Readers Rate the Year in Words: The Cupola's Top Stories

Headlines Highlight Environment, Economy, Election

By Dawn Medley

It is becoming a tradition, one that we relish. Not only did choosing the top 10 stories of the year give us the opportunity to think about the standout events and moments of 2008-09, but it also meant that we got to hear from you, the readers, about what you thought was compelling.

This is the third year that we have chosen 10 stories that defined The Cupola’s year in print. The assignment is a tough one each time. During this academic year, the economy and an historic presidential election captured national headlines and those in this newspaper as well. Rather than dominating headlines themselves in our campus coverage, civic and global engagement continued to be infused throughout nearly every article. We realize there are several significant items that did not make it on this list, but we believe the top 10 represents what people were talking about — and will continue to — during another exciting academic year.

GOING, GOING ... GREEN

It may be no small coincidence that this wrap-up is being written on Earth Day 2009 and that MBC’s green efforts emerged as the most talked-about topic from The Cupola’s top 10. From the Clean Plate campaign and recycled paper products in Hunt Dining Hall to a continued push to recycle paper, plastic, cardboard, and more through RecycleMania 2009, green practices are all around us on campus, and readers took notice.

“Whether it was saying good things about what M BC is doing for the environment, or talking about what the college could do better, I definitely heard people having conversations about going green,” said Cassandra Comardele ’12. The college recycled more than 10,500 pounds in the RecycleMania period, and more than doubled its ratio of recycled materials to landfilled waste from 2008.

A special green section in March reinforced the “reduce, reuse, recycle” mantra with an article by environmental advocate Lily Stejskal ’09, an update from M BC’s Green Council, and news about the formation of Staunton Green 2020, an organization that includes Mary Baldwin faculty and staff. The M BC community’s

Four-Day Weeks During Summer Could Help Save M BC $50K in Energy

This spring, discussions about innovative ways to reduce the college’s budget shortfall and conserve energy led to the decision to observe a four-day work week in June and July. David M owen, vice president of business and finance, estimates that M BC will save $50,000 through the Turn It Off campaign — introduced by President Pamela Fox in March — and by reducing cooling and electricity use in most campus buildings during the summer. Further savings could be realized by shutting off a chiller that cools King and Memorial Residence Halls and Wenger, and turning off the hot water supply for the summer, said Sharon Campbell, former director of auxiliary services.

For some employees, helping the college with energy and funds conservation will be a simple schedule shift, coming in earlier or leaving later on Fridays for a long weekend. For others, the transition involves more details and planning, but, as Grafton Library Director Carol Creager noted about her staff, everyone is “moving graciously” toward accommodating the temporary schedule change.

The four-day week will mean significant changes for some Physical Plant administrators and their employees. Several decisions still need to be made about exactly when and how to turn off air conditioning units to maximize energy savings while keeping employees comfortable, said Campbell. When those plans are set, it will be clearer what additional duties will be required of Physical Plant staff, who will, with some exceptions, work 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M arty Weeks, director of building services, said one of the biggest challenges will be coordinating times when air conditioning can be turned on temporarily in buildings for the intensive house-cleaning effort his staff is responsible for during the summer. He also noted that Adult Degree Program Summer Week will take place on campus, but students will be housed in a nearby hotel, not in un-airconditioned residence halls.

Robert Richardson, director of security, is working out a way to give security employees the option to take advantage of the four-day work week without compromising the department’s round-the-clock presence on campus.

“We want to be part of the overall program and to feel like we’re contributing members of the larger M BC community,” Richardson said. He added that security guards take seriously their task of switching off lights, printers, and
VWIL Program Will Feel Crunch of State Budget Cuts

In 2009–10, Mary Baldwin College’s Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership (VWIL) faces the most serious funding situation in its 14-year history. During its 2009 session, the Virginia legislature reduced state funding to the program by $264,000, a decrease of nearly half from its 2008–09 appropriation.

“We need to be clear that these funding cuts are difficult, but there is no way we would abandon the program,” said Crista Cabe, associate vice president for Communication, Marketing, and Public Affairs.

VWIL is a public-private partnership funded by a combination of state support and the college’s operating budget. During its existence, funding for the program — the only one of its kind in the world — has been threatened several times. Until recently, the college received about $200,000 in Unique Military Activities funds, an appropriation that supported the operational costs of military programs at Virginia Military Institute and Virginia Tech as well. Staff in the VWIL office was reduced to compensate for its discontinuation.

The 2009-10 cuts reduce the maximum state tuition assistance per enrolled VWIL student from Virginia. The state budget bill allows cadets to receive about the same financial award as non-VWIL undergraduates (RCW as well as ADP) who are Virginia residents and qualify for the state Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG). Previously, since VWIL was established as a publicly supported program within a private college, the VWIL grant was higher than TAG. As in previous years, next year’s state grant — whether the VWIL grant or TAG — will be but one component of an individual student’s total aid package, which takes both aid and merit into account.

Despite the cuts, the MBC community is grateful to many who wrote letters, made phone calls, sent e-mails, and visited the General Assembly to make the case for ongoing VWIL funding.

“VWIL is a model partnership, leveraging a small amount of public funding to achieve results not demonstrated by other public programs,” Cabe said. “We continue to make the case for restoring funding in the next budget cycle.”

Alumnae Challenge Classmates to Match Funds, Fervor

The white gloves have come off at Mary Baldwin College. Members of the college community are not only willing, but relish talking about money and fundraising in straightforward terms, says Claire “Yum” Lewis Arnold ’69, former chair of the college’s Board of Trustees. And we need to, she said, because that is when great things happen.

Arnold is confident that one of those great things will be generating $200,000 for MBC’s Annual Fund by the end of June through the Reunion Challenge. Not only did Arnold increase her own contribution to MBC, she also convinced four other women of varying ages and giving levels who celebrated Reunion this year to collectively contribute up to $100,000. Then they challenged all other alumnae in 4 and 9 Reunion years to raise $100,000. Arnold, Beverley Estes Bates ’64, Ann Bowman Day ’74, Cynthia Luck Haw ’79, and Holly Vitullo ’89 will match those donations for a possible total of $200,000. And Arnold is not done yet; she has a list of alumnae to call to ask for their donation to the challenge, and she does not plan to let it linger.

Contributions toward the $100,000 Reunion Challenge totaled approximately $23,000 in late April, according to Jen Hagen, director of annual giving.

“I was so pleased to be asked to speak about money at Mary Baldwin, especially during Reunion,” said Arnold, who thought about what she wanted to say in her address at the weekend’s gala dinner, but did not prepare remarks. “I thought it would be more sincere that way.”

It worked. Attendees cannot stop talking about the story she related about a speech she gave to the Alumnae Association Board of Directors several years prior that included a reference to “taking off the white gloves” while she literally did exactly that to illustrate her point. Arnold also made a memorable impression by confirming that she believes her contributions go farther and are better stewarded at Mary Baldwin than they would be anywhere else.

“When enrollment at private colleges and women’s colleges was dropping, we were forced to be, and able to be, entrepreneurial, and what resulted were … programs that are not only unique, but also benefit every student on campus.”

—CLAIRe “YUM” LEWIS ARNOLD ’69

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Commitment to Continue Living Boldly

This academic year has been a remarkable one. At mid-point in our 10-year strategic plan, Composing Our Future, we have exceeded our expectations. As we opened our 167th year, Mary Baldwin College celebrated record enrollment. We created 16 new and enhanced academic programs and initiatives. We exceeded the Bertie Deming Smith Challenge, raising more than $18 million as the foundation for The Campaign for Mary Baldwin. We have dared to make a difference.

As we navigated through the turbulence of the global economic crisis over the past few months, we once again have demonstrated the confidence, courage, and compassion that is the Boldly Baldwin ethos. We have made our community our priority, through compassionate initiatives such as the Smyth Textbook Fund and the Boldly Baldwin RCW Stimulus Package. As an entrepreneurial liberal arts college, our spirit of innovation and dedication to leadership at all levels drives our momentum as we create our way forward.

And, most significantly at this time of year, we celebrate the amazing accomplishments of the Class of 2009 as they prepare to descend the curved steps on May 24 to the Commencement platform on Page Terrace. Each day I receive joyous updates about seniors and graduate students being accepted into law school, doctoral programs, the Peace Corps, teaching posts in countries around the world, and so much more. Our graduates are not only creating their way forward to the next chapters of their successful and significant lives, but they are poised to create the answers and solutions necessary to lead our world forward as confident changemakers. I am so proud of each of our graduates. Truly our hope resides in them.

Let us continue to Live Boldly.

Pamela Fox, president

Scott ‘Catches Comet By the Tail’ as Interim Dean

The following message is an amended version of Dr. Edward Scott’s final annual Board of Trustees report in April.

* * *

This final year of my service as dean of the college has made me more wistful than I could have imagined. From the beginning, I dared not to believe that I might do any better than simply to do no harm. Had I thought I might star gaze for a year I was quickly and alarmingly made to understand that Mary Baldwin College could least of all abide the will to simply watch a comet. She would prefer to catch it by the tail.

President Fox is a comet chaser and had determined that the chief academic officer of the school must chase the comet too.

Throughout my ride I have been more boisterous than modesty will permit of all that we have birthed through the Spencer Center for Civic and Global Engagement. I remain resolved that it captures our best instincts and molds our finest impulses for sustaining local and global relationships ordered by shared concerns.

I have watched too, with growing admiration, collective ambition to grow an intentional program to address the needs of first-year students. I am especially grateful to co-directors, Dr. Carey Usher and student life staff member Lynne Gilliland ’80, who assume responsibility for fostering the success of this new initiative. The search to find a location for the Center for First Year Experience is underway.

The remaining areas for which the dean exercises supervision, from graduate programs to library resources, amplify my earlier sentiment about the comet. Each embodies a momentum achieved even in the crucible of devastating economic distress. It has been my good pleasure to mark the headlong flight of the M Lit/MFA program, to relish the tale that is woven by the ascendency of our athletic program, and to honor the stirring research of our undergraduates.

In the end, I am blessed among men to have lived without regret, though my vision may have been on occasion impaired by the dust of our comet. I am grateful for these past three years and the grand view they have afforded of a college headed toward a future uncertain but a future it shall surely master. I trust I did small harm during that time, and greater good than I might have hoped. I have fastened my grip upon the comet’s icy core and wait for the relief that new dean, Dr. Catharine O’Connell, brings after spring has run its course and summer brings the uncommon heat of our comet so near the sun.

Edward Scott, interim vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college.

Pamela Fox, president

“FOUR-DAY” Cont. from Page 1


Carrie Douglaes, professor of anthropology, a paper, “Thomas Jefferson: Kinship, and Horse Trading with the FFVs (First Families of Virginia),” Southern Anthropology Society, March 2009.

Sara Nair James ’69, professor of art history, lectures, “Art in Novels: Faith, Festival, and Civic Identity,” “Renaissance Drawing,” and “Researching Signorelli’s Frescoes in Orvieto: Serendipity and Discovery,” Shenandoah University, April 2009.


Claire Kent, associate professor of business administration, a presentation on sexual harassment from a business and organizational perspective, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University, March 2009.


(continued on Page 5)
SGA Gavel: Senate Board ‘Eagerly Planning’ for 2009–10

By Kara Jenkins ’11
SGA Vice President 2009–10

Becoming vice president of the Student Government Association at Mary Baldwin College is a great honor, and I am looking forward to the school year ahead and working closely with executive committee and Senate board. This year’s Senate leaders took the organization to another level. They are some of the most dedicated young women I have ever met. They took their duties seriously and introduced new ideas and events for Senate.

Among many other initiatives, I was proud to see that student Senate went paperless by placing important documents on Blackboard and introduced Hot Topic Tuesday, brief lectures presented by faculty and staff about timely topics.

The new Senate board is eager planning for next year. You were introduced to myself and Linde Bischak ’10 (SGA secretary) in the April issue of The Cupola, and we are joined on the Senate board by junior Kelly Rose Spessard (Senate parliamentarian) and Shannon Epps ’11 (Senate treasurer). I have already asked the board to think of goals that they want to fulfill next year.

For me, the top priority for student Senate is student involvement. Attendance at Senate is often low, so next year we plan to increase publicity about our meetings and encourage hall presidents and Senators to hold small-group Senate meetings in their halls at least twice a month. We want the student body to know they can have as great an impact on the school as student leaders and that their opinions are vital when discussing matters in Senate.

I also look forward to inspiring Senate members to be involved in community service projects. We are all determined to achieve and exceed the ambitious goals we will set.

Students in Motion

Linde Bischak ’10 was awarded a Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) fellowship from Carnegie Mellon. REUs are competitive awards funded by the National Science Foundation; awardees receive a stipend for 10 weeks of hands-on summer research experience.

Katherine-jo Galayda ’10 and Ruth Siboni ’09 received fellowships for the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. Galayda will work with Peter Ruiz-Haas, assistant professor of chemistry, at James Madison University this summer, and Siboni will travel to San Jose State University to work in the area of molecular biology.

Cytha Stottlemeyer ’09 was recognized as M BC’s Student Employee of the Year for her dedicated work as a research assistant for Laura van Assendelft, professor of political science. Stottlemeyer was vital to van Assendelft’s project tracking women in local politics, and the pair spent hours analyzing data, writing a paper, and presenting it at conferences. Stottlemeyer’s name appears with van Assendelft’s in the byline of the journal article about their research in Virginia Social Science Journal, published in April 2009.

What makes Cytha’s contribution unique is her ability to transcend the professor/student worker relationship and emerge as a professional colleague and researcher,” van Assendelft said.

Psychology students Anna Lauth ’09, Laura Taylor ’09, Mary Ann St. Amour ’09, Ruth Siboni ’09, and Alanna Warnick ’10 presented their original research at the Carolinas Psychology Conference in April. For more information and the titles of their presentations, visit www.meredith.edu/psych/cpc/default.htm.

MBC Friends and Family Rally at Relay

Mary Baldwin College raised more than $15,500 for the American Cancer Society during Relay for Life this spring. Approximately 167 M BC students, faculty, staff, friends, and family members—including more than 25 survivors—cheered each other on through the chilly evening to raise awareness for the fight against cancer.

Opening ceremonies included a moving survivor story shared by Stephanie Ward ’10 and a performance by Baldwin Charm. Katie-Jo Galayda ’10 cut her hair for Locks of Love to kick off the survivors lap, along with a handful of others including M BC students and staff. Special recognition goes to Matthew Gilliland, son of Lynn Gilliland ’80, director of First and Second Year Experience and cancer survivor. M athew raised $2,301 and M BC senior Amanda Feinstein raised $2,191, the top two fundraisers.

You can still help M BC raise more for cancer research. Donations will be accepted until August 31 by cash, check, or credit card by contacting American Cancer Society, 1920-H Medical Avenue, Charrisonburg, Virginia, 22801, or by calling 800-416-8847.
Take Note of These Names: Dozens Earn Awards and Honors

Mary Baldwin’s annual Honors Convocation gives the college a chance to recognize outstanding work of many of its students. Hundreds were lauded this year for making the Dean’s and Honors lists for grade point averages of 3.5 to 3.74, and 3.75 and above, respectively. For a full list of those students, see a recent article on the Mary Baldwin College news site at www.mbc.edu/news.

Each department also grants awards — many named in honor of influential professors and students in the college’s history. Nearly two dozen individual awards — which were a surprise to recipients — were given to students who excel in specific academic areas.

In addition, several awards are given at the annual Student Government Association banquet, where new leaders take their oaths. Congratulations to each of the MBC students whose accomplishments shine boldly here!

**Phi Beta Kappa**
Lucy Billiter, Michele Binger, Devon Burke, Brittanie Clark, Mary Kate Cowher, Yurie Gunji, Aja Harey, Denise Kinsinger, Aileen McLaren, Casey Stainback, Robyn Stegman, Rhea Vance-Cheng, Hannah Vargason, Linde Bischak, Kathryn Polak

**Global Honors Scholars**
Study Abroad Stipends
Michele Binger, Linde Bischak, Devon Burke, Elisabeth Madrell, Alison Presswood, Sterling Shelley, Robyn Stegman

**Richard S. Reynolds Foundation Scholarships for Study Abroad**
Kathryn Reyna, Hannah Scott, Rhea Vance-Cheng

**Adult Degree Program**
Loyalty Fund Scholarship
Katrina Braford, Jeanette Burke, Jacqueline Coleman, Diane Hollins, Catherine Mowhitor, Hollie Nase, Kathryn Reyna

**Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship**
Lanell Jarvis

**The Ulysses Desportes Award for Outstanding Achievement in Art History**
Aubrey de Cheubell

**The Ulysses Desportes Award for Outstanding Achievement in Studio Art**
Aubrey de Cheubell, Lindsey Gwaltney, Dede Hiner

**The Eric Matthew Brown Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graphic Design**
Kelly Rose Speard

**Scholar-Athlete Awards**

**Basketball:** Christie Hamilton and Kara Haws

**Cross Country:** Holly Breen, Christina Diette, Kristen Messema, Kathryn Stephens

**Soccer:** Elizabeth Baxter

**Softball:** Jaime Edwards, Christie Hamilton, Carolyn M. Achszak, Casey Stann

**Tennis:** Gretchen Domaleski, Ania Grazynski, Karen Torres

**Volleyball:** Linde Bischak, Jaime Edwards, Christie Hamilton, Kara Jenkins, Colina Roberts

**Mary Jane Donnelly Award**
Linde Bischak

**Alice McCa Class of 1976 Biology Award**
Meghan Corrigan-Cummins

**Biology Outstanding Student**
Ruth Sboni

**Business Administration Residential Program Outstanding Senior**
Daniele Rovira

**Business Administration Adult Degree Program Outstanding Senior**
Angie Pollard

**Hammock Award**
Alicia Bortone

**Charlotte Forlen Grmek Award**
Janell Henderson

**Outstanding Communication Senior Award**
Elizabeth Dattilo

**Benn Creative Writing Award**
Jael Cooper

**George C. Marshall Foundation Award**
Hannah Guarrendi, M.olly Smith

**First Year Calculus Award**
Kate Polak, M. ichele Vaisman

**Chemistry Outstanding Student**
Katey Gojeda

**Donald D. Thompson Memorial Scholarship**
Kendall Henry

**Dorothy Mulberry Award**
Brittanie Bailey, Marybed Hines, Sara Duffy

**Melissa Mitchell Award for May Term Study Abroad**
Christie Hamilton

**Melissa S. Mitchell Award for Excellence in Asian Studies**
Devon Burke, Aja Harey

**President’s Award**
Alicia Bortone

**Student Leadership Award**
Janaire Jackson

**Honor and Integrity Award**
Cynthia Rodriguez

**Unsung Heroes**
Aubrey de Cheubell, Aja Harey

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May 14, 2009

Selected students will present thesis projects. 1:30–5pm, Hunt West, Nuthouse, Hunt Gallery, and Miller Chapel.

Celebration Reception and Awards Presentation. 5–6pm, Hunt West.

Welcome and Opening 1:30–1:50, Hunt West. Dr. Edward Scott.

Multi-Media Presentations, Nuthouse

▲ 2–3pm
MANAGING THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF A GLOBAL SOCIETY
Brittanie Baughman-Rovira: An Analysis of Microsoft
Alicia Bortone: O lay
Hannah Vargason: Helping People Help Themselves: Policy Options that Promote a Higher Personal Saving Rate.

▲ 3:15–4:45
CULTURAL CHANGE AND ENDURING CULTURE
Laura Dean: North African Immigration and Its Political and Social Effects on France
Pamela Mendoza: When Did South Korea Get This Cool? Korean Pop Culture’s Influence on Japanese Opinions of Korea
Denise Kinsinger: Creating Opportunities for Civic Engagement in a Global Context by Reading Chaucer Aloud
Aubrey de Cheubell: Abstract Expressionist Ceramics: A Catalyst for a New Dialog Within Ceramic Art

Delivered Papers, Miller Chapel

▲ 2–3pm
CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION
Samantha Hudson: The Gullah: A People’s Resistance to Cultural Domination.
Catherine Kammer: Words for Weapons: The Success of the Nineteenth Century Non-Violent Irish Independence Movement
Robyn Stegman: For the Dalai Lama’s Consideration: Civic Engagement and the Tibetan Peace Movement
Sarah Wisecup: Women at War

▲ 3:15–4:45
CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN AMERICAN LIFE
Casby Stainback: A Political Perspective on Hunting with Hounds in Virginia.
Cytha Stottlemeyer: Making News and History: Race, Gender, and the Media in the 2008 Presidential Primary
Hannah Vargason: An Unlikely Exurb: The Meaning of Changing Preferences in the Housing Market in Frederick County, Virginia

Posters, Hunt West

▲ 2–3:15pm
SOCIAL SCIENCES, NATURAL SCIENCES, & HUMANITIES
Lucy Billiter: Factors in Decision Making
Elizabeth Gifford: Stabilization of Lipase in Chitosan
Mary Elizabeth Schwab: Skepticism within the European Union about Monetary Policies and Foreign Policies
Alanna Warnick: Effects of Horses on Self-Esteem and Locus of Control

Visual/Audio-Visual, Hunt Gallery

▲ 3:30–4:45pm
Aubrey de Cheubell: Crafting Content
Lindsey Gwaltney: Eggshells
Deirdre Hiner: Voices of Small Town Business: Portraits of Monterey, Virginia
McKenzie Taylor: Cocoa and Daisy Go to the Fair, A Children’s Book
Professors Praise Students with Capstone Nominations

“The Capstone Festival is a day when professors learn much from their students,” says Judy Klein, professor of economics. Launched in 2006, the college’s Capstone Festival — an event for public thesis presentations during May Term — has become the premier showcase for student academic work at M BC. As the event becomes more established, more students are thinking about being selected for Capstone while they work on their projects, but most often it is still their professors who first see a project’s potential to be brought to a wider audience. This year, 25 students accepted nominations for an outstanding senior project, honors thesis, or special undergraduate research project and will vie for prizes in three categories. The top paper, poster presentation, and visual or audio-visual projects will be awarded, and the faculty and staff members who nominated each participant will be pulling for each of them to do their best. Here is what a few nominators said about the students they selected:

▲ “In her senior economics project, Hannah addressed the very important issue of people not saving enough for retirement. She tackled challenging theoretical concepts (such as hyperbolic discounting) and made solid connections between data, recent insights, and policy prescriptions emerging from behavioral economics.” Judy Klein, professor of economics, nominator of Hannah Vargason ’09

▲ “As the Russell Scholar for 2008–09, Denise did a wonderful job of presenting her project for a public audience prior to the Capstone Festival. In addition to richly deserved recognition, the event will allow her to polish her presentation and more fully incorporate into her talk a video she made of students performing Chaucer’s “Nun’s Priest’s Tale.” By participating in the festival, she will highlight both the Russell Scholarship and the integration of community in engagement at Mary Baldwin.” Terry Southerington ’72, professor of theatre, nominator of Denise Kinsinger ’09

▲ “Sarah’s project [which examined the reactions of females at various levels of military experience to the movement to introduce women into military combat situations] is not only an excellent example of social science research methodology, it also examines an important issue for all women — not just those with military aspirations. The experience of sharing and disseminating her exciting research and knowing that others are learning from her own work is an experience that cannot be matched.” Carey Usher, assistant professor of sociology, nominator of Sarah Wisecup ’09

▲ “Abby worked like crazy all year and deserves the attention! Her project requires great care in her experimental techniques (extremely small concentrations and volumes as small as 1/1000th of a liter) and a great deal of time invested. The experiments have relevance for devices that detect small traces of specific chemicals and may have implications for selective drug delivery. The Capstone is her opportunity to explain interesting and important science to non-scientists.” Karl Zachary, assistant professor of chemistry, nominator of Abigail Turner ’09

Congratulations
TO ALL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING
IN THE 2009 CAPSTONE FESTIVAL

College Urges All to Take Precautions Against Flu

With the increasingly global outbreak of H1N1 influenza making daily headlines, Mary Baldwin officials are monitoring the situation very carefully and are prepared to act swiftly if needed. The college has for some years had plans in place for dealing with a potential flu pandemic. In the meantime, we are stepping up awareness on campus and urging students, faculty, and staff to take general flu-season precautions to stay well and protect our community:

▲ Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When that’s not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizer gels are effective.

▲ Avoid touching your face, eyes, and mouth.

▲ If you cough or sneeze, do so into a tissue and then throw it away. If you don’t have a tissue, use the elbow of your sleeve instead of your hand.

▲ Sanitize frequently-touched surfaces such as doorknobs.

▲ If you are in an area where there have been confirmed cases of flu, avoid close contact (including hugs and handshakes) with others, as people can be contagious before they feel sick.

▲ Symptoms to watch for include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue, and, in some cases, diarrhea and vomiting.

▲ If you feel sick, stay home to avoid exposing others. If you must be around other people (hard to avoid in a residence hall!), be considerate of others by following the steps above.

▲ If you begin to experience severe symptoms, contact your doctor or other health care professional without delay. Several anti-viral medications are effective against this strain of the flu, especially when taken early. However, please contact your health care professional by telephone beforehand to ask for advice on how to minimize possible exposure to others in the health care setting.

M BC’s updated Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan is available for download at www.mbc.edu/docs/admin_docs/pandemic_influenza_plan_042809.pdf.

M BC officials are communicating with local and state health officials, who are coordinating with and following the lead of the national Centers for Disease Control. We are also coordinating with other private colleges in Virginia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Centers for Disease Control provides the most detailed and up-to-date information including what to do if you get sick: www.cdc.gov/swineflu/

The Virginia Department of Health posts information specific to Virginia: www.vdh.state.va.us/


Keep an eye on your e-mail and the M BC Web site for updates.
COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

The following awards will be presented at Commencement, most of which are a surprise to the recipient until they are announced at the ceremony:

**Algernon Sydney Sullivan Student Award**, recognizing unselfish service, noble character, and spiritual qualities — and the accompanying Mary Keith Fitzroy Award.

**Algernon Sydney Sullivan Non-Student Award**, recognizing unselfish service, noble character, and spiritual qualities.

**Martha Stackhouse Grafton Award**, given to the graduate with the highest cumulative grade point average.

**Adult Degree Program Outstanding Student**

**Master of Arts in Teaching Student of the Year**

**Ariel Award**, given to an M Litt or an MA student whose generous hard work has made an outstanding contribution to the ideals and goals of the college’s graduate program in Shakespeare studies and who exhibits the power of collaboration between student and teacher.

**Ariel Award**

Graduates Will Be Confident, Compassionate, Cross-Cultural Changemakers

For some MBC students, seeing the world is just the beginning — they are compelled to action, says Heather Ward, director of international programs.

“Not every student in particular has redirected the profile of global citizenship in MBC,” Ward said when presenting Robyn Stegman ’09 with the college’s Global Citizenship Award for the second consecutive year. “M ary Baldwin is fertile ground for new leaders, and Robyn has emerged as a leader for global and civic engagement.”

Stegman chose Mary Baldwin College based on its strong international relations program and the incentives offered to her as a Global Honors Scholar. By the time she graduated from high school in Michigan, she had already traveled nearly a dozen overseas locations with her father and younger sister, and she sought a college that would build on that experience.

“I had a collection of international items as a kid — a Barbie from Argentina, a mat from Mexico, things like that. My dad wanted to share the world with us, and I never stopped wanting to learn,” she said.

After her freshman year at MBC, Stegman felt the itch to travel again, and she started looking for a program that would introduce her to Hind tradition, in which she had a growing interest. She was not deterred by the fact that Mary Baldwin didn’t offer such a program, and instead coordinated a plan to study abroad for a year in India through Antioch University, which has a headquarters for international students in Ohio. The journey was truly transformational, and included a stay in a monastery where Stegman took the vows — and shaved her head — to temporarily become a Buddhist nun.

“Travel alone does not make one a global citizen,” Ward said. “Robyn acts on what she sees and learns.”

Stegman connected her experience in India to MBC when she and several other students created the Mary Baldwin Global Initiative to raise awareness of human trafficking and other at-risk young girls around the world. A commitment to support Dhamma Moli girls school in Nepal, founded by nuns Stegman met while in India, is the product of her attendance — along with 14 other Mary Baldwin students — at the inaugural Clinton Global Initiative University. She also volunteered to mentor a student from Japan when she returned, becoming the college’s first MBC Ambassador, which is now a growing program.

“This year, she served as the resident advisor for the international Hall Living-Learning Community, and took advantage of breaks during the academic year to teach computer literacy in Uganda and learn about the peace process in El Salvador with M BC Artist-in-Residence Claudia Bernardi. She was one of the first students to enroll in the college’s Semester of Service, and through that practicum she organized a social entrepreneurship speaker series, interfaith dialogues, and M BC’s first Global Awareness Week. Not surprisingly, Stegman recently became one of the first to be inducted into the college’s Global Citizens Society.

She hopes each of these pieces contribute to her legacy at M ary Baldwin College. After a month of summer work with the Phoenix Project engaged in social entrepreneurship as a strategy to address poverty in Virginia, Stegman will start a year-long placement as an English teacher in South Korea through English Apple.

“My goal is to be a part-time worker or student and a full-time traveler,” said Stegman, who is applying for a Rotary scholarship for graduate studies in social entrepreneurship in M umbai, India.

“M ary Baldwin has been Robyn’s laboratory for a lifetime of global citizenship. I can’t wait to find out what she will do and where she will be next,” Ward said.

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Robyn Stegman is one of several MBC seniors who will continue their civic and global engagement after graduation May 24. Here’s a glimpse at a few more graduates with ambitious plans:

**Hana Vacek-Cheng**, a theatre major, spent a semester studying in India. Vacek-Cheng completed a minor in the relatively new field of peacekeeping and conflict resolution. After graduating at age 18 through the Program for Exceptional Gifts, she will pursue a master’s degree in peacekeeping and conflict resolution at Georgetown University.

**Pamela Mendoza and Devon Burke** have signed on to teach abroad through the Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) program. Although they do not yet know where they will be placed in schools, both are encouraged that the positions will open doors for their international career aspirations. Mendoza and Burke were also members of the first “class” of MBC Global Citizens, recognizing that they made international travel and cross-cultural events and understanding a priority while at Mary Baldwin.

During her senior year at Mary Baldwin, **Monica Roberts** created an informational video about the study abroad experiences of MBC students and faculty, a piece that Director of International Programs Heather Ward hopes to use when promoting opportunities at the college. On a study abroad trip to Cyprus during her freshman year, Roberts got a glimpse of life in London, and she plans to return there for graduate studies in industrial organizational psychology.
COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND CEREMONIES

Ajani
12:30 p.m. May 23
Rose Terrace Lawn
(Rain location: Dance Studio in PAC)
Speaker: Tiffany Jackson ’07
This year’s responder is Janell Henderson ’09. Awards to be presented:

 Phi Beta Kappa Initiation
5 p.m. May 23
Francis Auditorium in Pearce Science Center
Speaker: Dr. Thomas Berger, M BC visiting professor in M Litt
M ary Baldwin College is one of only a small percentage of colleges to house a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, widely considered the most prestigious of academic honor societies. Students who were notified of their selection this spring will be official members at the ceremony:

LUCY BILLETTER
YURIE GUNJI
CASBY STAINBACK
MICHELLE BINGER
ALMA HAYES
ROBYN STEGMAN
LINDE BIGGS
DENISE KINGSEGER
RHEA VANCE-CHENG
DEVON BURKE
AILEEN MCLAUREN
HANNAH VARGASON
BRITTANY CLARK
MELANIE PIND-ELIOTT
MARY KATE COWHER
KATHRYN POLAK

VWIL Commissioning Ceremony
11 a.m. May 23
Page Terrace
(Rain location: Physical Activities Center)
Speaker: Army Captain Mei-Ling Fye ’05
Seven of this year’s 13 VWIL graduates will accept a commission in the United States armed forces to serve in the Air Force, Army, M arines, Navy, or Coast Guard. The commissioning ceremony represents the culmination of four years of academic and physical work as students receive their first salutes as new officers in the armed forces.

VWIL Change of Command Review
2:30 p.m. May 23
Parade Ground at Physical Activities Ctr
(Rain location: Physical Activities Center)
Speaker: Brig Gen. Arnold Gordon-Bray, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army cadet command
The achievements of Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership graduates will be saluted as they pass their sabers to next year’s seniors. The event includes a full parade by the world’s only all-female cadet corps and the M BC/VWIL Band, which is made up of cadets and non-cadet students.

Seniors Show Bold Character in Local, National Media

Several seniors demonstrated their media savvy during the 2008–09 academic year by offering opinions, expertise, and heartfelt stories for members of the local and national press. Whether they stepped up when called on by Mary Baldwin’s media relations and publications team, or they were simply in the right place at the right time, one of the many ways M BC seniors will be remembered is for the ways they boldly represented the college on television and in print.

▲ Two of the biggest national stories this year were the presidential election and inauguration of President Barack Obama, and M ary Baldwin seniors were in the thick of the coverage. Casby Stainback supported Republican presidential candidate Sen. John M cCain, but she had the last word in an Associated Press article that was picked up in more than 100 national and regional media outlets with a nonpartisan parting line. “The more people who participate, the better off we’ll be,” said Stainback, M BC Student Government Association president. She was interviewed by Chicago AP reporter M artha Irvine for a piece that ran just a week before the election.

▲ Stephanie Ragland gave local media an up-close view of the January 20 inauguration when she attended several events in connection with the inauguration as an alumna of the Presidential Classroom program. She shared a memorable story with The News Virginian in Waynesboro, Virginia about then-Senator Obama shaking her hand and calling her by name. “How do you know my name?” she remembers asking, “Read the article. ‘Your name tag,’ he said, laughing and shaking her hand. ‘As we see on TV, he loves to communic- cate,”’ Ragland said.

▲ Senior Robyn Stegman was also part of a local news story about election issues discussions at M BC, but her interests also shone in two later pieces. She spoke passionately on Harrisonburg television station WSHV-TV3 in February about her attendance at the second annual Clinton Global Initiative University conference and the college’s commitment to help young girls who are at risk. In M arch, she contributed journal-type entries to the online publication D iverse: Issues in Higher Education while in El Salvador working with M BC Artist-in-Residence Claudia Bernardi on a mural in a community that was devastated by civil war.

▲ Coverage and reviews of M BC theatre and community productions were filled with regulars on stage such as seniors K atelyn Scott and Shae Armstrong. Scott had a co-starring role in M BC’s production of the musical comedy Wonderful Town, and Armstrong grabbed headlines as the lead in ShenanArts spring show The Secret Garden, keeping M ary Baldwin’s presence in the community’s thriving fine arts scene.

▲ Students were key to putting a face on the college’s M arch announcement of a Student Stimulus Package for those in the Residential College for Women. Senior Hannah Barrow appeared in television and print pieces to explain how the parts of the plan — Julias List, changemaker internships, and Leadership Gateways scholarships — would benefit students, specifically her sister Sarah Anne Barrow ‘12.

Speaker Delivers Message of Hope to Women Worldwide

Karen Sherman helps “stronger women build stronger nations” as executive director for global programs at Women for Women International. The phrase, used frequently by the social entrepreneurship organization that Sherman has been a part of since 2003, is not a hollow promise.

As M ary Baldwin College’s Commencement speaker, Sherman will share how Women for Women International has given hope to women in conflict zones in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Congo, and many other countries. Founded in 1993, Women for Women provides job and leadership training, small business development assistance, emotional support, and rights education to encourage women to support their families and contribute to their communities and to society.

“We are committed to working with the most socially excluded women in those populations because they are not being served by other organizations,” Sherman said in a presentation for the World Affairs Council. “We are motivated to move them from victim to survivor to active citizen in their communities.”

Sherman has an integral role at Women for Women International, coordinating program leaders in each country where the organization operates. She has more than 20 years experience in international development, including management of technical and financial aid programs for women, entrepreneurs, and non-governmental organizations worldwide. She is proficient in Russian and launched and operated a small business in the former Soviet Union, identifying entrepreneurial opportunities and finding partnerships in that region.

Prior to joining Women for Women International, Sherman was executive vice president at Counterpart International, a global development organization that operates in more than 60 countries. She earned a BA at George Washington University and an M A in Russian and Eastern European studies at George Washington University.
Saying Good-Bye: Three Retirees Served Collectively Nearly 75 Years

RESEARCH DIRECTOR

‘CRAFT’ED MEMORABLE CAREER

Her office nameplate should have read “Shirley Craft: Private Investigator.” For more than 20 years, she scoured newspaper clippings, court records, institutional databases, Lexis NEXIS, and countless other sources for information about people who were potential contributors — financially or otherwise. She did it all while maintaining high standards for confidentiality and the subject’s privacy.

Craft had already had a fruitful career before applying as administrative assistant to the director of development at MBC in 1987. She had held several positions at General Electric, worked in a law office, and been an administrative assistant at a school in Augusta County before applying for a job at Mary Baldwin.

In January 2009, Craft left her position as director of prospect research and records with more experience and opportunities than she could have imagined.

“I was already pretty adept at genealogy research — just through my own curiosity and teaching myself how to do it — so performing searches for people the college was interested in was an extension of that, like putting a puzzle together. The position took me beyond the routine and I was able to trace family histories and relationships and I discovered the influence of MBC on Staunton and the wider area,” she said.

One of the accomplishments in her late career was obtaining up-to-date or new research for 350 fundraising prospects in 2004–05, a task she completed with Joan Clark, former research associate. She also supported the cause during two major fundraising efforts, the Sesquicentennial Campaign and Leadership Initiative.

Craft has not left Mary Baldwin completely behind — she probably never will. Since her retirement, she has worked diligently on a project for the MBC Magazine and archives that started with an innocent trip to an estate sale. Craft frequently picks up Mary Baldwin memorabilia and artifacts at estate sales in the area. More than a year ago, she was excited to see the winning bid on a Mary Baldwin history book, but when she started flipping through it, she found the real treasure.

“I was overwhelmed, just overwhelmed,” said Craft, describing the handwritten notes she found scrawled in the margins on several pages of the book. Notes about Mary Baldwin’s hosting student gatherings, climbing a ladder to paint a building on campus herself, and other anecdotes written by Augusta Bumgardner, who graduated from Augusta Female Seminary in 1893. While at the seminary, she was in personal contact with Miss Baldwin.

Although she does not play an instrument, Aubrey Jackson followed his brother — James “Action” Jackson — to work at MBC in 1977 in the security department. H is enduring legacy at the college will undoubtedly be as a friendly, smiling, white-haired bearer of letters and inter-office correspondence. It was during 26 years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force that Jackson became acquainted with the federal mail system when he was assigned to work in the United States Postal Service. “I’ve always loved working with mail,” he said.

“With the book and its contents to the college archives.

“Mary Baldwin offered me so many benefits in the past 20 years — from the professional development seminars I was encouraged to attend, to the tuition exchange and employee enrollment benefits that helped put two of my five children through college and allowed me to experiment with a free course here and there,” she said. She also can’t help but brag that two of her daughters-in-law are Mary Baldwin graduates.

They’ll Be Missed

In addition to those who officially retired, the Mary Baldwin College community will feel the spaces left by these faculty and staff members:

MARY ALTIZER, housekeeper, 2005–2008. Altizer passed away this year after saying goodbye to MBC in December 2008 due to health.


EIKO MAUZY, housekeeper, 1988–2008. A beloved fixture in the Administration Building for many years, Mauzy was on campus to receive her 20-year service award, but retired in June 2008 and passed away shortly after. The housekeeping staff honored her with the planting of a Japanese cherry tree and plaque near the college greenhouse on Coaler Street.

Monique Johnson, a dedicated member of the housekeeping staff for 23 years, also retired in August 2008.

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PHOTOS BY DAWN MEDLEY

CRAFT

JACKSON
Employee Service Awards

7:30 a.m. May 26, Hunt West
From MBC’s regional center for adult and graduate studies in Roanoke to business and finance, grounds, dining services, and many other departments, 28 staff members celebrated service milestones this year. Faculty and staff members are invited to recognize these colleagues who have served a collective 350 years and to honor recent retirees Shirley Craft, Aubrey Jackson, and Munique Johnson at the annual appreciation breakfast.

30 YEARS
Patty Davis, BUSINESS AND FINANCE

25 YEARS
Joyce Franklin, ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES (ROANOKE)

20 YEARS
Becky McCray, BUSINESS AND FINANCE
Beverly Askegaard, LEARNING SKILLS CENTER
Lucy Crews, LIBRARY
Anne Holland ’88, ALUMNAE RELATIONS
Lydia Peterson, SPONSORED PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

15 YEARS
Jill Bennett, GROUNDS
Donna Bowyer, FACULTY RESOURCE COORDINATOR
Donna Crowe, HOUSEKEEPING
Tina Kincaid ’93, ALUMNAE RELATIONS
Sue Howdyshell, SUPPORT SERVICES

10 YEARS
Deborah Fisher, DINING SERVICES
Lori Johnson, MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING
Kay Rexrode, BUSINESS AND FINANCE
Sylvia Strother, DINING SERVICES
Lonnie Wallace, DINING SERVICES
Michael Bissell, VWIL
Debra Camden, ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES (STAUNTON)

5 YEARS
Angela Alltop, PSYCHOLOGY
Richard Arnold, DINING SERVICES
M alinda Brown, RESIDENCE LIFE
Dedra Johnson, ADMISSIONS
Carol Larson, COMMUNICATION, MARKETING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Kim Robinson, REGISTRAR
Hather Ward, SPENCER CENTER
Roger Wilborn, ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Where in the world is ... Susan Thompson Timmons ’64?

An occasional feature mapping our alumnae/i around the world

Mexico
Leisure
Visited Mayan archeological sites on the Yucatan peninsula.

Canada
Leisure
Trips to several provinces

COSTA RICA
Leisure
MBC MayTerm ornithology trip
Susan and her husband, Tim, were not officially enrolled as students in MBC’s neo-tropical ornithology course, but they were invited to enjoy the privileges and instruction as full-rigged members of the group. “It opened the world of birds (beyond my backyard) to me, but also reinforced my passion for plants. I have since given presentations about plants of Costa Rica and volunteered as a horticulture educator in inner-city schools.”

Europe (Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Ireland, France, England, Scotland, and more)
Leisure
MBC MayTerm trip in international business
Timmons’ first MayTerm trip with MBC students was with professors Dan Dowdy and Claire Kent for a business class that took place in France, Switzerland, Germany, and Austria.

Bermuda and the Caribbean
Leisure

South Korea
Marketing work for Max Factor, Inc.
“My first and most life-changing experience abroad was two years living and working in South Korea beginning in 1967. I have gratifying memories of the lovely Koreans I met, worked with in my job and volunteer activities, and befriended. I recall an especially heartwarming occasion when I served as a judge for an oratory competition and was offered a window into the hearts and minds of bright and caring young Korean students who were learning to speak and write in English.”

Timmons traveled frequently to Tokyo for business meetings and had the opportunity for an extended tour of the Far East, including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore. She returned to Korea and Japan as a tourist 20 years later and was astounded by the sparkling river, five-star hotels, and other amenities of the modern world that were nowhere to be found in the 1960s.

Profession: I have been enjoying retirement (although not slowing down much, it seems!) since I left my most recent position as vice president for Institutional Advancement at MBC in spring 2008. My career highlights include founding and serving as the first president of LEAD VIRGINIA — for which I continue to serve on the board of directors — and various administrative roles and teaching posts in higher education, including those at University of Virginia, Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, and Averett University. Soon after college graduation, my position with Max Factor, Inc. was the one that really ignited my desire for international travel.

MBC studies: I didn’t study abroad while at MBC, but my liberal arts education opened my mind, and that’s the greatest gift MBC could have given me in preparation for travel and work abroad. I studied hard to graduate in three years, but if I had it to do all over again, I wouldn’t be in such a rush and would certainly study abroad. MBC gave me the desire (no, a craving) to learn about our world and the people who inhabit it — and to be a person of the world.

On travel abroad: This zeal for learning and travel just keeps weaving a variety of interests into the rich fabric of my life over time. I’m coming full circle from my experience in South Korea with a mission trip to Malawi in May 2009. I look forward once again to being in a small village, where despite subsistence living in one of the poorest countries in the world, the people are the “warm heart of Africa,” a phrase used frequently to describe Malawi.

My experience in Costa Rica with MBC students encouraged me to focus on birds and flora around the world, and I’m already dreaming of visiting Kirstenbosch National Botanic Gardens in Cape Town, South Africa. The Costa Rica trip also gave me insights into conservation and wise use of our natural resources on a global scale, reinforcing and updating my work in the 1970s with Virginia’s Council on the Environment. Similarly, a cooking school I attended last year in France led by classmate and celebrity chef Paula Lambert underscored the nutritional, aesthetic, and taste value of locally grown fresh seasonal foods, another one of my passions. The connections go on and on.

After our work in Malawi in May, we plan to visit Cape Town South Africa, Victoria Falls in Zambia, and Chobe Game Reserve in Botswana. Later in the summer, we will tour Spain, Scotland, and England with two of our sons and other family members. We’ll be in Edinburgh for The Gathering 2009, and we’re getting our tartans ready!
green momentum came through in the fact that this story — or collection of stories — received more votes than any other.

**PRESIDENTIAL POSITIONING**

It is no surprise that the election and inauguration of President Barack Obama was frequently ranked as one of readers’ top choices. Involvement and interest in presidential campaigns began to crop up as early as the first issue of The Cupola this year. By October, there were stories about election issues discussions in the Spencer Center and a bus trip organized to see Obama campaigning in Harrisonburg. Discussion was lively without being partisan. Several students, faculty, and staff were quoted about the election in the media, the most cited being a non-partisan line from Casby Stainback ’09, “The more people who participate, the better off we’ll be,” which was included in an Associated Press report that appeared in more than 160 media outlets nationwide.

The January 20 inauguration, too, was a major event for the MBC community. “I will never forget sitting in Francis Auditorium watching a group of truly engaged students,” said Terri Walker, administrative coordinator of academic affairs, reflecting on the group that gathered to watch President Obama take his oath. “I was proud of M ary Baldwin for encouraging us to take time to witness this historic event and truly feel a part of it.”

Stephanie Ragland ’09 and Kimberly Parker ’11 gave us, and the wider community, eyes on the scene when they reported back about their attendance at the historic event in Washington DC, and other students, faculty, and staff shared stories, too. Truly, these are events that we will look back on to say, “I was at M ary Baldwin when...”

**A TEXTBOOK CASE OF GENEROSITY**

Sure, it would have been nice to have another visitor like tennis superstar Venus Williams — who spoke on campus in 2007 — through the generosity of M ary Beth Smyth ’47 and H. Gordon Smyth. But the longtime M BC benefactors had a more practical, and ultimately more meaningful, idea. In light of the national financial crisis, the Smyth Textbook Initiative redirected funds that had been used in previous years to bring a speaker to campus toward a 10 percent discount on all textbooks purchased at the M ary Baldwin Bookstore for spring semester.

More than $20,000 in discounts were recorded at the Bookstore, and the effort put M BC on the national radar as an example of a college with an innovative way to help students through tough times, including an article on CollegEBound.net, an online site for prospective students.

“It is difficult to watch a student give up on an education because of funding. Even a small step like paying for a portion of even one book will hopefully make students feel that we truly want to aid in their success,” said Terri Walker, administrative coordinator of academic affairs.

**STUDENT S SAVE WITH STIMULUS**

Another story that made the top 10 adapted a national initiative M ary Baldwin-style. The Residential College for Women (RCW) Student Stimulus Package generated conversations by offering students increased financial aid during a recession that was already affecting the college’s bottom line. It was hard for Cupola readers to miss the fact that M ary Baldwin holds the success of its students as a top priority.

“1 am so impressed with the stimulus package. It is an excellent example of our college’s visionary leadership and its commitment to our students and our community as a whole,” said Jen Hagen, director of annual giving.

Questions from current students about how to apply for one of the 50 paid changemaker internships and who would be included on Julia’s List for additional aid reached President Pamela Fox almost immediately after the announcement. The 250 awards of $2,000 each for first-year students who choose a Leadership Gateway to guide their first year and possibly beyond — the third component of the stimulus package — was on the minds of many during Future Freshman Friday in M arch. We are just beginning to see how the initiative will shape M BC, making this a story we’ll continue to track in 2009–10.

**NEW DEAN ON THE SCENE**

There are some instances where the wait is worth the result. The three-year search process that ended with Dr. Catharine O’Connell’s selection as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college is one of these, as readers voiced with their votes. Bruce Dorries, assistant professor of communication, posed the question, “When did we last have a woman in this position?” and it is clear that many in the campus community are eager to see what the working relationship between President Fox and Dean O’Connell will generate.

After several visits to M BC this semester — including a warm and personal reception in the Administration Building — O’Connell won’t waste time; she’s getting started on the 2009–10 school year with a faculty retreat right after the annual Opening Reception in August.

In a recent letter to faculty, O’Connell offered “Best wishes for a productive and smooth conclusion to the academic year, and thank you to all who have already done so much to welcome M att and me to the community.”

**COLLINS CONNECTS WITH COMMUNITY**

Another visitor was only on campus for one weekend, but that was enough to make a lasting impression on faculty, staff, and students alike. Leading genetic expert Dr. Francis Collins’ presence at M ary Baldwin’s Alumnae/i College was cited by several readers as a top story because of the recognition that his association brings to the college and the Valley. “It is just great that someone of his caliber knows people here by name and continues to have a relationship with the college,” said M arion H. Hart, administrative assistant for advancement services.

Collins has maintained the family connection to M BC established by his parents, Dr. Fletcher Collins, Jr. and M argaret Collins, a dynamic pair that shaped the performing arts landscape at M ary Baldwin and in the Shenandoah Valley beginning in the 1940s. Fletcher retired from M BC as professor emeritus of theatre after nearly 30 years of service. In addition to homeschooling her children, M argaret led classes at M BC and elsewhere. We are proud to call Francis Collins part of the M ary Baldwin family; he will always be a big story.

**A GLOBAL VIEW**

Each time the college solidifies a new international educational relationship, it is newsworthy; taken as a group, the global partnerships set up at M ary Baldwin this year are remarkable. Two cadets in the Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership departed in August to become the first official ambassadors in M BC’s new exchange program with Lady Doak College in Madurai, India. In January, we welcomed to Staunton two cadets...
from Lady Doak’s program, who participated in many campus events, including the spring International Festival. The connection was further strengthened by a week-long visit by Dr. Valliammal, a professor from Lady Doak.

In October, the signing of an agreement with Sungshin Women’s University in Seoul, South Korea, opened more exchange possibilities with the Far East. Heather Ward, director of international programs, is pleased to report that at least eight students from Sungshin will attend Mary Baldwin in 2009–10, and she hopes our students will soon study at Doshisha Women’s College and there and that faculty see another open.

Hopes our students will soon study Mary Baldwin in 2009–10, and she

Students from Sungshin will attend

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with the Far East. Heather Ward,
director of international programs,
is pleased to report that at least eight students from Sungshin will attend Mary Baldwin in 2009–10, and she hopes our students will soon study there and that faculty see another open door for teaching and researching abroad. With established partnerships at Doshisha Women’s College and Tokyo Jogakkan University in Japan and growing relationships with exchange programs in Northern Ireland and the Middle East, Ward expects the number of international students at M BC to jump from 21 in 2008–09 to 30 next year. In addition, several Baldwin students are already planning for study abroad in Japan, India, Northern Ireland, and Australia.

New international exchanges have the potential to really impact the demographics and day-to-day feel of M BC as well as open incredible opportunities for our students,” said Steve Grande, director of civic engagement and Ward’s colleague in the Spencer Center.

ACADEMIC INNOVATION CONTINUES

Last year, issues of The Cupola were filled with announcements about new programs and academic initiatives, many the result of President Pamela Fox’s “call to innovate” and support in the form of an Innovation Fund created by a generous alumna donor. Two new minors, a new graduate program, and a refocused business curriculum announced during this academic year are significant in shaping the Mary Baldwin College of the future. Eyes and ears will be tuned in next year — and even sooner, in some cases — when the first students enroll in the Master of Education program and others discover what is required to earn a minor in civic engagement or business administration. And anyone who takes a business course at M BC will recognize that department’s emphasis on sustainability and on building a better world while building better businesses.

CHALLENGES MET AND POSED

Readers went all the way back to the first issue of the 2008–09 school year to vote for the final story in this year’s top 10: the $17.9 million impact of meeting and exceeding the fundraising challenge issued by Bertie Deming Smith ’46 in 2005. A regular supporter of the college’s Annual Fund for many years, Smith’s initial large donation came in the form of $500,000 in 2004. It was matched in 2004–05 by $1 million from other donors.

Inspired by that outcome, Smith pledged an additional $6 million and called for the largest matching challenge the college had ever attempted. The college raised over and above Smith’s original match, and an additional donation from Smith herself boosted the Challenge total to $17.9 million, according to Angus M CQueen, interim vice president for Institutional Advancement.

To ensure that funds raised through the Smith Challenge — as it was later named — benefited all areas of the college, it was divided into three categories: endowment, capital improvements, and Annual Fund. Despite a weakening national economy, fundraisers at the college kept the momentum going and growing in 2008–09. Just recently, a group of motivated alumnae led by former Board of Trustees chair Claire “Yum” Lewis Arnold ’69 challenged those who celebrated Reunion in 2009 to raise $100,000 for the Annual Fund, which the group members will match with $100,000 of their own funds.

“The remarkable success of the Smith Challenge is a testament to the commitment of Mary Baldwin’s alumnae, parents, and friends to the college’s mission and to our students,” said John Hagen, director of annual giving. “The amount of money raised is a truly transformational gift that has allowed us to enhance our campus, enrich our community, and support our students.”

Stories to Watch in 2009–2010:

△ New Dean Catharine O’Connell’s first year

△ Study abroad and international presence fostered by new international exchange agreements

△ First students following the paths of Leadership Gateways

△ New minor in American Studies

△ Students participating in changemaker internships on and off campus

△ Heart, the college’s third annual college-wide theme

△ MBC’s continuing commitment to find innovative ways to cope with economic uncertainty

J anet Ewing, associate professor of business administration, was invited to serve as a Boren Scholarship Panelist by the Institute of International Education. Boren Scholarships are funded by the National Security Education Program, a U.S. government program which focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security.

Lynn Gilliland ’80, was recognized at MBC’s Student Government Association installation as Advisor of the Year.

Carole Grove, director of MAT and MEd and professor of education, received the Commitment to the Teacher Education Profession Award 2009 from the Virginia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in recognition of her outstanding service and contributions to teacher education.

Marlena Hobson will employ her recent $12,000 Mednick Fellowship Award from the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges to continue research for a book she is planning on the Novocentro movement in Italian art. During her spring 2009 sabbatical, Hobson will visit the Museum of Modern Art, Fritz Museum, the Library of Congress, and other sites specifically to find information about N.G. Fluni, a member of the Novocentro movement and her grandfather.

Lallion Pond, associate professor of business administration, was accepted into a Fulbright Hays Seminar Abroad Program to study Chinese history, culture, and economic development for four weeks in China this summer.

Rod Owen, professor of philosophy and Spencer Center faculty fellow, was selected to participate in a faculty seminar this summer at Calvin College entitled Deliver Us from Evil: Genocide and the Religious World.
Academic Catalog Goes On Diet, Gets Enhanced Web Directory for 2009–10

It is one of the must-have publications for every student. It comes out every year. It is ponderously long and filled with requirements ... until now. Professor of Theatre Virginia Francisco '64 and Director of Publications and Media Relations Carol Larson are working on a major overhaul of the 2009-10 academic catalog that will make it more user-friendly, succinct, and environmentally responsible.

“We rethought the function of the catalog and focused on providing information students need to graduate efficiently and faculty need to help them: general education requirements, undergraduate and graduate degree requirements, major and minor requirements, pre-professional programs, course listings, and academic regulations,” Francisco said. The team added the following points to explain the changes readers will see:

▲ “We put the catalog on a diet by using only brief introductions for many topics and by introducing a Web directory for much of the information that is already available online,” Francisco explained.

▲ "Courses will be listed alphabetically under each discipline with condensed course descriptions for easier reference,” Larson said, adding that “Readers will be directed to department Web sites for more information.”

▲ "Lest anyone assume that the new version is a wholesale condensation: ‘We have lent visibility to some attractive programs that have been lost in the welter of the catalog and so seem to be little known among students, such as consortium exchange,” Francisco said.

▲ "Acknowledging that many people, particularly students, seek information online, the 2009–10 catalog — now referred to and searchable simply as the Catalog — will be available online,” Francisco said. Support Services will again offer to download and print additional copies, if needed, at a low cost.

What will you find in The Catalog? Matters of public record and information mandated by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities: the college calendar, president’s letter, mission of the college, brief statement about admission requirements, declarations page, responsible parties (Board of Trustees, faculty emeriti, current faculty including ongoing adjunct faculty and administrators with faculty status) and — new this year — only names of heads of administrative departments.

“In hard economic times, acknowledging the high cost of print publications, especially those that are quickly outdated, we have made earnest effort to condense while making the publication more functional. The updated version offers more information via the new Web directory, and we hope every user will benefit from this labor,” Francisco said.

The Catalog will be available on June 19, the college’s first summer registration day, at www.mbc.edu/college/catalog.asp.
May 7
- BPB Event: TOTTS. 5-9pm
- Student Event: Senior Transitions for Juniors. 1-2pm, Miller Chapel.

May 9
- Student Event: Trip to Kings Dominion. 8am-11pm, leave from SAC parking lot.

May 12–24
- Art Exhibit: Capstone Exhibitions. Hunt Gallery in Hunt Dining Hall.

May 14
- BPB Event: Thursdays on Tyson Terrace. 5-9pm

May 16
- BPB Late Night Series: 9pm-1am, Nuthouse in Hunt Dining Hall.

May 19
- May Term ends
- Adult Degree Program Spring Semester ends

May 20
- Residence halls close for non-graduating students: 10am. Only graduating seniors and students working Commencement are allowed to remain on campus housing.

May 21
- Faculty Meeting: 2pm, Hunt West. Note day and time change.

May 22–24
- Commencement Weekend. Selected events. For more information, see pages 8 and 9 or visit www.mbc.edu/commencement.
  - May 23: Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society Induction. 10:30am, Francis.
  - May 23: VWIL Commissioning Ceremony. 11am, Page Terrace.
  - May 23: Ajani Ceremony. 12:30pm, Rose Terrace Lawn.
  - May 23: VWIL Change of Command Parade. 2pm, Upper Athletic Field.
  - May 23: Reception to Honor PEG Graduates. 3:30pm, Hunt.
  - May 23: Phi Beta Kappa Induction and Reception. 5pm, Francis.
  - May 23: Commencement Ball. 9pm-1am, SAC.
  - May 24: Commencement. 10am, Page Terrace.
  - May 24: Residence halls close. 4pm.

May 25
- Memorial Day, college closed
- Summer Registration Day

July 6
- Fourth of July holiday observed, college closed
- Summer Registration Day
Lallon Pond, associate professor of business administration for ADP

Seventeen years into her career at Mary Baldwin College, Lallon Pond relishes the fact that she has experience with both traditional undergraduate students and those in the Adult Degree Program. She also considers herself “extremely fortunate” to have had an integral role in shaping the business department’s shift to a focus on sustainability, which she sees as a reflection of the faculty’s commitment to social responsibility. The discipline’s restructuring, which includes a new minor in management, is a hallmark of the college’s innovative spirit and growing emphasis on social entrepreneurship.

“I hope that by teaching young women—and students of all ages—to be responsible for themselves and their world, we will end up with a more hospitable social, economic, and environmental place in which to live,” Pond said.

The first 10 years of Pond’s tenure at MBC were split evenly between teaching in ADP and the Residential College for Women. Although she officially segued to a full-time position in ADP several years ago, she continues to “feel allegiance to both programs,” and works closely with on-campus colleagues while she serves as director of the Staunton and Blue Ridge Community College ADP offices.

Between her professional work, advising the SOULS student organization, yoga classes, meetings as a member of MBC’s Green Council, and volunteering at the community garden on campus, Pond took time to let us get to know her a little better.

What I do: Some days I feel like a better question would be what I don’t do! I advise about 80 Adult Degree Program students, which requires frequent contact. As director of the Staunton/BRCC regional office, I make sure that we are serving our constituency and that we adequately determine how college-wide policies affect our students. I also teach social science statistics on campus once a year and five times a year for ADP. I co-chair the business department and serve as a division coordinator, which is a group of faculty who serve as a liaison between administration and faculty.

Who’d play you in a movie? Why?
Kathy Bates. Because I want to run into a car like she did in Fried Green Tomatoes.

What is in your home CD/tape player? Sometimes Why, Iris Dement, Chris Smither, Beausoleil

People would be surprised to know: I love to dance, I hate to wear a bra, and I know I’m fat.

What is your favorite word?
Serenity. It implies peace within and a bra, and I know I’m fat.

What profession, other than yours, would you like to participate in? I’ve always wanted to be a doctor, but I also dream of being on Dancing with the Stars, or being a professional knitter, or a veterinarian, or a philanthropist. The list goes on … my latest kick is to own and operate a sustainable farm like Polyface Farm in Augusta County.

What is your favorite MBC tradition and why? Is debating the academic calendar like we can actually change the structure of time considered a tradition? On a more conventional note, I love the end of graduation when students come up the hillside stairs and the memories come flooding. It’s such a hopeful time.

Several of the above questions are courtesy of the questionnaire invented by Bernard Pivot, used on Bravo’s Inside the Actors’ Studio.

Have a favorite person on campus who needs a little nudge into the spotlight? The Cupola will accept nominations for Third Degree profile subjects throughout the year at cupola@mbc.edu. Send along their name and why you think it would be great to read about them here!

Kristin Dulaney was named an ADP adjunct instructor of education. She earned a BS from Longwood College and an M Ed from University of Virginia. Dulaney is an adjunct instructor at John Tyler Community College and a reading specialist for Prince George County public schools.

Brent Douglass recently joined the Aramark staff as director of auxiliary services at Mary Baldwin. Douglass earned his BA at Dartmouth College and is certified in executive management from University of Norte Dame. He has previous experience in facilities operation at Wintergreen Resort, Longwood University, and Randolph-Macon College. His wife is M BC alumna Carter M offett Douglass ‘72.

What is your least favorite word?
Can’t implies you haven’t tried, or you’re unwilling to learn by making mistakes. Mistakes are a great teacher, so when you say you can’t, you’re giving up an opportunity.

What sound or noise do you love? Church bells ringing on a warm spring evening. In my backyard, I can hear bells from a nearby church and it reminds me that I live in a small town (I like that, most of the time).

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