

Fords on Film

Alumni critics and filmmakers pick the best films of the year

The Burglary

How a professor, two student reporters, and some stolen documents helped rein in the FBI in 1971

The Humor Code

A writer travels the world to find out what makes things funny

HAVERFORD

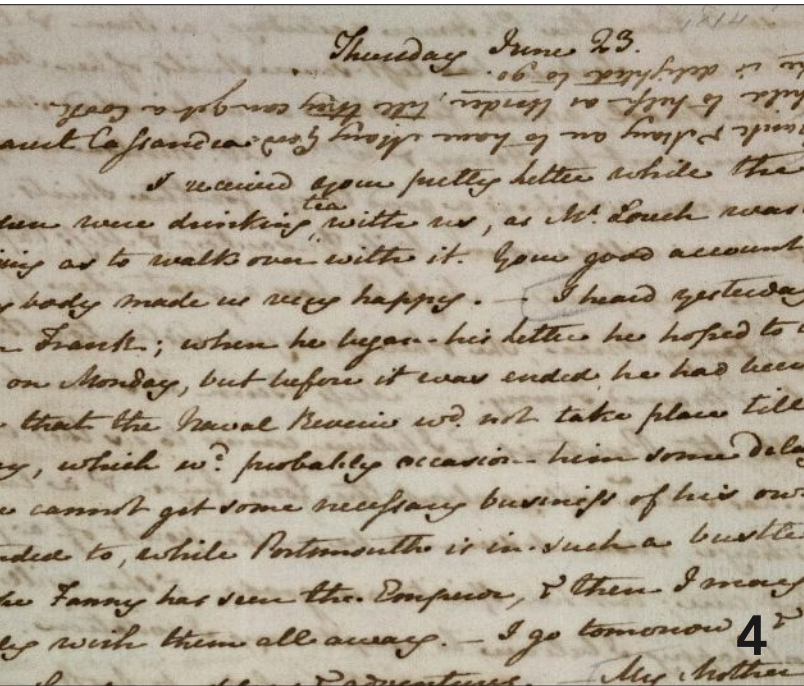
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WINTER 2014

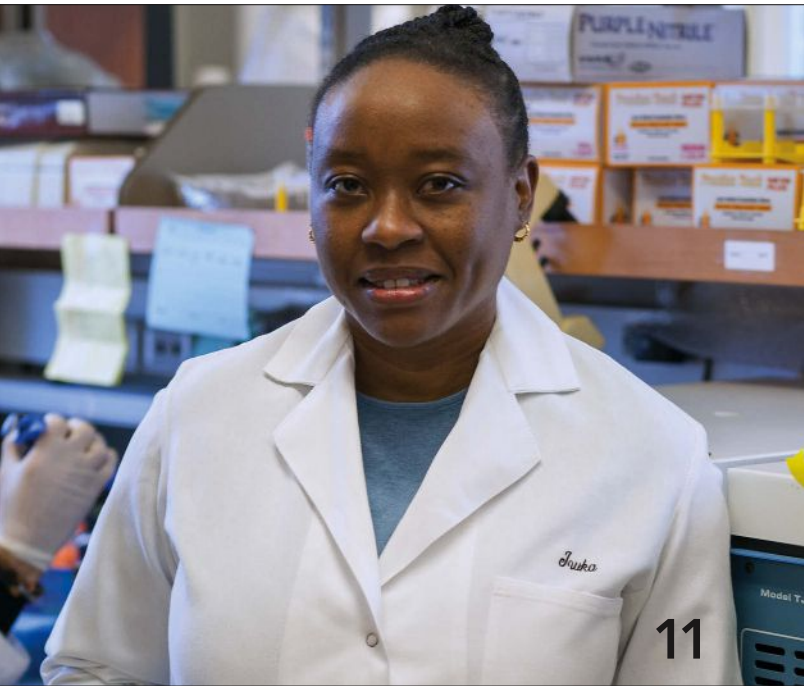


Investigating a Changing Climate

Ford scientists are spanning the globe (and modeling it on supercomputers) to develop new ways to study climate change. Their aim: to gain a deeper understanding of Earth's past and present in order to better predict the consequences of climate shifts to come.



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On the cover: This visualization of Earth, with population data from LandScan 2005 (orange indicates higher density) overlaid with a snapshot of integrated water vapor from a climate simulation, was created by **Kate Evans '93**, Jamison Daniel, and Eddie Bright of Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and Mark Taylor of Sandia National Laboratories. The research used the resources of the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility.

Back cover photo: Courtesy of Haverford College Archives



Haverford magazine is printed on recycled paper that contains 30% post-consumer waste fiber.

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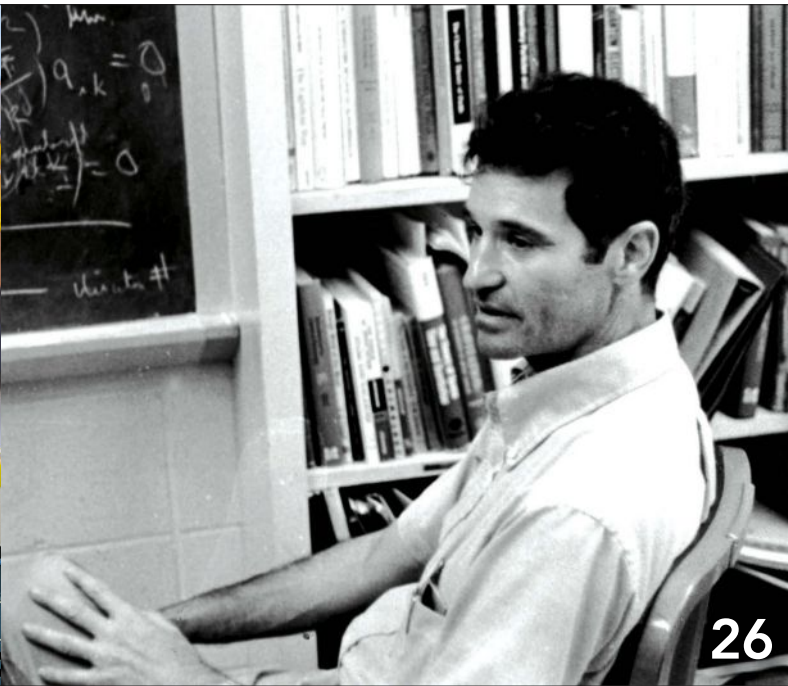
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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winter 2014



FEATURES

26 A Burglary Uncovered

In 1971, a clandestine group broke into an FBI office in Media, Pa., stole thousands of documents, and then made them public, revealing damning details about the agency's secret surveillance of anti-war activists, African-Americans, and others. A massive investigation produced no arrests, but the release of the documents changed history—and the FBI. Now, a new book identifies Haverford professor William Davidon as the man behind the daring caper.

By Mark Wagenveld

Plus: The Burglary and the Tri-Co

Two former editors of *The Bryn Mawr-Haverford College News* recall what happened in 1971 when some purloined FBI documents fell into their hands.

By David Espo '71 and Peter Goldberger '71

33 COVER STORY: Investigating a Changing Climate

Around the country, Ford scientists are studying oceans, ice sheets, coral, and clouds, and using supercomputers to create sophisticated climate models. Their aim: to gain a deeper understanding of Earth's past and present in order to better predict the consequences of climate shifts to come.

By Marcus Y. Woo

40 Searching for Laughs

What makes things funny? A Haverford alumnus traveled the world with a humor researcher to find out.

By Joel Warner '01

44 Fords on Film

Didn't make it to the multiplex enough in 2013? Unsure of what to add to your Netflix queue in the year ahead? Let some Ford filmmakers and critics be your guides as they offer their picks for the best feature films, documentaries, and performances of the year.

By Rebecca Raber

view from founders

The value of a Haverford education:
How should we think about costs, pricing,
and affordability?

As you likely know, the issues of educational costs, pricing, and affordability are highly complex, dynamic, and connected in fundamental ways to important questions about educational access, our mission, and our capacity to compete effectively in a challenging economic environment.

With our current comprehensive fund-raising campaign approaching its public phase, and with a 10-year strategic budget recently drafted, I would like to reflect on what we have learned about how best to steward our budget in the coming years.

The Cost of a Haverford Education

Haverford President Tom Tritton once asked the parents of incoming first-year Fords what percentage of our students, in their opinion, receive financial aid. Was it 30 percent? 40 percent? 50 percent? The audience nodded, comfortable with a 50/50 ratio. “The answer,” he then said, “is 100 percent—because the cost of educating a Haverford student is far greater than even the ‘sticker price’ of tuition plus all other charges.” So if the real cost of a Haverford education, per student, is much higher—and as I write, it is \$88,000 a year—why do we not charge our students such amounts? We can all thank (a) ongoing philanthropic support for the College from alumni and friends, (b) returns on our endowment, and (c) other, modest revenues.

When we talk about cost, we are talking about the following expenses, and the percentage of the budget that they constitute:

Instructional and academic support: 29 percent

Financial aid: 21 percent

Maintenance of campus and facilities: 21 percent

Institutional support: 14 percent

Student life: 12 percent

Athletics: 3 percent

Pricing

The operating cost of an institution like Haverford has increased over time for many reasons, among them the expansion of services and programs and the fact that almost all the components of our budget inevitably grow at rates in excess of inflation. We also



must employ highly skilled workers (such as faculty and administrators) in a labor market that is as broad as the international economy: To ensure that the best and the brightest continue to pick Haverford as a place of employment, we must be mindful that everybody who works here is choosing from many options. Other factors driving cost growth include dramatic increases in the need for technology; library collections, including books and periodicals; research and educational material; and, to a lesser extent, new investment in facilities and other resources.

Put it together, and ours is an expensive product because it is time- and labor- and resource-intensive. Ours is a “hand-tooled” approach to learning that does not lend itself to mass production. As you are likely aware, these costs have pushed tuition (by which I mean all charges) ever higher, even as we have struggled

PHOTO: DAN Z. JOHNSON

to increase our levels of financial aid to support our commitment to admit all students regardless of their ability to pay and, moreover, to meet their full demonstrated need in order to attend. Over the past decade, our gross revenue from student charges (tuition, room, and board) has grown by 58 percent, while financial aid has grown by 135 percent.

So how can we make sure that we continue to have the resources necessary to continue offering this world-class opportunity? The answer lies in the balancing act called “affordability,” by which we mean affordability for both the students *and* the College.

Affordability

Our goal is to balance our unwavering commitment to ensuring that a Haverford education remains affordable for all students with our need to manage resources in a way that aligns with our commitments to academic excellence and financial sustainability over the long term. These competing objectives have become increasingly difficult to achieve in an economic environment characterized by high levels of market volatility and generally lower levels of endowment returns (which, as noted above, are a fundamental revenue stream, without which we would face choices involving reduced services and even greater increases in tuition). This challenge is by no means unique to Haverford.

To manage our resources carefully during this challenging period, we have had to reflect carefully on every spending category within our budget. In the past five years, faculty and staff salaries have not kept pace with inflation, we have reduced operating budgets in many areas (but not for academic and instructional programs), and we have sought to reduce tuition increases below historical levels.

With this in mind, we have engaged in a process of evaluation and reflection with respect to our financial aid policies. Input from students, staff, board members, and alumni—including a 2012 plenary resolution endorsing both need-blind admissions and the no-loan policy—has yielded a financial aid policy that meets three objectives:

- Continue to allow all students to be admitted regardless of need, and to meet their full demonstrated need.
- Provide aid packages comparable with those being offered by peer institutions with whom we compete for students.
- Be financially sustainable in light of the full range of the demands on our budget.

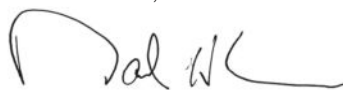
Our Board of Managers’ recent approval of a modification of our no-loan financial aid program accomplishes these goals and will help stabilize these expenses. Specifically:

- Haverford will remain need-blind in our admission process.
- Our neediest students and families—40% of those who receive financial aid—will continue to have financial aid packages that do not include loans.
- Beginning with the class of 2019, students from families with incomes above \$60,000 a year will see their packages evaluated on a tiered basis, with a total, four-year loan expectation at graduation ranging from \$6,000 to a maximum of \$12,000. Again, that is the total figure at graduation.
- Current students will not be affected by this change, nor will students who are awaiting word on their application for admission to the Class of 2018. For them, all financial aid packages will maintain the no-loan component.

Haverford remains committed to admitting students who will most benefit from and contribute to this unique community of scholars and citizens, regardless of their ability to pay. We are pleased to be able to help unburden students of debt, not just because doing so will enhance their experience here and in the world into which they will graduate, but so that the world, in turn, may benefit from our students’ pursuit of careers of service that are often less remunerative. These modifications to our financial aid policy are a necessary step in ensuring that Haverford remains a world-class institution that offers an experience like no other, on behalf of students like none elsewhere—and will do so in perpetuity if we operate in ways that are fiscally sustainable.

With our strategic budget in place, we are now able to begin the final leg of our larger planning process, begun last year. It includes exciting opportunities in both the core and new, interdisciplinary areas of academic enrichment, along with enhancements to the physical spaces on campus where these and so many other exciting activities will take place. I look forward to sharing this vision with you later this year.

All the best,



Daniel H. Weiss

main lines



During an NBCUniversal press tour in January, Rand Ravich '84 (far left), executive producer of the new series *Crisis*, made an appearance with his stars, (left to right) Dermot Mulroney, Gillian Anderson, Rachael Taylor, and Lance Gross; and producer Far Shariat.

Life Behind the Scenes

If you recognize the name **Rand Ravich '84**, it may be because you are a dedicated reader of end credits.

The Hollywood writer, director, and producer created the TV show *Life*, which starred Damian Lewis as a detective released from prison after being incarcerated for a crime he didn't commit. Ravich also wrote and directed the 1999 Charlize Theron/Johnny Depp vehicle *The Astronaut's Wife* and served as executive producer on George Clooney's *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*.

This spring, Ravich's work is back on the small screen with *Crisis*, a television show he created and is overseeing

as showrunner. (It debuted March 16 on NBC.) The hour-long action-thriller follows the abduction of a group of high school students on a field trip—who just happen to be the children of Washington, D.C.'s elite—and details how far their parents, including the President of the United States, will go to protect them.

"Now that I have kids," says Ravich, who's the father of a 17-year-old and a 9-year-old, "I understand the confluence of your personal life and your professional life. The premise of the show is that these powerful people's children get kidnapped and the parents are asked the terrible question, 'What would you

do to get your child back?' Because, as powerful as you are, your child is your weakness."

Crisis stars Dermot Mulroney, recently seen on TV as a reporter on the HBO series *Enlightened* and as Zoey Deschanel's older boyfriend on *New Girl*, and Gillian Anderson, who will perhaps always be best known as *The X-Files*' skeptical investigator Dana Scully. But more than a star vehicle, the show is a sprawling ensemble piece, which gives Ravich and his writers' room a lot of different stories to tell and voices to create.

"It has a lot of characters—15 different points of view," he says. "It's got several interweaving stories, and that's

been a real eye-opener. [Writing this show] is a constant shifting of perspectives, and we don't have the luxury of being on the air while we're writing, so we don't know which characters are more appealing to the public and which aren't, which story lines are getting traction and which aren't. We only have our own instincts to trust."

Ravich shouldn't worry, though; his instincts have served him well so far. *Life* ran for two seasons on NBC, ending in 2009, and, in addition to all of his big-screen work, he has also written and produced numerous TV pilots. Not bad for a guy who came to college hoping to be a doctor.

"I was pre-med, but organic chem

weeded me right out," he says, laughing. "I actually started writing plays in my lab book, since I couldn't keep up in class."

After Haverford, he attended UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television, where he earned his M.F.A. in playwriting. Realizing he was more of a movie fan than a theatergoer, he eventually switched to writing screenplays after graduation. And then, lured by the immediacy of the television-making process—as opposed to the years- or decades-long movie development process—he moved to the smaller screen.

"In TV, you write a scene, you send it over, and they're shooting it that day,"

says Ravich. "You're making things. Sometimes you wish you had a little more time, but you're getting things done. It's very addictive that way."

Crisis, which airs Sundays at 10 p.m., doesn't carry on *Life's* tradition of naming characters after some of Ravich's beloved Haverford professors (one episode, for example, featured members of a "Dujardin" family, named for Philosophy Professor Paul Desjardins), but it does still carry on a legacy of his time at the College.

"You know, I still use lab books to write in, the ones with the quad rule," he says. "It's all I have left of my pre-med experience." —Rebecca Raber

ON VIEW

Photographer **Vita Litvak '02** brings a taste of her homeland to the Haverford campus this spring with *Я Поларю Тебе Мир (I Will Give You the World) and Other Promises from Transnistria*, an exhibit of her work. Litvak, a visiting assistant professor of fine arts at Haverford, grew up in the self-declared post-Soviet nation of Transnistria, which was part of Moldova at the time of her birth, and immigrated to the United States with her family shortly after the violent civil war that raged through the region in 1992. She returned to Transnistria in the fall of 2011 and spent time shooting street scenes in the capital city, Tiraspol—everything from brides and grooms in city parks to funeral-flower sellers and crumbling political monuments. Collected and shown together in the Marshall Fine Arts Center's Atrium Gallery, Litvak's photographs tell a story of a nation frozen in time and full of unfulfilled potential, as well the more intimate story of the woman who shot them. "This is a personal narrative of a very interesting and unusual place in the world," Litvak told viewers at the opening reception, which also featured Russian food prepared by her mother. "It's about my experience growing up, [and] about the place [Transnistria] is today." The exhibit will be on view through April 20.

—R.R.





SOME NEW SIGNS in the Dining Center (above) call attention to a new composting effort launched in November. Spearheaded by Haverford's Committee for Environmental Responsibility (CER), the trial program aims to divert food and other compostable materials out of landfills and turn it into usable compost. To do that, the College has contracted with local firm Philly Compost, which began pick-ups at Bryn Mawr College's dining center last year and will now add Haverford to its schedule.

"We really have to train the students," says campus Sustainability Coordinator Claudia Kent, who worked with members of the CER to put out bright red trash barrels, create instructional signs, and distribute "We're On Trial" buttons as part of an awareness campaign. "Now, before you put your tray on the conveyor belt, you have separate out the trash." Plastic, foil, and coated paper items (such as ice cream and cupcake wrappers), go into the red cans. Food, as well as paper napkins and other kinds of non-coated paper, stays on the plate to be sent into the kitchen where the staff will scrape it into special compost containers. "If the kids don't do a good job, Philly Compost can reject the containers," Kent says.

The aim of the trial is to determine if the composting effort can be done in a way that does not make more work for the Dining Center staff, and is cost neutral. The hope is that the savings realized by reducing trash pickups will offset fees paid to Philly Compost. CER members are hoping the trial will be successful, and that food waste composting will become a permanent part of the Dining Services operation. "Haverford currently sends an average of 20,000 pounds of food waste per month to landfills," says Eleanor Durfee '14. "By composting, it will instead be used to create healthier soils."

—Eils Lotozo

Black Love Event Fills Founders Hall



Addressing the crowd at Black Love were Haverford Black Students League leaders (from right) Ramecy Uribe '16, Renee King '16, Omotolani Babatunde '16, Jonathan Yellets '16, and Samantha Fay '14, and student organizers from other schools.

Haverford's Black Students League (BSL) saw a big turnout for the annual Tri-College Black Love formal, held this year in Founders Hall on Feb. 15. The BSL, which was founded in 1972 to cultivate a supportive environment for Black students, hosted the event in partnership with Bryn Mawr's Sisterhood, the Swarthmore African American Student Society, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Mighty Psi Chapter. In previous years, Black Love was open to Tri-Co students only, but this year's event welcomed attendees from colleges across the Philadelphia area. More than 150 students came to the RSVP-only sit-down dinner, and even more showed up for the performances and dancing that followed. Students from participating colleges also designed a photo campaign. Attendees were asked to fill in the blanks on forms with prompts, such as: "I celebrate Black History Month by ___" and "When I think of Black Love I think of ___." Participants were then photographed holding up the signs with their answers. Black Love hosting duties rotate each year between the colleges in the Tri-College Consortium. Haverford last hosted the event in 2011, when it also took place in Founders Great Hall.

PHOTOS: THOM CARROLL PHOTOGRAPHY (GREEN, NERD HOUSE, EHAUS); BRAD LARRISON (LA CASA HISPÁNICA)

Nerd House is Newest Addition to Community Housing

For students looking to forge close connections around shared interests, Haverford offers all sorts of options beyond Room Draw. Special interest housing choices include La Casa Hispánica (for those attuned to the culture of the Spanish-speaking world); Cadbury House (quiet study, and alcohol- and drug-free); and the Ira de A. Reid House/Black Cultural Center (devoted to extending the legacy of Reid, a renowned sociologist and Haverford's first tenured African American faculty member). There are also several student-proposed community housing groups—located in the Haverford College Apartments—such as Quaker House, Christian House, and Ehaus (whose residents share an affinity for living in an environmentally conscious way). And making its debut at the start of the academic year was the latest addition to this list: Nerd House.

Located in Yarnall Community House, across the footbridge over Railroad Avenue,

Nerd House was born in the same way so many things happen at Haverford: “We began with several different groups of friends who all had similar interests,” says Brandon Henken '16, one of the organizers. “Like nodes on a graph, we gradually became connected.”

The Nerd House mission statement declares the residents' aim to create a space “where gaming, tech, TV, fantasy, anime, and science aficionados, as well as all other variety of geek can come together. We hope to facilitate the communication, collaboration, and recreation of our socially awkward minority and tap into the potential power of joint nerd-dom.”

Nerd power has been visible in full force since the residents launched what has proved to be a popular schedule of social activities. There have been strategy board game nights, movie nights, a video game tournament, a film noir screening accompanied by a live jazz sextet, a Victorian-era murder-mystery party, and

a Halloween costume ball. In November, the Nerd House denizens booked a room in Stokes and hosted a viewing party for the BBC America broadcast of the *Doctor Who 50th Anniversary Special*. Also a major achievement for Nerd House was Humans vs. Zombies, a campus-wide game of tag, organized with the group Fords Against Boredom, that spanned two weeks last fall and drew nearly 200 participants—among them President Dan Weiss.

“Anyone on campus is invited to these events; we truly reach out to the community,” says Henken, who prefers the term “nerdlings” to “nerds.” Turnout has been impressive, he says, and the Nerd House residents have received many compliments about their events and the general spirit of the house. “Community housing at Haverford is an excellent embodiment of the agency students have here,” Henken says. “If there is not a club or group that suits your interests, you can create one.”

—E. L.



(clockwise from front left) Nerd House residents Jesse Pazdera '16, Alison Marqusee '16, David Reilley '16, Andrea Gaughan '16, Jeremy Steinberg '16, Ryan Baxter-King '16, Caroline Fleet '16, Harry Okun '16, Daniel Plesniak '16, Casey Falk '16, Brandon Henken '16.



(above) The weekly vegetarian community dinner organized by the residents of Ehaus draws a crowd. (below) Decorating sugar skulls at a Day of the Dead celebration hosted by the residents of La Casa Hispánica.



Tri-Co Hack-a-Thon Inspires New Tech Ideas



Besan Abu Radwan, Allison Lake, and Paulina Cueto, all '14, working on "HaverSched," a program that helps students identify courses best suited for their needs.

Students from Haverford, Bryn Mawr, and Swarthmore had just 48 hours to conceive, develop, and present their web and mobile-technology ideas at the first Tri-Co Hack-a-Thon in January. Fourteen teams delivered, working on their ideas straight through the weekend before giving two-minute presentations of their entries to five judges in a *Shark Tank*-style competition that Sunday night.

Participants took breaks for food, sleep, and caffeine as needed. By mid-Saturday afternoon, tables set up around the perimeter of Founders Great Hall at Haverford were littered with water bottles, soda cans, and the remains of snacks.

"If you gave me a blood test, it would be about one-third caffeine," said Barak Bacharach '15. He and his team presented plans for "Hoop Assist," a program that compiles NBA-level advanced player tracking statistics for colleges and universities.

More than 60 students participated in the Hack-a-Thon, and many of the projects focused on the needs of the Tri-Co community in the areas of food, dating, course schedules, and shuttle-

bus times. The winning entry, called "tryLinGO," is a language-learning app that uses a geolocation program to instantly present translations of nearby objects on a mobile device such as a smartphone. For example, tryLinGO might provide someone walking around Haverford's campus with translations for "car," "tree," and "pond" as the user encounters those things.

The tryLinGO team, from Bryn Mawr and Swarthmore, received \$1,200, an NVidia Shield gaming device, and lunch with P'unk Avenue, a South Philadelphia web design firm.

The second place team, from Swarthmore, was awarded \$200 for "WatchOut," a safety app for smartwatches that sends texts for help with the smartwatch wearer's location to designated contacts. The third place prize (a \$25 Apple gift card for each member of the team) went to a group of Swarthmore seniors for an app called "IOU," which helps users keep track of debts they owe, or money that is owed to them.

A panel of judges assessed the teams' entries based on their innovation, design, business potential, and social impact. The judging panel

included Casey Palowitch (Cloud vLab, Inc.); **Beah Burger-Lenehan '06** (Ticketleap); Gabriel Farrell (freelance web developer); Katherine Rowe, a Bryn Mawr English professor and co-founder of Luminary Digital Media; and Mike Dershowitz (ModSolar LLC).

Andrew Thompson '12, of Azavea Inc., in Philadelphia, served as master of ceremonies for the presentations. The event was organized by students, staff, and faculty from the Department of Computer Science, the libraries, the Hurford Center for the Arts and Humanities, the Instructional Technology Center, and Tri-Co Digital Humanities.

The Hack-a-Thon was the brain child of Sorelle Friedler, a visiting assistant professor of computer science at Haverford, and Dershowitz, who says the event was a valuable exercise because "it required students to think through the issues that employers are going to ask them to think through." The Hack-a-Thon was also intended to encourage new talent in the Philadelphia region's technology scene and raise awareness about tech companies in the area, he added.

Friedler pointed out that the Tri-Co's intentions were complementary. "We want the local tech community to know we're here," she said.

Haverford student Besan Abu Radwan '14 said she enjoyed the challenge of creating something in a short period of time and working in a collaborative environment. Her team developed HaverSched, a program that combines the Tri-Co course guide and RateMyProfessor statistics to help students identify classes best suited to their schedule and needs.

Radwan said her team plans to fine-tune the program for possible implementation by the Tri-Co. "We're definitely pursuing it," she said.

—Samantha Drake



Taking a Turn On the Red Carpet

Yes, that's actor Alfred Molina wearing a Haverford sweatshirt at Utah's Sundance Film Festival in January. Along with promoting the College, Molina was there to plug his new film, *Love Is Strange*, with (from left) costar John Lithgow, director Ira Sachs, and cast members Marisa Tomei and Darren Burrows. Molina's attire even got a special mention on the blog *The Wire*, whose report on celebrity garb at Sundance featured a zoomed-in shot of the actor's torso in what it termed "The Too-Casual Sweatshirt." With a mixture of horror and admiration, the blog called out Molina for being a celeb bold enough "to appear on the red carpet ... in an honest to goodness JanSport college hoodie." So, why was he wearing that Haverswag? It's all the work of **Colette Freedman '90**, a playwright-turned-novelist and close friend of Molina's. "I have been giving him Haverford T-shirts and sweatshirts for the last 15 years," she says. "It's literally all he wears." —E. L.

SOUND BITE

There was this one very poignant moment when a prisoner looked at his photograph. "Damn," he said. "I done got old." Well, in prison the mirrors are metallic. They're cloudy—they're not clear. He hadn't really seen himself in years.

—C.D. Wright



That was poet C.D. Wright (above, left) talking about a visit to Angola prison with photographer Deborah Luster, her collaborator on the book *One Big Self*, which documents Louisiana's prison population through images and text. Wright, who came to campus in January as part of the Mellon Creative Residencies program, spoke about her experiences in prisons and the making of the book during a public conversation with Pete Brook (above, right), the curator of the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery's *Prison Obscura* exhibition, which ran through March 7.

IN THE GALLERY



Larry Fink, *Black Mask*, 1967, Inkjet Print, 13" x 19", Courtesy of the artist

Taking as its starting point a maxim by the anarchist feminist Emma Goldman, *If I Can't Dance to It, It's Not My Revolution* investigates the political movement of anarchism through countercultural artistic practices in Europe and North America from the 1960s to the present. The exhibit, curated by Natalie Musteata, features archival documentation, major installations by self-identified anarchist artists, and works that at once affirm and complicate strategies of disruption and resistance. Artists featured in the exhibition include Black Mask, Lizzie Borden, Andrea Bowers & Olga Koumoundouros, John Cage, The Living Theater, Jackson Mac Low, Raymond Pettibon and Carolee Schneemann. The exhibition runs March 21 through May 2 in the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery. For more information: exhibits.haverford.edu

Late Nights at Lunt Café



Lunt Café student worker Shewit Zerai '17 prepares an order for friends (from left) Ariel Dineen '17, Alexis Auer '17, and Jonathan Laks '14.

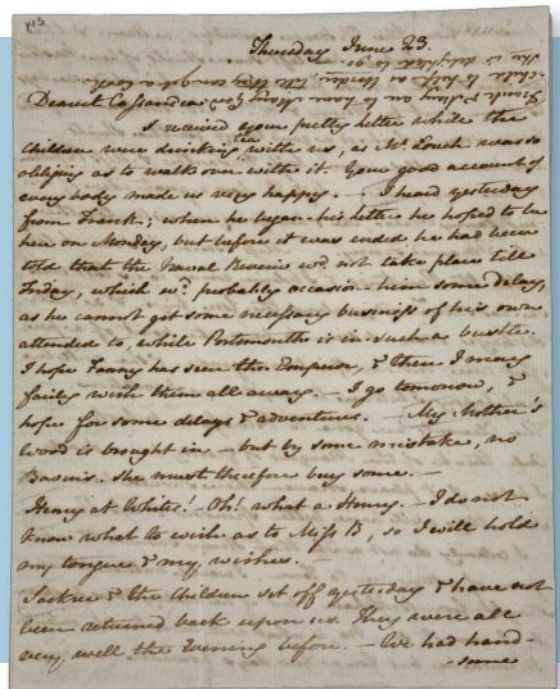
Student-run eateries are part of a long tradition on the Haverford campus. Many alums fondly remember Skeeter's pizza parlor, which operated out of Leeds Hall for years. And the basement of Jones once housed an operation called the Three Seasons Café. But since the 1980s, students have looked to Lunt Café to provide the necessary fuel to make it through long nights of studying. Located in the basement of Lunt dormitory, the café is open from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. every day and the menu offers the requisite caffeinated beverages, along with nachos, bagels, shakes, and "sammies" (otherwise known as sandwiches). The café, which has operated off and on since its launch, was closed for several months during the 2011-2012 academic year for extensive renovations and reopened last April. In addition to cheap eats, Lunt Café provides meeting space for clubs, and hosts music and art events. (Fords: Do you recall other student-run cafes in Haverford's past? Can you tell us more about the history of Lunt Café or its predecessor? Email hc-editor@haverford.edu)

IN THE COLLECTION

Spotlighting the rare and marvelous holdings of Quaker & Special Collections

Jane Austen, the great British novelist, was also an accomplished and witty letter writer. This letter to her sister, Cassandra, is full of information and anecdotes about relations and mutual friends. The letter was given by Cassandra to her niece, Fanny Austen Knight Knatchbull, after Jane's death, and was later purchased by Charles Roberts, Class of 1864, who was moved to start an autograph collection after he received a letter from Abraham Lincoln while still a Haverford student.

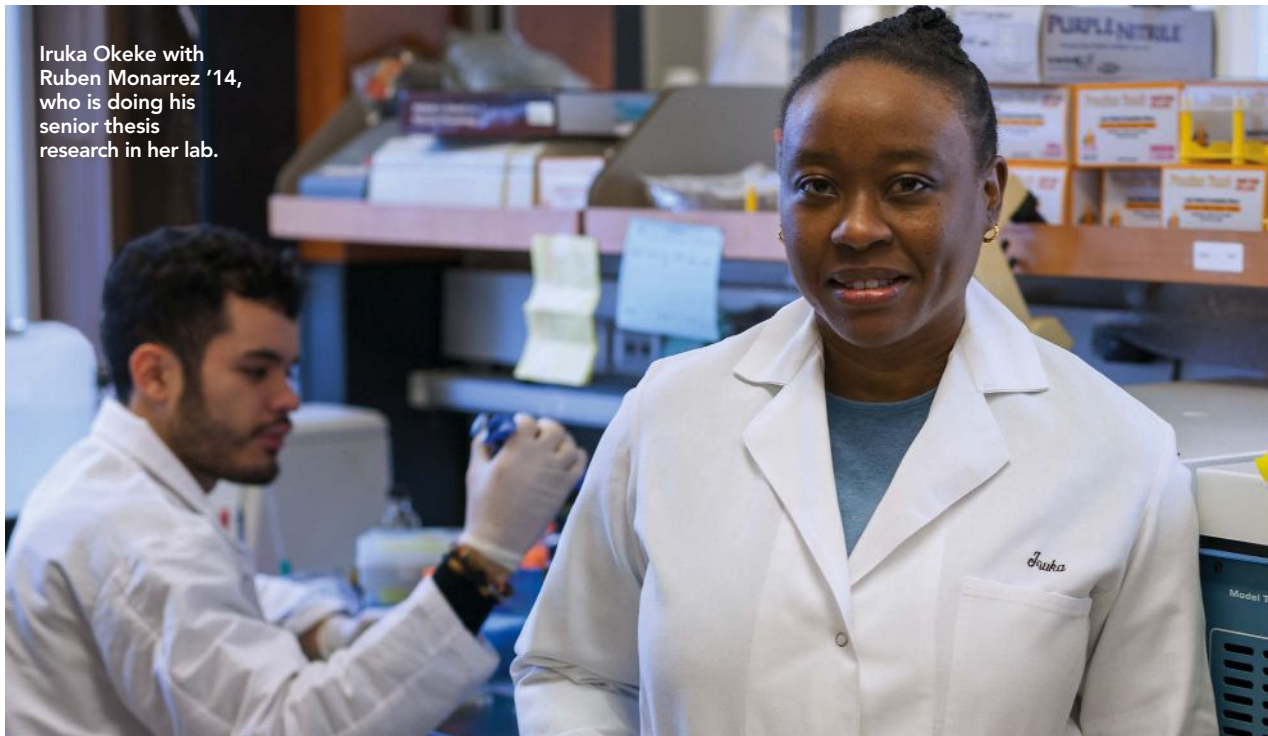
Letter from Jane Austen to Cassandra Austen, June 23 [1814]; from the Charles Roberts autograph collection.



FYI

THE SPRING SEMESTER saw the launch of the new Bi-College Health Studies Multidisciplinary Minor. The program is designed to complement more traditional science majors and also to provide a scientific context to students of the social sciences and humanities interested in the economics, ethics, and management of health care.

faculty profile



Iruka Okeke with Ruben Monarrez '14, who is doing his senior thesis research in her lab.

The Biologist and the Bacteria

Research conducted in the lab of Associate Professor of Biology Iruka Okeke has changed the thinking about *E. coli*. **By Denise Foley**

It's rare to see the words "*Escherichia coli*"—commonly shortened to *E. coli*—not followed by the word "outbreak" in news headlines. But to **Associate Professor of Biology Iruka Okeke**, the bacteria often associated with diarrhea—and death—are the victim of some bad press.

"Most *E. coli* strains are harmless. They help with digestion, and some even protect us from harmful organisms," says Okeke, the recent recipient of a more than \$500,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to study the microbe. "The bacteria you hear about on the news are

like the headlines about Afghanistan. Most Afghans are peaceful people, but you mostly hear news about the terrorists."

The grant, the second round of NSF funding that Okeke has received, will support more than half of her students' summer research projects and thesis research. And it may, if past research is any indication, shed new light on the two sides of the maligned bacterium that outnumbers our own cells.

Earlier in her career, Okeke had unearthed an old scientific paper that discussed proteins on the surface of bacteria. She had long been intrigued by research

on the ability of *E. coli* to colonize the gut, cause diarrhea, and then survive it. Even on a good day, the intestines are subject to flash flooding. "My thought was that they must be exceptional hangers-on, or they would get washed out," she says. "I hypothesized that this surface protein could be one of the proteins that helped certain *E. coli* to hang on, and it was."

Okeke and her students have studied this and related proteins, with NSF support, since her arrival at Haverford. That blend of research and teaching is what drew Okeke to Haverford after a brief stint at the University of Bradford in Yorkshire,

in her native England, following her graduation from Obafemi Awolowo University in Ife, Nigeria, and postdoc work at the University of Maryland. “I really wanted to work at a place where I could do research and teach and where both things were taken very seriously,” she says. “When I came to Haverford for the interview, I loved it. It was exactly what I was imagining in my head—the ability to teach students biology through research—and I canceled all my other interviews. Thank God I got the job!” she says with a laugh.

Using research as a teaching tool has some unusual payoffs. In 2003, one of Okeke’s students, **Adaobi Nwaneshiudu ’03**, made a discovery that changed the thinking on one category of diarrhea-causing *E. coli*. “She overturned what seemed like a very small thing that was pretty much considered ‘known’ in my

field,” says Okeke. “She proved we were all wrong.”

Until Nwaneshiudu saw something on one of her gels that no one else seemed to see, science believed enteropathogenic *E. coli* carried one plasmid, a circular, self-replicating DNA molecule, different from chromosomal DNA, that only holds a few genes. Enteropathogenic *E. coli*’s plasmid was encoded for adherence, or “hanging on,” as Okeke puts it, allowing the microbe to colonize the inhospitable walls of intestines.

What her student discovered was that *E. coli* has a second plasmid—this one for antibiotic resistance. The bacterium not only readily shares this antibiotic-resistance plasmid with its own kind, it’s able to pass it to other, unrelated, microbes which then become armored against current antibiotics.

Antibiotic resistance is a global problem, and is critical in developing countries like Nigeria, where Okeke’s parents were born and where they sent their four children to secondary school. “In Nigeria, they’re using old antibiotics because newer ones are simply not affordable until the patent expires,” explains Okeke, who has taken some of her students to Nigeria and Ghana to study resistance firsthand. “Because of that, they’re using drugs that bacteria have already become resistant to.” (Okeke explores some of those issues in depth in her book *Divining Without Seeds: The Case for Strengthening Laboratory Medicine in Africa*, published in 2011 by Cornell University Press.)

In 2007, Okeke and Nwaneshiudu co-wrote a paper on this second plasmid, which was published in *The Journal of Bacteriology* and has since been cited in



Office Hour

Visitors to the Woodside Cottage office of **Associate Professor of English Maud McNerney** will typically find her dog, Brumby, in residence, along with books related to her research and intriguing mementos of her more than 17 years at Haverford. (They might even encounter the fabled Woodside ghost, whom McNerney swears she has heard while alone in the building.) A winner of the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award as well as the Student’s Association Teaching Award, McNerney teaches such courses as “Inventing the English,” “The Legend of Arthur,” and “Sex and Gender in the Middle Ages,” and has been known to blog about her research excursions and other subjects in *A Travelling Medievalist’s Blog*.

1 Illuminated manuscript, 2 reliquary, 3 stained-glass panel: The origin is the same for all of these: They’re final projects made over the years by students in my course on Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales*. The project has to involve research, and must connect in some way to *Canterbury Tales*, but it can take any form the student chooses. So the illuminated manuscript is a prayer in Middle English, and the reliquary is a cardboard copy of an actual one called St. Stephen’s Purse. A couple of my students

got very interested in reliquaries, which often contained body parts of people that were said to grant holy power. The stained-glass window depicts a pilgrim riding the long trail to Canterbury with a beam of holy light illuminating him. I’ve had that one a long time.

4 Reproduction of the 12th-century Russian icon The Virgin of Vladimir: That was a gift from a friend. **My first book, Eloquent Virgins 5,** is about virgin martyrs, but you can’t work on the

other studies on antimicrobial-drug resistance.

Nwaneshiudu, who was born in Nigeria, is now a Ph.D. and M.D. finishing her residency in the dermatology department at the University of Chicago. She credits Okeke with inspiring her to keep one foot in the lab while the other is in the treatment room. “Iruka has been a good role model, I have to say,” says Nwaneshiudu. “It’s because of her gentle enthusiasm for her field that I decided to get a dual degree that would allow me to see patients and still be involved at some level with research endeavors. I hope to make a contribution one day—Iruka helped keep that fire going.”

And she’s been a role model in another way, for the ever-vexing work-life balance of a scientist, says Nwaneshiudu. “She now has a cute little baby!” Okeke and

“In Nigeria, they’re using old antibiotics because newer ones are simply not affordable. ... Because of that, they’re using drugs that bacteria have already become resistant to.”

her husband, a policy analyst, who runs an Africa-based think-tank, have an infant daughter, Chika.

Okeke’s latest grant will take her research and her student-scientists one step further—to a deeper understanding of *E. coli*’s remarkable adherence abilities and its relationship to other genes and proteins that could lead to ways to “intervene” to treat and prevent diarrheal dis-

eases, one of the leading causes of death among African children. (The U.S. isn’t spared, either. One category of *E. coli*, referred to as O157:H7, causes about 73,000 illnesses and 50 to 60 deaths every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.)

Okeke doesn’t expect to have all the answers when her latest grant expires in 2016. She says her family always asks, “When are you going to finish your research?”

“I say never,” she says, smiling, “because one question opens up all new ones, many of them coming from the students themselves. But it’s good, because it’s constantly energizing and I’m never, ever bored!”

Denise Foley is contributing executive editor for Prevention magazine and has been a health journalist for almost 30 years.

Middle Ages without dealing with the Virgin Mary. She is the dominant cultic female figure, so thinking about virginity inevitably leads you to thinking about the Virgin Mary at some point.

6 Sculpture, and 7 Illustrated books by McInerney’s late father, the artist, author, printer, and publisher Virgil Burnett: He was the first person in his family to go to college. He went to Columbia—much to his parents’ confusion. Initially he did architecture because that was something he could explain to his parents, but he ended up taking more and more fine arts classes. He lived for a long time in Europe, and in Paris he became the protégé of a fine-art printer who, coincidentally, was the guy who printed the first edition of James Joyce’s *Ulysses*. These books are both limited editions. One is his own collection of short stories, which he illustrated, and the other is *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

[McInerney donated a trove of materials to Special Collections that now form the Virgil Burnett Collection.

Some of those materials were on display in a fall exhibit in Magill Library.]

8 Research materials for McInerney’s latest book project: It’s about why everyone in the 12th century wants to imagine that they are Trojans. The 12th century shows this surge of interest in retelling the story of the Trojan War. You have to remember that Homer is lost to the Middle Ages, that the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* are just not accessible. So they based their retelling on late Latin forgeries. The crazy thing is that everybody identifies with the Trojans, which seems weird to us because we’re very aware of the fact that the Trojans lost the war. But they’re coming at it through the Roman tradition, according to which Aeneas, the Trojan hero, becomes the founder of Rome. During this period of the 12th century, every royal house in Europe discovers they have a Trojan ancestor somewhere in their remote past, and this becomes the basis of a certain kind of cultural and political authority.

—Eils Lotozo



Students in Kaye Edwards’ course “Reproductive Health and Justice” got a close look at some real-world issues during a 10-day trip to Nicaragua over Winter Break. The students joined an educational delegation organized by ProNica, a Quaker organization working in solidarity with community groups in Nicaragua. The Haverford group, which received support for the trip from the Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, traveled to Managua, Matagalpa, and Rio Blanco; visited maternity centers, hospitals, and community organizations; and met with residents, government officials, care providers, activists, and health educators. Edwards (in the red Phillies cap, above), an associate professor of independent college programs and the director of the new Health Studies Program, has led trips to Nicaragua previously with ProNica. During their travels, the students wrote about their experiences on the CPGC blog, *The Global Citizen*. To learn more, go to: hav.to/rhj.

A Faculty-Student Research Collaboration Really Takes Off

Suzanne Amador Kane began studying collective animal behavior and predator-prey interactions in 2009, working with Haverford students in the summer and during the academic year. An associate professor of physics who specializes in biological physics, Kane was initially interested in mobbing—a phenomenon in which small birds team up to harass or even attack a much larger predator, such as a hawk. However, she soon realized that in order to understand the rules governing this behavior, her group would first need to investigate how raptors, such as falcons and hawks, pursue their prey.

That investigation led to an unusual international collaboration with falconers who agreed to mount tiny video cameras on their birds, and to countless hours spent analyzing the dizzying, dramatic footage from those cameras. In January, the results of that study were published in a research paper co-authored by Kane and recent Haverford graduate **Marjon Zamani '13**, which appears in *The Journal of Experimental Biology*.

Their paper, “Falcons Pursue Prey Using Visual Motion Cues: New Perspectives From Animal-Borne Cameras,” had barely been released when it began attracting wide media attention. Since then, Kane has been interviewed by dozens of journalists, and news outlets all over the globe have featured stories on the study. By the end of January, a video made from footage from one of the “falconcams” had attracted more than 2.5 million views on YouTube. (To see it, go to: hav.to/falcons.)

“I was taken aback by all of this interest,” says Kane, “but falcons are magnificent, charismatic animals, and the falcon’s-eye videos of their hunts are very exciting. This is truly nature red in tooth and claw. There is something really primal and moving about watching that elemental struggle between predator and prey.”

Going into the project, Kane and her team discovered that the literature on falcons did not establish how the birds pursue their prey. But how could the team get an up-close look at falcons in pursuit in the air? The question baffled Kane—until she and her students watched the PBS documentary *Raptor Force* and got the idea to film these encounters using miniature bird-mounted spy cameras.

Finding the falconers she needed to collaborate with on the study wasn’t easy, says Kane. “We used social media and networked with falconers, even going to a falconry convention to make connections. It took a few years to assemble the full team.”

She now has 13 falconers around the world helping with the research. “Five of them worked on this study, and there is a larger group working on two related projects also involving



Associate Professor of Physics Suzanne Amador Kane (center) in the field with student researchers Alyssa Mayo '13 (right), and Marjon Zamani '13 (left). Zamani was Kane’s co-author on a recently published scientific paper.

our undergraduates,” she says. The videos analyzed for the recently published study provided the researchers with a bird’s-eye view of the falcons’ high-speed, in-air pursuit of their prey and revealed information about the birds’ hunting strategies that had been unavailable previously. The Marian E. Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center provided funding for this novel venture through its Special Projects program, which promotes faculty-student collaborations in new directions, especially those involving off-campus research.

Working with Zamani, a physics major with a biophysics concentration, Kane tested three strategies proposed to describe how the falcons pursue prey. After painstakingly locating the prey’s position on each video frame and comparing the data with computer simulations of each strategy, the two concluded that only one model agreed with the videos. During pursuit, the falcons appear to head off their prey using a strategy called motion camouflage, which intercepts the prey in the least amount of time while also masking the falcon’s approach. Kane and Zamani’s research also showed how the falcon uses its complex visual field during pursuits, and suggests that some seemingly dangerous maneuvers that prey use to escape can be interpreted as a way to prevent motion camouflage.

Continuing their research, Kane and Zamani are already writing up a new study that looks at how raptors move their heads when they search for prey. Zamani, who was the lead student researcher on that project, has also gone on to launch her post-Haverford scientific career as a National Institutes of Health researcher working at the Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering in Boston.

But Zamani isn’t the only Haverford student on Kane’s team

3 Questions

Associate Professor of English Gustavus Stadler has written about Edgar Allan Poe, Louisa May Alcott, and Henry James, but as the co-editor in chief of *The Journal of Popular Music Studies*, he also has more modern interests. For the last two years, in fact, Stadler has been researching the life of folk musician Woody Guthrie, perhaps best known as the composer of “This Land Is Your Land,” in preparation for a book. In September, while on sabbatical, Stadler traveled to Tulsa, Okla.’s Woody Guthrie Center for three weeks of intensive work in the archives, where he not only compiled more than 70 pages of notes, but was also surprised by visits from folk luminaries Steve Earle and *My Morning Jacket*’s Jim James, who made pilgrimages to the center while on tour nearby.

What got you started on your Woody Guthrie research?

Gustavus Stadler: I got interested in this project based on what was initially this very odd thing that I read about in his biography—he was arrested on obscenity charges in the late 1940s, for sending obscene materials through the mail. He said [the arrest] was politically motivated, which could well be the



Gus Stadler (left) with Jim James of *My Morning Jacket* at the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa.

case. But he was actually convicted and took this deal to avoid prison where he went to a treatment program for sexual “deviants,” which was run by Quakers. So my interest in the history of sexuality is initially what got me interested. ... The other thing is Guthrie had Huntington’s disease, and that’s how he died. He went into the hospital in 1956, and he spent the last 11 years of his life there. Even before that, he was having symptoms; it’s a really degenerative disease, both physically and mentally. The general understanding has been that he really didn’t produce any work of note after 1947. So that’s what I’m most trying to revise—that understanding of Guthrie—because looking into his personal life, you see things he was doing in those years [between 1947 and 1956]. He was responding, sometimes obliquely, to these very difficult things happening to him, becoming personally focused, and [showing] a much more diverse approach to his work. He just wasn’t able to finish much of it or make it public.

What are you trying to understand with this work?

GS: I’m basically using Woody’s relationship [to his wife Marjorie Mazia,

a Martha Graham dancer] to trace the transition between “the Old Left” and “the New Left” from collectivist, class-based politics to being more about identity politics, stigma, shame, and pride. And seeing that transformation through his ideas about and experience of sexuality and of illness and of intimacy, much of which can be traced through his relationship with this woman.

What is the Guthrie archive like?

GS: When I first went to the archives, it was in this little two-room office in Mount Kisco, N.Y. The people working there were [Guthrie’s daughter] Nora and the official archivist. They only let one person in at a time, and they were always there. [When] Nora retired [in 2013], they moved the entire archive to Tulsa—Guthrie was from Oklahoma, about an hour and a half south of there. ... So what’s in there? Marjorie saved everything, basically. She somehow was able to gather back a lot of his letters, so there are boxes of letters. There are what he calls “songbooks,” which he erratically kept. He would paste lyrics into these big books, and sometimes write notes on them. There are notebooks filled with handwritten lyrics, poems, stories, erotica. Often he would paint abstractly in watercolor over his handwriting. There is artwork, and also ephemera—posters, photographs, stuff like that. I read a bunch of Marjorie’s letters to him—they wrote three letters a day to each other, before they got together and then later, again, when he was on tour. I guess that’s what you did, pre-email, pre-cellphone.

—Rebecca Raber

to gain the sort of research experience that is more typically reserved for graduate students at other colleges and universities. **M. Elias Tousley** and **Emily Cunningham**, both Class of 2011 physics majors, performed the mobbing study, and Tousley gave a talk on his mobbing research at the March 2010 meeting of the American Physical Society. **Emma Oxford ’13** helped develop the team’s bird-mounted GPS and other sensors, while Andrew “Harvey” Fulton ’14, Elliott Schwartz ’14, and Lee Rosenthal ’15 followed up this work with a study of how hawks

hunt prey on the ground and how birds form flocks.

“We are always working in competition with much bigger groups at research universities, but I’m always amazed at how much our students can get done in their summer research and senior theses,” says Kane. “I’m also inspired by how passionately they devote themselves to their work. I had to order Marjon home from the lab at times! She was inclined to camp out to finish up a really challenging stretch of data analysis.”

—E. L.

New Faculty Hires

This past fall, Haverford welcomed five new faculty members to campus. **Lecturer in French and Francophone Studies**



Kathryn Corbin



Desika Narayanan

Kathryne Adair Corbin comes to Haverford from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she was a lecturer in the Department of French and Italian and also earned her Ph.D. Corbin is currently researching women journalists of interwar France and specializes in foreign language pedagogy. **Assistant Professor of Astronomy Desika Narayanan** was previously the Bart J. Bok Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Arizona and a Center for Astrophysics Fellow at Harvard University. Narayanan, a theorist and computational astrophysicist who earned his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona, researches galaxy formation and evolution, star formation, and the physics of

the interstellar medium, and uses large-scale numerical simulations for that work. **Assistant Professor of Economics Giri Parameswaran** is an applied microeconomist who received his Ph.D. in political economy from Princeton University. His research investigates the incentive and efficiency effects of institutional rules in a variety of political settings. **Assistant Professor of English Lindsay Reckson** comes to Haverford from the University of Texas at Austin, where she was a postdoctoral fellow for two years. Reckson earned her Ph.D. from Princeton University, where she wrote her dissertation on “Realist Ecstasy: Enthusiasm in American Literature, 1886–1938.” **Tetsuya Sato** joins the Haverford faculty as director of the Japanese Language Program. A native of the northernmost Japanese island of Hokkaido, Sato has master’s degrees in language pedagogy and curriculum from Seattle University and the University of Oregon and a Ph.D. in East Asian Studies from the University of Arizona. He has been teaching Japanese at U.S. universities for more than a decade, most recently at the Residential College of Literature, Science, and the Arts at the University of Michigan.



Giri Parameswaran



Lindsay Reckson



Tetsuya Sato



Bonhoeffer, a choral-theater composition by Associate Professor of Music Thomas Lloyd, tells the dramatic story of German theologian and pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who resisted the Nazis, plotted to assassinate Hitler, and was arrested by the Gestapo and executed weeks before the war ended. The work got rave reviews when it debuted last year, and in January a video (above) of *Bonhoeffer* being performed by The Crossing choir in the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral got a screening on campus, followed by a panel discussion. To watch an excerpt from the video, go to: hav.to/bonhoeffer.

ford games

Living His Dreams

Joe Banno '12 had a vision for his life after college. He wanted to be a history teacher and a Major League Lacrosse player. And that's just what he's doing.

By Charles Curtis '04



In his high school yearbook, **Joe Banno '12** was asked what he'd be doing in five years. His answer? Teaching history and playing professionally for Major League Lacrosse (MLL).

Turns out he was extremely prescient.

The native of Monroe, Conn., currently teaches history at Harford Day School in Bel Air, Md., and spent the 2013 MLL season playing for the Rochester Rattlers. Incredibly, he got to play in the first game of the season for the Rattlers, and in his first appearance in the major leagues, he performed well.

Banno was in sixth grade when he fell in love with lacrosse, especially with the goaltending position. Though he was one of the bigger players for his age (he even-

tually grew to 6-foot-4 and 265 pounds in college), that wasn't necessarily why he turned out to be skilled at the position.

"Goaltending isn't just about making saves," he says. "It's about directing the defense and being a leader on the field. If you talk to anybody I play with, they'll say that's one of the things I do best."

Haverford head lacrosse coach Colin Bathory notes Banno's skill in addition to his size. "He's very clearly a big goalie, so a space-eating goalie always catches the eye because it's a little harder to score," Bathory says. "But not only was he a bigger guy filling up the mouth of the goal, he was also very quick with his hands and far more athletic than one would anticipate."

Along with his passion for lacrosse,

Banno also discovered a love of history in high school and thought he'd enjoy education. Just as he saw goaltending as more than stopping a ball shot at him at blazing speeds, he saw something more in the subject he'd end up teaching. History "isn't about memorizing dates, it's about seeing themes," he says. "It gives you a better perspective on what's going on now."

Banno—who would graduate from Haverford with a major in history and a minor in education—joined the Black Squirrels in 2008 and immediately grabbed the starting goaltending spot as a freshman. His collegiate career ended four years later with an incredible list of achievements: multiple statistical records, a Centennial Conference regular season title in 2009,



Rochester Rattlers goalie Joe Banno '12 (number 32) in a game against the Denver Outlaws.

and a tournament championship in 2010 for the team. He was also the winner of Haverford's Gregory Kannerstein '63 Award as a senior.

Though Haverford isn't as big a name in the lacrosse world as, say, Syracuse or Johns Hopkins, Banno knew there were a few MLL athletes who came from Division III schools. He wouldn't be the first Ford to play sports professionally—the baseball program, for one, produced two players (**Chaon Garland '91** and **Jake Chaplin '12**) who were signed by Major League Baseball franchises and others who were signed by organizations overseas.

He wasn't chosen by a team in the 2012 MLL draft, but Banno was undrafted. A good word from one of his former coaches led to a training-camp invite with Rochester. He made the final roster, and during the first game of the 2013 season, against the Chesapeake Bayhawks last April, Banno watched from the bench as the Rattlers gave up 12 goals by halftime. He was then informed he'd play in the second half. "You're always ready to play when you're on the sidelines, but ... you're prepared and not prepared at the same time," Banno says. "I was pumped."

He only let in five goals in his appearance and stayed on the Rattlers' roster the rest of the season, playing twice more. But playing for an MLL franchise isn't the same glamorous life led by an athlete playing in the National Basketball Association. The schedule, which runs from late April to August, features about one game a week, so many players have day jobs and live far from the hometowns of the teams they

play for. One perk for Banno, though, was that the Rattlers paid for his travel from Virginia—where he lived at the time—to games. Practices were either the day before or hours before a game.

As for the pay? Banno says it was just \$300 to \$400 a game, which is around the league minimum and what most players received. But the money and constant travel didn't matter—he was living his dream. "I would do it if they didn't pay," he says. Despite playing for Rochester in 2013, he won't necessarily be on the Rattlers' roster in 2014. Banno points out it might make better financial sense for the team not to put him on a flight every weekend.

At least he's continuing to fulfill the goals he set for himself in high school, and

getting pleasure out of teaching and changing how his students feel about history. "Every year, I'll have one to two kids who say, 'I didn't like history before this, but now I do,'" he says. "If I get a couple of kids [like that], I've done something right."

But that dream of becoming an MLL star hasn't yet been fulfilled. "I always hold myself to a pretty high standard," he says. "So when I said in the yearbook I wanted to play major-league lacrosse, I didn't mean to get in here or there. I would still love to become a top player, a starter. I still have to work up to that."

Charles Curtis '04 is a freelance sports journalist in New York City. He has been published on sites and in publications including ESPN.com, ESPN the Magazine, NJ.com, and FoxSports.com.



Women's Lacrosse team member Emma Bracker '15 (above) rallied the Haverford community to donate more than 100 pairs of shoes, which she distributed in the Dominican Republic over the Thanksgiving holiday. Bracker traveled there with her family as part of a service-learning trip organized by her Hartford, Conn., high school, the Watkinson School.

The program aids Haitian sugarcane cutters and their families who live in company towns in the Dominican Republic called bateys. Participants in the weeklong service trips, which Bracker has been going on for the past four years, bring food and other donations to the bateys, help with building and repair projects, and, in conjunction with a local hospital, help set up medical clinics that see as many as 200 patients a day. Common medical issues among the residents are parasites that enter through the feet, as well as foot injuries suffered by walking around barefoot. So Bracker and her companions try to help by distributing donated shoes at the conclusion of each clinic. This year she extended her annual shoe-drive efforts to the Haverford campus, with gratifying results. "The trip makes me realize how easily we can improve someone's life by giving them an item as simple as a pair of shoes," says Bracker.

athletics news

Haverford earned a spot in the December/January NCAA Division III Special Olympics Spotlight Poll. The Fords were recognized for their volunteer efforts at the 2013 Special Olympics Fall Festival hosted by Villanova University in November. Approximately 200 Haverford student-athletes from 13 varsity teams helped make the 25th installment of the annual event a success.

The NCAA, which encourages D-III student-athletes across the country to support Special Olympics, will spotlight the Fords' efforts in the D-III monthly newsletter and on D-III social media channels. The honor also awards Haverford \$500 towards the Athletic Department's next Special Olympics activity.

The women's sabre squad took the first-place trophy, while the **WOMEN'S FENCING** team finished third overall, at the Eastern Women's Fencing Conference Team Championships at Hunter College in New York in February. Sabriste Shannon Horn '14 led her squad to the first-place title with a perfect 12-0 record on the day. Also stepping up in a big way for the sabre squad were Leslie Tjing '15 and Elisabeth Hawthorne '16, who had not fenced before coming to Haverford.

Nina Voith '14 became the all-time leading scorer in **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** in a win over visiting Muhlenberg in February. Playing in her 93rd game, Voith brought her career tally to 1,299 points, besting the previous record of 1,291 points set by **Katie Crowley '06**. In the stands that night were Voith's parents, Daniela and **Dick Voith '77**, who holds the distinction of being Haverford's all-time leading scorer in men's basketball, with 2,175 career points. Nina Voith, who played her home games in Gooding Arena under a large banner heralding her dad's achievements,



saw her basketball career interrupted by a knee injury that led her to take a year off from school. "You'd never know by looking at her that she was ever injured," coach Bobbi Morgan told the *Delaware County Daily Times*, which ran a story about Voith's record-breaking game. Before the start of the team's next scheduled game, with McDaniel College, the Athletic Department honored Voith (above, far right) and her fellow graduating seniors (from left), Cara Wyant, Rachel Baskin, and Hope Rainey, as they closed out their collegiate careers. The four players have made 2014 the winningest class in women's basketball program history.

A record-setting heptathlon performance at the Widener **INDOOR TRACK & FIELD** Invitational earned Jeffrey Ainsley '16 (below) the Centennial Conference Field Performer of the Week award in February. Ainsley broke the school and Centennial records with a winning two-day total of



4,416 points. On his first day, Ainsley stormed to the lead with season-best performances in the 55-meter dash, long jump, high jump, and shot put. He won each event to finish the day with 2,540 points. Ainsley's career-best performances on day two in the pole vault, 55-meter hurdles, and 1,000-meter run catapulted the sophomore to his record score, which ranks number 20 on the national performance list.

FIELD HOCKEY players Bryn Bissey '14 and Sarah Waldis '15 (below) were named to the 2013 All-Centennial Conference team. All-conference selections and awards are voted on by the league's coaches at the



end of the regular season and before the conference tournament. The duo helped lead the 2013 Fords into the semifinal round of the postseason conference tournament for the fifth straight season.

Following an undefeated conference regular season, the **WOMEN'S SOCCER** team competed in the NCAA tournament as an at-large bid. This was the team's second straight appearance in the NCAA playoffs.

—Reporting by Gregg Petcoff and Missy Dougherty, Haverford Sports Information



Keep up with your favorite Haverford team at haverfordathletics.com. For more about alumni athletic events and game schedules click on the site's "alumni" tab.

mixed media

BOOKS

Q&A: Anjan Chatterjee '80

What makes someone (or something) beautiful? How is beauty related to pleasure? And why does art—which isn't always, strictly speaking, beautiful—seem to be a fundamental part of our humanity? These are just a few of the questions that Anjan Chatterjee seeks to answer in his book **The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and Enjoy Art**. But Chatterjee isn't an art historian, anthropologist, or philosopher exploring these questions of aesthetics. He is a professor of neuroscience and physician at the University of Pennsylvania and an expert in the field of neuroaesthetics, which uses neurological research to investigate how encountering beauty and appreciating art affect brain function. And though aesthetic preferences can seem personal, ephemeral, or hard to explain, Chatterjee offers scientific reasons and empirical evidence to illustrate the brain's—and therefore, the human—experience of beauty. **David Cook '64** talked to Chatterjee about his research.

David Cook: So, is beauty universal?

Anjan Chatterjee: People often hear the phrase “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” which suggests that people differ in what they regard as [beautiful]. The curious thing is, when you look at this, there is considerable consistency in what people regard as beautiful. Faces, for example, are the paradigmatic object that people think of as being beautiful or not beautiful. Most of the research shows that judgments of facial beauty are

consistent across cultures and even perhaps, more surprisingly, that infants tend to look at faces that adults think of as beautiful more than they do at faces that are less beautiful. And presumably, this is happening before culture has had a tremendous influence on how infants view the world. Having said that, culture and personal histories certainly play a role, and I think probably start modifying how we think of beauty, or experience beauty—[it] starts modifying this core experience that is likely to be hardwired.

DC: How is art related to beauty?

AC: Many people think of art and beauty as closely related. In fact, if you do surveys of people, just on the term “aesthetics” they link it to beauty more often than any other term. But this flies in the face of what happens when many people, for example, go into contemporary-art galleries, where it's not

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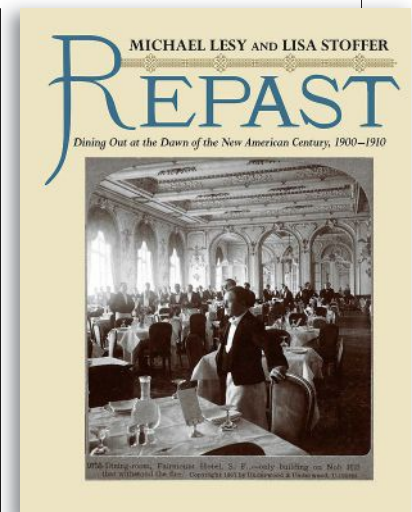
Repast: Dining Out at the Dawn of the New American Century, 1900–1910

Michael Lesy and
LISA STOFFER '87

Lisa Stoffer comes from a long line of chefs. Her grandfather worked his way up from cooking on a private yacht while still in his teens to running the kitchen at the Lord Jeffrey Inn in Amherst, Mass. And her great-grandfather was a hotel resort chef in Bermuda in the early 1900s and ran a Boston restaurant. So it makes sense that Stoffer, who works as Amherst College's director of foundation and corporate relations, would choose the world of food as the topic for her first book.

“I think we're a really food-driven society,” she says. “Food is so fundamental to what everyone does. [Eating] is one of the essential things that people of every social class and circumstance do, so you can learn a lot about people by tracing what they ate.”

Repast is a culinary tour of early-20th-century dining—from the then-new, sexy trend of ethnic eating in big-city Chinatowns across America to the introduction of the country's earliest “fast food” with the birth of the Automat. Created with Michael Lesy, a literary journalism professor at



Hampshire College and the author of some 11 nonfiction books, including the cult classic *Wisconsin Death Trip*, the well-researched book tells the story of the rich, cream-sauced worlds of fine dining in tandem with the story of the industrial revolution's impact on food culture. Like many of Lesy's other books, *Repast* is replete with period images: Photographs, old-timey newspaper ads for cereals and products unappetizingly described as “salad creams,” and reproductions of antique menus culled from the New York Public Library's Buttolph



Menu Collection are woven throughout.

The book thus represents a marriage of the worlds of its two creators—hers of cooking and food, and his of photographic histories and literary journalism—which makes sense, since the two authors are, in fact, married to each other.

“The best analogy I can come up with [for writing a book with your spouse] is that it’s like taking a major trip with someone . . . with whom you’ve never traveled before,” says Stoffer. “You may think you know the person, but really you get to know them in a different way.”

Stoffer and Lesy worked by splitting up the five major chapters, researching and writing about their chosen topics separately, and then editing the book collaboratively. He took on the era’s ethnic food, the introduction of early fast-food chain



Lisa Stoffer '87 (above) and her husband/collaborator Michael Lesy were inspired by antique menus, such as this one from Au Chat Noir (right), which dates from around 1900.

restaurants, and the “pure-food scandals” that resulted in the government’s first food-regulation law in 1906. She wrote about high-end dining and the travails of women in an era when they were often seated in separate rooms (or turned away) at restaurants when they didn’t have a male companion—and about the first generations of working women who had to contend with the rules of propriety while finding a place to



eat during their lunch breaks.

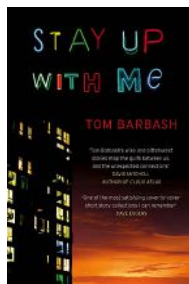
“I think for working-class women, who simply didn’t have that much money to spend on food, it was hard to find affordable places that wouldn’t make you sick,” says Stoffer. “But there was at least a kind of freedom to go to a quick lunch or to go to a saloon. Once women got into the middle-class mindset of what’s proper and appropriate, it got a lot scarier in some ways. I think those women struggled in

a different way to find places to eat. . . . Men didn’t know how to behave toward women who were newly independent and on their own, and so they behaved inappropriately a lot of the time. Women diners faced a surprising amount of rude behavior and sometimes downright harassment.”

But the most surprising thing Stoffer discovered while researching the era was how similar the early 20th century’s attitude toward food was to today’s.

“Even though there have been tremendous changes in our society, a lot of the same things obsess us,” she says. “Is our food healthy? Is it convenient? Are people cooking enough? Are people eating together enough at home? Are we eating too much? Are we eating the wrong things? Do we need to go on a diet? We’re still wondering the same things.” —Rebecca Raber

More Alumni Titles



TOM BARBASH '83: *Stay Up With Me* (HarperCollins) Barbash, writer of the award-winning *The Last Chance* and the best-selling *On Top of the World: Cantor Fitzgerald, Howard Lutnick, and 9/11; A Story of Loss and Renewal*, has released his first collection of

short stories, which, despite (or perhaps because of) the sadness, loneliness, or pain of their protagonists, *The New York Times* called “addictive . . . like potato chips or a stiff drink.”

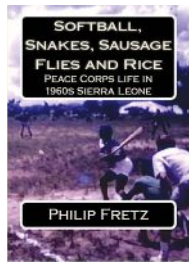
STEVE BESCHLOSS '80: *The Gunman and His Mother: Lee Harvey Oswald, Marguerite Oswald, and the Making of an Assassin* (Media Wave) This Kindle single by Beschloss, a Pulitzer



Prize-nominated journalist, draws on a largely unexplored public record, interviews with family members, and Lee Harvey Oswald’s own writing to depict his lonely childhood and troubled bond with his mother and trace the origin of an American tragedy.

More Alumni Titles

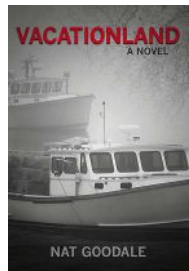
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PHILIP FRETZ '67:
Softball, Snakes, Sausage Flies and Rice: Peace Corps Experience in 1960s Sierra Leone (CreateSpace)

Fretz, an early recruit to the Peace Corps, uses diary entries and letters

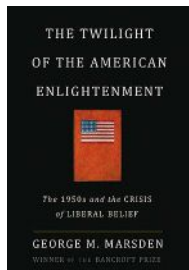
he wrote home to his parents to detail what life was like for him as the first volunteer sent to teach English at the Kenema Technical Institute in Sierra Leone.



NAT GOODALE '76:
Vacationland (Bowditch Press)

Though he now lives in Ecuador, Goodale was a 40-year resident of Waldo County, Maine, where he set this novel about a fifth-generation

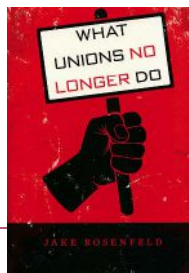
lobsterman battling his rich, renovation-happy new neighbors, his upper-class girlfriend's father, and a fellow lobsterman who covets his territory.



GEORGE M. MARSDEN '59: *The Twilight of the American Enlightenment: The 1950s and the Crisis of Liberal Belief* (Perseus Books)

Marsden, a Bancroft Prize-winning historian and professor emeritus

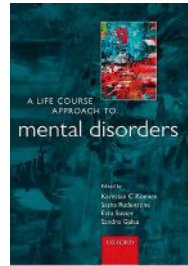
at Notre Dame, explores how the intellectual, secular elite in the 1950s failed to establish a new purpose for post-World War II America, paving the way for a religious reawakening and abdicating leadership to a radical new generation of Christian thinkers.



JAKE ROSENFELD '00:
What Unions No Longer Do (Harvard University Press)

An associate professor of sociology at the

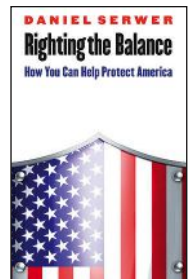
University of Washington, Rosenfeld investigates the broad consequences of organized labor's diminishment since its heyday in the 1940s, asking why unionization rates and public approval are so low today and what that dramatic shift in public opinion means for Americans in the 21st century.



Karestan C. Koenen, **SASHA RUDENSTINE '04**, Ezra Susser, and Sandro Galea: *A Life Course Approach to Mental Disorders* (Oxford University Press)

Rudenstine, an early-career investigator, is

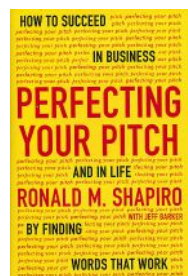
one of the author-editors of this collection, which examines the interplay of social and biological factors in the production of a wide range of mental disorders throughout life, from the perinatal period through to old age.



DANIEL SERWER '67:
Righting the Balance: How You Can Help Protect America (Potomac Books)

Serwer, a 40-year public-service and peacebuilding veteran and now a professor of conflict

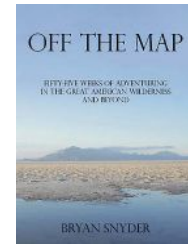
management at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, focuses this book on how to strengthen America's civilian foreign-policy instruments to match its strong military arm without breaking the bank.



RON SHAPIRO '64:
Perfecting Your Pitch: How to Succeed in Business and in Life by Finding Words That Work (Hudson Street Press)

In a 40-year career in which he's negotiated more than \$1 billion in contacts, Shapiro has found that planned, highly effective

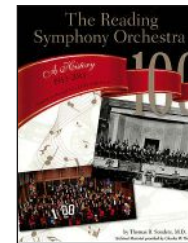
communication is crucial to the success of any negotiation. In this book, he offers would-be negotiators advice on how to maximize their message, prepare for counterarguments, and deliver results with confidence across a range of situations.



BRYAN SNYDER '95:
Off the Map: Fifty-five Weeks of Adventuring in the Great American Wilderness and Beyond (CreateSpace)

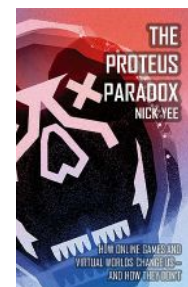
This collection of 55 outdoor adventures,

featuring confrontations with bears, mosquitos, and marmots, draws from several summers Snyder spent exploring the rougher and more precarious edges of America's natural splendor.



THOMAS B. SOUDERS '61: *The Reading Symphony Orchestra: A History, 1913-2013 Including the Program Notes for the 100th Season* (Reading Eagle Company)

Souders, a retired ophthalmologist, compiled the 100-year history of the Reading Symphony Orchestra, which includes photographs and archival lists of all classical concerts and soloists presented during its first century.



NICK YEE '01:
The Proteus Paradox: How Online Games and Virtual Worlds Change Us—And How They Don't (Yale University Press)

A research scientist at Ubisoft, Yee is interested in video-gamer behavior, and in this book, his first, he uses player surveys, social science experiments, and in-game data to illustrate who plays fantasy games, what virtual worlds are about, and why they matter.



Charlie Rubin '08, seen above in his Brooklyn studio, mostly uses a hybrid process for his photos, shooting film and then scanning the negatives into a computer to create a digital file he can manipulate. His recent book, *Strange Paradise*, showcases these works, like *All Your Dreams Belong to Us*, 2012 (top right) and *Text Me When U Get There*, 2013 (bottom right).

The photographs of **Charlie Rubin '08** make the ordinary seem extraordinary. In *Strange Paradise*, a new book that collects the work of the Brooklyn-based artist, fronds of a fern, a pattern on the upholstery of a train's seat, and the twisted branch of a skinny tree are all overlaid with similar psychedelic splashes of color—some naturally occurring and others created with computer manipulation or painting and collage in post-production. This not only adds whimsy to everyday objects, but also acts as a comment on technology's effect on the medium of photography.

"Some [of my] photographs are altered by a process of adding ink or found objects over photographic prints and rescanning them," says Rubin. "This helps reinforce the play between what is 'real' in the images and what is altered, and changes the history of the image. Through this method, a certain tension is created, which could reflect a changing culture or our digital age."

That changing culture has, however, been good to Rubin. The former growth and structure of cities major and 2012 graduate of Parsons the New School for Design's M.F.A. program in photography has been experiencing his first taste of professional success. In September, he was chosen for the "Talent Issue" of *Foam*, the international magazine of photography. Almost 1,600 photographers

applied for the honor, and Rubin was one of only 16 who were selected to be profiled in the Fall 2013 issue. Additionally, photos by the winners were shown at a small exhibition in Amsterdam during the Unseen Photo Fair in September and are part of an exhibition at Rosphoto in St. Petersburg, Russia, which runs through mid-March.

"It's really good exposure—and that's one important aspect of being an emerging artist," says Rubin of his *Foam* award. "There is also validation that comes along with it. Sometimes [art] can be a frustrating field, and these things start to substantiate your career in a way that is hard to express otherwise."

With the recent release of his book and the cross-country signing events that it has brought, Rubin has been busy. He also recently started a series of open-call art shows in Brooklyn, called Neighboring Walls, and contributed to *B-Sides*, a project that shares the cellphone photos of artists. Going forward, he has more photos to take, more art to create—he's currently experimenting with tapestry and other unique display methods—and more of his imagination to mine for inspiration. After all, "a Charlie Rubin image is," he says, "vivid, dreamlike, and a bit odd."

—R.R.

For more information: charlierubinstudio.com and charlierubin.tumblr.com

MUSIC

Back when **Greg Spatz '86** clapped a set of headphones on **Sarah McQuaid '87** as she sat in the D.C. Sunken Lounge, introducing her to Irish fiddle player Kevin Burke's album *Promenade*, she had no idea she'd eventually make her living as a musician, let alone make her own albums with Gerry O'Beirne, *Promenade's* producer. At the time, she was a sophomore philosophy major with little previous interest in Irish music. But after a junior year abroad at France's University of Strasbourg, where she joined



Sarah McQuaid '87

a traditional Irish band called Mixed Brew, her destiny was set. She returned to campus with Mixed Brew's banjo player in tow, started a band with him, and began touring America. In the decades since, McQuaid has moved permanently across the pond, first to Ireland with that banjo player after he became her first husband, and then to the U.K., where she now resides with her second husband (another Irishman), their 10-year-old son, and 8-year-old daughter. She has worked as a music journalist for a daily paper, written and recorded an album under the name Mama with British pop star Zoë, and released three of her own records.

“My first album, *When Two Lovers Meet*, was mostly traditional Irish material plus one of my own songs,” she says. “The second album, *I Won't Go Home 'Til Morning*, was mostly American folk music plus two of my own songs, and *The Plum Tree and the Rose* [the third] consists of nine of my own songs, three medieval [or] Elizabethan tracks, and a cover of John Martyn's ‘Solid Air.’”

Though happily ensconced in life abroad, McQuaid does get back to her homeland regularly. Just this winter she spent time in Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y., recording her fourth album, which is due out in February 2015, with Mice Parade's Adam Pierce and Felice Brothers producer Jeremy Backofen. And she adds eight weeks of U.S. dates to her busy tour schedule every fall. If you missed her last autumn, she'll be back again in September.

“Between performing, doing interviews, and driving hundreds of miles a day, there's not a lot of time for socializing,” she says. “But I do get to occasionally meet up with family, friends, and fellow Fords—[there were] quite a few of these on the last tour—and it's always great when that happens.”

—R.R.

For more information: sarahmcquaid.com

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a traditional Irish band called Mixed Brew, her destiny was set. She returned to campus with Mixed Brew's banjo player in tow, started a band with him, and began touring America. In the decades since, McQuaid has moved permanently across the pond, first to Ireland with that banjo player after he became her first husband, and then to the U.K., where she now resides with her second husband (another Irishman), their 10-year-old son, and 8-year-old daughter. She has worked as a music journalist for a daily paper, written and recorded an album under the name Mama with British pop star Zoë, and released three of her own records.

“My first album, *When Two Lovers Meet*, was mostly traditional Irish material

■
Rick Pressler '81 first learned guitar at age 7 from his banjo-playing grandfather, and in the 47 years since then he has made all kinds of music with his six-string: rock, klezmer, jazz, even a “truly horrible” rock opera. But his latest album, last year's jazz-guitar outing *Soft & Electric*, is only his second solo release ever. And his first, *Listening Room*, came out more than 13 years ago.

Why the long wait between albums? Pressler says he is slow-going when it comes to producing music. And it doesn't help that he has a busy professional and family life in addition. He has worked in education reform for the past 12 years, including starting and running his own charter school in New Brunswick, N.J., and he and his wife have welcomed three children to their family in the past six years.

“My musical life has always been a wonderful counterpoint to my education work,” says Pressler. “It's informed my notions about rigor and about the different ways children experience the world and express themselves. I don't expect students to be alike, and I don't find most of the things that drive educators crazy particularly vexing. After dealing with musicians for years, the eccentric behavior of kindergarteners is almost reassuring.”

Though he only just released *Soft & Electric*, he has already backlogged quite a bit of new material for his next album, which he hopes to release in the next year or two. He plays live only locally, near his Roosevelt, N.J., home, but you can find his music on Amazon, iTunes, and CD Baby.

Pressler, who majored in music at Haverford, has long been inspired by one of his professors, the late John Davison. “He guided me with great patience and understanding, and supported my work unconditionally, even though I was not a talented or particularly productive composition student,” he says. “He wrote me a letter shortly after I graduated, at a time when I felt like quite a musical failure, and it kept me going long enough to regain my footing on the guitar and find a musical voice. I owe him a great debt of gratitude, which I try to pay forward whenever I can.”

—R.R.

For more information: rpressler.com



Rick Pressler '81

■
Being in a band is like being a part of family—even more so when your musical group is made up of actual relatives, as **Karen Cardozo '88** knows only too well. She formed her band, Show of Cards, with two of her five younger brothers, Joe and Mike, in 2009. (Fellow Ford **Kevin Cardozo '91** is one of the clan, but not part of the group.)

“Joe and Mike [were] born, respectively, 16 and 20 years after me,” says Karen. “[I'm] the oldest sibling and only girl. I never could have envisioned forming a family band with ‘the babies,’ and yet only they and I turned out to be musicians!”

All three of the Cardozo siblings were working on their own inde-

pendent musical projects—Karen was previously one-half of the folk-rock duo Chattering Magpies—but when they found themselves finally living close to one another in Amherst, Mass., they took the opportunity to collaborate. Karen, the rhythm guitarist and singer, brought the songs she'd written, but with her brothers' West African and hip-hop musical backgrounds, they were able to turn her folk tunes into surprisingly textured arrangements.

Recording their debut, *Leap Year*, five years ago “remains one of the coolest experiences I've ever had,” says Karen, who loved “witnessing my folk-rock songs transform in the hands of a much younger musician whose influences and talents were very different from mine.”

After that, Joe moved to an ashram in India to devote himself to a rigorous meditation practice. So when Show of Cards regrouped last year to record the band's sophomore effort, *Something Better*, Mike replaced his brother behind the board as producer and pushed Karen's songs into even moodier, more diverse territory. On different tracks, Karen marries her sweet, Natalie Merchant-like lilt to country torch



Karen Cardozo '88 and Mike Cardozo

songs, jazzy pop melodies, and soulful acoustic soundscapes.

“As much as I love folk-rock, after decades of buying albums and attending live shows, I often get the feeling that once I have heard one or two compositions on a given album, I have heard them all,” she says. “Perhaps I'm overcompensating, but as a result of never wishing to inflict that sense of predictability or boredom on anyone, I strongly resist completing any song that reminds me of any other song I've written.”

With Karen's recent appointment to a tenure-track position as a professor of interdisciplinary studies at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and her busy family life, raising two teenage sons with **Jon Kane '87**, Show of Cards primarily plays live in western Massachusetts. “[But] we do plan to keep an active schedule of playing out through 2014 to continue promoting *Something Better*,” she says. “And any Fords who can figure out how to finance a tour are welcome to invite us out to play wherever you are!”

—R.R.

For more information: showofcards.com

Q&A: Anjan Chatterjee '80

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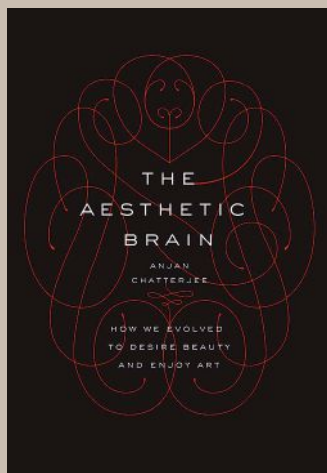
clear that beauty is even relevant anymore. That fact has proven to be a challenge for scientists that are trying to understand why we have such a thing as art and what the parameters are that make something art. Those sets of questions were among the most difficult that I tried to address in the book.

DC: How did being a philosophy major at Haverford influence this work?

AC: I think it made me be interested in ideas in general. At the time, the Haverford philosophy department dissuaded people from becoming academic philosophers. Their goal was to infect different fields with people who thought philosophically. And that education, I think, made me become a cognitive neurologist, because questions of the mind seemed the most interesting thing that a neurologist or even a biologist could be asking. Many people go into neurology with this interest, but

relatively few people make it the focus of their profession. I think my education in philosophy is what kept me motivated to pursue this general area.

DC: In neurology there has been a fair amount of information generated, especially in view of the new neuroimaging capabilities, of how brain injuries affect higher cortical function. Do you have any views on the effect of brain



injury on certain aspects of aesthetic functioning?

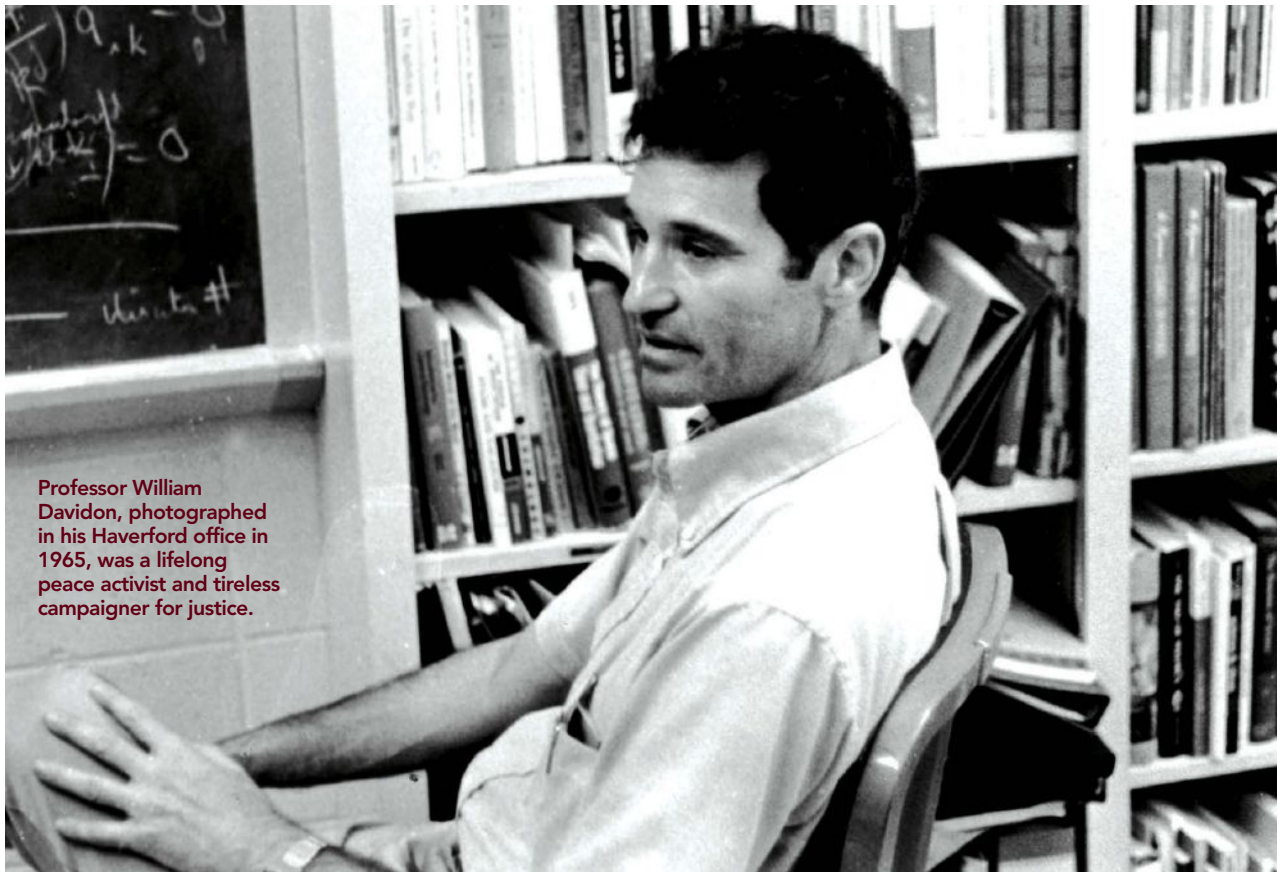
AC: That's a really interesting question, and one I don't address in this book. [It] may be the subject of a future book. Occasionally when you have brain injury, in a paradoxical way, some functions actually get better than they were before the brain injury. This does not happen very often. But, it turns out, the artwork of some artists has been thought to improve after the onset of their [neurological] disease. And this phenomenon provides a model for us to think about how aesthetic production is organized in the brain and why it would be possible that injury could improve such a complex ability.

DC: What do you see as the future of the field of neuroaesthetics?

AC: Neuroaesthetics is at a critical inflection point. I think it is poised to enter into the mainstream, but is not in the main-

stream right now. Increasingly, I have students asking me about studying this field. I get invited to give talks about this topic outside of the neurosciences. But our institutions are typically conservative and tend to lag behind new intellectual movements. The biggest problem for progress in neuroaesthetics is the lack of funding right now, which puts limits on progress in the field. Many people think that interdisciplinary work is good and desirable, [yet] at the same time, it's risky for young scholars to engage in because the institutional means by which we are provided incentives and rewards don't lend [themselves] naturally to interdisciplinary work.

David G. Cook, M.D., practiced and taught neurology at Pennsylvania Hospital until 2006, by which time he was a clinical professor at the University of Pennsylvania.



Professor William Davidon, photographed in his Haverford office in 1965, was a lifelong peace activist and tireless campaigner for justice.

A BURGLARY UNCOVERED

By Mark Wagenveld

IN 1971, a clandestine group broke into an FBI office in Media, Pa., stole thousands of documents and then made them public, revealing damning details about the agency's secret surveillance of anti-war activists, African Americans, and others. A massive investigation produced no arrests, but the release of the documents changed history—and the FBI. Now, a new book identifies Haverford professor William Davidon as the man behind the daring caper.

PHOTO: HAVERFORD COLLEGE ARCHIVES

When former Haverford Professor William C. Davidon died last fall, his many achievements were recounted in admiring detail.

In the classroom, he was a brilliant, unassuming physics teacher and co-author of an arcane breakthrough in the world of math. Outside it, he was a lifelong peace activist, pacifist, and tireless campaigner for justice.

All true enough.

There was just one detail missing, which, had it been publicly known, would have been in the very first paragraph of his obituary. It will undoubtedly be the way he is remembered years hence.

Haverford's Bill Davidon was the mastermind of a burglary during the era of Vietnam War protests that turned the public perception of Director J. Edgar Hoover's FBI upside down and inside out. Davidon did it by recruiting a team that broke into the FBI's satellite office in Media, Pa., removed about 1,000 files in suitcases, and then sent copies to newspapers and some of the groups the FBI was spying on.

Davidon, 86, died in November of complications of Parkinson's disease, in a Colorado nursing home where he had lived in recent years. [See "In Memoriam," p. 72] He retired from Haverford in 1991 after three decades here, and in the years thereafter quietly worked with author Betty Medsger, a former *Washington Post* reporter, as she assembled the burglars' story, along with a thorough examination of how the FBI handled—some might say mishandled—the investigation.

At Davidon's death, the story was just weeks away from being revealed in Medsger's *The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover's Secret FBI*, which was published on Jan. 7. That day, extensive stories about Davidon and some of the other burglars who had agreed to come forward appeared on the front pages of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *The New York Times*.

Despite one of the largest investigations in FBI history, neither Davidon nor any member of his burglary team—which included two other professors, along with college students who had dropped out to protest the war full-time—would ever be arrested in connection with the break-in.

The revelations about the FBI's secret war on political dissent reverberated on area campuses and throughout the nation for months in 1971. Then, almost like a volcano, the story erupted again three years later, in even greater and more chilling detail, when

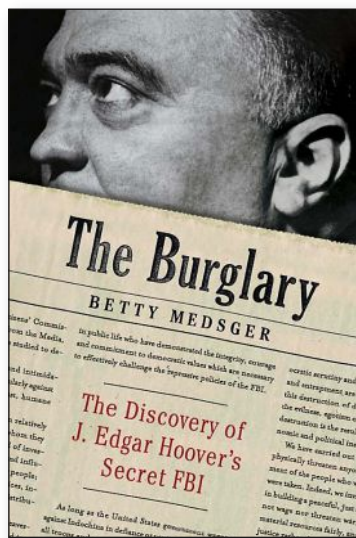
the FBI was forced to divulge details of its top-secret "COINTELPRO"—counter-intelligence programs that Hoover directed against groups he deemed to be subversive. A Media document was the smoking gun that led to COINTELPRO's discovery.

Historians of the bureau agree that the revelations' impact on Hoover's FBI was dramatic. Sanford J. Ungar wrote in his landmark 1975 work, *FBI: An Uncensored Look Behind the Walls*, that the files taken from the Media office "seemed to show a government agency, once the object of almost universal respect and awe, reaching out with tentacles to get a grasp on, or a lead into, virtually every part of American society." William Sullivan, a former top aide to Hoover, put it more bluntly: The files, he said, "proved beyond a doubt that the FBI was investigating students as if they were criminals."

The Philadelphia area had become a cauldron of protest as the Vietnam War dragged on, with demonstrations and draft board raids. Davidon and others strongly believed, but could not prove, that among the protesters were informers and infiltrators working for the government. Sometimes they did not blend in well, and were also the ones urging others toward violence.

"It sounds like a joke, but literally there were people like that who had tie-dyed T-shirts and crew cuts, or bell bottoms and Florsheim wingtips," recalls Keith Forsyth. One of

HAVERFORD'S BILL DAVIDON WAS THE MASTERMIND OF A BURGLARY DURING THE ERA OF VIETNAM WAR PROTESTS THAT TURNED THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER'S FBI UPSIDE DOWN AND INSIDE OUT.



Davidon's recruits, he was a 20-year-old Ohioan who dropped out of college to oppose the war. "It was funny to us at the time—it was funny, but it wasn't funny."

Bonnie Raines, another Davidon recruit, says: "We knew, as many people in the movement did in Philadelphia, that there was surveillance, that there was intimidation, that there were informers, informants planted in the classrooms in universities. We all knew that was going on, but there wasn't really any way to prove it."

As told by Medsger, Davidon decided to deliver the evidence. It was a big step up from raiding a draft board, something that he and every member of his team had been involved in.

A Burglary Uncovered

For Davidon, it would be the high point of decades of political activism that included campaigning against nuclear weapons, marching for civil rights in the South, and being arrested several times in peaceful war protests. A “secular Jewish humanist,” as Medsger describes him, he was influenced by the writings of Albert Einstein and moved easily in many circles. He was at home with Quakers in nonviolent resistance to the war, and he drew inspiration from the “Catholic Left,” which advocated turning resistance up a notch through non-violent direct action—such as break-ins in which no one would be harmed.

By early 1971, the team was spending evenings doing surveillance on a four-story building opposite the Delaware County Courthouse, at Front and South streets in Media. The Philadelphia FBI had a field office in a suite on the second floor, and there were apartments on the third and fourth floors.

THURSDAY NIGHT, MARCH 11, DAVIDON WOULD BREAK THE NEWS OF THE BURGLARY AT A FORUM IN SWARTHMORE. TO A STARTLED AUDIENCE, HE READ A 550-WORD MANIFESTO FROM THE “CITIZENS COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE FBI,” SAYING SOMEONE HAD PASSED IT ALONG TO HIM TO MAKE IT PUBLIC.

The front door stayed unlocked at night. After their surveillance, the group would reconvene at the Raines’ home in Philadelphia’s Germantown section to compare notes, while Forsyth practiced his recently acquired lock-picking skills.

The night of the burglary, Forsyth picked the lock on an unused door, popped loose a barrel bolt, and then forced back a filing cabinet placed against the door, so that a team of four burglars could enter and clean out the filing cabinets.

It is breathtaking to retrace Davidon’s steps around that night, March 8, 1971, especially given that he was keeping up his teaching schedule and trying not to arouse suspicion.

In January, federal prosecutors, who had been tapping his phone, had named him as an unindicted co-conspirator in a supposed plot with the Rev. Philip Berrigan and other Catholic war resisters to blow up steam tunnels in Washington, D.C., and kidnap Henry Kissinger, President Nixon’s national security advisor. On March 6, the Saturday before the Media break-in, Davidon traveled to Washington with two other activists to meet personally with Kissinger, who had reached out to them. He returned to Philadelphia, finished preparations for the burglary, and on Monday night directed the operation from a motel room he rented near the Granite Run Mall.

For the rest of that night, and evenings thereafter, he and the other burglars would be examining the stolen files in a

borrowed house on the grounds of Fellowship Farm, an interfaith center near Pottstown, Pa., preparing them for mailing. And that Thursday night, March 11, he would break the news of the burglary at a forum in Swarthmore. To a startled audience, he read a 550-word manifesto from the “Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI,” saying someone had passed it along to him to make it public.

In fact, a wire service had already dismissed the statement as not news, and the FBI had barely acknowledged the theft of some “government property.” Davidon was impatient for the story to get out and could wait no longer. *The Delaware County Times* ran the story the next day.

The manifesto said the burglary was done “because we believe that the FBI has betrayed its democratic trust.” The last paragraph was penned by Bonnie Raines’ husband, John, a religion professor at Temple University. They, along with Davidon, had not only their careers and personal freedom at risk, but also small children at home. Davidon and his then-wife, the writer and activist Ann Morrisett (who did not approve of the burglary), were living on campus with their two girls, then 5 and 7.

“In doing this, we know full well the legal jeopardy in which we place ourselves,” the manifesto said. “We feel most keenly our responsibilities to those who daily depend upon us, and who we put in jeopardy by our own jeopardy. But under present circumstances, this seems to us our best way of loving and serving them, and in fact, all the people of this land.”

The public’s first glimpse of the stolen documents came on March 24, 1971, in *The Washington Post*. The burglary team knew of Medsger, who had covered religion and antiwar protests at *The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, and they sent a packet to her at the *Post*, where she was working at the time. Other newspapers got the packets too, but only the *Post* went with a story the next day. It was also picked up by and played prominently in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

In her *Washington Post* article, Medsger wrote: “Copies of stolen FBI records sent to *The Washington Post* described the bureau’s surveillance of campus and black activist organizations at one college as involving the local police chief, the postmaster, letter carriers, campus security officer and a switchboard operator.” The school Medsger was referring to was Swarthmore College.

Medsger’s story also related guidance coming from FBI headquarters regarding the “New Left” student movement of the time. The bureau said that “more interviews with these subjects and hangers-on are in order for plenty of reasons,



(above) The Media, Pa., building that housed the burgled FBI offices. (right) Davidon being arrested for civil disobedience during a peaceful anti-Vietnam War protest.



chief of which are it will enhance the paranoia endemic in these circles and it will further serve to get the point across there is an FBI agent behind every mailbox.”

The FBI never attempted to question Davidon, but he was certainly in the bureau’s sights for the burglary, and the FBI hoped to indict him in the “kidnap Kissinger” plot—a case that fell apart in a Harrisburg, Pa., courtroom. Years later, Davidon filed a freedom-of-information request for what the FBI had on him. When it was assembled, the “MEDBURG” file (the codename for the FBI’s investigation of the Media break-in) ran nearly 34,000 pages.

The college administration did not attempt to rein in what it knew of Davidon’s activism, according to Medsger. Once, President John Coleman spoke to him after a demonstration supporting tomato pickers in New Jersey. Davidon “said it was very mild and he never felt any pressure” to stop what he was doing, Medsger says. In a 1997 oral history, however, Davidon said that some of his faculty colleagues “felt that I was nuts.”

The administration presumably did not know that Davidon would be using college photocopiers to run off the stolen files. He and John Raines pressed their office copiers into use after the burglars’ own copier at the Pottstown hideaway turned out to be a clunker. Then they learned from newspaper stories that the FBI had gotten help from Xerox in getting samples from thousands of copiers, in hopes of finding one used to run off the Media files. Raines, at his office at Temple, overheard a Xerox technician saying the drum of the machine in his outer office needed to be replaced. Not knowing what that meant, and fearing they would be found out, he called Davidon, according to Medsger’s account.

Davidon, hoping to throw any investigators off track, quickly made a scratch on the drum of the copier he had been using and waited until the administrative staff left for the day. Then, with the help of a philosophy professor who had turned down a chance to join the burglary team, he switched the copier’s

drum with one in the president’s outer office. “Sure enough, Xerox workers came to Davidon’s department a couple days later and made sample documents on the Xerox copier,” Medsger wrote. The FBI never found the machines it was looking for.

That was one of many close calls that Medsger relates as the burglars tried to resume their daily lives. Not all of them were so confident as Davidon. The third college teacher in the group, a 37-year-old woman whose identity is protected in the book, was badly shaken by agents’ attempt to interview her, and long after she agonized that she might have taken off a glove in the Media office and left a fingerprint.

Davidon had no such worries, but late in his life he was struck by the enormous risk the burglary had posed to his family. In his interviews with Medsger, who calls him “one of the gentlest and bravest people I’ve ever met,” Davidon was modest in talking about the burglary, putting it in the context of a continuing struggle. “It was a matter of keeping alive a sense of purpose and accomplishment when the forces seemed so overwhelming,” he said. “Not just Media, but a lot of other actions were important to me, to others, in just building that sense that the struggle isn’t futile....”

Mark Wagenveld is a former Philadelphia Inquirer reporter and editor. He is retired and lives in Philadelphia.

THE BURGLARY AND THE TRI-CO

Two former editors of *The Bryn Mawr-Haverford College News* recall what happened in 1971 when some purloined FBI documents fell into their hands. **By David Espo '71 and Peter Goldberger '71**

The April Fools edition of *The Bryn Mawr-Haverford College News* in 1971 contained an item that could be considered humorous only on a campus better known for its anti-Vietnam War activity than for its dormitory life. Professor Bill Davidon, it said, had been indicted by the U.S. Justice Department in a conspiracy to steal 277 Penn Central boxcars and sell them to Haverford as sophomore housing. The FBI was investigating.

Haverford would soon learn the truth as weirder still.

Three weeks earlier, a break-in at the Media, Pa., FBI office had "liberated"

numerous government documents. Davidon was the mastermind, although he did not enter the premises, according to revelations in *The Burglary*, a new book by Betty Medsger, a former *Philadelphia Bulletin* reporter who wrote extensively about the documents in 1971.

The files disclosed FBI surveillance on local college campuses, including Haverford, and someone—we never knew who—made sure the *News* got copies of several of the documents.

The break-in was no inconsequential event. It revealed the stunning news that the FBI had been conducting widespread

domestic surveillance for more than a decade. To some, that disclosure invites comparisons with the recent details in the news about the activities of the National Security Agency.

At Haverford, though, the news was memorably local. The documents disclosed that the school's athletic trainer, Richard Morsch (more on him later), had been talking with FBI agents on and off for more than a decade about the students he knew. Given the size of the student body then, that could well have been all of them.

The *News'* editors in chief in March 1971 were juniors, seemingly with less



The first issue of the *News* to report on the contents of the stolen FBI files told of the Bureau's surveillance of African American student groups and its desire to recruit student informants.

weighty concerns like final exams to worry about. That left us, as senior editors, to read the documents with amazement, anger, and some trepidation.

Yet, with the serenity of 21-year-olds and the clear view afforded from our basement office in Leeds, we never debated whether to publish material from secret government files stolen by the self-appointed "Citizens' Commission to Investigate the FBI." In retrospect, this seems more foolhardy than brave. Later disclosures showed that the FBI's tactics at the time included not only straightforward surveillance but also intimidation and worse.

Yet publish we did.

A drive into North Philadelphia, to the office of one of the spied-on groups that had received copies of their files in the mail from the "Commission," netted some of the documents. Others were collected on a journey to Swarthmore College, where the FBI evidently had a greater interest than at Haverford, and where our counterparts at the *Phoenix* also wrote about the FBI files they received. The documents that hit closest to home came a week or two later by U.S. mail, "direct from the Commission," as the *News* boasted, in case professional journalists were curious.

In the first issue of the paper to report on the files, dated April 2, the *News* carried a banner headline reporting we had copies of documents describing the FBI's surveillance of a 1969 international conference of war resisters at Haverford, and of the Swarthmore Afro-American Students Society. One memo said the bureau's goal was "increasing the paranoia endemic" in "New Left circles."

The memos concerning black groups had a different tone. One said that "campus disorders involving black students pose a definite threat to the Nation's security and stability."

Helpfully—and probably for no reason other than that we could—the *News* published a partial photocopy of an FBI memo dated Aug. 1, 1969, from a special agent named Thomas F. Lewis. It noted that FBI higher-ups had told the Media, Pa., office that the bureau wanted to know

if there were any indications that the war resisters' conference "will generate any anti-U.S. propaganda. Be most discreet in handling this matter," it added.

Be discreet because anti-U.S. propaganda was protected by the First Amendment right to free speech? Because it would have been embarrassing to be discovered spying on a public gathering of pacifists? The memo did not say.

Haverford President John R. Coleman, who had spoken at the War Resisters International event, was quoted in our story. "There couldn't have been any problem about infiltrating," he said. The *News* piled on, reporting that the conference had been a series of open-door meetings.

The same article said that Coleman had released a statement acknowledging that, while the College had participated in government security checks on individuals seeking employment, "we will not condone or participate in any undercover investigations of a College community member."

Davidon also merited a mention in our article: "Several national publications have recently credited Haverford Prof. William Davidon with making [the] first public announcement of the theft." We went on to say that he had noted that his speech, given at Swarthmore, came after printed reports of the break-in.

Davidon later recalled that a Haverford student journalist had asked him if he was involved. Neither of us remembers posing the question. Nor, puzzlingly, did we try to find out if anyone else connected with Haverford might have been involved in the break-in.

A week later, the *News* reported on a document that indicated Haverford's President may have been the object of an anonymous FBI contact three years earlier. The apparent aim was to "influence Coleman's stance toward 'New Left' and other activist groups," the paper said.

Agent Lewis had been urged to anonymously mail reprints of articles criticizing the political stance and tactics of student activists "to college educators who have shown a reluctance to take decisive action against the New Left." Among the reprints

To: _____ FILE 100-49929
Att: _____ Title _____
 SAC _____
 ASAC _____ COINTELPRO - NEW LEFT
 Siny _____
Agent TOM LEWIS _____
 SE _____
 IC _____ RE: _____
 CG _____
 Steno _____
 Clerk _____ Rotor #: _____

ACTION DESIRED

<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Case
<input type="checkbox"/> Assign _____ Reassign _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare lead cards
<input type="checkbox"/> Bring file	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare tickler
<input type="checkbox"/> Call me	<input type="checkbox"/> Return assignment card
<input type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> Return file
<input type="checkbox"/> Deadline _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Search and return
<input type="checkbox"/> Deadline passed	<input type="checkbox"/> See me
<input type="checkbox"/> Delinquent	<input type="checkbox"/> Serial # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue	<input type="checkbox"/> Post <input type="checkbox"/> Recharge <input type="checkbox"/> Return
<input type="checkbox"/> Expedite	<input type="checkbox"/> Send to _____
<input type="checkbox"/> File	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit new charge out
<input type="checkbox"/> For information	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit report by _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Handle	<input type="checkbox"/> Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Initial & return	
<input type="checkbox"/> Leads need attention	
<input type="checkbox"/> Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.	

Bureau has suggested attached reprints be furnished to educators and administrators who are established sources. It may be mailed anonymously to college educators who have shown a reluctance to take decisive action against the "New Left". Positive results or comments by recipients should be furnished to the Bureau. LET ME KNOW OF DISPOSITION, AND ANY RESULTS.
SAC _____ E. E. Sussman _____
See reverse side Office _____

Tom: Can you handle Swarthmore, Haverford, Villanova

The most incendiary of the documents made public revealed the existence of the FBI's secret program of domestic spying, known as COINTELPRO.

was an article that the *News* reported "dealt with the alleged threat to the nation posed by campus disruptions at Columbia in the spring of 1968," a reference to a student-led takeover of a university building that had marked the beginning of an escalation in the aggressiveness of Students for a Democratic Society. (Many Haverford and Bryn Mawr students had participated less than a year earlier in mass sit-ins at the University of Pennsylvania, protesting military research contracts to be carried out at the then-proposed University City Science Center.)

The FBI's attempt to influence the attitudes of Haverford administrators was head-scratching. Haverford then had 700 or so students. And President Coleman was so in tune with the campus that one night as he left work, he offered to leave the light on for a solitary student protester who had rolled his sleeping bag out in front of Roberts Hall, which then housed the President's office.

The balance of that week's report dealt with documents recounting FBI surveillance of black student groups at about a dozen area schools, as well as the Villanova and Rutgers campuses more generally. The

The Burglary and the Tri-Co

FBI had also discerned a “need to infiltrate Philadelphia ghetto areas in an effort to head off potential race riots. ...” One other file stands out, also for its head-scratching quality.

After nearly a half-century, the FBI’s rather modest snooping at Haverford is all but forgotten. Davidon, who died last November, is a central figure in Medsger’s book. Yet the college itself scarcely figures in it. No surprise there. The documents we received amounted to fewer than three dozen of an estimated 1,000 that were taken, and very few touched on Haverford.

The *News* did report that the FBI’s



chaired by Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, was unsparing about the program and the men who oversaw it:

“The FBI resorted to counter-intelligence tactics in part because its chief officials believed that the existing law could not control the activities of certain dissident groups, and that court decisions had tied the hands of the intelligence community. Whatever opinion one holds about the policies of the targeted groups, many of the tactics employed by the FBI were indisputably degrading to a free society.”

During the second semester of our senior year, though, that verdict was still five



David Espo (left) and Peter Goldberger in their 1971 yearbook photos.

intensive and ultimately fruitless investigation into the break-in included a meeting where agents attempted to question Political Science Professor Sara Shumer in her Haverford campus office. Yet if anyone at Haverford other than Davidon played any role in the break-in, Medsger’s book doesn’t say so.

The historical importance of the Media break-in was the public disclosure of COINTELPRO, a secret program of domestic spying on blacks, anti-war activists (and presumed would-be activists), perceived Communists and others, carried out by the FBI under its long-time director, J. Edgar Hoover.

According to the agency’s current website, “The FBI began COINTELPRO—short for Counter-intelligence Program—in 1956 to disrupt the activities of the Communist Party of the United States.” The program steadily mushroomed. Two decades later, in 1976, a Senate committee

years in the future. Copies of the stolen documents kept finding us.

In mid-April came an untraceable plain white business envelope with a smudged postmark. The front-page headline it produced read: “Haverford Trainer Morsch Acknowledges 15-Year ‘Off And On’ Contact With FBI.”

Here was a painful, human dilemma. A man universally admired, liked and respected on campus was a regular point of contact for the FBI, and had been for years. An interview with him followed that was arguably as difficult for reporter as for subject. The *News* reported: “In acknowledging his long time association with the FBI, [he] concluded, ‘I never gave a bad report about anyone. If it was good, I said so. If it was bad, I said nothing.’”

The documents suggested otherwise, indicating that Morsch had sometimes conveyed less than flattering impressions. One student, for example, was judged to

be “real SDS/real Commie.”

The story went on to say that Coleman had urged Morsch to inform him if there were subsequent FBI contacts, a recommendation that the trainer said he was glad to hear. “The president commented that he saw ‘no need for further action at this point,’” the *News* reported.

The balance of that week’s story noted that a member of the Bryn Mawr administration acknowledged that he had been “approached by the FBI and quizzed in connection with the March 8 theft” in Media. It was part of a massive, yet ultimately unsuccessful, effort to identify those responsible.

The bureau also contacted Bryn Mawr to ask about a scheduled on-campus speech by a woman who was a defendant in an alleged plot to kidnap then-National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger. Seven anti-war activists were later freed by a federal jury in Harrisburg in that case, in which Davidon had been named an unindicted co-conspirator.

At the *News*, our time with FBI files was nearly done. The April 23 issue reported that new documents had revealed more informers at Swarthmore. The same issue carried two letters to the editor. One severely chastised the paper for taking a “cruel tone” regarding a dedicated member of the College in reporting about Morsch. The other was from a Haverford alumnus who said he was a strong supporter of resistance groups, yet added, “This has not and does not alter my trust in Dick Morsch as a human being nor my conviction that he cooperated with the FBI from the most patriotic motives.” Privately, we felt the same way.

A few weeks later came graduation. Anti-war Sen. Eugene McCarthy delivered the commencement address. Neither of us remembers a word of it.

Journalist David Espo ’71 is a special correspondent with The Associated Press covering the U.S. Congress and national politics. Attorney Peter Goldberger ’71 runs an Ardmore, Pa., law practice focusing on appeals and other post-conviction aspects of federal criminal cases. He is the current board president of the ACLU of Greater Philadelphia.



Investigating a Changing Climate

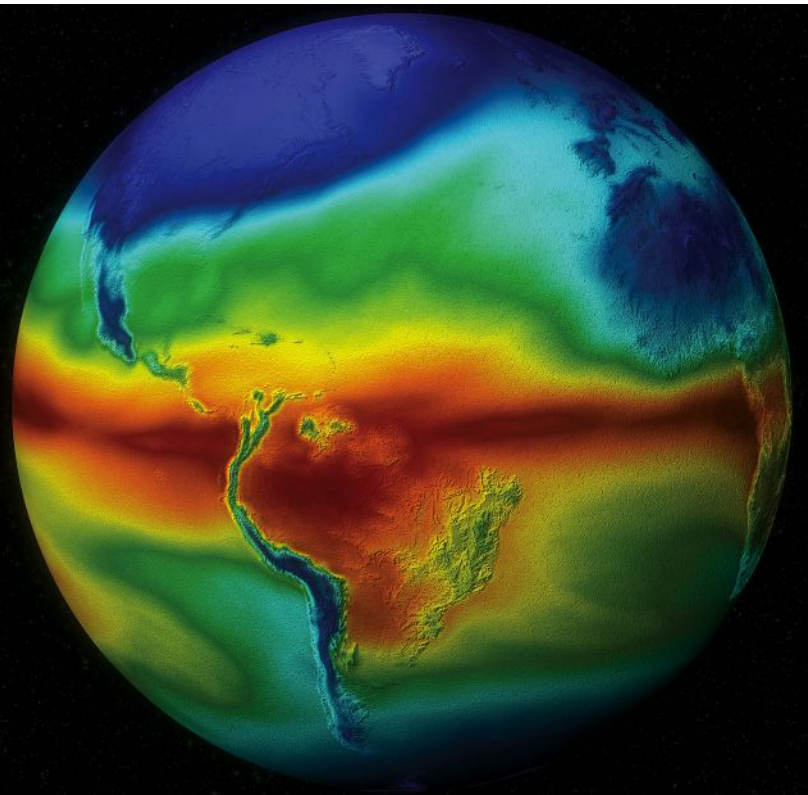
Around the country, Ford scientists are studying oceans, ice sheets, coral, and clouds, and using supercomputers to create sophisticated climate models. Their aim: to gain a deeper understanding of Earth's past and present in order to better predict the consequences of climate shifts to come. **BY MARCUS Y. WOO**



Chemical oceanographer Jess Adkins '90 analyzes the chemistry of deep-sea coral to learn about ancient climate shifts.

Four years ago, sitting at the bottom of the ocean inside the *Alvin* submarine, **Jess Adkins '90** was growing frustrated. Adkins, along with the submarine pilot and two other scientists, had spent seven days wandering the seas south of Tasmania combing the seafloor for coral. By analyzing the chemistry of the deep-sea coral, Adkins hoped to unlock the secrets of the ocean's past, learning about its role in Earth's climate 15,000 to 30,000 years ago. But the coral was nowhere to be found. It was the second long dive of the expedition, and it was looking like a failure.

The pilot parked the submarine on the seafloor, and as the crew pondered the next move Adkins looked outside. "I glanced over my shoulder out of the portal, and there it was," he says. "We were sitting on them!"



This visualization of water vapor from a climate simulation was developed by the research group of Kate Evans '93 using the Community Climate System Model, version 3. Monitoring water vapor enables climate scientists to improve their understanding of regional water cycles within a global context.

The coral had been hidden under a blanket of sediment, and when the pilot set down the submarine, it pushed the debris away, exposing the long-sought coral. Soon, Adkins realized that the submarine was surrounded by them—hundreds of thousands of them. “You just start crying, it’s so exciting,” he says.

Adkins is one of a number of Fords who have dedicated their careers—venturing to the bottom of oceans and the frigid landscapes of Antarctica, or devising sophisticated and prophetic computer models—to understanding the past, present, and future of Earth’s climate. Climate change is expected to carry consequences that will be complex, numerous, and possibly catastrophic—many of which are already occurring. Melting Arctic and Antarctic ice will raise sea levels, potentially flooding low-lying lands from Manhattan to Bangladesh within the century. Droughts, storms, and fires are predicted to be more frequent and severe.

But how exactly climate change will play out and what can

be done to mitigate it remain to be seen. So while curiosity is always inspirational for any scientist, for climate scientists perhaps an even bigger motivator is the desire to save the world. Or, at least, to do their best to make it a little better.

The science is unequivocal: The planet is warming. And the vast majority of scientists agree that humans are responsible, that since the start of the industrial age, the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil has expelled unprecedented amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, shifting the heat-trapping greenhouse effect into high gear. For most of the last several hundred thousand years, carbon dioxide levels remained between 200 and 300 parts per million. Since the beginning of the 20th century, though, levels have skyrocketed, passing the 400 parts per million mark last year. The 21st century has seen 13 of the 17 warmest years ever recorded; 2013 was the fourth-warmest year on record.

In and of itself, the greenhouse effect isn’t a bad thing. Sunlight heats the Earth, and atmospheric gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and water vapor trap that heat, preventing it from escaping into space. This phenomenon, first understood in 1824, has helped keep the planet warm enough for life to thrive. But with so much carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere, the resulting warmth could trigger even more warming. The oceans would evaporate more, releasing water vapor that traps even more heat.

Although Earth has been both warmer and colder at various times in the past, the fact that there’s so much carbon dioxide in today’s atmosphere—rising at a rate faster than ever before—

The science is unequivocal: The planet is warming. And the vast majority of scientists agree that humans are responsible.

means that the current climate is unlike any previously experienced.

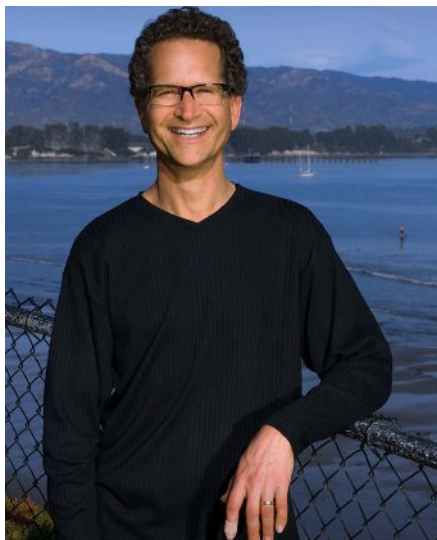
But to understand the climate of today and tomorrow, scientists must know exactly what happened yesterday.

Which brings us back to Adkins, a chemical oceanographer and professor of geochemistry and global environmental science at the California Institute of Technology, who has built a career by developing new tools to probe ancient climate. One of his goals is to understand glacial cycles—temperature dips and rises accompanied by the retreating and advancing of ice sheets, which covered most of North America at their peaks. In the

early 1990s, scientists studying the ice in Greenland discovered what are called Dansgaard-Oeschger events, a series of 25 rapid climate fluctuations that occurred over the last 100,000 years or so.

Scientists knew that periodic temperature shifts happened every ten thousand or even hundred thousand years. But these events struck on the timescale of decades—shorter than any that had been known. These rapid variations were natural, Adkins notes, but the worry is whether today's warming can trigger such dramatic fluctuations in the near future.

The discovery of Dansgaard-Oeschger events was astounding, says Adkins, who was in graduate school at the time. But the data was limited to Greenland, revealing only what happened in the north. Scientists needed a way to learn how the events affected the other



The research of David Lea '84 has revealed new information about ancient ice ages and the role of the tropics in driving climate shifts.

components of the Earth system: the polar ice, the atmosphere, and the oceans. For his doctoral thesis, Adkins found a way to do just that using deep-sea coral.

Analyzing the chemistry of the coral allows researchers to determine its age. But they can also measure something a bit more obscure: the time since the water around the coral was last at the ocean surface. This second measurement is important because it allows scientists to gauge how long it takes for large volumes of the ocean to rise and sink, a process called overturning.

Cold, salty, denser water sinks, while warmer, less salty water rises. Overturning transports warm water—and thus heat—

More Storms Brewing?

While global climate models have been used to successfully study extreme weather such as hurricanes, droughts, and heat waves, they don't do as well with smaller-scale weather such as the severe thunderstorms that produce hail, powerful winds, and tornadoes. "This has been a tough nut to crack," says **Jake Seeley '12**, a graduate student in the Department of Earth and Planetary Science at the University of California, Berkeley.

Because models can only reproduce weather down to scales of about 100 square kilometers, they can't simulate severe storms, which tend to be 25 kilometers wide. Some of the newest models can, however, predict certain atmospheric conditions that spawn them.

One condition is atmospheric instability, which can trigger vigorous convection, the mixing due to rising hot air. Add some strong horizontal winds, and you have a recipe for severe storms.

Seeley and his advisor, David Romps, analyzed 11 climate models to see how well their computed values of atmospheric instability and horizontal winds could reproduce the stormy conditions of the central Great Plains of the U.S., in what's known as Tornado Alley. By comparing the model data with real-world historical data, he identified three models that fit the bill.

Seeley then used the three models to determine whether conditions would be ripe for more storms 75 years into the future, under different scenarios of global warming. He found that if nothing is done to mitigate climate change, then severe storms would increase significantly. But if warming is slowed somewhat, then the heightened frequency can be reduced. And that would be a big deal, given that severe storms typically kill dozens of people each year—500 were killed by tornadoes alone in 2011—and do billions of dollars in damage.

Seeley presented these results at the meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco in December. For his Ph.D., he plans to work on smaller-scale models that simulate clouds and the atmosphere. Majoring in physics gave him a solid background for climate science, he says, and he encourages other physics majors to consider the field. After all, the climate will only become more important in the future, he adds. "It's only going to get weirder in the next 100 years." —Marcus Y. Woo



Jake Seeley '12 is studying the effects of a warming world on the frequency of severe storms.

toward the poles. If overturning were to stop for whatever reason, the region around the North Pole would just get colder and colder, resulting in a rapid climate shift.

At least, that's what scientists think may have happened; the details remain murky. Using his deep-sea coral timer, Adkins and his colleagues can determine how fast the oceans were overturning in the past. If the oceans were more sluggish during past cold spells, then that could suggest the lack of overturning plays a role in the rapid climate shifts.

Like Adkins, **David Lea '84** has spent his career studying ancient climates, focusing on the tropics—an essential part of

Investigating a Changing Climate

the planet and the climate. The Western Pacific, in particular, has the most stable climate in the world, varying by only about 1 degree Celsius every year, says Lea, a professor of earth science at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). This region is also the farthest removed from the influence of the ice sheets, he explains, so it's the best place to study phenomena unrelated to ice, such as the effects of greenhouse gases.

Lea analyzes sediments at the bottom of the sea, specifically those consisting of fossilized foraminifera, tiny critters the size of a grain of sand. As these single-celled organisms form their



Kate Evans '93 in front of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Titan supercomputer (the second most powerful computer in the world), which her research group uses to run complex climate models.

Leaves of Change



Christine Lamanna '04 studies the effects of climate change on plant communities.

Christine Lamanna '04 studies how climate change affects the ecosystem one leaf at a time. As a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Maine, she spends her summers hiking and camping in the forests of Acadia National Park in Maine, measuring and collecting hundreds of leaves in the name of science.

Acadia was designated a national park almost 100 years ago and has been a destination for nature lovers since the 1800s. During the last century, however, 20 percent of its plant species have disappeared from the park, Lamanna says.

Climate change is a likely culprit, she says, as it's causing the seasons to shift. For example, the snow melts earlier and earlier, prompting plants to bloom sooner. But pollinators such as bees aren't following suit, resulting in a mismatch that may be eliminating many plant species.

Acadia has also seen an increase in invasive species, which may be pushing out native plants. Another possible cause of species loss was the Fire of 1947, which burned 17,188 acres—10,000 of which were in the park.

To find out what's really triggering the species loss, Lamanna and colleagues at the University of Maine, Boston College, and Acadia National Park are measuring the traits of plants—such as the size of leaves, shapes of flowers, and how well the plants convert sunlight to food via photosynthesis. By comparing these characteristics among the species that have disappeared, those that have remained, and those that have invaded, the scientists hope to find patterns that hint at possible mechanisms for species loss.

"The hope is that if we can identify these mechanisms, then we can more readily identify species in other places that may be really sensitive to climate change," says Lamanna, who received her Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of Arizona, where her dissertation research looked at the effects of climate change on plant communities in the Colorado Rockies.

At Haverford, Lamanna was a part of the College's Committee for Environmental Responsibility, and spent her undergraduate career helping to write the College's environmental policy. Haverford and its Quaker ethos, she says, had a profound influence on her passion for the environment. "Trust, concern for your fellow people and the environment—it's really resonated with me, and it's something I've been trying to do in my work now."

—Marcus Y. Woo

outer shells, they incorporate trace amounts of elements from the surrounding water. Magnesium, in particular, is incorporated more readily at higher temperatures. In the late 1990s, Lea helped pioneer a method to measure the amount of magnesium in the fossils, allowing scientists to determine how warm the oceans were hundreds of thousands of years ago.

Because these organisms needed sunlight, they needed to live near the surface. Therefore, Lea realized, their fossils provided a direct measure of the temperature at the sea surface—a key piece of information because that's where the ocean interacts with the atmosphere and the rest of the global climate system.

By growing these organisms in the lab, Lea and his colleagues learned how temperature influences the rate at which the critters incorporate magnesium. They found that the relationship is exponential; that is, the higher the temperature, the greater the increase of magnesium absorbed in the organism. That means that as a thermometer, foraminifera are more sensitive at higher temperatures, making them especially useful for studying the balmy tropics.

"I threw all my energy into the tropics and was able to make this frankly astounding series of discoveries about how the tropics behaved during the ice ages," Lea says. At the time, many scientists thought that the ice ages—cold spells that lasted for tens to hundreds of thousands of years, marked by waxing and waning ice sheets—had nothing to do with the tropics. These periods of glaciation, as they're called, were thought to be triggered by ocean processes in the North Atlantic. But the foraminifera told a different story.

"I was able to show that that's not true," Lea says. "In fact, the tropics cooled during the ice ages." Lea and his colleagues found that

temperatures in the tropics dropped just before the polar region began to cool, suggesting that the tropics play an integral role in driving climate shifts.

Reading the history of climate—whether it’s in the ice, deep-sea coral, or fossilized plankton—is crucial for testing theories of how the Earth behaves. Most importantly, Lea says, it provides context for understanding today’s climate. But ancient climate is important for yet another reason: Historical data help validate climate models, the enormously complex computer programs that provide a glimpse into the future.

Kate Evans '93 had a stormy childhood, so to speak. “I lived in Indiana when I was a kid, and the weather there is fabulous,” she says. The dramatic storms and tornadoes inspired her to become a meteorologist, leading her to study physics at Haverford and pursue a Ph.D. in atmospheric science. She’s now the group leader for the Computational Earth Sciences group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Reading the history of climate—whether it’s in the ice, deep sea coral, or fossilized plankton—is crucial for testing theories of how the earth behaves.

in Tennessee, where she spends her days in front of a computer, writing lines and lines of code.

The goal of computer models isn’t just to predict whether the climate is changing, she says, but how the changes will manifest themselves in different regions around the world—for example, which areas will become especially hot, or which parts will experience extreme drought or rainfall. “Only recently have we had models that can answer those questions,” she says.

There are a couple dozen global climate models produced by research groups around the world. While the models differ in details, such as how they crunch their numbers, which kinds of data they include, or how they incorporate clouds and airborne particles called aerosols, they’re all based on the same basic equations that describe how ice flows, how the atmosphere swirls, and how the ocean circulates.

The models run on supercomputers, calculating the temperature, wind, rain, humidity, and other variables at every point on a virtual grid encompassing the globe. The models can reproduce the past and predict how the climate will change in the coming decades and centuries.

Evans, in particular, works on the Community Earth System Model, or CESM, which was first created by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in 1983. Along with many other platforms, the model is run on Oak Ridge’s Titan supercomputer, listed as the second-most-powerful computer in the world by TOP500, an organization that ranks supercomputer performance. The model is so big and complicated that even with Titan, it takes weeks to months to finish one of its runs.

For her part, Evans dives into the nitty-gritty of the model, developing better and faster ways for the computer to crunch through the equations. With more efficient mathematical and computational techniques, the model can be more detailed and accurate. For example, Evans and her colleagues are trying to refine the model so that it spits out a finer grid with more data points, going beyond the 500,000 it now has to describe the

planet. This refinement will enable the model to capture the breadth of atmospheric flow patterns spanning the polar vortex (recently blamed for the severe cold snap across the country) to daily weather variations over a particular region. Evans is interested in the new kinds of scientific questions that can be explored with this capability, such as whether the frequency of different types of weather events is altered with a changing climate and what physical processes, for example the location of the jet stream, might be the source for these changes to occur.

While Evans works on a model that tries to mimic the entire planet, **Ryan Walker '98**, a research scientist at the Cryospheric Sciences Laboratory of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, spends most of his time modeling the vast sheets of ice that cover Greenland and Antarctica.

These ice sheets, several miles thick and spanning millions of square miles, are created when snow piles on top of itself and is squished by its own weight. The ice appears stationary, but it’s actually inching along, spreading out



Ryan Walker '98 in front of a satellite image of Antarctica.



The work of Charles Jackson '92 spans almost every aspect of climate.

because of its weight. “The best analogy I’ve heard is actually Silly Putty,” Walker says. When you leave a ball of it on the table, it looks like it’s doing nothing. But when you come back later, it’s oozed across the table.

Many factors come into play when modeling ice. Researchers like Walker have to consider what’s inside and below the ice, how strain affects flow, and whether the ice is sitting on a smooth or a rocky surface. Is the ground below sloped? Is the ice at the bottom melting?

These models are critical, because melting from global warming will pour massive amounts of fresh water into the seas, wreaking havoc on ocean circulation and raising sea levels. By 2100, melting ice in the Arctic and Greenland is expected to increase sea levels by 3 to 5.2 feet, which would inundate nearly all coastal areas of the U.S.—not to mention large swaths of countries like the Netherlands and Bangladesh. If all of the Greenland ice sheet melted, sea level would rise by 20 feet. And at the other end of the world, if the entire Antarctic ice sheet melted, sea level would rise by a staggering 200 feet.

The western part of Antarctica is attracting particular attention because it’s covered in a massive ice sheet that appears unstable. Much of the ice sheet rests on the seafloor below sea level. Right where the seafloor, ice, and ocean meet, the seafloor slopes inward toward the continent. Scientists fear that as global warming continues, the ice will melt and retreat, exposing the deeper ice that’s been tucked away on the slope. Contact with ocean water would prompt rapid melting, which could be devastating. “There’s potentially a few meters of sea-level rise locked up in this part of

Antarctica,” says **Charles Jackson '92**, a research scientist at the Jackson School of Geoscience at the University of Texas, Austin.

And it’s not just melting that’s problematic, adds **Gail Gutowski '10**, who is completing a Ph.D. in glaciology, climate and geoscience at the University of Texas and works with Jackson. When ice flows off the continent and floats onto the ocean, it displaces a lot of water, which increases sea levels.

Gutowski has seen the ice sheet firsthand, having spent several days sleeping in a tent (unheated) at Byrd Surface Camp in West Antarctica. It was so cold that in addition to a hot-water bottle, she had to sleep with her alarm clock tucked inside her shirt. “You had to keep everything inside your sleeping bag, or else it would freeze,” she says.

As part of a team tasked with collecting data on the ice sheets, she’s flown over the white Antarctic landscape, firing radar signals that penetrate the ice below. By measuring the time it takes for them to bounce back from the ice and rock underneath, the researchers can determine the depth of the ice and how it’s flowing. Her job was to determine how accurate this method was and how the data can be used in ice sheet models.

Gutowski and Jackson want to quantify how confident scientists should be in both their data and their computer models. Gutowski has so far focused on ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica, but Jackson’s work has spanned almost every aspect

Melting [ice] from global warming will pour massive amounts of fresh water into the seas, wreaking havoc on ocean circulation and raising sea levels.

of climate. For example, he employs statistical methods to determine exactly how good an atmospheric model is at mimicking its natural counterpart.

“My favorite thing to do is to sit in my office and problem-solve—to think about a problem, how you might solve it, go to a computer, write code that’ll answer that question, and run it,” he says. Although that’s where his passion has always been, the opportunity to help the world adds motivation. “I also have a sense that I need to contribute to society, to be engaged in the world, to be working on problems that are important to be thinking about,” he says.

For the other Fords, doing science with applicable, real-world implications was always a goal. “I wanted something [that was] intellectually interesting but was also going to matter to somebody,” Walker says. And for Adkins, the ability to inform environmental policy drove his desire to get his Ph.D. “I wanted to get letters behind my name so that people would listen to me,” says Adkins, who can be heard offering his clearly

explained take on climate change in a YouTube video titled “Jess Adkins on Global Warming.”

In 2010, Lea was a Jefferson Science Fellow, spending a year in Washington, D.C., as a State Department science adviser. His experience gave him insight into what he sees as a disconnect between science and policy. “Scientists have to understand that even though it may be self-evident to them that their discoveries should change policy, those changes have to be filtered through all the socioeconomic factors that our elected officials have to consider,” says Lea, who teaches a course called “Advanced Climate Science for



Gail Gutowski '10 in West Antarctica, where she collected data on the ice sheets.

Policy Makers” at UCSB’s Bren School of Environmental Science and Management.

Policy makers are smart and dedicated, and his time in Washington left him optimistic, says Lea. “I still believe climate change is a very, very challenging problem—about as challenging a problem as we’ve ever faced. But I don’t think running around and saying the sky is falling is really a good solution. I don’t think it motivates people. I think you have to give people hope; you have to make policy makers aware of the scope of the problem and give them options.”

And despite the challenges ahead, Lea says, there is hope. “I put my faith in human ingenuity.”

Marcus Y. Woo is a freelance science writer based in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Meeting up at the American Geophysical Union fall meeting in San Francisco were (from left) Gail Gutowski '10, Jess Adkins '90, David Lea '84, Charles Jackson '92, and Jake Seeley '12.

Climate Connections

The Haverford alumni network can be a beautiful thing. And the many links between the Ford climate scientists portrayed here show that network in action. Here are just a few:

- **Charles Jackson '92** hired physics major **Gail Gutowski '10** over the phone when, as part of her own networking effort, she called to ask him what climate science was like. She worked with Jackson for a year before deciding to stay on with him at the University of Texas at Austin for graduate school.
- In the spring of his senior year at Haverford **Jess Adkins '90** got a letter from **David Lea '84** inviting Adkins to work for him in Santa Barbara. Adkins worked in Lea’s lab for a couple of years before going on to do his graduate work at MIT under the same scientist who supervised Lea as a grad student.
- **Kate Evans '93** recognized Jackson when she attended a talk he gave at a conference. They had both been viola players in the Haverford orchestra, and sat next to each other.
- **Ryan Walker '98** collaborated on ice-sheet modeling with Jackson and Gutowski.

This impressive Haverfordian network of climate scientists seems certain to expand in the future. For one thing, the Tri-College Program in Environmental Studies, which launched three years ago, is helping a growing number of students to better understand complex environmental issues and is also nurturing an ethos of making a difference. The interdisciplinary program, which offers a minor in Environmental Studies, is directed by environmental chemist Helen K. White, who has done groundbreaking research on the effect of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill on corals in the Gulf of Mexico. Also teaching in the program, which allows students to select from more than 90 courses offered by the three colleges, is environmental biologist Jonathan Wilson, whose lab investigates the coevolution of plants and the environment. Wilson has taught the program’s core “Case Studies in Environmental Issues” class, and has also developed a course that combines paleontology, biochemistry, and climatology.

As for that climate science alumni network, Adkins is already doing his part to pay forward the help he received from Lea when he was fresh out of college. On a visit to Haverford to give a talk, Adkins met **Adam Subhas '09**, who had a strong interest in environmental chemistry and climate change. Adkins invited Subhas to join him on a month long research cruise in the Southern Ocean. Subhas blogged for the research team as part of its outreach efforts on the cruise, and Adkins later hired Subhas as a lab tech. He’s now a grad student working with Adkins at Caltech. —Eils Lotozo

Searching for

What makes things funny? I traveled the world with a humor researcher to find out. **By Joel Warner '01**

LAUGHS



We tagged along on a trip led by physician/clown/social activist Patch Adams—and ended up dressed as Bozos in the heart of the Amazon alongside 100 other clowns.

The cargo plane lurched and bucked as it hit a patch of turbulence somewhere above the Andes Mountains. I tightened the safety belt strapping me to the cargo netting and distracted myself from the mechanical whistles and squeals filling the long, hollow cargo hold by focusing on the tiny circle of sky I could see through one of the few windows in the fuselage. I considered passing the time by chatting with my seatmates, but I didn't know what to say to them.

T

hat's because they were all clowns.

Next to me, a lady dressed as a giant bee fiddled with her red clown nose. Across the aisle, a young woman wove rainbow-colored pipe cleaners into her dreadlocks. Bubbles floated through the cargo hold, and a bright yellow smiley-face balloon wafted here and there as if this were a birthday party. Someone soon started up a round of "Oh! Susanna," and others joined in on kazooos.

I was crammed into a Peruvian Air Force cargo plane headed into the heart of the Amazon with 100 clowns, my goal to answer a seemingly simple question: What makes things funny? I was joined in this quest by Peter McGraw, strapped in nearby and trying and failing to take a midflight nap. (Even the most advanced noise-canceling earphones, it turns out, are no match for kazooos). McGraw, a marketing and psychology professor at the University of Colorado Boulder, is an honest-to-God, university-sanctioned, peer-reviewed humor researcher. Together, we're the authors of the book *The Humor Code: A Global Search for What Makes Things Funny*, which hits bookstores on April 1.

The idea of the book was to take all of the zingers, wisecracks, and witticisms we take for granted and subject them to hard-and-fast scientific study. Over the course of a year and a half, that concept took us all over the world—and like the best experiments, not everything went as planned. For example, we arranged this trip to the Amazon to explore whether laughter really is the best medicine: Is there scientific proof to Norman Cousins' famous claim that humor cures? When we heard that celebrated hospital clown Patch Adams was leading the comedic version of a biohazard team into one of the most beleaguered and destitute places in the Peruvian jungle, we knew we'd found the perfect method of analysis. Patch and his crew were happy to have us along—on one condition. We had to become clowns ourselves.

With a stomach-roiling dip, the cargo plane began its descent, causing my red-nosed seatmates to clap and cheer like

lunatics. Huddling awkwardly in my seat, I thought about what my wife, Emily, had said when I'd told her about this trip. She'd patted my arm consolingly and told me, with all the insightfulness of her Bryn Mawr education, "You're not going to be a good clown."

My foray into the wild and woolly extremes

of humor science began the way most things do in my life: in the midst of looking for a story. I've worked as a journalist since I graduated from Haverford in 2001, penning long-form stories for a variety of alternative newsweeklies and magazines. And in truth, I'm not your typical news hound. While my colleagues thirst for tips on dirty cops and city-hall corruption, I prefer stories on real-life superheroes and beer-delivering robots. I've shadowed a McDonald's franchise owner who used his arsenal of fast-food inventions to break the world's record for drive-through Quarter Pounders served in an hour, and I followed a coffee connoisseur to Ethiopia in search of the shadowy origins of the world's most expensive coffee bean. (That expedition broke down several dozen miles short of its goal, thanks to caffeine-fueled bickering, impassable muddy roads, and reports of man-eating lions.)

In the spring of 2010, while working

as a staff writer for the Denver, Colo., alt-weekly *Westword*, I heard about a Boulder professor who was dissecting comedy's DNA. I knew I'd found my next story.

McGraw, I soon learned, had launched what he called the Humor Research Lab—also known as HuRL. McGraw, the sort of energetic and engaging professor who goes by "Pete" instead of "Dr. McGraw," explained to me he was after a grand, unifying theory of humor. The subject had stumped scholars and philosophers for millennia (see sidebar), but that didn't stop McGraw. Collaborating with then doctoral student Caleb Warren and building off the work of a linguist named Thomas Veatch, he had developed the "benign violation theory," the idea that humor arises when something seems wrong or threatening but is simultaneously OK or safe. Tickling fits this model perfectly; it involves violating someone's physical space in a benign way. People can't tickle themselves, because it isn't a violation; they also won't laugh if a stranger tries to tickle them, since there is nothing benign about that violation.

McGraw had been putting the benign violation theory to the test in HuRL experiments, with encouraging results. In one study, a researcher approached subjects on CU-Boulder's campus and asked them



Exploring the science of guffaws, my co-author Peter McGraw (left) and I investigated a mysterious 1962 laughter epidemic in Tanzania, and as a side project nearly drowned in Lake Victoria.

Searching for Laughs



To test what we'd learned during our travels, humor researcher Peter McGraw tried his hand at stand-up—at Montreal's Just For Laughs, the largest international comedy festival in the world.

to read a scenario inspired by a story about legendarily depraved Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards. In the story, Richards' father told his son to do whatever he wished with the father's cremated remains—so when his dad passed away, Richards (the story goes) decided to snort the ashes. Then the subjects of the research were asked about their reactions to the story. As it turned out, those who found the tale of Richards and his obscene schnozzle simultaneously “wrong” (a violation) and “not wrong” (benign) were three times more likely to smile or laugh than those who deemed the story either completely OK or utterly unacceptable.

Impressive results, but I wanted to see McGraw's theory in action. As part of my *Westword* story, I asked him to accompany me to a Denver stand-up show, so he could use his theory to critique the comedians.

He offered one better. “How about I get up on stage myself?”

The ad hoc experiment took place at an open-mic night at the Squire Lounge, a dingy watering hole proudly displaying awards for “Best Dive Bar in Denver.” Other comics at the event, known as the toughest open-mic in the city, got the crowd roaring with sex jokes and tales of drug use. McGraw, on the other hand, wore a sweater vest and began with a zinger in which he called himself “Pete the Penetrating Ph.D.-Packing Professor.”

The experiment's results were less than encouraging.

The tale made for good copy in my story, and soon publishing companies were interested. Could there be a book in all this humor research? McGraw was encouraged by the response, but his stand-up attempt had given him pause. It was clear, he told me, that to really understand humor, he had to venture out into the big, comical world beyond the confines of his lab—and he invited me to come along.

Quit my job and travel the globe in search of humor's underpinnings? Sure, I replied. Anything for science.

Before we knew it, McGraw and I had a

deal for a book—but there was still the question of how to actually write it. How, exactly, could we hope to adequately survey the wide world of humor? We settled on compiling a list of intriguing questions about what makes things funny; then, for each question, we came up with a destination that could help us get to the bottom of it. For example, to investigate why humor is so subjective, why what's funny varies so widely from place to place and person to person, we traveled to Japan and immersed ourselves in the country's unique brand of hilarity, including finagling our way onto the set of a surreal Japanese game show. And to deconstruct the odd mannerism of laughter, we crisscrossed Tanzania, looking for clues that could explain the country's 1962 laughter epidemic, in which more than a thousand people came down with mysterious, uncontrollable laughing. And to understand why humor occurs where you least expect it, why it arises in times of turmoil and tragedy, we ventured into the West Bank and compared notes with the satirists behind Palestine's version of *Saturday Night Live*.

Meanwhile, McGraw launched a series of HuRL experiments to help us answer various conundrums that arose along the way. Such as, do comics need to come from screwed-up childhoods? And what's the secret to winning *The New Yorker* cartoon caption contest? Who's got a bigger funny bone—men or women? And do

the French really love Jerry Lewis?

The investigations were far from your typical research ventures. For example, to determine whether alcohol consumption makes people funnier—whether Lenny Bruce-level debauchery leads to Lenny Bruce-level laughs—we devised the “*Mad Men* Experiment.” We took an ad-agency creative team for a night on the town in Manhattan, tasking the members with sketching out a new funny advertisement after each drink they polished off. While the mad men and women rated their humor attempts funnier as the night wore on, when we later submitted their ads to an online survey panel, we found the inebriated ad team was way off the mark. According to the panel's respondents, by the time the ad team reached a fifth drink, the ads weren't just less funny, they were markedly more offensive. Some of the team's inebriated creations were so distasteful, it's a good thing McGraw had tenure before he had to reveal the results.

To cap off our work, we tackled one final, high-stakes experiment. Using everything we'd learned, McGraw once again tried his hand at stand-up, but at a significantly grander stage than the Squire Lounge: the Just for Laughs Comedy Festival in Montreal, the largest



Can humor take root amid turmoil and tragedy? We ventured into the West Bank to find out.



To investigate why humor varies so widely from place to place, we immersed ourselves in Japan's unique brand of hilarity—including finagling our way onto the set of a surreal Japanese game show.

comedy event in the world.

How'd he do? That's a question best left for the book. But there was another outcome of our travels, one that was wholly unexpected. Not long after McGraw's Just for Laughs comedy routine, a friend of mine back in Denver caught me off guard. "You know," he told me one evening, "I think you've gotten funnier."

I was taken aback. I'd spent so much time scrutinizing other people's funny bones I hadn't spent much time considering my own. But now that I thought about it, maybe he was right. Maybe I'd gotten funnier. Take our voyage into the Amazon with Patch Adams and his hospital-clown retinue. As it turns out, maybe for the first time ever, my wife was wrong about something. I was not a bad clown. There, in the slums along the Amazon, I'd put on my garish Hawaiian shirt, my extra-large polka-dot tie, and my red bulbous nose, and clowned with the best of them—throwing myself into games of hide-and-seek with street kids, playing peekaboo with giggling babies, and chasing rumbly motor taxis down the street like a maniac.

As Adams told me during the trip, "I never said laughter is the best medicine." But he does believe humor and laughter help people break down barriers, speak truth to power, and cope with what's ailing them—and that's a form of healing, too. According to Adams, clowns are all about shaking things up: "The jester is the only person in the king's court who can call the king an asshole." That's exactly what the clown costume had done for me: It

had shaken everything up, pulled me out from behind my reporter's notepad, and allowed me to get in touch with my inner buffoon.

Was my comedic coming-out party due to McGraw's benign violation theory? Possibly in part. In truth, since our expedition began, I had started to notice all the potential violations lying around that were waiting for me to make benign. But that couldn't be the full explanation for why I'd become funnier. After all, even if we did come a bit closer to cracking the code behind humor, we were far from finding the algorithm that will mass-produce great jokes like Big Macs. Humor is and will continue to be part art and part science—that's what makes it so much fun. If you want to become a world-class humorist, a good formula or two might set you in the right direction—but it won't get you all the way. To do that, you have to explore new ideas and challenge your assumptions. You have to venture out of your comfort zone.

That's exactly what I did. I quit my job, circumnavigated the globe, and now count among my friends stand-up comics and celebrated cartoonists, joke connoisseurs and improv performers, rat ticklers and revolutionaries, and one very sweaty Patch Adams. Experiences like that change you. For one thing, I have a lot more witty yarns in my comic repertoire. For another, I've found there's a lot more to life—not to mention a lot more to laugh at.

And these days, I keep my clown nose handy. Just in case of emergencies. 🐘

The Humor Code



A GLOBAL SEARCH FOR WHAT MAKES THINGS FUNNY

Peter McGraw and Joel Warner

Humor Theories: A Breakdown

SUPERIORITY THEORY

Founders: Plato and Aristotle, fifth and fourth centuries BCE

Premise: People laugh at the misfortune of others.

Examples of humor that fit: Teasing, slapstick.

Examples of humor that don't seem to fit: Knock-knock jokes.

INCONGRUITY THEORY

Founder: Blaise Pascal, 17th century French philosopher

Premise: Humor occurs when people discover there's an inconsistency between what they expect to happen and what actually happens.

Examples of humor that fit: Jokes with punch lines.

Examples of humor that don't seem to fit: Tickling, play fighting.

RELIEF THEORY

Founder: Sigmund Freud, in *Jokes and Their Relation to the Unconscious*, 1905

Premise: Humor is a way for people to release psychic energy pent up from repressed sexual and violent thoughts.

Examples of humor that fit: Dirty jokes.

Examples of humor that don't seem to fit: Puns.

BENIGN VIOLATION THEORY

Founders: Peter McGraw and Caleb Warren, 2010

Premise: Humor arises when something seems wrong or threatening, but is simultaneously OK or safe.

Examples of humor that fit: Slapstick, puns, dirty jokes, tickling.

Examples of humor that don't seem to fit: McGraw isn't sure there are any; can you find some that falsify the theory?



Gravity stars Sandra Bullock as Ryan Stone, a medical engineer on her first space shuttle mission, and features technically dazzling 3-D effects.

FORDS on Film

BY REBECCA RABER

The envelopes have been opened, the statuettes handed out, and the most loquacious winners have been hurried off the stage to the strains of an impatient orchestra. And so ends awards season—a feathered cap on the past year of film excellence. As the March 2 Academy Awards proved, 2013 was a stellar year for movies, perhaps the best in more than a decade. Theaters offered up Sandra Bullock lost in the most realistic depiction of outer space yet, Matthew McConaughey starved down to featherweight status as a resourceful dying man in the early years of the AIDS crisis, Joaquin Phoenix in love with the Scarlett Johansson purr of his computer operating system, and perhaps the most harrowing portrayal of America's original sin of slavery. And that's without even mentioning the bottomless appetites of *The Wolf of Wall Street*, the perms and navel-grazing costumes of *American Hustle*, and the countless documentaries that shone lights on captivating lives previously lived in shadows.

Didn't make it to the multiplex enough in 2013? Unsure of what to fill your Netflix queue with in the year ahead? Let the following Ford filmmakers and critics be your guides as they offer their picks for the best feature films, documentaries, and performances of the year.

My TOP 10 Films of the Year By Lisa Rosman '93

10. *Enough Said*: Writer/director Nicole Holofcener has always made full-frontal honesty both her charm and her weapon, but this exploration of middle-aged dating feels wonderfully truthful, even for her. That's due in no small part to costars Julia Louis-Dreyfus and James Gandolfini (in one of his final performances), who worked against type to achieve a sweet, slow melancholy rarely achieved on American screens.

9. *The Immigrant*: This story of a turn-of-the-century brothel in Manhattan's Lower East Side costars Oscar winners Joaquin Phoenix and Marion Cotillard, boasts a rich, painterly cinematography, is written and directed by the terrific James Gray (*Two Lovers, We Own the Night*), and burrows deeper into the intersection of the American Dream, sex, and survival than most before it. So why didn't this film hit most movie theaters? Because U.S. distributors didn't trust that audiences could really take in that level of complexity. When it shows up on Netflix Instant, prove them wrong.

8. *Short Term 12*: Starring Brie Larson as a 20-something supervising a foster-care facility for at-risk teens, this is a hopeful

film about seemingly hopeless lives. Carefully drawn and edited with nary a false note, it shows us young people whose stories already appear permanently written—desperately so—and then suggests they still can be rewritten. Its occasionally too-tidy plot doesn't detract from its larger emotional veracity—a wariness trumped by a capacity to heal, which is the most urgent biological impulse of all injured beings, really.

7. *Concussion*: This film's snarky synopsis would be "a lesbian *Belle de Jour*," and, indeed, this gorgeously shot indie about a bored housewife (*Deadwood*'s Robin Weigert) who works as a prostitute while her wife is off making the big bucks does directly echo Luis Buñuel's landmark 1967 Catherine Deneuve vehicle. But this is also a hypnotically singular (and sensuous) investigation of how traditional romantic mores may not suit anyone completely, even as they become increasingly available to everyone.

6. *Gravity*: Now this is what I call a movie! Director Alfonso



American director, and he doesn't disappoint in his take on the Abscam affair of the late '70s and early '80s, in which a Bronx swindler (Christian Bale) helps snag corrupt politicians while juggling his mistress (Amy Adams) and wife (Jennifer Lawrence). Really, everything lives inside this movie—from French farce to the best of Scorsese to huge hair and even huger statements about authenticity and accountability—and it's all tossed into the air like a pizza pie that never flops. Such fun.

2. *20 Feet From Stardom*: Morgan Neville's documentary about backup singers channels its subjects' greatest strengths—big wind, an uncanny ear, a fastidious work ethic, and an indomitable spirit—and in doing so pulls back the curtain on a rarely considered world, which is the very best service a documentary can provide. What's more, by suggesting with an infectious, clear-eyed joy how this world connects to our own lives, it fulfills one of the very best functions of any movie.



Both *Nebraska*, starring Will Forte and Bruce Dern (pictured here, left), and *12 Years a Slave*, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor (right), were nominated for the 2014 Best Picture Academy Award.

Cuarón makes use of the possibilities of 3-D filmmaking like no one before—or likely after—without sacrificing his trademark soulfulness in this (often literally) breathless account of a female space traveler (Sandra Bullock) struggling to return to Earth after her ship and shipmates are destroyed.

5. *Nebraska*: Director Alexander Payne's latest, about an aging drunk on a fool's errand enabled by his adult son, is his most elegantly rueful since 2004's *Sideways*, which also examined male intimacy in the face of failure. Featuring admirably dry-eyed performances from Bruce Dern, June Squibb, and Will Forte against a lonesome black-and-white sky, this is the starkly comic film about the Midwest that the Coen Brothers only wish they could make.

4. *12 Years a Slave*: To say I loved this film would be specious, for Steve McQueen's cinematic adaptation of the real-life memoir of a free black man sold into a Southern slavery ring is one of the most harrowing experiences to be found in recent cinema, here or abroad. It is also one of the most compelling, fully realized, and unflinching explorations of an aspect of American history that, to this day, is rarely discussed, even though it informs so much of our immediate present. To be seen, discussed, and seen again.

3. *American Hustle*: David O. Russell is my favorite living

1. *Her*: Yeah, yeah: it's about a guy (Joaquin Phoenix) who falls in love with his computer's operating system (voiced by Scarlett Johansson, in what's oddly her sexiest performance to date). But, really, Spike Jonze's first feature that he both wrote and directed is the kind of cinematic achievement that comes along once in a decade if we're lucky. Set in what's described as "the slight future," this admittedly unorthodox romance pokes at the unnecessary dichotomy of science and spirituality, the limited utility of our bodies amid an ever-evolving technology, and the possibility that intelligent consciousness as well as love is in no way limited to the scope of a human life. Big questions—some of the biggest of our time, really—delivered oh-so-gently with the greatest of style and heart.



Lisa Rosman has reviewed film for such publications as *Marie Claire*, *Time Out New York*, *Premiere*, *Us Weekly*, *LA Weekly*, *RogerEbert.com*, *Salon.com*, and *CBS Morning News*. In 2012 she was honored as one of *Glamour* magazine's Women of the Year for her relief work in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, and, most notably, she once served as the assistant for *Sesame Street*'s Elmo. Currently, she lives in Brooklyn, where she appears weekly on the Time Warner film review show *Talking Pictures*, writes about film, feminism, and eavesdropping for *SignsandSirens.com*, and is working on her first book, tentatively titled *Behind Me*. Her motto: "A dame who knows the ropes never gets tied up."

My Nine Favorite Recent DOCUMENTARIES

By Jonathan Fein '72

The best films of 2013? Often some of the best films don't get the exposure they deserve, especially if they're documentaries, so they fall off the public's radar. And when you talk about the films of the past year, do you mean when they were first seen in film festivals, in theaters, on television, in schools, on DVDs, online? And is it right to exclude mentioning good



The films **20 Feet From Stardom** (left), about the lives of backup singers, and **Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry** (right), about China's most famous international artist and vocal domestic critic, were two of the best documentaries Jonathan Fein saw in 2013.

it raises important questions about how we perceive the world.

Jiro Dreams of Sushi profiles an unlikely master artisan, one of Japan's best sushi chefs. The film is about the drive for perfection and the discipline of commitment.

Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry is an examination of a remarkable artist prevailing in the face of governmental resistance.

The Gatekeepers is a fascinating look at the heads of Israel's secret service and the delicate decision-making processes they were compelled to employ. It is notable that all these former security experts feel that Israel's occupation of Palestine is detrimental to both populations.

The Island President introduces the dynamic president of the Maldives, an island nation in the Indian Ocean that is



films—ones that people might have missed—that fall beyond an arbitrary temporal boundary?

I'm sensitive to these issues because when I made my last film, *Objects and Memory*, I realized that our fast-moving society tends to put a "sell-by" date on films, while many don't grow stale. So we endeavored to craft a documentary that would be relevant well into the future. (A few years out, the film continues to be in demand on DVD.)

My list of nine notable documentary films (offered in no particular order) includes ones I saw in 2013. Probably all were completed in 2012 (or earlier) and may have been in festivals or theaters during that year, but for wide availability (through television, DVDs, or streaming) were seen by most people in 2013. Interestingly, five of these films portray individuals at the top of their fields, determined characters with a passionate urge toward excellence.

20 Feet From Stardom is an entertaining glimpse at backup singers, those important but unheralded musicians who add much to performance and recording. It explores the significance of recognition (or lack of it) in career satisfaction.

Deceptive Practice: The Mysteries and Mentors of Ricky Jay is a delightful and engaging look at magic and the wonder it evokes. The film, despite lacking much of a story arc, is well-crafted and holds one's attention, especially as it depicts the seemingly impossible. Aside from its entertainment value,

threatened with extinction because of climate change.

Blackfish unveils the practice of using orcas for human entertainment and raises disturbing questions about our responsibility to other sentient life forms.

The Central Park Five depicts the chilling events that led to five teenagers being wrongfully convicted and imprisoned for a horrible crime they didn't commit. It's a powerful indictment of a racist and dysfunctional law-enforcement system.

Stories We Tell unravels a compelling family mystery. It is well-crafted, but my only concern is the issue of how to use reenactments in documentaries—do you make it clear when you are presenting an acted scene (as in films like *Man on Wire*), or do you technically integrate archival footage with recreated images, only revealing the actors in the credits?



Jonathan Fein '72 produced and directed the documentary film *Objects and Memory*, broadcast nationally in prime time on PBS in 2008 and for several subsequent years. The film, begun in the aftermath of 9/11, is about the otherwise ordinary things in our homes and museums that mean the most to us because of what they represent (objectsandmemory.org). Fein is currently developing a project, expected to be a series for public broadcasting, on the emerging field of social impact design. For more information: hav.to/socialimpactdesign and hav.to/forgood.

My Favorite PERFORMANCES of 2013

By Ben Hickernell '00

Amy Adams, *American Hustle*: In a film filled with great performances, she anchors the affair with a genuine turn as someone sweetly, imperfectly in love. I believed her wholeheartedly when she said, “We love each other, and it’s beautiful.” Graceful and flawed, all at once.

Nick Frost, *The World’s End*: The usual comic relief switches with Simon Pegg to become the straight man, and simultaneously becomes the funniest and most sympathetically moving character of a great, nostalgic ride.



The World’s End (left) features Nick Frost (second from right) playing the straight man in a standout role for the comic. ***Short Term 12*** (right), about a foster-care facility for at-risk youths, features a breakout performance by actress Brie Larson.

Chiwetel Ejiofor, *12 Years a Slave*: Five years ago, there were two camps of people when they heard this name. “OMG, I love *Dirty Pretty Things*. And, Joss Whedon has good taste, eh?” and, “Who?” Now there is one: “Oh, the guy who’s gonna win the Oscar?” I cried so many times watching his performance, I lost count. And I empathized with Solomon at Every. Single. Turn.

Martin Freeman, *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*: I’m in the apparent minority of people who enjoy these new Hobbit movies more than *The Lord of the Rings*. Not only is the level of art design and FX artistry above the already impressive LOTR, but I also think the performances have taken it up a notch. Richard Armitage is gold as Thorin, and Martin Freeman finds the perfect blend of playing broad in the comic moments and then portraying such honest, restrained feeling when he needs to connect. He also does this, to even greater success, as Watson in the excellent BBC *Sherlock*. So often, people nominate showy acting. But there can be so much power in unassuming, lived-in, fun performances. Freeman has it down.

Brie Larson, *Short Term 12*: Genuine. Warm. Doesn’t feel like acting. A breakout.

Matthew McConaughey, *Dallas Buyers Club*: This dude suddenly has no fear. And that’s a dangerously wonderful thing for an actor to discover. This was just one of his many daring, knockout performances in recent years. He just bites in.

Scarlett Johansson, *Her*: She did more with her voice than most actors do with their whole bodies. Warm, compassionate, and an infamously sexy woman became even sexier using just her wit and charm.

James Gandolfini, *Enough Said*: Not because it was his last major role. [Gandolfini died June 19, of a heart attack.] But because it was effortless, subtle, and I couldn’t take my eyes off him. Just like his character, his performance was unconventionally sexy, surprisingly funny, and endearing. You can’t help liking him in every frame.

Michael B. Jordan, *Fruitvale Station*: This guy has been around for a while, and yet, with this marriage of timing, material, and talent, he reaches a new level in this movie. There was such a level of depth of caring of all involved. Jordan didn’t



just show up and act. He lived in and felt everything it seemed.

Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, *Game of Thrones*: Though not a film performance, Coster-Waldau, in a single moment, provided perhaps the best acting I saw this year. A long shot held as Jaime Lannister—former handsome, arrogant, brutish child of destiny, reduced to crushed, lovelorn cripple—lowers himself into a steaming tub and delivers a monologue that, in five minutes, takes a villain we loved to hate and completely reverses our opinion of him. We see his perspective on it all, and realize every villain plays the hero for the other side. Watching his heart break broke mine. This is a film list, but this moment was up there for me with any film this year. And the TV format gave us the luxurious time to slowly soak in his performance. But hey, “It’s not TV, it’s HBO.”



Ben Hickernell '00 is a film writer and director living in Philadelphia. His first film, *Lebanon, Pa.*, premiered at the SXSW festival and played in theaters in 20 cities, along with On-Demand, DVD and Showtime. *Philadelphia Inquirer* critic Steven Rea named it the best Philadelphia film of 2011, and Michael Moore called it one of the best indie films of 2011. His second feature as director, *Backwards*, starring James Van Der Beek, was released theatrically in 2012 and distributed by Phase 4 Films. His third film, as writer and director, *Hell of a View*, starring Hunter Parrish, Ashely Hinshaw, and Tim Daly, is currently in post-production.

The Best (Mostly) INDEPENDENT Films of 2013

By John Helde '87

10. *The Spectacular Now*: This movie features memorable performances and a poignant script from the writers of *(500) Days of Summer*.

9. *Touchy Feely*: Lynn Shelton assembles a wonderful cast, including Rosemarie DeWitt and Josh Pais, for this quirky ensemble piece.

8. *Blue Jasmine*: For my money, the best film Woody Allen has done in a number of years—real, well-acted, and substantive.

7. *The World's End*: The latest from the *Shaun of the Dead* guys made me laugh more than anything else I saw this year.

6. *Frances Ha*: I was slow to warm to this movie, but Greta Gerwig's performance really won me over in the second half. It's simple and, ultimately, joyful.

5. *Our Nixon*: A fascinating window into the Nixon years. Turns out Haldeman was shooting Super-8 home movies in the White House, and the filmmakers have edited these never-before-seen gems, along with period news footage and audio

recordings, into a unique and oddly moving film.

4. *Before Midnight*: The third installment of Richard Linklater's love-story trilogy is the best yet. Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke bring truth and complexity to these characters as they face the pressures of parenthood and middle age.

3. *Enough Said*: Wonderful. Enough said.

2. *American Hustle*: An incredible ride that makes you love its absurdly flawed characters.

1. *Nebraska*: I tend to love Alexander Payne's films, but this one stands apart as Bruce Dern and the entire cast deliver understated and touching performances. The black-and-white landscapes are a stunning backdrop.



John Helde is a director, screenwriter, and editor. His latest documentary, *Field Work: A Family Farm*, follows a family of Iowa farmers who try to stay small in an era of mega-farms. *Made In China*, his feature documentary about his father and other expat Americans growing up in China, is on Netflix and SnagFilms; and *Hello*, his award-winning short starring Eric Stoltz and Susanna Thompson, is streaming on Hulu. He is currently in pre-production on *Phoebe's Father*, a micro-feature film, and developing an independent comedy-drama entitled *Open Doors*. He lives in Seattle with his

wife, Karen (Cunningham) Helde BMC '86, and their rescue pup, Dolby. More at trythisfilms.com.



Blue Jasmine, starring Sally Hawkins and Cate Blanchett (left), is Woody Allen's 43rd film. James Gandolfini's performance as tender, if schlubby, Albert (right, with Julia Louis-Dreyfus) in *Enough Said* was one of the late actor's last.



My 10 FAVORITE Movies of 2013

By Harlan Jacobson '71

10. Tied at No. 10 are Romanian director Cristian Mungiu's *Beyond the Hills*, which has one of the single most audacious scenes of the year (the unintentional crucifixion of a mentally disturbed refugee in a convent), and Paolo Sorrentino's *The Great Beauty*, an update on *La Dolce Vita*,

this time with actor Toni Servillo wearing the best clothes Milan can muster for his walk around contemporary Roma—beautiful, decadent, hopeless, weary, and cultured.

9. *As I Lay Dying*: James Franco directed William Faulkner's 1930 novel. There were a lot of walkouts at Cannes, as people tried to parse the impenetrable dialect of the Bundren family, who barely stop for death to get some new teeth.

8. *Blue Jasmine*: There's a lot of art-house affectation in Woody's latest, but *Blue Jasmine*'s two sisters ride a *Streetcar* line between Tennessee Williams and Bernie Madoff. It's sketched a little over-broadly at times—there's nothing wrong with that, a picture's gotta sell—but the sisters, like Woody himself, pursue what they know. Cate Blanchett's performance

as an upended New York socialite, supported by Sally Hawkins as her San Francisco sister, lands on a theme that came up elsewhere: Class can't save character.

7. Gravity: Alfonso Cuarón—remember him from *Y Tu Mamá También?*—has gone Hollywood. The common rap that there is no there there isn't completely accurate. The film is a middle aged lament for why and how far one travels away from anything that feels like home for a career. I liked the ending Cuarón finally settled on: it's woman who crawls out of the water through the primordial ooze to finally stand up. Something zeitgeisty about that. I figure the film saved me \$250,000 that I don't have to give Richard Branson to shoot me up into space for a couple of hours on Virgin Galactic. It's the best ride in the movies since Cinerama.

6. 20 Feet From Stardom: About some of the great backup singers of the last 50 years, *20 Feet From Stardom* is directed by Morgan Neville and made its debut at Sundance last January. The film's center of gravity: when Darlene Love recalls cleaning a white woman's suburban house and hearing her own riff drift across the room on the radio. In the course of these rich, soaring, diving, loving 90 minutes, it all comes down to this truth: The black working class has taken care of the white middle and business class forever.

5. Her: A man played by Joaquin Phoenix falls in love with his operating system, given voice by Scarlett Johansson, who



3. American Hustle: David O. Russell sidles up to the Abscam scandal of the late 1970s and early 1980s in sidelong fashion. Some critics score it for meandering, but let's just say it takes its time, wallowing in the American underbelly of cheesy con artists, Mafiosi, cops, and the worst of all, politicians—save for the mayor of Camden, N.J. Great performances by Christian Bale, it-girl Jennifer Lawrence, Jeremy Renner, and above all Amy Adams, who for my money worked the hardest in this funny saga.

2. Inside Llewyn Davis: The Coen Brothers have mounted a dark musical of sorts, set in 1960s Greenwich Village, about a folk singer inspired by Dave Van Ronk, whose lunch was eaten by Bob Dylan. Llewyn Davis, played by Oscar Isaac in a career-making performance, is a loose cannon, and it costs him. Sometimes the world is just not ready for the next new thing until it's ready.

1. Blue Is the Warmest Color: Besides winning the Palme d'Or at Cannes, director Abdellatif Kechiche's lesbian romance between schoolgirls has been battered by the gay author of the comic novel it's based on, as being a male lesbian porn fantasy. Then critics complained that if you took out the sex there was no reason to watch. Where does that leave a fella? The film is a cultural minefield. It's fearless about class, sex, and young love. In a year when gay marriage is everywhere, the film's young lovers, played by Léa Seydoux and Adèle Exarchopoulos,



Joaquin Phoenix (left) plays a man in love with his Scarlett Johansson-voiced computer operating system in Spike Jonze's *Her*. Amy Adams and Christian Bale (right) lead an incendiary ensemble cast in *American Hustle*, based on the Abscam scandal of the late '70s and early '80s.

should have remained anonymous in the credits. Going all the way back to Hal in Stanley Kubrick's *2001* of 1968, we've had a pretty jaundiced view of what's going on inside the box. *Her* actually derives from the 1975 film *The Stepford Wives*, with Katharine Ross trying to escape a Connecticut town where all the wives are turned into robotic zombies calibrated for obedience and praise. *Her* is *The Stepford Wives'* revenge.

4. All Is Lost: "The Old Man and the Yacht." We watch Robert Redford silently try to save himself in the Indian Ocean. The end divides audiences. What happens to him? I think Redford is an American optimist. We report, you decide. It would, however, be a brilliant finale to a charmed career.

memorably break open the frontier of what's possible to see as normal.



Harlan Jacobson covers the entertainment industries for *Variety*, edited *Film Comment* for a decade, and for more than 30 years has written on film and pop culture, including extensive coverage of independent film and international festivals for major news media, including as a regular contributor to *USA Today*. Named film critic in 2010 for WBGO Jazz Radio 88 (88.3 FM), the NPR affiliate in Newark, N.J., Jacobson covers films from around the world. He directs the national Talk Cinema screening and lecture series in a dozen locations around the U.S. More at talkcinema.com.

Roads Taken and Not Taken

Richard Lederer '59

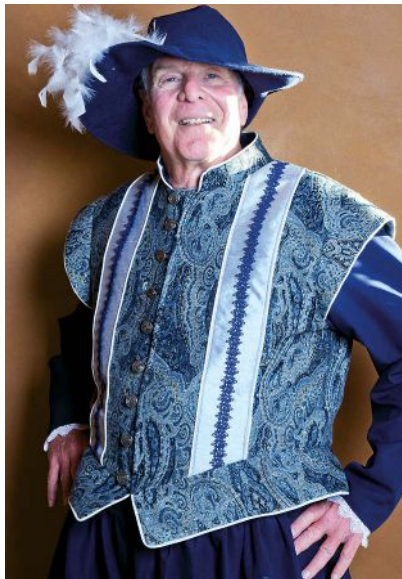
In my senior year at West Philadelphia High School, I read my first and only Shakespeare play, *Julius Caesar*, and I understood scarcely a word of it. What's with the language that begins with a capital letter on each line and doesn't reach the right margin? What's with the strange music that suffuses those lines? What's all this stuff about ancient Rome?

I entered Haverford as a pre-med but found I was reading the science textbooks for their literary value. Just in time, I became an English major, got shot through by the Shakespeare canon, and discovered how literature can catch and crystallize the human condition and sing to us of what we did not know we knew. Ever since, I have been caught in the loom of literature and the web of words.

Haverford College inspired me to discover who I was and why I was put on this planet. Haverford showed me that I must not waste my sweetness on the desert air. That's why I walked away from Harvard Law School after a single year, and, ultimately, from teaching at St. Paul's School, a church boarding school in New Hampshire, where the children I taught in the morning I coached in the afternoon and tucked into bed at night.

While at St. Paul's, I commuted to the University of New Hampshire and earned a Ph.D. in linguistics. During that bright journey, I experienced the emotions of the male dancer in *A Chorus Line* who goes to his sister's dance recital and yawns, "I can do that! And I want to do that!" So after 27 rewarding years, I left teaching utopia to become a fly-by-the-roof-of-the-mouth user-friendly linguist, wizard of idiom, Conan the Grammarian, and Attila the Pun. That identity has helped me obliterate the distance between who I am and what I do. When you are heels over head in love with what you do, you never work a day in your life.

Haverford instilled in me a psychic mobility that persists to this very day. For decades, wordstruck, wordaholic, word-



besotted, word-bethumped I have written about all matters linguistic—from puns to punctuation, pronouns to pronunciation, diction to dictionaries, and palaver to palindromes. But when I passed through the portal of my biblical threescore years and ten, I reinvented myself as a writer, finding new subjects to explore—dogs, cats, teachers, seniors, holidays, and Americana. Each time I set up shop in a new territory, I became the writer best suited to tell that particular story, a new human being with a new voice.

Two of my children have won millions of dollars as professional poker players. For the past 15 years they have inspired me to play a lot of Texas Hold'em in neighborhood games. My poker buddies and I have become a band of brothers and sisters who agree that each will vie to be cleverer, gutsier, and sneakier than the others.

I'm energized by the competition of poker. I like feeling the way I felt back in my Haverford youth on the football field and basketball court. I no longer can play those sports, but when I compete in mental games, age doth not whither me nor cus-

tom stale me. I can never drive a golf ball like Tiger Woods or pulverize a tennis ball like Serena Williams; but I can, on occasion, make a stone-cold bluff in the manner of my offsprung poker sharks. Not having inherited my kids' awesome analytical acumen, I am not a natural numbers guy; but I claw my way upward toward mediocrity. That progress blossoms my axons, dendrites, synapses, and ganglia, expanding my brain's breadth. A man's mind should exceed his reach, or what's a heaven for?

Now that I am full of years and white of hair and the evening star glows in the sky, now that my sere, my yellow leaf falls from bare, ruined choirs where late the sweet birds sang, now that I am well past my biblical threescore years and ten and my son has (gasp!) turned 50, now that I am on the cusp of returning for my 55th reunion and the *Haverford* alumni notes often start several years *after* my class, I find myself filled with one overmastering emotion:

Gratitude—for family, which now embraces seven grandchildren; for enduring friendships with classmates; for a life-long addiction to learning; for the marvel that, as my readers pass their eyes over my words, they experience ideas and emotions similar to what I was thinking and feeling when, in another place and another time, I struck the symbols on my keyboard; and for the astonishing gift of life: what it has been and what it will become. Hurrah!

Richard Lederer (verbivore.com) is the author of more than 40 books about language, history, and humor, including his current titles, Amazing Words and Lederer on Language. He lives in San Diego with his wife, Simone van Egeren. Lederer will give a talk titled "Confessions of a Word Lover" during Alumni Weekend at Haverford, which runs May 30 to June 1. For more information, see p. 54.

CARE TO SHARE YOUR STORY of roads taken (or not taken) since graduation? Drop us a line: elotozo@haverford.edu

giving back



Haverford's Annual Fund Makes a Mighty Impact

296 students graduated from Haverford on May 19, 2013. Helping to make that possible were the 7,314 alumni, parents, and friends who gave to the 2012-13 Annual Fund.

By **Emily Weisgrau**, with reporting from Doug Stuart

Haverford's Annual Fund increases the College's capacity for innovation while preserving endowment dollars for the long term.* The Fund supports tangible necessities such as academic programs, financial aid, athletics, student-life ini-

tiatives, and maintenance of the campus, and it allows the College to respond nimbly to unexpected needs. The Annual Fund has a meaningful and immediate impact on Haverford students every day.

The Annual Fund supports the College's greatest needs, primarily in the following areas:

Academic Enrichment

Haverford's classrooms encompass diverse arenas for inquiry, engagement, and growth that are consistent with the College's philosophy of "educating the whole person." The hallmarks of this approach include collaborative scholarship in which students learn from and work with faculty (within 32 majors and 24 minors), culminating in a senior thesis

*It would take \$125 million in additional endowment to replace the income from the Annual Fund.

or capstone project. Annual Fund dollars for academics go to every department and program, to curricular development (such as the creation of the new Health Studies Multidisciplinary Minor, which launched in January), and to the libraries, technology resources, study abroad, and much more.

Financial Aid

Need-blind admission and generous financial aid foster the creation of a richly diverse student body, a community in which all students develop skills as global citizens. The actual cost of educating each student is around \$88,000 a year, well above the price of tuition. The gap is filled by distributions from the endowment and contributions to the Annual Fund. While 50 percent of students receive financial aid from the College, even those paying full tuition receive some subsidy for their education. The Annual Fund plays a critical role in controlling tuition expenses while making a Haverford education accessible to greater numbers of students.

Campus and Facilities

The Annual Fund directly supports the maintenance and upkeep of more than 100 College-owned academic, administrative, athletic, and residential buildings



BY THE NUMBERS:

- 3,551 Sharpless Society donors have given to the Annual Fund for five or more consecutive years.
 - Smaller gifts make a big difference. Gifts under \$150 made since July 1 total more than \$117,000.
 - The Annual Fund accounts for approximately 7 percent of the College's operating budget.
 - 29 percent of alumni have given to the Annual Fund since July 1. Alumni participation rates influence the *U.S. News & World Report* college-rankings calculation, while foundations and other funders look to the figure as a measure of alumni satisfaction when they decide where to give, and how much.
- All figures as of January 31, 2014*

(built between c.1811 and 2012) on the 200-acre campus. The groundskeeping, housekeeping, maintenance, horticultural, and sustainability efforts that go into keeping the campus looking beautiful for all who use it are made possible in part by the Annual Fund.

Athletics

Committed to the belief that physical education is an integral component of each student's liberal arts education, Haverford's Athletic Department offers a wide range of athletic opportunities. About 40 percent of undergraduates take part in the College's 23 varsity sports, and 100 percent of students benefit from the club teams, intramural competitions,

and instructional classes. All of these, plus the maintenance of tracks, fields, courts, and fitness facilities, rely on support from the Annual Fund.

Student Life

The Annual Fund provides necessary resources and services that support students' well-being on campus and their lives beyond, such as Health Services, the Center for Career and Professional Advising, Quaker Affairs, Customs, Plenary, and the Office of Student Life, which oversees all student clubs and groups—as well as the beloved annual Haverfest.

➔ Learn more about the Annual Fund at hav.to/annualfund.



PHOTOS: KEN PHELAN (CAMPUS); THOM CARROLL PHOTOGRAPHY (GROUP); ANDRE BECKLES (OPPOSITE)

President Weiss Addresses New York Alumni, Parents, and Friends on **Haverford's Future**

On a snowy December 10, Daniel H. Weiss spoke at the Penn Club in New York City—the first in a series of events created to give the Haverford community an opportunity to get to know the College's 14th president, who took office in July and was inaugurated in late October. Even with the inclement weather that Tuesday, the audience grew to 115 attendees, including alumni, parents, and friends of the College.

After an opening reception, Weiss gave a 20-minute talk, highlighting the opportunities and responsibilities that a liberal arts college has today. "There is no question that a school like Haverford produces value," he said, "but the world of higher education means that our objective is raised to an even higher level."

Weiss spoke to the ways higher education serves the needs of the public, and to whether it is being used as it should be to create citizens who are productive leaders. He acknowledged some skepticism on the part of the public about higher education, and the College's essential role in articulating its purpose and choices as an educational institution. "If changes are necessary, we are prepared to make changes," he added. "What is essential is that we think about being open to new ideas and new energies as we move forward, and strive to extend our mission beyond the walls of the campus."

During his talk, Weiss emphasized a financial model that reflected strict accountability to Haverford's strategic plan. He also addressed positioning the learning environment in a fast-changing technological landscape, observing that "we should be asking how we can use technology to enhance our mission, to improve what we already do well."

A highlight of the talk was Weiss's eloquence on the standards set by his predecessor Isaac Sharpless, who in the late 19th century spoke of the need for



Daniel H. Weiss addresses guests at the New York City event, which was hosted by Norm Pearlstine '64.

an undergraduate experience of uncompromised quality. "And now we must build on these Quaker values," Weiss said, "to create new learning environments . . . where people can engage their own values."

He described a Haverford with an even stronger focus on outcomes for students,



Julia Iodice '08 and her father, Anthony Iodice, enjoyed the event together.

beginning with a newly reorganized Center for Career and Professional Advising. Situating career development activity within the Dean's Office will ensure that students think holistically, for the long term, about life after graduation while they are plotting their academic path, Weiss said. Such engagement will begin in the sophomore year with planning for internships, fellowships, and related co-curricular opportunities taking place during conversations about major study.

Weiss concluded by answering questions from alumni and expressed his deep interest in "hearing from all of you and those on campus as we move forward together." He requested of the group: "When you go out into the world, bring a little of Haverford with you." After the talk, Weiss spoke informally with the attendees and accepted an offer to grab a drink with a group of young alumni.

—Alison Rooney

Other stops on the tour include Boston on April 9, and Chicago on May 6. Visit hav.to/weisstour for details.

Featured Events of Alumni Weekend **2014**

Alumni Weekend 2014 will be held on campus May 30 – June 1. In addition to the events highlighted below, there will be class-specific dinners and parties, campus tours, and opportunities to mingle with faculty. Facilities that will be open for use during the weekend include the libraries and the Arn '76 and Nancy Tellem Fitness Center. Also available during the weekend will be HaverCamp childcare.



Friday, May 30

■ **"Confessions of a Word Lover"**
Talk and Book Signing by
Rich Lederer, presented by the
Class of 1959 2 – 3:30 p.m.

How do we love thee, language?
Let us count the ways. Best-selling
language writer Lederer will explore
the joys of lex.



■ Class of '64 Presents:

Life After Haverford 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Fifty years after their graduation, we
hear about the powerhouse lives and
careers of **Bob Bates** (Harvard
University), **Norm Pearlstine** (Time
Inc.), **Rob Riordan** (High Tech High),
and attorney/agent/author **Ron
Shapiro**. Moderated by Garry Mitchell
(*The Mitchell Report*).

Saturday, May 31

■ **The Haverford Experience
and Civic Engagement: An Alumni
Perspective** 1:30 – 3 p.m.

For many alumni and current stu-
dents, Haverford stands as a model of a
values-laden education. How can
alumni, grounded in our Haverford
experience, have a positive impact in

our communities? Join members of the
Class of '79 in what promises to be a
lively roundtable discussion about
civic engagement and social change,
and come prepared to share your own
story. Panelists: **Ralph Boyd** (DC
Charter Schools and the Freddie Mac
Foundation), **Jon Cohen** (Urban
Justice Center), **Lucas Held** (Wallace
Foundation), and **Parker Snowe**
(Center for Peace and Global
Citizenship at Haverford).

■ Class of '84 Panel Discussion: International Security and U.S. Foreign Policy 1:30 – 3 p.m.

The panel will cover a wide range of
topics related to international security
challenges for U.S. foreign policy,
including humanitarian intervention,
the Persian Gulf and Central Asia, civil
conflicts and insurgencies in Africa, the
rise of China, and nonproliferation
efforts toward Iran and North Korea.
Panelists include **Tom Christensen**
(Princeton University), **Taylor Seybolt**
(University of Pittsburgh), **Will Reno**
(Northwestern University), and **Henry
Wooster** (National Security Council).

■ Class of '69 Presents a Book Signing With Dave Barry 2 – 3:30 p.m.



Barry is a
Pulitzer Prize-
winning author
and columnist,
who wrote a
nationally syn-
dicated humor
column for *The
Miami Herald*
from 1983 to
2005. He will be

reading excerpts from his latest book,
You Can Date Boys When You're Forty
(to be published in March 2014),
followed by a Q&A session and
book signing.

■ **State of the College and Q&A with President Daniel H. Weiss, and Alumni Association Award Presentation**

Saturday, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.



Join President Weiss for a brief update on the state of the College, after which he will take questions from the alumni community. Board of

Managers member **Charley Beever '74** and Alumni Association Executive Committee President **Elliot Gordon '78, P'14** will moderate a discussion

with the president, announce the outstanding results in Class Gift fundraising and participation efforts, and congratulate the recipients of the 2014 Alumni Association Awards:

Stephen Sachs '54 and Richard Cooper '64 (The Kannerstein Award for Sustained Service to the College)

John Heller '89 (Haverford Award for Service to Humanity)

Norman Pearlstine '64 and Dave Barry '69 (Distinguished Achievement Award for Outstanding Contributions in a Profession)

Jason Polykoff '06 (The Young Alumni Award for Accomplishments in Leadership)

Alex Buxbaum '09 (The Lawrence Forman Award for Excellence in Athletics)

Erik Muther '94 (The William Kaye Award for Volunteer Service in Career Development)

Monroe "Monty" Sonnenborn '64 (The Charles Perry Award for Volunteer Service in Fundraising)

Abby Colbert '99 (The Archibald MacIntosh Award for Volunteer Service in Admission)

Kyle Danish '89 (The William E. Sheppard Award for Volunteer Service in Alumni Activities)

Visit hav.to/alumniawards to learn more about the winners.

■ **High Tech and the Haverford Experience: Perspectives on the Impact of Technology, presented by the Class of '64** 3:30 – 5 p.m.

From its use in the classroom, to digital scholarship and digital humanities initiatives, to its influence on student behavior, technology has transformed the Haverford liberal arts experience. Join us and be transported forward to 21st Century Haverford! Panelists: Professor of Religion **Ken Koltun-Fromm '88**, Tri-Co Digital Humanities Assistant Director Jen Rajchel BMC '11, Librarian of the College Terry Snyder, and Students' Council Co-President Jacob Lowy '14. Moderated by **John Aird '64**.

■ **MegaMixer: All-Classes Dance** 8:30 p.m. – 12 a.m.

Travel back in time with Haverford and Bryn Mawr friends to relive memories of college mixers and to rock 'n roll to hits of the '60s and '70s, featuring the musical talents of three alumni bands—The Shameless Eclectic Duck, Dingo, and Tammany.

View the complete Alumni Weekend schedule at fords.haverford.edu or call **610-896-1004** with questions. Online registration opens April 1.

■ **WHRC Radio Reunion Activities**

■ **Turn On/Turn Off: 90 Years of Radio at Haverford** Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. This exhibit, curated by Karl Moll '14 and the RadioFords, explores the origins and trajectory of radio broadcasting at the College, from 1923 to a newly relaunched web-based collective of audio content and multimedia generated by the Bi-Co community.



■ **WHRC Radio Alumni Reception** Saturday, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Mingle with fellow DJs and WHRC enthusiasts, and explore the *Turn On/Turn Off: 90 Years of Radio at Haverford* exhibit. Following the reception, there will be a tour of old and new radio station spaces.

■ **WABQ, WHAV, WHRC: 90+ Years of Student-Powered Radio at Haverford College**

Sunday, 9 – 11 a.m.

Student broadcasting has a long history at Haverford, starting with AM broadcasts from Sharpless in 1923 to streaming online today. Haverford-Bryn Mawr radio alumni will share stories about the history of radio on campus, and current radio participants will talk about the present and future of student radio at Haverford. All classes are encouraged to attend, particularly radio alumni. Panelists include **John Severinghaus '43** via Skype (WHAV), and WHRC alums **W. Charles Read '61**, **Steve Bronstein '75**, **Jennifer Waits '89**, and Karl Moll '14.



Coming Events

Alumni Webinar: Connecting with the Center for Career & Professional Advising (CCPA)

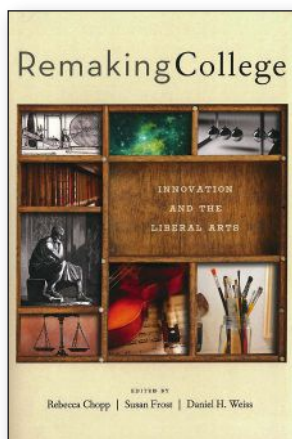
The CCPA fosters career exploration, professional development for students and alumni, networking opportunities, and outreach with employers. What does this mean for Haverford alumni? What are the resources available to you as a job seeker, as a volunteer willing to assist a Ford, or as an employer trying to hire Haverford graduates? Join CCPA Dean Kelly Cleary and Assistant Dean Amy Feifer to find out.

Online – March 26

SAVE THE DATE: June 10 will be the next CCPA webinar.

Remaking College: A Discussion of Liberal Arts Education

Join President Daniel H. Weiss and



Swarthmore College President Rebecca Chopp for an evening of discussion about liberal arts education as explored in *Remaking College: Innovation in the Liberal Arts*, a new collection of essays co-edited by Chopp and Weiss.

Philadelphia, PA – April 1

A Haverford Education in a Changing World: A Conversation With Daniel H. Weiss

How is higher education changing, and why is Haverford well-positioned to take advantage of emerging trends? President Weiss will speak about Haverford's role in educating the world's best students and why he's optimistic for the future of America's liberal arts colleges.

Boston, MA – April 9

Chicago, IL – May 6

EVENT DATES AND DETAILS

are subject to change. For the most current information or to register for these events, visit fords.haverford.edu. To organize or host an event in your area, contact alumni@haverford.edu or call **610-896-1004**.

RESOURCES FOR ALUMNI

ALUMNI who wish to give or get career support are encouraged to visit haverford.edu/ccpa to explore the offerings of the Center for Career and Professional Advising:

- Haverford's official LinkedIn Career Connections Group
- Externships and internships
- Informational interviewing
- Career advice on the CCPA blog
- Job-recruiting and job-seeking resources

GET THE SCOOP ON ALUMNI EVENTS WITH OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Are you receiving our bimonthly Events Newsletter for alumni, parents, and friends? Haverfordians can view upcoming events in all regions at a glance.

Contact alumni@haverford.edu if you would like to get on the mailing list for this helpful resource.

FORDS ON YOUR PHONE

There are more than 13,000 Haverford alumni worldwide. Now they're all within reach. The new Haverford College Alumni app enables you to:

- Find alumni wherever you are— at home or on the road
- Update your profile
- Register for events
- View and upload photos
- Make a gift to the College

Download the app for free at hav.to/iphonofords (for iPhones) or hav.to/androidfords (for Android devices).



class news



HAVERFORD COLLEGE

Due to privacy concerns, the Class News section is not included in the digital edition of *Haverford Magazine*. To get updates on your classmates and other Haverford grads, sign in to the alumni community: fords.haverford.edu.



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alumni obituaries

41 Jan Winston Long of Kennett Square, Pa., died Oct. 30 at age 94. Born in Boston, Long performed alternative civilian service during World War II as the cook for a timber firefighting unit based in Oregon. He earned a master's degree in science education from Cornell University in 1951. For more than four decades, Long was a teacher at Westtown School, a Quaker boarding school in West Chester, Pa., where he taught math and science, was a dorm parent, and coached track and cross-country. He met his wife, Alice, at Westtown in 1946; both also took part in numerous service projects as members of Westtown Monthly Meeting. In the '50s the couple led a team of Westtown students to Germany to build a youth hostel with German and Dutch students, and later they traveled to New Mexico to create a community center with the Navajo Nation. The annual Westtown School Alumni Day race was renamed the Long Run in his honor in 1985, the year he retired. Afterwards, he continued to volunteer in the school's greenhouse, growing orchids. He is survived by his wife and by 11 nieces and nephews.

50 Philip Maroney died Dec. 13 in Lancaster, Pa. He was 86. Born in Philadelphia, Maroney received eight varsity letters at Haverford, in football, baseball, and wrestling. A proud veteran of the Navy, he began his extensive teaching and coaching career at the Pingry School. After earning his master's degree in education from Rutgers University, he taught and coached at the William Penn Charter School, the Shipley School, Montgomery Day School, and Woodynde School, and served as head of the Middle School Albuquerque Academy in New Mexico, Carmel Academy in North Carolina, and Aylett Country Day School in Virginia. At Penn Charter he served as athletic director and coached football, wrestling, baseball, and tennis. Having founded or expanded the wrestling program at nearly every school where he taught, Maroney was proudest of his five decades as a wrestling official, for which he was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and the Southeast Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Bryce Maroney; children, Andy, Anne, Linden Boggs Adams, Donna Boggs, Cherry Boggs, and Elizabeth Marvel; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

51 Samuel W.G. Hudson II died Nov. 14 at age 83 in his home city of Wilmington, Del. An Army veteran, he earned an M.B.A. from Cornell University after Haverford. Hudson retired from the DuPont Company as employee relations consultant in 1983. An avid supporter

of marksmanship, he was a longtime member of the Delaware State Skeet Shooters Association, a hall of fame inductee, and winner of the Gen. Fred Vetter Award for Skeet Shooting. He was also a member of the Austrian-American Society Scholarship Committee and an active member of the Haverford Scarlet Sages. Hudson is survived by his wife of 60 years, Margaret; daughter, Susan; son, Jim; and two grandchildren.

52 Frank Miles died Dec. 25 in Hanover, N.H. Raised in Oregon, he studied engineering at Oregon State University and during World War II was a conscientious objector serving in the Civilian Public Service. In 1946, he went with the Friends Ambulance/Friends Service Unit to China, spending four years there. He rebuilt hospitals, joined Medical Team 19 (MT-19) at the International Peace Hospital in Yan'an as a medical mechanic, and ultimately was chair for all Friends Service Unit groups in China. After Haverford, Miles earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Villanova University. In the 1960s, he joined the international division of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, serving as chief engineer for plants in Venezuela, France, Tunisia, Quebec, and Ontario, finally becoming manufacturing manager for Firestone Canada. Miles also served as general secretary/treasurer for Canadian Yearly Meeting, the national body of Canadian Friends, in Toronto. For the last 10 years he lived in a continuing-care retirement community in Hanover, along with two other members of the class of 1952: **Peter Bien** and **Tom Wilson**. Predeceased by his wife, Patricia Beatty Miles, Miles is survived by his children, Stephen, Rebecca, Dan, and Catherine; and by eight grandchildren.

58 Fred Hargadon, former dean of admissions at Princeton and Stanford universities, died Jan. 15 in Princeton, N.J. Born in Ardmore, Pa., Hargadon was among the first of his family to attend college. After high school, he worked briefly for the Atlantic Refining Company and the post office before serving in the Army for two years. He did postgraduate work at Harvard and Cornell universities and began his career on the political science faculty at Swarthmore, where he became dean of admissions in 1964. Later Hargadon assumed the same role at Stanford and also served as senior vice president at the College Board. Ultimately, he became dean of admissions at Princeton, where, from 1988 to 2003, he was affectionately known as Dean Fred. Generations of students benefited from his humor, the personal attention he paid to each applicant, and his active engagement in the life of the campus, where a dormitory is named

for him. Hargadon was known by colleagues worldwide for his thoughtful role in admissions as the "dean of deans," in the words of *The New York Times*, which profiled him in 1984. Over his more than 35 years in admissions, Hargadon worked to make the process fair and equitable, and to demystify the experience for applicants. His tenure at Princeton resulted in a more diverse undergraduate student body and in the university adopting its landmark no-loan financial aid policy in 2001. He is survived by his sons, Steve and Andy, and five grandchildren.

60 James F. Carlin, Jr. died Oct. 22. After Haverford, he earned a master's degree in metallurgy from MIT and an M.B.A. from the George Washington University. He worked for 14 years for Bethlehem Steel Corporation as an engineer and metallurgist. In the 1970s he began working for the U.S. Department of Interior, first with the Bureau of Mines and then, in 1996, for the Geological Survey. Carlin spent half a century collecting RPM records, mostly rock 'n' roll from the 1950s and 1960s. He was one of the few investors in the Philadelphia record label Cameo-Parkway, which started in the mid-'50s and had success with hits by artists such as Chubby Checker, Bobby Rydell, the Dovells, and Dee Dee Sharp. Carlin was a lifelong fan of the St. Louis Cardinals.

63 Charles William Morrisey, Jr. died Dec. 22. He attended Haverford for three years in the early 1960s, and then experienced a period of searching and spiritual discovery. He returned to school at age 35, receiving a bachelor's degree in English from Grace College in 1976, a master's of divinity from Grace Theological Seminary in 1980, and a master's in English from Purdue University in 1982. Morrisey taught at Spring Arbor University (then Spring Arbor College) from 1986 to 2006 and completed his Ph.D. in 2000, focusing on Tennyson's poetry. A long-distance runner for years, Morrisey covered 40 miles a week and was competitive in 5K and 10K races. He is survived by his wife, Carol Ingalsbe; sons, Trevor and Sean; daughter, Susanna Rowser; and three grandchildren.

64 Richard (Max) Bockol of Gladwyne, Pa., died Nov. 2. He was 71. He began his 45-year legal career as an assistant district attorney in Philadelphia, serving under Arlen Specter and alongside Edward Rendell and Lynne Abraham. Starting in 1986, he practiced law as a solo practitioner in real estate, corporate, criminal and family matters, and litigation. Having worked as a counselor at the Samuel G.

Friedman Vacation Camp for Underprivileged Jewish Boys in Collegeville, Pa., Bockol founded Serendipity Day Camp at Haverford while a senior in 1964, as a way to integrate children living in the neighborhood of South Ardmore into the College community. Since 1976, he served as the restaurant reviewer, travel writer, and contributing editor of the Philadelphia Bar Association's *Bar Reporter*, writing under the pseudonyms "Fatty R Bockol" and later "Skinny D'Bockol." He also hosted the restaurant portions of *Live at Five* on WCAU-TV in Philadelphia with Matt Lauer, and wrote and recorded bar association "legal updates" for KYW-1060 Radio. With his son Joseph, Bockol co-authored the biography of a former Philadelphia Eagles owner, *Jerry Wolman: The World's Richest Man* (2010), and edited sever-

al books. For decades he served as board chair of the Gaudenzia Foundation, a Pennsylvania non-profit for the treatment of drug and related dependencies. Bockol is survived by his wife, Anne, and sons, Eli and Joseph.

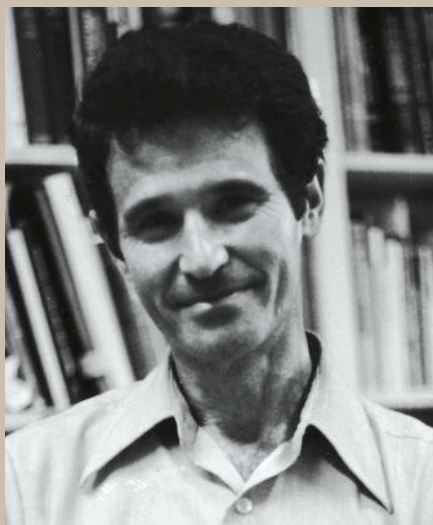
75 James (Jim) Dunbar Flower, Jr. of Carlisle, Pa., died Oct. 12. He was 60. After earning his J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law, he practiced law in Cumberland County for 35 years, ultimately as a partner in the firm of Flower Law, LLC in Carlisle. Flower also served as the solicitor for the Carlisle Area School District and as dependency master of the Cumberland County Juvenile Court, conducting hearings for children who were allegedly abused and neglected. Flower was president of the

Carlisle Rotary Club, vice president of the Cumberland County Bar Association, and a board member of a number of organizations, including the Downtown Carlisle Association, the Carlisle Area United Way, and, the Carlisle YMCA. He was the solicitor for the Bison Foundation, board chair of the Carlisle Hospital, and president of the Cumberland County Historical Society. As treasurer of Historic Carlisle, Inc., Flower enjoyed playing John Armstrong during Revolutionary War reenactments. Flower sang in the choir and served as assistant treasurer at St. John's Episcopal Church in Carlisle, and he helped found St. John's Community Church in Laporte, Pa. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Dawn, and his children, Lenore and James.

I N M E M O R I A M

William C. Davidon

Former Professor William C. Davidon, a major figure in the peace movement in Philadelphia during the Vietnam War, died Nov. 8 in Highlands Ranch, Colo., at age 86. Davidon, who earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in physics from the University of Chicago, served two years in the Navy. As a graduate student, he conducted physics research at the Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies and Argonne National Laboratory. His research at Argonne drew such high



William Davidon circa 1965

praise that when an article he wrote there was first published in 1991, the journal's editors said the 30-year-old paper "remains as one of the most mysterious flashes of insight in the scientific literature." He also developed what is known as the Davidon-Fletcher-Powell Algorithm for finding solutions to complex mathematical problems.

Davidon was prominent nationally in the anti-nuclear movement as a leader of the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. A comment he made in a speech at the City Club of Chicago in September 1959 as head of the Chicago section of the Federation of American Scientists—that "one hydrogen bomb releases a greater amount of energy than all the explosions set off by all countries in all wars known in the entire history of mankind"—was repeated by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in a major address on disarmament before the U.N. General Assembly.

and especially the morality of using the outcomes of scientific research to develop ever more powerful military force. In his last decade as a professor, he switched from physics to mathematics, retiring from Haverford in 1991. Davidon is survived by his children, Sarah, Ruth Rogers, and Alan, and by eight grandchildren. *For more about Davidon see "A Burglary Uncovered," page 26.*

Wallace T. MacCaffrey

Former Haverford College History Professor Wallace T. MacCaffrey died Dec. 13 in Cambridge, England. He was 93.

A professor at Haverford beginning in 1961, Davidon led campus, scientific, and peace organizations, especially Philadelphia Resistance, which supported young men who refused to be drafted or were soldiers and wanted to leave the service because of their opposition to the war. Davidon also was active in the civil rights movement and participated in the march led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. At Haverford, the Vietnam War became his major focus,

MacCaffrey, who taught at Haverford from 1952 to 1968, went on to chair the history department at Harvard University. He was a prominent scholar of the Elizabethan era and authored several books about the period, including a major biography of Elizabeth I. MacCaffrey retired from Harvard in 1990 and moved to England, where he served as a fellow at Trinity Hall, at the University of Cambridge.

According to *The Spirit and the Intellect, Haverford College, 1833-1983*, MacCaffrey was "a man of vast intelligence and laconic wit, [who] gave new vigor to the intellectual life of the college" upon his arrival in 1952. He was an early faculty representative to the Board of Managers and a key figure in a coffee-hour discussion group that brought faculty together for lively debate. MacCaffrey was also known as the creator of "History 11-12," a sweeping survey of western civilization that became "one of the most demanding and popular courses ever given at Haverford."



A photo of Wallace MacCaffrey from *The Record of the Class of 1962*.

An obituary for MacCaffrey in *The Harvard Crimson* noted that in his long career as a professor he nurtured many future scholars, among them Haverford alumnus and former Harvard History Professor **Akira Iriye '57**. Iriye, a native of Japan, was struggling academically when he first arrived at Haverford as he worked to improve his English, he told the *Crimson*. MacCaffrey took him under his wing and encouraged him to speak up more in class. Iriye took MacCaffrey's advice and "never stopped talking," and for that, he said, he remained forever "indebted to him as a teacher."

Part of the Dining Center since its 1969 opening, the fireplace in the Sunken Lounge has long served as a meeting place and study space for students looking to warm up, as these organic chemistry students circa 1990 show. Do you recognize any of these '90s-era Fords? Let us know by emailing hc-editor@haverford.edu.

THEN AND NOW

It's been a long and remarkably snowy winter, so the fireplace in the DC has, more than ever, been a welcome respite from the cold. Students such as (from left) Jeanna Kenney '16, Shakira King '17, Damon Motz-Storey '16, and Matt da Silva '14 often study, eat dinner, or enjoy special events in front of its warming glow whenever it is lit.

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