The Board of Directors of Sweet Briar College requests the honor of your presence at the Inauguration of Dr. Jo Ellen Parker as the tenth president of the College on Saturday, the twenty-sixth of September two thousand and nine at three o’clock in the afternoon at Fitness and Athletics Center, Sweet Briar, Virginia followed by the procession to Monument Hill to honor the Founders. Celebrate with us at the Cocktail Buffet and Dance from seven-thirty to eleven-thirty in the evening. The favor of a reply is requested by September 4, 2009.
Sweet Briar College has many reasons to celebrate the arrival of academic year 2009/2010, the most momentous of these being the inauguration of our tenth president, Dr. Jo Ellen Parker. A special ceremony and celebration will be the focus of our annual Homecoming Weekend, and we hope you will be there to join us.

In an effort to be fiscally and environmentally responsible, this magazine cover serves as your invitation and registration form for the Presidential Inauguration/Homecoming Weekend 2009. There will not be a separate mailing. We strongly encourage you to visit the Web site for additional information, event locations, or to register online: [www.sbc.edu/alumnae/homecoming.html](http://www.sbc.edu/alumnae/homecoming.html). Alternatively, you may tear off and mail your registration form and appropriate fee to Boxwood Alumnae House, PO Box E, Sweet Briar, VA 24595.

### Presidential Inauguration & Homecoming Weekend

#### Schedule of Events
**September 25 – 27, 2009**

**Friday, September 25, 2009**

- **12:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Registration for Inauguration/Homecoming Weekend at the Florence Elston Inn and Conference Center
- **12:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Alumnae Association Board Meetings*
- **3:00 p.m.** Homecoming Tea**
  - Space available is very limited
- **6:00 p.m.** Advisory Councils Dinner and Panel
- **6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** Houston Bistro Gathering*
- **7:30 p.m.** Poetry Reading with Deborah Burnham, Poet/Professor, University of Pennsylvania and Sweet Briar College Creative Writing Faculty
- **9:00 - 11:00 p.m.** Kick off the weekend with FaSt
  - Join your favorite campus band members - Rob Granger, Tom Marcais, Steve Wassell and Adam White. Special guest performer - Rick Manasa. (Rick performed with Bob Seger and various Motown artists and is the husband of our new president, Dr. Jo Ellen Parker.) Co-sponsored by the Student Relations and the Young Alumnae Giving Committees

**Saturday, September 26, 2009**

- **8:00 - 10:00 a.m.** Breakfast
- **8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.** Registration for Homecoming/Inauguration Weekend
- **8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** In-House Horse Show
- **9:00 - 11:00 a.m.** Annual Giving Volunteer Training
  - Breakfast provided
- **9:00 - 9:45 a.m.** Breakfast roundtable discussion with Wayne Stark, Director of Career Services
- **9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** SBC Volleyball Tournament vs. Salem, Mary Washington, and Eastern Mennonite
- **10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Advisory Council Meetings
  - Business
  - English and Creative Writing
  - Government and International Affairs
- **10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** SBC Tennis Dual Meet
  - Alumnae tennis match and social to follow
- **10:30 a.m.** SBC Soccer vs. Southern Virginia
  - Alumnae soccer game to follow
- **11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Gold Star Volunteer Panel

**11:30 a.m.** Alumnae Swimming Meet

**11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** Lunch

**11:30 a.m.** Talk by Sherrie Snead McElroy ’74 on Thomas Munson, “The Grape Man of Texas” Followed by a grape tasting with Cliff Ambers, owner of Chateau Z Vineyard

**12:00 p.m.** Keystone Society Luncheon Honoring Dr. Jo Ellen Parker*

**12:00 p.m.** SBC Field Hockey vs. Washington & Lee

**12:30 - 2:00 p.m.** Paint ‘N’ Patches 100th Anniversary Celebration and Tours

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m.** Lunch and Meeting for the Visiting Committee on Riding*

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m.** Open House – The Green Village, new student housing

**2:00 p.m.** Thayer Hockey Field Dedication

**3:00 p.m.** Founders’ Day and Inauguration of Dr. Jo Ellen Parker Tenth President of Sweet Briar College

**3:00 p.m.** Walk to the Monument

**7:00 p.m.** Dedication of the new Fitness and Athletics Center

**7:30 - 11:30 p.m.** An Evening of Celebration to honor Dr. Jo Ellen Parker
  - Cocktails, Buffet and Dance
  - Music by: “The Real Geniuses”

**8:30 p.m.** Induction of new Athletics Hall of Fame Members:
  - Paul D. Cronin, Professor Emeritus and Director Emeritus of the Sweet Briar College Riding Program; Jennifer Crispen, (dec. 2008) Associate Professor and Chair of Physical Education

**Sunday, September 27, 2009**

**10:00 a.m.** Interfaith Service
  - Reception to follow

**11:00 a.m.** Friends of Athletics Steering Committee Meeting

**1:00 p.m.** SBC Field Hockey vs. Wilson

*invitation only

**additional fee**
General Information

Registration
We are expecting a record turnout for our Presidential Inauguration/Homecoming Weekend 2009. Please register with the Alumnae Office by Friday, September 4, 2009 to join the celebration. Simply send in the attached form by mail or fax, or visit our Web site at: www.sbc.edu/alumnae/homecoming.html. A Alumnae Office Contact Information:

Phone: 800-381-6131
Fax: 434-381-6132
E-mail: alumnae@sbc.edu

It is essential that all alumnae and guests formally register to participate in any facet of the weekend.

Accommodations
On-campus housing is reserved for Presidential Inauguration/Homecoming Weekend speakers, award recipients, and those working the weekend. Attendees must book and pay for their off-campus overnight accommodations separately with the hotel/motel of their choice.

Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the following locations for the nights of September 24th, 25th, and 26th. Alumnae must identify themselves as members of the Sweet Briar College block when calling to make a reservation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Rates</th>
<th>Occupancy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Inn Select Lynchburg (downtown)</td>
<td>601 Main Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504</td>
<td>434-528-2500</td>
<td>$79.00 per night</td>
<td>Single or double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkley Hotel (near River Ridge Mall)</td>
<td>2900 Candler’s Mountain Road</td>
<td>434-237-6333 or 866.510.6333 toll free</td>
<td>$79.00 per night</td>
<td>Single or double</td>
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Travel
Sweet Briar is located closest to Lynchburg Regional Airport, which is serviced by Delta and US Airways, and houses rental car facilities for Avis (434-239-3622) and Hertz (434-237-6284). Other ground transportation options in Amherst County and Lynchburg are: Sandidge Taxi (434-946-7873) and Amherst County Taxi Service (434-845-5362).

Attire
A titre for the weekend is casual and comfortable for autumn weather. A titre for Saturday evening is black tie-optional. Please note that Inauguration will be followed by a walk to Monument Hill for a service to honor the College founders.

Friday, September 25, 2009
(indicate number of people attending)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Homecoming Tea**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Councils Dinner and Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Houston Bistro Gathering*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekend Kickoff with FaSt performing</td>
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Saturday, September 26, 2009
(indicate number of people attending)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast at Prothro Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>InHouse Horse Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Giving Volunteer Training (Breakfast provided)</td>
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<td>Breakfast roundtable discussion with Wayne Stark, director of career services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Council Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumnae Tennis Match and Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBC Soccer vs. Southern Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold Star Volunteer Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumnae Swim Meet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch at Prothro Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>“The Grape Man of Texas” Lecture by Sherrie Snead McLeroy ’74 and grape tasting</td>
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<td>Keystone Society Luncheon Honoring Dr. Jo Ellen Parker*</td>
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<td>SBC Field Hockey vs. Washington &amp; Lee ODAC Match</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paint ‘n’ Patches 100th Anniversary Celebration and Tours</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Student Housing/Green Village Open House</td>
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Sunday, September 27, 2009
(indicate number of people attending)

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interfaith Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBC Field Hockey Game vs. Wilson</td>
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**invitation only  ** additional fee

Arrival
When you arrive on campus, check in at the Florence Elston Inn and Conference Center (or after hours at the Florence Elston Inn Information Desk) to receive your nametag and important updated information that you will need for meetings and events.

Presidential Inauguration/ Homecoming Weekend Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Type</th>
<th>Fee Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration fees</td>
<td>$75.00/person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homecoming Tea</td>
<td>$25.00/person</td>
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</table>

Your registration fee includes all meals and activities listed on the schedule with the exception of the Homecoming Tea. Please note that on Saturday night, each guest will be issued two drink tickets, additional drinks will be available for a fee. Overnight accommodations should be booked and paid for separately by alumnae and guests.

Registration forms are due to the Alumnae Office no later than Friday, September 4, 2009. In the event of cancellation, please notify the Alumnae Office immediately. Refunds will be made through September 5, 2009. Thereafter, cancellations will not be refunded.
Sweet Briar College Alumnae Association  
**Homecoming Registration Form**  
SEPTEMBER 25–27, 2009

Name _________________________________________ Class __________
(first)   (maiden) (last)

Preferred Name (FOR NAME TAG) ________________________________

Name of Guest _______________________________ Relation __________

Guest Preferred Name (FOR NAME TAG) ________________________________

Phone: (H) ___________________ (W) ___________________ (C) __________

E-mail: (H) _______________________________ (W) ________________________________

Employer: ___________________________ Job Title: ___________________________

We will post your name and e-mail address on the Alumnae Association Web site as planning to attend Homecoming. If you would prefer that we not post your name on the Web site, please initial here _____.

Please return this form by **Friday, September 4, 2009** to:
Boxwood Alumnae House, Box E, Sweet Briar, VA 24595—or by fax to 434-381-6132.
Registrations and fees are also accepted online at www.sbc.edu/alumnae/homecoming.html.

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**Payment Options**

You may pay your registration fees by check, payable to "Sweet Briar Alumnae Association." MasterCard and VISA debit and credit cards also are accepted.

Please indicate how you would like to pay your registration fees:

----- Enclosed is my check for $ ______

----- Please charge my debit/credit card $ ______

Name on Card

______________________________

Signature

______________________________

MasterCard/VISA #

______________________________

Expiration Date 3-digit security code

______________________________
Dear Friends,

Please be sure to read this issue of the Alumnae Magazine from cover to cover! It is filled with fascinating stories and not-to-miss updates from campus.

As I write this note on June 23, it is bittersweet to look out my window and see the moving van at Sweet Briar House. Betsy and Larry leave us tomorrow to embark on a new chapter in their lives as they depart for their home in Richmond. I know that you join me in wishing them all the best in their future endeavors and send them off with heartfelt thanks for their many contributions to our beloved Sweet Briar.

Tomorrow, as one moving van departs, another arrives, bringing Dr. Jo Ellen Parker and her husband Rick Manasa to join the Sweet Briar family. Although she officially begins her duties as our new president on July 1, Jo Ellen has been preparing for her arrival since being named. She has come to campus several times. During her visits, she met with administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumnae. She also had an opportunity to meet parents at Commencement in May. During one of her visits to campus, Colleen Karaffa Murray ’06, editor of the Alumnae Magazine, interviewed Jo Ellen. The questions posed were solicited from the campus community. I know that you will enjoy this interview and getting to know Jo Ellen.

We invite you to meet Jo Ellen and Rick in person by making your plans now to join us for Homecoming Weekend, September 25–27, 2009. The Inauguration of Dr. Jo Ellen Parker as the tenth President of Sweet Briar College will take place on Saturday, September 26 at 3:00 p.m. in our new Fitness and Athletics Center. Following Inauguration, we will hold our traditional Founders’ Day Service at the monument. A cocktail buffet, dance, and full evening of celebration is in store as we dedicate our new Fitness and Athletics Center, hold our Athletics Hall of Fame Induction, and dance the night away to the music of the Real Geniuses. Don’t miss the opportunity to be a part of this very special moment in the history of Sweet Briar College.

Remember, this magazine serves as your invitation to join us. You have the choice to register by mail or on-line at www.sbc.edu/alumnae/homecoming.html. If you have any questions, please call the Alumnae Office at 434-381-6131 or email us at alumnae@sbc.edu.

We look forward to welcoming you back home!

Warmly,

Louise Swiecki Zingaro ’80
Executive Director of Alumnae Affairs
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INSIDE BACK COVER: In the Sweet Briar Tradition: The Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld Fund for Historic Preservation

COVER: “Chestnut Hill” by Alexis Marie Parker ’09, studio art major, business management and art history double minor, arts management certificate.
My dream is that Sweet Briar will become recognized for preparing women for success and leadership in the age of digital information.”
Dr. Jo Ellen Parker’s impressive résumé and bio paint a highly qualified picture of our tenth college president. Creative, brilliant, and current—we know the College will have a bright future under her leadership. What some of us may not know however, are those things about Dr. Parker that reveal a more personal side—her likes and dislikes, her hobbies and interests, her hopes and inspirations.

The day of my interview with Dr. Parker was one of those spring days at Sweet Briar that alumnae will remember well. The flowering trees were in bloom and the afternoon was breezy and warm. We met in the office lobby, exchanged a happy greeting, and commenced with the interview. As we talked, Jasmine Jones, Class of 2010 and student assistant in the Alumnae Office, sat quietly at a computer station nearby working on some assignments. When I asked Dr. Parker if she planned to host her own version of “Brownies with Betsy,” Jasmine, nearly forgotten in the corner, called out a suggestion for “Petits Fours with Parker.” Dr. Parker laughed, and further culinary hosting ideas—including popcorn balls—were soon shared among us.

I found Dr. Parker to be extremely amiable. Not only was she self-confident and astute, but also friendly and down-to-earth. The only thing missing during our meeting were the petits fours!

Colleen Murray: Do you like pets? Do you own dogs or cats?
Dr. Jo Ellen Parker: My husband Rick and I have three cats. We also had a wonderful dog who passed away between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We’re trying to figure out when to get our next dog. We certainly won’t do that until we get down here, and we definitely need a dog that’s going to be a good fit for Sweet Briar House and the traffic that comes and goes.

CM: What is your favorite everyday music?
JEP: It depends on my mood. I have to drive a lot, and I’m prone to put on the music of my youth and oldies in the car. I have a wonderful CD of The Temptations’ Greatest Hits. For hanging around the house, I like jazz, often big band jazz. Being married to somebody who was once a professional musician is really good; Rick is often playing artists that I would never discover.

CM: What is your least favorite food?
JEP: I’ve never been good with organ meats like liver, heart, or kidneys. I don’t much like foie gras. Once in Kenya I was served ugali and bull’s blood in a Maasai community; that might go on the least favorite list too.

CM: What is your favorite vacation spot?
JEP: In the winter, we try to take a week on a beach in Mexico. We like to go to a place that’s just outside Tulum on the Yucatan Peninsula. We pack lots of books, and we eat wonderful fish and wonderful fruit, and we read. We also like to do a long weekend a couple of times in the summer in Stratford, Ontario, for the Shakespeare festival. So, we’ll go for four or five days and see a play a day.

CM: What are your top three priorities for Sweet Briar?
JEP: I think a Sweet Briar education is a wonderful thing, and I think there are a lot of young women who would benefit from that education. The number one priority is finding more young women from the various regional, ethnic, and religious communities that make up this country and bringing them into the Sweet Briar
experiences. That's the number one priority for me.

Another very important priority is to build the relationships that Sweet Briar has with other institutions and partners. In this day and age, there are a lot of things that no small college can expect to do on its own. Collaborations with other colleges and universities; collaborations with employers to develop internships; collaborations with community organizations for service learning—in all kinds of ways, we need to be looking for partners so that we can expand what we offer to students in the academic areas and the pre-professional areas.

The third priority—based on my background—I think it's the one that a lot of people would expect—is making sure that faculty and students at Sweet Briar have all the opportunities they need to incorporate digital resources and tools into their teaching and learning. I think there are a lot more things that could be done on campus, both academically and administratively, with digital technologies. My dream is that Sweet Briar will become recognized for preparing women for success and leadership in the age of digital information.

**CM: What are your top three priorities for your life?**

**JEP:** One of the top priorities for my life is to make a positive difference for the people around me. That's a priority in the context of family; in the context of friendship and community; and of course professionally.

Another top priority is to keep finding interesting things to do. I am very lucky, because every job I've had has given me the opportunity to keep learning. Who would have thought a Ph.D. in Victorian literature like me would end up leading a national technology institute, for example? That's the benefit of a liberal education.

A third priority has to do with health and wellness. I benefit a great deal by being physically active. I'm careful to make sure that my energy and my health are good, and that I have the kind of strength and flexibility—both mental and physical—that I need to do the kinds of things I want to do in my life.

**CM: How would you address the issue of diversity in the students, faculty and staff?**

**JEP:** I will lead by encouraging the community to engage that issue in a holistic manner. Diversity must be addressed by everyone in the community in different ways, depending on the specific responsibilities and roles that people have. It's my responsibility to make sure people have the resources that they need to strengthen diversity in their respective spheres. Often, diversity initiatives fail when they're not holistic, when you wall them off and assign responsibility for diversity to a few individuals, often individuals of color. So, it's my responsibility to insist that diversity is on everybody's agenda, and I will do that. Finally, diversity isn't mono-dimensional. Racial diversity is central, but there are many dimensions of diversity. There's socio-economic diversity and there's religious diversity, regional diversity and political diversity, for example. Within racial groups, there are ethnically diverse communities. We want a Sweet Briar community that supports and engages people wherever their personal identities lie along any number of continua. I want to make sure that we're creating an environment where everybody feels that they can contribute and grow . . .

**CM: Have you been informed about the various traditions here at Sweet Briar including The Game, Junior Week, The Ring Game, etc.?**

**JEP:** My visit as a candidate happened to be at the time that some of the issues about The Game were really hot. I have two things to say about that, and the first one is: I loved the traditions that I had as an undergraduate at Bryn Mawr. Bryn Mawr had step singing, Bryn Mawr had lanterns. Such things are part of women's college culture. I understand completely how central traditions are to defining a community and people's relationships to their college. I know how they touch your heart.

When I toured campus as a candidate, my husband and I had a student tour guide. She was clearly used to giving tours to people who may not understand traditions culture. We came to one part of the campus where she stopped and said, “Now, this may sound a little odd, but we're a women's college, and we have these traditions—in this place sometimes the students gather on the steps,” and I blurted out, “Oh, I know! Step sings and lanterns and class colors!” I chattered away with her about class colors—my class color at Bryn Mawr was green—while my husband stood three feet back, rolling his eyes. Traditions create affirming, positive relationships within the community that help students appreciate each other and appreciate themselves. But if traditions ever operate in a way that they're not helping us appreciate each other and celebrate what's best in ourselves, then they're not fulfilling the purpose that makes us love them. On some occasions it may be necessary to look at the way a particular tradition is being experienced . . .
and introduce changes to make sure the tradition is serving our highest values.

CM: Who would you consider to be a role model of yours?

JEP: Pat M CPherson. Mary Patterson M CPherson was my dean when I was an undergraduate student at Bryn Mawr. In fact, she taught me Greek philosophy when I was a freshman. She was the president of Bryn Mawr when I worked there. For many years she was a vice president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and I worked with her closely in that role. Now she’s the executive officer at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. I am deeply honored that Pat has agreed to speak at my inauguration in September.

Pat is a leading figure in liberal arts education. At Bryn Mawr she did wonderful, wonderful work in making the college a more inclusive community; she supported innovative collaborative projects at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; she has been throughout her career a stalwart supporter of America’s liberal arts colleges and of women’s leadership in higher education. Basically, my whole life I’ve wanted to be Pat M CPherson when I grow up.

CM: Is there an experience from your undergraduate career as a student at Bryn Mawr that made a lasting impression on you?

JEP: I took a class in poetry from a professor named Sandra Berwind, who may have been the best teacher I ever had, and certainly is the reason I became an English major and got a Ph.D. in English. She once gave me an assignment to write a paper on sestinas—a particular kind of elaborate poetic form. In a sestina, key words at the end of each line are cycled through the poem in a different order in each stanza. Researching this paper, I found three sestinas by different writers in different historical periods that used the same key words. To this day I can still visualize where I was sitting in the library at Bryn Mawr when I suddenly understood that these three poems were a dialog. This poem was answering that poem, which was answering yet another poem, and the poetic form was the medium of their conversation. It was the first time I understood that literature just didn’t come out of people’s experience of life, that it came out of the experience of previous literature. It was the first time I understood the nature of literary tradition.

I still remember bursting into Sandra’s office—I must have looked demented—saying “Oh my goodness, about those sestinas, you know what?” Of course she knew, and she had known it for years. That story means many things to me. Mainly, it taught me something I always tried to implement in my own life as a teacher. Sandra didn’t teach me that lesson about poetry by showing it to me or telling me about it. She taught me that lesson by setting me off on a path where I would have the opportunity to discover it for myself. And I did. To my mind, that is the essence of teaching in the liberal arts: setting the student off on a path of discovery so that what she learns becomes truly her own.

CM: Do you participate in any kind of social networking . . .

Twitter, Facebook, MySpace?

JEP: I don’t have a Facebook presence. In my current organization, we use Twitter a lot to keep in touch as a staff. I have a profile on LinkedIn—but that’s not quite the same thing in terms of social networking. I make a lot of professional use of Instant Messaging; I love Instant Messaging. I use a desktop point-to-point video conferencing tool that has been important to me. It combines Chat with video and audio . . . that really makes the communication richer.

CM: What do you do for fun/hobbies?

JEP: I like to cook. I find it refreshing, after working with words all day, to make something with my hands. Theater is another favorite treat. And when I can spend time outside, say in our canoe on the river or on our pontoon boat, I love that!

CM: Do you have ideas for an event or new tradition that will help you connect with the students?

JEP: These things have to be organic. I’m seeking advice from the students about what form of interaction would feel good for them. Clearly they love Brownies with Betsy. Several of them have asked me if I want to continue it, and I keep saying, “Well, wouldn’t it be a little weird? I’d have to call myself Betsy.” No, that would be strange. We might have to take up Jasmine’s idea; how about Pizza with Parker?
1995 graduate Kelly Hall has always yearned for travel and adventure. As a double major in French and history, Kelly says that her love of travel was greatly influenced by her years at Sweet Briar. She was a participant in the 1993–1994 Junior Year in France program, and later earned her MA in medieval studies at the University of York in England. She says that many Sweet Briar professors and staff members encouraged her love of travel and learning, such as Joan Kent and Karl Tamburr (both now sadly deceased), as well as Jeff Key, Christopher Witcombe, Marie-Thérèse Killiam, Angelo Metzidakis, Ron Horwege, Dominique Leveau, Anne Grimm, and Lisa Johnston.

Having taught literature and composition courses for several years, Kelly took a break from teaching to do a job where “there were no papers to grade.” She has become Sweet Briar’s own “Ice Road Trucker” braving the ice shelf of the frozen continent from the seat of a monstrous vehicle. Fascinated by the test of endurance and the beauty of the unknown wilderness, Kelly embarked last year on a sojourn in Antarctica. What follows is a snapshot of her story as a vehicle driver and as part of an eclectic community of people all drawn to the challenge of The Ice.

Many of you were surprised by the news that I wanted to come here, and lots of people back home have been asking, “Why Antarctica?” For months, my answer has been a long, rambling explanation about how I once read a book about the continent and later an article about working down here. But from now on I’m plagiarizing a new friend’s answer to that question: Because I’ve never been.

You may already know a little bit about Antarctica or “The Ice” as we call it. It’s the highest, driest, windiest continent on Earth and the most difficult one to reach. Early explorers tried to conquer it, some with more luck than others. The U.S. Antarctic program has been up and running for over fifty years and the National Science Foundation currently operates three bases on the continent: McMurdo—where I am—at the edge of the continent closest to New Zealand, South Pole in the middle, and Palmer on the South America side.

In winter, McMurdo has about 200 people, but as more flights arrive each day the capacity rises to around 1,000 in the summer time. These include workers, scientists, media, and people from all over the world. Last year, Ann Curry from the Today Show came down. This year, there’s a BBC filmmaker from England working on a documentary, and Prince Albert of Monaco also came for a visit.

Workers at the station come from all over and range in age from eighteen to seventy-nine, each with an interesting story to tell. I feel a great kinship for the other workers and scientists. They value new experiences. They prize travel and adventure. Family and friends think I’ve been everywhere, but I can’t hold a candle to some of these folks. I make jokes about how it’s great to escape America with its politics and bad economy, but I think the main reason people come here is to get an experience they can’t get anywhere else.

I arrived on the continent after three years of applications, two months of medical exams, seven different flights, and a great deal of finger-crossing. Before my

—from an advertisement preceding Ernest Shackleton’s Nimrod Expedition to Antarctica.

I learned how to drive the vans around the base that afternoon. If you’ve ever seen the show on the history channel called Ice Road Truckers that’s more or less what it was like. Two experienced and patient guys, Shuttle Bill and Geoff, taught me to drive. I was cautious my first day as I learned alongside a twenty-five-year-old named Brandon who had been driving trucks in Alaska for a few years. He instinctively knew where all the gauges and controls were located and already seemed to know his way around the base.

It wasn’t long before I felt more confident myself. When it was time to take the delta over the “big hill” to the New Zealander’s base, Scott Base, my instructor said: “If you’re feeling confident, shift her up to fourth gear.” Yeah baby! I slammed it into fourth and hit the gas. Woo hoo! Queen of the Ice Road! You get up to fifteen mph around here and you’re a road warrior. It was two miles to Scott Base and what a drive! As you crest the “big hill,” you get a great view of M t. Erebus, a live volcano about forty miles in the distance. By evening I was already heading out to the airfield about thirteen miles away to pick up passengers. My training was equivalent to having one driver’s education class and being turned loose with my parent’s new car.

On base, there are two workout rooms, a gym, chapel, library, computer labs, lounges, three bars, a store, several dorms, and several working buildings. Most of the buildings are made with just plywood and siding, but the views are incomparable. In the dorms, first-timers usually end up with three other roommates, but I lucked out and have only one. Our dorm is the smallest with teeny, tiny rooms, but I’m happy because it’s a quiet place. The food here isn’t bad, pretty comparable to what I have when I teach for the Navy.

The average temperature is about -5°F, but will warm up to 20°F/25°F most days. They say it sometimes climbs to 40°F, at which point I imagine we’ll all be outside in bathing suits sipping margaritas! We still have only a few hours of “night,” although you could probably still read a book outside. On October 21 we experienced the last sunset, and on October 22 the last sunrise for winter. After that, the sun danced around the horizon, inching ever upward and giving twenty-four hours of full daylight.

We were shuttled into vehicles, and my future instructor, “Shuttle Bill,” picked me out of the crowd to ride in the front of the delta. I had the best view as we approached the base.

I learned how to drive the vans around the base that afternoon. If you’ve ever seen the show on the history channel called Ice Road Truckers that’s more or less what I’m doing. Sometimes I’m driving a van shuttle service around the base on land and sometimes I’m driving off the base onto the ice shelf, and going out to a field camp or the airstrip to pick up passengers. I drive four different types of wheeled vehicles: ten-passenger vans, two large transporters called airporters and deltas, and a bus called “Ivan the Terra B us.” Ivan weighs twenty-eight tons and can carry fifty-six passengers. I thought the hardest part would be reversing the deltas, but it’s actually the climb inside. I’m going to have thighs of steel at the end of this job!

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In November, I attended Snow Craft School, also known as “Happy Camp”—a two-day survival course that teaches you how to stay alive if you were stranded in the snow or if you had to set up a field camp. You learn how to operate radios, camp stoves, and tents, and how to build other structures like snow walls and trenches.

We had two instructors, Brian and Dylan. Brian was the more serious of the two and Dylan the cuter and funnier. As we introduced ourselves, we told what sort of cold-weather camping experience we’d had. A few people stood out immediately: me, because I made a joke about having cross-country skied across Greenland. That was actually my friend Alice. Anyone who knows me knows I couldn’t ski across my own backyard; Firefighter Chris, a.k.a. Annoying Chris, who immediately irritated everyone with his over-long, pedantic answers; and Alaskan Phil, who was exactly the sort of experienced person you’d want on your team if you were in a survival situation. He’d been camping in Alaskan temperatures of -30°F. If I had to be sent off to the snow to die, this was the person I wanted to dig my grave.

After a few hours we set out onto the ice shelf on a beautiful sunny day—a little cold, but not much wind. We learned how to set up camp stoves, the classic canvas Scott tents and the modern nylon mountain tents, and the camp kitchen. We learned how to build a snow wall for wind protection and dig sleeping trenches. It was funny to see the gender breakdown when the instructors left us to our own devices. The men carved ice blocks and built the snow wall while the women started setting up the tents and kitchen.

One of the more interesting things we built was a quincy, like a modern igloo. We piled up all the sleeping bag sets together and put a tarp over them. Next, we dug snow to pile on top. We packed down the snow, letting it sit for a while in the sun to harden. After a few hours, we dug out the bags and made a tunnel entrance. I was digging on one side with a young guy named Michael. We were both on our knees shoveling like little badgers and pulling bags out. Super-shoveler Alaskan Phil was on the other side, doing the even more difficult task of shoveling out the tunnel that people would use for entry and exit. Annoying Chris was standing around watching everyone else shovel and trying to offer what I’m sure he thought were helpful hints. Indeed, they were not. I kept trying to get this guy involved. “Hey Chris, why don’t you help us pull these bags out...” but he seemed oblivious. He’d pull one bag out and then go back to talking. Finally Phil said, “You know, I see you doing a lot of talking, but not a lot of digging.” Oh, I liked Phil right away. It was no surprise when we were choosing where we wanted to sleep that no one chose to share tent or trench with Annoying Chris.

Once we had begun our projects, the instructors left us to die... er, survive... the snow. The sun was shining full force, but it was getting colder as the evening went on. Phil was trying to build a traditional igloo out of blocks, but gave up the fight after two hours—we used his blocks to build a mini Stonehenge instead. We all had dinner around the kitchen, eating funny-tasting, freeze-dried meals out of foil envelopes. Alas, my fettuccine alfredo did not taste like the Olive Garden. But we also got nuts and fruit and an endless supply of hot drinks. We sat around the kitchen and I quickly earned the nickname “Cruise Director” because I suggested we go around the circle and tell either our most exciting moment, favorite book, or a secret we’d never told anyone. Some of us went sightseeing—and by that I mean we went inside a double quincy. It was one of the tunnels that people had built the week before, and when they were digging the floor out, they opened up a chamber from a quincy that had been built last year. The tunnel was a ten-foot, Shawshank Redemption-esque crawl that was not for the claustrophobic.
“If Antarctica were music it would be Mozart. Art, and it would be Michelangelo. Literature, and it would be Shakespeare. And yet it is something even greater; the only place on earth that is still as it should be. May we never tame it.” —Andrew Denton

After dinner and tea we drifted to our preferred accommodations. I’d heard the Scott tents were the warmest, so I had chosen one of those. I was rooming with a guy named Bill. Only in Antarctica would you be sharing a tent this quickly with someone you just met. I couldn’t seem to get warm in my sleeping bag and ended up getting the shakes twice (the first stage of hypothermia)—a miserable, frustrating feeling. We later found out that it was -14°F that night! A laskan Phil had the good idea to use the spare sleeping kits to provide me a few more layers, and I managed to stop shaking, although I never got “cozy.”

I was bleary-eyed the next morning as we dismantled camp. A noying Chris went around to wake everyone. I’m sure he meant well, but he went to the people who were sleeping in trenches and banged on the top of their structures, caving in two of the four. One girl was using her pee bottle at this inopportune moment.

That afternoon, we learned how to find someone in a whiteout, how to use the Vietnam-era radios, and how to set up a basic camp in a survival situation. I excelled at tent construction and was not so skilled at radio operation. We finally packed up all the gear and headed back to civilization. I fell into an exhausted, but happy coma for a few hours. Despite the mild hypothermia and sleeplessness, I still had a fun time and recommend Happy Camp to others.

After Happy Camp came Thanksgiving and with that, a trip to the hospital. What started as a scratchy throat became a sore throat so bad that if I tried to swallow or cough, it brought tears to my eyes. I trudged to the hospital and couldn’t speak well enough to tell them what was wrong. I had to write it out. The doctor said I had a bad case of the “crud” — the catch-all term for any sort of cold or sinus infection down here. I was so dehydrated they had to put me on IV fluids before they could draw blood. They gave me a painkiller shot of liquid ibuprofen and, when they came back in a half hour and I still didn’t feel any better, they switched to a morphine drip. “Wha?! You’re putting me on morphine?! Who takes morphine for a sore throat?” I croaked out. “You do,” the Doc answered with a face that suggested I should start making my will and saying my prayers. “It’s the only thing we’ve got left.”

I spent the next several hours at the hospital. The morphine made me sleepy and steroids made me jumpy, so I couldn’t relax. After several shots of morphine, I still didn’t feel much better and still couldn’t swallow. The doctor said they were thinking about a medical evacuation to Christchurch, New Zealand. Yikes! I wasn’t dead yet and did not want to leave. I flat-out refused. Most people who get medevac-ed are sent home afterward.

I said, “I worked too hard to get here. I don’t want to be sent home. Worst-case scenario, bury me in the snow and tell my loved ones I died on some bold Antarctic expedition. Barring that, I promise to get better immediately. Start bringing me the tea.” Having lived in the UK three times, I learned tea is the solution to many problems. After a night in the hospital, I was sent back to my dorm. The other shuttle drivers brought my mail and food and called to check on me. I’d heard they were worried about the possible medevac, but had also started a grocery list of what they wanted brought back from New Zealand.

I barely made it to the Thanksgiving dinner because I still wasn’t feeling my best. It was nice to sit with all my shuttle buddies for the big feast. The galley went all-out with the meal. We had all the traditional—turkey, ham, stuffing, and cranberry sauce—but also cheese, fruit, and killer desserts.

By Christmas, the weather had warmed up and most of the snow around the station had melted. Temperatures hung around 20°F. We had twenty-four hours of daylight. Sometimes the sky would go for days without showing a cloud. The base looked a little bleak without the snow, but the surrounding scenery was spectacular. The ice shelf had pushed up against the land and created pressure ridges like tall waves of ice. A line of ice shards stuck into the air as high as twenty feet.

The warmer weather meant sports and hiking. The other day I went to Scott Hut, built by explorer R. F. Scott in 1902, just to sit awhile. It was windy and cold on the station side, but when I topped the hill the winds were calm, and I had a beautiful, sunny view of the seals on the sea ice.

Driving the vehicles continued to be a fun and varied job with four main duties: watching the phone/radio in the office on dispatch, doing town taxi, doing regular shuttle service out to the airfields, and taking passengers to and from the planes. I could now reverse Ivan the Terra Bus on a dime.

I took another small hike out to the Scott Hut. You can’t get into the hut without the key, but I circled around for photos and then climbed toward Observation Hill behind the station. I looked out on the ice shelf, a vast expanse of white with several small patches of blue, which gave the impression of melting pools, but was really light refraction. The sun was shining and the mountains in the distance looked vast and unconquerable. I first thought it’s a shame that more people can’t see what I’m seeing. But then I reconsidered. Maybe it’s fitting that only a few people get to see all this wondrous beauty. No picture I send will ever be able to do it justice. No description I write will ever be enough. To be here and experience this has been the hardest thing I’ve ever worked for and the richest reward I may ever receive.

Kelly flew back to the United States in March 2009 and will be returning to The Ice in October. She is currently finishing a Ph.D. in medieval literature and hopes that friends and classmates will contact her at: khall@sbc.edu.
New Book Focuses on 16th-century Print Publishing & Murder

SUZANNE RAMSEY, STAFF WRITER


Published in 2008 by Harvey Miller Publishers, the 469-page book contains more than 300 illustrations. It is the result of nearly two decades of research that took Witcombe to archives, libraries, and museums across the United States and Europe, including six months spent in the Vatican’s Secret Archives.

“Print publishing,” in this case, refers to engravings and etchings—an emerging commercial art form of the period—which often depicted architectural sights or religious subjects.

“Rome had already long been a host to pilgrims,” Witcombe explained. “Throughout the Middle Ages, there were people who would come to Rome for that, so they would obviously be customers for religious prints. But in the Renaissance there was also a new type of tourist who came to see the antiquities and in part these print publishers were catering to this new interest.”

The publishing companies that produced the prints, and there were perhaps a dozen by the end of the 16th century, were highly competitive. Underhanded practices, up to and including murder, occasionally ensued.

Witcombe originally titled the book, “Print Publishing and Murder in Sixteenth-Century Rome,” but said the marketing folks thought it a bit too “Dan Brown-ish.” He modified the title, but “murder” remained.

“I wanted to keep murder in the title, because the book hinges on a murder that occurred which was very clearly due to rivalry between print publishing houses,” he said.

The murder to which Witcombe is referring is that of the engraver Gerolamo da Modena, whose drowned body was found in the Tiber River. He writes about the homicide in the book’s fourth chapter, “Rivalry and Murder.”

During his research, Witcombe read an article that mentioned depositions taken after the homicide, which was largely thought to have been carried out by a rival publishing house or a consortium of shops. He found the transcript of the testimonials in Rome, studied it, and learned a lot about the personalities involved in the printmaking industry, many of whom were rounded up and questioned by local authorities.

“On the assumption that this was a murder that had been committed, many individuals were arrested and interrogated. What this document is is a record of the questions and answers.”

From his research, Witcombe already knew the names of many of those who were questioned, but reading the depositions gave him what he calls a “street-level view” of the people and places involved. “What people were doing, who they were related to, where they were living, what restaurants they were going to—all this, I was able to tease out of this document,” he said.

That painstaking research is a part of writing. Witcombe says he enjoys and it explains his love of archives. “This is the real stuff,” he said. For more information about Witcombe and his book, visit his Web site, witcombe.sbc.edu.

About the Author

Christopher L.C.E. Witcombe began his career at the Accademia di Belle Arti in Florence, Italy, where he studied painting, intending to become a studio artist. He was fascinated by the paintings of the Italian Renaissance, however, and when a friend introduced him to Janson’s History of Art, his plans for the future began to change. Witcombe describes the book as “a revelation.” He soon left Florence for the University of Massachusetts to receive a BA and later an MA in art history. He earned a Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr College in 1981 and has been a professor of art history at Sweet Briar since 1983.

A side from his extensive knowledge of the Italian Renaissance, Witcombe is well known for his presence on the Web. Ever since the first appearance on campus of the World Wide Web in 1994, he has been excited about using technology to communicate aspects of art history to his students and the world.

“I saw the arrival of the Web as a great opportunity for art history since it merged both text and images,” says Witcombe. The Web site “Art History Resources on the Web” he launched in 1995 and still maintains is an excellent resource for anyone interested in art history, and has been the first resource listed in the “art history” Google search for ten years. The site receives around 20,000 page views each day.

Witcombe has taken merging text and images one step further with his iTunes podcasts, also accessible through his Web site. The series “Art History in Just a Minute,” starring Witcombe as narrator, offers entertaining, informative clips about various works of art. With well over 100,000 viewers since it was launched, his podcasts have been in the top twenty-five highest rated in the visual arts on iTunes for nearly two years.

It’s not surprising that Witcombe’s internet popularity and exceptional scholarship led to him being recruited by cruise lines as a speaker for their guests.
After an interview process, Witcombe began taking trips all over the world, giving lectures on the ships and stopping off at ports to do research along the way. “I’ve been able to see things I thought I would never see, such as the pyramids in Egypt and the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg,” Witcombe says. This summer he will be lecturing on two cruises in Europe and one in Tahiti.

In addition to lecturing on cruise ships, while he is in London this summer between cruises Witcombe’s comments on Leonardo da Vinci will be filmed for a documentary on the artist to be aired this fall on the History Channel.

His current venture is a series of books entitled Eye and Art. According to Witcombe, the series will examine issues of vision and perception in the history of European visual culture. In the first book Eye and Art in Ancient Greece he analyzes how ancient Greeks saw and interpreted the visual culture in which they were immersed. He combines various disciplines including philosophy, science, and history to explore his topic. Second in the series will be Eye and Art in Ancient Rome and Byzantium. For more information about Witcombe, his accomplishments, lectures, articles, and books visit his Web site, witcombe.sbc.edu.

Kimberley McGraw Euston ’92 wins “Working Mother of the Year”

Alumnae Association Board Member Kimberley McGraw Euston ’92 was recently designated as a “Working Mother of the Year” by Working Mother Magazine. Euston has twins, Alex and Christopher (8) and Katherine (5) and is currently the director and client relationship executive for PricewaterhouseCoopers—one of the world’s largest professional services firms. According to Working Mother, Euston has mastered juggling various careers while managing a growing family, and in fact, she seems to enjoy the challenge. On top of her home and work life, Euston also volunteers for Sweet Briar as Boxwood Circle Giving Chair.
Some might say Sweet Briar College, with its pink-and-green color scheme and Vixen mascot, is sugary enough, but Micaela Weiss ’09 is trying to make the all-woman’s college and the world a little sweeter still.

Soon, the 22-year-old business management major from Portsmouth, Virginia, will begin marketing Free and Sweet, an all-natural sweetener she developed that’s derived from the stevia plant, a shrub that grows in South America.

The product will be packaged in pink and green with a daisy flower logo—an homage to Daisy Williams, daughter of the College’s founder.

It all started several years ago when Weiss was just trying to be a good big sister. On Weiss’ sixteenth birthday in October 2003, she and her family were out to dinner when her younger sister, Natasha, suddenly fell ill. Thinking it was a migraine, they took Natasha home. They couldn’t have been more wrong.

“For the next six months, she would fight for her life and go undiagnosed repeatedly,” Weiss recalled. “Halloween night, we thought for sure we were going to lose her. The doctors had prepared us that she probably was not going to live. She could not walk [or] eat, and could barely speak. She was on so many medications she was hallucinating.

“That night my father, who is a physician, had flown to New Orleans for an important conference. My mom and I sat Natasha up to watch Charlie Brown’s ‘It’s the Great Pumpkin,’ as was tradition, when my sister turned purple and swelled twice her body size.”
“I started doing some research and came across stevia, an all-natural [sweetener] with no calories, no carbohydrates and no fat.”

Throughout the night, Weiss and her mother kept vigil, moving Natasha to and from the garage, hoping the colder temperature would reduce the swelling and slow her heart rate. Believing his daughter was dying, her father telephoned, saying, “Be strong. She is going to a better place.”

But Natasha didn’t die that night or any night following. After massive amounts of intravenous antibiotics, many nights in the hospital and lots of prayer, Natasha, who Weiss calls her “best friend” and “yin to my yang,” survived. She is now a sophomore at Sweet Briar studying engineering.

However, the disease, which Weiss and her family suspects was the deadly dengue fever carried by mosquitoes brought in with a recent hurricane, left Natasha with rheumatoid arthritis and new food allergies, including one to artificial sweeteners.

“Talk about tough,” Weiss said. “You almost die your freshmen year [of high school] and now you cannot eat anything fake as far as sugar. Moreover, you cannot exercise because you are constantly in pain and now have rheumatoid arthritis.

“I started doing some research and came across stevia, an all-natural [sweetener] with no calories, no carbohydrates and no fat. It was a complete shot in the dark but I ordered some in from China for her to try. It was a success. She had no problems with it whatsoever.”

Over the next two years, Weiss experimented and added natural fibers to the powdered stevia to make it fit into a one-gram sweetener packet. Otherwise, she said, “It is just so sweet that either a sugar packet would have only a tiny amount of stevia or, at one gram of stevia [per package], a person would have to save the packet for future use.”

She also tested it on friends and other family members, with rave reviews. “Plenty of my own friends have dietary problems and they had no adverse effects, and all the research shows diabetics can use it,” Weiss said.

During her junior year at Sweet Briar, she decided to produce and market the product herself. Weiss, who said she’s “in charge of everything from Web site to ordering to insurance and sales,” is in the process of getting a patent. She has formed a limited liability company, Free and Sweet will soon be a registered trademark, and she’s hoping the product will be certified both organic and kosher in the next six months.

She also worked on the Free and Sweet business plan this year for senior seminar. It was a timely project, according to associate professor Tom Scott, who taught the class. “As the business department begins to move toward its vision of creating entrepreneurial women, Micaela’s budding business provided an excellent opportunity to jump start this process,” he said.

For the first batch of 100,000 packets, Weiss mixed the Free and Sweet at her dad’s Virginia Beach doctor’s office and then shipped it in bulk to a manufacturing company in Washington State for packaging. The manufacturer, First Priority, is packaging the Free and Sweet and will mail it back to Weiss for distribution.

Her plan is to eventually have everything, from mixing the raw products to shipping, done in Washington State. Although the immediate plan is to market one-gram packets in fifty-count boxes, her three-year plan includes offering the product in one-pound bags for cooking and baking.

Weiss recently launched a Web site and began accepting pre-orders for shipment in mid-February. She plans to market the product to hair salons and spas where coffee is served, and health food stores and other places that serve people with special dietary needs. Sweet Briar College, with its catering and dining services, also is on her target list.

“The company is just getting started officially and although it has been a challenge, it has become a great learning lesson,” she said. “The reason I bring all of this up is that Coca-Cola and Pepsi have synthesized stevia and have created a new product. They are beginning to produce it in their soft drinks, as well as in separate individual packages.”

Another stevia product, Truvia, also recently started advertising on television, but Weiss isn’t worried about the competition. “There is, of course, room in the market for more than one company and I just want people to know they have options,” she said.

“Stevia could change the way Americans eat, because now they have a healthy and safe alternative to artificial sweeteners. Free and Sweet is based on family, and although we are the little guys we have big hearts.”
As we all know, our graduates will encounter an economy in the throes of a recession as they graduate. My staff and I are keenly aware of this exigency, and we are regularly reviewing the research and current reporting on how the economy is playing out vis-à-vis employers and their hiring decisions.

Current news media and report sources portray a gloomy job market scenario. In order to mitigate the impact of this reality, we continue to rely on and emphasize our tried and true mixture of collaborative programming, strong array of resources, and intensive, individualized, and highly responsive student and alumnae service. As usual, these options were offered to help students realize their career goals and dreams. The Sweet Briar Career Services team is continuing the hard work that has landed them in the top ten of the Princeton Review’s Best Career/Job Placement Services rankings the past couple of years. These events, programs, services, and resources can be viewed at www.cci.sbc.edu/csc.

All of our students, seniors in particular, have been provided with opportunities to connect with employers and alumnae. A new career fair, Career Premier, was recently added to the lineup of our usual Challenge Job and Internship Fair, Government/International Careers Event, Natural Sciences/Environment Careers Event, the Tri-College Education Career Fair, Commerce Careers Event, the College 2 Career Fair in Richmond, and other collaborative events with the Development Office, Alumnae Office, our Co-Curricular Life colleagues, and other Virginia colleges and universities. My staff and I also strongly emphasize the importance of working closely with Career Services and recommend that students avail themselves of all the individuals, programs, and resources around them.

This past year the Career Services Center added a new E-Recruiting Experience database that provides students with hundreds of internship and full-time employment opportunities to an already strong bank of job and internship locating resources developed to compliment our programs. I conduct regular workshops on job searching in a tough economy advertised around campus with the slogan: “the economy is tough but so are you.” I encourage students to use action to cure fear. Along with these workshops, we have added a “job search strategies for tough economic times” link on our Web site. Also, the staff and I participated in a national audio conference devoted to sharing with Career Services practitioners’ advice and strategies for working with students’ career development during a recession. Couple this with regular emails devoted to advice on navigating tough times and a new office goal for next academic year to examine all that we do in Career Services in light of economic times I feel that our students are being well served.

At last glance, the majority of the seniors have visited the Career Services Center at least once. Many of them make it a regular part of their semester routine. The class of 2009 is motivated and positive. The students that put in the effort will find that hard work, persistence, and taking advantage of the substantive resources around them will pay off. As of March 2009, the Career Services Center’s usage numbers are in line with the “well above average” numbers posted in the 2007-2008 annual report. As far as predicting senior outcomes at this point, I feel that like previous classes, the Class of 2009 will outperform its peers.

I would like to thank the many alumnae who have participated in our career events, and worked with or assisted our students in the past with internships, full-time employment, or shared good advice. I would also like to thank the Alumnae Office and their staff who partner with us on many fronts. We are able to do our jobs better because of Louise and her crew.

All alumnae are welcome to peruse our Web site, come to our events and programs, and email or call Career Services for one-on-one advice and assistance. It is your Center as well. Kristin Ewing, Carolyn Brazill, and myself work with alumnae almost every day. We help alumnae with their résumés, cover letters, graduate/ professional school applications, job search strategies, and more. Our assistance coupled with the strong alumnae network offers you a powerful package of resources to help weather the economic storm, or work on your personal career development. You can access the online alumnae directory, Banner Self Service, by going to: https://www2.sbc.edu/alumnae/banner_self_service.html. Happy networking!

Remember that “the economy is tough but so are you!” Feel free to give your Career Services staff a call at 434-381-6151, or email us at careerservices@sbc.edu.
On March 5–8, Sweet Briar hosted its first annual creative writing conference for undergraduate students. Though intense, residential writing retreats and conferences exist for high school students, graduate students, and independent writers, very few, if any, exist for college students. John Casteen, visiting assistant professor of creative writing at Sweet Briar, founded and organized the conference. In his closing remarks, Casteen explained, “All over the state, and probably all over the country, there are talented students and committed teachers doing very similar kinds of work. All of you—all of us—are sustaining literature, carrying the tradition of those who love and aspire to the power of the written word. It’s like an archipelago, with people on all the different islands all trying to reinvent the wheel. Better to gather our strengths in one place, both to teach and to celebrate.”

Sixty top undergraduate creative writers nominated by their own faculty from Sweet Briar, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Virginia Commonwealth University, Hampden-Sydney College, Washington and Lee University, Liberty University, Lynchburg College, and Randolph College participated in the conference. The conference gave students a brief, MFA-type experience in which they could surround themselves with other people also working to improve their fiction, non-fiction, or poetry writing. Jess Quinlan, a fourth year student at Lynchburg College said, “Going to a small school myself, it is so nice to see perspectives outside of what you normally get from your own faculty and fellow peers.” Visiting students and faculty stayed at the Elston Inn and ate in Prothro Dining Hall. Most of the scheduled events took place in the Conference Center, although the warm, early spring days also pulled a couple of workshops outside.

The schedule allotted time for writing and reflection, between structured events. At 10:30 each morning “craft talks” were given by both Sweet Briar and visiting faculty. Topics ranged from “The Problem of Happiness,” a discussion of writing about joy led by SBC’s Carrie Brown, to “From Religious to Ecstatic Poetry” by U.Va’s Joe Chapman. After lunch, students broke into . . . I felt that all the students in my workshop responded well to this, were open to receiving criticism and encouragement from a relative stranger, and to sharing ideas with each other—to help each other.”
Performs at Sweet Briar

On April 22, filmmaker, actor, and writer John Waters made his second visit to Sweet Briar’s campus. The first time he stepped foot inside the Pink Bubble was in 1991 to speak on his celebrity experience. This time, he delivered his one-man show, This Filthy World, Filthier and Trashier to the campus community.

Waters is the creative mind behind such movies as the 1972 cult classic Pink Flamingos and the more mainstream, Hairspray. His quirky characters and penchant for scenes that test the strongest of gag reflexes have earned him the nicknames “Pope of Trash” and “Prince of Puke.” Needless to say, these nicknames have not hindered his popularity as tickets were sold out for the Sweet Briar event.

Waters has a special connection to Sweet Briar with several alumnae in his family, including his mother, two sisters, and cousin.

In addition to serving as an incredible learning opportunity for emerging writers, the conference has and will continue to put Sweet Briar at the forefront of academic innovation. The conference was free for Sweet Briar students and visiting students paid only $100 towards their instruction, lodging, and food. The conference, made possible by Sweet Briar’s attainment of a feasibility grant from the Jessie Ball DuPont Foundation, has given visiting students and faculty a taste of Sweet Briar’s vibrant program and Sweet Briar students the chance to broaden and strengthen their own writing community. The conference, though, did not only teach, it showed that Sweet Briar has a lot of offer not only its own students, but to the greater writing and education circles.

Katherine Beach ’09, frequent writer for the Alumnae Magazine, graduated this May with an honors degree in English and creative writing, a business minor, and an equine studies certificate. She thought that the creative writing conference was “one of the best things I’ve done during my time at Sweet Briar, and I’m so thankful I was able to be a part of it.”

Kudralevt attended the conference from Johns Hopkins University to instruct one of the fiction workshops. She is pictured here with one of the attendees, Joey Pickert, from the University of Virginia.
20 Pink Bikes.
Sweet Briar now owns twenty bubble-gum pink bikes, available for anyone to sign out at Daisy’s Café and ride around campus. The bikes are part of the effort to make our campus as eco-friendly as possible, in keeping with the Presidents Climate Commitment. President Muhlenfeld signed onto this commitment as one of almost 600 college presidents who are resolved to make college campuses climate neutral. On your next visit, you’ll see pink bikes studding the campus, a visible sign of our commitment to physical and environmental health. Helmets are required.

Daisy’s Café.
Sweet Briar’s Bookshop Café has been given a makeover. Reimagined and renovated over the winter break, it is now called Daisy’s Café—a quaint little shop offering Boarshead deli sandwiches, better quality espresso drinks, a new coffee brew, and other delicious goodies.

Our Own Coffee.
In partnership with the Rosetta Coffee Company of Lynchburg, Virginia, Sweet Briar now serves a special coffee roast found only on our campus at Daisy’s Café. The Sweet Briar Roast comes from the famous Blue Mountains of India where it is grown on a plantation owned by a woman.
The decaf blend is an Arabica, which comes to Rosetta through a Peruvian company that, according to Rosetta, supports women's issues in their local community.

**Fitness and Athletics Center.**

The Fitness and Athletics Center is scheduled to open in the fall of 2009. The approximately 53,000-square-foot, $10.5 million building includes a racquetball and squash court, an elevated running track and a state-of-the-art floor that provides multi-use space for regulation sports as well as college functions, concerts, and events. In addition to meeting the needs of the athletics department and serving as a wellness center for the entire Sweet Briar community, the facility also will be a place to gather to study, dine in the bistro, watch TV, or catch a film in the brand-new movie theater. Construction of the building incorporates green features including a geothermal heating and cooling system. The metal Energy Star-rated roof will be able to accommodate photovoltaic solar electric panels.

**Green Village.**

Construction on the first new student housing on campus in more than fifty years should be complete in time for students to take up residence in August 2009. The approximately $3.5 million complex will house sixty students in five three-unit buildings. Each unit will accommodate four students with full amenities indoors as well as outdoor living spaces. Two apartment units will be designated for handicapped residents. Some of the “green” features— which give the Village its name— include Structural Insulated Panels (SIP’s) that are 40- to 50-percent more efficient than stick-built buildings, Energy Star appliances, low-flow showers and toilets, maximum insulation and high R-value windows. The metal Energy Star-rated roofs will be able to accommodate photovoltaic solar electric panels.
Bookshelf

Alumnae


Recent scientific research supports the important role movement plays in developing the brain. This highly anticipated text reviews this research and describes how to effectively present holistic dance lessons (using the 5-part lesson plan) to engage learners “to think as well as to move.” This book explores innovative teaching methods for infants through seniors. It includes the “Brain Dance,” conceptual explorations and improvisations, movement combinations and folk dances, dance making and dance talking, reflection and assessment. A must for all interested in brain-compatible teaching—from the novice to the experienced dance educator. For teachers of all ages, abilities, dance styles, and techniques.


This is the second in a series of publications highlighting correspondence and documents of those who shaped Miami University and made contributions to American history and culture. The book includes letters written by Miami alumnus and United States President Benjamin Harrison, Booker T. Washington, and Woodrow Wilson, as well as excerpts from reports and meeting minutes of Miami’s board of trustees. Several items document the construction of Miami’s Alumni Library (a Carnegie library) from 1899 to 1910.

Introduction to the Law for Paralegals, Deborah Benton ’79, Career Education 2006.

Law for Paralegals is an innovative and engaging textbook written for the student who is just starting a paralegal degree program. It provides simple and concise explanations of legal concepts and topics, encouraging students to develop critical thinking skills by applying the legal principles to numerous problems and exercises contained in each chapter. Stimulate your discussions with fun, motivating, and current exercises. Integrated real-world applications in each chapter teach students the practical skills needed for a thriving career in the field. A common vocabulary among all McGraw-Hill titles ensures consistency in learning. With a thorough set of ancillaries and dedicated publisher support, these texts will facilitate active learning in the classroom and give students the skills sets desired by employers.

—Courtesy of McGraw-Hill

Encyclopedia of Women in the Renaissance, Diana Robin ’57, Anne R. Larsen, and Carole Levin, editors. ©2007. All rights reserved. Reproduced with permission of ABC-CLIO INC., Santa Barbara, CA.

Thirty years ago, the historian Joan Kelly asked the question “Did Women Have a Renaissance?” — and answered herself with a resounding “no.” That provocative thesis sparked a surge of research interest into the achievements of women in an era long assumed to be an age of “great men” only. A product of current studies on early modern women, Encyclopedia of Women in the Renaissance: Italy, France, and England offers over 135 revealing biographies of women artists, leaders, scientists, doctors, writers, religious and philosophical thinkers, and more.

Encyclopedia of Women in the Renaissance provides vivid portraits of famous women such as Catherine of Siena, Elizabeth I, and Christine de Pisan, and those less well known like Elena Lucrezia Cornaro, the first woman in history to receive a doctorate, and Louise Boursier, author of medical textbooks and midwife to Marie de Médicis. Based on the latest research and enhanced with thematic essays on witchcraft, women writers and salons, masculinity, women and power, and more, this groundbreaking work casts our understanding of women’s lives and roles in Renaissance history and culture in a provocative new light.
mount airy, liz farmer jarvis ’76, arcadia publishers 2008.

After authoring two photographic history books on chestnut hill, chestnut hill in 2002 with coauthor thomas keels and chestnut hill revisited in 2004, liz jarvis has assembled 223 vintage photographs of m.t. a.iry for publication as part of the arcadia publishing series of local history books. this book contains many never before published images from family albums and historical archives, showing the area as it once was, and how it grew to become one of the few neighborhoods in america celebrated for its racial integration.

a model american, elsie burch donald ’60, black swan 2008. a literary novel set in cambodia just prior to the triumph of the khmer rouge. it is a powerful portrayal of a clash of values.

it is 1969, and businessman bill bolton decides to surprise his wife with a birthday trip to the ancient temples of angkor wat in cambodia. they will be the first american tourists there since jackie kennedy. getting a visa to a country that borders war-torn vietnam requires milking some very high-level connections in washington. accompanied by a female english guide, a draft-dodging young pilot and an elderly french passenger, their daytrip turns to disaster when their small plane crashes and they are stranded like castaways in the jungle.

a model american is a story in which an american abroad tries to “improve” a primitive culture through the introduction of capitalist ideas. it is a multi-dimensional parable of the clash between east and west, and an american foreign policy.— from the hardcover edition

from idea to funded project, grant proposals for the digital age, 5th edition, julia m. jacobsen ’45 and jan kay kress, prae ger paperback 2007.

ideas are products of individual human minds. some of the ideas that emerge in educational, cultural, health-related, community, service, and faith-based organizations are potentially as important to the institutions as their endowments. these ideas are the concern of this guidebook: how to encourage their articulation, how to muster the cooperation necessary to turn them into formal blueprints, and how to secure whatever support is needed to see them materialize as projects serving the interests of the originators and their institutions. designed for grant seekers in the digital age, this book helps readers make sense of the various printed and web-based resources that are available to improve the quality of proposals and find successful funding. the chapters cover origins and early development of an idea, drawing up a proposal, finding funding sources, submitting a proposal, evaluation of a project, grant administration, and basic resources.


pathways is this year’s recipient of the heritage book award of the maryland historical trust. the handsome 336-page volume, produced by ann compton and edited by kathryn harris ’70, offers fresh perspectives on a county that is relatively unknown, despite its proximity to the nation’s capital and its founding twenty-four years after the first landing of english settlers on maryland soil. more than 370 illustrations accompany the text written by three historians and five additional contributors. the book, ambitious in scope, ranges from the paleo-indian period to the plantation society that controlled the county well into the 20th century, and concludes with the unexpectedly swift demise of tobacco, a crop that defined charles county until the 21st century.


the other history of venice by ipp’y award-winning venice historian kim cool this is the fifth in her series of florida ghost stories and her second look at the ghosts of the venice area. some of the stories are continuations and/or updates of stories from ghost stories of venice, although most are new ghosts who have been dying to be heard since cool’s first book of florida-based ghost stories appeared in print.

find a great guy, now and forever, kristin kuhns alexandre ’68, runnymede press 2008. two failed marriages sparked alexandre to do some hands-on field research regarding the “perfect gentleman” and how to avoid men who might have money but are cads underneath. she’s learned the difference, found the love of her life and set down all the essential lessons to help you do the same.

singles who are looking for great guys and married women who want to nurture classy traits in their husbands will find this bible an essential part of their quest. all women will enjoy the insider tips in this candid and witty self-help book, which offered every ordinary girl the chance for true love.

josephine crawford, an artist’s vision, louise c. hoffman ’61, the historic new orleans collection 2009.

in josephine crawford: an artist’s vision, author louise c. hoffman skillfully recreates the parisian and new orleans art worlds in the first half of the 20th century. featuring more than 70 paintings and drawings by the prolific artist and works by andre lhote, josephine crawford: an artist’s vision marks the third entry in the louisiana artist biography series established by the historic new orleans collection in 2003 and funded by the collection’s laussat society.

murqqa: imperial mughal albums from the chester beatty library, dublin, authored dr. elaine wright; curator of the islamic collections, the chester

In a world progressing with dizzying acceleration from the Machine Age to the Information Age, the slow, measured, even plodding approach of the traditional university can place administrator, faculty member, and student alike at a potentially fatal disadvantage.

To move into this brave new world, the academic animal needs additional tools—or weapons. What's ahead? Forewarned, of course, is forearmed. A medd with knowledge, the future stands not as another barrier, but an unparalleled opportunity.

Co-published with the American Council on Education (ACE) and Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Beyond 2020: Envisioning the Future of Universities in America is that tool. Experts in a host of fields that directly and irrevocably impact academia will project into the future and paint a picture—as clearly as possible—of the future university. Together, nearly two dozen scholars including James Duderstadt and Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, provide the most detailed roadmap yet to the perils and promise of the Information Age—as it directly applies to academia—20 years hence.

This is a collection of refreshingly frank opinions and observations from forward-thinking experts on the front lines with the best views on how to prepare the healthiest possible institution of tomorrow. It is something akin to an academic prophesy.

Frankly, My Dear: Gone with the Wind Revisited, Molly Haskell ’61, Yale University Press 2009.

The film Gone with the Wind premiered in Atlanta in December 1939, and this year's 70th anniversary is sparking a raft of revivals. It's a perfect moment for Molly Haskell's Frankly, My Dear: Gone with the Wind Revisited—a reappraisal of Margaret Mitchell’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and David O. Selznick’s Depression-era blockbuster. Molly Haskell, originally from Richmond, Virginia, is a writer and film critic in New York City. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Esquire, Vogue, and Town & Country. She has lectured widely on women in film and is author of the classic From Reverence to Rape: The Treatment of Women in the Movies. Frankly, My Dear, just published on February 24, is receiving rave reviews.


Graphic designer, columnist, and publisher Nancy Blackwell Marion ’74 is at her creative best when given the opportunity to apply her experience toward book-length projects. In 2002, she took on the challenge of wrangling the scattered lectures of the late T. Gibson Hobbs, Jr. into a delightfully readable and useful compilation of his research on Virginia’s once-bustling canal system.

For adventurous alumnae The Canal on the James: An Illustrated Guide to the James River and Kanawha Canal provides the perfect excuse to venture out and explore “the hidden relics of Virginia’s greatest engineering adventure.” The book is filled with annotated topographical maps with inset photos illustrating the canal works to guide the reader to the sites. For those more inclined to wade into a good read, The Canal on the James offers a satisfying peek into the perpetual rivalries, natural disasters, and financial booms and busts that threatened the canal’s success at every turn.

As an engineer himself, Gibson Hobbs (1917-2005) had special insight into the difficulties faced by the men on the ground, including the slaves and immigrants recruited to complete sections of the project. And, as a native of Lynchburg, Virginia, he was exquisitely tuned into the local hostilities and local romances sparked by the “Yankee engineers” who invaded people’s property and plowed through their best lowlands.

Hobbs did not live to see his work in finished form, so this guidebook serves as a memorial to “a true friend of the James River.”

Hollister Ranch, Its History, Preservation and People, Nancy Ward ’46, Hollister Ranch Conservancy 2004. Rare, limited first edition printing (limited distribution). The complete history of the Hollister Ranch with color plates showing paintings of the Ranch and maps and lots of older photos of people, land, and buildings over the years. Various chapters written by Ranch owners and employees. Great stories of the formation of the Ranch and land deals that have shaped the development and character studies of the people who have owned and used the Ranch. Preface by David Hill, introduction by Nancy Ward, with epilogue by Andy Mills. A true collector’s item to be cherished and passed on the generations.

—www.hollisterranch.com

Between Charleston and Beaufort, in the South Carolina Lowcountry, lies Colleton County, formerly St. Bartholomew’s Parish. Rich in history and blessed with landscapes of inspiring beauty, the plantations of St. Bartholomew’s Parish have for centuries maintained a lifestyle unique to the Lowcountry. Possibly numbering more than any other single county in South Carolina, these plantations form the heart of the famous ACE basin, named for the A shepoo, Combahee, and Edisto Rivers. The legacy of the rice planting era, combined with a tradition of stewardship, has led to the preservation, conservation, and restoration of these properties. The plantations date to the eighteenth century, with an array of houses ranging from the nineteenth to the 21st century, and representing an exciting diversity of styles.


Page Coulter’s splendid new collection, Snow Over the Ossipees, is a just-about total immersion in Nature. We move with her carefully shaped poems through the seasons, surrounded everywhere by vivid and passionate descriptions of wildlife and wilderness: falling oak leaves, turtles, snow, wind, water, a Zen rowboat... There’s a brilliant homage to Wallace Stevens (“Persephone’s Harp”), the carpe diem of “This is the day” which is “happening in a pistachio nut, on a snow-covered rock, and to a boy in Afghanistan.” In “Chopin Etudes” music mixes with trees and sparrowos, “Earth breathes morning pink as suet” in the wonderfully visualized felt and titled “Red Teapot on a Black Stove.” And Coulter’s “Ode to Max, Golden Dog from Seattle” is the best variation on Christopher Smart’s “Jubilate A gno” (“For I Will Consider My Cat Jeffreys”) I’ve ever read. Snow Over the Ossipees is a truly full celebration of New Hampshire as it stands for all of Earth’s teeming life.

—Dick Allen, Author of Ode to the Cold War: Poems New and Selected

Forget the Poe-biz and read this book. The lyric beauty alone will take your breath away. Imagine the imagistic clarity of Jane Kenyon and the sensuous philosophizing of Wallace Stevens and you have Page Coulter—just as heartbreaking as the former—just as wry and intelligent as the latter. Working for a lifetime at her craft, Coulter gives us poems that matter and mountains that think. —Ralph Savarese, Author and Poet


With over three million copies in print, CultureShock! is a bestselling series of culture and etiquette guides covering countless destinations around the world. For anyone at risk of culture shock, whether a tourist, business traveler, or long-term resident, these handy guides provide a sympathetic and fun-filled crash course on the do’s and don’ts in foreign cultures. Packed with useful details, CultureShock! France enlightens and informs across topics such as language, food and entertaining, social customs, festivals, relationships, and tips for business. The book is available worldwide.


A AltaMira Press has published The Green Museum, a primer on environmental practice, written by Sarah S. Brophy and Elizabeth Wylie. Environmentally friendly practices are crucial to the mission of our museums, and as learning institutions of all types, museums are uniquely suited to modeling green behavior. In The Green Museum, authors Sarah Brophy and Elizabeth Wylie, acclaimed across the country for bringing green to the museum, offer a complete handbook to guide museum staff in incorporating green design into new construction and day-to-day operations. Sustainable practices can save on operating costs and even make museums attractive to new fundraising sources, as Brophy and Wylie show in case studies of museums that have already taken steps to become green. In this easy-to-read book, they demystify the process of going green, including detailed explanations of, for example, the basics of recycling, options for environmentally friendly exhibit design, and how to conduct energy audits. The Green Museum is full of practical information for museums of any size and a vital resource for every museum that wants to remain relevant in an increasingly green world.


Colonial Williamsburg’s renowned gardens have always played a major role in the life of the town, and their beauty and bounty inspired this book. The author harvests a wealth of clearly written and illustrated entertaining and decorating how-tos and recipes from those famous gardens. With its myriad of ideas, this book deserves a special place on the bookshelf of any host, hostess, or gardener.
Faculty


This second edition of “The Supremes” introduces readers to the Supreme Court’s newest members, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito, with vivid biographical sketches and riveting accounts of how they successfully navigated the politics inherent in judicial appointments. Compelling portraits of all nine justices are completely updated with clear explanations of their votes and opinions in landmark cases involving free speech, religion, capital punishment, gun control, affirmative action, privacy, abortion, and terrorism. Never has the Supreme Court’s story been so lively or so relevant!

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Child laborers in South Asia, child soldiers in Sierra Leone and Uganda, Chinese youth playing computer games to earn virtual gold, youth involved in sex trafficking in the former Soviet republics and Thailand: these are just some of the young people featured in the news of late. The idea that young people are more malleable and the truism that “youth are the future” or “children are our hope for the future” give news stories and scholarly accounts added meaning. To address how and why youth and children have come to seem so important to globalization, the contributors to this book look at the both the spatial relations and the temporal dimensions of globalization in places as far apart as Oakland, California, and Tamatave, Madagascar, in situations as disparate as the idealization of childhood innocence and the brutal lives of street children. Discourses of, and practices by, youth and children, from the design of toys to political mobilization, are critical sites through which people everywhere conceive of, produce, contest, and naturalize the new futures.

Free Union, visiting assistant professor of English John Casteen, University of Georgia Press 2009.

“John Casteen is a craftsman in his life and in his poems. Just as any good carpenter understands the wood upon his lathe, down to its xylem and its phloem, its roots, its weathered bark and leaves, Casteen knows language at its most cellular level; and he makes poems that are durable and elegant, solid not just for their construction but for the sense of stewardship that he brings to the task of writing. In the deepest sense, these poems are true: he does not shy away from the ethical problems of his age, nor does he reduce their complexities. What does it mean to sharpen tools, to hew and saw, to hunt, to take from the bountiful world? ‘I owe a debt I don’t know how to repay.’ But these poems are a most generous repayment, a fine new forest upon the land, one that will endure.” —D. A. Powell, author of Cocktails & Cocktails

In The Differentiated School (ASCD 2008), authors Carol Ann Tomlinson, Sweet Briar Associate Professor of Education Kay Brimijoin, and Lane Narvaez have combined years of expertise and research on differentiation to show how an elementary school in Missouri and a high school in Vermont have undergone second order change with dramatic and positive results for students and teachers. The Differentiated School provides specific examples of how knowledge, understanding, and skills in effective differentiation develop over time. The authors offer suggestions for professional development, coaching, and leadership that are intended to nurture and sustain continued growth and improvement as schools seek to appropriately challenge and engage all learners.

Sweet Briar has just received official notification from the Department of Veterans Affairs (V A) that we have been accepted as a partner in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is a provision of the Post-9/11 GI Bill signed into law in 2008 that allows colleges to enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. Sweet Briar’s agreement effectively allows a qualifying veteran or their dependent to live on campus and attend Sweet Briar full time at no cost to the beneficiary. Final language outlining College participation was announced April 8. Sweet Briar’s agreement was submitted April 21, and we received our signed acceptance May 1.

Our interest in participating with the Department of Veterans Affairs in this program was a “no-brainer.” This is a win-win for all involved—the qualifying veteran or her/his dependent receives a free Sweet Briar education while the College enjoys the opportunity to enroll students while sharing the cost of that education with VA. We’re thrilled to be able to show our support for military professionals in this way. Participating colleges will be listed on the VA’s Web site on June 1, 2009. The Yellow Ribbon Program officially takes effect August 1, 2009.

For more information about whether you might qualify for this benefit, please visit www.gibill.va.gov. For information on this program at Sweet Briar College, please contact the Admissions Office.

The Differentiated School

Everything’s Coming Up Roses!

For more information about whether you might qualify for this benefit, please visit www.gibill.va.gov. For information on this program at Sweet Briar College, please contact the Admissions Office.
Caroline Byrd ’08 married Blake Dozier • November 1, 2008 • Gloucester, Virginia
Sweet Briar bridesmaids included: Natalie Batman Barton ‘08, Sarah McLemore ‘08, Lindsay Rice ‘08, Ellie Donahue ‘08, Ginny Moncure ‘08, Kate Skafidas ‘09, Sarah Ross Stewart ‘08, and Virginia Edahl ‘10.

Charis Lease-Trevathan ’06 married Chris Chase • June 21, 2008
2006 Classmates Alex Blair, Nicole Bergeron, Joelle Andrews, Jessica Mercier, and Jenny Jones Collins attended the wedding.

Brook Tucker ’02 married James “Trey” Buck June 28, 2008 • Raleigh, North Carolina
Pictured L-R: Jenaire Terry ’01, Denise Gentry ’02, Victoria Tucker, Brook Tucker Buck ’02, Lori Smith Nilan ’02, Maria Thacker ’02.

Ginger Tripp ’05 married Judson McAdams • June 28, 2008
Front Row: Judson McAdams (HSC ’04) and Ginger Tripp McAdams ’05
Middle Row, L-R: Brooke Sagalowsky ’05, Ashley Forehand ’05, Maria Kitchin ’04, Shelly Taylor (former SBC athletic trainer), Grace Turner ’01, Maribeth Turner ’10, and Caroline Camp ’08
Back Row, L-R: Sloan Howell ’07, Ellie Donahue ’08, Blair Sutton ’09, Tory Hankins ’06, Tamra Scott ’06, and Hilary Cooper Cook ’05.

Beth Glaser Marchower ’67 married Dr. Edward R. Isaacs • November 8, 2008

Nancy White ’79 married John T. Feldmose • May 10, 2009 • At their home in Larchmont, New York.

Grace Farnsworth ’04 married Jason Laughhead • November 15, 2008
Sweet Briar Chapel
Sweet Briar attendants included maid of honor Beth Farnsworth ’05 and bridesmaids Sheena Belcher Hubbard ’05 and Mary Davis Blood ’04.

© melissa Hamill Photography
© Eric Kelly Photography
© Sara Ernst
© Wendell Powell Studios
Lindsey Parr ’04 married Steve Knick
May 3, 2008 • Barboursville, Virginia

Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Frederick Lewis (Lynn Rogerson ’76) and Olivia • March 28, 2009
The Princeton Chapel, Princeton University

Hilary Pool ’03 married Erik Strickland
September 27, 2008 • The Belmont, Elkridge, Maryland

Sarah Lindsey ’04 married Stephen Quertermous
November 2007 • Bali, Indonesia

Judy Williams ’79 married Dean S. Hawthorne
July 2008 • Biddeford Pool, Maine
Classmate Lisa Hagan Kliefoth (right) attended the wedding.

Nicole Crowder ’03 married Mike Lowry
June 21, 2008 • Powhatan, VA
SBC alumnae in the bridal party were Kelly Hughes Kaufman ’03, Sarah Canovac Poirier ’03, Jade Boordman ’03, and Michelle Mashier ’05. SBC alumnae in attendance were Olevia Neary Corothers ’03 and Sheena Belcher Hubbard ’05; SBC Chemistry professors Rob and Jill Granger also attended.

Maria Thacker ’02 married Matthew Joseph Weiss • May 25, 2008 • Walt Disney World, Florida
Bridesmaids included classmates Kelly Monical, Lori Smith Nilan, Denise McDonald Gentry. Brook Tucker Buck ’02 served as a reader.

Natalie Ann Batman ’08 married James Edmund Barton • October 4, 2008
Sweet Briar College Memorial Chapel
Natalie and James look forward to a very full life together!
The Annual Fund’s Philanthropy Education Program at Sweet Briar, which includes the Senior Class Campaign and SBC Community Philanthropy Week, highlights the way we think about philanthropy and promotes an understanding of its importance as an integral part of a liberal arts education. It educates the community on the power and joy of giving and celebrates the special community that is uniquely Sweet Briar.

The Senior Class Campaign has been in existence for many years serving the purpose of philanthropy education as well as offering programs just for seniors that teach valuable life skills not found in the classroom. The concept of making a special gift in a senior year has morphed into a program that encourages philanthropy beginning in a student’s first year. The Philanthropy Education Program culminates with a week-long celebration that includes students, faculty, and staff. It not only emphasizes the importance of giving back to Sweet Briar, but also the giving of time, talents, and finances to a broad spectrum of organizations or causes with which an individual might feel a connection or a passion.

While the Senior Class Campaign is a year-long program, SBC Community Philanthropy Week occurs at the point in the semester where tuition dollars are exhausted and the College relies on the generous support of individuals like you. This year’s campaign, in conjunction with the Annual Fund’s Step Up! Challenge, was entitled Philanthropy is . . . It was an educational and fun-filled week that truly made a difference for SBC. Here are some highlights to enjoy.

**Philanthropy is . . . CLASSIC!**
On Monday evening, students came to Josey Dining Room to watch a film featuring famous philanthropist Audrey Hepburn. Students enjoyed faux mimosas, crepes, and cookies. What do giving to the Annual Fund and a little blue box have in common? The joy of giving!

**Philanthropy is . . . FUN!**
The Sweet Spirits braved the cold and snow to participate in the Campus Work Day at the preschool. The mural was designed by studio art major Ashley Winters ’11 and features a girl climbing a white picket fence surrounded by sunflowers.

SWEBOP instructors took the lead on the teepee project, assisted by German professor Ron Horwege, SWEBOP director Laura Staman, and grounds superintendent Donna Meeks. The bamboo and grapevines used for the project were harvested from the Sweet Briar campus.
Philanthropy is . . . POWERFUL!

A philanthropy and non-profit career panel was held in Josey Dining Room, co-sponsored by the Student Relations Committee. Alumnae joined by professionals in education and community service included Chasity Clarke Miller ‘04, Teresa Pike Tomlinson ‘87, Melissa Zadell, Bob Dendy Jr., Heidi Hansen McCrory, Kim Shrader ‘09, James Barton, Cathy Hurley-Foose ‘78, and Fran McClung Ferguson ‘80.

Philanthropy is . . . HEALTHY!

Runners and walkers from the Sweet Briar community converged on the Quad for the first Annual Fund Run. The event was co-sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Teams dressed up in costumes and ran or walked a long course—up to Monument Hill and back—or a short course to and from the traffic circle by the train station. Prizes were given for the most money raised, best team uniform, best team name, and fastest course time. The Swim Team won the award for best team name: The Swim “We Walk on Water” Team.

Philanthropy is . . . SEXY!

On Friday, students, faculty, and staff had the opportunity to show off their sexy shoes in a Sexy Shoe Contest. The winner of the contest was senior Kathryn Brock ’09 with her super stilettos.

The week’s events concluded with senior staff serving lunch in Prothro, also wearing their “sexy” shoes. Those on hand to flip burgers and serve food to the masses included Sweet Briar President Betsy Muhlenfeld, Dean Jonathan Green, Dean of Admissions Ken Huus, Dean of Co-Curricular Life Cheryl Steele, and Vice Presidents Paul Davies, Heidi Hansen McCrory, and Linda Shank.

In conjunction with the Annual Fund’s Step Up! Challenge, community members were asked, “What does philanthropy mean to you?”

**Philanthropy is . . .**

“. . . always relevant. There will always be a group that needs help and there's always a way to help.”
— Elizabeth Young ’11

“. . . green love.”
— President Elisabeth S. Muhlenfeld

“. . . walking outside as the sun is setting behind the construction of the new gym. I see how beautiful this campus is and how wonderful my experience has been and will be.”
— Ashley Carpenter ’12

“. . . the knowledge that your donation (whether it be of time, money, or other means) has the power to touch the life of someone down the street or across the world, a current SBC student or a girl who dreams of becoming one.”
— Martha Schley Kemp ’12, winner of the Quote of the Week contest

**Community Campaign Stellar Stats**

- $20,000 was raised by students, faculty, staff, and parents during the SBC Community Philanthropy Campaign.
- 10 departments on campus reached 100 percent participation in the Annual Fund during the Community Campaign.
- 30 percent of staff participated in giving to the Annual Fund.
- 15 percent of faculty participated in giving to the Annual Fund.
- Almost $5,000 was raised by the Class of 2012 (parents and students) representing the most dollars raised by a class outside of the Senior Class Campaign.
In Memoriam

Anne Rowe '57
ED JONES, COURTESY OF THE FREE LANCE–STAR

Anne Martin Wilson Rowe, seventy-four, died peacefully Saturday, Jan. 24, 2009, at her home on Lewis Street in Fredericksburg. She died of lymphoma.

A native and lifelong resident of Fredericksburg, Mrs. Rowe was the daughter of Katherine Stoffregen Wilson and Dr. Fielding Lewis Wilson, a longtime dentist in Fredericksburg. She grew up in the family home on Hawke Street in the very neighborhood she would call home for the rest of her life.

Mrs. Rowe attended public schools in the city and was valedictorian of the class of 1953 at James Monroe High School. Hers was the first class to graduate from the new building on Washington Avenue following the school’s move from its former location in what became Maury Elementary School.

She went on to attend Sweet Briar College and she graduated in 1957 from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia, where she majored in English. She married Josiah P. Rowe III in 1956. The couple made their home on Lewis Street and became the devoted parents of four children.

Mrs. Rowe lived a full, satisfying life centered around family and her beloved hometown. She loved nearly everything about Fredericksburg, and she committed herself early on to personal and public endeavors that would benefit the area and its people. Her gifts of time, talent, hard work and philanthropy will be everlasting. Ever the Southern lady, Mrs. Rowe possessed a gentle demeanor that belied an energetic spirit and great strength of character.

Whether chairing a foundation board, donating blood, or taking soup to a sick neighbor, she gave of herself with grace. As a dedicated volunteer, Mrs. Rowe accomplished much in her seventy-four years. Three awards illustrate the extent of her efforts. In 2003, she was named “Woman of the Year” by the Woman’s Club of Fredericksburg, which annually recognizes extraordinary service to the community with its prestigious award. In 2002, she received the Citizen Salute Award given by the Friends of Mary Washington College-Community Symphony Orchestra in recognition of her significant contributions to the Fredericksburg area. And in 2004, she received the Women of Distinction award from the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia for her lifelong volunteer efforts in the community.

Mrs. Rowe modestly claimed that her long list of accomplishments resulted in part from having stayed in her hometown and having gotten an early start.

Mrs. Rowe served on the board at Sweet Briar for a total of seven years. She was a loyal donor and member of the Keystone society—those alumnae and friends who have given one million dollars or more to the College. She also served on her Reunion Gifts Committee in 2007 and on the Alumnae Board. As a student, Anne was a member of the QVs, a specially selected team that participates in a cherished student club tradition.

Martha Mansfield Clement '48
CHRISTINA RICHARDSON, COURTESY OF ALEXANDRIA TIMES

Martha Mansfield Clement '48 arrived at Sweet Briar College, in the late summer of 1944, beginning a life-long affection for which she was recognized in 2006 with the Outstanding Alumna Award; the same year that her granddaughter Sarah graduated from the College. Clement died on March 1, 2009 at the age of eighty-two surrounded by her children, grandchildren and her priest.

Clement, born in rural Munfordville, Kentucky, was introduced to Sweet Briar by her brother, Paul, who saw her as a diamond in the rough who needed to go to a smaller school. From the day she arrived she blossomed. She graduated in 1948. In 1951 she married Army Lt. Col. Wallace Clement and spent the next twenty-six years traveling around the world and raising five children. After their retirement in 1970 she taught seventh-grade English at Flint Hill and Robinson High School in Fairfax. Drawn back to Sweet Briar, she worked in the development office where she was appointed director in 1986, left in 1989, but returned again for
eight months in 1992. She maintained a constant connection with Sweet Briar and served in many volunteer chair capacities. She admired what Sweet Briar represented and the education it offered to young women, “So anytime I was asked to take on a volunteer job I always said yes and did it willingly,” Clement said in an interview for the College in 1979. Her daughters, Sarah and Ellen, also graduated from Sweet Briar.

Clement is survived by her daughters, Sarah, Ellen, and Anne; sons, Douglas and David, her brother, Preston Mansfield, and grandchildren, Grace Young, Meredith Buck, Stewart Buck, Sarah Mouri, Cameron Mouri, Sara Clement, and David Clement; nieces Carolyn Clarke, Susan Bartlett and nephew, Paul Mansfield, her Vietnamese nieces Carolyn Clarke, Susan Bartlett and grand-nieces, grand-nephews, Sweet Briar classmates and friends.

**Sweet Briar Benefactor Elizabeth Perkins Prothro ’39 Dies**

Sweet Briar alumna and benefactor Elizabeth Perkins Prothro died Saturday, May 23, 2009, at her home in Wichita Falls, Texas, at the age of eighty-nine. The College has lost a beloved friend and community member, while all of higher education has lost a respected philanthropist and devoted advocate.

Elizabeth Perkins Prothro was born September 7, 1919, in Dallas to Lois Craddock Perkins and Joe J. Perkins of Wichita Falls. She attended Wichita Falls public schools, graduating in 1935 from Wichita Falls High School, and attended Sweet Briar and Southern Methodist University, from which she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1939. She married Charles Nelson Prothro of Wichita Falls in 1938.

Elizabeth and Charles Prothro continued a family tradition, initiated by her parents in Dallas in 1913, of championing higher education. Major recipients of their generosity include Sweet Briar, SMU in Dallas, and the University of Texas in Austin.

She also made contributions to Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas; Baylor University in Waco, Texas; Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina; and Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls. She served on the SMU board of trustees, executive board of Perkins School of Theology at SMU, and M SU board of regents.

At Sweet Briar, her family made possible the Charles and Elizabeth Prothro Natatorium, Prothro Hall in the Student Commons and one of the College’s largest endowed scholarship funds, the Prothro Scholarship.

“Elizabeth Prothro has been one of the keystones of Sweet Briar for generations, and in many ways the very embodiment of the Sweet Briar woman,” said President Elisabeth Muhlenfeld. “Her death is a real loss for the College. This weekend would have been her seventieth reunion. To my mind, she was a fabulous woman, gracious and smart and generous, and I am saddened by her death.”

Prothro and her family’s connection to Sweet Briar began in 1935 when she decided to attend the school, becoming the first Prothro woman to do so. Her daughter Kathry Prothro Yeager ’61 and granddaughters Kathry Elizabeth Yeager Edwards ’84, Linda Yeager Beltchev ’85 and Charlotte Holland Prothro Philbin ’95 followed her.

Her family has served the College in numerous ways. Her husband, Charles, served on the board for eighteen years and as chairman from 1972 to 1977. Her daughter, Kathry Yeager, and son Mark Prothro also were board members. Her mother, Lois Perkins, donated the organ in Memorial Chapel in honor of her daughter and granddaughter.

Prothro was an organizer and first chair of the SBC Friends of the Library when it was founded in 1966. She served on the Dallas Campaign Planning Committee in 2003 for Our Campaign For Her World. She also was a charter member of the Keystone Society when it was created in 2002 to recognize donors whose lifetime commitments to SBC have totaled more than $1 million, and she belonged to the Silver Rose Society, having been a College donor for more than twenty-five years.

In 2001, Prothro was one of twenty-two recipients of Sweet Briar’s Centennial Award for making a significant impact on the College during its first 100 years, and she received the Distinguished Alumna Award in 2006.

Prothro also was a noted photographer whose work may be found in private collections, educational institutions, commercial settings and publications. Esteemed for her floral photographs, she served on the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Board during the years the first lady was actively involved.

Prothro made possible the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Photography Gallery at the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas and was instrumental in providing the cornerstone gift and subsequent commitments for Ransom Center and the Prothro Theater at UT.
At SMU, Prothro and her family have contributed to endowed scholarships, fellowships and premier facilities. In addition, the university is home to her 485-volume collection of Bibles and related works spanning eight centuries. The collection grew from several volumes presented to Prothro by her husband in 1963 on their twenty-fifth anniversary.

Today, the collection is housed in the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries, a gift from her husband on their fiftieth anniversary, at Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology at SMU. Books from the collection have been exhibited at Sweet Briar, UT, Emory and Henry College, Southwestern University, and Wichita Falls M.useum and A.rt Center.

Her interest in Bibles spawned a broader interest in books and libraries, leading her to serve as president of Friends of SMU Libraries/Colophon and chairman of SMU Libraries Executive Board. A member of SMU Press, she served as editor of “SMU Reflections” (SMU Press, 1986) and also contributed photographs to the work.

Prothro was named recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award and honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by SMU, Doctor of Letters by Southwestern University, and the Award for Philanthropy by the Council of Independent Colleges. Her most recent honor was the naming of Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall at Perkins School of Theology at SMU in 2007.

Also a lifelong supporter of First United Methodist Church of Wichita Falls, Prothro was the first woman named chairman of the Official Board, in addition to serving on numerous committees. She held several positions in United Methodist Women, and taught Sunday school. Prothro and her husband were instrumental in construction of the Prothro Family Atrium at the church in 1997, among other contributions.

Other philanthropic interests in her city of residence included Wichita Falls Museum and Art Center, of which she was a founding member; and River Bend Nature Center, home to the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Pavilion.

Prothro is survived by three children, Joe Prothro and wife, Dale; Kay Yeager and husband, Frank; Mary Prothro and wife, Dianne, all of Wichita Falls; and daughter-in-law, Caren Prothro of Dallas. Other survivors include grandchildren Kathryn R. Prothro, David Prothro and wife, Leslie; Nelson Prothro and wife, Jaclyn; Mary Perkins Prothro, Elizabeth Yeager, Linda Beltchev and husband, Alex; Vincent Prothro, Nita Clark and husband, Cullum; Holly Philbin and husband, Phillip; and Pat Prothro. Great-grandchildren include Reagan Lunn and wife, Ashley; Erica Green-Prothro, Christopher Prothro, and Katie Prothro; Lara Herreid, Yeager Edwards, Nicholas Beltchev, and Andrew Beltchev; Lillian Clark, A nnabel Clark, and Charlotte Clark; Charles Philbin, Luke Philbin, and M ark Philbin. She also is survived by one great-great-grandchild, Parker Lunn.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 2001, their son, Charles Vincent (C. Vin) Prothro of Dallas in 2000, a younger sister, Dorothy Jo Perkins in 1926; and her mother and father in 1983 and 1960, respectively.

The family wishes to acknowledge Glenda Ponder, Marilyn Campbell, and Arnita Myles for their longtime dedication and care of Prothro, and the care provided by Lucy Davila, CarePartners and Hospice of Wichita Falls.

Honorary pallbearers are Ralph Bullington, Robert Priddy; nephews James J. Prothro and Charles B. Prothro, and all present and past employees of Perkins-Prothro Company.

Karl Tamburr Memorial Scholarship Fund

Karl Tamburr’s friends and former students know of his devotion to the study of English literature in general and to the Virginia Program at Oxford, in particular. He was the Sweet Briar director of this program for many years. Members of the English Department and of the Sweet Briar community wish to announce that gifts given in Karl Tamburr’s memory will be applied to scholarship funds to enable students to study in England. We think that such a gift would recognize Karl’s passionate engagement with literature, with England, and with Sweet Briar students in the best possible way: by making it possible for more students to study abroad. Gifts to the Tamburr scholarship fund may be sent to Sweet Briar College, Office of Development, Box G, Sweet Briar, VA, 24595 or call 1-888-846-5722.

In Memory of Jennifer Crispen

Jennifer Crispen, field hockey coach for Sweet Briar since 1977, was much beloved by students, alumnae, and many members of the campus community. She encouraged and inspired many young athletes on this campus, and for that reason we wish to announce that gifts made to the College in her memory will be donated to the new Fitness and Athletics Center. This new facility will be part of Coach Crispen’s legacy at Sweet Briar—a place where athletes are discovered, team work is fostered, and the campus community is enlivened and connected.

The Conyers Riding Fund

Jon Conyers was dedicated to the art and teaching of riding. Many riding students at Sweet Briar excelled under his instruction. His passion for horses and the show ring was obvious and is memorialized through his legacy, The Conyers Riding Fund. This fund was established by Jon Conyers to benefit Sweet Briar’s Riding Program. The fund will be used for an array of projects within the Riding Program with an emphasis on those that support the welfare of the program’s horses, such as sheds to provide year-long shelter and improvements to the footing in the outdoor arena.
Transitions

Missy Gentry Witherow ’80

Missy Gentry Witherow ’80 has left the Alumnae Office to join the Development Office as Associate Director of Annual Giving. Missy joined the Alumnae Office staff on September 1, 2004 as an assistant director. On July 1, 2007 she was promoted to associate director. While Missy has done an exceptional job in all of her areas of responsibility, she is to be commended for bringing our Homecoming Program to a new level of excellence. While all of us are sad to have her leave the Alumnae House, we are delighted that she is staying at Sweet Briar and look forward to working with Missy in her new role.

Dr. Alix Ingber Retires After 29 Years

RON HORWEGE, PROFESSOR OF GERMAN, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

Dr. Alix Ingber retired this spring after working twenty-nine years at Sweet Briar. She grew up in New York City and received her B.A. at CUNY. She received a master’s at the University of Illinois and returned to CUNY to earn her Ph.D. After a couple of years employed at Ohio State University, she came to Sweet Briar in 1980 as an assistant professor of Spanish.

Dr. Ingber was promoted to professor of Spanish in the early nineties. During this time, she also served three years as chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. In addition to the teaching of elementary and intermediate Spanish, her teaching specialties included Cervantes and other earlier Spanish writers. She published many articles and presented many talks at professional meetings. One of her more extensive undertakings was the translation of Spanish sonnets into English.

While spreading the messages of Don Quixote and other older works of Spanish literature, she found a new passion in the early eighties with the appearance of Apple Macintosh computers. While most of us were still struggling with the intricacies of simple word processing, she was developing programs for computer assisted language instruction. With the rise of the internet, she was among the first to realize and make use of the new technology. She still continues to be in the technological forefront.

Although she always remained actively involved in the Department of Modern Languages, Dr. Ingber gradually took on administrative responsibilities. After serving for two or three years as an assistant dean, she became the director of advising. In this position she dealt not only with academic issues of the students, but also with many reforms in the advising program, including the recent drastic changes called for under the Sweet Briar Promise instituted by the Shape of the Future Committee. Her innovations in the office of advising will resonate for years to come.

Although Dr. Ingber is giving up her academic and administrative responsibilities, she will continue to be an active member of the Sweet Briar community. In the Sweet Briar Community Garden, among other places, she will still have a chance to apply her energy and expertise.

On behalf of the community and scores of students and alumnae with whom she has worked and whose lives she has touched, I thank Alix for her years of devoted service to the College and for the opportunity to know her and to work with her.

Helen Grose Retires After 21 Years

CELESTE DELGADO-LIBRERO, DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR YEAR IN SPAIN

After 21 years of service to Sweet Briar College, Helen Grose, office manager of Junior Year in Spain, retired on April 30, 2009. Few Sweet Briar alumnae know who Helen is and what she did because her contributions lay mostly outside the confines of the campus: in those 21 years (the longest anyone has worked for Junior Year in Spain), Helen helped, mostly at a distance, via the telephone, fax, snail- and e-mail, more than 1,600 students from more than 110 different U.S. colleges and universities including Sweet Briar. And their families. And their study abroad advisers.

In her work, Helen was meticulous, diligent, discreet, and reliable, but what made her really special and unforgettable to all those students, parents, and advisers, whom she rarely got to meet in person, were her affability, her helpfulness, and the genuine interest she took in their concerns. On the very day she retired, Helen and two friends from the Junior Year in France office went for a last walk around the campus and were approached by two visitors who were there for a board meeting. After a few minutes names were exchanged and, upon hearing that they were “Mr. and Mrs. So-and-so,” parents of a Sweet Briar and Junior Year in Spain alumna, Helen said to the woman, “Oh, so you must be Judy! It’s so nice to meet you!” You can all imagine the surprise of the couple when they realized that their daughter, who attended Junior Year in Spain in 2003, had not been just one more student to go through the program, just one more number. To Helen, all students were individuals, and she cared about them as such. Very few people are capable of such generosity. We will miss Helen dearly.
Mini reunions

President Muhlenfeld with Sydney Turk, daughter of Heidi Turk ’83, at the Washington, D.C. farewell reception.

On December 6, 2008, Sally Mott Freeman hosted a party honoring classmate Cathy Slatinshek and her then fiancé Bill Prillaman. L–R: Paula Brumm Hennessy ’77, Sally Mott Freeman ’76, Megan Morgan ’76, Meg Shields Duke ’76, Caroline Bickel McLaughlin ’76, Becky Dane Evans ’76, Mary Beth Hamlin ’76, Cathy “Slats” Slatinshek Prillaman ’76, Peggy Weimer Parrish ’76, Maggie Shriver ’77, Ookie Hays Cooper ’76 and Margot Mahoney Budin ’76.


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R–L: Sarah Peterson ’03, Rachel Roth Allred ’02, and Katherine W. Morse ’01 in Washington, D.C.

Angelique Milone ’02 and Katherine W. Morse ’01 on a recent visit to Sweet Briar College.

1992 classmates Stephanie Brundage Snasdell (left) and Kathleen Hughes Hartman (right) and their girls Aiden and Ella Snasdell and Amanda Hartman.

L–R: Jane Terry Feley, Theresa Blane Lange, Allison Roberts Greene, Nan Dabbs Loftin, and May Carter Barger.

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recent deaths

If you wish to write to a member of the family of someone recently deceased, please contact the Alumnae Office for name and address.

1930
Frances Barnett
Mrs. George D. Crosby
Date Unknown

Wilhelmina Rankin
Mrs. Paul E. Teter, Jr.
January 22, 2009

1931
Mary Stewart Kelso
Mrs. Walter J. Treanor
December 17, 2008

1933
Annette Enderly
Mrs. Henry T. Birgel
January 17, 2009

Mary Kate Patton
Mrs. St. Clair Bromfield, Jr.
March 16, 2009

1934
Serena Coe
Mrs. Stuart Hurlbert
Date unknown

Rosemary Frey
Mrs. Rosemary F. Rogers
September 1, 2008

1935
Harriet Taylor
Mrs. Walter H. Leo
November 9, 2008

1936
Myra Carr
Mrs. Robert F. Baldwin, Jr.
March 5, 2009

Eliza Lewis
Mrs. Russell J. Parham
April 6, 2009

Jane Shelton
Mrs. R. Clayton Bowers
March 21, 2009

1937
Evelyn Little
Mrs. Harry M. McFarland, Jr.
March 13, 2009

May Weston
Mrs. Barton F. Thompson
March 23, 2009

1938
Susan Gibson
Mrs. Stephen R. Davenport
January 12, 2009

Marjorie Thaden
Mrs. Marjorie Thaden Davis
April 3, 2009

1939
Patty Moncure
Mrs. Thomas W. Drewry
January 18, 2009

Lee Montague
Mrs. Grady Wats
December 18, 2008

1940
Dorothy Campbell
Mrs. William P. O’Connor, Jr.
November 30, 2008

Jane Hopkins
Mrs. P. Huber Hanes, Jr.
January 15, 2009

1941
Kathryn Blish
Miss Kathryn E. Blish
February 2, 2009

Helen Gwinn
Mrs. John A. Wallace
March 12, 2009

1943
Isabel Gardner
Mrs. Eric Selliex
January 13, 2008

1944
Wilhelmina Cullen
Wilhelmina Robertson Smith
January 26, 2009

Sydney Holmes
Mrs. William A. Bales
February 21, 2009

Lucy Love
Mrs. Warren P. Elmer, Jr.
Date Unknown

1945
Mary Kay Coffelt
Mrs. Kay Trautschold
April 18, 2007

1946
Rosemary Ashby
Mrs. David A. Dashiell, Jr.
January 15, 2009

Mary Taylor
Mrs. William B. Hollowell, Jr.
February 9, 2009

1947
Constance Clevenger
Mrs. F. Christian Berg, Jr.
January 26, 2009

1948
Marion Bower
Mrs. Archibald C. Harrison, Jr.
December 14, 2008

Pamela Terry
Mrs. Pamela Terry
Stoutenburgh
December 22, 2008

1949
Anne Bush
Mrs. H. M. Comer Train
December 3, 2008

Nancy Keith
Mrs. Nancy Keith Tenaglia
March 10, 2009

1950
Joan Arey
Mrs. Charles Harrison
November 24, 2008

Patricia Marshall
Mrs. Lloyd A. Meech, Jr.
July 26, 2008

1951
Betty Kellogg
Mrs. F. W. Wilborn
March 25, 2009

1952
Pride Binger
Mrs. Pride Forney
January 18, 2009

1953
Margaret Ewart
Mrs. Michael M. Riter
September 16, 2008

Bette-Barron Smith
Ms. Bette-Barron Stamats
February 11, 2009

Katherine Wilcox
Mrs. William F. Reiland
December 21, 2008

1955
Barbara Babb
Miss Barbara Babb
October 27, 2005

Mary Burgman
Ms. James H. Winston
January 13, 2009

Nathalie Robertson
Mrs. David E. Fox
December 19, 2007

1956
Helen Wolfe
Ms. Helen Wolfe Evans
April 21, 2009

1957
Anne Wilson
Mrs. Josiah P. Rowe III
January 24, 2009

1958
Catharine Hill
Mrs. Catharine Hill-Loth
January 7, 2009

Nancy Imboden
Mrs. Richard Spears
November 6, 2008

1960
Page Tucker McFall
Mrs. John F. Ziebold
November 28, 2008

1964
Mary Frances Culbertson
Ms. M. Frances Knight
June 2008

Jane Rice
Mrs. Jane R. McPherson
January 8, 2009

1973
Betsy Buchanan
Mrs. William D. Fishback
January 17, 2009

1977
Anne Tschudy
Mrs. Anne Tschudy Jackson
April 20, 2009

1996
Rachel Elizabeth Virden
Mrs. Rachel Virden Hulscher
February 26, 2009

We received several calls informing us that Lillian West ’47 (Mrs. Marion A. Parrott) is very much alive. We apologize for our error in listing her as deceased in the Winter ’09 magazine.

The Sweet Briar Alumnae Association appreciates notifications of deaths. Please relay information to the Alumnae Office, P.O. Box E, Sweet Briar, VA 24595 or alumnae@sbc.edu.
IN THE SWEET BRIAR

tradition

The Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld Fund for Historic Preservation

“... I revere the fact that the College we celebrate today is the vibrant legacy of living, breathing people who walked across these meadows not so very long ago—people of vision inspired by a very special place. We who have inherited the legacy are not just the recipients of their vision, but indeed the engines thereof, because their visions live in us, and have not yet been fully realized... and we have within us the instinct to take risks to realize that vision.”

—Dr. Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld
Inaugural Speech, April 12, 1997

Sweet Briar College welcomed Dr. Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld as its ninth president in August 1996. Under her leadership, the College completed numerous initiatives in programming, expanded the physical campus with several new and recycled buildings, created a strong foundation in environmental sustainability, and developed sound strategic planning. In 2006 Sweet Briar completed Our Campaign For Her World, raising more than $110 million, exceeding its target by $8 million. Dr. Muhlenfeld has been a strong guiding force in setting Sweet Briar on a successful path into the future. Environmentally sound historic preservation initiatives have risen to the forefront of the College’s goals during her tenure.

The Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld Fund for Historic Preservation provides an opportunity for donors to honor President Muhlenfeld’s dedication and loyalty to Sweet Briar while at the same time supporting a wide range of historic preservation projects campus-wide, including Tusculum, Sweet Briar House, and the Ralph Adams Cram architecture. These buildings bring a depth of character to our College that is irreplaceable, as well as gain us distinction as a National Historic District.

President Muhlenfeld has been well honored with gifts made to The Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld Fund for Historic Preservation to continue preservation of our venerable historic district! To date, over $1.6 million has been contributed to this Fund. In addition, the Annual Fund received over $43,000 in gifts made in President Muhlenfeld’s honor. Thank you for your generosity in honoring President Muhlenfeld, who has had such a profound impact upon Sweet Briar College.

To make a gift to The Elisabeth Showalter Muhlenfeld Fund for Historic Preservation or to make your Annual Fund gift in honor of President Muhlenfeld while supporting historic preservation at Sweet Briar, please contact the Office of Development toll-free on 888-846-5722 or (434) 381-6161.
Across the squeaking sand there comes a laugh,
Weaving into the breeze from the sea.
Walking as casually as a traveler
Is a woman who wears swishing skirts,
Who makes bracelets of shells and coins.
She extends to me her graceful hand.
This woman carries foam in her hands;
Allowing the wind to blow it away, she laughs.
She sifts through wet sand to find rare coins
That have been washed for years in the sea.
She stands still, and her billowing skirts
Settle like an exhausted traveler.
She is like a mirage to a traveler,
Beckoning with beautiful arms and hands.
This is my mother, who sews bright skirts
And smiles each time she hears my laugh.
She sits on the beach and tells stories of the sea
While the water sparkles like new, sunlit coins.
We pretend we’ve found ancient pirate coins
Or valuables lost years ago by a traveler.

We uncover secrets, moving aside sea
Weed. It leaves stringy, green trails on our hands.
I run after a pale ghost crab. She laughs
And complains that the waves have splashed our skirts.

I still wear her old, handmade skirts,
Still hope to find treasure chests full of coins.
Sometimes at the beach, I can hear her laugh.
I only go there now as a traveler,
But I hold the shells in my hand
And close my eyes and wade into the sea.

I listen to the singing of the sea,
Watch as it dances in green skirts.
I remember my mother’s hand,
Holding out to me ocean-salty coins.
As I watch the other travelers,
I hear a young girl’s squealing laugh.

And I know this laugh and this sea will always remind me
Of travelers’ coins on the beach, of a fishy-smelling breeze,
Of a woman who holds my hand while we twirl in our skirts
together.