A Professor’s Passion to Protect
Melissa Remis, a biological anthropologist at Purdue, is working to save the wild gorillas of Central Africa—a species that could reach extinction within 15 years. The consequences of their extinction would extend beyond the gorilla’s role in the region’s economy. One aspect of Remis’s research is the Baka pygmies’ social and cultural dependence on gorillas. They are an important part of the heritage, folklore, songs, and legends of the forest people.

“Even across cultures, we might consider gorillas key cultural species,” says Remis. “Consider the figure of King Kong and the relative frequency with which myths and stories about gorillas appear in our culture. It is not just the pygmies who will be affected if gorillas go extinct.”

“Imagine a future for our children without gorillas.”

**Page 6**

**Extra! Extra! Read All About Us!**

Connecting faculty research to today’s news

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**Communicating a Life Lesson**

How a health professor is using her motorcycle accident as a learning tool

**Page 12**

**Capturing History in Hollywood**

A Purdue history professor’s journey

**Page 16**

**Evolution of an Anthropologist**

Purdue scientist shifts from researcher to conservation scientist

**Page 20**

**The Puzzle of Language Development**

CLA researchers take a new, collaborative approach to investigating language development
Dear Liberal Arts Alumni and Friends,

As I look back over almost seven years as president of Purdue University, I am very pleased by the advances made in the College of Liberal Arts during that time. As a new president in 2000, my goal was to focus on moving toward preeminence, and I believe that we have made great progress in this goal. With a strategic plan endorsed by the Board of Trustees and Purdue’s faculty, we will have added 30 faculty positions in the College of Liberal Arts. The College of Liberal Arts touches the lives of every undergraduate at Purdue. I see many ways that CLA has progressed, but there are four that strike me as particularly important.

The first of these is internationalization. The College of Liberal Arts leads the way in study abroad, with more than 266 students in 2006. Not only are students studying abroad in greater numbers, the new CLA minor in international studies provides a new way for students to become more literate about our global society. Faculty members in the college are doing research, presenting papers, and publishing in and about all parts of the world.

Second, excellent teaching has long been a strength of the College of Liberal Arts, and national awards underscore that strength. Recently, for example, the Carnegie Foundation named Randy Roberts, a history professor, Indiana Professor of the Year. Professor Roberts joins eight other Purdue faculty members who have received the award in the past 20 years, and he is the third from the College of Liberal Arts. Inducted into Purdue’s Book of Great Teachers in 2003, Professor Roberts is just one of many faculty members in the college who excel at teaching, as well as at research. Strong research and creative activity make up the third impressive achievement in the College of Liberal Arts. Articles, art shows, monographs, and inventions are all part of what faculty members do. Of particular note is Professor Scott Shim in the Rusty and Patti Kueff Department of Visual and Performing Arts. Professor Shim’s innovative design for the SHIFT bike (which, when it accelerates, changes from a three-wheeler to a two-wheeler), made the cover of Time magazine. This is just one example of the fine research that is being carried out in CLA.

Finally, I want to talk about service to the community in the college. Last year 75 College faculty members spoke to 7,700 people throughout the state of Indiana about their work. I believe that this type of engagement is a major part of our responsibility to society. As important as the research mentioned in the previous paragraph is, it is not enough. We need to continue sharing that research with others throughout the state, nation, and world.

My dreams go even further for Purdue than what can be accomplished in just seven years. And those dreams for the University cannot be realized without the College of Liberal Arts. Its internationalization, teaching expertise, research strengths, and engagement efforts will make Purdue an even better University in the future.

Sincerely,

Martin C. Jischke

Dear Friends,

IF THE PAST truly is prologue to the future, this year has set the stage for a spectacular future for the College.

FIRST, I am very happy to announce that we will have three new distinguished professors as part of the University’s Goodwin Challenge, a program that matches funding from the unrestricted estate gift of George E. Goodwin to three $750,000 gifts to our College. On page 24, you can read about the generosity of the late Dr. James V. Bradley, William and Carolyn Byham, and William Osterle, who have made these three new endowed chairs possible.

ANOTHER CAUSE for celebration is the excellent teaching and research in the College of Liberal Arts. As President Jischke noted, Randy Roberts, professor of history, was recognized for his exceptional efforts in the classroom. You can read about this honor, as well as other outstanding faculty on pages 12–15 and 26–27.

THE POWERFUL combination of teaching excellence and outstanding research, exemplified by Professor Roberts and others in the College, surely helps to account for the record enrollment in the College’s programs. This past fall semester saw 6,403 students, the most among the University’s ten colleges and 20 percent of all the undergraduates in the University, choose curricula in the College’s 11 departments and 15 interdisciplinary programs as these pathways to interesting and productive careers.

Reaching another milestone, the College of Liberal Arts surpassed our $39.3 million Campaign for Purdue goal on January 31. I want to thank everyone whose generosity supports the College’s mission and goals.

ELSEWHERE in the magazine you can peruse a wide and varied list of many of the faculty and student publications, exhibits, and awards. Of particular note are the national and international conferences the College hosted that brought hundreds of participants from all over the United States and the world to campus.

ALL OF THESE events, combined with a stellar Purdue Theatre season and glittering, thought-provoking exhibits in our galleries, showcased Purdue University and provided tantalizing glimpses to our concentric communities of some of the exciting work going on in the College. And the circle continues to grow, including an invited performance this past January of The Importance of Being Earnest by The Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival Region III Selection Committee.

I WOULD BE remiss if I did not record what an honor it is for me personally, but especially for the College, to receive a deanship named for Justin S. Morrill, the legislator of the Morrill Act that established the land-grant university system that includes Purdue University.

AS WE CONTINUE to chart our future, one thing is certain. We inhabit the best of worlds: a vibrant liberal arts college nestled in a world-renowned land-grant university.

Sincerely,

John J. Contreni
Justin S. Morrill Dean

From the DEAN
**Trusted approve new Liberal Arts deanship**

In September, the Purdue Board of Trustees approved the appointment of the College’s first named dean by naming John J. Contreni the Justin S. Morrill Dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

"Morrill was the great mind behind the College Land Grant Act, which created the foundation for universities such as Purdue," says Provost Sally Mason. "His dream was to open the doors of higher education to the American people, and he believed that land-grant universi-
ties should be engaged with Americans and become natural partners in our country’s progress and development."

The act is now known as the Morrill Act in honor of the congressman’s 1862 legislation.

**Purdue Theatre season pays tribute to 100 years of productions**

Purdue Theatre marked its centennial year in style as it presented the entire 2006–07 season in the new Nancy T. Hansen and Carole and Gordon Mallett theaters in Yue-Kong Pao Hall of Visual and Performing Arts.

"During the last century, thousands of students, faculty, staff, and theatre lovers have contributed their talent, energy, and resources to bring the division to this stage," says Russ Jones, division chair and associate professor of theatre.

"We thank the many members of the Purdue and local communities who joined us for this season’s offerings."

**Program fuses collaboration in art, technology**

I imagine watching a movie on DVD that changes its storyline each time it’s played. Consider theater scenery rearranging automatically as the actors move from scene to scene.

A new interdisciplinary art and design program offers students the opportunity to explore the future of digital technology.

Fabian Winkler, an assistant professor in art and design, is establishing the elec-

tronic and time-based art area in the Patti and Rusty Ruef Department of Visual and Performing Arts.

“The heart of this program is rooted in visual and performing arts with the aim to bridge disciplines such as art, design, dance, music, and theater with the cre-

ative use of digital technologies,” he says.

“I also see a tremendous potential for col-
laboration with electrical and computer engineering, com-
puter science, and computer graphic technology, as well as other academic disciplines at Purdue.”

This spring Winkler is teaching Envision Art 01: The Responsive Screen.

This class meets at Purdue’s Envision Center for Data Perceptualization, a facility allowing three-dimensional visualization of data. The class is designed to examine how digital images, such as com-
puter graphics, can interact with physical objects, such as people, furniture, or machines.

**Aging Center celebrates 10th anniversary**

The Center on Aging and the Life Course began in 1996 as the gerontology program. The center has evolved into a hub of interdisciplinary research at Purdue with more than 50 faculty and research associates from 17 disciplines across campus. The center-affiliated research includes aging and cancer, health promotion, health inequality, financial security, communicative disorders, and outreach programs for older adults.

A researcher who studies why and how some people make it to their 100th birthdays also are able to watch the group activities through closed-circuit television moni-
tors or can attend parent support group discussions. For more information or to register, call (765) 494-3795.

**Audiology students enjoy celebratory ride around campus**

The first annual Robert L. Ringel Student Research Symposium was held in September and celebrated the clinical research of the first graduating class of Purdue’s doctor of audiology (AuD) program.

The students were surprised after the symposium when the Boilermaker Special pulled up to take them to a reception to be recognized. Recepti-

on guests included Estelle Ringel. Her late husband, Robert, was a former professor and department head of audiology and speech sciences.

**The first graduating class of Purdue’s Doctor of Audiology (AuD) program is all smiles as they arrive at Hamilton Hall.**

**The CLUB is a social outlet because people, furniture, or machines.**
on how finances affect election outcomes. This is the subject addressed in "Democrats Cite New Hope in Bid to Retake Senate." Ben Lawton is an expert on film studies and could compare how the Mafia is presented on the big screen and in television to the real-life situation described in "For the Third Time, a Jury Fails to Convict Gotti."

The diverse topics of Liberal Arts students are a defining characteristic of the College. Faculty are writing books, conducting research, directing artistic productions, and studying in scientific laboratories — activities that affect our lives, communities, and world.

In a few weeks, graduation day will arrive for many Liberal Arts students. As beaming young scholars walk across the stage while their degree is announced, it is likely that there will be someone in the audience who will whisper, "What are you going to do with that?" Dean John Contreni has a response. Anything and everything.

"People often ask me, 'What do you do with a liberal arts degree?' Look at the front page of any newspaper. The topics that demand our attention and the talents of our faculty and students are issues of war, peace, sports, poverty, social justice, culture, religion, racism, gender, and entertainment. These are our topics, our issues," says Conteni. They are issues that define history, shape society, and touch lives every day.

This sample front page of The New York Times illustrates his point. Each story relates to an area of research or specialization for a Liberal Arts faculty member. For example, Glenn Parker, a professor of political science, specializes in American politics and because of his extensive research could provide insight.

Connecting Faculty Research to Today's News

1. GLENN PARKER, professor of political science
   Specialty: American politics
2. LEIGH RAYMOND, associate professor of political science
   Specialty: Environmental policy and property rights
3. MICHAEL SMITH, associate professor of history
   Specialty: Russian history
4. BEN LAWTON, chair of film studies
   Specialty: Mafia in film
5. JOANN MILLER, associate professor of sociology
   Specialty: Sociology of law, gender and law, and family violence

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CLA in the News

Whether you read The New York Times, USA Today, or your hometown newspaper, listen to BBC radio or watch ABC news, Liberal Arts faculty are often quoted and featured in a variety of media. In 2006, Liberal Arts experts were cited more than 800 times talking about their research (the correlation between religion and obesity), current events (conflict in the Middle East), inventions (a new bicycle design or computer system), film (movies about 9/11), pop culture (why we like to be scared), and health (myths about organ donation).

Here are some of those experts:

**Communication**

- John Kirby: "Today's vampires are more about style than gore" (Columbus Republic, Columbus (Columbus newspaper))
- Glenn Sparks: "Why are we so into being afraid?" (ABC radio, Gannett News Service)

**Health and Kinesiology**

- Mike Flynn: "Exercise smart for cold and flu season" (USA Today, Fitness Magazine, Atlantic Journal-Constitution)
- Thomas Temple: "Golf for Business and Life" (Associated Press, The Olympian (Washington))

**Politics**

- Thomas Freddicks: "The ethics of loving after a natural disaster" (Associated Press)
- Robert Novak: "Electronics devices create old ears on young bodies" (Chicago Tribune, Chicago Biomedical Institute)

**History**

- Frank Lambert: "Expert talks about effects of 'World Trade Center' on the body" (ABC radio, The Olympian (Washington))
- James McCann: "Mexico's presidential election" (USA Today, The LA Times)

**Psychology**

- Donald Mitchell: "The ethics of loving after a natural disaster" (Associated Press)
- Michael Morrison: "The 25th anniversary of John Lennon's death" (Indianapolis Star, Toledo Blade, Springfield News)

**Sociology**

- Robert Novak: "World's most innovative car wins international competition" (Columbus Republic, Columbus (Columbus newspaper))
- Robert Novak: "The ethics of loving after a natural disaster" (Associated Press)

**Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences**

- Robert Novak: "World's most innovative car wins international competition" (Columbus Republic, Columbus (Columbus newspaper))

**Visual and Performing Arts**

- Robert Novak: "World's most innovative car wins international competition" (Columbus Republic, Columbus (Columbus newspaper))

**Foreign Languages and Literatures**

- Howard Manning: "Don Quijote" (El Pais (Madrid, Spain newspaper), ABC TV)
Marifran Mattson's experience led her to start a support group for amputees and inspired her students to create a motorcycle safety campaign.

How a health professor is using her motorcycle accident as a learning tool

BY AMY PATTSON NEUBERT

THE ACCIDENT

Entrited by the challenge and feeling of independence, Mattson began riding a motorcycle at age 39. She completed educational classes offered by Indiana’s Department of Education and the popular motorcycle advocacy group American Bikers Aimed Toward Education, known as ABATE, and always wore her safety gear.

“I did everything I was supposed to do,” says Mattson. Despite her preparation and training, the truck driver, heading north on Highway 47, did not see her as they passed each other on a narrow state highway. He heard a thump, then saw Mattson fly off her bike.

She was conscious the entire time. “Even lying on the highway, I was very aware of what was going on,” Mattson says. “I even took out my own contacts at the hospital.”

She lost two-thirds of her blood, but the doctors credited her recent training for a half-marathon as a key factor in her survival. She was flown to Indianapolis for the first of eight surgeries in a month. After the monthlong hospital stay, Mattson participated in numerous rehabilitation and physical therapy sessions, and she spent months learning to use her new computerized prosthetic leg. The following fall, 2005, Mattson returned to the classroom.

Mattson intended to use her experience and materials from the CDC campaign on synthetic estrogen as an example. But after the accident, she found the graduate students wanted to focus more on motorcycle safety.

“At first it was too close and I couldn’t handle it,” she says. “I thought it would be too emotional, but I decided to positively channel that energy.”

As a result, eight graduate students worked closely with Mattson to begin planning a motorcycle safety campaign for the Purdue community.

Mattson also included students from her undergraduate health and organizational communication classes to give them experience working with research methods, such as organizing and conducting focus groups, and designing possible campaign slogans. More than 150 students, many from different disciplines in Liberal Arts, got involved.

The campaign was launched during fall 2006, with campaign posters distributed on campus and by campaign representatives attending activity fairs and alumni events. One of the initial goals was to register campus riders for an ABATE education safety class. Six Purdue students participated in the course.

Mattson will never ride a motorcycle again. For her, it isn’t worth the tradeoff she and her family have made, but she respects other people’s choices. And she wants potential riders to be aware of the consequences, including death and a life-altering injury.

“Riding a motorcycle is really fun, exciting, and glamorous, but there is another side,” she says. “Living with a serious injury is devastating.”

She misses running, wearing stylish shoes, and the ability to put on her own shoes. She needs help getting ready every morning, which now takes at least 90 minutes, including showering on one leg and then affixing her prosthetic leg.

“Other topic is closer to home for me,” Mattson says. “And it is a passion that truly links theory, practice, and personal life. The students are not only learning the ins and outs of a campaign, but they seem to enjoy the idea of working on a ‘real life’ project.”

— Amy Patterson Neubert is a writer for University News Service

Communicating a Life Lesson

How a health professor is using her motorcycle accident as a learning tool

BY AMY PATTSON NEUBERT

The warm days of spring can be unpleasant for health communication professor Marifran Mattson. She cannot help but cringe when she hears the roar of motorcycles emerging from winter hibernation.

The ripping noise the engines make was one of the things she enjoyed during the year she logged more than 1,000 miles on her Harley Sportster. Now the sound haunts her after a life-threatening accident severed her left leg on October 3, 2004.

The accident initiated Mattson’s experience as a safety campaign. Students wanted to focus more on motorcycle safety. “At first it was too close and I couldn’t handle it,” she says. “I thought it would be too emotional, but I decided to positively channel that energy.”

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Encouraging safety through awareness

Motorcycle Safety at Purdue, a local health communication campaign, is teaching riders about the importance of safety gear, proper licensing, training, and speed, as well as communicating to the public that motorcycle safety involves everyone.

Safety tips for riders, other motorists, and riders’ family members and friends can be found on the campaign’s Web site at www.inrenewyou.com.

Nationally, more than 4,000 motorcyclists died and 76,000 were injured in crashes during 2004.

In Indiana, motorcyclists are 21 times more likely than those in cars and trucks to die in a crash, says Marifran Mattson, an associate professor of health communication.

The group is working with American Bikers Aimed Toward Education, Purdue’s football team, Greater Lafayette Citizens, Active Men Sports, University Bookstore, and Follett’s Bookstore.

The campaign also has received funding from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, the College of Liberal Arts, and Purdue’s Office of Engagement.

Motorcycle safety posters can be seen in the community, including inside Clyde’s houses. These posters were designed to remind motorists to watch for motorcyclists and to encourage riders to wear the appropriate safety gear. The football-related poster shows a football player wearing motorcycle and football gear with the message, “Gear Up Purdue! Whether Riding a Motorcycle or Playing College Football — Gear Up and Be Safe!”
A PROFESSOR’S SERENDIPITOUS JOURNEY LED HIM TO HOLLYWOOD.

HISTORY PROFESSOR RANDY ROBERTS truly has good timing. When he visited the National Archives in 1981 to research a book on heavyweight fighters, he discovered FBI files about boxer Jack Johnson that had been declassified just the week before. No one from the public had looked at them yet, so Roberts’s book on boxing instead became a chronicle of Johnson’s life.

In 1992, Roberts was gollying when an acquaintance asked him what his next book would be about. Roberts said “the Mike Tyson assault trial,” and it turned out that the golfing buddy knew the attorney who successfully prosecuted Tyson.

In 1997, a snowstorm stranded Roberts and a colleague in Baltimore for five days. So the friends made the best use of their time by watching four National Football League playoff games and writing the first draft of a book that featured Vietnam War-related documents.

And it was also due to good timing, and a little luck, that Roberts and a colleague contacted John Wayne’s personal assistant in 1991, just when she was finally ready to talk about her working relationship with The Duke. After 17 hours of listening, Roberts knew things about Wayne and 20th-century Hollywood that had never been published.

Roberts, who was named the 2006 Indiana Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has published 13 books on topics including Jack Johnson, John Wayne, Mike Tyson, Jack Dempsey, the Pittsburgh Steelers, Boston sports, the Vietnam War, Charles Lindbergh, and the Alamo. He has also published on film director Oliver Stone, American presidents, Sherlock Holmes, women’s sports, and the politics and economics of televised boxing.

Roberts teaches modern American history to hundreds of students each semester, as well as smaller courses on film and sports. And he has made more than 50 appearances in television documentaries and films in the past 20 years for the History Channel, ESPN Classic, HBO, BBC, PBS, ETV, and the major television networks — ABC, CBS, and NBC. This pop culture historian is often quoted in national media and appears on nationally syndicated radio shows.

“I look at history from the bottom up, meaning it’s the study of the lives of average people that interests me,” Roberts says. “Looking at history this way has made me more aware of American amusements, pastimes, and passions, which include sports and Hollywood.”

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Roberts is certainly a star when it comes to teaching history to undergraduates. (He even taught history to prisoners at night when he was a faculty member at Sam Houston State University in the 1980s.)

Not only was Roberts recognized as teacher of the year in Indiana, but he was also recognized as Teacher of the Year in Liberal Arts in 1997 and by the Society for Professional Journalists in 1993. Roberts was named one of Purdue’s Charles B. Murphy Outstanding Teachers in 1991, and Pennsylvania’s Poitier.

Some students bump into their professors at the grocery store, restaurants, or movie theaters outside of the classroom. However, it’s not unusual for Roberts’s students to find their history professor delivering a mini-lecture during a Sunday film matinee on television.

“I often hear students say, ‘Hey, I saw you on TV this weekend,”’ Roberts says.

Watching their history professor on television talking about a movie or current issue really impresses undergraduates, says Aram Goudsouzian (’71), one of Roberts’s former PhD students and teaching assistants.

“Not only is it not only his TV appearances. He knows how to teach students. He uses his own classes in class, as well as a number of readers and textbooks he has designed and published for students,” says Goudsouzian, who is now an assistant professor in the University of Memphis’ history department and author of his own book on actor Sidney Poitier.

“Randy is really gifted with the ability to tell stories and humanize history,” Goudsouzian says. “He gives his students a personal lens to historical figures. I certainly learned a lot watching him teach; he kept 400 students interested for 50 minutes three times a week. He is the first to admit he is not the most technology advanced, so he used an overhead projector and brought his notes to class on a yellow note card. But I don’t think he ever looked at his notes.”

SPORTS AFICIONADO

Roberts’s flair for storytelling was inspired by his father while growing up in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. His father was in poor health, but frequently told stories about boxer Fritzie Zivic and the Pittsburgh Steelers and Pirates.

Unfortunately, his dad died when Roberts was 12 so the stories were few, but Roberts mentions them in his books.

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Unfortunately, his dad died when Roberts was 12 so the stories were few, but Roberts mentions them in his books.

Roberts played basketball, football, and tennis as a child and continued playing the latter two in college. He always loved watching sports and movies and could not help but relate his pastimes to current affairs.

“Sports and film speak to our collective past as much as politics, and that galvanized my interest,” says Roberts, who never set out to be an expert on sports or sports development.

In the 1970s, sports history was just evolving as a subfield of history, and after Roberts completed a dissertation on boxer Jack Dempsey, he became one of its pioneers.

continued
But Roberts did not want to be tied to a specific topic his entire career.

"Many historians focus on a specific field for their dissertation," Roberts says, "then follow up with books on the same subject. But I wanted to be prepared to tackle anything."

One of Roberts’s more popular mainstream books, One for the Thumb: The New Steelers Reader, is a collection of sports journalism about the Pittsburgh Steelers. Roberts intertwines how the Great Depression, immigration issues, and World War II events affected professional football in his home state.

"Randy has played a seminal role in elevating sports history into the mainstream of our discipline," says James S. Olson, distinguished professor at Sam Houston State University, who has worked on 10 long-term projects with Roberts. "Randy started when sports history was not considered legitimate history, just as politics and diplomacy and race were once marginalized. But I consider Randy the key figure who sparked that change."

"What he has shown is that every tension and every debate about race, religion, or ethnicity in this country has been played out in sports," Olson says. "He has shown that sports history is not marginal; it is a key for looking at history during grade school or high school," Roberts says. "Many think history as a list of names, events, and dates to be memorized for an exam, then quickly forgotten. Sometimes they have no expectations for their college history course and are fairly certain that it will be their most boring course of the semester."

"This is where my job and challenge begins. Given just a sliver of interest, I can ascertain that the doubters, the questioners, and the just plain bored that history, in all of its complexity, is endlessly fascinating, always relevant, and in the best sense of the word, entertaining. I have been lucky to be at Purdue University and work under two department heads, John Contreni, who is now dean, and Doug Hurt, the current head. Both of them support teaching and realize that what we do at a state university is to try to educate a lot of students well." — Larry E. Axel

Honorng Indiana's top educator

Each year the Carnegie Foundation and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education recognize each state’s top professor. This is the only national ranking specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring, and this year history professor Randy Roberts is being honored.

Randy Roberts, a professor of American history, has been at Purdue for 18 years. Roberts is the ninth Purdue professor in the past 20 years to receive this award and the third winner from the College of Liberal Arts. The council recruits judges within higher education to choose finalists, after which a panel of Carnegie Foundation judges selects the winners based on "extraordinary dedication to undergraduate teaching." Nominations contain testimonials from students, professors, and administrators.

"I know that many of my students have had a bad experience with history during grade school or high school," Roberts says. "Many think of history as a list of names, events, and dates to be memorized for an exam, then quickly forgotten. Sometimes they have no expectations for their college history course and are fairly certain that it will be their most boring course of the semester."

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Past College of Liberal Arts winners include:

1998
Michael A. Morrison
Associate Professor of History

1997
Larry E. Axel
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Next up for Roberts is a book on boxer Joe Louis for Yale University Press. Roberts picked this sports figure because he wants to know more about him.

"I am a more productive historian if I am passionate about the subject, and I always want to write about something that has not been said before," Roberts says. "And I am not always sure what the next topic will be. I thought historians needed a plan for their career, but some of the best things just happen serendipitously."

— Amy Patterson Neubert is a writer for University News Service
Purdue scientist shifts from researcher to conservation scientist.

BY KRISTAL ARNOLD

Remis’s research from the behavior and ecology of gorillas to the fate of those gorillas and its indirect consequences on the Baka pygmies and other indigenous hunter-gatherers of Central Africa.

Remis, a biological anthropologist at Purdue, is working to save the gorillas and the people for whom they are so ecologically and culturally significant. “We are committed to understanding the problems in this region and to helping get the message out that we’re on the brink of some really disastrous consequences for these people who rely very much on the economic base of the forest,” says Remis, who started her research in Africa in the late 1980s as a graduate student at Yale and has continued her passionate mission as an associate professor and researcher in the College of Liberal Arts.

“The people in Central African view the forest as a resource to keep them safe when things get tough eco-culturally,” says Remis, who points out that apes outside the protected areas aren’t monitored. “We’re having a hard time ensuring the safety of the animals within these protected areas,” she says. “The animals outside these areas aren’t going to make it. In fact, most populations of wild apes are expected to disappear within the next 15 years.”

Protection through research

Remis’s original study was not designed with conservation in mind. “I was trying to uncover the very basics of gorilla behavior and ecology and was not oriented in those studies as a conservationist,” she explains. But after spending nearly three years doing field research in the Dzanga-Sangha Reserve, her eyes were opened to the threat to the animals.

“Our camp was probably the most effective way of keeping the animals in the forest safe because we were out every day and could report or collect samples or call the conservation folks to patrol the area,” Remis says. “Our presence there was keeping the poachers away.”

Remis recognized that more was at risk than just the animals. “There’s a lot more than just the animals. The people, culture, and ecosystem too were vulnerable. That’s why she and several colleagues — including a cultural anthropologist and several ecologists — have collaborated on a large-scale project examining the hunting, logging, and agricultural effects on humans and animals in the area.

“People are overlooking the natural resources because they don’t have any alternative,” Remis explains. “One of the best things we can do is help to improve their own national capacity for thinking about and solving their environmental problems.”

One effort toward that goal has been to train Central African master’s students in ecological and anthropological field methods and analysis, since the university there is

em Central African Republic (CAR) have been increasing over the past 10 to 15 years despite the presence of the Dzanga-Sangha Reserve and Dzanga-Ndoki National Park, protected areas established by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the CAR government in 1986. Rather than using the forest for subsistence, people are coming to the forest to hunt gorilla, elephant, and other wild game for the growing regional and international bushmeat market. These bushmeat hunters, aided by the logging industry’s infrastructure, illegally shoot, butcher, and sell more than one million metric tons of wildlife per year, according to the Bushmeat Crisis Task Force.

Hunting: A logging consequence

The area of southwestern CAR has a long history of human presence and forest exploitation, which includes a network of logging roads put in place by a European logging company in the 1970s. When Remis arrived in the late ’80s, the logging company had gone out of business and the Dzanga-Sangha conservation project had begun, but the logging roads remained. Remis and her fellow graduate student Richard Carroll, who helped establish the Dzanga-Sangha project and is now director of the WWF’s Africa program, used the roads to navigate through the forest when tracking gorillas, but so did the hunters.

“The most negative impact of logging is actually the hunting,” Remis says. “The hunting escalates because logging roads make these areas much more accessible.” Trucks using these roads transport hunters, ammunition, and now illegal bushmeat. The animals inside the reserve are no longer safe.

“In the park areas that are supposed to be protected, gorillas are being hunted and they’re declining,” says Remis, who points out that apes outside the protected areas aren’t even monitored. “We’re having a hard time ensuring the safety of the animals within these protected areas,” she says. “The animals outside these areas aren’t going to make it. In fact, most populations of wild apes are expected to disappear within the next 15 years.”

Logging EFFECTS

When Melissa Remis, an associate professor of anthropology at Purdue, began her research in the rainforests of southwestern Central African Republic in 1988, about 1 percent of the 50-meter forest blocks were intersected with a logging road. In 2002, that number was up to 12 percent. Now in some of the worst sectors, logging roads transect 30 percent of these forest blocks. “If you increase from 1 percent, with all its edge effects, up to 30 percent, you no longer have an intact ecosystem,” says Remis, who specializes in conservation biology, Africa, and primate ecology and behavior, among other areas of expertise. The edge effects of which she speaks are far-reaching, not only are there no trees on the roads, but the plants growing on the edge of the road are different, new insects appear, invasive rodents overrun the area, and the ecosystem is heavily damaged. Smaller mammals, like rodents, are quick indicators of ecosystem change, Remis explains, but the changes in the area have been so extensive that they are seeing declines of even the larger, more flexible species, such as elephants and gorillas.
equally underdeveloped. Central Africa doesn't have the necessary trained ecologists or zoologists to manage all the problems it has with its own resources, Remis asserts. One master’s student Remis helped train is now working with the Dzanga-Sangha project as head of ecological monitoring. She says it’s been a real victory for them — getting the national government and the people in charge of conservation to realize they need science and research to help them improve what they are doing. “An important piece of trying to help them solve their conservation problems is helping them build the expertise they need to solve some of these issues themselves,” she says.

On a broader scale, Remis and her colleagues plan to use the 20-year Dzanga-Sangha project as a case study to examine ways to improve the design of conservation projects. Remis, who was recently appointed as a Purdue University Faculty Scholar (2006–2011), is working with Rebecca Hardin, a cultural anthropologist at the University of Michigan, on several papers and a book that explores how effective the project has been, how it could be improved, and what lessons can be learned from it.

**Dedicated to the region**

With the increase in bushmeat trade, Remis’s relationship with the people of the region has gotten more complicated, to say the least. She has found herself in a car with a conservation project employee who was smuggling bushmeat and has even been hauled out by the national guard under accusation of smuggling diamonds across national borders, but Remis remains committed to the region and its people. She has a good rapport with the villagers who have seen the positive changes that conservation has brought. Some of the BaAka pygmies — who know the forest well and often serve as guides — have even named their children after her. Remis has been researching in the area for nearly 20 years, so the people know she is devoted.

“We’ve had this long-term, really positive presence there because people know we have a commitment,” Remis says. “I don’t always have the answers or the solutions, but I’m committed to continuing to work with them to find them.”

— Kristal Arnold is a writer for Purdue Marketing Communications

**Lessons Learned**

The BaAka Pygmies have taught Melissa Remis, a biological anthropologist at Purdue, how to be safe in the forests of the Central African Republic when researching large mammals. (For example, when you come face to face with a gorilla, stay put. But when elephants charge you, run or climb trees!) The BaAka don’t have formal education, but they know the forest well, says Remis, who speaks their language, Sango. They are traditionally hunters and gatherers, and they have been working with Remis for the past 20 years, teaching her how to track forest animals. Remis says the BaAka have saved her life on many occasions, once pulling her back from stepping on a green mamba, a highly venomous snake that can be rapidly fatal.

**DZANGA-SANGHA**

The Dzanga-Sangha protected area, found in the tropical rainforest of the southwestern Central African Republic, covers an area of more than 4,000 square kilometers. The area, which includes the Dzanga-Sangha Dense Forest Special Reserve and the Dzanga-Ndoki National Park, is home to many large mammals such as forest elephants, forest buffalos, large boars, gorillas, and forest antelopes. Uncontrolled logging, unmonitored agricultural practices, and heavy poaching threaten the area.

"Most populations of wild apes are expected to disappear within the next 15 years.”
The Puzzle of Language Development

By Julie Jansen

CLA researchers take a new, collaborative approach to investigating language development.

Humans are born to speak; they have an innate gift for deciphering the rules of the language used in their environment. Because of its complexity, however, language acquisition remains one of the most remarkable—and incomprehensible—processes of human development.

“If you consider the almost infinite number of words, as well as the potential mappings between words and meanings, learning a language ought to be impossible,” says George Hollich, assistant professor of psychological sciences. Hollich is one of the directors of the Purdue Baby Lab, along with Professors Amanda Seidl and Barbara Younger-Rosman.

Humans begin acquiring language early in infancy, but the exact process is not fully understood. Without a comprehensive understanding of the interplay of cognition and language during normal development, it becomes impossible to provide early intervention in language disorders.

Experts join forces

A new multidisciplinary effort by faculty members at Purdue aims to answer the questions regarding cognitive processes and language development, helping to unlock the even greater mystery of language disorders.

For several years there have been informal collaborations among faculty in the departments of Psychological Sciences and Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (SLHS). But about a year ago, Robert Kail, professor of psychological sciences, met with colleagues in both departments to begin discussing plans for formal collaboration in research on cognitive and language development in children. This discussion resulted in a multidisciplinary research collective—the Cognitive and Language Development Center (CLDC).

“It seemed to me that it was natural to fold these pair-wise collaborations into a larger group where we could see greater synergies and attack bigger problems more effectively,” says Kail.

Psychologists, linguists, and speech language pathologists are all represented in the CLDC, some dealing with infants and others with older children. “The wide range of tasks that we will be applying in our research represents the areas of competence among all the center members,” says Laurence Leonard, the Rachel E. Stark Distinguished Professor of SLHS.

“One of the goals of the CLDC is to get each of the fields sharing information, because there is a lot that we can learn from one another,” Hollich explains. He says the researchers hope to learn how cognition and general cognitive processes can affect kids’ ability to learn language.

Separating the impaired from the delayed

Though the CLDC is still in its planning stages, its researchers have already begun to tackle the slippery issue of specific language impairment, or SLI. According to Leonard, whose research is centered on SLI, it refers to a kind of language impairment where the language-impaired child possesses normal hearing, has age-appropriate scores on non-verbal tests of intelligence, shows no clear signs of neurological impairment, and exhibits no signs of autism. “Children with SLI are fairly typical,” explains Leonard. “It’s just that they have significant difficulty acquiring language.”

Though SLI does seem to be associated with very slow language development in infancy, currently there is no reliable way to diagnose SLI until children are well into their preschool years when it becomes obvious that they cannot process language at a level comparable to their peers.

According to Leonard, there are a lot of kids who are simply late talkers, more than half of whom will develop language normally by the time they are 4 or 5 years old.

“It isn’t efficient to provide therapy for every 24-month-old who isn’t talking yet, so we’d like to find a way to diagnose true impairment earlier,” says Leonard. “Since we think that early intervention is good, we’d like to find a way of accurately distinguishing which late-talking kids are really going to be language-impaired.”

The CLDC is unique in its focus on the cognitive processes of younger children (toddlers) and babies. The researchers administer tasks that might be useful in identifying early signs of difficulty processing language to determine those who will eventually prove to have specific language impairment.

“We’re good at looking at 5-year-olds and saying, ‘This kid is language impaired.’ But what we want to be able to do is go back in time and say, ‘This 10-month-old is going to be language impaired. What can we do now for treatment?’” explains Lisa Goffman, associate professor of SLHS.

In addition, the wide range of tasks that will be applied during research will identify a whole continuum of abilities in kids who are simply late talkers, more than half of whom will develop language normally by the time they are 4 or 5 years old.

“We can learn from one another,” Hollich explains. He says the researchers hope to learn how cognition and general cognitive processes can affect kids’ ability to learn language.

Redefining the research team

Since its initiation a year ago, the CLDC has already had a profound effect on the researchers involved. Seidl says one advantage of collaborating with the group is that it has helped her to consider the clinical implications of her work.

Goffman agrees on the advantages of working with an interdisciplinary team. “Instead of working in isolation, I can talk to people who work in a lot of different areas,” she says.

“Even though we’re just getting off the ground, I’m already changing the kinds of questions I’m asking in my own research.”

Ultimately, CLDC members hope to determine how cognition and language each contribute to developmental disorders. “Right now,” says Hollich, “We’re just trying to figure out ways to make a little bit easier for parents to help their kids.”

Julie Jansen is a writer for Purdue Marketing Communications

CLDC Faculty and their specialties

- Lisa Goffman, associate professor of SLHS Language and motor development and disorders
- George Hollich, assistant professor of psychological sciences Language development in infancy
- Robert V. Kail, professor of psychological sciences Information processing analyses of cognitive development
- Laurence B. Leonard, the Rachel E. Stark distinguished professor of SLHS Child language disorders
- Amanda Seidl, assistant professor of SLHS Speech perception in infancy
- Barbara Younger-Rosman, associate professor of psychological sciences Cognitive processing in infancy
The Long Legacy of Indiana “Canal Fever”

Professor John L. Larson has long had an interest in 19th-century history. As an authority on Indiana history, he has taken a special interest in the Wabash and Erie Canal project — particularly in how it has been portrayed in K-12 history books. As Larson explains, in 1830 Indiana legislators were faced with an important decision: Should they follow New York’s lead to build a canal system that was now bringing in millions of dollars and had eliminated state taxes there?

At the time, Indiana was mostly wilderness. Indianapolis had been designated the capital of the state, in part because of its central location. But before freeways and railroads were built, Indianapolis was undeveloped compared to other southern Indiana cities. The canal system could bring trade to Indianapolis, and the connection to canals in Ohio would make it possible to ship goods from the eastern seaboard. In theory this new logistics system seemed like a sound solution to a capitol city in need of a growth spurt.

The Indiana legislators’ decision to go ahead with construction ultimately forced Indiana into bankruptcy by 1837 and left Indiana residents with a vivid reminder in need of a growth spurt.

Professor Larson, however, takes issue with Indiana history books that see the legislators’ decision as foolish or shortsighted. Recently Larson spoke to the Lafayette community about the canals. He pointed out that in hindsight it’s always easier to see the “right” decision. Some of the problems with the canal system he believes might have been avoided. But Larson contends that the death knell for the canal was the rapid development of the railroad — which was virtually impossible to predict: At the time that legislators were beginning the debate about building the canal (1830), there were only 23 miles of railroad track laid, and the “Tom Thumb” steam locomotive could still be easily beaten by horses.

Professor Larson often fields questions about the impact of the canal decision on current Indiana politics and whether there is a residual fear of financing public works. “There’s no doubt that the Wabash and Erie Canal decision still casts a long shadow over these types of decisions, including the current ‘Major Moves’ debate,” he says. Major Moves involves a 75-year lease of the Indiana Toll Road to a group of Australian and Spanish investors who paid the state $3.8 billion in June of this year.

But despite the Erie and Wabash Canal’s outward failure, Larson is quick to point out the positive effects of the venture: the jobs created and the increase in land values, to name just a few. And if those 1830 legislators hadn’t moved ahead with a canal, Larson contends they would have been voted out and another group would have analyzed the situation and probably moved ahead with the same decision to build what is still visible in many parts of Indiana today — the Wabash and Erie Canal.

“This was an enormous decision still being debated in 2007. But Professor Larson often fields questions about the impact of the canal decision on current Indiana politics and whether there is a residual fear of financing public works. “There’s no doubt that the Wabash and Erie Canal decision still casts a long shadow over these types of decisions, including the current ‘Major Moves’ debate,” he says. Major Moves involves a 75-year lease of the Indiana Toll Road to a group of Australian and Spanish investors who paid the state $3.8 billion in June of this year.

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Boosting Academic Prowess

Goodwin Chair Challenge proves to be extremely valuable

A

ning are the newly created chairs within the College of Liberal Arts:

• JAMES BRADLEY of Las Cruces, New Mexico, provided the funds for the James V. Bradley Chair in the Department of Psychological Sciences. Bradley was a retired faculty member at New Mexico State University’s Department of Psychology. He received a doctorate in psychology from Purdue in 1962. He died in December 2006.

• WILLIAM AND CAROLYN BYHAM of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, contributed funds for the William C. Byham Chair in Industrial and Organizational Psychology in the Department of Psychological Sciences. Byham received a doctorate in psychology from the College of Liberal Arts in 1963 and is chairman and CEO of Development Dimensions International of Bridgeville, Pennsylvania.

• WILLIAM OESTERLE, of Indianapolis, Indiana, who received a bachelor’s degree in management from Purdue’s Krannert School in 1967, committed the funds for the Germaine Sellye Oesterle Endowed Chair in History, in honor of his mother. William Oesterle is a member of the Purdue Board of Trustees and is CEO of Angie’s List in Indianapolis.

“Bill Byham, the late Jim Bradley, and Bill Oesterle are important areas of excellence in the college and help us to enhance those areas, increasing their visibility nationwide,” says Dean John Contreni. “When filled, the Goodwin Challenge chairs will be associated with outstanding scholars, but, really, the entire college can take pride in these new markers of excellence.”

Couple Honored with Pinnacle Award

Ruth Steer was honored in September with a Pinnacle Award for lifetime giving—donations totaling more than $1 million—made by her and her late husband to the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. The Pinnacle Award is the highest honor Purdue University bestows upon a donor.

Ruth’s late husband, Max (Mack) D. Steer, who died in 2003, founded the department. He served as the first department head from 1963 to 1970. “Mack Steer’s legacy is alive today through Purdue’s world-class research and clinical operation,” says Purdue President Martin Jischke.

“His wife truly loved the department as well as the people involved, and he was completely devoted to developing the speech program,” says Ruth Steer.

Ruth Steer was honored at a luncheon in September for a lifetime of giving—donations totaling more than $1 million—made by her and her late husband to Purdue University’s Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

Tippecanoe County children win with gift to sports camp

Each summer several hundred local kids ages 10–16 eagerly arrive at Purdue for a five-week program that involves running, swimming, jumping, and maintaining a healthy diet. In the age of video games, cell phones, and iPods, what motivates these kids to get out and get moving? It’s the Department of Health and Kinesiology’s award-winning National Youth Sports Program (NYSP).

John and June Scheumann, both Lafayette natives, recognize the value of the program and recently contributed $250,000 to provide program support and endow a youth sports fund to benefit NYSP. “Tippecanoe County natives and longtime advocates of the local school corporations, supporting this program is a great way to reach more local children who will enjoy and benefit from learning about sports,” says June, who graduated from Jefferson High School in 1967 and attended Purdue.

President Jischke (right) recognizes John and June Scheumann for their $250,000 gift to Purdue’s National Youth Sports Program during the Chamber Business After Hours event at Discovery Park.

This camp is much more than about what the children receive,” Harper continues. “It’s an amazing opportunity for dozens of Purdue staff and students to watch these children grow, learn, and take an active interest in their community.”

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Communication Connects with China

Purdue’s communication scholars played a significant role in organizing the first China Public Health Communication Conference at Tsinghua University and a symposium on hospital management and communication in Beijing during October. “Public health issues are of great importance in China, especially as the country grows at such a rapid rate,” says Jian “Jay” Wang, an assistant professor of communication who did his undergraduate work at Beijing University. “The Chinese universities and government are interested in learning more about public health and the role of communication, and this is where Purdue can bring special value to the discussion of communication challenges and solutions.”

A Gift that Keeps on Giving

Last Christmas, philosophy professor Bill McBride experienced the unique pleasure of unwrapping the perfect gift. It wasn’t the latest gadget or gizmo, but a piece of his legacy at Purdue in the form of an endowment — the William L. McBride Fund for Graduate Student International Travel in the Department of Philosophy.

The endowment, created by his family, supports student international travel and honors Bill’s international work in the philosophy community. During Christmas, the family told Bill about the endowment set up in his honor. “When my wife, Angela, told me about it on Christmas Day as our whole family was together, I was amazed and felt extremely grateful to her and the others who had contributed,” says Bill, the Arthur G. Hansen Distinguished Professor of Philosophy. “It’s an ingenious idea for a present related to my special interests.”

In addition to his work in the Department of Philosophy, Bill is secretary general of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies — the first American to hold this position. The appointment builds on his international experience. He has chaired the American Philosophical Association’s committee on international cooperation, completed two Fulbright Scholar experiences in France and Bulgaria, and was named a Chevalier in the Ordre des Palmes Academiques by the French government in 1995. It is this work that makes the McBride Fund especially fitting.

The endowment’s guidelines for funding provide travel stipends for graduate students in Philosophy for international conferences and study-abroad opportunities — opportunities Bill believes are invaluable to the graduate student experience. “I hope the endowment will stimulate greater interest in international initiatives in philosophy among our graduate students, which is very much needed today.”

If you are interested in making a gift to this or any other endowment, contact Tom Becker at (765) 494-6293 or terecker@purdue.edu.

In Memoriam

William “Bill” J. Stuckey, 83, professor emeritus of English, died January 10, 2007. Born in St. Louis to the late Julian and Mary Connor Stuckey, he served in France during World War II. After his military service, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Washington University and an MFA from the University of Iowa. He returned to Washington University to earn a PhD in American literature.

Stuckey started his teaching career at Hamline University in St. Paul where he was a founding editor of The Minnesota Review. Then, in 1962, he joined the Purdue faculty, serving until his retirement in 1993. In addition to his undergraduate and graduate teaching, Stuckey was a distinguished scholar whose work in American literature included publishing two books and many essays, poems, and short stories. He was one of the founders of the department’s creative writing program and served as an adviser to the Sycamore Review, a national journal run by students in the creative writing program.

Surviving are Stuckey’s wife, June; three children, Elizabeth, Sarah, and John; and grandchildren.

Carol J. Widule, 77, of West Lafayette, died Sunday, January 7, 2007. Born January 4, 1930, to the late Walter and Pauline Siegert Widule in Chicago, she earned her bachelor’s degree from Monmouth College in 1952, her master’s degree from MacMurray College in 1953, and her PhD from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1966.

Widule taught physical education at Monmouth College from 1953 to 1961 before joining the Purdue faculty in 1965. She remained on the faculty until her retirement in 1998. A total of 48 masters and doctoral students received their degrees under her direction, and her professional contributions include 28 publications in addition to numerous presentations. In 2001, the Biomechanics Academy of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education presented her with the Ruth B. Glasgow Honor Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to applied research in biomechanics. A brother, William Widule of Chicago, survives.

Darrel Abel, 95, professor emeritus of English, passed away in 2006. The teaching career of Abel spanned 35 years at Purdue, with time away to earn a PhD at the University of Michigan and to teach for a brief period at Franklin & Marshall College. At Purdue, he offered a wide variety of courses in English and American literature and distinguished himself as both an educator and scholar. In addition, Abel became a major director of dissertations in American literature in the context of world history and culture. Abel wrote five introductory volumes on American writers for the student and general reader — one each on Walt Whitman, Henry James, and Mark Twain and two on Herman Melville. Other publications he authored include an edition of Critical Theory in the American Renaissance and over 50 articles on such writers as Thomas Paine, T.S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Robert Frost, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. Abel also authored a three-volume historical and critical study titled simply American Literature, which chronicles and analyzes major and minor works from the colonial period through the rise of American literary realism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
Faculty Notes

Communication
BRIAN A. BURELSON has been elected a distin-
guished scholar of the National Communication
Association (NCA). This award recognizes a lifetime
of scholarly achievement in the study of human commu-
nication by members of the association.

PATRICE BUZZANHELL was elected president of
the International Communication Association and
gave the keynote address for the NCA Doctoral
Honors Conference.

PATRICE BUZZANHELL and MEINIA LIU received
the Outstanding Scholarly Article in Applied Communication
Award from the NCA Applied Communication
Division for their article “In 2007, the women
consider

Policies and Practices. a Poststructuralist Feminist
for their article “struggling with maternity leave
of america and the 2007 society for the study of

MoHAN DUTTA
grant to support a “risk Communication lecture
Journal of english
outstanding scholarly article in applied Communication
languages and literatures) are working on a project
titled “Visible Past: an exploratorium for Virtual
the organizational Communication division of the

HyUNyi CHo
talk on the first
san marcos in lima, Peru, to give a talk on the first

SoRiN MATEi
track of publication by the American Journal of Medical
Health and Kinesiology

George AVERY was selected as a member of the
American Journal of Medical

HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND
the startling emergence of the German mark, 1968-
69,” in

ARiEL DE LA FUENTE
was invited by the United States
university on Manuel Zapata Olivella).

JANET AFArey
was one of the co-directors for the

LEoNARD HARRiS
published a book chapter “gender

SALLy HASTiNgS
published a book chapter “gender

Robert PERtuCCI
published his Transformation of Work in the
New Economy with Rosbury Publishing.

TENI BRIMMER, JOANN MILLER, AND ROBERT PERtuCCI published “Social Class Sentiments in
formation: Politics of Class and Class Aspiration” in
The Sociological Quarterly.

JAMES G. ANDERSON, fellow of the American
college of Medical Information, was invited to present
his research on state and regional patient safety initia-
tives at the American Medical Informatics Association
Annual Symposium in Washington, D.C. His research
is funded by the Regenstrief Center for Healthcare
Engineering.

JOAN MILLER AND DEAN D. KHUDJENI published
family Abuse and Violence: a Social Problems
Perspective with Althoff Press.

Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
MAHAKASHMIMI SIVASANKAR received the 2006
Advancing Academic Research Career Award from
the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
She is also a recipient of the 2006 New Investigator’s
Award from the American Speech-Language-Hearing
Foundation.

Rueff Department of Visual and
Performing Arts
PHOEBe FARRIS published “Jacob Lawrence: The
Complete Prints” in the Journal of African American
Studies.

ANNE FLOSTOS won the annual George Whethy
Award for best essay in Study in Popular Culture. She
is now serving as head of the directing program for
the Association of Theatre in Higher Education.

Dawn John contrasted contraceptives, from left, Joanna Miller, Dorsey Armstrong, and Rosalee
Clawson on receiving the Liberal Arts Award for
Educational Excellence. The award is presented
annually to outstanding educators in the
college.
Living the Fairy Tale

Abby Rouse has always been fond of fairytales — especially Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. The mythical settings and intriguing characters captured her imagination. However, the ending never seemed quite right.

Since she enjoyed writing, she decided to re-write the fairytale with an ending that matched her imagination. Although her contemporary twists on a timeless classic created a new ending, it was really just the beginning for her.

Considering that few authors begin their careers at age 21, Rouse thought her youth would work against her and she would not be taken seriously when approaching publishers. But at the encouragement of her family and Purdue faculty, Rouse didn’t give up. She proved that persistence pays off.

In August 2006, Rouse was at home in Avon, Indiana, and received the call that she had been dreaming about — her novel was going to be published. “It was very exciting,” says Rouse. “I heard the most positive phrase I could ever hope to hear: ‘We have decided to publish your manuscript.’”

“At last, I can look up my name on amazon.com and find my novel,” says Rouse. Her novel titled The Snow White Rebellion is now available through several of the major online retailers such as barnesandnoble.com, borders.com, and publishamerica.com.

Abby Rouse and her brother, Scott, cheer on the Boilermakers at a football game.

William Palmer, professor of English and Rouse’s mentor, also is proud of her accomplishment.

“I was really excited when I heard that her novel had reached publication,” says Palmer. “Working with Abby on her novel was a real joy.”

Rouse will graduate in May with her bachelor’s degree. Then, after her wedding this summer, she plans to enter active duty in the Air Force. Although her future plans may keep her busy, she will always make time for writing.

“Eventually, I want to live off my writing. It is so rewarding to see my name on a book cover.”

Interning in the Big Apple

Students realize that it takes more than a college degree to be marketable in today’s workplace. That’s why many students pursue internships as a way to build their resumes. Internships are a great way to gain the practical work experience that lands the best interviews and job offers.

Sharon Pagorek, a senior in communication, shares this philosophy.

“Internships are the key to laying a foundation for your career, and they provide wonderful networking contacts as you look to establish yourself in the business world.” This past fall Pagorek completed a full-time internship with ABC in New York City.

As an intern at ABC News Magazine, she had the opportunity to work on assignments for 20/20 and Primetime. Some of the highlights of her experience included helping with an Eric Clapton piece that aired in September, conducting background research on Rachael Ray for a segment promoting her new show, assisting with a Mel Gibson segment by researching information for Diane Sawyer’s interview with Mel Gibson, and attending the taping of 20/20 every Friday afternoon.

“Every day and every project was surprising and exciting. I continually learned something new about all the work that is involved in the production of 20/20 and Primetime,” says Pagorek. “Plus the internship gave me the opportunity to experience New York City! I enjoyed seeing so many different parts of the city and becoming familiar with its amazing culture.”

Pagorek’s experience was also an opportunity for discovery. She learned that she has a passion for researching and creating interesting stories. It’s a discovery that will affect her future career plans, she says. “This experience has greatly increased my interest in the news industry and in pursuing a career in a fast-paced, constantly changing environment. I really enjoyed working with some of the most influential people in the news industry, and I hope to continue to learn and grow as much as I did through this experience.”

Student Honored for Outreach Efforts

The College of Liberal Arts is proud to be home to the latest One Brick Higher Award winner. English graduate student, Gretchen Steele, was recognized at the January President’s Forum with the One Brick Higher Award for her selfless service and leadership — a skill set that she has honed outside of the classroom through her dedication to volunteer projects.

The Graduate School nominated Steele in recognition of her role as the philanthropy chairperson for the Sycamore Reviews, Purdue’s national literary magazine. In the wake of hurricanes, Steele’s committee raised money for relief efforts through organizing the Writers Community Harvest. The event was held in downtown Lafayette and provided a forum for Purdue faculty and visiting writers to read from their work.

Steele has also taught writing to pre-college students who participate in the National Youth Sports Program held on campus during the summer. Steele thanked her graduate professors and fellow members of Sycamore Review in accepting the One Brick Higher Award.

“During my time at Purdue,” she said, “the University has offered me many rich opportunities for discovery. She learned that she has a passion for researching and creating interesting stories. It’s a discovery that will affect her future career plans, she says. “This experience has greatly increased my interest in the news industry and in pursuing a career in a fast-paced, constantly changing environment. I really enjoyed working with some of the most influential people in the news industry, and I hope to continue to learn and grow as much as I did through this experience.”

Steele thanked her graduate professors and fellow members of Sycamore Review in accepting the One Brick Higher Award. “During my time at Purdue,” she said, “the University has offered me many rich experiences. I will be always grateful for that and for this award.”

The One Brick Higher Award recognizes faculty, staff, and students who go beyond the requirements of their role by preventing or solving problems, providing outstanding mentorship, improving the lives of students or their parents, or increasing the effectiveness of their work-place. Recipients make a difference and move Purdue “one brick higher” to attain the next level of excellence.
The outstanding senior in History is MELODY BETT from Hobart, Indiana. To enhance her classroom experience, Megan interned with the Montgomery County Cultural Foundation and Montgomery County Historical Society. Megan holds leadership roles in the Purdue History Organization and the Baptist Student Foundation. In addition, she is a member of several honor societies and has been on the Dean’s List since beginning at Purdue. Megan received an honorable mention in the Kneale Awards and earned certificates of Superior Achievement and Achievement from History. She was a Liberal Arts Stone Dean Scholar and Thayer Scholar. After graduation, Megan plans to study 19th century southern history and women’s history.

ASHLEY EILER from Lawrenceburg, Indiana, is the outstanding senior in Communication. Her internships blended both of her majors — communication and political science. She interned with the U.S. Department of Justice and in the Office of Lt. Governor Betsy Skinnamon. Ashley is an active member of the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Ambassadors and Honors Programs and holds leadership positions in several student organizations and her community, Kappa Kappa Gamma. She has received numerous awards and scholarships, and recognitions, including Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board Senior Honorary, Purdue Homecoming Court, Dean’s List and Semester Honors, and Indiana Top Resident Honors. Ashley plans to attend graduate school to study visual/Studio arts.

The outstanding senior in Psychology is EMILY GOOD from Fishers, Indiana. Emily participated in two National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates programs, was an undergraduate research assistant in the Social Cognition and Intergroup Relations Lab, and participated in the department’s research-focused honors program. She has achieved Dean’s List and Semester Honors and is a member of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. Emily was named an Indiana Resident Top Scholar, a National Merit Scholar, and received a Purdue Academic Success Award. She also recently became a member of the American Psychology Association and the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Emily plans to work toward her PhD in social psychology at a top research university.

Meredith Dreyer from Indianapolis, Indiana. Meredith is majoring in both German second teaching and forestry. Her accomplishments include study abroad in Germany, Dean’s List and Semester Honors, the Claude M. Gladden Scholarship in Forestry, and Purdue Tour Guide of the Year. Meredith is president of the Purdue German Culture Club and has been active in the Purdue Student Host Organization and FUNDI Forestry Club. In addition, she is a member of the National Education Association, National Speological Society, and several honor societies. After graduation, Meredith plans to teach German at the secondary level.

The outstanding senior in Foreign Languages and Literature is PAUL HUSTON from Escondido, California, is the outstanding senior in Philosophy. As a member of the Philosophy Society, Paul authored a new constitution and served as president. He received the 2006 Claude H. Fehrey Scholarship for outstanding achievements in philosophy, was named the Undergraduate Representative to the Philosophy Committee, and participated in the Liberal Arts Honors Program. In addition, he was on the Dean’s List and received Semester Honors. During the summer, Paul worked in the graphic arts field for firms in San Diego, California. Paul serves as a floor senator in Wiley Residence Hall and was a Boiler Gold Rush team leader. He plans to attend law school after graduation.

The outstanding senior in English is CATHERINE LEWIS from West Lafayette, Indiana. Catherine has excelled in the majors of English literature and creative writing. Her most recent paper “Majestic Mountains, Common Weeds, and the Urban Beat: Analyzing Natural and Urban Diversity in W.A. Whitman’s Poetic Vision of a Cohesive America” will be presented at MUSE — an undergraduate literature conference. In addition, the Indianapolis Public Library displayed her poem during National Poetry Month; she attended the Tsio Summer Writer’s Conference and the Sarah Lawrence College Summer Writer’s Conference; and was featured as a fiction writer in NUVO magazine’s “30 Artists Under 30.” Outside the classroom, Catherine teaches ballet at the Lafayette Ballet School. She plans to continue her education in graduate school.

The outstanding senior in Sociology and Anthropology is RYAN CRAIG MUNDEN from Middletown, Indiana. During his study abroad trip to London, he interned with J.A. Forrest and Company Westminster Law Firm. In addition, Craig interned with Baker Law Firm, Henry County Prosecutors Office, and the Tipppecanoe County Superior Court IV. Craig also participated in the Tipppecanoe Pre Law Society Committee research project. He is a member of the Liberal Arts Dean’s Ambassadors and Honors Programs, Purdue Student Union Board, Campus Crusade for Christ, and several honor societies. Craig coaches a youth basketball league, volunteers as a baseball umpire, tutors elementary children, and volunteers at the Henry County Justice Center. After graduation, Craig will attend Indiana University Law School.

The outstanding senior in Visual and Performing Arts is ANDREA MASSIELLE ALEGRETT from Arlington, Virginia, is the outstanding senior in Political Science. She also has a major in Spanish and a minor in psychology. Andrea is an active member of several student organizations, including the student chapter of Amnesty International and the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Ambassadors, Student Council, and Honors Program. Her achievements include a Thayer scholarship and memberships in Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, Golden Key International Honor Society, and National Society of Collegiate Scholars. In addition to her work on campus, Andrea is an active community volunteer through Volunteer Brazil. Andrea will attend law school in the fall to pursue a career in global human rights.

The outstanding senior in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences is HEATHER RUSHTON from Fishers, Indiana, is the outstanding senior in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. Heather is an active member of several student organizations, including the National Student Speech, Language, and Hearing Association, Formula Society of Automotif Engineers, Purdue LeaderShape Program, and Purdue Belly Dancing Club. Heather works in the Purdue Infant Lab as a coordinator and senior research assistant. She serves as a volunteer for Junior Achievement and the Warrington Earth Sanctuary in Adelaide, Australia. Heather achieved Dean’s List and Semester Honors and is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Alpha Lambda Delta/Phi Beta Sigma. After graduation, Heather plans to earn a doctorate in audiology.

The outstanding senior in Health and Kinesthetics is CATHERINE TAYLOR from West Lafayette, Indiana. She is the assistant swim coach for the Boilermaker Aquatics Team and has worked at the West Lafayette Municipal Pool and Purdue Recreational Sports Center. Catherine volunteers as manager for the Purdue Women’s Swim Team and as a swim coach for the West Lafayette High School swim team. She was named Personal Trainer of the Year, received the USA Gold Award from the Girl Scouts, and has been awarded several scholarships. She has held leadership positions in several organizations. After graduation, Catherine hopes to work in a fitness or wellness setting, creating educational programming to bring health and fitness awareness to corporate environments.

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Distinguished Alumni

Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko (PhD, Exercise Science, 1984) has spent the past 20 years focusing on the effects of exercise and physical activity on the health and quality of life in old age. Chodzko-Zajko currently serves as head of the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Before attending Purdue, he earned a bachelor’s degree in exercise science from the University of London.

In addition to his responsibilities at UIUC, Chodzko-Zajko is active in several major professional advisory boards and organizations, which includes serving as president of the International Society for the Aging and Physical Activity and as a member of the American Council on Exercise. Also, he was recently appointed to the President’s Council of the Physical Activity and as a member of the National Council staff under presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

After his retirement from the Army, Don served as a deputy assistant director for multilateral affairs at the Arms Control Disarmament Agency. Through this position, he acted as the U.S. representative to the Biological Weapons Convention Protocol Negotiations, earning the rank of ambassador during the Clinton administration. Currently, Mahley is the deputy assistant secretary of state for Threat Reduction, Export Control, and Negotiation in the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation.

Jonnie G. Guerra (MA, English, 1975; PhD, English, 1981) has spent her entire career in higher education. Prior to attending Purdue, Guerra received her bachelor’s degree from Boston Hill University. She began her career in academia at Mount Vernon College where she earned tenure and was appointed director of the First-Year Program.

Since 1992, Guerra has served in academic administrative posts at Walsh University, Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, and Cabrini College. Presently the vice president for academic affairs at Cabrini, she played a key role in the planning of a new science, education, and technology building, which opened in fall 2005. Currently, Guerra is directing the project “Strengthening Undergraduate Learning Inside and Outside the Classroom,” funded by a $1.9 million Title III grant from the U.S. Department of Education to the college.

Guerra is a scholar of American literature with a special focus on Emily Dickinson. In 1992, Guerra became a member of the Emily Dickinson International Society’s board of directors, serving as the board president from 2000 to 2004. Since 1994, she has been the editor of “Poet to Poet” — a regular feature in the society’s bulletin about poems influenced by Dickinson.

Ambassador Donald Mahley (BA, Philosophy, 1964) was a Distinguished Military Graduate from the ROTC program at Purdue. After graduation, he was commissioned a regular army second lieutenant. While in the U.S. Army, Mahley earned a master’s in public and international affairs from the University of Pittsburgh. He served in the Army from 1964 to 1992, retiring from the Ordnance Corps as a colonel.

During his military career, Mahley commanded several units in Vietnam and Turkey and was twice awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal. He served on the staff of the U.S. Ambassador to NATO in Brussels and on the National Security Council staff under presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

After his retirement from the Army, Don served as a deputy assistant director for international affairs at the Arms Control Disarmament Agency. Through this position, he acted as the U.S. representative to the Biological Weapons Convention Protocol Negotiations, earning the rank of ambassador during the Clinton administration. Currently, Mahley is the deputy assistant secretary of state for Threat Reduction, Export Control, and Negotiation in the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation.

Patricia Welch (MS, Psychology – Child Development, 1973; PhD, Developmental Psychology, 1977) entered graduate school at Purdue after a career in publishing with Oxford University Press and as a children’s book editor with Sheed and Ward Publishing Company.

A desire to study children’s behavior led to Purdue where she concentrated on child development and developmental psychology. After graduating from Purdue, Welch taught a course in child and adolescent psychology and worked as a learning disabilities consultant.

At the age of 60, Welch accepted the position of executive director of the St. Mary’s Child Center in Indianapolis, Indiana—a nonprofit preschool for at-risk children and a diagnostic clinic for children with learning problems. When she arrived, the center offered preschool classes for 30 students with a staff of 19 and a budget of $376,000. At the time of her retirement in 2001, the center was recognized as one of the highest quality preschools in the state with 208 students enrolled in four locations, 63 staff members, and a budget of $1.5 million.

Welch remains active in the community on behalf of St. Mary’s and early childhood education and serves on several local boards.
Help!

A Liberal Arts alumna from Washington, D.C., sent me an e-mail last October with a suggestion relating to what she characterized as “roundtable discussions” involving prospective students, current students, and alumni. I thought that the idea had merit and passed it along to Dean Contreni. The dean, too, felt that the suggestion might be of mutual benefit to the college, its students, and alumni. A brainstorming session at the December meeting of the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board produced a variety of suggestions about how CLA alumni could connect and network with students and other CLA alumni. However, the success or failure of the implementation of any of these ideas will depend on communication.

From the discussion at the last alumni board meeting, it appears that there are a number of ways you can update your information. You can visit the Liberal Arts alumni Web page at www.cla.purdue.edu/alumni and click on “Update Your Information.” Visit the Purdue Alumni Association site at www.purduealum.org/update.asp (you do not have to be a member to do this), complete and return the attached form (you are not required to be a member to do this), complete and return the attached survey, or mail your information to the Liberal Arts Alumni Office (Attn: Chris Sharp, 100 N. University St., Hearst Hall Room 1280, West Lafayette, IN 47907). Please pass this request along to other CLA alumni you may know.

From the discussion at the last alumni board meeting, it appears that there are a number of mutually beneficial networking opportunities that can be accomplished through the means of an accurate and complete data base. Each alum’s participation is critical to realizing the full potential of those opportunities, so please “help.”

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you soon!

Tom Jenkins

Liberal Arts Month

Be sure to watch www.cla.purdue.edu for information about the first annual Liberal Arts Month and all the College has to offer.

From the alumni board president

“What the success or failure of the implementation of any of these ideas will depend on communication.”

Nancy W. Friedersdorf (BS, Physical Recreation Education, PhD, Education, 1949) was honored with a bequest of $20,000 from the Lake Park High School Education Foundation from the estate of Leslie Y. Madler.

Harry D. Inskoep (BS, Health and Kinesiology) retired after 49 years in college administration from the Lawrence Township, Indiana, school board.

Steve Chemeryski (BS, Health and Kinesiology) was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame of Hawkeye Community College in Des Moines, IA.

Sheila Minnker (BS, Elementary Education, MS, HSE, 1970) was re-elected to the Indiana House of Representatives.

Adèle W. Henderson (BA, Health and Kinesiology) won the 2006 Sophie Thomas Mueller Lifetime Achievement Award from the Friends of Indiana Libraries (FOIL).

Dwayne Gill (BA, American and English Literature) retired after 44 years in journalism. He has been the managing editor of Chicago Lawyer magazine for the past 15 years and plans to open a communications and editing consulting business in Tucson, Arizona.

Don Angel (PhD, HSE, 1968) was elected president of Golden Gate University in San Francisco. Dr. Angel received the CLA Alumni Board’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

Kenneth L. McKechnie (BA, American and English literature) became the 10th president of the United Way of Southeastern Connecticut.

Liberal Arts Month

Be sure to watch www.cla.purdue.edu for information about the first annual Liberal Arts Month and all the College has to offer.
Jenise L. Hovens (BA, Communication) has been a real estate broker for eight years and currently owns her own real estate company in Seymour, Indiana.

Angie Klink (BA, Communication) contributed a Chicken Soup for the Senior’s Soul essay. “Hall Notes: Memories of a Fifty-Year Seniors” is included in the book.

Joyce Lorton Nocton (BA, Communication) was named chief financial officer at Rainforest and Associates LPA, LLC in Lebanon, Ohio.

Karon Weaver (BS, Health and Kinesiology) accepted the position of athletic director at Fineke State Athletics in Pennsylvania.

Molly A. Gilmore Burns (BA, Communication) was promoted to vice president of business development at Hybridization Construction Corporation in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Thaddeus (Ted) M. Conover (BA, Communication) visited five continents and over 24 countries in 2005. He is currently working on a book about his travels.

Betsy Lucas (BA, Visual and Performing Arts) competed in Germany’s Kulturfest in October.

Robert E. Strand (BA, Foreign Languages and Literatures) joined 62 Inc. as vice president of licensing in 2004.

Judi L. Callihan (BA, Political Science), a Delaware County deputy prosecutor, joined the board of governors of the Indiana State Bar Association during the IBNA’s annual meeting. She was also elected as chair of the IBNA’s Younger Lawyers Section.

Jennifer Silfverholm (BA, Spanish and Political Science) is the associate director for Career Services’ public policy and regulatory affairs organization in Washington, DC.

Joseph W. Winkelbauer (BA, Political Science) is a JAG Officer in the Army Reserve and was recently mobilized for Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is currently in Baghdad, serving with the Multi-National Corps-Iraq.

Madison C. Cancik (BA, Communication) is a planner for the Clark County comprehensive planning department in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Andy Gutwein (BA, Economics) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Lora Adams (BA, Theatre) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

David L. Cummings (BA, English) has written and edited marketing copy for IBM, AT&T, and Microsoft and is also an advocate for autism and neglected children.

Glenn Glover (BA, Communication) at CPPS PrimeTime Network Television was named senior vice president of current programming.

Cathy Smith (BA, Visual and Performing Arts) recently launched her own business, called “Whitley Color,” which provides high-quality business cards for families. She has been a graphic designer for 14 years in Lafayette, Indiana.

Joseph A. Vogeland (MA, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, BA, Communication, 1984) has also developed a Web site that is devoted to providing information and products about hearing. To learn more, visit www.iupui.edu/~philosop/ckraatz.htm.

Robert S. Bausch (PhD, Sociology) is professor of sociology at Concord University in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

Jo-Ann Wilkerson (BA, English) is the editorial director of the Indiana State Bar Association’s newsletter, Indiana Lawyer.

Jennifer Silfverholm (BA, Political Science) is a new associate director for Leadership Advancement at the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business.

Enrico Gondero (BS, Economics) was elected for a second term as deputy mayor of Estancia City in Guayana, Venezuela.

James M. Mason (BS, Economics) joined the Indianapolis-based law firm of Fallis Horne Gregg and Miller LLP.

Loren Adkins (BA, Theatre) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

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Loren Adkins (BA, Theatre) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Ron Alling (PhD, Health and Kinesiology) was re-elected as senator for the state of Indiana.

Alberto Henriquez (BA, Communication; Journalism) worked at CNN, ABC, and PBS. He is now producer of the 5:00 p.m. CNN newscast in Los Angeles.

Angelica Perez (BA, Communication) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Sean Stackelbrooks (BA, Philosophy) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Kendra Lee Amoreo (BS, Economics) is the newly appointed chief of staff for the mayor’s office in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Brenda R. Biseck (BA, Communication) is now a job with ESPN Partnership, All in Chicago in its media relations.

Laura (Loy) Edwards (BA, History) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Christine Henderson (BS, Liberal Arts) was named by the Lafayette-West Lafayette, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40.”

Sheena L. Morgan (BA, Communication) is the manager of volunteer services at Prince Joseph Medical Center and is currently enrolled in a master’s program at Lewis University, studying organizational leadership.

Jennifer Shaw (BA, Communication) is pursuing an MBA at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management in Evanston, Illinois, with intended majors in marketing and operations.

Jennifer Drakos (BA, Psychology) was named by her Phi Alpha Theta Psychology Club at the University of Louisville as she earned her master’s degree in psychology and was appointed to the board of the American Psychological Association.

Jennifer Slawson (BA, English) is on staff at the University of Kentucky as an assistant professor of English at Kentucky Southern College.

John M. Zinke Jr. (BA, Foreign Languages and Literatures) is an assistant professor of Spanish at the Rockville campus of Montgomery College in Maryland.

Jennifer Dobbs (BA, Psychology) earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is currently employed at Purdue University as an assistant professor of developmental studies in the Department of Child Development and Family Studies.

Cheryl Priorino (PhD, Foreign Languages and Literatures) published a book of poems titled Entre dos mundos (Between Two Worlds). She is an assistant professor of Spanish at California State University in Chico, California.

Abby S. Wright (BA, English) will clerk for Justice John Paul Stevens in the next term of the Supreme Court.

Heather Calhoun (BA, Liberal Arts) is currently working with Habitat for Humanity to rebuild the Gulf Coast.

Mattio R. Biseck (BA, Communication) is currently working with ESPN and is the new director of communications for ESPN’s two national networks.

Theodore H. Beiting (BA, Communication) started a new business, K & G Associates, for the purpose of recruiting in the areas of accounting, administration, legal, and management.


Bill Bode (BA, Communication) was a keynote presenter at the Business Network International Conference in Long Beach, California. His presentation was titled “From PR to Public Increasing your BB Bottom Line.”

What is the best way to stay connected with Purdue and the College of Liberal Arts? Answer: Make sure we have the correct contact information for you! Update your information at www.cla.purdue.edu/alumni/updates and click on “Alumni Relations” and then “Alumni Information Updates.”
LiBERAL ARTS MAGAZINE

ALUMNI NEWS

2007 UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
12 Spring commencement
14 Purdue Day at the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago

JULY
14 Purdue Day at the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago

AUGUST
4 Summer commencement
15 Visit the CLA tent during Purdue Day at the Indiana State Fair. Enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of a great fair and be sure to wear your black and gold!

OCTOBER LIBERAL ARTS MONTH
Experience the College of Liberal Arts by attending one of the many lectures, plays, art exhibits, and discussions offered by the College’s departments and programs.

SEPTEMBER
15 Family Day — Do you have a student on campus? Share in the fun of being a Boilermaker and return to campus for the day. Visit the CLA Web site (be sure to ask your student) for news about CLA activities.

27 Homecoming — You are invited back to Old West Lafayette. Be a Boilermaker and return to campus for the day. Visit the CLA Web site (be sure to ask your student) for news about CLA activities.

Become a CLA Alumni Board Volunteer!

Dean’s Advisory Council

LALITA AROS
BA, Psychology, 1945

STEPHEN BREWER
BS, Chemical Engineering, 1970

MARY ANN COMBS
BS, History, 1954

SUSAN ELLER
BS, Audiology and Speech Sciences, 1969

BARBARA FRYE
BA, Communication, 1972

MARGARET KERNAN
BA, Sociology and Anthropology, 1974

ANDREW MANER
BA, Communication, 1991

HY MARIA AMOS
BS, Sociology, 1971

Barbara H. Dixon, Assistant Dean

Russell Weatherly, Director of Development

Lori Sparkman, Director of Development

Chris Sharp, Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events

DEPARTMENT HEADS

ALAN BURGESS, [Philosophy]

MARGARET ABBOTT, [Health and Kinesiology]

JANIE L. PREFFIT, [Music and Performing Arts]

Molly Sturgill, [English]

Liberal Arts Alumni Board

2004

Kerry A. Davis (BA, Psychology) completed her master’s in counseling at Regent University in Virginia Beach.

Lauren Engle (BA, Visual and Performing Arts) launched a road trip and photo-sharing business called the Yee. She is traveling all over the United States.

Jennifer Hilton (MS, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences) is a crew deputy for the student Conservation Union in Lafayette, Indiana.

Brooke Monroe (BA, Psychology) completed her master’s in forensic service practice at Clifton Gunderson in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Michelle Swayne (BA, Vocal and Performing Arts) is working at Walt Disney World Entertainment as a character performer.

Karen S. Rule (BA, Sociology) is attending Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Michelle Squyres (BA, Visual and Performing Arts) is working as a real estate consultant in Chicago. She has been named a distinguished alumna of Campbell University’s college of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Ramey White (BA, English) joined Indiana University Southeast as the assistant librarian and coordinator of electronic resources.

Peri L. Bearden (BA, Political Science) is an associate housing representative with Senior Property Group in Indianapolis.

Kimberly Davis-Hayes (PhD, Interdisciplinary Studies) was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Campbell University’s Department of Government, History, and Justice. Kansas is currently an assistant professor of history at California Baptist University in Riverside.

Sarah Gower (BA, Health and Kinesiology) is the director of development for class gifts at Purdue.

Sara Kronenberg (BA, Communication) is the associate director at WMTH-TV in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

F. Joshua Nygren (BA, Communication) participated in a six-week summer mission project in Rome with Campus Crusade for Christ.

Lori Broady (BA, Communication) joined the valuation and forensic services practice at Odette Slastar in Indianapolis as a marketing assistant.

Olivia J. Crookshank (BA, Sociology) is attending Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, for her master’s degree in urban and regional planning.

Kyle W. Davis (BA, Psychology) is working for Pharmaceutical Product Development as a research coordinator.

Karla M. McKeown (BA, Visual and Performing Arts) was hired as a project designer at IM Design in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jill Thomas (BA, Health and Kinesiology) is an intern athletic trainer for the NHL’s Indiana Colts.

Lance C. Smith (BA, Communication) was appointed a position at the Habitat Company in Chicago as a real estate consultant.

Michelle Swayne (BA, Vocal and Performing Arts) is working at Walt Disney World Entertainment as a character performer.

Karen S. Rule (BA, Sociology) is attending Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.
Your opinion is worth a lot!

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