her not only prepare for the future, but also get the most out of her past four years. “The workshops I attended freshman year gave me a feel for how the campus works, and I got insight into academic resources I didn’t even know were available.”

Community Outreach: The Next Generation of Scientists

Assistant Professor of Biology Andrea Morris, who graduated from Haverford in 1991, was present for the birth of the MAST (Mentoring and Student Teaching) program, which offers Saturday morning laboratory experiences and writing tutorials for Philadelphia-area middle and high school students. MAST was the brainchild of Emeritus Professor of Biology Slavica Matacic, who saw the program as a way not only to provide tutoring to local children, but also to reinforce what Haverford students were learning in their own classes and labs.

“She saw what we struggled with as students, and thought this would be a good way to make us stand up and talk about science,” says Morris.

It has always been the responsibility of the Haverford students participating in MAST to prepare the course curricula and create and teach the science labs.

During that first year, Morris and her classmates tried to devise experiments that would be fun for middle-schoolers:

They isolated DNA from onions (“We figured anything smelly and weird would get them excited”), made soap in a chemistry lab, and studied the

chemical components of aspirin. Gradually, the Haverford students saw how the program was making a positive difference.

“In the beginning, parents would just drop their kids off and pick them up, but soon they would come in and talk with us about the difference we were making and the excitement their kids were showing,” Morris recalls. And the kids themselves, at first solemn and taciturn, began to open up: “They had great ideas. They talked us into dissecting sharks and fetal pigs.”

Before she became involved with MAST, Morris had never considered a career in academia; “I thought it would be horrifying to stand up in front of a classroom and profess something.” But being a part of MAST reminded her what she loved about science: discussing new ideas, testing theories.

“I loved research and being in the lab, but being able to share my research made it more exciting,” she says.

Today, as a professor at her alma mater, Morris finds her classroom style influenced by her MAST experiences. “When I design new courses,” she says, “I try to let my students take ownership of the class, and I invite them to tell me what they loved about previous classes.” She is also buoyed to see her own shyer students participating in MAST and, as a result, speaking up in class and leading discussions.

Haverford has recently taken ownership for the program’s budget, which had previously been covered by HHMI. “What’s important,” says Rob Fairman, “is that now the College has guaranteed that this program will continue in the foreseeable future.”

“It’s in recognition of the fact that MAST is part of the fabric of the College,” adds Kate Heston.

MAST is just one example of the community outreach initiatives that have been supported by HHMI. There’s also the Cascade Mentoring Program, where

Philadelphia high school students and teachers come to campus during the summer and join in lab research. The program takes its name from its cascade approach, assembling teams consisting of a Haverford faculty member, a Haverford student, a high school teacher, and up to two high school students.

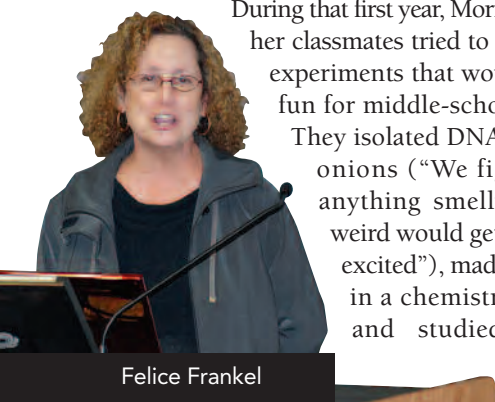
“We taught them about lab techniques and chemistry,” says Kate Clancy ’07 of her own Cascade team in the lab of Associate Professor of Chemistry Fran Blase. “Many of the students hadn’t had any exposure to chemistry in high school.” Clancy was excited to see her high school group view-



Joseph Dumit

ing an authentic college laboratory with the same awe she had felt as a freshman. “It’s such a jump to go from learning something in a classroom to seeing it put to use in an experiment.” Now in graduate school for chemistry at Duke, Clancy says Cascade helped her become a better teacher.

When Ami Naik ’06 worked with her Cascade team in Rob Fairman’s lab, she found that the program improved her teamwork and communication skills. “Coming to understand the research on [Fairman’s] level, and being able to relay it back to the high school students, boosted my confidence.” Her interactions with the younger members of her team weren’t limited to science alone; they sought her



Felice Frankel



Left to right: Shawn Alexander '03; Adolfo Cuesta '10; Hernan Sanchez '08; Alex Davies '09, Shivani Gandhi '09 and Akriti Mathur '08; current biology professor Andrea Morris '91 with some of the first MAST students.

advice on college admissions and SATs, and one even asked her to write a recommendation letter. “I never had mentoring,” says Naik, a student at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, “so it was great to give back and help them through the process.”

The 2007 Proposal: What Lies Ahead

The major themes of the 2007 proposal are the College’s plans to develop the strengths of its computational sciences—the use of computational techniques and methods and how they’re used in other disciplines. “It’s pretty clear how math and computers are used as tools in other disciplines, and students without that quantitative training will be less successful professionally,” says Fairman. Therefore, he and the grant committee are proposing faculty development training to enhance their skills in this field, and hope to hire postdoctoral fellows with this expertise to work with the computer science department in developing new courses and fortifying the current offerings.

“It’s important in fields like genomics to understand how to come up with the alignments and mathematical formulas behind the science,” says Heston.

According to Fairman, computer technology is fundamentally changing the face of biology as we know it. “For a period of time it was driven by genetics and biochemistry, it was deconstructionist, tearing things apart and seeing how pieces work. Now we want to reconstruct cells to see how they function in total. That’s what network and systems biology represent, a way to model the entire organism with information we currently have. That requires computational approaches and sophisticated computer and mathematical algorithms.” Such methods can also be used in ecology and environmental science.

Through this grant proposal, Fairman and fellow authors also want to find ways of enabling faculty members to pursue scholarship and maintain research credibility at conferences and meetings where they can present and discuss their work with peers. “This may involve restructuring course loads and hiring people with expertise in our topics to come in and give lectures,” he says.

“It’s good for students to experience different styles of teaching,” says Heston. “Getting other faculty to come in and interact with students gives them a glimpse of research in other environments.”

Haverford is also seeking funding for two new outreach programs. The College wishes to continue its collaboration with Bryn Mawr College in coordinating and hosting Summer Institutes for K-12 teachers, bringing them together with college faculty members to share perspectives on enriching math and science education. These Institutes have usually been based at Bryn Mawr, but in 2007 two professors from the computer science department, John Dougherty and Steven Lindell, hosted a session at Haverford for the first time, on the topic of computing in education.

Then there’s the Haverford Summer Science Institute (HSSI), which has been jointly funded by both HHMI and the Koshland Access Achievement Fund. This pilot program brings incoming freshmen to campus for five weeks the summer before their first year to take college-level science classes and get acquainted with the academic and social realities of higher education. “I wanted to create an intense science experience for entering freshmen who didn’t have much exposure to rigorous science training,” says Senior Lecturer in Mathematics Jeff Tecosky-Feldman, who began HSSI two years ago. “They get mentoring from faculty and students in a supportive environment.”

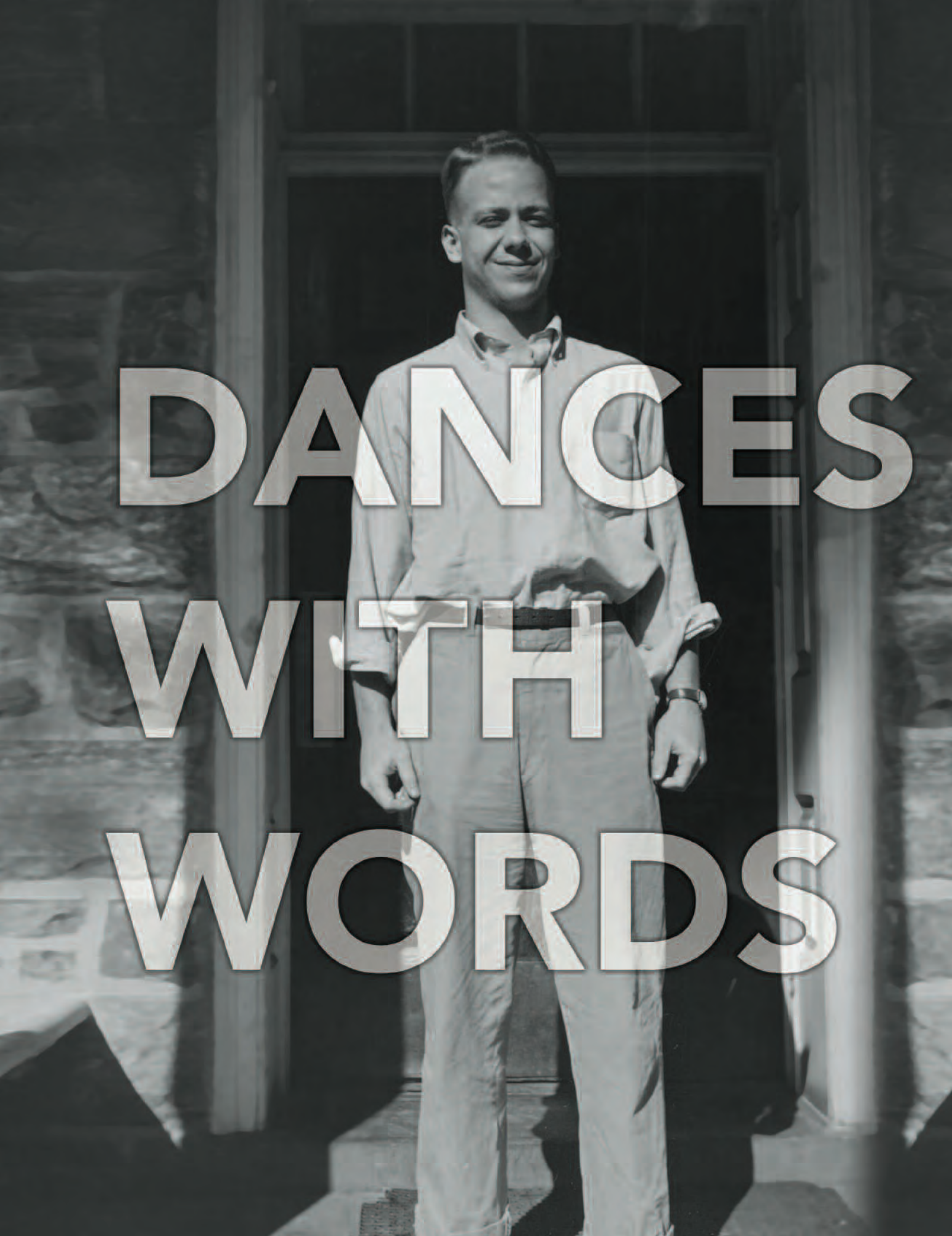
Most HSSI participants are from groups underrepresented in science, or are the first in their families to attend college. Today, says Tecosky-Feldman, “they’re the ones sitting in front of the classroom asking questions, and are comfortable interacting with professors during lectures.”

Looking ahead long-term, Fairman says that Haverford is still developing the overall mission of the KINSC, and the HHMI grant proposal is an opportunity to test ideas that will result in visionary academic approaches for the science center. Also, the final bequest of late biochemist and Haverford benefactor Dan Koshland has recently established a significant endowment to support further development of the KINSC programming. This endowment will allow the Center to build upon much of the work that HHMI grants have helped make possible.

“The 2000 grant cycle was about the emergence of the KINSC,” says John Mosteller. “In 2004, it shifted to HHMI as a grant for the Center itself. Now, it’s all merging—how does HHMI become one piece of a bigger entity?”

Heston adds, “[The grant] makes it possible for us to try out certain things that might otherwise be more difficult to achieve.” She points to the popular biochemistry concentration: “When it was first implemented, people thought it was too sophisticated to teach in an undergraduate curriculum. But the HHMI grant has allowed us to pursue programs we couldn’t mount otherwise, all of which seem to fit well with the kinds of students we have and the things they want to do.

“Above all,” she says, “HHMI wants to influence how students are taught.” 🐿



DANCES
WITH
WORDS

Richard Lingeman '53, distinguished biographer of Theodore Dreiser and Sinclair Lewis, is one of the few true humorists and men of letters still editing magazines.

by John Lombardi

The *Nation's* offices at 33 Irving Place, between 14th Street and Gramercy Park in New York, have a slightly dusty quality. Not dirt. Just a leisurely coating of bygone times. Of words over images (despite the snazzy redesign of the magazine itself) . . . of real thought over spun perception/news-cycle wisdom. Richard Lingeman, the former executive editor, former publisher Victor Navasky's save from the *New York Times*, up on West 43rd Street, comes mildly to the 8th floor reception desk to greet you; he ushers you into his modest office overlooking the honking traffic, inquires if you need tea or decaf, and remarks that biographers lack personalities of their own.

"His sense of humor is subtle," says his old friend, the cartoonist and illustrator Edward Sorel. "You don't necessarily get that from reading those long books of his [Dreiser was published in two volumes at 350,000 words, before being vacuum-packed into an 'abridged' version of 250,000 words]." In *At the Gates of the City* (Putnam's, 1986), the first part, Lingeman recreates a 19th century slowness of pace, covering the years 1871 – 1907, that gives you an anthropological sense of Dreiser's gawky, Indiana schoolboy demons: repressive father; landlocked imagination; the escape of sex; relative poverty. Lingeman, a Hoosier himself from Crawfordsville, acknowledges that he shares some of Dreiser's anxieties: "He had a gift for amassing, concentrating and synthesizing the truth, life as it is. At the same time, he was ambi-

tious and said 'I rise like a kite against the wind' [portending great angst] . . ." Lingeman smiles wanly. The late Alfred Kazin, writing in the *New York Times Book Review* on *At the Gates* and *An American Journey*, the second Dreiser volume (1990), described Lingeman as "more of a social historian than a literary biographer," and quoted Mark Van Doren on Dreiser as "lacking everything but genius." I ask if that's pretty accurate: "Dreiser was a genius," Lingeman chuckles.

He'd come to *The Nation*, the oldest weekly journal of politics and culture (1865) in America, from the *Times*, in 1978. Lingeman and Victor Navasky, the former editor/publisher and current emeritus adviser, whom he'd met at Yale Law School, had started *Monocle*, a humorous, irregular periodical along with Jake Needleman (then a philosophy grad student), Larry Pearl (a law school classmate) and Michael Dukakis, the future Massachusetts governor and presidential candidate, who sold ads.

"I wrote my first piece, a parody of T. S. Eliot's 'The Wasteland,' called 'The Fleeced Land,' in a fit of despair after studying for a tax law exam," he remembers. "The act of parody is a kind of purgation of something that bugs you, including the author's style, which you assume like a borrowed coat as self-protective coverage. It allows you to escape, at least in fantasy, from the world, and also to fight back symbolically. The parody began: 'April is the accrualist month . . .' Maybe you had to be there . . ."

"One could say it introduced me to the joys of expression, and the great need I had for it." As the son of a "closet-liberal" small-town doctor, he'd joined the Army after graduating Haverford—Phi Beta Kappa in sociology, English and creative writing—and worked in counter-intelligence for three years, two of them in Japan. But the reception of "The Fleeced Land" encouraged him to drop out of the safety of law school. Then, in 1960, with Navasky whisper-

Dances with Words

ing into his ear about the joys of Manhattan and an executive editor job, they moved *Monocle* to New York City after leaving Yale. “It never made any money,” Lingeman says now, “and was always undercapitalized, but it allowed us to work together as a sort of writing commune. There was Marvin Kitman, then a funny columnist for a racing paper—I forget which one—later a TV columnist for *Newsday*, Ed Sorel [now a *New Yorker* contributor]...” Calvin Trillin, another New Yorker man, also contributed briefly: “You could say *Monocle* was impecunious,” Trillin says dryly. “I once got a check from them for \$3. Another time Lingeman sent me a bill for all the work he’d had to do on a piece of mine that never ran.” Later, Trillin would joke that Navasky had “ruined Richard twice: Once, when he’d persuaded him to give up a potential \$400,000 a year as a future Wall Street attorney” to follow the literary life; the next when he wooed him away from the *Times* to work at “the obscure and impoverished *Nation*.”

“Yes, yes, too true,” Lingeman admits. “We were all aware of the absurdity of things—the Ionesco factor. But—it had something to do with the spirit of the times, which was about spontaneous creation—somebody would have an idea and then someone else would expand on it – as TV writers do for shows – but much more ‘literary.’ It was all a lot of fun.”

Wan smile again.

When *Monocle* proved unsustainable as a way to earn a living, Lingeman, who’d been freelancing for the *Times* anyway as a reviewer and writer of features for the Sunday Magazine, went uptown for nine years (1969). He wrote a weekly bookchat column for the Sunday *Times*, “Book Ends,” frequent daily and Sunday reviews, and magazine pieces. The job was prestigious and paid well, and allowed him and wife Anthea Nicholson, a British graphic designer whom he’d met and married in 1965 while working on the *Outsider’s Newsletter* (a weekly addendum to the eccentrically-scheduled *Monocle*), to get an apartment uptown, in the West 90s.

This was a huge improvement over the shared digs he and Christopher Lehmann-Haupt had been living in on West 13th Street in Greenwich Village. Lehmann-

Haupt, a well-known *Times* book reviewer and older brother of Sandy Lehmann-Haupt, a Merry Prankster who’d made it part way across America on Ken Kesey and Neal Cassady’s “Furthur” bus back in the heyday of psychedelics, was wooing his future wife, Natalie Robins, and fending off visits from her ex, the writer Dan Wakefield. Weekends would see everyone kind of piled up together for boozy litchat sessions and freeform culture sets.

This was ‘62-’64. Bob Dylan’s second and third albums were out, the French *Nouvelle Vague* movies were playing down on Bleecker Street, and at the Waverly on Sixth



“He was so funny and perceptive and dry—completely unaggressive but penetrating,” says Christopher Lehmann-Haupt; After graduating from Haverford, Lingeman joined the Army and worked in counter-intelligence for three years, two of them in Japan; Marvin Kitman and Edward Sorrel describe Lingeman as an “unusually sensitive editor, with an almost ‘selfless’ quality when it comes to bringing out his writers’ voices.”

Avenue, tambourine & guitar music seemed to gladden the edges of consciousness. Warhol was running The Factory, the non-fiction novel was cranking up, The Lion’s Head, Odeon and an uptown bar called Elaine’s were all metamorphosing. Lehmann-Haupt, who still teaches writing and works for the *Times*, sighs and laughs: “We weren’t kids but we were young, and the times they were a-changing, to recoin a phrase. . . I remember that Natalie loved Richard, he was so funny and perceptive and dry—completely unaggressive but penetrating. . . I recall during one Sunday, Lingeman had staggered off somewhere to ‘sleep,’ we’d been hitting the various bottles pretty well, and Wakefield, Natalie and myself were urgently arguing about some line from Ring Lardner Jr., one of Richard’s favorite authors, the kicker of some scene that we all remembered differently: ‘No!’ Dan said, ‘Nooo, that

into it.” Lingeman was answering awkward e-mail probes about why he’d chosen the scholarly, exhaustive forms his four big books took—*Don’t You Know There’s a War On?* (Putnam’s, 1971), about the home front, 1941-45; *Small Town America* (Putnam’s, 1981), a history, 1620 to the present; *Gates and Journey*, the Dreiser epics; and *Sinclair Lewis: Rebel From Main Street*, (Random House, 2002). “I had a good agent, Lynn Nesbit, just starting out then, and she set me up with Harvey Ginsberg at Putnam’s, who wanted a book on the WWII years. . . It was one of my most vivid boyhood memories, so I did it—simple as that. I wrote *Small Town America* because I’d always felt inferior coming from a small town [he was thinking of Lewis at Yale, and his own days at Yale Law, where the William F. Buckley-slightly-honking-accents and attention to hairstyles and

footwear were practically Oxfordian]. Earlier, when I was at Haverford, too, among the suave preppies—or so they seemed to my untutored eye—I guess [this feeling was nascent].” For that reason, Putnam’s editor Phyllis Grann proposed Theodore Dreiser, at which he leapt.

It took him nine years, however, to complete this forensic examination of Dreiser’s hard life and terrible struggle—surely the most fraught career of any serious American writer, with the possible exceptions of Melville and Poe. *Sister Carrie*, Dreiser’s first great “woman’s novel,” was bought and then savagely cut by its original publisher, then

do with patrolling the streets of the Bowery and the Five Points [the intersection of Park, Worth and Baxter Streets, present site of Foley Square, the hellish center of what was, in the 19th century, a lower Manhattan paradigm for the evils of capitalism, a dumping ground for Irish, Italian, Jewish and Slavic immigrants, completely unprepared for lives in the quintessential modern city]. Dreiser would walk those streets with his various female companions and positively become *charged*, laden with empathy and inspiration . . . I hung around with Victor, and Lehmann-Haupt, and Ed Sorel . . . a much headier scene.”

who can hear your voice, and have the ability to help you perfect it today . . . In fact, you have to *protect* yourself from techy illiterates—this doesn’t apply to my editors, of course, they’re all sweethearts . . .”

Kitman makes a point of separating himself from the principals of Lingeman’s old *Monocle* crowd—“All *Yaale* and *Hawvud* types,” he pronounces. “Navasky was a guy with a pedigree. But I was from City College of New York—which I have to tell you was a tougher school intellectually than some of those silver-spoon places . . .” Navasky went to Swarthmore, Kitman thought (he did), and of course “Richard was a *Have-a-fud* man.” Kitman used to exaggerate a Brooklynese way of talking, just to make the *Monocle* ‘Oracles’ sweat in their martinis . . . Some kind of old English propriety operating there, he thought, that “always made you feel they wrote their pieces buttoned up in suits and ties . . . Lehmann-Haupt—a really funny guy.” This was true of everyone but Trillin: “He’s a pure performer. He talks in that same, gentlemanly, privileged-but-droll-about-it-way that sends *everything* up”—especially the delicate filigree of status . . . “When you talk to him, it’s like reading one of his pieces.

“Many times I’d come in, I’d have a half-assed idea, and Richard would conjure and wrinkle his brow a little, and later he’d show me a better worked-out wording with a beginning middle and end, and I’d get credit.”

“Oh, he’s giving me too much glory,” Lingeman returns, modestly. “Editors plant seeds with good writers. Major surgery is reserved for not-such-good-writers, and we didn’t have many of those around *Monocle*, *The Nation*, or the *Times*.”

Among those writers Lingeman worked with at *The Nation* was Christopher Hitchens, the Tom Stoppard of present-day *Vanity Fair*, the “Charlie Rose Show” and cable TV (current book, *God is Not Great*). A Brit of quicksilver wit and copious learning, whose mental processes are so accelerated that he must apply the brakes when being interviewed by what he may consider more ordinary mortals – Marty Moss-Coane, say, of “Radio Times”—where one can see him reluctantly settling down into an intellectual backdraft, like a fast ciga-



suppressed, an author’s worst nightmare. Dreiser despaired, and came close to a nervous breakdown, as had characters in *Sister Carrie* and *Jennie Gerhardt*, his second novel. Dreiser, who worked as a hack reporter for papers around the Midwest but longed after artistry, roused some feeling in Lingeman that resonates today, though he won’t dwell on it, and doesn’t believe in analyzing too much: “Oh, I think I meant we were both from Indiana and both came from a German-American heritage, or maybe I was thinking about his early shyness, and later in life his anxieties, and search for a loving universe . . .”

But on some level, weren’t Lingeman’s own career choices dictated by expediency, too?

“Oh, I don’t think we can go there, profitably,” Lingeman replied. “And anyway, my early days in New York City had little to

Both Marvin Kitman and Edward Sorel describe Lingeman as an unusually sensitive editor, with an almost “selfless” quality when it comes to bringing out his writers’ voices. It’s a unique talent today and continues a long line of editorial sensibility—a few years back you could find Maxwell Perkins [Scribners]; or Burroughs Mitchell [Scribners]; Willie Morris [Harper’s]; Carey McWilliams [*The Nation* – Hunter Thompson’s editor on the original magazine story that grew into *Hell’s Angels*]; Dan Wolf [old *Village Voice*], or Diane Fischer [old *Village Voice*]; Harold Hayes [*Esquire*]; Gordon Lish [Knopf]; Jack Nessle [New York]; Alan Halpern, *Philadelphia Magazine*. Kitman, who is still high off his latest book on Bill O’Reilly (*The Man Who Would Not Shut Up*, St. Martins), says: “You don’t *have* editors like Richard,

Dances with Words

rette boat with its engines abruptly cut: “I’ve always admired Christopher,” Lingeman says. “He always filed his copy ahead of time and in pristine shape – the most thorough professional I think I’ve had the honor of working with,” he asserts. “He is a master provocateur, great writer and formidable debater and polemicist . . . He eventually ran afoul of the liberal thinking here [*Nation*], around the time of 9/11 and the invasion of Iraq,” but by then someone else was editing Hitchens. “His position was a principled one: He felt the editors, writers and readers of *The Nation* were blaming the World Trade Center disaster on long-time American foreign policy and multinational business activity, instead of on ‘Islamofascism’—a term he coined, by the way, and which Bush later took up . . . I always thought his objections to *The Nation*’s opposition to impeaching Clinton and to the Iraq invasion were deeply flawed, by the way . . . and so he resigned [from *The Nation*].”

“Did he have to do it quite so publicly?” I asked Lingeman. (Hitchens’ resignation was headlined and televised.) “And at a time when the whole country was swinging right, fanned by the major media’s unalloyed acceptance of the Wolfowitz/Perle/Rumsfeld/Cheney/Rove/Bush school of geopolitics, with its manifest faith in WMD, a Saddam Hussein/Bin Laden collusion (at least in the public mind), and America’s right to impose democracy, especially on oil-rich locales? The infantilizing of American popular thought? No hint of provocative personal opportunism there?”

“It’s a question you should put to Christopher,” Lingeman says, loyally and adroitly. “I thought [his reasons for resigning] were absolutely sincere. And that *this* story was about me?”

And so it is. I thought I’d use the goad of Hitchens to crack through the formalism a little. But the trouble is Lingeman’s natural reticence, a most Haverfordian quality that was reinforced on Founders Green. Talking about oneself somehow goes against Quaker notions of modesty—the “Moved to Speak” element at Quaker Meetings, for example, where no one assumes prominence until somebody is moved to say something—eventuating in great blank pub-

lic spaces, at times. But even when verbal action occurs, talking is done diffidently, with real circumspection, so as not to unbalance the group identity that Quaker sensibility favors. (This is all complicated by the fact that Lingeman is not a Quaker, more a fallen-away Methodist, who has troubles of his own with Quakerism as a religion, though he admires some of its beliefs.) Anyway, I asked his friends if Lingeman’s reticence enabled him as an editor while limiting him as a writer? Was he attracted to Haverford in part because it embodies reticence as a virtue—or to Navasky because of Navasky’s natural dominance?

“Navasky sort of formed Richard’s career, through his Machiavellian, entrepreneurial, guy-with-the-big-rolodex personality,” Marvin Kitman offers, “though I don’t think

Calvin Trillin on Lingeman: “He’s a pure performer. He talks in that same, gentlemanly, privileged-but-droll-about-it-way that sends everything up—especially the delicate filigree of status. . . .”; “I was very happy to land at *The Nation*,” says Lingeman (far right, with Victor Navasky).

“There’s a lot below the surface that has to do with being from the small town Midwest,” Lehmann-Haupt offers. “I mean for all the years he’s lived in New York City, I don’t know that he’s ever got used to it. Of course he’s a New Yorker, but he doesn’t act or think like a New Yorker—which is what? A little peremptory? Quickness that seems rude in other parts of the country? A certain assumed privilege that verges on the ruthless? That’s just not him. He’s an old-fashioned man of letters.”

“We got Richard on at *Monocle* because he was smart and talented, mature for his years—maybe from his experience in Army intelligence,” Victor Navasky remarks, somewhat gruffly. “We brought him back from the *Times* to *The Nation* [1978] after I took over, because he was ready for a



that has much to do with Haverford. I mean [Navasky] gets people into networks sort of, and uses them – all benignly, I’m sure . . .”

“Yes, there was something of the ‘organizer,’ shall we put it, about Victor’s manner,” agrees Christopher Lehmann-Haupt. “Richard is enormously talented and motivated and steady, and Victor recognized that, though I’m not suggesting he was manipulated . . .”

“I don’t think you could say he held Richard against his best interests or anything,” says Edward Sorel. “There’s something in [Lingeman] that’s willing to be a little grey—to use an art director’s term—but he’s rather hard to know naturally. I don’t think you can ascribe that to ‘influence.’ Anyway, I don’t envy you your task.”

change, and because I’d arranged to match his salary. As to why he decided to come, you’ll have to ask him. What? Which of his books do I like best? I like ‘em *all*, son. We done?”

As it turns out, Lingeman left the *Times* for several reasons. He’d been passed over for a better job—daily reviewer—losing out to then-managing editor Arthur Gelb’s protégé Anatole Broyard. He and the late Walter Clemons had been vying for the powerful position, but were both rejected by the late executive editor, Abe Rosenthal, in typical fashion. Rosenthal, a short bulldog, called Lingeman into his office and told him with some satisfaction that he ‘just wasn’t

up to the job.’ His eyes sparkled as he pronounced sentence. With Clemons, the reason was widely believed to be his sexual persuasion—there was still some homophobia at the *Times* in the 70s. “I thought Clemons was better qualified for the job than I was,” Lingeman recalls, and told him so.

Then there was the elimination of Lingeman’s “Book Ends” column, without warning, after he’d participated in a 1977 newspaper strike: “I felt at the time that that may have had something to do with it, but of course it’s unprovable.” More important was his growing impatience with the *Times*’ institutional liberalism, somewhat right of Lingeman’s own political and cultural beliefs, and its Byzantine office politics: “When Victor

for George Horace Lorimar’s *Saturday Evening Post*, a magazine that relentlessly sold the American Dream—as, say, *Rolling Stone*, in its “Fear & Loathing” era, relentlessly sold its obverse, the book paints Red as a neurotic writing machine, revved like a motorcycle by the forces that moved him against American pieties, were fueled by rebellion against his own hackdom. Lingeman shows that his break with Lorimar was a kind of cliff-jumping, forcing out his greatest art, and also his darkest insecurity, self-medicated by binge-drinking, and landing him at last in Rome, wifeless and foolish, the prey of charlatans. One of the best descriptions of the creative process written in the U.S.

In his more recent book, *Double Lives* (Random House, 2006), about writers’

At this point, Wharton cut in: ‘Oh, please, do ask him where the King’s Road is.’

‘Ah —? The King’s Road? Just so! Quite right! Can you, as a matter of fact, my good man, tell us where, in relation to our present position, the King’s Road exactly is?’

‘Yer in it,’ replied the ancient.”

Maybe the best critique of James’s wordy style on record.

He renders the relentless egotism that both drove Ernest Hemingway to write superlatively and dominate all those close to him, with a dark humor suggestive of both Balzac and Anatole France. His wise descriptions of the mutual attraction and repulsion of Dreiser and H.L. Mencken, turning on the former’s need for transcendent beauty, and the latter’s Hitchens-like insistence on chilly rationalism and a sense of how to play the literary game, are as funny as Charlie Chaplin.

Asked to sum up his friend, Lingeman’s old colleague Calvin Trillin rendered a few quotes, then called back to read this poem, which he said he felt did a better job:

*“Unsticking sticky academic prose,
He was the man the God of Lefties chose
To rework all the dross that we create
Into the words that [Martin] Peretz loves to hate.
The muse, I guess, thought Richard was content
To straighten out the words that others bent.
And then our Richard really did surprise her:
He wrote the final word on Teddy Dreiser.”* 🐘



was able to match my salary, there was really no question,” he says now. “I was very happy to land at *The Nation*.”

Navasky as a friend, and Katrina vanden Heuvel, the current editor and publisher, as a sympathetic boss, have afforded Lingeman time to work on his major opuses: *Rebel from Main Street*, the Sinclair Lewis book, clearly shows the calming influence of security, being 554 pages, but not Ferberish or Michener-esque, as the two-volume Dreisers were, and painting “Red” Lewis more intimately and novelistically. From the first frozen day of his homecoming funeral in Sauk Center, Minnesota [1951]; through his brief, collegiate religious fanaticism; to his rebellion against the hackish heights he’d reached working

friendships, the early *Monocle* Lingeman gets resurrected. He delights in the mildly scurrilous sex gossip involving Edith Wharton, bisexual journalist Morton Fullerton, and Henry James, and doesn’t refrain from showing James as a bookish old man, fecklessly seeking road directions from an aged, dead-practical peasant in Sussex:

“My good man, if you’ll be good enough to come here, please, a little nearer — so. My friend, to put it to you in two words, this lady [Wharton] and I, have just arrived here from Slough; that is to say, to be more strictly accurate, we have recently passed through Slough on our way here, having actually motored to Windsor from Rye, our point of departure . . .’



I am not a grind, I am not a grind,
I am not a grind



Coach Steve



At the Shore House

THE Haverford EMERSON ERA BEGINS

By Caroline O'Halloran

On October 7 at 3 p.m., with a record crowd of well-wishers bearing witness, Dr. Stephen Gould Emerson '74, officially and with great fanfare, came home to Haverford.

In truth, he'd been returning to campus for years. With a job at Penn and a home on the Main Line, Steve had become an almost fanatical fixture at Haverford basketball, soccer and lacrosse games, so vocal he'd risked getting tossed by the refs on more than one occasion. He was a regular, too, at reunions and alumni gatherings, talking up the college with gusto to all who would listen. He'd think nothing of dialing up one of his old professors or finding time to befriend a new one. (Five years ago, in fact, he had arranged for his son, then a high school senior, to take one of Aryeh Kosman's philosophy classes.) And barely a Sunday passed when he couldn't be spotted dashing around the Duck Pond or lapping Walton track, tuning up for half-marathons. Truly, in the more than three decades since his graduation, Dr. Stephen Emerson had remained a most loyal son of Haverford College.

Emerson Era Begins

"Steve understands the best parts of Haverford and the traditions of Haverford, but more importantly, he understands the potential of Haverford. He understands where we could go, what we could be, how we could really cement our place as one of the top, if not the very top, liberal arts educational institutions in the country."

—Barry Zubrow '75, Board of Managers co-chair



The last time Steve took part in a ceremony at Haverford he was a Phi Beta Kappa 20-year-old double degree candidate who had garnered rare summa cum laude honors and an esteemed academic prize. Since then, he had received an M.D./Ph. D. from Yale, taught medicine at Harvard, Michigan and Penn and founded a biotech company. His hematology/oncology practice and his stem cell laboratory were renowned; his research had appeared in leading scientific jour-

nals; and he had just been tapped to direct a pioneering stem cell institute at Penn. In his early 50s and at the peak of his profession, he had no reason to change course. Or did he?

The story of Steve Emerson is decidedly unconventional. It is a story punctuated with quirky passions and unique roads taken. It is a story of a man ruled, in equal measure, by his heart and his intellect. And, fundamentally, it is a story about Haverford College.

Just 15 years before Haverford entered and forever changed his life, Steve was born on Long Island, N.Y., the son of second-generation Russian Jewish immigrants. Indeed, the Emerson family name was the more ethnic-sounding "Gold" until 1937 when Steve's grandfather, despairing over his lackluster paper business, dispatched his 17-year-old son to the local authorities. His instructions were vague: Have the family name changed to "something more American." The eyes of young Blanchard Gold fell upon an Emerson radio on a nearby table, and a surname was born.

Blanchard Emerson was a New York University-trained dentist and World War II veteran, "a big bear of a man with a heart as big as the Empire State Building...who pulled himself up from his bootstraps and made a fabulous home and living for his family," remembers Roberto Rivera-Soto '74, Associate Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court and one of Steve's closest friends. In the early post-war days,

Blanchard and his bride, Beatrice, lived in Manhattan's Stuyvesant Village, where Blanchard would practice general dentistry and orthodontia until his death in 1983.

Shortly after their first child was born, the couple moved to the prosperous suburb of Great Neck, lured by the easy commute and outstanding public schools. Like most women of her day, Beatrice Emerson, a Columbia University graduate with a degree in social work, opted to stay home with her sons, Ronald (now a pediatric neurologist at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital) and Stephen, who was three years younger.

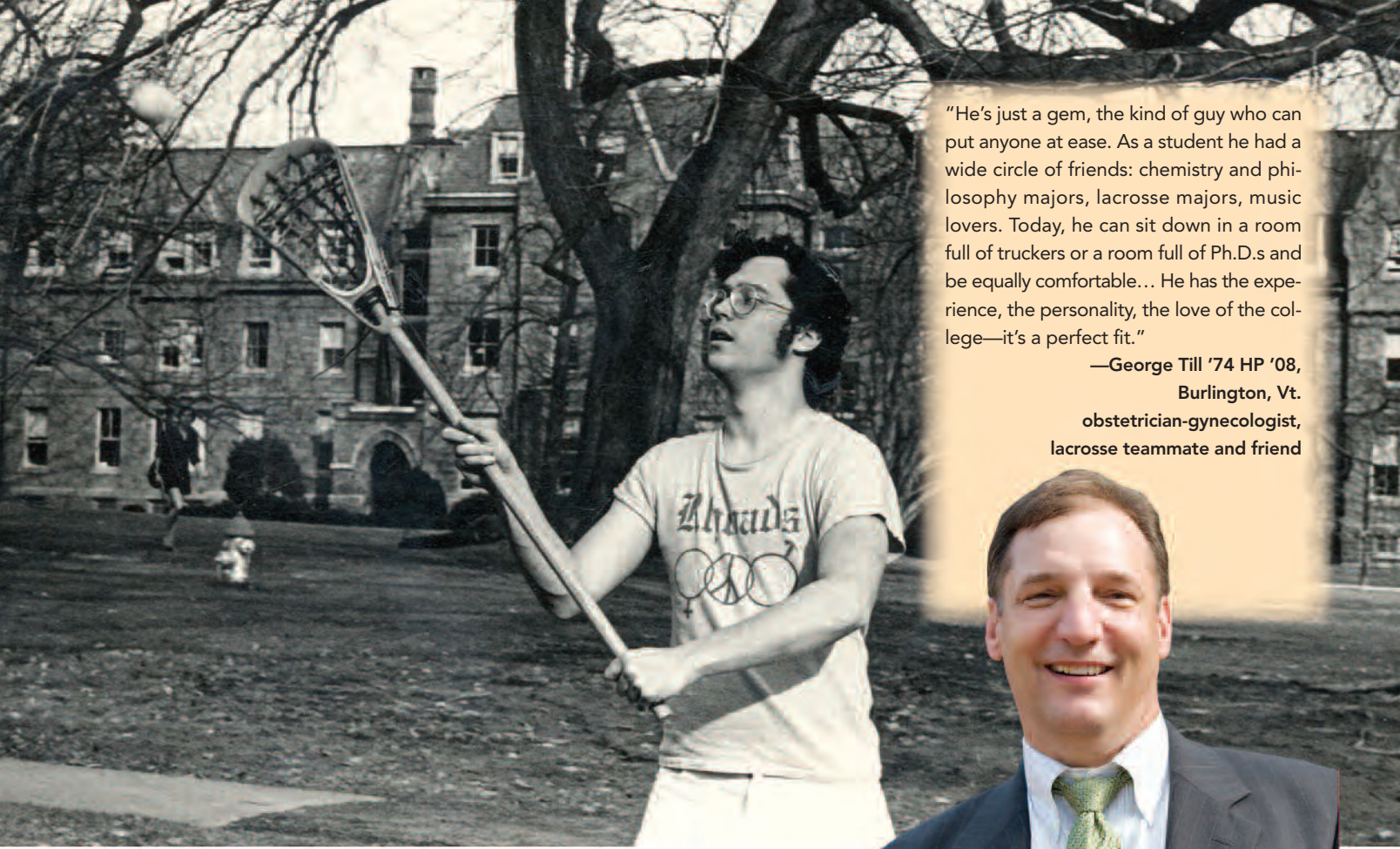
Despite the family's many gifts, there was neither arrogance nor a sense of entitlement in the Emerson household. "My dad didn't want us to be spoiled brats. He wanted us to get a good education, but he didn't like the idea of having my brother and I grow up in an affluent suburb. He'd say you two didn't earn this; this is an accident of birth. Your mother and I work hard."

Steve recalls a happy childhood, consumed by twin passions: sports and numbers. "I drove my mother nuts throwing balls around the house. I'd use the staircase in our split-level as my backboard for practicing... When I was around seven, I got caught up in the Mickey Mantle/Roger Maris homerun race and I was cemented as a sports fan. A few years later, Bill Bradley caught my imagination because he was the ultimate scholar-athlete, a Rhodes scholar from Princeton who also played for the

20 Q&A with Steve Emerson



- 1. Hero from history:** Winston Churchill
- 2. Movie(s) that moved you:** *Do the time around: Niccolo Rising* by Dorothy Dunnett
- 3. About the American educational system:** Mandarin and computer code offered
- 4. Guilty pleasure:** Sudoku
- 5. Most memorable sports moment:** Scoring a hole-in-one on the 17th hole at disease
- 6. TV show worth watching:** "House"
- 7. Excluding your current that the guidebooks and admissions office don't tell you:** IHOP is right around
- 8. Would it be and in what position?** See #11
- 9. Favorite vacation destination:** for all Haverfordians: Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy*
- 10. No one figure you most admire:** Al Gore
- 11. In heavy rotation on your I-pod/CD:** Indigo Girls tunes
- 12. Favorite source of news/information/commentary:** Jon



"He's just a gem, the kind of guy who can put anyone at ease. As a student he had a wide circle of friends: chemistry and philosophy majors, lacrosse majors, music lovers. Today, he can sit down in a room full of truckers or a room full of Ph.D.s and be equally comfortable... He has the experience, the personality, the love of the college—it's a perfect fit."

—George Till '74 HP '08,
Burlington, Vt.
obstetrician-gynecologist,
lacrosse teammate and friend



Knicks. I remember spending lot of time, for \$1.50 a ticket, in the blue deck of Madison Square Garden."

It was Steve's obsession with basketball that led to what he considers perhaps the most formative experience of his youth. "I played in local basketball leagues and I desperately wanted to play for Great Neck South High School's team. I worked incredibly hard in preparation for tryouts and thought I performed well.

But I was cut. I immediately went up to Coach Hess, who also happened to be my soccer coach (I was our starting left wing and leading scorer), and I said, 'Coach, what can I work on over the summer? What can I do so I make the team next year?' And he said, 'What you can do is give up. You are not, and will never be, a basketball player—you're too slow to be a guard and you're not tall enough to be a forward. It's not going to happen. You're

a great soccer player. I hear you're a great swimmer...go swim."

Steve never did join the swim team, but he never forgot Coach Hess' candor. "It was a really good lesson for me in terms of education. I learned that it was O.K. to be realistic and tell people the score about the world...because not everybody can dance, but everybody has things to give. It wasn't that he was telling me I was hopeless, it was just that my talents lay elsewhere."

Right Thing, Manhattan, Casablanca, Meatballs **3. Book that's a better read the second (super-fiendish)** **5. Best Haverford hideaway:** Rufus Jones' study **6. One thing you would change ubiquitously** **7. Song you're most likely to sing in the shower:** "Sometimes" by Jonathan Edwards **8. Favorite place to go to Pebble Beach, in the dark** **9. Chronic disease(s) most likely to be cured in your lifetime:** Peptic ulcer **10. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **11. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **12. Something about Haverford the corner and is open very late** **13. If you could play on any professional sports team, which one** Anywhere with my son Blake and/or my daughter Abby **14. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **15. Book that should be required reading should graduate from Haverford without...**taking courses at Bryn Mawr **16. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **17. Contemporary world changer:** Poco, *Deliverin'*; Neil Young, *Live at Massey Hall*; and my daughter Abby's mix of Stewart and Stephen Colbert **18. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **19. Favorite Haverford building and prior positions, your dream job:** Point guard for the NY Knicks **20. Your personal credo in ten words or less:** "Rest when you get there."



Emerson Era Begins

It was the early '70s; Haverford's social and academic exchange with Bryn Mawr was in full flower... "I spent a lot of time... talking with my best friends about what was important in life, about the Vietnam War, about where the world was going."

Among those copious talents, a precocious facility with numbers had emerged first. "I discovered math when I was five. I just loved numbers—they seemed to be the underlying fabric of the world. I knew the batting average of every player—before it was in books." While Steve calls himself "a math nerd," his mother remembers an unusually mature, athletic kid with plenty of friends, "who, if he had nothing else to do, could sit in a corner and read the encyclopedia and be happy." When a teacher, sensing his boredom with traditional literature in junior high, directed him to the science fiction shelf, his infatuation with mathematics spilled over into physics and chemistry. He put aside his beloved Marvel comic books in favor of Bradbury and Asimov, eventually clearing out the science fiction shelves in the Great Neck public libraries.

School had always been a breeze for Steve, his homework accomplished in no time. At one point in early high school, his mother became so concerned about his apparent lack of effort that she went to school to confront his teachers. "I asked them if he was doing O.K. because he never did any homework, and they said, 'Are you kidding? He's fantastic. He's the best we have!'"

A seminal experience came after 10th grade, when Steve was accepted into what he calls "one of those summer science nerd camps sponsored by the National Science

Foundation in the wake of Sputnik." He spent six weeks at San Diego State University immersed in intense, college-level abstract algebra, geometry and computer programming. "It was nirvana. I was living in a dorm full of 15-, 16- and 17-year-old boys and girls who all liked science. It was 1969 so we listened to Judy Collins, the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, the Beach Boys, and we did nerdy things—we learned to give each other backrubs, we played bridge, we went to the beach, we disobeyed all the rules, we just had a total ball."

When his charged-up son returned to Great Neck, it was obvious to Blanchard that Steve shouldn't be forced to spend any more time in high school than was necessary. "Sure you could stay here and take all these AP courses," his father had said, "but why would you want to do that when you could go to college and be taught by real professors?"

Steve was an easy sell. "The idea of going off to college was in no way daunting to me... I don't know how to say this without sounding wacko, but I felt as adult and mature at 15 as I did at five—I just read more stuff." Because he skipped senior year and never fulfilled graduation requirements, Steve never received a Great Neck South diploma. "I dropped out of high school in part because I had learned one of the important rules of life. You know how they say 'by permission of instructor'? If you want something, you ask."

While his guidance counselors suggested Harvard, MIT, Caltech or Yale, his father had other ideas. One of his patients, the dean of New York University's business school, had suggested to Blanchard that his gifted son might be best served by a small liberal arts school, and said he knew just the place. Had he, by any chance, heard of Haverford College?

Beatrice seconded the suggestion. "He was so young – just 15 – and applying to college. I didn't want him to get lost in

some big place. We wanted a place with a family feel."

Early that fall, Steve and his father embarked on "the small college tour as well as the usual Ivies tour." They were instantly smitten with Haverford. "I thought the undergraduate focus—the fact that the smartest professors would be teaching me as a freshman—was remarkable. And the curriculum in the areas I cared about at the time—math, physics and astronomy—was more advanced at Haverford than at any other place I'd visited. It looked like Caltech's, only better."

"For as long as I can remember, Steve has loved everything about Haverford. It would get to the point where I'd say, 'O.K. that's enough. I don't want to hear about Haverford's field hockey team any more'... Steve is incredibly energetic, has fantastic people skills, is a creative outside-the-box guy, and genuinely cares about education and people... He was clearly looking for a new challenge, but he wasn't going to walk away [from Penn] for the sake of doing something different. It had to be something special."

—Laurence Turka,
Penn colleague, 20-year friend





**Emerson on
Philosophy Professor
Richard Bernstein:
“I remember walking out
of that first class my
sophomore year and my
jaw hitting the floor. I
said, ‘Oh my God, what
just happened?’”**

That November, before he even sat for the college boards, Steve applied to Haverford, Amherst, Swarthmore, Williams and Yale (which he still believes “offers the best education in the Ivies”). The basketball coach who had rejected him wrote rapturous recommendations. He was accepted everywhere. (He did eventually take the SATs, but did not receive a perfect score: “I did fine.”)

While its stellar academics were his primary reason for choosing Haverford, the Vietnam War also played a part. “All the campuses were in turmoil that spring, but Haverford was the only place where students, faculty and staff were in dialogue... This was in sharp contrast to places like Harvard and Columbia where students were locking administrators in their offices... That spring, after the Cambodian invasion, when the College closed and the entire campus took buses down to Washington for teach-ins with their congressmen to try to find out what the hell was going on, well, that made an impression. It sounded like the right response to me.” Steve didn’t fully appreciate it at the time, but Haverford’s Quaker values of peaceful dialogue and honest confrontation were at the core of that momentous outing. All he knew was that he liked what he saw and heard about the small school outside Philadelphia. He informed his parents that he would enroll at Haverford in the fall.

Very little about Steve Emerson’s four years at Haverford College went according to plan. Stretched in every possible direction, Steve would come to play a wholly unfamiliar sport, discover a life-changing intellectual passion and embark

on a completely unexpected career path.

For once, school was challenging. “I loved it here, but it was really hard. My first three grades were D-minuses on French quizzes. My first grade in my best subject, chemistry, was a 60. I remember shooting baskets in the gym for five hours to calm down when I got that test back.”

Steve lived in Gummere Hall his first year, spent the next four semesters at Bryn Mawr’s Rhoads Hall (“for obvious social reasons”), then returned to campus senior year to share a Leeds Hall suite. It was the early ’70s; Haverford’s social and academic exchange with Bryn Mawr was in full

“I see a guy who’s not just a narrow scientist, not just an administrator. He’s someone who’s always questioning, thinking deeply and working at issues. It’s what his philosophy training has done for him.”

—Aryeh Kosman,
Retired Professor of Philosophy



flower and students on both campuses were passionately engaged in the issues of the day. “I spent a lot of time – hours over ping-pong tables at three in the morning – talking with my best friends about what was important in life, about the Vietnam War, about where the world was going.”

Steve recalls a pivotal conversation in the living room of a Bryn Mawr dorm. “We were sitting around and my suitemate’s girlfriend, Debby, asked, ‘Isn’t it true that philosophy is the queen of the sciences?’ I was shocked and only a little outraged as only a 17-year-old can be because I had known from the age of two that mathematics was the key to the universe. Problem was, I didn’t know what philosophy was! I remembered something about togas and Greece, but that was it.”

Debby’s challenge prompted Steve to enroll in Richard Bernstein’s Introduction to Philosophy class. “I remember walking out of that first class my sophomore year and my jaw hitting the floor. I said, ‘Oh my God, what just happened?’” He had been transfixed by Bernstein’s passion and eloquence and the fundamental questions he was posing about truth and knowledge. Steve vowed to spend as much time in philosophy as he could, pursuing the discipline with the same vigor with which he had devoured baseball stats, science fiction and astrophysics in years gone by. To this day, Steve enjoys books on philosophy, logic and math theory the way most people curl up with *Newsweek* or *The New Yorker*.

After those first wobbly weeks in the fall of 1970, Steve’s grades rebounded quickly. He began taking a heavier-than-average course load (“I just liked taking stuff”) and was eligible for graduation after just six semesters. “But why would I want to do that? I loved the place.”

Thirty-three years later, friends and former professors still marvel over Steve’s brilliant undergraduate career. Dr. Bernstein, who has taught for more than 53 years, 23 of them at Haverford, remembers Steve as “extraordinary” and puts him “in the top one percent of students I ever had.” Peter Bowers ’74 says, “I always felt in awe of him. While I had to work really hard to meet Haverford’s standards, it always seemed that Steve had time to talk and do fun things. His intellectual involvement



Emerson Era Begins

“Ariel Loewy is the reason I do what I do. He’s why I went into biomedical research.”

picked up a book and knew it. The rest of us had to read it 10 times.” Rivera-Soto adds, “Steve was always the smartest guy in the room. He would only study for two hours a week on Sunday afternoons—provided that Joe Namath wasn’t throwing the football.” Steve downplays his success. “I did well because I always did two things: I went to class and I paid attention.”

Debby wasn’t the only person to issue a weighty challenge to Steve that first spring. When Dr. Ariel Loewy, the acclaimed biology professor who had taught Steve’s freshman writing seminar, learned of his course selections for sophomore year, i.e. physics, math, philosophy and economics, he approached him

with a most provocative proposal. “Have you ever thought about biology?” he asked me. ‘You know, cells are much more interesting than stars and asteroids, because they’re alive. The science is just as cool, but you do it on living systems. Why don’t you come work in my lab this summer?’ So I stayed at Haverford to work in his lab, and I just loved it. I resolved to study the sciences I loved—physics, chemistry and math—with the intent of applying this research to problems that might matter for people. Ariel Loewy is the reason I do what I do. He’s why I went into biomedical research.”

For Steve, all of Haverford was a learning laboratory, with just as many experiments unfolding outside classrooms as in them. Bridge became a regular diversion; in his senior year, he co-captained Haverford’s team. And that first spring, he helped found the college’s first lacrosse team. “One day, my friends, who were football players, were out playing with these long

was so wide-ranging, he excelled in everything.” Longtime pal George Till ’74 has a similar recollection. “With Steve, the studying stopped early; there was always time for ping-pong or *Star Trek*.” Recalls Gary Gasper ’74: “He was one of those guys who

The Emerson Agenda (...in his words)

On academic enrichment...My first priority will be to get the FCAE (Faculty Committee on Academic Enrichment) plan detailed with both precision and sizzle. A proposal has been floated to expand academic offerings and increase the time for student-faculty research by hiring at least 27 new faculty members. The paradigm is: Once a student walks into Haverford, you treat them like a scholar or you get them there. Sit in on one of Israel Burshatin’s Spanish classes or Iruka Okeke’s biology classes and you’ll see great scholars being great teachers who involve students in their scholarship...We need to emphasize depth over breadth. I would like to see all of our departments ask themselves what are the single most important issues and concepts in their fields and how can we teach those and teach students to become creators of new knowledge...We have academic pockets here that are truly scintillating. But there are some areas where we need to put more effort. The arts (visual and performing) is one of the key areas where we’re not yet where we are in biology...An underappreciated competitive virtue of Haverford is that rail lines can get us to Philadelphia in 15 minutes. We should be doing more with leading cultural institutions, for example.

On the campus master plan...Architecture is very important for interaction: where we put buildings, how many people, who we put where and with what neighbor. A steering committee is being formed and we’ve hired Venturi, Scott Brown to be our architectural planning consultants. The campus mas-

ter plan will be built around the academic enrichment plan. Both proposals have to be truly outstanding so I can go to our donor base and foundations and say, “Look, this is what we’re doing, and it’s revolutionary. Please help us do it.”

On expanding the student body...On the one hand, I can see that if we were larger, it would be harder to build community. On the other hand, because we’re small (in some senses, we’re smaller now than when I was a student because we co-mingled so completely with Bryn Mawr), we miss things in terms of critical mass for the arts and diversity of views. I think, for the foreseeable future, we will not grow significantly. We need to build a financial resource base to achieve an Oxford-depth curriculum in every department and to build the social and intellectual space to support it...students cost much more than we charge in tuition.

On financial aid...A huge priority. Like our peer institutions, we put extraordinary burdens on families to come here, even though we are ‘need blind.’ Huge sacrifices are made, many of our parents have to stop saving for retirement to send their kids here. Our mission is to train kids to go out and save the world; we don’t want our students to have to make career choices based on financial determinants. If the college will let me and the world will let me, I’ll go out and raise a lot of money for financial aid—and for postgraduate fellowships so our kids can go out and choose careers that are service careers.

wooden sticks. I said, 'What's that?' They said, 'It's a game where it's legal to hit people with sticks.' For most of us, the first college game we played in was the first game we'd ever seen."

He played four years on the varsity squad and to this day holds the dubious Haverford record of having missed the most open shots on goal. "Steve was not a particularly gifted athlete," admits his coach, former Athletic Director Dana Swan, with whom he is still close, "but he played with great energy and ambition and was a terrific teammate." Indeed, his ardor for the sport continues today. He talks up the program with potential recruits, makes it his business to know every player on the current team roster, and never misses the annual Derby Day alumni game, which is capped off by mint juleps and barbecued steaks in Dana Swan's backyard.

Steve was elected to Phi Beta Kappa his junior year and graduated summa cum laude with dual degrees in philosophy and

"Steve was not a particularly gifted athlete," admits his coach, former Athletic Director Dana Swan, with whom he is still close, "but he played with great energy and ambition and was a terrific teammate."



On college rankings... I take them seriously for two reasons. One: They could be right—there might be some truth in what they're saying that I need to pay attention to—it's hubris to assume otherwise. Two: Kids are so influenced by them. I don't want students for whom Haverford might be the right fit not to come here because someone else has a higher number. We don't want to lose kids because someone is rated a few numbers ahead of us. [Editor's note: On Sept. 7, 2007, President Emerson and the presidents of 19 other highly selective liberal arts colleges signed a pledge to exclude mention of magazine rankings in their admissions literature and to provide data to guidebooks exclusively through their websites. Haverford was ranked 10th among liberal arts colleges in U.S. News' America's Best Colleges 2008.]

On Quaker influences... Its Quaker core—the search for truth and compassion and respect for others—is what makes Haverford different and special. You find truth here by being your best social self, by digging deep, working hard and serving others...

Haverford College is the academic institution most aligned with the Enlightenment. Jean Jacques Rousseau's notion that there is a core of truth and light in every individual was the same principle that guided George Fox when he founded Quakerism 100 years earlier...Quakerism plays so comfortably in a modern climate (and people send their kids to Friends schools) because it's fundamentally liberal (both universalistic and spiritual), and it's deeply academic.

On the Honor Code... It bestows three lifelong gifts. First, it teaches you to be honest with yourself. It liberates you from worrying about failure. You have to rely on yourself, knowing it's up to you to do your best job. Second, it's great leadership training. People may have divergent beliefs, but you can always find common ground and you build upon it. (It's the way I lead and I got it from Haverford.) Third, it teaches you to be respectfully confrontational when you need to be. If someone or some group is doing or saying something that you think is harmful to them or to the community, you let them know. You say, 'Look, this feels wrong.'

On admissions... We're always looking for a few good men and women here. In my case, Haverford was the happiest place, the most unpressured. People take joy in the search for truth here. It always makes me wistful when I meet people who didn't choose schools on that basis. They'd say, 'I went there because it was a good education and a good degree to have had.' (Certain Ivy League institutions who will remain nameless but whose first initials are H and P spring to mind)... Here's the message I want to get out to kids everywhere: 'If you want to come someplace where you use academics to make your life shine and speak and go out into the world and make a difference, then Haverford is the place for you.'

Emerson Era Begins

chemistry, winning the George Pierce Chemistry Prize. When he shopped graduate schools, his record at Haverford raised eyebrows. “When I was interviewed for the joint M.D./Ph.D. program at Harvard and M.I.T., they couldn’t quite believe my transcript. ‘How could you have taken this course on complex variables as a freshman?’ they asked. I said, ‘That’s the way we do it at Haverford.’” Still doubtful, they quizzed him on analytic functions and, to their amazement, he was able to offer four complete definitions.

Steve passed on Harvard for Yale, where he received master’s degrees in molecular biophysics and biochemistry in 1976, and in 1980, an M.D. and Ph.D. in cell biology and immunology. “The program was designed to train physician/scientists who would try to identify causes and cures of disease and apply [that knowledge] directly to their patients,” Steve explains. He did his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he met Amy Broaddus, a nurse who would become his wife (the

couple divorced amicably last year), and became a diehard Red Sox fan.

Steve launched his teaching career at Harvard Medical School and then spent eight years at the University of Michigan, where he began his groundbreaking research in stem cell biology. He founded Aastrom Biosciences, an Ann Arbor biotechnology firm that still holds the patent on one of Steve’s cancer breakthroughs—a technique that induces rare bone marrow stem cells to replicate in laboratories.

He moved to the University of Pennsylvania in 1994 where he held three titles: the Francis C. Wood Professor in Medicine, Pathology and Pediatrics, Chief of the Division of Hematology/Oncology at the Abramson Cancer Center, and Associate Director for Clinical Translational Research. “Steve was the ultimate triple threat,” explains Abramson Cancer Director Craig Thompson. “He had to run a department with 59 physicians and 25

trainees working under him; investigate, get and keep grants for his research; and care for patients...He transformed his division from a small, little-known department into one of the world’s leading programs for the care of patients with lymphoma and leukemia...His lab has made really important contributions to understanding transplantation biology, which have been applied to bone marrow as well as organ transplants.”

Named a “Top Doc” in hematology by *Philadelphia Magazine* in 2006, Steve has served on the leadership councils of distinguished medical societies and on the editorial boards of leading scientific journals in his field. And just last year, he was asked to take on a new challenge—coordinating the creation of an interdisciplinary Institute for Stem Cell Biology at Penn.

For Steve, every aspect of his work has been gratifying. “In my own short career, we have actually discovered things in our lab that have meant improved lives for

“I discovered math when I was five. I just loved numbers—they seemed to be the underlying fabric of the world. I knew the batting average of every player—before it was in books.”



Great Neck South High School Math Team, 1970

my patients.” Diane Meredith, his administrative assistant for 13 years, misses her former boss. “He was fun, so smart and efficient, but very human, too.” Meredith once questioned Steve’s practice of directing visitors to sit on a low leather sofa in his office while he chose a much higher chair. “Do you know how intimidating that is?” she’d asked. From that day forward, he always insisted that guests sit in his chair and he took the sofa. “That showed me he really cares about how people are feeling. He always wants them to be comfortable.” Many friends mention times when Steve would drop everything to call their sick relatives and friends—complete strangers to him—to hash out cancer treatment options.

At the top of his game, Steve was content to finish out his career at Penn. But one day last year, a phone call changed everything. A junior staffer from the executive search firm Isaacson, Miller was on the line. Steve remembers the conversation well. “She said, ‘Uh, this is sort of silly, but you’ve been nominated for the presidency of Haverford College. I know you’re not the typical candidate,

“The main thing students are beginning to understand about Steve is that he doesn’t want to just be a president who is a last resort for someone to talk to if they’re having a very serious problem. He actually wants to be the friend of students. That’s why he has open office hours on the porch on Fridays—he wants students to approach him and not see him tucked away in his office.”

—Becca Varon '10,
Students’ Council co-secretary



but would you consider it?’ I hesitated for just a second and said, ‘Sure, I’d consider it, because Haverford’s the greatest place there is for education. I think I’d love to be considered and I think I’d do a really good job.’ The caller continued, ‘But your skill set isn’t, uh, the usual.’ I said, ‘Well, I haven’t been dean or provost at a small college, but my career has been in academics and I currently run a faculty that is more than half the size of Haverford’s, I built it myself, I recruit and mentor faculty, fellows and trainees. I teach undergraduate and graduate students in laboratory settings. I do a lot of institution building and fundraising. So what I do here is different, but it’s not that different.’”

Steve learned shortly after he hung up the phone that he had his old pal Roberto Rivera-Soto to thank for his unexpected nomination. “I just thought he would be perfect for the job. He’s searingly brilliant and the nicest human being you will meet all in one package.” (The two met freshman year after Steve was head-butted in a pickup soccer game. Roberto wrapped Steve’s bloodied head in his new t-shirt and rushed him to the infirmary and the two have been fast friends ever since.)

Among the first people Steve told of his candidacy were associate professors Anita Isaacs (political science) and Alexander Kitroeff (history). As was his custom, Steve had stopped by their Old Railroad Avenue home—the two are married—for a glass of water and conversation after one of his Sunday morning campus runs. Since they met at a women’s soccer game some eight years prior, the three had talked almost exclusively about education. In earlier days, their discussions centered around their children’s school experiences (Natalie Kitroeff, now a freshman at Princeton, and Blake Emerson, a 2007 Williams graduate, both attended nearby Friends Central School; Abby Emerson, 16, attends the Shipley School in Bryn Mawr.) But in recent years, Steve had been asking more and more about Haverford. “It wasn’t just that he had this interest in the sports teams, which was fanatical,” recalls Isaacs, “but he would come and talk at length about the College; he wanted to

“It’s an extraordinary thing to be that accomplished and that unassuming. He’s the perfect embodiment of all that is Quaker even though he is not. He’s gentle and sweet-tempered; he’s always been so mature and, at the same time, boyish...Steve is exactly the right person to be at the head of a college that sees education as more than just credentialing kids so they can make millions of dollars...I feel I’m always a better person for having been with Steve.”

—Rick Steele '74, Seattle Pacific
University theology professor,
classmate



know about the challenges we faced, what the students were like, how can we get better? Then one day, he came in and said, ‘Roberto’s done something completely crazy, he’s put my name forward for the presidency.’ And I said, ‘Really. That’s never going to happen. You’re like Tom Tritton. There’s no way they’re going to hire another nice, white male scientist.’ But I thought to myself, ‘That’s too bad; he’d be great.’ And Steve said, ‘Yeah, it’s a crazy idea.’”

Shortly after Thomas Tritton announced his resignation in 2006, the college formed a 20-member Presidential Search Committee to be chaired by Howard Lutnick '83, a top Haverford benefactor and Board of Managers vice-chair. The committee sought nominations from far and wide, hiring Isaacson, Miller to assist with the screening process. Over the course of nine months, hundreds of dossiers were reviewed, dozens were seriously considered, three finalists were invited to interview with faculty and students on campus, and in February 2007, Stephen G. Emerson was recommended to the Board of Managers.

While each committee member’s voice was heard, the voices of the five faculty

Emerson Era Begins

“Steve has devoted his life to cutting edge research and will bring that enthusiasm to Haverford. His career is a testimony to what Haverford is all about...Those of us who know Haverford know that we have something special here, and, as we seek to attract a diverse and outstanding pool of applicants, it’s important to let the world in on that. Steve sees an opportunity for us to move to new levels of prominence...he understands that we need to reach out to families that aren’t ‘in the know’ about Haverford.”

—Garry Jenkins ’92,
Alumni Association president



participants were perhaps most resonant. Underpinning the search were the recommendations of the Faculty Committee on Academic Enrichment. The FCAE was championing a plan to promote faculty scholarship and student faculty collaborative research in exchange for reduced classroom time. “We asked each candidate what they thought of the plan and Steve, above the others, was capable of understanding how it could make Haverford even better, how it could make it the best research-imbued undergraduate education in the country,” enthuses Lutnick. “He was a leader with the intellectual gravitas who could challenge the faculty, who could inspire them, who could help them reach further... We had a junior faculty member on our committee, Iruka Okeke, who was so inspired by Steve that she recommended him even though she knew he would set the bar higher and make it harder for her to get tenure.”

“There was a sense among the faculty that a lot of attention had been given to building and space in recent years and

that it was time to turn our attention to the rigors of the academic program,” explains Provost Linda Bell, economics department chair and a member of the search committee. “We were united around the idea of finding someone with a national and even international presence as a scholar who would be a role model for academic achievement.” Steve Emerson, she says, stood out from the beginning. “When he came for his first interview, he had a very relaxed manner, he was very confident, he had a sense of the institution and he could define discrete goals, opportunities and challenges for the college.”

His wide-ranging intellect most impressed Professor of Religion Anne McGuire, a search committee member. “That he majored in philosophy as well as chemistry indicated to us that he was a thinking person sensitive to and attuned to the values of the humanities...Some people thought we were getting another scientist – and Steve is certainly an accomplished researcher, has a great publication record and is at the top of his field– but he also brings a deep appreciation for the humanities and the social sciences to Haverford.”

Lutnick was struck by Steve’s longstanding engagement in the life of the College. “He was coming to sporting events on campus on his own for years; he was questioning astronomy professor Bruce Partridge about why certain math requirements for physics classes had been relaxed. It impressed us that he was engaging Bruce in an intellectual debate two years before he was even a candidate.”

For Catherine Koshland ’72, Board of Managers chair and ex-officio chair of the search committee, Steve was the ultimate role model for students. “He embodied in himself a lot of the things we want our students to become, both in terms of their intellectual growth, their passion for whatever it is they care about (in his case, it was medicine and caring about people), and his value system, which is very resonant with the values of the institution.”

Geddes Munson ’07, one of two student members to serve on the committee, remembers how impressed he was by Steve’s management skills. “Not only was

Steve a stellar academic, but he had proven himself to be a stellar manager of academics. People would tell us he was the best boss they had ever had.”

Among those secretly rooting for Steve was Senior Executive Administrator Violet Brown, who was assisting the committee. She had known him as an active and generous alumnus for eight years. “This was a man who was totally committed to this institution. I told him to relax and be himself with the committee...I asked him how he’d react if he wasn’t chosen. He said, ‘If I don’t get the job, I hope the best person does.’ I knew he wouldn’t hold a grudge. He knows now he was the best choice.”

By all accounts, Steve has attacked his new job with his customary zeal and signature stamina. His term technically began on July 1, but in April, he began working out of a small office in the basement of Founders Hall. “He wasn’t even on the payroll and he was already traveling for us,” says Violet Brown. “It was incredible to me. He visited over 30 board

“Being a Haverfordian changes the playing surface for him. He can talk to alumni in a way that no one else can; he can connect to students and faculty because he’s someone who’s been here, who was trained by us and who considers the foundation of his intellectual scholarship to have been formed at Haverford...You can feel the energy at Haverford today; change is creating enthusiasm and excitement.”

—Howard Lutnick ’83,
Board of Managers vice chair,
search committee chair



members, alums, donors and parents; he was going all over the country to introduce himself and to learn the ropes. He never tired of it.”

When athletes arrived for the fall pre-season, their new president spent a day sweating alongside them. He logged two miles with the men’s soccer team, endured a fitness test with the women’s soccer team, and practiced with the volleyball team. (A soccer player, unaware of Steve’s position, only remembers his determination “to keep up with the old guy.”) Steve explains: “I know this sounds sappy, but I believe sports teach heroism, that individuals on their own can work and achieve so much. I wanted our student athletes to know how much I valued their sacrifice, their heroism.”

During Customs Week, “it was like he was a freshman again,” reports the week’s co-head, Natalie Wossene ’08. After the Primal Scream, when students emerged from their traditional dips in the Duck Pond, “Steve shook everyone’s hand, he even hugged someone. They were covered in this nasty stuff and he didn’t care. I think if students had asked, he would have jumped in with them.” For the pres-

“Of all the intellectual and brilliant people at Haverford, Steve was the most likeable and down-to-earth. He’s an open-minded intellectual with a heart and a soul. He listens without prejudice; he talks without insulting. And he never got full of himself. His selection is the best thing to happen to Haverford College in recent history.”

—Gary Gasper ’74,
Consultant/expert witness, classmate



“Rockin’ Fridays” for the rocking chairs he’s set out on Founders Hall porch.) “He talks to students on a level that connects with them,” reports Jeff Lichtstein ’08, a student representative on the inaugura-

ting out of the office,” says Kannerstein, who has worked under a handful of Haverford presidents. “Steve is a quick study. He’s hit the ground running.”

His first Board of Managers meeting, held just hours before his October inauguration, appears to have been a smashing success. “There was a lot of energy, creative excitement, the sense that we’re off and running,” reports Koshland, the board’s vice-chair. Lutnick says the meeting was “shockingly forward-looking. He assured us he could take care of today and tomorrow and is already focused on setting and achieving long-term goals, moving forward with the master plan and getting all the stakeholders on board.” Similar—and more dramatic—results were achieved at the December meeting where the Board approved a historic overhaul of the College’s financial aid policies.

On that sultry Saturday in early October, before the speeches were delivered and the champagne was poured, Jennifer Boal ’85, Secretary of the Corporation, opened the inauguration of Haverford’s 13th president with Sheenagh Pugh’s celebrated poem, “Sometimes.” For those in the crowd

For those in the crowd who had known their new leader for years, who understood his abiding passion for the college and his fierce yearning to make it even better, the poem’s eighth line rang especially true: “Some men become what they were born for.”

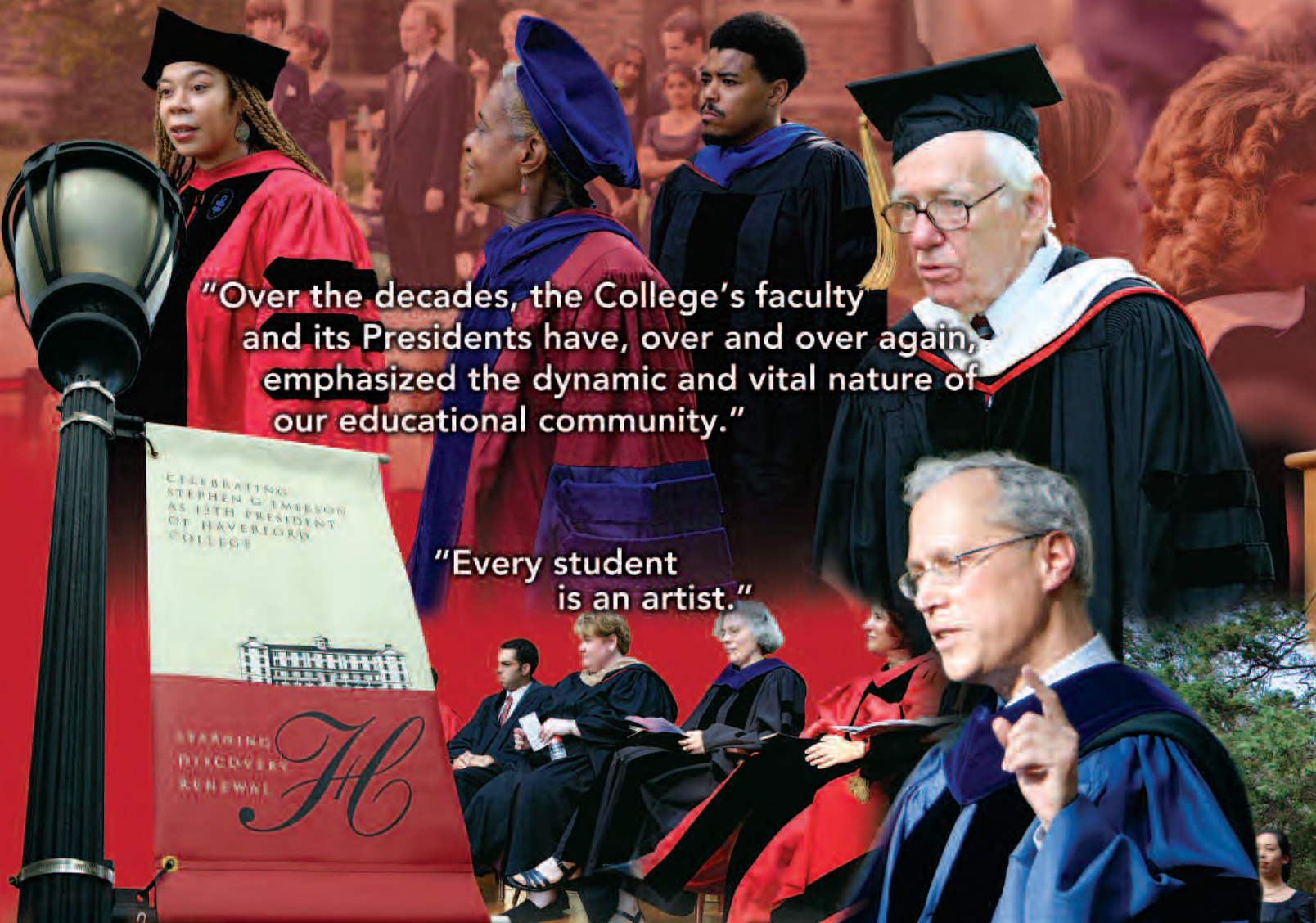
ident’s ceremonial opening of Dorm Olympics, “he was excited as a little boy,” recalls Violet Brown. “I got him a new wreath and torch and he insisted on running barefoot because he said ‘sneakers just don’t look right with a toga.’”

Since classes began in September, Steve says, “it’s been a 6 a.m. to midnight job, but it’s the best job in the world, the only job I would have left Penn for.” His day is a whirl of meetings, speeches, planning memos, e-mails and phone calls. And if a Haverford team is taking the field that afternoon, chances are the new president is somewhere on the sidelines. On Friday afternoons, he invites students to drop by his office to share their concerns. (They’ve unofficially been dubbed

tion committee. “Students are looking for more parity between departments, for a renewed commitment to the arts, for a new student center on a campus. We feel he is hearing our concerns.”

“Steve can walk across the campus and, because of his background, pick up on 15 different things,” says Dean of the College Greg Kannerstein ’63, who believes Steve’s dualistic academic background is a metaphor for his approach to the presidency: His philosophy training keeps him attuned to the big picture and the scientist in him looks for creative, efficient solutions to discrete issues. “Others have paid lip service to the idea of ‘management by walking around,’ but when they get here, they have a hard time get-

who had known their new leader for years, who understood his abiding passion for the college and his fierce yearning to make it even better, the poem’s eighth line rang especially true: “Some men become what they were born for.” Having made his mark on the wider world, in the end, Steve Emerson had returned to his own backyard to become what he had been born for. Haverford had summoned him home. 🐾



"Over the decades, the College's faculty and its Presidents have, over and over again, emphasized the dynamic and vital nature of our educational community."

"Every student is an artist."

CELEBRATING
STEPHEN G. EMERSON
AS 13TH PRESIDENT
OF HAVERFORD
COLLEGE

LEARNING
DISCOVERY
RENEWAL


HC

INAUGURATION

LEARNING · DISCOVERY · RENEWAL

In the words of Stephen G. Emerson

2007



"The life of a Haverford College student today is deeply challenging. We ask them, in every setting and in every way, to ask the deepest questions at the borders of their understanding, beyond their comfort zone. We ask them to be heroic."



"George Fox established the Quaker faith around the very principle that there is a shared spark of God in every man."

"Our students...are steeped in the most radical **LEARNING**, they take continuing joy in the adventures of **DISCOVERY**, through which they engage in and prepare for lives of **RENEWAL** for the world, and of themselves."

"...the real student seeks not only to understand the world's truths, but to care for the world of individuals who share these truths."





SUDAN: BEFORE DARFUR

The tragedy of Darfur, Sudan, is now well-known. Douglas Johnson '71 has devoted much of his life to understanding—and ending—another Sudanese conflict that was in the news so long it ceased to be news at all.

By Douglas Johnson '71

MALAKAL, SUDAN.

The Nile cut straight through the flat gray clay plain here, with little vegetation, aside from palm trees, on either side. A long strip of whitewashed single story brick houses, the roofs of corrugated zinc, ran parallel to the river. It was 1983 and the town, laid out in rectangular blocks by the British before the First World War, still had a colonial feel with its different quarters: the official residences close to the government offices, the merchant quarter near the market, the civilian quarter beyond that, and on the southern outskirts the old “native village.”

Arab merchants in ankle length white jallabiyas; civil servants from all over the country in shirts and trousers or safari suits; the resident Greek shop keepers, father and son (sometimes still sporting sun helmets); people from the surrounding countryside wearing an assortment of “Arab” and “Western” clothing in bright colours or patterned prints.

“Africa begins at Malakal,” the British used to say. But for me this May in Malakal would mark a different sort of beginning: the start of yet another Sudanese civil war. I would not return to this town for twenty-five years, at which time I’d wonder whether I was helping to end one war, or start yet another.

Sudan: Before Darfur

I had come to Malakal with my family on a records collecting trip as part of my job as Assistant Director for Archives in the Southern Regional Government in Juba. The peace agreement that had brought the first civil war to an end in 1972 had been under increasing strain as the central government in Khartoum edged closer to becoming an Islamic state and manoeuvred to take full control of the country's newly discovered oil deposits, most of which were in the non-Muslim Southern Sudan. Conflict had been escalating in many parts of the country. By the beginning of 1983 almost everyone in the Sudan expected a renewal of civil war—nearly everyone except the U.S. embassy, which backed Khartoum with military, economic and political support. It certainly became clear to me that war was coming when I met the town's last Greek merchant in the province headquarters paying up his business profits tax and preparing to leave. Greeks such as Paris had been in Malakal through every previous upheaval (both global and local), and if they were leaving, then something dire really was about to happen.

When a garrison of Southern Sudanese soldiers mutinied in the town of Bor, more than 200 miles to the south, Malakal became like a ghost town, with people keeping off the streets in anticipation of renewed civil war. We were temporarily stranded, and with nothing much to do but wait on events, I would take my children, then four and two, down to the Nile in the cool of the evening to stand on a bit of sandy shore and watch the hippos. The largest animal I had ever seen in the creeks of Missouri where I grew up was a snapping turtle, and my children knew nothing wilder than the swans who floated along the Cherwell near our home in Oxford, so the hippos were a rare treat for all of us. Less so for the locals who kept a wary eye on them as they paddled slowly past in their dugout canoes, hugging the shore.

But the real threat was not in the water, as we learned one day when suddenly two American-made jets of the Sudanese air force came whooshing low along the length of the river-port town, buzzing us and the citizens of Malakal

to let us all know that, whatever the rebels in the bush might say, the army was in control here.

War escalated quickly. Within two weeks the central government abrogated the 1972 peace agreement and abolished the Southern Regional Government (my employer). In September it introduced Islamic law by presidential decree. By this time a full-fledged guerrilla movement, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A), had formed in neighbouring Marxist Ethiopia and the Sudan's civil war became inextricably bound up in the Cold War. The war was to last for twenty-two years.

The Grass Curtain

African independence was a big news story when I was a teenager in the early '60s. The civil war in the Sudan was under-reported and I first became aware of it when reading a *Newsweek* article about massacres in 1965. I did not understand why Biafra attracted so much international attention while there seemed to be a conspiracy of silence about the Sudan. It was sometimes called the "forgotten war," and Southern Sudanese complained that it was being hidden behind a "Grass Curtain." This was probably the motivation that led me to investigate it further, and at Haverford I was able to do so, spending part of my junior year at Makerere University College in Uganda, where some of my fellow students were Sudanese refugees and I met various exiled political leaders.

The role of historians in war is usually to chronicle events, to search for and explain causes. It is rare that they have a chance to contribute to the search for and construction of peace. My research up to 1983 followed pretty much a normal pattern of academic work, publishing articles out of my thesis. After 1983 it became increasingly involved in issues of war and peace.

Yet in the way of war and peace in this part of the world, my earlier work later turned out to be relevant to the United Nations relief effort in the war zones, called Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS), and for seven years I worked on and off with various relief agencies.

Jim Beam and Minefields

It was in 1991, in one of the last spasms of the Cold War, when the Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia suddenly returned en masse after the fall of the Marxist regime. I was part of an *ad hoc*, and completely inadequate, air drop operation trying to feed some 100,000 returnees around the town of Nasir, on the river Sobat. I was assigned the task of "drop zone co-ordinator" as, with my mid-western background, I was the only one of an international crew who could understand and communicate in the "good ole boy" language spoken by the American pilots of



Above: Johnson as "drop zone coordinator" in Nasir, 1991.

Opposite page, top: In 1981, an archivist at work in Southern Sudan.

Opposite page, bottom: Destruction and reconstruction in Ayod after the Sudanese army burned it, 1990.

the Southern Air Transport C-130 (former proprietor CIA).

Each morning as the sun rose I would be on the two-way radio with the air base some 350 miles away in Kenya to give a weather report before the plane took off. I then spoke to the crew by radio as the plane neared the cleared "drop zone." With its rear doors open the C-130 would tip its nose up and slide its load of sorghum

sacks strapped to wooden pallets. The pallets and sacks invariably separated before they landed in a quick succession of sharp thumps. I then joined the rest of our team on the field to sew up burst sacks with a needle and twine before they were carried off and stored away. So much sorghum got



For reasons that were never clear to us they declined all offers from the ground to tell them when they were dead on target. I met them later back in the Kenya base: all ex-U.S. Air Force, mostly overweight, preferring Jim Beam to Johnnie Walker, and bothered by the (small) number of “skeeters” in Kenya (which were nothing compared to the vicious swarm of mosquitoes we had to combat each evening in Nasir). As it turned out the airdrop was mainly cosmetic, since the U.N. could deliver only as much food as Khartoum allowed. Keeping Nasir on short rations was one way of putting pressure on the local SPLA commanders to split from the main group. This they did, launching a civil war within the civil

think. Ultimately, this relief effort was always compromised by political pressure and never achieved the neutrality or impartiality it claimed.

And so when the opportunity came in the mid-1990s for me to join a small academic publishing firm dedicated to releasing books on Africa, I thought this was a better way of applying my academic skills. I had just been part of the first review of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and I became convinced that OLS could not succeed as a “neutral” relief effort, either in bringing relief or in hastening peace. I was disappointed (though not very surprised) to find that the detailed area reports I had produced in 1990 had been completely lost in the system by 1996. No one knew about them, or had built upon them, because they did not know they existed. This underlined for me the futility of my own efforts. At least as an academic publisher I could ensure that other research on Africa was disseminated more widely and was less likely to be lost or ignored.



The Call of Peace, The Challenge of Solution

But if I had left the war behind, peace again called me back. Negotiations were restarted in 2002 as part of a post-9/11 American initiative and my wife (an Oxford don and former lecturer at the University of Khartoum) and I were asked by the British government to act as “resource persons.” I was pleased that someone involved in the negotiations was willing to listen to what I had to say. I did not have any great illusions about the U.S. peace plan, which I thought was fundamentally flawed in that it assumed that this was a North–South, Arab–African, Muslim–Christian war, even though the fighting had long moved beyond the Southern Sudan, and the SPLA included Muslim soldiers from the North fighting the Islamist government in Khartoum. A broad framework for a peace agreement covering the Southern Sudan had been worked out in the first protocol negotiated in July 2002, but this did not cover three important areas where fighting was going on: the southern Blue Nile (along the Ethiopian border), the Nuba Mountains (made famous by Leni Riefenstahl), and the Abyei area, an “African” enclave in an “Arab” province.

spilled on the field that it began to ferment after the rain and the drop zone smelled like a brewery.

The drop zone was between the river and a mine field, and the pilots of Southern Air often dumped the loads too short (in the river) or too long (in the mine field).

war, which delayed peace for many years.

Relief organizations tend to reinvent the wheel wherever they go, and OLS started with almost no background information on the areas in which it operated. You don’t need deep historical knowledge to respond to an emergency, they seemed to

Sudan: Before Darfur

Cattle Above, Oil Below, Conflict Between

The Dinka of Abyei and their Baggara Arab neighbours are both cattle-keepers, and parts of the area are used seasonally by both peoples. The issue was deadlocked around the definition of Dinka territory, and while this was presented by the government as only a tribal conflict between neighbouring peoples (much as they have since described Darfur), with each side claiming parts of the territory, the hidden issue was the oil fields discovered in the 1970s. While the SPLM wanted to define the area so that it included all the territory where the Dinka lived and grazed their cattle, Khartoum wanted to define the area so that it excluded all the oil fields.

My own role during the negotiations was marginal, providing documentation for some of the claims. At one point the Foreign Office asked if I could tell them what the boundaries of Abyei were. I couldn't, so I suggested that perhaps the best way to work around this obstacle in the negotiations was to defer the question of the boundaries to a commission, which was ultimately composed of both parties to the conflict and five international experts, including myself, a retired U.S. diplomat, and three African academics.

After months of research, we experts returned to Khartoum to present our report to the members of the newly formed presidency in the Presidential Palace overlooking the Blue Nile. The Palace was a white-washed colonial structure built in the "oriental" style on the site of the old palace. Even though the Sudan has been an independent republic for fifty years, the palace still displays the trophies of the old imperial powers: 19th century artillery flanking the entrance, a pair of ivory tusks forming an arch in one of the corridors.

We were placed in one of the many audience rooms on the second story, the five international experts in one row of chairs facing the ten Sudanese members of the commission in another row along the opposite wall. President Bashir, a short, thickset man with a broad moustache, wearing a safari suit rather than his usual jallabiya or uniform, entered, followed by John Garang, the leader of the SPLM/A and newly sworn in as first vice president,

tall and fully bearded, wearing a patterned African shirt. They shook hands all around and took their seats at the head of the room. Even though Bashir claims to be an Arab, his complexion is darker than most African-Americans, though lighter than Garang's, a Dinka, who are among the darkest people in Africa. "Race" in the Sudan has always been more a state of mind than a matter of skin tone.

The presentation of our report to the presidency was received in silence. Taking turns, we read out sections of our conclusion. President Bashir's frown deepened as we listed our reasons for dismissing each of the government's contentions. Taking a quick look at the map we then presented he said a brief "thank you" and left. Garang was more satisfied with our findings, but gave no indication of his feelings (even yawning during our presentation), but his parting handshake seemed firmer than when he entered. "I don't think we're going to be invited to stay for lunch," I commented to my fellow experts, and indeed, we were not. Bashir's reaction did not bode well for the future of the peace agreement. Though the terms stipulated in advance that the decision of the international experts was

"final and binding" and the presidency was obliged to implement our findings "with immediate effect," three weeks later John Garang died in a helicopter crash and Bashir has since rejected our report. The Abyei Protocol remains unfinished business in the implementation of the peace agreement.

Another Border; Another Conflict?

There is still no demarcation of the North-South boundary, on which the new census, the elections of 2009, and the 2011 referendum, in which the Southern Sudan is to choose whether or not to opt for independence, depend. This line is supposed to follow the provincial boundaries as they were on January 1, 1956, Sudan's independ-





Opposite page, top: Ambassador Petterson and Douglas Johnson take testimony with the Abeyi Boundaries Commission in the field, 2005.

Opposite page, bottom: Baggara Arabs trucked in to demonstrate against the Abeyi Boundaries Commission in 2005.

Top: Returned entrepreneur Tito from Ottawa (on left) in front of his shop, Aweil, 2007.

Bottom: Johnson in 2007, still an archivist at work, still in Southern Sudan.

ence day, and is to be determined by a technical committee drawn from the central and southern governments and the governments of the border states. But the work of the committee continues to be delayed, and the government of the Southern Sudan asked me to return to Juba to assist them in their research on the boundary. Leaving the publishing firm in Oxford, which is my day job, to fend for itself, I returned to Juba this year to take up my own unfinished business of reconstructing the regional archives, now in a state of utter chaos, and travelling around the capitals of the border states to recover any old local government records which might indicate where that border ran.

My life in Sudan sometimes seems to revolve around sifting through termite-eaten files and rescuing scraps of paper. In every government office we visited the story was the same: The pre-independence administrative documents, which had been preserved up to 1983, were now lost or destroyed. I was surprised at how angry I felt when surveying the wreckage of the old filing systems. I had experienced the same surge of anger when coming into a village during the war and finding that a government militia had not only burned down the houses, which can be replaced quickly, but had chopped down and burned the mango trees, which can't. I've tried to analyze this anger: Is it merely displacement, transferring onto material objects an anger which is really about human suffering? Or is it that, in a country which had so little on which to build to begin with, the destruction of things which have survived beyond a normal life-span, whether trees or records of the past, will make reconstruction and survival all the more difficult?

Return to Malakal

Much of the road was newly paved, and the trip from Khartoum took a total of twelve hours to cover a journey which used to take me at least two and a half days. I noticed electricity pylons carrying power lines to and from the oil fields we passed, but they didn't stretch as far as Malakal, where the public power supply is irregular and people rely on private generators.

Malakal had suffered much during the war when it was under the control of the

Sudan: Before Darfur

state security agencies and government militias. Besieged by the SPLA it was often short of food and medicines. People of suspect loyalty used to disappear, especially in the retaliation that followed the one time the SPLA overran half of the town. The militias had been a law unto themselves and civilians were often fair game. Manipulating tribal rivalries, the government had set a Nuer militia against the Shilluk of the surrounding area and town. Only a couple of months before my return there had been a shoot out in town between one of the remaining militias and the SPLA, and once again the whole town had briefly become a battle zone.

Malakal was busier than twenty-five years ago. There were more people on the street at night, more cars, even new three-wheeled motorized rickshaws which had recently been introduced in Khartoum. More women were now wearing the “tobe,” the long cloth wrapped around the body almost sari-like and covering the head worn by Muslim women in the north. The Greek store where I used to buy retsina was now the branch of an Islamic bank. But Islamic law did not extend as far as the river port, where cases of empty Kenyan and Ugandan beer bottles were stacked up, waiting to be shipped back to Juba and exchanged for full ones.

Despite some new building in concentrated areas, Malakal was decidedly dilapidated. It had only two paved streets when I left, and it has only two paved streets now, both still pot holed and ending abruptly. Many of the brick pillars supporting the “portales” shading the shop fronts are crumbling away. Only two walls of the old open air cinema are left standing. It was clear Sudan’s oil money is not being spent in Malakal. To see how the Sudan’s oil money is being invested, you have to go to Khartoum.

I cautiously asked after old friends. I found one, James, now retired. An avid pipe smoker, he recalled that after I left the Sudan twenty-five years ago I had sent him a new pipe (I am always relieved to be reminded of good deeds I have forgotten). He then asked after my wife. But then a great chasm of time opened between us, which we found difficult to cross. I could scarcely imagine what he and his relatives

had experienced. He only alluded to what he had been through. “That is a now a big memory,” he remarked after a pause, and I could not bear to ask him more.

Philip was another old friend I tracked down. A veteran guerrilla of the first civil war, he was active in the Presbyterian church and had a deep interest in the religious practices of his own people. We had travelled extensively together, interviewing the elders of the region about floods and prophets before the war broke out. I had had no direct contact with him since.



We found him in his house near the church. We sat on metal chairs in his wire screen enclosed veranda and waited for one of his sons to guide him out. “Is that Douglas?” he called. “Philip, is that you?” I replied, and we hugged. “It’s good to see you,” I said. “Your voice is still the same,” he replied, adding, “I’ve gone blind.”

We exchanged news about family. He once had eleven children: Four have died, and seven remain. I asked if he had grandchildren. “The ones who would have given me grandchildren have died.” I remembered his daughter, who was about my daughter’s age, running to

hug her father, wrapping her arms around his neck as he picked her up, when we came back from a journey together, just as my daughter hugged me when I came back from the Sudan after long absences. Gone.

“Thank you,” he said, “for contributing so much to the peace of the South.” I said that I thought my contribution had not brought much peace yet. “But we used to hear you on the BBC, talking about the Sudan.” At least from time to time those who were left behind to suffer during this long war

Above: Probably not his sentiments, Rumbek, 2006. Western cast-offs are still one of the main sources of clothing in Southern Sudan.

Right: Map of the Sudan (from Wendy James, *War and Survival in Sudan’s Frontierlands: Voices from the Blue Nile*, Oxford University Press, 2007)

would know they were not completely forgotten. Small comfort, but comfort just the same.

A Look Back, A Look Ahead

I have visited Sudan nearly a dozen times since the war ended. There are definite signs of revival in the rural areas and some of the towns now that the fighting is over. In Aweil I met Tito, a returnee from Ottawa who had set up a rental shop in the market and ran a fax machine from his tin shed. But there are other signs that real peace has not yet returned. There were “sleepers” in the Aweil market, I was assured: former government soldiers who were now there as traders but who kept their guns hidden and were waiting for the signal to resume fighting

People often ask me when I come home: What have I been doing in Sudan? I sometimes reply that I think I am starting another war. The drawing of a new boundary often means creating the front line of the next war (as France and Germany know to their cost, and now so do India and Pakistan, and Eritrea and Ethiopia). The areas I have been asked to work on are extremely sensitive, where an agreement is possible only if there is good faith and good will, and where no amount of historical research establishing “the truth” can overcome the lack of good faith. As such I have

become acutely aware of how precarious the peace in Sudan is, despite the very real benefits it has begun to bring to people’s lives. The current international focus on Darfur has obscured the fact that peace has yet to be fully implemented in the Southern Sudan, and that no peace is possible in Darfur, or any other part of the country, if the 2005 peace agreement fails.

Haverford in the late 1960s was affected by deep moral concerns about domestic and international issues. Many of us were influenced by its Quaker values, and in particular the importance of bearing personal witness. I have found that I could not turn my back on people I know and among whom I have lived—not when their villages have been burned, their land stolen or destroyed, and their lives held so cheaply. I determined that I would do my bit to make sure that the Sudan’s second civil war—much longer, more intense, and more destructive than its first—should not be “forgotten” behind another veil of silence.

I had hoped, when that first war ended, that my academic career would be devoted to an ever more detailed reconstruction of the Southern Sudan’s nineteenth- and early twentieth-century history. Instead, I have found myself involved in a reconstruction of a different sort, a reconstruction where echoes of the violence of previous centuries continue to reverberate in the present. 🐾

*Douglas H. Johnson lives with his wife in Oxford, England, where he is the managing director of James Currey Publishers. He is the author of *Nuer Prophets* (1994) and *The Root Causes of Sudan’s Civil Wars* (2003).*



Haverford College is Seeking Nominations for Alumni Awards

These are Haverford's most prestigious awards and we need your help with generating nominations.

Please read the descriptions below and see if they bring to mind any Haverford alumni. Remember that these awards will be presented during Reunion Weekend (May 31, 2008) so it's a great time to honor someone who is celebrating a reunion year!

For Service to Humanity

Haverford Award: The Haverford Award supports and demonstrates the College's expressed concern for the application of knowledge to socially useful ends. It seeks to identify, reward and focus public attention on those alumni/ae who best reflect Haverford's concern with the uses to which they put their knowledge, humanity, initiative, and individuality. Neither age nor service to the College is a consideration in granting the award.

Forman Award: The Lawrence Forman Award goes to a superior Haverford athlete who, throughout his or her career or volunteer time, has devoted a significant portion of his or her energy to the betterment of society. The award honors Lawrence Forman '60, one of the outstanding athletes in the history of Haverford College. After graduation, Larry committed his life both to the betterment of humankind and to international understanding.

For Sustained Service to the College

Alumni/ae Award: The Alumni/ae Award, the most distinguished award given by the Association for alumni/ae activities, honors an individual who, in a variety of ways, provides or has provided sustained service to Haverford. It recognizes especially loyal and active support of the work of the College.

Metro Philly Regional Event Volunteers Wanted: Alumni who are willing to take a leadership role to plan and run event(s) with Philly Haverford Alumni Network (P.H.A.N.) are needed. Must be willing to commit two years to the planning group of 10-15 people: expectations would be that volunteers will attend two planning meetings per year, an optional social gathering, lead a sub-group to plan at least one event per year, and help another leader of a sub-group plan one other event. We have a volunteer recruitment meeting planned for Mar. 2008 to be held on campus where you can learn more, and then if you want to join attend our spring planning meeting about 10 days later. For more info: See the Facebook group "PHAN" or call Bruce E. Segal '83 for more information. 610-667-8188 BESegal@Alum.Haverford.edu

Metro Philly Space Wanted: for an alumnus who would like to host a group of 12 to 40 for a spring or summer potluck dinner or wine tasting event. For more info: See the Facebook group "PHAN" or call Bruce E. Segal '83 for more information. 610-667-8188 BESegal@alum.haverford.edu

Career Development Volunteer in Seattle: The Seattle Alumni Chapter is seeking a dynamic volunteer to serve as our Career Representative in the NW. Are you a walking rolodex? Do you enjoy sharing your career choices and connecting Haverford graduates with job opportunities? This is the role

Submit your nominations today via the College's website: www.haverford.edu/alumnirelations/awards.

The awards committee urges you to provide as much background information as possible (including personal stories, newspaper articles, concurrence from other alumni, or other information) in support of your nomination.

Haverford College Young Alumni Award

Established in 2007, this award is designed to recognize established and future leaders among Haverford College's young alumni, defined as those who have been an alumnus for 10 years or less. Nominees will have shown great promise and accomplishment in their chosen profession and/or community, public or humanitarian service, demonstrated leadership capability and substantial commitment to the mission of the College.

Haverford College Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award

Established in 2007, this award is designed to recognize individuals who have achieved personal success, made outstanding contributions to their chosen fields of endeavor, achieved recognition by their colleagues, and brought honor to themselves and to Haverford College through their distinguished achievements.

Not sure whether your nominee qualifies for nomination?

Call the Alumni Office at (610) 896-1004 (or email alumni@haverford.edu). DEADLINE for Alumni Award nominations is March 28, 2008.

HELP
WANTED

for you! This position works directly with the Seattle Regional Coordinator to design networking events, host career discussion forums, and field inquiries from local Haverfordians. Be an opportunity maker! Please contact Anita Verna Crofts '92 at avcrofts@u.washington.edu if interested.

New York Alumni Association Needs Space: The New York Haverford Alumni Association is in need of alums who can provide space for events such as the Freshman Welcome Party, faculty and alumni presentations, career development and admissions events, and a variety of other events that take place throughout the year. Please contact regional coordinator Gabriella Sarnoff '95 at gsnyc293@yahoo.com if you can help!

San Francisco Career Development Representative Wanted: The S.F./Bay Area alumni chapter seeks a career development liaison. Graduates from any years welcome. Work with the College's Career Development staff to connect alumni and/or students in San Francisco. Plan one or two events a year. Contact Amy Feifer, Senior Managing Director for Career Development at afeifer@haverford.edu or 610-896-1181.

**Alumni Association
Executive Committee**



President

Garry W. Jenkins '92

Vice President

Bradley J. Mayer '92

**Members and
Liaison Responsibilities**

- Sarah G. Ketchum Baker '91
- Lisa S. Berenson '01
- John R. Botti '92
- Anita V. Crofts '92
- Kyle W. Danish '89
- Emily D. Davis '99
- Robert Eisinger '87, ex officio
- Jamie Ersbak '01
- David Fogelson '73
- Robert Kautz '80
- Scott Kimmich '51
- Jonathan LeBreton '79
- Douglas Mason '81
- Ghebre Mehreteab '72
- Erik D. Muther '94
- Theo Posselt '94
- Alex Robinson '96
- Benjamin Rose '80
- Burton R. Saidel '53
- Gabriella Sarnoff '95
- Bruce Segal '83

**Student
Representatives**

- Jeff Bumgardner '09
- Susannah C. Henschel '08

If you would like to nominate an alumnus/a for the Alumni Association Executive Committee, please contact the Alumni Office at (610) 896-1004.

Dear Fellow Alumni

As I meet our fellow graduates, whether it be on campus for alumni events or in my professional travels, I often hear alumni say that they want to do something to help the College, but they aren't sure how. There are actually lots of easy ways, some requiring only minimal time and effort, but all sure to have a meaningful impact. What follows are ten ways (in no particular order) that alumni can help Haverford:

1. **Assist in Career Efforts.** Mentor current students by participating in Career Development Office (CDO) programs. Hire Haverford students for summers and graduates for permanent positions. Talk to your hiring manager about recruiting on-campus students. Send job postings to the Network News for distribution to the entire alumni network.
2. **Bring in the Best and Brightest Students.** Support the Admissions Office by serving as an alumni interviewer. Send them the names and addresses of prospective students. Be sure that any secondary school you may be connected to is well informed about Haverford.
3. **Recognize Outstanding Haverfordians.** Nominate alumni who deserve the honor and recognition from the Alumni Association awards.
4. **Build Alumni Communities Off-Campus.** We realize that it's not always easy to get back to campus, but Haverford communities exist all over the world. Help organize alumni events in your area. There are plenty of opportunities to help and virtually every region could use more hands and ideas. Contact the Alumni Office to get connected with the right folks or find out how to get started. Even if you don't have time to be an organizer, be sure to at least attend regional events in your home communities.
5. **Contribute to the Annual Fund.** It's no secret that higher education (especially at a top flight residential liberal arts college) is a costly enterprise. Accordingly, every gift, regardless of size, helps. While our participation levels would be the envy of many, our 2006 alumni giving percentage was behind Amherst, Bowdoin, Carleton, Davidson, Middlebury, Swarthmore, Wellesley, and Williams Colleges. Really, no gift is too small!
6. **Identify Future Leaders for the Alumni Association Executive Committee (AAEC).** Nominate active alumni volunteers to serve on the AAEC, the governing body of the Alumni Association that meets three times a year on the College campus.
7. **Promote Your Alma Mater.** Simply, speak positively about Haverford to friends and colleagues whenever you have the opportunity. Be sure any published biography mentions your undergraduate education.
8. **Return to Campus for Reunions.** Attend your reunions to reconnect with old classmates and make new friendships. Join reunion planning committees. Serve as a class agent encouraging participation in the reunion and the annual class gift.
9. **Stay in Touch.** Keep your contact information (address, employment, name changes, or e-mail) current on my.haverford.edu or by calling the Alumni Office.
10. **Use the Alumni Magazine and the College's Website to Stay Connected.** Send in information for the magazine's class notes section. Check out the new "Help Wanted" feature in this magazine to learn about specific alumni volunteer opportunities/needs. In particular, the College's newly updated website provides lots of portals and opportunities to showcase, interact, and maintain ties, with more improvements on the way.

Here's the bottom line: Active alumni help enhance the College's reputation and strengthen the enduring Haverford community. To the thousands who are involved, thank you, and I hope others will find ways to get involved as you can.

Very truly yours,

Garry W. Jenkins '92
gjenkins@alum.haverford.edu

During fiscal year 2006-2007, which ended on June 30, 2007, there were 609 individuals who made their first gift to the unrestricted Haverford Fund. We are pleased to thank these donors whose gifts totaled more than \$140,000 for the College.

We sincerely appreciate your generosity!



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roads taken and not taken

Christina Freeman '05

When I began my college search seven years ago I was an up-and-coming journalist, looking exclusively for schools with Peace and Justice Studies programs. Only four schools fit my application standards: Tufts University, Guilford College, Goucher College, and Haverford. I was accepted to all schools, except Tufts, my top choice. According to Tufts my application never arrived. Apparently my high school guidance counselor lost it underneath the stack of University of Delaware applications—how dare I try to leave the state! Tufts broke the news to me in a rejection *e-mail*, which felt like an added slap in the face, as if to say I wasn't even worth the piece of paper needed for the rejection *letter*. According to the statistics it is much harder to get into Haverford than Tufts, so I was taken by surprise when I opened Haverford's thick, beautiful, recycled paper acceptance envelope.

Despite my initial determination to enlighten myself—and in turn the world—via Haverford's Peace and Conflict Studies program and the *Bi-Co News*, I soon found the "critical thinking" I had hoped to apply to the outside world being turned inwards. I questioned my own motivations and the sustainability of a life rooted in trying to convert others to my own way of thinking. (That and my freshmen writing teacher's criticism made me cry in front of the other students, each tear dissolving my hope of a future at *The New York Times*.)

Eventually I picked myself up and found solace in my three new favorite scents: developer, stop bath, and fixer. These sacred photographic perfumes would linger on my clothes as I returned to my dorm, serving as reminders of the aesthetic battles won and lost each evening in the darkroom. And while I never stopped caring about social change I found a way to feed my spirit, creating an internal joy that could then be passed on to others.



Through a year-long-project sponsored by the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, I was able to share my love of photography with the youth of the Norris Square Neighborhood Project in North Philadelphia. Their finished work was then displayed both in Norris Square and at Haverford, ultimately connecting the two communities and celebrating youth expression through photography.

Maybe I should thank the guidance counselor who lost my application and the English professor who made me cry, because I am now living the fulfilling—yet challenging—life of a fine art photographer in New York. 🦊

Christina Freeman is a freelance photographer in New York City.

Richard Hirn '76

Many members of my class became either lawyers or journalists. I think this had a lot to do with being at Haverford during the Watergate years of 1973-74, when lawyers and journalists seemed to have saved the Republic. We were all interested in the unfolding story of Watergate. In fact, the College closed for a day and 500 of us traveled to Washington to lobby for impeachment.

I chaired the Collection Committee during those years, and we even brought maverick Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas to speak at Collection. I was fortunate to have lunch with him—a heady experience for an aspiring law student. Ralph Nader also came to visit; he was then known for being a crusading public interest lawyer rather than a political candidate. Harris Wofford, President Kennedy's Civil Rights Counsel, was president of Bryn Mawr at the time. I took his class on "Law and Civil Disobedience." He even helped me with a paper on civil rights in the Kennedy administration for Sid Waldman's class on the presidency. There were many opportunities at Haverford that provided real insight about how the law could be used for social change.

I went to American University Law School. Classes at AU Law were relatively small and students were collaborative rather than competitive. The faculty were approachable and willing mentors—much like Haverford.

After working for the National Labor Relations Board and a small law firm, I started my own practice just two years out of law school. Since then, I have been representing labor unions and their members at the bargaining table, in arbitration, and in federal courts throughout the country and even overseas. I had the opportunity to litigate the first case of Hawaiian national origin discrimination and also successfully represented employees of the Panama Canal Commission who continued to be paid at lower Panamanian wage rates even after becoming naturalized American citizens.

Among my current clients is the Indian Educators Federation, the union which represents teachers on Indian reservations

and other employees of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This spring, I won reinstatement for 18 members of New Mexico's Northern Pueblos who lost their jobs when the

BIA abolished their wildfire fighting crew. Last fall, I also won reinstatement for 20 faculty and staff members at the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, one of two Indian colleges operated by the BIA. I am currently litigating a case that will determine whether the Secretary of Interior must give Indians hiring preference for all positions that involve providing services to Indians.

I was once lectured by an older Friend that litigation is too confrontational and inconsistent with the Quaker values of conciliation and consensus. I don't think he really understood what "the law" is. It is the non-violent alternative to dispute resolution, in which truth and reason substitute for might; and fully consistent with the principles of the College. 🦊

Richard Hirn is an attorney in Washington, D.C.



Editor's note: As this issue was going to print, President Emerson announced sweeping changes to the College's financial aid policies. We're reproducing his letter to the community here; later this winter, we'll publish, online, a comprehensive report about the new plan which will also be printed in an upcoming issue of this magazine.

An Open Letter From President Stephen G. Emerson

Friends,

Continuing our historic commitment to making a Haverford College education as accessible as possible, the Board of Managers has approved a sweeping overhaul of Haverford's financial aid program to eliminate student loans for all incoming freshmen and to reduce the loan burden for continuing students.

I believe this is a vital and necessary step for Haverford families and the College. Our new program both reduces the barriers to a Haverford education and helps unburden our graduates of debt. In addition, it will free our students to consider career choices that they might have overlooked while under pressure to repay student loans, and will have a transformative effect on our community.

As part of this change, the College is chartering a new endowment fund -- called the Next Generation Fund -- to help pay for the plan. All students who receive such grants will be asked to make a pledge to support the Fund throughout their lives as their means allow and the spirit moves, with no pre-set expectation of how much they contribute. We believe that the Next Generation Fund will have broad appeal and will be supported by alumni and friends who may themselves have been the beneficiaries of grants-in-aid.

Indeed, the Next Generation Fund was inspired in part by a Haverford tradition of "giving back," often financially. Most recently, two alumni from the Class of '94 made a contribution that went beyond reimbursing the College for the financial aid they had received. "We calculated what the equivalent cost would be in today's dollars so that another pair of students, applying today, would be able to receive what we received," the donors say.

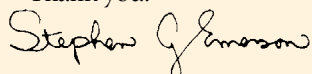
Frankly, I'm not surprised that they chose to contribute as they did: I believe that the plan reflects Haverford's core values of community and individual responsibility. Like our academic and social Honor Codes that require mindfulness of one's actions in the context of a community, the Next Generation Fund will show how an individual's actions can have a direct impact on our community. It will help ensure that others who follow enjoy the same privileges that we have enjoyed.

Up until now, Haverford had included approximately \$14,000 in loans as part of a student's financial aid package. The new plan will eliminate that debt and is part of a 25% increase in the College's financial aid commitment. It is being made possible by the generosity of alumni, parents and friends of the College. Haverford is one of the few colleges that admits U.S. citizens and permanent residents without regard to need and meets the full demonstrated need of all admitted students.

Continuing students will also see a reduction in their loan obligation, with the greatest relief being made available to those with greatest demonstrated need. I'll be able to announce details later this winter.

We make this announcement today with great pleasure, and thank the members of the broader Haverford community, including alumni, parents and friends of the College, who are making this possible. These changes are vital to our larger goal of making Haverford accessible to the most talented and deserving students regardless of economic circumstances.

Thank you.



Stephen G. Emerson '74
President



winter '08

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