SPRING 2013

acumen

The magazine of Lehigh University's College of Arts and Sciences

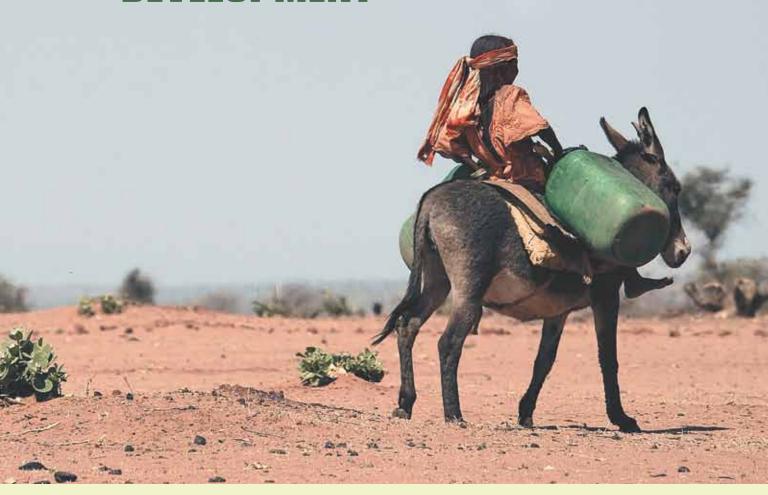
Paradise Park

Moderation in Belief

The Attraction of Sedimentary Rocks

The Globalization of Babel

Scaling Up SUSTAINARIF DEVELOPMENT



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

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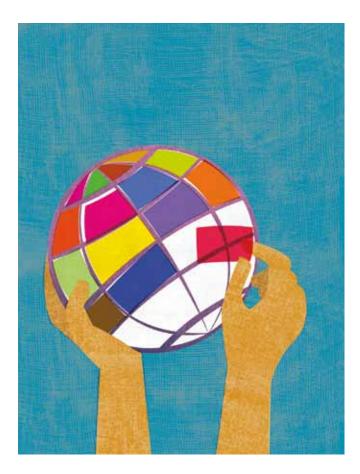
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Message from the Dean



Global Engagement within the College

This issue of the magazine examines how CAS alumni and faculty make a difference, locally and globally

In 2011, the College of Arts and Sciences developed a five-year strategic plan. As part of this exercise, we reaffirmed our commitment to a highly motivated and well-supported community of globally-engaged faculty who see themselves as, and realize their goals as, dedicated teachers and successful scholars. From these efforts we continue to strive to

develop international partnerships, research, and educational programs that prepare students for the global community we hope they will shape.

Global engagement, and programming to provide our students with international experiences, is growing at Lehigh. Inside this issue of Acumen you will discover Lehigh's new sustainable development program, an intercollege effort involving the College of Arts and Sciences and PC Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science. Students collaborate in devising and applying solutions to real-world challenges involving economic wellbeing, environmental protection, and social inclusion in developing countries. Global programs require us to recruit and retain ambitious faculty with international ties, whose influences on students change their lives forever-students like Courtney Weintraub, whose experiences in Argentina helped direct her personal and academic path. International influences are increasing found on campus also. Through the Fulbright program we have impacted students like PhD candidate Marcela Gamallo, who came from Argentina and discovered at Lehigh the beauty of Shakespeare. Inside you'll learn of Joe Montville '59, who has had a distinguished career as a diplomat. Our alumni have gone out into the world, many leaving indelible impressions.

The College is committed to expanding our international efforts. Almost half of the undergraduate Class of 2012 had an international experience, an encouraging statistic but one that I want to see much higher. Recently, I established a fund to provide financial support for Arts and Sciences students on short-term Lehigh Study Abroad. These support funds are provided to students who

demonstrate financial need and who explain why the study abroad opportunity is important to her or his academic development. Six students have been awarded grants in its first year, and we anticipate the number to grow in coming years.

Alumni can play an important role in these types of programs. Students who travel abroad undergo a continued sense of self-discovery, meet international students from around the world, learn in a new setting, and gain an increased global awareness and appreciation for the diversity around them. If you would like to support international programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, please contact Nancy Stansbery, director of development, at nas311@lehigh.edu.

The process of producing Acumen has been enlightening. There are so many wonderful stories involving College alumni. I hope that, in reading the pages that follow, you enjoy a glimpse of the stories



you have made possible. As Lehigh alumni, you play an important role in shaping a future that looks very bright indeed. Enjoy this issue of *Acumen*. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments.

Donald E. Hall Herbert and Ann Siegel Dean

The Arts



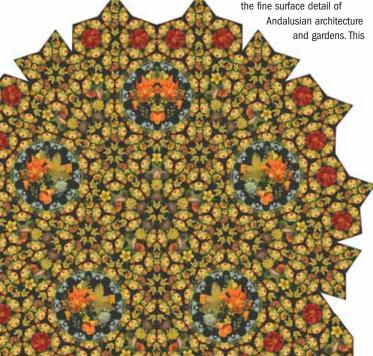
Art

Islamic Tiling as Art

For photographer Anna Chupa, the space around and between the subject of an image is as important as the subject itself. Chupa, whose current work explores two distinct directions, ornamental horticulture and Islamic architecture, has spent the past year developing a series of images she shot in Spain capturing Andalusian architecture. Her work was exhibited in Lehigh's Humanities Center on Feb. 28.

The exhibit was the result of a nine-month effort that started with a photographic project in August 2012. Supported in part by Lehigh's Center for Global Islamic Studies, Chupa, associate professor of art in the department of art, architecture and design, spent a week in Spain last summer capturing source material to make girih, an ornamental technique where a set of five tiles are used in the creation of patterns for decoration of buildings in Islamic architecture.

Shooting in Granada, Seville and Cordoba, she captured images of palaces influenced by the Mudéjar style of architecture, documenting



Ceramic tiling, like those

found at the Alhambra in

Granada (above), influence

Anna Chupa's work (below).

photographic record was integrated into an artistic response to the collision of cultures that took place during the 8th to 15th centuries and which, she says, has correlation to current cultural interactions. From it, Chupa says she he hopes to leave the viewer with a deeper appreciation of the spiritual elements present in Andalusian ornamentation.

"The design makes use of negative space, and that's what I tend to be drawn to in creating my own work and the work in other cultures," she says. "With this form of architecture, it's less about the structure of the architecture than it is about the design, the ornament. Underlying the ornament is this concept of the infinite. The patterns could go on infinitely."

Chupa says she is drawn to the density of the surface design, where design is so compact that one loses sense of the structure underneath. The lighting, the reflections, the plasterwork and the tiling all contribute to the dissolution of form.

"To Islamic artisans and their patrons, the infinitely expanding patterns of star fields and symmetric tessellations were an expression of the spiritual or royal authority within an ornamental canon that deliberately avoided direct imitation of nature from observation, "she says. "In the azulejo mosaic and plasterwork skins that ornamented mosque and palace architecture, figure-ground relationships and pictorial illusionism are suppressed in favor of an aesthetic in which negative space is completely filled."

The Lehigh exhibit ties into Chupa's other work in which she photographs flowers in a pattern similar to the Andalusian style.

"To these I add fungus, lichen, seed heads and insects," says
Chupa. "I generally try to use a short depth of field to make it easier to extract the object from its background. I then begin to rearrange the flowers to make individual girih



inspired by Islamic tiling. The photographic details of the flowers retain their visibility on screen and close-up, but at a normal viewing distance, edges blur and the abstract geometric forms created by different arrangements of five uniquely shaped girih dominate."

Music

Trumpet Story

For composer Bill Warfield, his latest composition is an example of life coming full circle. Teaming with Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Randy Brecker, Warfield premiered *Trumpet Story*, a trumpet concerto, March 2 in Zoellner Arts Center.

Warfield, associate professor of music, has shaped a work that delivers simple frames to give Brecker the greatest creative freedom possible. To do this, he uses simple chord progressions and conceptual bases that support the work of the soloist, producing a work similar to a tone poem, in which a story is musically illustrated or evoked.

"I wanted to give him the framework from which he could be as creative as he could be and tell a story, hence the title."

A portion of *Trumpet Story* is an evolution of Warfield's earlier compositions. In 2010, Brazilian composer Rick Brita sampled some of Warfield's big band recordings, manipulated the music in a computer, generated electronic sound files and constructed his own work from the sampling.



"The piece just knocked me out," says Warfield. "It was wonderful, so I'm taking it full circle by taking Brita's piece and re-orchestrating it for an acoustic ensemble. My piece was put into an electronic generator and this great stuff came out the other side, so I'm taking his work and creating something new from it, and I wanted to write it for big band."

Warfield has penned jazz concertos in the past. He composed a similar piece, Le Jazz Hot, for saxophonist Dave Liebman. In 2009, he premiered Cowboy Jazz, a concerto that



evolved from his jam sessions with fellow faculty member Eugene Albulescu. Each project brings new challenges and the process is always evolving, says Warfield.

"This project has taken me places I never would have gone. This one is very personal. There's so much of Brita in the new piece."

The piece will be written for a 14-piece band, but Warfield's premiere will be expanded to use a full-sized big band composed of students teamed with professional musicians and community members.

Warfield has performed with many renowned jazz and commercial artists, including Ornette Coleman, Sonny Stitt, Paul Anka, Mel Torme, David Sanborn and Liebman, among others. He has written

professionally for more than 30 years, and these kinds of experiences are invaluable to a young musician's education, he says.

"It was a great opportunity for the students to work with Randy," Warfield says. "The most important thing they take from this is that they see these top studio musicians from New York in a human 'light.' They see them make mistakes and recover from it-and what it takes to do that. They see Randy, a Grammy award-winning musician, scuffling with some stuff, too. They see firsthand how hard these people work at their craft. It's analogous to anything, so regardless of the student's major, they see what happens with hard work.

"When the students go to do their own concerts, you can see the growth that has occurred because of these kinds of experiences."

Warfield's latest work will be released on the Planet Arts Network label.

Theatre

Paradise Park

Benny stands at an amusement-park ticket window, contemplating what he wants: "I want to escape from my daily life," he says. "From the abyss of total meaninglessness that I know lies just beneath my feet at every moment, so that I feel nothing so much as unbearable hopelessness and despair all the time at some unconscious level, if I don't distract myself with something."

In Paradise Park, the character Benny enters an amusement park of the mind and finds that the park opens up into all of America. The park is home to most of the characters, like a young man in a mouse costume and tourists who have never left. These people have found a refuge from the present in an archaic place of bumper cars, photo booths and dance halls.

Paradise Park is playwright Charles Mee's examination of a lost time we long for that actually never existed, and designing costumes for a recent staging by the Idiopathic Ridiculopathy Consortium (IRC) is the latest project by Erica Hoelscher, associate professor of theatre.

Hoelscher worked with New York-based set designer Anna Kiraly and director Tina Brock to create the park's realm. Kiraly projected still images and video behind the action to help set the tone. In combination. Hoelscher designed costumes she describes as "genuine" and "personal." Each scene is Mee's interpretation of select moments of life where awareness is heightened, where actions are emotionally driven, where coincidence interrupts cause and effect and where the sublime elevates us out of the ordinariness of our lives, says Hoelscher.

"I designed costumes that I hope were truthful, colorful and character-oriented," she says.

The Philadelphia, Pa.-based IRC specializes in theatre of the absurd, for which Hoelscher has an affinity. The plots often deviate from the more traditional episodic structure and seem to move in a circle, ending the same way the play begins. Absurdism in the theatre is difficult to appreciate because one has to be willing to open oneself up to discomfort, the discomforting idea that life itself is absurd, says Hoelscher. The style is intended to arouse questions and push audiences, and what she does professionally perme-

ates her work in the classroom. "There's a certain value to shaking people out of their complacency. In some regard, we have an

academic responsibility to present the widest array of work that we can get on stage," she says.

"Realism is comfortable, but we need to challenge people to go beyond their comfort zones.

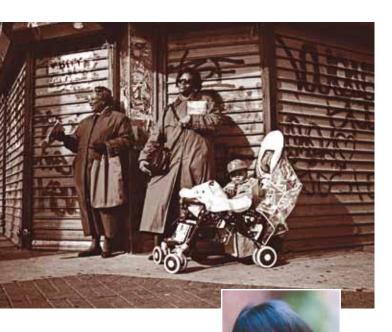
"I've learned from collaborating with Tina how to make the absurdist style more accessible to audiences through humor. I bring back to the classroom and the department the potential to expand our repertoire, expanding the horizons of what we do and risks we take, and to do it with humor."



The Ticket Seller. one of 32 costumes Hoelscher created for Paradise Park.

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The Humanities



English

Watts Receives National Literary Honor

Stephanie Powell Watts, associate professor of English, recently was awarded the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, the nation's most prominent prize for an African-American writer, for her debut story collection, We Are Taking Only What We Need.

Watts' work chronicles the lives of young African-Americans who come from, or live near, the "dark houses out on tangled dirt roads on the fringes of the county." Her stories draw on her experiences in fast food and factory jobs and as a Jehovah's Witness minister to explore themes of loss, faith and hope, giving voices to communities usually unheard. Watts joins a distinguished list of Gaines Award winners. Past recipients include Dinaw Mengestu, Victor Lavalle and Jeffrey Renard. The award is named for one of the nation's most prominent writers and a son of Louisiana, Ernest J. Gaines, and is administered by the Baton Rouge Foundation.

We Are Taking Only What We Need has been frequently honored in the past year. It was one of two finalists for The Hemingway "Unassigned Territory" from Watts' book received the Pushcart Prize and a citation from Best American Short Stories. Two stories appeared in Best New Stories from the

South anthologies.

Foundation/PEN Award, as well as a finalist for the Chautauqua Prize, the John Gardner Short Story Award, the ForeWord Review Prize and USABookNews.com Best Books and was on the long list for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. It has been listed as one of the best books of 2012 by The New Yorker, The Kansas City Star and other publications. Stories from the collection have appeared in the prestigious Pushcart Prize anthology in 2008 and Best New Stories from the South anthologies in 2007 and 2009, and two stories were cited as Distinguished Stories in the 2009 and 2011 Best American Short Stories anthologies.

Watts has spent the past year promoting the book at book signings and readings across the country. While the recognition from her peers is wonderful, she says she has loved meeting her readers.

"This has been an amazing year," she says. "It's so nice that something you've worked on, put so much sweat and tears into, so much of my life, has been recognized. It's meaningful. And it is especially exciting to meet people out there who can connect to these stories."

Watts is always developing new material. She is finishing her next project, a novel.

Philosophy

Moderation in Belief

Muḥammad al-Ghazālī was a Persian Muslim jurist, theologian and mystic who is considered by many to be one of history's great

theologians. Al-Ghazālī contributed significantly to the development of a systematic view of philosophical theology and its integration and acceptance in mainstream Islam, and an influential manuscript he wrote in the 11th century is the focus of a forthcoming book by Aladdin Yaqub, associate professor of philosophy.

Three years in the making, Yaqub's book, Moderation in Belief: Annotated Translation, is the first complete translation into English of Moderation in Belief, a book Al-Ghazālī composed while teaching at a university in Baghdad. Over the course of his life, Al-Ghazālī wrote more than 100 books, including 10 books in four years while in Baghdad. Moderation in Belief is his most important work on philosophical

theology, says Yaqub. It addresses wide areas of the subject, including the existence of God, his oneness, characteristics, attributes and acts.

Yaqub's translation is supplemented with extensive commentary that brings out and reconstructs the argument and supplies the intellectual and historical background of the work. In it he presents a system of philosophical theology and his arguments for it—a school of theology called Ash'arism.

"This is by far the most original, the most deep, the most thorough and the best defense of the school," says Yaqub. "The book was so successful that shortly after his death, Ash'arism became the orthodox form of Islamic theology. It was largely from the impact of his work."

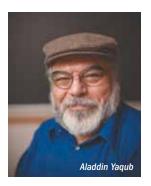
Studying Al-Ghazālī's work for nearly 10 years was a significant academic shift for Yaqub, whose background is in logic, metaphysics and philosophy of mathematics.



Through Al-Ghazālī's efforts, Sufism grew and attracted orthodox Muslims. His writings balanced religion and reason.

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"I read the largest part of what he produced and was surprised that *Moderation in Belief*, the most important work of philosophical theology in the Islamic tradition, had never been trans-



lated in its entirety into English. There are partial translations, but nothing complete," he says.

A number of Al-Ghazālī's contemporaries had been following and developing several viewpoints of Greek philosophy, leading to conflict with Islamic teachings. On the other hand, Sufism was assuming such excessive proportions as to avoid observance of obligatory prayers and duties of Islam. Al-Ghazālī sought to correct these trends, both in philosophy and Sufism.

Al-Ghazālī upheld the approach of mathematics and exact sciences as essentially correct. Yet, he adopted the techniques of Aristotelian logic to expose the flaws and lacunas of the then-prevalent Neoplatonic Western philosophy and to diminish the negative influences of excessive rationalism. He was able to create a balance between religion and reason and identified their respective domains.

"The greatest intellectual output of Islamic civilization is still not translated yet," says Yaqub. "My hope is that the interest in Islamic philosophy would widen from a select group of intellectuals to the mainstream, and I hope that works like this will continue to attract people who are interested in these topics."

Religion Studies

Art is Spirituality

Artistic approaches to engaging with Jewish texts and traditions are key to understanding crucial aspects of Renewal Judaism, says Chava Weissler.

Weissler, professor of religion studies, examines ALEPH-the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, a significant organization within the Jewish Renewal movement. Jewish Renewal is a movement grounded in Judaism's prophetic and mystical traditions, including Hasidism and Kabbalah. Documenting the importance of the arts in ALEPH, she argues that artistic play with Jewish texts and traditions is seen by Renewal Jews as a form of experiential learning, a means of developing a more personal connection to God, and an affirmation of women's spirituality.

Founded in 1962, ALEPH sees itself as "neo-Hasidic," a new form of Jewish spirituality. Jewish Renewal draws flexibly on the resources of Jewish tradition, including midrash (creative biblical interpretation), Kabbalah (Jewish mysticism) and especially Hasidism. Like Hasidism, ALEPH emphasizes such artistic means of spiritual expression as music, storytelling and dance. "Renewal and Hasidism share this investment in artistic means of spiritual expression. Jewish Renewal adds the visual arts to those important in Hasidism," she says. "They also share the quest for the experience of divine presence as the ultimate religious goal."

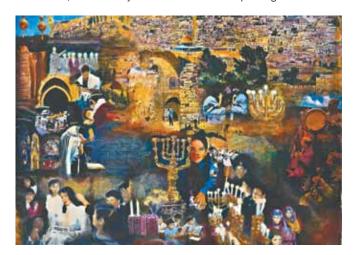
Weissler, who is also Philip and Muriel Berman Professor of Jewish Civilization, began the study of ALEPH as an extension of her earlier work on the mystical tradition of Kabbalah, research she pursued while writing Voices of the Matriarchs: Listening to the Prayers of Early Modern Jewish Women, a book discussing piety

in the 18th century. Her book on tkhines (Jewish women's prayers of the 17th and 18th centuries) is one of the most widely read resources in the field. One of the surprises to Weissler was that the secret, mystical tradition of Kabbalah, supposedly confined to a few male scholars, was well known to women in a popularized form. After finishing that project, Weissler sought to study a group that popularized Jewish mysticism in contemporary America.

Most other forms of Judaism—from Orthodox to liberal—speak in an authoritative voice, conveying their view of what Judaism is and should be, she says. In more traditional approaches, "We have scriptures that tell us what God's will is for us, and it is our job to

powerful way. Unlike more conservative forms of contemporary Judaism, Renewal invites its participants to engage in improvisation as a way to encounter sacred texts and traditions. "The arts are central: music, dance and the visual arts. One of the interesting distinctions is that the artistic dimension allows participants to interact with biblical texts, prayers and rituals in an intuitive, experiential way," she says. This turn to the arts has been especially attractive to women, who felt excluded from the hierarchy of learned interpreters of tradition.

Unlike other forms of Judaism, there is an openness to eclecticism to the Renewal movement, says Weissler. Renewal is not averse to bringing in insights from other traditions in pursuing a connection



Jerusalem X Hasids by Elizabeth Barakah Hodges

study the sacred writings and to obey God's commandments," says Weissler. The interpreters and arbiters of these texts, even those who have created updated and modern views of them, have usually been ordained rabbis, learned men (and, very recently, learned women). They have worked, primarily, in the intellectual mode.

By contrast, people join Jewish Renewal groups because they want to experience God's presence in a to God, drawing from the teachings of Buddhism, Yoga and Islam. The women's spirituality movement has also been an important source of insight. Renewal, in contrast to its Hasidic roots, is committed to the full incorporation of women into religious life, says Weissler.

"ALEPH attracts spiritual seekers. It attracts those with artistic talents and affirms the spiritual creativity of women," says Weissler. "Art is central to its religious practice."

The Natural Sciences

Chemistry

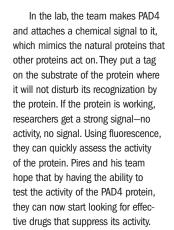
Gauging Protein Activity in Cancer Treatment

Lehigh biochemists are investigating the importance of a recently recognized protein in an effort to develop better testing methods for cancer-linked protein.

Led by Marcos Pires, assistant professor of chemistry, the team is interested in peptidyl arginine deiminase type 4, or PAD4. PAD4 is a type of enzyme, which plays a role in immune response. PAD4 also mediates gene expression. It is believed that PAD4 can potentially make cancer cells more aggressive with a greater potential to be metastatic and more resistant to cancer therapy.

"We have all these drugs that work well at going after the primary cancer, but the cancer responds to that and changes to a more aggressive form," he says. "The goal is to screen as many drugs as possible to find what works. The aim is to have it be scalable, and it has to be quick. We think what we have is a way to do this."

PAD4 is found in greater concentrations in cancer cells than in healthy cells, and researchers have found no good way to measure protein activity. To find a drug to suppress PAD4, scientists must first measure its activity. Pires and members of his lab have developed a method by which they can quickly measure protein activity, making it possible to swiftly screen millions of molecules.



The challenge is that scientists know little about PAD4, so they find it difficult to design drugs that bind to it. Researchers are still learning about the protein's structure as well.

In the end, Pires says he hopes his work will help develop the first PAD4 inhibitors to be used in conjugation with other existing drugs to fight cancerous cells.

"We think what we've developed in the lab is promising."



The Attraction of Sedimentary Rocks

Kenneth Kodama knows that rocks retain a faithful record of the magnetic field, a fact that has had a tremendous variety of applications, including the reconstruction of continental positions hundreds of millions of years ago.

The author of Paleomagnetism of Sedimentary Rocks: Process and Interpretation, Kodama's work describes the paleomagnetism of sediments and sedimentary rocks, how sediments and sedimentary rocks become magnetized and how the physical and chemical processes involved can affect the accuracy of paleomagnetism.

A professor of earth and environmental sciences, Kodama has focused his work primarily on sedimentary rocks. When these rocks form, they record the direction of the Earth's magnetic field, and the tiny magnetic grains in the rock align with the Earth's magnetic field lines. By examining this magnetism, scientists can determine the rock's ancient position on Earth.



Antelope Canyon, Arizona

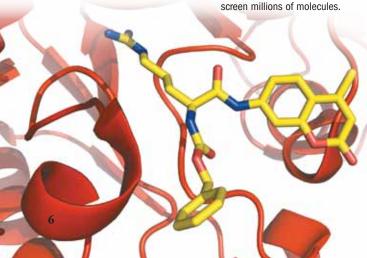
The Earth's field lines are vertical at the poles but horizontal at the equator. Their dip varies regularly with equator to pole so their dip records the ancient latitude. But as sediment is buried under other layers of sediment, the rocks are subjected to compaction, rotating the magnetic grains toward the horizontal. Kodama's work has shown that as the magnetism is compacted and rotated toward the horizontal, it appears as if the rocks were formed closer to the equator than they actually were. His findings, once doubted, are now setting the standard for geologists everywhere.

Kodama's latest project plays off his work in paleomagnetism, using the magnetism of sedimentary rocks to produce records of global climate cycles.

"Geological records show that global climate is forced at regular periods," he says. "Scientists think that these climate cycles are driven by how much solar energy is hitting the top of the atmosphere."



Marcos Pires (above) studies an enzyme (below) that might make cancer cells more aggressive.



The changes in energy are caused by variations in the Earth's rotation axis, its tilt and the direction it points in space and by changes in the shape of the Earth's orbit. Kodama's new work uses variations in the amount of the magnetic minerals in a rock to record the climate cycles. He has found magnetic records of climate in rocks 570 million years old.

"We have found an easy and powerful way of recognizing these cycles with the magnetics," he says. "The resulting records are like finding a metronome in the rocks that allows us to measure the passage of geological time."

Mathematics

Davis Named Fellow of AMS

Donald Davis, professor of mathematics, joined a select group of mathematical scientists from around the world with his recent election as a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society for 2013.

With an inaugural class of 1,119, the Fellows program recognizes members who have made outstanding contributions to the creation, exposition, advancement, communication and utilization of mathematics. Among the goals of the program are to create an enlarged class of mathematicians recognized by their peers as distinguished for their contributions to the profession

and to honor excellence

in mathematics research.

"Don is an excellent and active research mathematician," says Wei-Min Huang, chair and professor of mathematics. "He is also an excellent teacher at all levels, from beginning through most advanced. His book, *The Nature and Power of Mathematics*, grew out of, and was a text for, our most elementary course, Introduction to Mathematical

Thought. At the other extreme, he has been the adviser of more than 10 successful doctoral students."

Davis' work focuses on homotopy theory, which is a branch of algebraic topology. His research has explored immersions of projective spaces. An immersion is a smooth map that allows nice self-intersections. He developed for the Web a catalog of all known results about the dimensions of Euclidean spaces in which the various projective spaces can be immersed; many of those results are due to Davis' work. Possible connections of this work with robotics have been discovered recently. Much of his recent work has been involved with determining homotopy groups of Lie groups, an area of algebraic topology that is important in physics as well as mathematics.

He has published more than 100 research papers and continues to be actively involved in research. In 2010, he introduced a new family of topological spaces, which he named "projective product spaces." In 1995, he created an algebraic topology listserv, which has grown to be an international resource and center of discussion for 1,200 mathematicians globally. He serves as executive editor of *Homology*,



Homotopy and Applications.

Playing down his professional accomplishments, Davis says his greatest achievement at Lehigh might be his success as a competitive mathematics coach. He has also long been involved in high school mathematics competitions, guiding the Lehigh Valley team to

four national championships in the American Regions Math League.

"To be a Fellow is a tremendous honor," says Davis. "I didn't expect it, but I think it's a reflection of the work we do and what we've accomplished in the math department at Lehigh."

Biological Sciences

Songbird Evolution

Walk along the trails dotting the Lehigh Valley and you will come across them—small birds with oversized round heads, black caps and bibs; white cheeks; gray backs, wings and tails. The northern black-capped chickadee and its relative, the southern Carolina chickadee, and their interbreeding habits are of particular interest to evolutionary biologist Amber Rice.

Rice is interested in speciation, the evolution of new species, and her research seeks to understand the ecological and evolutionary processes underlying speciation, from the initial split of one group into two to the end stages where two species start to mate together again, called hybridization.

Rice explores hybridization by studying local populations of chickadees. The zone where the two species meet lies in a band stretching from Kansas to New Jersey, and they are interbreeding, she says.

"They meet right here in the Lehigh Valley, which makes it really convenient," she says, laughing. "Previous work near Hawk Mountain suggests there are hybrids there. We're not sure yet if they are hybridizing here, but I suspect they are."

The interbreeding habits of chickadees are the focus of

research by Amber Rice.

To test her theory, Rice spent last summer setting up 75 nesting tubes at Lehigh and nearby DeSales University. She is in the process of obtaining permission to set up tubes at Jacobsburg State Park in Wind Gap, Pa., and Lake Nockamixon in Bucks County, Pa. The nests are free-standing PVC tubes with caps, allowing Rice and her team to determine if chickadees have established nests and to check the health of the birds. Rice and her team will track when the birds start laying eggs, how many eggs are in each nest and when the eggs hatch. They will also capture the parents and band them with individually marked leg bands. Chicks will also be banded once they grow large enough. Researchers can then track the populations over the years to determine which birds are mating with which birds and to document the reproductive success of the chickadees in a single breeding season, as well as across several years.

Rice and her team also take blood and tissue samples from the birds and extract their DNA. In the lab, the team examines genetic markers, taking a snapshot of the genetic variation, which they can use to compare populations from different regions to determine how much variation exists and how much the birds exchange genes, which is vital for understanding speciation. Chickadees allow Rice to examine the fitness consequences of hybridizing and the genetic consequences of interbreeding between the two species.

The Social Sciences

Anthropology

Migrants and Strangers in an African City

In cities throughout Africa, local inhabitants live alongside large populations of "strangers." Anthropologist Bruce Whitehouse explores this condition of strangerhood for residents who have immigrated from West Africa to Brazzaville, Congo.

Whitehouse, assistant professor of anthropology in the department of sociology and anthropology, examines migration between African countries. Brazzaville has long been



Bruce Whitehouse explores strangerhood for residents who have come from across West Africa to settle in Brazzaville, Congo.

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a destination of economic migration for West Africans, even though it is 2,000 miles away. These migrants tend to be young men in their 20s and 30s, who then bring over a wife, or wife and children. There is also a group of second- and third-generation migrants, whose parents and grandparents came to Congo decades earlier, but who remain "strangers." Most are still connected to their ancestral homeland: Even children born in Brazzaville to migrants from Mali may consider themselves "100-percent" Malian.

West Africans have been coming to Congo since the French began exploring the region.

"The expeditions were essentially West Africans with French officers," says Whitehouse. "This was the case up until the early 1900s. The West Africans provided most of the manpower. Once the contracts working for the French were complete, many of these workers stayed, and they went into business for themselves, becoming merchants, importers and exporters. These newcomers marred and became part of the population and raised their children, but they raised their children as West Africans, not Congolese."

The author of Migrants and
Strangers in an African City
observed this process of social reproduction while conducting yearlong
fieldwork. The wealthiest migrants
often send their children back to Mali
because they could afford the airfare.
The poorest raise their children in
Brazzaville, knowing they may be
judged by locals and immigrants as
"culturally impure." Most migrants
in-between send children to be raised
by kin in their countries of origin, but
as visits are difficult and expensive,
they rarely see their own offspring.

"They may have limited contact with their children, as the children are living with aunts, uncles or grandparents, because they don't want them to become Congolese."

History

Anglican Enlightenment

To understand the natural world and humankind's place in it, solely on the basis of reason and without recourse to religious belief, was the goal of the Enlightenment, a wideranging intellectual movement of the late 17th and 18th centuries. Accordingly, today scholars and the general public largely agree that the relationship between religion and secularization is an antagonistic one. But William Bulman, assistant professor of history, argues that during this important period of secularization in the West, the English



Church leaders argued that catechizing, ritual and a clerical order played central roles in all civilized religions.

church was itself responsible for many intellectual innovations that led to secular understandings of religious and other social phenomena.

His forthcoming book, Anglican Enlightenment: Culture and Religious Politics in England and its Empire, 1648-1714, re-interprets the relationship between religious struggle and intellectual innovation in late Stuart England. Bulman argues that the early Enlightenment was never inherently conducive to religious freedom, dissent or irreligion. Instead, the technical and theoretical achievements of the early Enlightenment were, in part, the product of an interdependent relationship between intellectual innovation and the forces of religious persecution, theological orthodoxy, absolutism and imperialism.

Bulman's research suggests that religions' most significant moments of internal and intellectual innovation tend to result from their most active attempts to resist or respond to that very process.

"In the late 17th and early 18th centuries, the Church of England defended itself by stressing its utility for the maintenance of social and political order," he says. "The advertised benefits of the established church came to center

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less on its role as a protector of theological orthodoxy and more on its role as an adjunct of the state and a guarantor of social order."

Bulman argues that this intellectual and apologetical shift was a product of the English Civil Wars and Revolution (1642-49).

"The church leadership was trying to re-engineer the relationship between faith and society in order to avert another descent into chaos and bloodshed," he says. "In doing so, they joined other elite sectors of society in what we might call an Enlightenment project, but they vehemently disagreed with other elites about the precise content of that enterprise."

Psychology

Dissention within a Group

Successful groups find a balance between stability and change. Stability is maintained by social norms and traditions that shape group members' behavior into regular patterns, and change occurs when events disrupt these patterns, larly important because healthy change is often instigated by group members who perceive and articulate collective problems.

Examining who is willing to express group problems, and under what circumstances, is the focus of Packer's research. To pursue alternatives to the status quo requires an open mindedness and breadth of thinking that takes people beyond the immediate and the fashionable. Studies conducted in the Group Processes Lab at Lehigh University have found that people who are typically more open minded or who are induced to think in that way by, for example, taking a long-term perspective are more likely to have divergent viewpoints. However, to bother articulating dissenting views also requires that people want to change the minds of others. Packer's experiments show that, very often, the motivation to instigate change stems from people's desires to better the groups that they live in.

"We have found that people who really care about a group—like their university—are more willing to dissent about things they perceive as harmful to the group," says

says Dominic Packer, assistant professor of psychology. Some disruptive events are external, yet internal disruptions are particuPacker. "At least, this is true when dissenting may help the group. People are also sensitive to who is listening. They don't want to damage the reputation of the group by articulating problems to just anybody—and particularly to outsiders."

Groups need critics, he explains. Critics articulate group problems and help shape the change that keeps a group healthy. To dissent is not simply to be contrarian, but to be deeply and meaningfully engaged with the people around us.

Journalism

The Globalization of Babel

Since the days when humans walked off the African plains, media have played an important role in shaping

and molding society, says Jack Lule, professor and chair of journalism.

Humans have always used media to explore, settle and globalize their world, says Lule, who is also director of the Global Studies program and Lehigh's Globalization and Social Change Initiative.

"Globalization would not have happened without media," says Lule. "From the Chauvet Cave paintings to songs traded on the Silk Road, the media and globalization have proceeded through time."

Decades ago, communications philosopher Marshall McLuhan prophesied that media technology would transform the world into a "global village." The global village, however, is not the blissful utopia that McLuhan predicted, says Lule—nor is the world flat, with level playing fields and opportunities for all.

In his most recent book, Globalization and Media: Global Village of Babel, Lule argues that globalization and media are combining to create a divided world of gated communities

and ghettos, borders and boundaries, suffering and surfeit, beauty and decay, akin to Babel, the biblical town of disarray and division.

To argue his point, Lule divides globalization and the media into three processes— economic, cultural and political.

"Media have been a big part of economic globalization, bringing people through free trade and new markets," he says. "But in doing so, they have contributed to the creation of a starkly divided world. You have 'haves' and 'have nots' within countries and around the world, and the media bear responsibility for that."

Globalization is also a cultural

force, Lule says. The media bring cultures in constant contact with one another. For example, he notes the 2005 controversy over editorial cartoons in a Danish newspaper that depicted the Islamic prophet Muhammad,

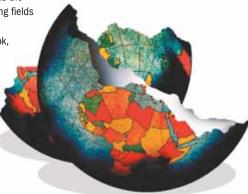
leading to worldwide protests.

Jack Lule

"Before the era of globalization, the controversy would have erupted in Copenhagen. But in an era of global media, protests erupted around the world with riots, deaths and the burning of embassies."

Political globalization, too, has been supported by media, which too often are willing pawns of those in power.

"In all these ways, the media have created a global village of Babel," says Lule.





n 1972, *The Washington Post* embarked on a story that would shape the history of American journalism. Reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein dug deep to expose President Nixon's role in the Watergate scandal, prompting his eventual resignation and changing the political landscape, and the newspaper industry, forever.

Meanwhile, in the basement of Lehigh's University Center, freshman Marty Baron was hard at work on the student newspaper. Baron would become editor-in-chief of *The Brown and White* his junior year and graduate in 1976 with both a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's in business administration. (He'd received special permission to take graduate classes as an undergrad.) And almost four decades later, he would assume the top editorial role at *The Washington Post*, excited to carry on the paper's tradition of investigative journalism and tackle the new challenges of an ever-changing industry.

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Feature

Life after Lehigh

After graduating with his B.A. and MBA, Baron returned to his home state of Florida to work as a reporter for *The Miami Herald*. He further honed his career with reporting and editing positions at the *Los Angeles Times* and *The New York Times*, before returning to *The Miami Herald* as executive editor (the newspaper's top editorial position) in 2000.

During Baron's short time back in Miami, the newspaper was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for breaking news related to the custody battle over young Cuban refugee Elián González. In July 2001, he headed north: *The Boston Globe* was calling.

Six more Pulitzers—for *The Boston Globe* this time—followed under Baron's leadership over the next 11 1/2 years. Shortly after he assumed his role as editor, *The Boston Globe* began investigating whether the Catholic church had engaged in a pattern of reassigning priests to parishes with full knowledge that they had sexually abused children; the resulting series that ran over the next two years earned *The Boston Globe*'s investigative team a Pulitzer in public service for its "courageous, comprehensive coverage" on the topic.

This remains Baron's proudest accomplishment during his time there, not only because of the justice it brought victims of abuse and the sweeping changes it helped to implement throughout the church, but also because of the broad impact it's had on the media.

"Over the course of 2002, we probably did almost 1,000 stories on the topic," Baron says. "We went to the court to have documents unsealed that the church had hoped to keep secret, documents that addressed the fact that the church knew these priests had abused and continued to abuse children. It forced the church to address issues that had essentially been swept under the rug for 40 or 50 years."

At the same time, the series prompted media outlets worldwide to conduct their own investigations. "The repercussions have continued to change the way that news organizations cover sexual abuse in the church, as well as in other situations," Baron adds. "I'm fairly sure it influenced the way the situation at Penn State was covered and how officials responded to alleged sexual abuse on the part of the coach," Baron says, referring to the 2011 accusation and subsequent conviction of assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky and the role that school administrators, and the late Head Coach Joe Paterno, played in the cover-up.

Mr. Baron Goes to Washington

When the opportunity arose to take on a new role in the nation's capital, Baron couldn't pass it up. "The Washington Post had a singular role in American politics, policy and journalism," he says. "It's a storied institution, at the national level and in world affairs, but it's also in a very important community."

Baron hopes to build on *The Washington Post's* rich history of investigative and national reporting, while also bringing his experience in local news to the paper's fore-

front. "That includes everything from public safety and schools to arts and sports and local environment," he says. "If all you had was coverage of politics and world affairs, it would be like having a tree without a root structure. Coverage of the Washington area is where we build the strongest connection with the people who live here."

Another area *The Washington Post* plans to expand upon is online video coverage, with a new political video channel—comprised of more than 30 hours of original video each month—launching on the paper's website before this summer. Baron says plans were already in motion when he came on board in January but that it's something he's behind 100 percent.

"We hope to take advantage of the *Post's* strengths: We're here in Washington, and we have a large, experienced staff that writes about national politics. But we also hope this is just the beginning of something even bigger and just an example of how much we've changed and continue to change."

The Washington Post has faced significant challenges in recent years, including a decline in print advertising and a series of buyouts and layoffs that have reduced its newsroom size by more than 200 people in the past four years. But Baron says these losses have been consistent with the newspaper industry—as well as almost every facet of the economy—as a whole. He doesn't buy into the idea that the paper needs to be rescued or revitalized, either.

"The Washington Post has an extraordinary staff; they do incredible work day in and day out, year in and year out, and the role they play is still central in this country and this community," he says. As for economic concerns, his response is simple: "I always try to get the best possible

I see a lot of people getting out of law school who can't get jobs, but the ones with journalism majors still can. The people who have learned the tools and who are open to working in a variety of different media will find opportunities, and they

budget I can for the newsroom; it is the product, after all. But financial pressure has been a fact of life for quite some time, and whatever budget I get is the one we'll have to work with."

Looking toward the Future

will succeed.

Through it all, Baron remains committed to the content and stays involved with decisions on the stories that are covered, the journalists who are hired and the way coverage is organized, both in print and online.

Baron remains a committed part of Lehigh's network as well. He stayed in touch with journalism professors Joseph McFadden and Robert Sullivan until their deaths in the 1990s. He's visited the campus several times, touring the journalism department in Coppee Hall and the Rauch Business Center, both new additions since his years as a student.

After a whirlwind career transition and a hectic move from Boston to D.C. over the holidays, Baron didn't expect much time off during his first months on the job. He looks forward to the rare Sunday when he might escape outdoors for a few hours, exploring his new city and surrounding trails by bike.

He's optimistic about the future of *The Washington Post* and of the entire industry. Newspapers have had to transition, he says, from publishing once or twice daily to breaking news 24 hours a day, via print, online, video and social media. But that's also allowed for new growth, new initiatives and new jobs for young journalism grads, as he once was.

"I see a lot of people getting out of law school who can't get jobs, but the ones with journalism majors still can," he says. "The people who have learned the tools and who are open to working in a variety of different media will find opportunities, and they will succeed."

Feature



Scaing Up Sustainah

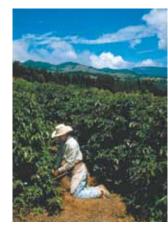
















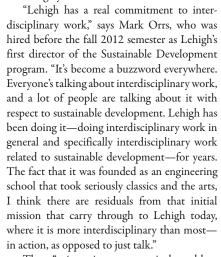
Development by JACK CROFT

New Sustainable Development Program Built on Lehigh's Strengths



Lehigh's new Sustainable Development program can trace its roots back 16 years, to the beginning of the interdisciplinary winter-break trips to Costa Rica led by Rick Weisman, professor of civil and environmental engineering, and Don Morris, professor of earth and environmental science.

But in a broader sense, it can trace its roots back almost 150 years, to the university's founding by Asa Packer.



That "orientation to practical problem solving," Orrs says, "is the reason I'm here."

Sustainable development, by definition, is interdisciplinary. Think of it as a threelegged stool built on economic well-being, environmental protection and social equity or inclusion. The landmark 1987 report issued by the World Commission on Environment and Development, chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, defined it as "development that

meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Weisman is fond of pointing out: "The noun is development. The adjective is sustainable. This is about making really poor people less poor and maybe raising poor people to the middle class. This is about economic development. It's the fattest leg of the stool."

Those who work in the field understand that there is some inherent tension within the term itself. There are some who believe that development inevitably leads to the degradation of the environment and exploitation of workers. And there are some on the development side who argue that when people are starving and living in extreme poverty, they can't afford to worry about the fate of turtles and other environmental concerns.

"That contradiction is something that we all have grappled with at one point or another in our careers," says Bruce Whitehouse, assistant professor of anthropology, who has done extensive research and teaching on development and challenges facing Africa. "Rick Weisman likes to talk about 'economics as if physics matter.' That's sometimes how he characterizes sustainable development. There are finite resources in the biosphere. There's a limit to any ecosystem's capacity to sustain life and resource consumption. We have to be conscious of those limits."

It's a challenging balancing act, and you can see it being played out across the globe—from the controversy over the natural gas drilling practice known as fracking in the Marcellus Shale region in Pennsylvania to the rapidly rising standard of living in China due to





increased manufacturing production, which has come at a steep environmental price.

That's why sustainable development must draw on the knowledge, experience, talents and creativity of different disciplines.

Orrs says that one of the factors that led him to his new position was the realization that "sustainable development was already happening here in many dimensions at Lehigh." He quickly discovered that there were faculty members in all four colleges working in sustainable development, from Steve Cutcliffe and Whitehouse in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), to Alec Bodzin and Iveta Silova in the College of Education (COE), to Kristen Jellison and Arup SenGupta in the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering (RCEAS), to Todd Watkins and Frank Gunther in the College of Business and Economics (CBE), among others.

"It had the confounding effect of making me even more energized and excited about the position here because it wasn't creating something from scratch," says Orrs, who also is professor of practice in political science. "It was coalescing something that was already here and then improving it and extending it."



Underscoring its intrinsic interdisciplinary nature, the new program in Sustainable Development has received financial support from CAS, RCEAS and the Office of International Affairs. It grew out of a group, convened by CAS Dean Donald Hall, RCEAS Dean David Wu and Vice President for International Affairs Mohamed El-Aasser, seeking to expand international opportunities for students similar to those offered through Engineers Without Borders.

There currently are two undergraduate courses offered: Challenges of Sustainable Development, a 000-level course taught each fall that offers rigorous training in the principles of sustainable development and is open to students from any college or discipline, and the more recent Sustainable Development Solutions, a two-part, 200-level course that starts in the spring semester and carries on into the fall semester, with students forming interdisciplinary teams that work for the whole year on solving a particular real-life problem facing a nongovernmental organization (NGO).

In addition, Sustainable Development: The Costa Rica Experience marked its 16th winterbreak trip to the Central American democracy that has forged an admirable record balancing environmental protection, economic development and social equity.

"We basically were breaking new ground 16 years ago with sustainable development. That seemed to us to become more and

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more important. It integrated more and more different departments and disciplines on campus," Morris says.

Several years ago, Morris and Weisman were joined on the trip by Cutcliffe, director of the Science, Technology and Society program in the history department, who added a social science/history perspective. Cutcliffe also joined Weisman and Morris (the "Three Amigos," as Weisman dubbed them) in teaching what started as a one-credit sustainable development introductory course a few years ago and has since grown into the yearlong problemsolving offering.

"I have always been cognizant of and interested in sustainable development as a theme," says Cutcliffe, who has been involved in Lehigh's Science, Technology and Society program for about 20 years.

At Lehigh, alumni have often played key roles in the university's development of new programs, and Sustainable Development is no exception. Patricia Chaves, who came to Lehigh from Costa Rica to earn a master of arts in government in 1992 and went on to work in the Costa Rican government and now works in sustainable development at the United Nations, helped open doors for Weisman and Morris to make the first Costa Rica trip for Lehigh students possible, Weisman recalls.

Another key factor has been Lehigh's close partnership with the U.N. Since 2004, the university has been fully recognized as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) by the U.N. Department of Public Information. Lehigh was the sixth university worldwide to gain that status, which has opened the door to opportunities for Lehigh students to take advantage of rare, behind-the-scenes access to U.N. briefings and other activities.















Orrs and other faculty are already looking at ways to improve and expand the program. A group representing disciplines in all four colleges has submitted a pre-proposal for a faculty cluster hire in Sustainable Development. The idea is to hire four new faculty members—one in each college—who would fill gaps that currently exist in Lehigh's academic expertise.

The proposed hires would be assistant professors focusing on social ethics (CAS), environmental economics (CBE), environmental engineering with expertise in agriculture (RCEAS) and international education (COE).

"Even if we are not selected as a cluster hire, the exercise alone helped us to think strategically about what's missing and how we might go about filling it," Orrs says.

The ultimate goal is to expand existing degree programs in Environmental Initiative by adding an emphasis on sustainable development studies. And foreseeing a demand in graduate studies, some form of master's program also is a possibility down the line.

There is a sense of urgency among those working in sustainable development that goes back to the notion that physics matters.

"I don't know, honestly, if the concept of sustainable development will be enough to halt the processes of environmental degradation and resource depletion that have been at work for a long time. But I think it's the best hope we have," Whitehouse says. "And if anybody can make that concept bear fruit for people in their everyday lives, I like to think it's our students here at Lehigh who will be able to make that happen.

A Sheltered Life Altered by Experiences

It was in Camden, N.J., while performing community service as a student at Saint Joseph's University, that Mark Orrs first encountered soul-crushing poverty.

"I grew up in Lancaster County, Pa., very sheltered—a very sustainable lifestyle, very humble parents and simple living, but unaware of issues of poverty and inequality and other social injustice," Orrs recalls.

After graduating from St. Joe's with a degree in sociology, Orrs returned to Camden to teach at Holy Name School, a small, Catholic school. He also traveled abroad for the first time, going to the Dominican Republic, Kenya and Mexico. And it was during those trips that Orrs decided that sustainable development would be his life's work.

While doing public health and social outreach work at an orphanage that cared for HIV-positive AIDS orphans in Nairobi, Kenya, Orrs was devastated by the plight of street children in the surrounding slums.

"It was something I had never imagined," Orrs says. "To see young children literally living in bands on the street in the most unfathomable of conditions. And in addition to that, struggling with severe drug abuse. Seeing an 8-year-old kid in tattered rags and filth, high out of his mind from inhaling glue."

When a small, grassroots organization that had been working with the street children failed, Orrs joined a small group of people in forming a nonprofit organization to continue the work and transform it into something more sustainable.

Orrs also discovered the power of economic self-sufficiency while working with a woman who had inherited an HIV-positive orphan.

"This woman was weaving baskets that I thought were beautiful, so I asked if I could purchase some for myself," Orrs recalls. "Then I realized that maybe we could purchase these in bulk and sell them elsewhere at a higher margin and return all the funding to her. So in a sense, this became a fair-trade, market-based economic approach to development. And the effect that it had on her life was that after a few years, she was able to purchase a home and work enough land to support her family and take care of her children. So I witnessed the first steps out of poverty and into self-sustenance and self-determination. That's when I became interested in economics."

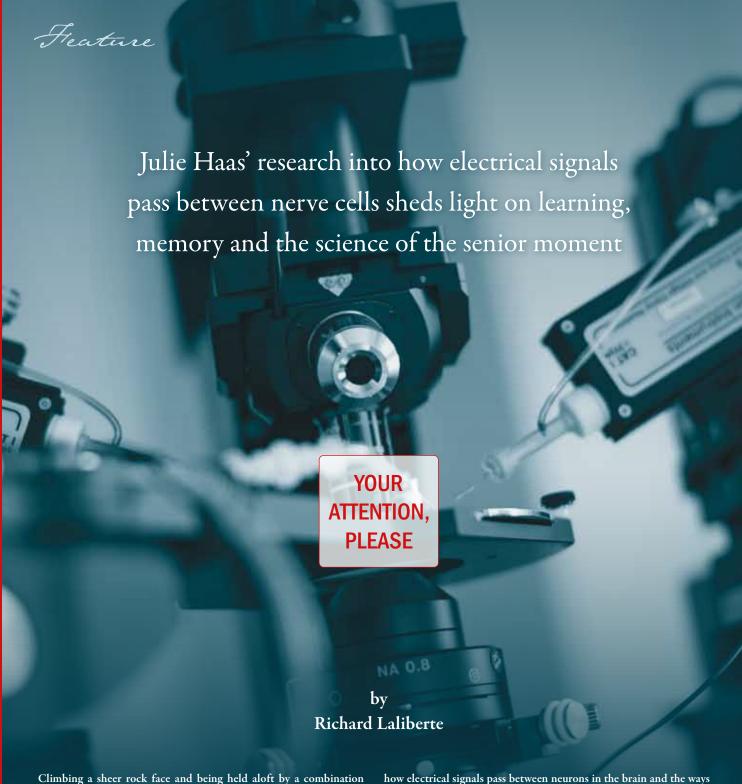
Orrs got a degree in economics from the London School of Economics to complement his sociology degree, then enrolled in Columbia University's Ph.D. program in sustainable development—the only academic program he could find in sustainable development.

Orrs was part of the third class in Columbia's sustainable development program and is finishing his Ph.D. while working as director of Lehigh's new Sustainable Development program and professor of practice in political science.

Rick Weisman, professor of civil and environmental engineering, says Orrs is exactly what Lehigh needs to get its new Sustainable Development program off the ground.

"He's a very hands-on, theory-to-practice kind of guy with a lot of experience, not just his own experience and his own research work in Africa, but he's part of a cadre of Ph.D. students at Columbia very involved in many parts of the world in many different aspects of development," Weisman says.





Climbing a sheer rock face and being held aloft by a combination of straining muscle, intricate gear and sheer willpower has a way of focusing the mind.

"Rock climbing is what I do to reset my brain," says Julie Haas, assistant professor of neuroscience. "It occupies all my attention and brings new perspective when I allow daily concerns back to the forefront."

The mental process of paying attention has more than recreational interest for Haas, even when she is hanging out on the cliffs of the Shawangunk Ridge in eastern New York. Her research delves into

how electrical signals pass between neurons in the brain and the ways in which brain activity can change the function of the body's most mysterious organ.

It is easy to take the ability to focus for granted. "But everyone has flashes of inattention and senior moments during the day," Haas says. "It's human to have failures of cognitive perception and moments of 'What did you just say?"

On a grander scale, certain stages of sleep and a form of epilepsy known as absence seizure are marked by complete lack of response to sensory input—lack of attention taken to the extreme.

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"The brain doesn't react to signals from the sensory environment during those periods," Haas says. "People experiencing them won't feel a poke on the skin or see lights in front of their faces."

Moments of inattention—however extreme, functional or trivial—seem marked by particular electrical firing patterns between neurons, notably in a deep part of the mammalian brain known as the thalamic reticular nucleus, or TRN. Researching the mechanisms by which TRN neurons convey signals could open doors to better understanding of how we learn and remember. That, in turn, could provide insights into recovery from strokes and brain injury, treatment for memory-based conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder—and perhaps even prevention of the senior moment.

MUSIC AND MATH

As an undergraduate, Haas didn't at first focus her own attention on subjects that would necessarily lead to the frontiers of neuroscience. "I was going to be a musician," she recalls of her early days at Indiana University, in Bloomington. "I played violin and loved it." But she also had an abiding interest in mathematics and parlayed both subjects into a double major. "I've always had a variety of interests," she says, "and I think it's important that undergraduates have time and space to pursue different subjects."

Her exploration led to a program at Boston University that allowed students without undergraduate training to explore advanced degrees in fields such as biomedical engineering, for which she received her Ph.D. in 2003. During post-doctorate work at

the University of California, San Diego, and Harvard University, she began to do research in a field broadly known as synaptic plasticity, a term referring to the brain's malleable nature.

"When I was a kid, we were taught that the brain is wired in specific ways and never changes," Haas says. "That turned out to be wrong on just about every level." Research has since revealed that the brain rewires and reconfigures itself almost constantly. Remolding allows, for example, people to recover from brain injuries and stroke, with brain activity itself guiding how neurons form (or don't

"For adults,
barriers to learning
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form) connections across synapses, the junctions between nerve cells.

But what regulates connections is still largely mysterious. "The functions of the brain we understand best are the simplest," Haas says. "The farther up the cognitive ladder you go, the less we understand." And "farther" tends to be not very far. Even basic senses are still poorly understood. For example, she says, as recently as 2004, the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine went to researchers who illuminated how smell fundamentally works.

FILLING IN THE GAPS

Synaptic research has largely focused on how nerve cells communicate chemically using neurotransmitters such as serotonin, dopamine or norepinephrine. But neurons also communicate electrically in a direct physical process over synapses known as gap junctions. "They're woefully understudied," Haas says of gap junctions. Yet, they play a critical role in governing

attention to sensory input in the thalamic reticular nucleus, where electrical synapses are particularly dense.

Gap junctions are so poorly understood that it wasn't even clear if they are plastic—that is, if electrical connection strength between neurons changes in response to brain activity the way chemical connections do. In groundbreaking research, Haas performed rat experiments in which she used tiny electrodes to record from brain cells and measure spikes of electrical current in both coupled cells. (The technical difficulty of these measurements is one reason more researchers don't study gap junctions.)

The results demonstrated that gap junctions do change—and affect processes that are important for learning and memory. "Even on this basic level, it was a novel finding," Haas says—so novel that her paper and an accompanying news article were published in the Oct. 21, 2011, issue of the prestigious journal *Science*. "To be published in *Science* was a wonderful honor," Haas says. "I felt like Sally Field at the Oscars. But it wasn't about me; it was more like, 'You really, *really* like gap junctions.' It means the research community understands why this is important and recognizes it."

Her Lehigh students recognize it as well, says Haas, who came to the university in 2012, attracted by the school's balance of teaching and hands-on research. Her freshman class reads *The Brain That Changes Itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science*, by Norman Doidge, M.D. "They're

surprised to learn the brain is so plastic," Haas says. "For adults, barriers to learning come less from the brain than lack of time, attention and opportunity when you're busy with jobs, kids and life. My students come away realizing what a luxury it is to have four years where it's all about learning."

But synaptic plasticity also holds promise for people who think their days of cognitive growth are behind them. "In some ways, everyone is limited by the geography of the brain and metabolic constraints such as the number of synapses," Haas says. "But more often, we're limited by the idea that we can't learn. The heartening news is that you can always learn new things and change yourself for better. It's never too late."

Feature

HEALING

Joseph Montville '59 trains citizen

HISTORICAL

diplomats to ease multigenerational

MEMORY

grievances around the globe

oseph Montville '59 sat in a West Jerusalem restaurant, moderating a breaking-bread meeting he had brokered between members of ancient warring tribes. The political psychologist, a former U.S. State Department official in the Middle East, listened as two Israeli Orthodox Jewish scholars talked with a Palestinian Muslim whose family had guarded King David's tomb since the 14th century CE. More than two hours later, the three men agreed to meet again to continue exploring their biblical heritage as Abraham's children.

The dinner climaxed Montville's third visit to Jerusalem in 2012 on behalf of an interfaith peace project. The program extends his five-decade quest to train citizen diplomats to ease multigenerational grievances. For more than 30 years, he's been turning dueling monologues into dialogues by discussing common emotions—anger, grief, guilt—that government leaders often downplay or ignore. He's been practicing Track II diplomacy, a phrase he coined, from Slovakia to Sri Lanka, Northern Ireland to the American South.

"Track II diplomacy tries to provide the space for understanding and caring," says Montville, who directs the Esalen Institute's Abrahamic Family Reunion. "The idea is to restore human contact to counteract the headlines that aggressive politicians get all the time, to try to take the oxygen from the big mouths and hypocrites. The goal is to build trust by rebuilding faith in justice."

Montville grew up in Massachusetts and New Jersey, the child of a skilled-machinist father with Lithuanian roots and a French-Canadian mother who directed choirs at both a church and a temple. His fascination with foreign lands was seeded by letters sent from exotic locales—Beirut and Tehran—by his Aunt Lucille, who had worked as a secretary for the U.S. Foreign Service. He was 9 when he announced his intention to visit the Louvre, the fabled Paris home of the *Mona Lisa*.

It took Montville a year and a half at Lehigh to realize he should be studying the chemistry of politics rather than chemistry itself. A near-disastrous sophomore experience with the Mechanics and Properties of Matter convinced him he would be safer majoring in international relations. He



was subconsciously guided by Aunt Lucille's letters, consciously guided by an international crisis triggered by the Anglo-French-Israeli seizure of the Suez Canal in 1956. "They were signs," says Montville, "that the world outside was just too exciting for me to be a chemist."

For the next five semesters, Montville examined the use and abuse of power in bibles ranging from the U.S. Constitution to *King Lear*. After graduating from Lehigh, he explored Arabic and comparative politics at Harvard, Columbia and the American University of Cairo. In 1965, he joined the U.S. State Department, which posted him in Baghdad and Basra, Iraq, among the world's many diplomatic hot spots. For the next 23 years, he served in the Middle East, North Africa and the State Department as a sort of diplomatic fireman.

In 1969, Montville translated messages from the foreign minister of the new Libyan military government. In his reporting, he encouraged State Department leaders and their British colleagues to close military bases to ensure a "graceful" transition from a monarchy to a "young and very nervous" junta. Three years earlier, he had quickly negotiated a truce between an Iraqi Army officer and a Basra fire-department chief

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blocked by the Army officer from extinguishing 30-foot-high flames produced by the burning of shredded American classified documents.

"I thanked the fire chief profusely for coming to save us," says Montville with a chuckle. "Then I explained to him that this was just a routine foreign-service crisis that we always handle by ourselves."

It was an international conflagration that sparked Montville's career as a political psychologist. In 1980, he attended an Esalen Institute-sponsored panel on citizen initiatives prompted by the communication breakdown between the United States and the Soviet Union after the latter invaded Afghanistan. The same year, he began organizing conflict-resolution workshops with a psychiatric/foreign affairs association. Over five years, he helped run five workshops in four countries, including Egypt. Panelists included scholars, former cabinet members and retired intelligence officers.

"At that point, I decided I was not interested in political opinions, including my own," says Montville, then a research/intelligence officer for the State Department's Near Eastern and South Asian bureau. "I was interested in psychologically sound, scientific analysis of what

propels, sustains and transforms conflict. The thing about conflict is that the winners write the history. But they also have the least incentive to examine their behavior. They need to be told they need to have some recognition of their guilt, some contrition. They need to say: What crimes did we commit? Where did we go wrong?"

For five decades, Montville has been trying to heal historical memory around the world. He's studied the feasibility of a Bill of Rights in Northern Ireland and coordinated the Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation Commission. Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, he spent 18 months promoting Israeli-Palestinian peace with an exotic template: harmonious relations between Muslim and Sephardic Jews in medieval Spain.

For the last four years, Montville has concentrated on resolving conflict by improving communication between Christians, Jews and Muslims. For the last two years, he's zeroed in on Jerusalem, a ground zero for holy war. Ill will, bred by centuries of conquests and condemnations, was intensified last November when the city was twice targeted by rockets launched from Gaza by Hamas, the Islamic militant faction.

A cease-fire in Gaza had just been declared when Montville arrived at the breaking-bread meeting he had brokered at an intimate restaurant in West Jerusalem. Common ground was established when the Palestinian Muslim told the Israeli Orthodox Jews about his interfaith trip to Auschwitz. The pilgrimage resulted in a Holocaust book he published in Arabic with photographs of concentration-camp horrors.

"Having a meal together in a cozy place was a very important ritual," says Montville. "It allowed both sides to present their histories, their interests, their motives, their passions for peace building. The idea was not to negotiate a Jewish-Palestinian settlement. It was more an identification of shared moral and religious values. It was an opportunity to build basic trust that had suffered from a lack of basic contact."

Montville admits that Track II diplomacy has had a mixed track record. He's pleased by State Department officials inviting Muslim holy men, or imams, to diplomatic cultural exchanges. He's displeased by professional diplomats who regard citizen diplomats as distracting at best, dangerous at worst. "They think that coercive diplomacy can be undermined," he says, "by simple-minded people who just want to make friends."

Montville has campaigned for reconciliation in his homeland, too. He's assisting a documentary film about healing the historical wounds of the Civil War. He wants Northerners to acknowledge that their ancestors also owned slaves and to mourn the losses of tens of thousands of innocent Southerners. "Our country has a strong Calvinist tradition of fire-and-brimstone punishment for sinners," says Montville, who has been invited to discuss his Civil War and Jerusalem projects at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. "Yankees need to come clean, so they can no longer claim moral superiority."

Montville's crusade for justice is shaped by an extensive extended family of role models. A colleague whose ancestors traded slaves in Rhode Island. A CIA friend killed in the bombing of the U.S. embassy in Beirut, leaving six children without a father. His own mother, who fertilized his interest in the Middle East by directing a choir at a synagogue that memorialized her by planting trees in Israel.

"We need to believe we really are a family," says Montville. "The key question is: What do we need to hear from the other sides to believe we are a family?"

Feature

DISCOVERING

Fulbright student develops a passion for the Bard at Lehigh

MARCELA GAMALLO GREW UP IN A Spanish-speaking home in Argentina. She lived and studied in a country where few English writers visit and few students go on to earn a Ph.D. And yet, a love of literature encouraged her to not only perfect her English, but challenged her to pursue the highest level of scholarship in the field.

Gamallo, a Fulbright recipient, arrived at Lehigh as a graduate student in 2004. Despite

completing a degree and teacher-training program in English literature and language in her native Argentina, Gamallo was challenged by the pace of the program and the tremendous reading load—sometimes reading for 12 hours a day to compensate for her slower reading speed.

"I loved my experience," says Gamallo, who taught in Argentina before coming to the U.S. "It was very demanding in the first year. My comprehension and English skills were fine, but it just took me longer."

As a graduate student Gamallo worked closely with Barbara Traister, professor of English, who researches British literature of the 16th and 17th centuries. It was Traister's teaching style and passion for her subject matter that inspired Gamallo's path in teaching and in research.

"I took Barbara's class the first semester I came here, and she's such a great teacher," says Gamallo. "She's calm, she explains concepts well, and she answered all of my curious questions. I think I took six classes with her, became her teaching assistant for a semester, and then kept attending one of her classes each semester to analyze her teaching approach from different perspectives."

Traister encouraged Gamallo to continue with her Ph.D. after she completed her master's degree in 2006, but without the funding that her Fulbright Scholarship provided, Gamallo was forced to return home to Argentina.

Fortunately, Gamallo found the funding she needed to return to Lehigh. A job opening in Lehigh's Global Union program provided a means for her, as an international student, to secure the additional funds necessary to live



in Bethlehem. Since her return, Gamallo has worked throughout campus, always making the most of her education and encouraging others to do the same.

Gamallo acknowledges that studying English literature is often a challenging subject for students, even for those who are native speakers. As a student in Argentina, her only exposure to Shakespeare was a class that analyzed "Romeo and Juliet" line by line in excruciating detail.

Finding the joy in English literature has made it easier for her to approach her dissertation, currently titled "Recognizing the

by Tricia Long

(once-known) other: Analysis of female cross-dressers in recognition scenes in Renaissance and Restoration comedies." In what Gamallo describes as "the most gratifying summer ever" she read more than 120 books to prepare for her qualifying exams.

"I think my Shakespeare bug developed here," says Gamallo, who was delighted to see stage productions of the author's plays in New York City and Philadelphia as a graduate

student. "When I came back for my Ph.D., I knew this is what I wanted to do. This is something that I really enjoyed learning and hopefully I'll be able to share it."

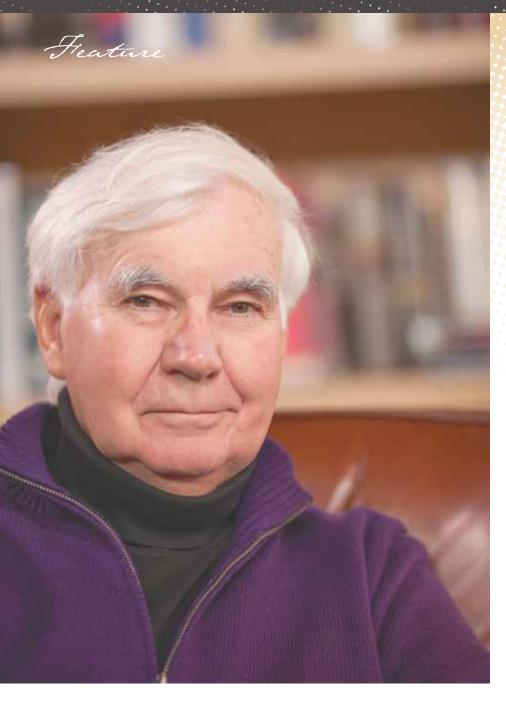
Gamallo's dissertation will deal with moments of misrecognition in Renaissance and Restoration comedies and romances. In these plays, she is looking at cross-dressed women (female characters who don men's clothing in the course of the play they inhabit), their motivations for cross-dressing and, most important, the recognition scenes in which they reveal

their female selves or someone penetrates their disguise.

She is particularly intrigued by the scenes where intimates fail to recognize each other, such as instances where a sibling or a lover does not see through his beloved's disguise. Why does such misrecognition take place? What causes a lover or a relative not to see his once well-known object of desire?

Gamallo believes that disguise leads to a temporary misrecognition that allows the playwright as well as the characters to deal with gender and sexuality issues otherwise ignored. Concerns such as the possibility of incest, same-sex desire or the female ability to enact the male gender can only be safely explored





From Basement Journalism to Publishing Giant

Bob Teufel '59 Gives Praise and Thanks to Lehigh

by Dawn Thren

BOB TEUFEL '59 '91P '16GP is not sure if Professor Joe McFadden was just drumming up new students or if he really was sincere when he told him to consider majoring in journalism because his first *Brown and White* article was that good. Either way, it started Teufel's path to a career of a lifetime—from copy editor to president—all at Rodale, a powerhouse in the publishing world.

"I think I was Shanghaied," says Teufel wryly, when thinking of that initial encounter with the man who became his mentor. "This was all before Watergate, and it wasn't a popular career type of thing. McFadden was very good at finding prospects for his department and steering them to becoming journalism majors."

Teufel rock-skipped through freshman year at Lehigh, changing his enrolled engineering major status to political science. He flourished when he found his true calling and switched again to journalism.

Becoming a four-year, late-night staff member of *The Brown and White*, he worked through the time-consuming roles of news, managing, executive and sports editor (in that order), while amassing countless written articles. During this schedule, he still had time to be president of Phi Kappa Theta and help win the Middle Atlantic Conference title as a member of the fencing team.

"Working on *The Brown and White* was probably the best internship I ever had," he says. "Had to be there on time...had deadlines. It was not just about improving your writing skills; you learned work habits."

Following an employment tip from McFadden, he says it was his college writing samples that landed him the job of copywriter at then Rodale Press.

"Even though I was raised in the Lehigh Valley, I had never heard of Rodale," says Teufel, who interviewed in 1961 after his commission ended as a captain in the United States Air Force. "I bought a copy of the magazine and interviewed with Bob (Rodale). It was my work on *The Brown and White* that got me my job." (President Robert "Bob" Rodale '52 was also a former McFadden student.)

Serving the company for almost 40 years, Teufel made such outstanding contributions as creating and pioneering the concept for *Men's Health* magazine; establishing *Prevention* as the top consumer well-being publication in the country; and producing *The Doctors Book of*

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Home Remedies, which has sold more than 20 million copies worldwide.

During his 21-year tenure as president, sales rose from \$60 million to more than \$500 million, with now Rodale Inc. being recognized as a world leader in health, home and garden, and active sports media—a reputation it still holds today.

Teufel credits his liberal arts education at Lehigh with helping to turn him into a good writer. He says the outline of courses that journalism majors were guided to take—ethics, logic, ancient Roman and Greek history, for example—fostered a comprehensive academic program.

He recalls being handed a graded paper from Professor Joseph Abel Maurer, chairperson of the department of classical languages, who announced, "I love having journalism majors in this class because they say nothing so well."

Teufel not only learned how to write (McFadden was a tough editor, he says), but how to do it efficiently and in volumes.

"When you are properly focused in writing, you can put out a lot of product," he says. "When someone would say they needed 10 or 12 people to do something, I just laughed at them."

But Teufel will be the first to tell you that directing a successfully expanding publishing business takes more than just journalism skills. He uses the simile that "publishing is like a three-legged stool," explaining the trifecta as being equal parts editorial, advertising sales and business. "You have to be as comfortable with the numbers as with the writing."

Coppee Hall Undertaking among Decades of Volunteerism

Teufel's gratitude for the skills that his Lehigh experience taught him fuels his passion for repeatedly giving back to his alma mater. He continues to provide his talent and generosity to university initiatives and was paramount in the renovation of the fourth-oldest building on campus into a hub for 21st-century communication technology: Coppee Hall, circa 1883.

"When it became obvious that Lehigh was looking for a permanent home for journalism, I thought it was important to help raise money for that," says Teufel, whose leadership as volunteer chair was critical in the transformation. "I wanted to pay back for the career opportunity that was given to me from working on *The Brown and White*."

Many alumni staff members remember working subterranean on the paper in either Drown Hall or the University Center; but in 2003, the offices moved into the sunlight to Coppee Hall, along with Lehigh's yearbook, *Epitome*, and the department of journalism and communication.

Journalism department chair Jack Lule recalls the magnitude of the project and the committed alum's deep involvement.

"Bob Teufel was essential to the fundraising that led to the renovation of Coppee Hall as a new home for journalism," says Lule. "He was a legend in publishing because of his leadership at Rodale, and I was a relatively young department chair. I relied on him completely for his knowledge, contacts, experience—and great humor and stories."

Teufel's volunteerism with Lehigh has a history. In 1989, he was honored for his outstanding support of the university and received the highest award that can be bestowed to an alumnus: the Alumni Award.

His involvement highlights are numerous and include roles on the Lehigh University Alumni Association, the Journalism Visiting Committee and the College of Business and Economics Advisory Council. For years, his classmates have enjoyed his fast-talking "Pennsylvania Dutch-style" dinner auction during alumni weekend to raise funds for the class treasury.

Jim Swenson '59, a friend of Teufel's since their undergraduate days, recognizes all that his fellow alum does for Lehigh, but particularly enjoys his auctioneering skills. "Among everything that he does, he has been the auctioneer for many years at our reunions," says Swenson. "Bob gets up there and sounds like he is auctioning tobacco in a shed in North Carolina."

Also a member of the Asa Packer and Tower societies, Lehigh's leadership giving societies, Teufel has supported many university priorities and was helpful to Bob Rodale in creating the Joseph B. McFadden Professorship in Journalism.

Far from pulling back, this past fall Teufel joined the College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Council to work with Donald Hall, Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel dean, on implementing the new five-year strategic plan.

"I was thrilled and honored when Bob agreed to join my CAS Advisory Council. His background in media and marketing is already providing us with invaluable advice on how to realize our college goals and make the world aware of our successes and ambitions," said Hall. "Bob has been a true hero in his work for the college, for our Journalism and Choral Arts programs and for all of our students."

Teufel continues to show his appreciation for an education that guides him well in life. Whether he is cheering at home football games, "checking in" with his grandson Bobby Michaelis, who is a Lehigh freshman (son David is a '91 alum as well), or fly-fishing in a foreign land, his dedication and gratitude to Lehigh always run *Brown and White* deep.

Teufel may have embraced journalism first while at Lehigh, but he also developed a deep appreciation for choral music as an undergraduate. He remembers not being able to get a ticket to the popular Bach Choir concert and sitting on the grass near the open windows of Packer Chapel to hear the beautiful music.

Ensuring an indoor seat, he and his wife, Anne, have been longtime season ticket holders to the Zoellner Arts Center and are enthusiastic supporters of "this wonderful community resource." For his 50th-reunion gift, they established The Teufel Family Vocal Arts Scholarship Fund that has already provided merit scholarships to 16 students with singing talent.

Recipient Andrey Stolyarov '12, who earned a B.A. degree in music and is continuing his Lehigh education as a Presidential Scholar, says of receiving the award, "Being a Teufel scholar was a blessing for me. When times became tough financially, his generosity allowed me to pursue vocal studies and eventually become a music-performance major. I would not be the successful Presidential Scholar I am today if it hadn't been for Mr. Teufel."

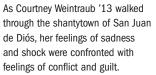


Profile

Study Abroad Brings New Direction

Field research and experiential learning exposes Courtney Weintraub '13 to the cultural and political environment of Argentina

by Tricia Long



Weintraub had left the comfort of her home in Central New Jersey to spend four months studying in Argentina. As she and her fellow travelers made their way through this struggling community in northern Argentina, the economic and environmental disparities of life became a harsh reality.

"It was absolutely devastating," says Weintraub, who toured the makeshift community after a flood. "This community is prone to flooding because of the temporal nature of the housing settlement, the poor plumbing and sewage system, and its geographic situation."

These settlements, called villas miseria or "neighborhoods of misery," are considered the slums of often ignored by the established communities they surround.

It was a pivotal moment in Weintraub's educational experience.

Each year 80,000 American students study abroad. While many head to Europe, a growing number of students, like Weintraub, are forgoing opportunities in western, metropolitan areas to immerse themselves in a culture unlike anything they've ever experienced.

Weintraub, a dual major in political science and Spanish, was looking for something more than a traditional study abroad program. Her interests in human rights and social movements guided her toward an opportunity that would immerse her in the cultural and political environment of Argentina through field research and experiential learning.

She joined an independent program run by the School of International Training that not

Cultural magazines written and





published in the villas (far left). Weintraub with children who live in the villas of San Juan de Diós (left).

Argentina and are common around urban centers. Small homes or shacks are made from various materials and organized into an informal settlements. Most lack many of the basic necessities and are

only opened her eyes to the world at large, but also stimulated her intellectual curiosity.

Despite her first impression of the villas, Weintraub saw past the poverty and devastation to realize that the members of the villa community are rich in culture and contribute to the greater society.

Weintraub, an Eckardt Scholar, began working in Villa Tranquila, located in the province of Greater Buenos Aires in the city of Avellaneda. There she was drawn to a youth social inclusion program that won a contest to enable them to start a cinema workshop for program participants. Through the workshop these students created a short fictional film that portrayed the reality of their lives titled "Primero, la verdad" which translates to "first, the truth."

Her research examines how youth in these informal housing settlements use cultural products, such as this film, to tell their stories to the Argentine public and elite society.

Weintraub, who works closely with Associate Professor of Spanish Edurne Portela, explores how cultural reproduction and identity negotiation play out as these youth groups construct the narratives that explain their lives and their position in society.

"This film really gave them the opportunity to show how they perceive themselves and how others perceive them," she explains. "For them, this short film is a port of entrance."

The film was invited to screen at festivals, including the International Film Festival on Human Rights in Buenos Aires and in Cuba. For many of the young filmmakers, their trip to Cuba was not only their first

time out of the country, but their first time outside Buenos Aires.

This work became a jumping off point for Weintraub, who received a Strohl Undergraduate Research Grant to take these same theoretical frameworks and broaden them to encompass magazines produced in the villas and sold at kiosks around the city.

"This movement is gaining a lot of momentum," she says, "There are many prominent publications now and their messages are starting to seep through. There's even a monthly magazine whose title translates as 'the powerful throat' that features important people in mass culture that came from the villas and work in government, football, and the entertainment industry. By appearing in the magazine, they demonstrate solidarity with the communities they came from."

Weintraub returned to Buenos Aires for three weeks over her most recent winter break, staying with her same host family, improving her Spanish, and tapping into resources that help her build valuable connections with the communities.

"My return to Buenos Aires was incredible," says Weintraub. "I already had a few contacts in the academic community that worked with me to reach editors of the independent magazines I studied. I was able to interview editors from two important independent magazines."

"What I've learned is that identity is never objective. If they write a piece in a magazine or newsletter themselves it's a much more important measure of an identity than anything an outsider could glean from certain social or cultural indicators."

Weintraub is now finishing her last semester as an undergraduate, but she'll continue her work as graduate student in Lehigh's department of political science as a President's Scholar. She hopes to also study urban planning and policy.

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Sitting in with Madeleine Albright

Former Secretary of State offers a personal plan for global unity

by Geoff Gehman '89 MA

Madeleine Albright came to Lehigh in 2008 to campaign for Hillary Clinton for president. In February she returned to campus to campaign for global respect, justice and sanity.

The first female Secretary of
State focused on fitting in during the
2013 Kenner Lecture on Cultural
Understanding and Tolerance.
Speaking in Baker Hall to a capacity
crowd that included series donor
Jeffrey Kenner '65, Albright recalled
being a young Czech émigré in the
U.S., trying to assimilate by reading
"mountains" of comic books. Her
efforts to romance American boys
were hindered by her father, a former
Czech diplomat who insisted on
chaperoning his daughter's dates.

Albright devoted most of her speech to ways of narrowing "the great divide between people who have the courage to listen and those who think they already know it all." The

world would be better off, she said, if more people tolerated religious differences, engaged "those who make you most upset" and critiqued their toughest truths, including the belief that "women are the weaker sex."

Albright praised Israeli and Palestinian citizens working to develop mutual respect—a peace project promoted by Joseph Montville '59, a former State Department official who directs the Esalen Institute's Abrahamic Family Reunion. She saluted Nelson Mandela for working to understand and forgive his white enemies during his 27 years in prison in South Africa. Compassionate wisdom helped him end apartheid in his homeland and, even more "astonishingly," become his country's first black president.

"No one is born prejudiced," said Albright, a 2012 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. "Bigotry and contempt for the rights of others must be taught."

A question-and-answer session prompted Albright to deliver an informal State of the Global Union address, at the same time President Barack Obama was addressing the State of the Union. The former United Nations ambassador insisted that refugees in Turkey and Jordan need more "non-lethal" support. UN and NATO forces should fight harder against civil war in Africa, particularly the Congo. "We better get our act together," said Albright, honorary head of the World Justice Project.

Albright received the loudest applause for declaring that members of Congress should settle the country's budget war before authorizing funds for foreign wars. She offered herself as a sort of bipartisan role model. She noted that Congress voted 99-0 to make her Secretary of State, a remarkable seal of approval for a liberal female Democrat.

Albright's most touching answer was to a question about discovering her Jewish heritage at age 59. She admitted it was extremely painful to

learn that two dozen of her relatives had died in concentration camps. It was more painful for her parents, who were living in England, trying to protect their young daughter when the Nazis killed three of their parents.

Throughout the evening Albright alternated between diplomat and daughter, professor of diplomacy and grandmother. At times she directly addressed students in the audience, turning a lecture into a kind of commencement speech. She admitted that as a young woman she never dreamed of becoming Secretary of State because "I simply had never seen a Secretary of State in a skirt." She earned big laughs when she admitted she felt entirely at home at a university where female rugby players sometimes compete in prom dresses.

Albright left the stage to a standing ovation, pausing to blow a kiss to a colleague.



Albright met earlier in the day with a group of Lehigh students, where they presented her with a custom designed pin.

She pretty much hit her marks for a good speech; the goal, she said, is to make listeners "laugh, think, cry and cheer—preferably in that order." She earned high marks from Donald Hall, dean of Lehigh's College of Arts and Sciences. "I found her refreshingly down to earth," he said, "unfailingly honest and pragmatic in her approach to international issues, and totally committed to speaking out for peace and justice worldwide."

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JOHN AND LISA MERRILL/CORBIS "We need to believe we really are a family. The key question is: What do we need to hear from the other sides to believe we are a family?" see page 18