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On these pages . . .
Apple blossoms in Linnaeus Arboretum are a sure sign of spring. Photo by Anders Björling '58
Expanding the College’s boundaries

When I was a student at Gustavus in the late ‘60s, the idea of off-campus study was just gaining momentum. Summer study tours had first been made available to Gustavus students nearly 20 years earlier, through two programs that represent the roots of today’s well-organized international program, but the summer months provided the only feasible opportunity for travel abroad or off-campus study.

The Student Project for Amity among Nations (SPAN), Minnesota’s oldest study-abroad program, began offering study tours to students enrolled at Minnesota colleges and universities in 1947. Christianity professor George Forell led the first Gustavus group of six students on a SPAN summer trip in 1949. In 1953 the College’s own Bernadotte Foundation provided financial support for the first Bernadotte European Study Tour (BEST), which involved about 20 students and their adviser, College treasurer C.E. Jostad. The BEST program offered a study tour for a mix of students and faculty every other summer from 1953 through 1963.

In 1963 Gustavus was among the first colleges and universities in the nation to adopt the 4–1–4 curriculum—two semesters separated by a January Term during which students enrolled in only one class. The flexibility inherent in taking just one course allowed Gustavus faculty to propose January travel courses. By 1968, when an international programs office was added to the administration to handle the burgeoning interest, the departments of art, languages, theatre, biology, and economics had developed their own international travel courses or were coordinating with other 4–1–4 colleges. Education and religion courses offered domestic travel. Biology professor Ward Tanner led a very popular “Tropical and Terrestrial Marine Biology” course that studied reef life in Puerto Rico. Business professor Ellery Peterson ‘49 annually took a group of business and economics majors to Europe. When I was a student at Gustavus in the late ‘60s, this trip was an important part of my years at Gustavus. However, I was part of the Gustavus Choir’s first international tour in the summer of 1967, a three-week concert tour of Sweden and Denmark followed by two weeks of independent travel, during which I headed for England and Scotland.

I must admit that I didn’t take advantage of the opportunity to study away from campus during my years at Gustavus. However, I was part of the Gustavus Choir’s first international tour in the summer of 1967, a three-week concert tour of Sweden and Denmark followed by two weeks of independent travel, during which I headed for England and Scotland. While not a study tour in the sense of a SPAN or BEST trip or any of the then-available January Term travel courses, it did serve to awaken my curiosity about how the rest of the world lives.

Fast-forward to the 21st century. Opportunities for cross-cultural awakening through off-campus study abound, thanks in part to another great idea—the development of semester-long international and domestic study programs. During the fall semester of 2008, 54 Gustavus students studied off-campus in 22 countries (Argentina, Australia, Chile, China, Denmark, England, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, and Tanzania, as well as the United States). During the January 2009 Interim, 150 students enrolled in Gustavus faculty-led off-campus study courses in 12 different countries. This spring 61 students are studying off-campus in 18 countries, including Costa Rica, Jordan, and Thailand, and seven others are completing full-year programs in five different countries.

The Center for International and Cultural Education at Gustavus Adolphus College is now a critical tool in helping to realize the College’s mission of being “a community of persons from diverse backgrounds who respect and affirm the dignity of all people,” a community in which “students are encouraged to work toward a just and peaceful world.” Read about our study-away initiatives in this issue of the Quarterly.
Nordstrom knighted by Swedish crown

Byron Nordstrom, professor of history and Scandinavian studies, was awarded the insignia of Commander in the Royal Order of the Polar Star on Nov. 8 from Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf. Nordstrom received the honor at the 60th anniversary meeting of the Swedish-American Historical Society in Chicago, Ill.

The Royal Order of the Polar Star, founded in 1748 by King Frederick I, is given to deserving non-Swedish citizens who personally contribute to Sweden’s benefit and to strengthening ties between Sweden and other countries. The honor is the highest award the Swedish royal family can bestow on a foreign national and has previously been awarded to such notables as Gen. Colin Powell, the late Nobel laureate Glenn Seaborg, and VocalEssence founder and director Philip Brunelle.

Nordstrom has been a professor of history and Scandinavian studies at Gustavus since 1974. His professional and research interests are in Swedish-American and Scandinavian history. Over the course of his career he has written a number of books, including A Dictionary of Scandinavian History, Scandinavia Since 1500, and The History of Sweden. He has also contributed chapters in books, written articles on various aspects of Swedish-American life in Chicago and Minneapolis, and authored numerous reference works on Scandinavian history. Nordstrom, who has been president and an advisory board member of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, served on the board of the Swedish-American Historical Society from 1981 to 1987 and 1988 to 1994, and has been editor of the society’s journal, Swedish-American Historical Quarterly, since 1997.

Nordstrom joins Gustavus presidents Carlson (1963), Barth (1976), Lindell (1976), Kendall (1987), and Steuer (1996), as well as former Dean of Students Melva Lind (1963) and former Vice President for Development Robert Peterson (1996), in being so honored by the Swedish crown.
Rachel Schmitt, a sophomore from Excelsior, Minn. (third from right), reigned as St. Lucia for Gustavus Adolphus College’s 68th annual Festival of St. Lucia, a Christmas-season tradition that reflects the College’s Swedish heritage and celebrates the “return of light” to the world. She was selected by community vote from a court of six sophomore women who had been nominated based on their academic achievement, spiritual leadership, service to the College, charity, and kindness toward others.

Fellow sophomores in the Lucia court were, from left, Bergit Nerheim, Minnetrista, Minn.; Sarah Cartwright, Windom, Minn.; Amber Kirk, Coon Rapids, Minn.; Schmitt; Kimberly Braun, formerly of Mankato, Minn., now living in Sioux Falls, S.D.; and Megan Myhre, Bloomington, Minn.

Children of Gustavus employees participate in the Lucia procession each year as star children and tomten. This year’s group included Alex Wilson, son of Marie Walker, associate professor of psychology, and her husband, John Wilson; Breeley Ruble, daughter of Megan Ruble, director of student activities, and her husband, Jeff; Anders Taylor, son of Barbara Larson Taylor ’93, assistant to the president for special projects, and her husband, Jaime Taylor; Zoe Thomson, daughter of Kyhl Thomson, Market Place supervisor, Dining Service, and his wife, Tiffany; Sydney Young, daughter of Tom Young ’88, vice president for institutional advancement, and his wife, Meredith; and Max Seppelt, son of Troy Seppelt, assistant director of residential life, and his wife, Heidi.

A sold-out luncheon in Alumni Hall, sponsored by Gustavus Library Associates and featuring entertainment by storyteller Kevin Kling ‘79, capped the day’s festivities.

Two Gusties win peace and justice scholarships

by Steve Mellema ‘72

Two Gusties earned scholarships in recognition of their demonstrated commitment to peace and justice when the Vincent L. Hawkinson Foundation for Peace and Justice held its annual awards presentation at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on Nov. 16, 2008. On that evening, 20 students from colleges and universities in the five-state area were awarded scholarships. Two of the top four awards were given to Asitha Jayawardena ’09 and Jing Han Soh ’08.

Jayawardena, a senior from Mason City, Iowa, majoring in biology with minors in neuroscience and peace studies, used his scholarship for a study-abroad course this past January in South Africa and Namibia, which included a service-learning component with a youth camp in Cape Town. Last spring at Gustavus, he co-chaired the “Building Bridges” Conference, a global diversity conference focused on genocide awareness.
On the Hill

During his senior year in high school, he started Operation Restoration to support displaced families in his home country of Sri Lanka following the tsunami in 2004. “My passion for peace and justice has matured from a hesitant intuition to a necessary commitment in my life,” he says. “I ultimately hope to become a doctor and work for an organization like Doctors Without Borders internationally, while at the same time applying what I learn internationally to domestic health care.”

Soh, who is originally from Malaysia and graduated from Gustavus last spring with a major in physics and a minor in economics, is currently a graduate student in physics at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Last spring she co-chaired (along with Jayawardena) the “Building Bridges” Conference. She also served as co-president of the Gustavus International Cultures Club. “Building Bridges is a student-led and student-initiated diversity conference dedicated to addressing global issues,” she notes. “This year we involved more student organizations, academic and administrative departments, and individual participants than had attended any previous student-led event.”

The Vincent L. Hawkinson Foundation for Peace and Justice was created to honor the Rev. Vincent Hawkinson ’38, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church on the campus of the University of Minnesota for more than 30 years. The late pastor vigorously advocated peacemaking and racial equality and stood up for the poor, the oppressed, and the powerless. For 20 years the foundation has been awarding scholarships to students “to encourage these individuals, who have already demonstrated a commitment to peace and justice, to strive for peace and justice both in their educational pursuits and in their personal and professional lives.”

Steven Mellema ’72, Ph.D., is professor and chair of the Department of Physics at Gustavus and was present at the Hawkinson Foundation awards ceremony.

Hawkinson Foundation scholars Jing Han Soh ’08 (left) and Asitha Jayawardena ’09.

Members of the Gustavus support staff were recognized for milestone anniversaries of their service to the College at the annual Staff Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 19.

Above: 25 years – From left: Harriet Rydeen, Dining Service; Joanne Derner, custodian; and Sherri Peterson, Dining Service. Not pictured: Marilyn Marsh, Dining Service.

Left: 35 years – Carolyn Ritz, Dining Service

Below: 2008 retirees – Seated from left: Linda Riebesell, administrative assistant, Office of the Dean of Students (23 years of service); Katherine Scholl, administrative assistant, Departments of Biology and Geology (15 years); Jeanette Heilman, custodian (24 years); and Margaret Derner, sexton, Office of the Chaplains (23 years). Standing: Harriet Rydeen, Dining Service (25 years), and Sandra Volk, Dining Service (19 years). Not pictured: Layton Gehrke, shops coordinator, Physical Plant (46 years).

Photos by Steve Waldhauser ’70

Staff members recognized for years of service
‘Relay for Life’ builds on previous success

by Catherine Osterhaus, Holly Andersen, and Haley Prittinen

Relay for Life” is an all-night, team-based fundraiser that unites the Gustavus community each spring to fight back and put an end to cancer. It is the American Cancer Society’s signature event and represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated.

The Gustavus Relay for Life is planned by the Gustavus chapter of Colleges Against Cancer and is one of the most highly attended student-planned events on campus, drawing participation from athletics teams, residential hall floors and sections, music ensembles, academic clubs, greek organizations, and groups of friends. Participants start raising money for the Relay in November and finally come together in April for an all-nighter that features survivors and caregivers sharing their cancer stories, along with various entertainment performances by student organizations and bands, and competitions to keep the energy level high.

Luminaries, available for $10 each and decorated to honor and remember those who have battled cancer, light the indoor track of Lund Center during the dark hours of the night. As morning comes, the Relay concludes with a “Fight Back” ceremony representing Gusties’ continued commitment to fight back against cancer.

On a Friday night in April 2008, nearly 700 members of the Gustavus community gathered for the fourth annual Relay for Life at Gustavus, celebrating the lives of those who have battled cancer and remembering loved ones lost to the disease. The 2008 Gustavus Relay for Life raised more than $54,000 for the American Cancer Society, ranking first in the Midwest Division and fourth in the nation for dollars raised per capita.

The 2009 Relay for Life will be held in Lund Center on April 17. All are welcome to attend the event. For more information about the Relay or to make a donation, e-mail relayforlife2009@gustavus.edu.

Students Catherine Osterhaus, a senior from Eagan, Minn.; Holly Andersen, a senior from Glenville, Minn.; and Haley Prittinen, a junior from Virginia, Minn., are co-chairs of the 2009 Gustavus Relay for Life.
Commission Gustavus 150 off to a promising start

The commission, chaired by Warren Beck ’67, is organized around eight task forces that have been charged with examining different aspects of the College’s mission and making recommendations to the board—Academic Programs and New Initiatives, Community Engagement, Facilities and Finances, Faith, Global and Multicultural Initiatives, Interdisciplinary Programs, Stewardship, and Student Life. The task forces are complemented by 16 “National Summits” of alumni, parents, and other friends of the College held around the country. In November and December 2008 all eight task forces held their first meetings. These meetings were designed to give task force members an overview of the Commission process and timeline, an opportunity to discuss baseline data, and an invitation to begin thinking about the topics within each task force’s charge.

Gustavus Adolphus College is now poised to engage a broader constituency and develop action steps to implement its strategic plan and celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2012.

2009 Summer Sports Camps

Gustavus’s strong athletic tradition is evident with numerous summer sports camps. All camps listed feature knowledgeable coaching staffs, acclaimed athletic facilities, and quality dining service and housing accommodations. Complete summer camp information is posted at gustavus.edu/oncampus/athletics/camps/.

Gustie Soccer Camps
Boys and Girls (ages 10–14): June 21–25
Boys and Girls (ages 10–17): July 6–10
Contact Mike Stehlik: 507-933-7619 or mstehlik@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Hockey and Leadership Camps
Squirts, PeeWees, and Bantams: July 5–9
Mites: July 6–10
Defensmen Skills Camp: July 10–12
Girls (ages 8–12): July 12–16
Girls (ages 13–17): July 12–16
Contact Brett Petersen: 507-933-7615 or bpeters4@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Volleyball Camps
Competition Camp (Grades 8–12): July 25–28 (overnight camp)
Gustie Camp (Grades 8–12): July 27–28 (day camp)
Contact Kari Eckheart: 507-933-6416 or keckhear@gustavus.edu

Tennis & Life Camps
Junior Camps (ages 11–18): June 8–11, June 15–18, July 6–9, July 20–23, Aug. 3–6
Tournament Player Camp (ages 11–18): June 22–25
Adult Camps (ages 18–80): June 4–7, June 18–21
Family Camps (ages 8–80): July 9–12, July 16–19, July 23–26
Contact Steve Wilkinson: 507-931-1614 or swilkins@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Golf Camps
Boys and Girls (ages 9–17): June 14–18
Parents/Juniors Camp: Aug. 2–6
Contact Scott Moe: 507-933-7610 or smoe@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Basketball Camps
Girls (Grades 8–12): Aug. 10–13
Contact Jeff Annis: 507-381-0633 or jannis@gustavus.edu

Gustie Swimming Camps
Boys and Girls (ages 10–18)
Technique Camp: June 11–14
Sprint Camp: June 17–21
Technique & Training Camp: June 24–28, Aug. 5–9
Contact Jon Carlson: 507-933-7694 or carlson@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Football Camps
7–on–7 Passing League: Monday, June 1, and Sundays, June 7–28
Contact Corey Shea: 507-933-6440, cshea@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Nordic Ski Camp
Boys and Girls (Grades 8–12): June 28–July 2
Contact Tom Thorkelson: 507-933-7657 or tork@gustavus.edu

Southern Minnesota Throwers Camps
Boys and Girls (grades 8–12)
One-day Shot Put Camps: June 10, 15, 17
One-day Discus Camps: June 11, 16, 18
Contact Tom Thorkelson: 507-933-7657 or tork@gustavus.edu

Gustavus Nordic Ski Camp
Boys and Girls (Grades 8–12): June 21–25
Contact Jed Friedrich: 507-933-7632 or jfriedri@gustavus.edu

Also during November and December, five of the National Summit meetings were held in the Twin Cities area. These half-day meetings were facilitated by President Ohle. Those participating divided into small groups to discuss framing questions for each core value of Gustavus (Community, Excellence, Faith, Justice, and Service). The ideas from the small groups will be shared with the task forces, which are to continued on next page
On the hill

Gustavus Commission 150
continued from previous page

make specific recommendations to the board by the end of the 2008–09 academic year. The board will then prioritize the task force recommendations, providing a foundation for the implementation of the strategic plan and the basis for the College’s next comprehensive fundraising campaign.

By the end of January 2009 all of the task forces met for at least one more meeting. The second round of meetings was focused on starting to generate ideas around defined topics. These meetings involved “big thinking” and brainstorming around a wide range of ideas generated by faculty, staff, and students as well as by the Summit meetings already held. Summit meetings also convened during January in Naples, Fla., Washington, D.C., Chicago, Ill., and Denver, Colo., with three more scheduled for February—in Tucson and Phoenix, Ariz., and Los Angeles.

Upcoming National Summit meetings include Boston, Mass. (Saturday, March 14), New York (Monday, March 16), Seattle, Wash. (Saturday, March 21), and San Francisco, Calif. (Monday, March 23). If you wish to attend a Summit meeting at one of these sites, or have other questions about the commission, e-mail CommissionGustavus150@gustavus.edu. Look for task force updates and other commission news in the next issue of the Quarterly.

New Coneflower Prairie acreage seeded

The development of the new “Coneflower Prairie” at Gustavus took a significant step forward in the fall of 2008 when the planting process was initiated by Feder’s Prairie Seed Co. of Blue Earth, Minn. Planting of the prairie was strategically planned for late fall, when colder temperatures prevent seeds from germinating, ensuring that during the winter the seeds will make good soil contact and be ready to germinate when spring arrives.

“Prairie is a landscape of vast proportions that once spanned horizons, encompassing 18 million acres in Minnesota prior to European settlement,” said Cindy Johnson-Groh, professor of biology and environmental studies at the College and executive director of Linnaeus Arboretum. “Less than one percent of Minnesota’s native prairie remains. Restoring a larger prairie tract in Linnaeus Arboretum is conscientious environmental stewardship and also creates an educational, recreational, and historical resource for all who visit.”

The prairie will be managed intensively for the first five years, but with time is expected to attract a diverse community of birds, insects, and animals. The Coneflower Prairie will be the largest prairie in the region. Its contoured landscape and public trails will allow it to serve as a useful educational resource for students of Gustavus and St. Peter schools.
by Laura Behling

Although the concept of a sabbatical has its roots in Leviticus—and its admonition to neither sow the land nor prune the vineyard in the seventh year—at colleges and universities, a sabbatical can mean anything but rest.

The first record in the United States of a faculty member receiving a sabbatical was in 1886; by the early 1930s, more than 175 institutions incorporated this professional development opportunity. Since then, sabbatical leaves have proven to be vital in enhancing teaching; catalyzing research, scholarship, and creative work; strengthening academic programs; reinforcing a faculty member’s commitment to the institution; and demonstrating the value of professional development activities that contribute to a vital and healthy academic community.

Gustavus Adolphus College recognizes that regular professional development is an important part of a faculty member’s academic career at all stages. One of the ways that they are affirmed as teachers and scholars is through the College’s sabbatical leave program.

At Gustavus, as you’ll read below, sabbaticals allow faculty to step away from teaching, advising, and campus service commitments, and offer time and space for thinking and reading and writing, pedagogy and course development, and intellectual and personal refocusing, recharging, and renewal. These six brief notes detail some of the ways Gustavus faculty committed to their own continued professional development while on sabbatical in 2007–08. The longer article, written by Drs. Elizabeth Baer, professor of English, and Rebecca Fremo, associate professor of English and director of the Writing Center, allows for a more personal look at what sabbaticals do for faculty and for their students at Gustavus.

In all of these stories, as well as the stories currently being written by Gustavus faculty on sabbatical this year, what is clear is the commitment they show by faculty who are engaged in rigorous and innovative intellectual growth, who have a respect for others as they work toward a just and peaceful world, who live a commitment to service and the skills of leadership, and above all, who model for their students a capacity and passion for lifelong learning.

Upcoming opportunities for the Gustavus faculty from the John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning

The John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning supports faculty in achieving their potential as teachers and scholars. Responsive to the professional needs and interests of each faculty member, the Kendall Center includes support for teaching initiatives and faculty research, scholarship, and creativity, and provides on-campus opportunities for focused conversation on pedagogy, assessment of student learning, and collaboration among colleagues.

■ The 2009 Summer Teaching and Learning Workshop
 Held every other year since 2000, the summer teaching and learning workshop offers faculty from across the campus intensive time to generate ideas to enhance pedagogy, focus on particular issues vital to intellectual success, and develop better ways to engage students in collaborative learning endeavors.

Previous workshops have focused on enhancing critical thinking skills, teaching multiculturally, and developing students as scholars. This summer, faculty members have the opportunity to choose from a variety of sessions, including Writing and Oral Communication for Today’s Student, Developing Faculty Portfolios, Developing Discipline-Specific Learning Outcomes, and Writing about Teaching and Learning.

■ Sabbatical Preparation Retreat
 A new opportunity from the Kendall Center, the summer Sabbatical Preparation Retreat will provide faculty members an opportunity to reflect on their professional and personal accomplishments, consider and develop professional and personal goals for their sabbatical, weigh opportunities when they return to campus, and converse with other Gustavus faculty about their work. The goal of this retreat is to engage faculty in conversation about what it means to be a tenured faculty member at a liberal arts college, how one can re-emerge in the campus community after a sabbatical with a professional and personal focus, and how faculty can serve as resources for each other about professional goals and aspirations.
Sabbatical
continued from previous page

and Creativity Grant, Kate Wittenstein, Ph.D. (professor of history), researched the history and gendered nature of Black women’s political activism during the first half of the twentieth century. Her focus is on a group of four Black women and how their experiences as leaders of the segregated Harlem branch of the YWCA during the 1920s shaped their understanding of social justice and led them into the more formally organized and male-dominated Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. The research will be published online as part of the Women and Social Movements Project located at the University of Binghamton’s Center for the Study of Women and Gender.

Doug Huff, Ph.D. (professor of philosophy), wrote two plays, A Far Shore and The National Endowment, and a philosophy article, “A Failure to Denote.” A Far Shore is a play based on the life and work of B.R. Ambedkar, a project Huff undertook at the request of

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members of the Bangalore Little Theatre (BLT) in Bangalore, India. The National Endowment is a two-act comedy about the trials and tribulations of a small Lutheran liberal arts college in and Nicaragua) and presented it at the International Studies Association Conference in Spring 2008.

Greg Kaster, Ph.D. (professor of history), researched

Sabbaticals allow faculty to step away from teaching, advising, and campus service commitments, and offer time and space for thinking and reading and writing, pedagogy and course development, and intellectual and personal refocusing, recharging, and renewal.

part of her work, she read over 40 books or articles on these topics and became an inaugural member of the Association for

Contemplative Mind in Higher Education, a new organization of scholars and teachers interested in research on contemplative practice in higher education.

Barbara Zust, Ph.D. (associate professor of nursing), provided leadership to the INSIGHT program at the Hennepin County Correctional Facility and the Minnesota State Correctional Facility in Shakopee. INSIGHT, designed by a former member of the nursing faculty, Dr. Verona Gordon, works with women in prison to better understand the effects of poverty, racial profiling, social injustice, economics, mental health issues, and funding, and the importance of education in empowering change. Zust also published two articles, “Partner Violence, Depression, and Recidivism: The Case of Incarcerated Women and Why We Need Programs Designed for Them,” in Issues in Mental Health Nursing, and “Assessing and Addressing Domestic Violence amongst Incarcerated Women” in Creative Nursing Journal.}

Laura Behling, Ph.D., associate professor of English and chair of the department, also serves as director of the John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning.
Opening doors—
a collaboration on sabbaticals

by Elizabeth Baer, Professor of English, and Rebecca Taylor Fremo, Associate Professor of English

"Yet it is in our idleness, in our dreams, that the submerged truth sometimes comes to the top."
— Virginia Woolf, 1928

Editor’s Note: During academic year 2007–08, two English professors at different stages in their careers were granted sabbaticals. Drs. Elizabeth Baer and Rebecca Fremo agreed early in the year to write a piece for the Quarterly in order to convey a sense of what faculty members do when they are “on leave.” The piece that follows is the result of a writing collaboration between them. Both wish to express their profound gratitude for the sabbatical itself and the other forms of professional development the College provides to its faculty, which, in turn, enrich the experiences of Gustavus students.

Elizabeth: Sabbatical . . . a word that comes from the same Hebrew root as Sabbath, the day of rest, the seventh day. So, a sabbatical is a respite from the usual round of work, a time to let the mind and spirit work at a deep level, renewing, replenishing. However, a sabbatical is decidedly not a vacation. When I occasionally dropped into my local bead store during my sabbatical, the owner would look at me, somewhat crossly, and ask: “Are you still on vacation?” I would patiently explain to her that I was writing a book, doing some travel, etc. But, apparently, it all sounded like a lark to her . . .

Rebecca: During the academic year we teach, mentor students, participate in committees, develop new courses. Much of this work is collaborative, even conversational, and we do it with office doors wide open. So what do faculty members do when the doors close? And why is that closed-door time so important?

When we close our doors, we do the intellectual and creative work of our disciplines: research, writing, painting, dance. And that work finds its way back into the classroom, where it informs and energizes our teaching. My sabbatical was an extended opportunity to close my office door and focus on the scholarly, creative, and pedagogical writing that sustains me.

Elizabeth: In trying to convey a sense of what my sabbatical was like, I am tempted to begin with numbers: I read 125 books, saw 55 films. Many of these are related to the research I am doing on the golem, a Jewish legend, or are about Africa, a place I visited for the first time this year, or are for future classes. I have written about 160 pages, including a 35-page essay on the writer W. G. Sebald, forthcoming in an anthology, and 125 pages of the book manuscript on the golem. I also revised and published two articles, wrote twelve book reviews, and reviewed three book manuscripts for academic presses.

Rebecca: During the academic year, I close my door to write whenever I can grab a free half hour, but I’m usually jazzed about my last class or jittery about the next. I try sometimes to write in my office after classes end Friday, when I’m already exhausted. I can’t write on demand. I need time to think, plan, read, and imagine. When I’m writing an article, for instance, I need an hour to read over what I wrote yesterday be—

continued on next page
**Collaboration**

continued from previous page

...fore I get going. Like my students, I’m prone to procrastination and fits of panic. I eat chocolate. I even get writer’s block, which is compounded by the fact that as a rhetoric and composition specialist, it’s my job to help other people get over theirs.

Ouch.

Elizabeth: Perhaps I could best convey to you what this leave has meant to me by recounting my travel. The sabbatical was “bookended” by two international trips. I flew to Berlin and Prague in June 2007 as the leave began, to do research for the book. The golem legend is most closely associated with 16th-century Prague’s Jewish community, and I was able to visit museums, synagogues, and memorials there as well as discover key texts unavailable in the United States. A year later, I took the long trip to Africa to travel to San Diego to give a paper at a conference, a visit to Ohio to serve on an accreditation team reviewing a college, and a weekend in Michigan to give talks at a synagogue and a Lutheran church for Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Rebecca: A full year’s sabbatical enabled me to complete projects in all three of my areas of interest: composition theory, poetry, and pedagogy. I completed all but the final chapter of my book project. This manuscript, *Locating Readers: Understanding Encounters with Students’ Texts*, considers the ways that teachers’ identities—cultural, racial, and educational—shape how they read and value students’ papers. The book highlights “scenes” of reading as they appear in composition scholarship and within actual classrooms. Since 2004, I’ve been sitting on two new, unfinished chapters based upon interviews with Gustavus students. During my sabbatical I finally transcribed the interviews, gathered excerpts from the students’ papers, and analyzed their work, drafting the two additional chapters.

I remember doing much of my work last fall in snippets. My youngest son, Cyrus, was a newborn, and I spent bleary-eyed mornings drafting fragments of poetry. My English department colleagues encouraged me. Joyce Sutphen and Phil Bryant ’73 read countless drafts of dreadful stuff, and John Rezmerski, who retired right after I came to Gustavus, got me my first “gig,” presenting to the Southern Minnesota Poets Society last November.

Last fall, I revised existing poems and wrote new ones, most of which reflect upon what it means to be an East Coaster living and raising a family in the Midwest. I published my first two this summer in a collection titled *County Lines* (Loonfeather Press 2008).

Elizabeth: Perhaps I should recount for you the ways in which my life changed as a result of this gift of time. A sabbatical often allows one to close some doors and open new ones in life. For the past 17 years, I have been a Holocaust studies scholar and, more recently, have widened my focus to include other genocides. Shortly before the leave, I became intrigued by the cause and effect relationship between colonialism and genocide. In the future, I will focus my study on comparative systems of oppression and how tools such as laws, hierarchies, segregation, and dehumanization preserve power and economic privilege for a chosen group. I will also be returning to the field in which I was trained—literature—for my next writing project(s), most likely studies of South Africa postcolonial writers. I am already utilizing what I learned in both classes I am teaching this fall, most notably in a senior seminar in the English Department on intertextuality.

Rebecca: I’ve always seen myself as a teacher of writing first and foremost, but at Gustavus, I don’t teach the theory behind that practice. During the spring of 2008, however, I was asked to teach a composition theory seminar for graduate students at Minnesota State University, Mankato. That graduate seminar last spring energized me. By June I was ready to rework my *First Term Seminar.* That course, titled “Stories, Selves, and Communities,” considers narrative as persuasion. The FTS asks, how and why can stories bridge gaps between diverse groups of people, when more traditional forms of persuasion fail? In my revised FTS, my students now study Mary Louise Pratt’s notion of “contact zones,” applying her concept to Gloria Naylor’s *Mama Day,* a novel set on a mythical island inhabited by freed slaves. They also conduct interviews in St. Peter, learning how national stories like the economic crisis affect real people within our community.

As Elizabeth explained, a sabbatical is a respite from the usual round of work, a time to let the mind and spirit work at a deep level, renewing, replenishing. It certainly was that for me, and I try daily—now that I am back teaching—to preserve my sabbatical’s sense of warmth and promise. When my office door is open, I welcome the students and colleagues on the other side.

Elizabeth Baer, Ph.D., was appointed to the Gustavus faculty in 1992. Rebecca Taylor Fremo, Ph.D., joined her in the Department of English in 2000.
Art by Native American artists, photos from China featured at Hillstrom Museum of Art

by Donald Myers ’83

The Hillstrom Museum of Art has two concurrent exhibitions on view through April 19: Migrations: New Directions in Native American Art, and Fortune: Photos of China by Priscilla Briggs.

Artist Priscilla Briggs, who specializes in photography, has been a member of the Gustavus art department since 2003. Her courses include video art and digital photography, and her own work in the latter medium is featured in the exhibition Fortune: Photos of China. Briggs traveled to China in June and July of 2008 and again this January, and her photographs, in her words, “explore the retail landscape of China as the country straddles the ideological gap between communism and capitalism.”

In images such as Walmart, II or Young and Old (both from the 2008 trip), Briggs considers “the nature of human desire and identity as they are shaped and reflected within the context of capitalist societies.” She notes that China, during this period of transition and transformation, is “absorbing Western ideals of upward mobility and individualism” at the same time that Western corporations are branding China.
Walmart, II is an image of brightly colored consumer goods stacked enticingly in the store, with signs in both English and Chinese, and with a Wal-Mart employee to the left stocking the shelves with even more products. Young and Old juxtaposes an older Chinese man, walking along the sidewalk, with a billboard depicting a girl modeling a fancy red dress and wearing a similarly fanciful hairstyle. Most of Briggs’s China photos were made with an eye for scale. In Young and Old, the image of the young girl dwarfs that of the man, while in Walmart, II, the color scale provides the distinction, brilliant oranges and fuchsias of the products contrasting with the drab tones of the background and even of the Wal-Mart employee.

Briggs’s travel and the exhibition of her works are supported by a prestigious McKnight Fellowship, the Minnesota Center for Photography, the Gamelin China Studies Endowment Fund of Gustavus Adolphus College, and a Research and Creativity Grant, also from the College. The exhibition is presented in conjunction with the Gustavus Global Insight program, which is focusing this academic year on China.

The Migrations exhibition includes more than 40 works by six artists representing different Native American groups from across North America, artists who migrate between indigenous cultures, traditional and contemporary aesthetics, and different media, to represent the Native American experience. The aim of the exhibit is to support innovative, emerging artists who, while exploring their Native heritage, are engaged in work of a more experimental nature than what is generally thought of as “Native American Art.”

Artist Larry McNeil holds an M.F.A. in photography from the University of New Mexico and is an associate professor of photography at Boise State University (Idaho). He is a member of the Tlingit and Nisga’a nations who sees his work as a bridge between cultures, one that is satirical about both mainstream American culture as well as the Tlingit culture in which he was raised.

McNeil’s digital print Y’eil features a large raven’s beak. “Y’eil” (Tlingit for “raven”) is a frequently encountered figure in Tlingit mythology who is seen as both a creator and a trickster. The figure appears often in McNeil’s work, including the “Fly by Night” series and the “Pontiac” series, to which the print belongs.

The artist often combines imagery with text, and Y’eil includes the following exchange: Pontiac: Why are you asking so many questions? Raven: I like shiny stuff, and boy are you shiny.

The dialogue seems simultaneously profound and absurd in its dual reference to “Pontiac” as both the great Native American figure of that name and to the automobile that appropriated his identity. McNeil notes about his works that they “are about American Mythology, Ravens, the intersection of cultures, and finding the sacred in unlikely places. It is about the sacred not being for sale, but being able to be rented at reasonable rates. It is about being able to fly by night.”

In a similar vein, another artist in the exhibit, Tom Jones, explores mainstream commodification of Native culture, as in his lithograph Commodity II. The print is related to the artist’s “Dear America” series, which includes images of Natives drawn from vintage photographs, postcards, and other ephemera. Commodity II features a provocatively posed woman wearing braids, a feather head dress, and a short garment, the central image on a queen of hearts playing card. Other images surround the woman, including one from an old Valentine that has the caption “I’m an INDIAN GIVER, so please RETURN my love, Valentine!” Framing and setting off these images are colorful patterns based on Woodland Indian tradition.

The artist has affixed a pair of tiny moccasins and a small canoe to the face of the print, commenting on how the culture of Natives is often reduced to not only the stereotypes in the Valentine card but also such mass-produced items that are intended for tourists, as the inscription “SOUVENIRS FOR THE TOURISTS” indicates. An additional inscription on the litho, “MADE IN JAPAN,” refers to the fact that such tourist items are not only inauthentic as representations of Native culture, but also do not derive from the Native communities and instead are often made in Asia. As is noted in the catalogue that accompanies the exhibition, such a work asks viewers to consider what it is that is being sold in objects and images of the sort indicated in the print, and who it is that profits. This is inti-
mately connected with the artist’s self-proclaimed “responsibility to the tribe to help carry on a sense of pride about who and what we are as a people.”

Jones, who holds an M.A. in museum studies and an M.F.A. in photography (both from Columbia College, Chicago), is a member of the Ho-Chunk Sovereign Nation and lives in Wisconsin.

Star Wallowing Bull is a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, White Earth Reservation. Born in Minneapolis and now living in North Dakota, he is largely self-taught, and his interest in art was encouraged by his father, prominent artist Frank Big Bear, who initiated his son into drawing when he was only a year old. Wallowing Bull creates detailed images that draw from his background and identity as a Native American living partly in mainstream culture.

His drawing The Curious Crawler features a wide-eyed infant—a reference to the artist himself—crawling amidst toys and less benign objects such as a beer can or a cigarette butt. In the background a pan of food burns on the stovetop, both it and the baby neglected by the woman passed out on the floor in the next room. Wallowing Bull’s early life included a period living with his mother, a member of the Arapaho Nation who suffered from alcoholism, a problem that later faced the artist himself. As noted in the exhibition catalogue, although the subject of The Curious Crawler is harsh, the image has cartoon-like buoyancy that prevents it from becoming too heavy or filled with despair.

Migrations also includes works by Marie Watt, a member of the Seneca Nation; Steven Deo, a member of the Creek Nation; and Ryan Lee Smith, a member of the Cherokee Nation. The artists were chosen by a distinguished national jury that included Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, a prominent artist, curator, educator, and activist who is a member of the Flathead Salish Nation; Truman Lowe, an artist and member of the Ho-Chunk Sovereign Nation who is the curator of contemporary art at the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution; Deborah Wye, a curator at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Siri Engberg, a curator at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and Marjorie Devon, director of the Tamarind Institute, Albuquerque, N.M.

The exhibition was organized as a joint venture of the University of New Mexico (Albuquerque) Art Museum with the Tamarind Institute and with Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts (Pendleton, Ore.). Both Tamarind and Crow’s Shadow are acclaimed for their support of Native American artists, and several of the works in the exhibit are lithographs made at the two institutes during residencies of the exhibition’s six artists.

The appearance of Migrations at the Hillstrom Museum of Art is presented with assistance from the Diversity Center of Gustavus Adolphus College. Donald Myers ’83 has directed Gustavus Adolphus College’s Hillstrom Museum of Art since its opening in 2000. He is also an instructor in art history at the College.
Calendar

Springtime promises

March

Continuing through April 19

Art
Exhibitions: Migrations: New Directions in Native American Art and Fortune: Photos of China by Priscilla Briggs; Hillstrom Museum of Art. Open to the public without charge; regular museum hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Mon.–Fri.; 1–5 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

4 Music: U.S. Army's Jazz Knights in concert; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

11 Rydell Lecture: Curtis Marean, at the Science Museum of Minnesota. Limited seating; for reservations, contact the Science Museum of Minnesota (651-221-9444).

13, 14, & 15 Dance: "Range of Motion: The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert," Michele Rusinko and Melissa Rolnick, directors; Anderson Theatre, 8 p.m. (March 13 & 14) and 2 p.m. (March 15). Ticket required; contact the Gustavus Ticket Center (507-933-7590).

14 Conference: "Building Bridges" student-led diversity conference, "Liberation through Education," featuring Erin Gruwell, president of the Freedom Writers Foundation; Christ Chapel, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Ticket required; for information and reservations, contact the Diversity Center (507-933-7449).

14 "Easter Bunny Breakfast," hosted by GLA; Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, 9:30–11 a.m. Register online at gustavus.edu/gla.

14 Artist Series: "A Dim Sum Evening," The Ying Quartet, concert and residency; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 8 p.m. Ticket required; contact the Gustavus Ticket Center (507-933-7590).

15 Music: Gustavus and Vasa Wind Orchestras, James Patrick Miller, guest conductor; Christ Chapel, 1:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

15 Twin Cities “Come On, You Gusties” Alumni Breakfast, featuring Ken Westphal, vice president for finance; Doubletree Hotel, Minneapolis-Park Place, Hwy. 394 & Hwy. 100, 8:30–10 a.m. Reserve by calling Don Swanson ’55 at 763-533-9083.

April

2 Diversity Week Lecture: "Straight Talk about Class and Classism," featuring Felice Yeskel, executive director of Class Action; Alumni Hall, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge; for more information, contact the Diversity Center (507-933-7449).

2–4 2009 National Tubonium: Jussi Björling Recital Hall. For more information, visit www.houseoflowaire.com.

4 26th annual President’s Ball: "Timeless Elegance," featuring the Rockin’ Hollywoods; Nicollet Island Pavilion, 6 p.m. Tickets required; for information and reservations, contact the Gustavus Ticket Center (507-933-7590).

5 Music: Gustavus Symphony Orchestra, Warren Friesen, conductor; Jussi Björling Recital hall, 1:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

5 Music: Gustavus Choir Home Concert, Gregory Aune, conductor; Christ Chapel, 3:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

7 GLA Author Day, featuring Minnesota poets Joyce Sutphen and Deborah Keenan; Edina Country Club, 9:30 a.m. For reservations, contact the Office of Marketing and Communication (507-933-7590).

15 Twin Cities “Come On, You Gusties” Alumni Breakfast, featuring Steve Wilkinson, men’s tennis coach; Doubletree Hotel, Minneapolis-Park Place, Hwy. 394 & Hwy. 100, 8:30–10 a.m. Reserve by calling Don Swanson ’55 at 763-533-9083.

19 Music: Adolphus Jazz Ensemble and Gustavus Chamber Singers, Steve Wright and Gregory Aune, directors; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

22 Linnaeus Symposium: "Global Trees: Releaf – Relief," keynoted by Margaret Lowman, tropical rainforest canopy biologist; Alumni Hall. Open to the public without charge; for information and reservations, contact Shirley Mellema, Linnaeus Arboretum (507-933-6181).

24–25 Second annual Traditional Pow-wow, presented by Gustavus and MSU Mankato; Lund Center Arena, 7 p.m. (and 1 p.m. on April 25). Open to the public without charge.

24 Music: Choir of Christ Chapel Home Concert, Patricia Kazarow, conductor; Christ Chapel, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations’ 22nd annual convention, keynoted by Terence Fretheim, Elva B. Lovell Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary; Christ Chapel, opening at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration required for delegates from member congregations; for more information, contact the Office of Church Relations (507-933-7001).

Music: Adolphus Jazz Ensemble and Gustavus Chamber Singers, Steve Wright and Gregory Aune, directors; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

22 Linnaeus Symposium: "Global Trees: Releaf – Relief," keynoted by Margaret Lowman, tropical rainforest canopy biologist; Alumni Hall. Open to the public without charge; for information and reservations, contact Shirley Mellema, Linnaeus Arboretum (507-933-6181).

24–25 Second annual Traditional Pow-wow, presented by Gustavus and MSU Mankato; Lund Center Arena, 7 p.m. (and 1 p.m. on April 25). Open to the public without charge.

24 Music: Choir of Christ Chapel Home Concert, Patricia Kazarow, conductor; Christ Chapel, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.
20,” keynoted by Jianli Yang and Andrew Nathan; Christ Chapel, opening at 10 a.m. Open to the public without charge. For more information, contact the Office of Marketing and Communication (507-933-7520).

May

1, 2, 3, 8, & 9 Theatre: The Impresario from Smyrna, by Carlo Goldoni, directed by Henry MacCarthy; Anderson Theatre, 8 p.m. (May 1, 2, 8, & 9) and 2 p.m. (May 3 only). Ticket required; contact the Gustavus Ticket Center (507-933-7590).

2 Honors Day: Convocation, Christ Chapel, 10:30 a.m.; Honors Recital, Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Office of Marketing and Communication (507-933-7520).

2 Diversity Awards Banquet, Jackson Campus Center Banquet Rooms, 6 p.m. Open to the Gustavus community without charge; for information and reservations, contact the Diversity Center (507-933-7449).

2 Music: Gustavus Wind Orchestra Spring Concert, James Patrick Miller, guest conductor; Christ Chapel, 3:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

2–31 Art Exhibition: Senior Studio Art Majors’ Exhibition; Hillstrom Museum of Art. Open to the public without charge; regular museum hours: 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Mon.–Fri.; 1–5 p.m., Sat. & Sun. Opening reception: May 2, 4–7 p.m.

3 Music: Percussion Ensembles Spring Concert, Robert Adney and Paul Hill, conductors; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 1:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

3 Music: Woodwinds Chamber Concert, Ann Pesavento, director; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 3:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

3 Music: St. Ansgar’s Chorus and Birgitta Singers, Gregory Aune and Nick Wayne, conductors; Christ Chapel, 7 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

8 Music: Gustavus Philharmonic Orchestra and Vasa Wind Orchestra, Brian Buckstad and James Patrick Miller, conductors; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 7 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

8 Music: Lucia Singers’ Mothers Day Concert, Patricia Snapp, conductor; Christ Chapel, 1:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

10 Music: Brassworks! Scott Moore, conductor; Jussi Björling Recital Hall, 3:30 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

10 Spring Semester ends.

20 Twin Cities “Come On, You Gusties!” Alumni Breakfast, featuring Kathy Tunheim, assistant professor of economics and management; Doubletree Hotel, Minneapolis-Park Place, Hwy. 394 & Hwy. 100, 8:30–10 a.m. Reserve by calling Don Swanson ’55 at 763-533-9083.

29–30 Alumni Reunion Weekend: 45th- and 50th-anniversary class reunions and 50 Year Club gathering; Alumni Association Banquet and awards presentation (May 30), Evelyn Young Dining Room, 5 p.m. Pre-registration required; contact the Office of Alumni Relations (800-487-8437 or gustavus.edu/alumni/).

30 Music: Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Season Finale, Warren Friesen, conductor; Christ Chapel, 8 p.m. Open to the public without charge.

31 Commencement: Baccalaureate, Christ Chapel, 9 & 10:30 a.m.; commencement exercises, Hollingsworth Field (weather permitting; if inclement, Lund Arena), 2 p.m. Tickets required for baccalaureate and for commencement if indoors; for more information, contact the Office of Marketing and Communication (507-933-7520).

September

8 Opening Convocation for the 148th academic year of the College, Christ Chapel, 10 a.m.

October

6–7 Nobel Conference’ 45: “H2O – Uncertain Resource,” Lund Arena, opening at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday. For ticket information, contact the Office of Marketing and Communication (507-933-7520), look for the registration form inserted in the Fall 2009 issue of this magazine, or visit the College’s Nobel Conference website (gustavus.edu/nobelconference).


Please Note: Times and dates of the events listed on this page are subject to change. Please call to confirm events of interest.

Additional schedules, information and updates

Sports Up-to-date sports schedules may be found on the Web, through the Gustavus homepage (gustavus.edu). Also, you can listen to selected Gustavus athletics broadcasts over the Internet through RealAudio. Broadcasts may be accessed through a link on Gustavus athletics website, where a broadcast schedule may also be found.

The Arts Tickets for theatre and dance performances are available two weeks in advance of the performance through the Gustavus Ticket Center (507-933-7590).
CULTURAL COMPETENCY—
More than ever before, Gustavus students need the opportunity to learn about the world beyond the borders of their comfort zone. According to a 2006 survey sponsored by National Geographic, most young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 are woefully ignorant about the rest of the world. While about half of the respondents answered most of the survey questions correctly, a surprising 63 percent could not find Iraq on a map, though U.S. troops have been there since 2003. Furthermore, 48 percent of young Americans think the majority population in India is Muslim (it’s Hindu), 20 percent think Sudan is in Asia (rather than being the largest
country in Africa), and half of respondents could not find New York on a map. Add to this the fact that two-thirds of young American adults do not speak a second language fluently and we have the dismal reality that too many recent college graduates are unprepared for a future that is increasingly global and multicultural. As the survey authors noted, “Far too many lack even the most basic skills for navigating the international economy or understanding the relationships among people and places that provide critical context for world events.”

International educators are increasingly using the term “cultural competency” to describe an array of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that has become essential for college graduates and those entering the professional workplace. But what exactly does this term mean, and how can it be cultivated?

The idea of “cultural competency” has its roots in the fields of health care and education. As health practitioners recognized the need to respond to growing diversity in their clientele, they soon came to understand that providing culturally appropriate care became the Office of International Education (OIE) and, more recently, the Center for International and Cultural Education (CICE), this emphasis on study and culture has guided the work of each director of the office.

As dean of students from 1953 to 1965, Melva Lind had responsibility for foreign students on campus and for undergraduates applying for study assignments to other countries. Her support for international perspectives helped pave the way for the establishment of a professional office of international programs. Jere Victorsen Thompson ’76 was the office administrator for international education during the 1970s. In 1981, the first official director, Sarah Stevenson, was hired to manage the office (Sarah still works in international education, now at the University of St. Thomas). Ruth Mason became director of

A History of International Education at Gustavus

An official international programs office was first established at Gustavus in 1968. Even before that time, members of an International Relations Committee composed of faculty and administrators had nurtured exchange programs that enabled faculty and students to travel abroad and what were then called “foreign students” to attend Gustavus. By 1973, the faculty had voted to establish an international education office, but it would be another eight years before a full-time professional director would be hired to coordinate this aspect of the College’s mission.

From the outset, faculty believed that international education experiences should have an academic focus as well as a cross-cultural one. Furthermore, the faculty was united in its belief that financial assistance should follow students as they studied abroad, a commitment many colleges and universities were then (and still are) unwilling to make.

Through the years, as the international education office became the Office of International Education (OIE) and, more recently, the Center for International and Cultural Education (CICE), this emphasis on study and culture has guided the work of each director of the office.
care was both a more effective means of ensuring patient health and well-being and a means to close the disparities gap in health care across racial, ethnic, and linguistic communities. If a health practitioner could understand the health, healing, and wellness belief systems of a client and the impact of these on healing, he or she would likely be more successful. Likewise, in the field of education, a teacher’s skill in understanding cultural differences in students enhances his or her ability to help every student learn most effectively.

In essence, cultural competence is the ability to honestly examine one’s own prejudices and stereotypes and learn to effectively understand and interact with people of different cultures. Acquiring cultural competency takes time and, perhaps most importantly, a willingness to accept that one’s own cultural values and perspectives are not the only way to see the world. If we are to educate a generation of leaders who will be able to cope with global threats and opportunities—terrorism, environmental degradation, economic globalization—we must help them expand the boundaries of what they know. As Sharon Parks, associate director and member of the faculty at the Whidbey Institute, near Seattle, reminds us, the complex world in which we live requires moral courage, persistence, and a bigger vision if we are to engage the most critical issues of our time.

Every college education should push students to step out of their comfort zones, examine their own values, identify on what basis those values are built, and grapple with new ideas from multiple perspectives. Any college education worth its salt should discomfort students enough that they learn to think critically about taken-for-granted assumptions, but not so much that they feel a sense of failure and just give up. One of the most effective ways to help students step out of their comfort zone, begin to develop cultural competence, and feel supported in the process, is through off-campus study. When students study away, either at a domestic or international location, their learning goes beyond textbooks into an experiential education with unique depth and intensity.

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The Greek island of Santorini, a popular stop for students studying in Europe. Photo by Martin Kaduc ’01, fall 1999.

the office in 1983. Under her guidance, the College made huge strides forward in establishing a comprehensive approach to international perspectives. Ruth increased the number of off-campus study programs, ensuring their academic integrity through regular program reviews. She was committed to increasing the number of international students on campus and was effective at working collaboratively with others on campus to promote an international perspective at Gustavus. Ruth was ably assisted in the office by Marianne Colberg Keswani ’53, international student adviser, and later by Carol Moline, study-abroad adviser. Both these women brought energy and commitment to their work, and are remembered by many alumni for their wisdom and generosity.

When Ruth retired in 1997, Julie Rabaey, the office’s then international student adviser, stepped in as interim director for two years, assisted by Carol Moline. In 1999, Mona Rizk-Finne was recruited from the study-abroad office at Texas A&M. Born in Egypt, married to a Norwegian, Mona brought a wealth of international experience to the position. Her time as director was particularly challenging as the world entered a new era after 9-11. The importance of global understanding took on a new urgency, but so did the importance of risk management. By this time, nearly fifty percent of Gustavus students were studying off-campus prior to graduation, almost triple the percentage from the early 1970s.

When John Cha, associate professor of religion, became director in 2003, he faced financial and staffing pressures because of students’ growing interest in study abroad. John worked diligently to ensure that off-campus study costs were as low as possible for students.

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Students studying off-campus encounter people, languages, and cultures that enable them to view their own country and culture from a broader perspective. Photo of children in Viti Levu, Fiji, by Amanda Johnson ’06, January 2005.

Gustavus first-year students are in line with a national trend that shows a majority of entering college students have some international travel experience, and a third of entering students hope to study away while they are in college. Study away can help students grow in maturity. It challenges their stereotypes of the “other,” helps them build skills in independence and decision-making, introduces them to what will likely be lifelong friends around the world, and enables them to view their own country from a broader and more nuanced perspective. Students who return from study abroad often comment that residents of the country in which they studied know more about what is going on politically and socially in the United States than the students themselves know.

Off-campus study is also the best way to learn a language. Being immersed in a culture that speaks another language—whether among Latinos in south Texas or in Spain—enables students to learn it more quickly. Study away also enhances employment prospects. From an employer’s perspective, a student who has studied off-campus has gained valuable experience that will be an asset to the organization. Students who study off-campus become more self-motivated, independent, able to embrace challenges, and able to cope with diverse individuals and situations—all skills that organizations want in their employees.

Living and studying in a foreign country, or well, with the expectation that a new director would also oversee curricular and institutional commitments to the cultural components of off-campus study. On her staff are Jeff Anderson, international student services coordinator; Jill Fischer, study abroad adviser; Nancy Plamann, CICE finance manager; and Linda Shaw, assistant CICE director.

HISTORY

continued from previous page

dents but in balance with the financial needs of the College. John’s efforts at long-range planning for the office provided opportunities for on-campus discussions about the importance of international education to the mission of the College. He was instrumental in leading a pivotal self-study and external review of international education at Gustavus before returning to the faculty in 2006. Upon his departure, Carol Moline also retired after serving 18 years in the office.

Patrick Quade was hired as interim director to respond to recommendations made by the external reviewers. Pat had already retired from St. Olaf as a professor of theatre and director of international and off-campus studies. His years of experience in international education were instrumental in helping Gustavus move toward a more viable financial model for off-campus study, as well as more rigorous policies and application procedures and a more comprehensive approach to issues of program safety and academic quality. He led the office for two years before “retiring” once again, this time to take a job as chief of international development at United International College in Zhuhai, China—now an exchange partner with Gustavus.

Carolyn O’Grady, professor of education, became the sixth director of international studies at Gustavus when she assumed the post in the summer of 2008. When Provost Mary E. Morton renamed the office the Center for International and Cultural Education (CICE), the role of the director changed as

Jill Fischer, study abroad adviser; Nancy Plamann, CICE finance manager; and Linda Shaw, assistant CICE director.

Contributions to articles in this section also came from Jeff Anderson, international student services coordinator; Melinda McCannell-Unger, interim study abroad adviser; Nancy Plamann, finance manager; and Linda Shaw, assistant CICE director.
Carolyn O’Grady became director of the newly named Center for International and Cultural Education (CICE) in 2008. A quarterly representative visited with O’Grady recently.

GQ: Why did you decide to accept this position?
CO: I was on sabbatical during 2007-08, doing research on several areas of interest to me [see p. 12]. I also had time to reflect on where I was in my career, and I realized I needed a new challenge. I am 54, and I’d been doing the same thing for quite awhile. I wanted to do something new that would really push me out of my comfort zone, force me to learn new things, and also give me an opportunity to stretch in new ways. Simultaneously, the provost was looking for someone to lead the office under its new configuration as the Center for International and Cultural Education. My desire to do something new coincided with her desire to move the office in a new direction.

GQ: What experience do you have for this job?
CO: I’ve had a lot of administrative experience from positions I held prior to working in higher education. For instance, I’ve had other jobs where I’ve supervised staff, developed strategic plans, and managed big budgets. Most of my colleagues at Gustavus don’t know how varied my professional past has been. So this position calls on some skills I haven’t tapped in a while. I also have an in-depth understanding of faculty governance at Gustavus, as I have been here since 1994 and have chaired or served on several faculty committees. So I brought a knowledge of the Gustavus context and the kinds of students we serve. I took students to Northern Ireland in January 2005 to study issues of conflict and social justice, a course I co-taught with English professor Elizabeth Baer and theatre professor Steve Griffith ’75. I also have extensive experience with multicultural education and cultural perspectives, the subject of my doctoral dissertation and my subsequent teaching. However, I had little expertise in the field of international education, and that has been the steepest learning curve for me.

GQ: Did you study abroad when you were in college?
CO: No, I wasn’t able to take advantage of any study abroad opportunities when I was a college student. I also wasn’t able to do the “backpacking in Europe” trip after graduation so that many of my friends did back in the 1970s. However, when I was 29 I finally got my international experience. I quit my job (I was teaching high school at the time), sold my car, and I left the United States on a one-way airline ticket. I didn’t know how long I would be gone, but I didn’t plan to come back until I had spent all my money (all $1,600 of it). I finally returned almost two years later. In those two years I traveled widely, hitchhiking most of the time and living on about $5 a day no matter what country I was in. It was easier to live on five dollars a day in Turkey than it was in Sweden!) For the most part I camped in a tent, and I definitely depended on the kindness of strangers. I think of my life as “BT”—before travel—and “AT”—after travel—because those two years certainly had a huge impact on me.

GQ: What languages do you speak?
CO: I am woefully monolingual. I have studied French and can sort of get by with it when I travel. I know just a little bit of Spanish. One of my life goals is to learn to speak Spanish, but I haven’t accomplished that yet. My advice to every student is to learn a second language. I am embarrassed when international students come to Gustavus and they speak at least two languages, usually more, and most of us speak only one. It is a weakness in our educational system.

GQ: What is the biggest challenge you face in your job?
CO: There are really two big challenges. The first is to figure out how to keep off-campus study financially accessible for students. This is a problem every off-campus study office in the country is facing. Travel costs are up, the economy is down, and yet we want as many students as possible—ideally every student—to study away. The second big challenge is to cope with the safety issues that inevitably arise when we send students on study away. I’ve been introduced to the world of risk management and the responsibility that entails. All the other challenges pale in comparison to these two.

GQ: What plans do you have for the office in the next few years?
CO: I know from reading through the office archives that I stand on the shoulders of the wonderful directors who preceded me in this job. What I hope to do is to continue the initiatives begun by the likes of Ruth Mason, John Cha, and Pat Quade [see p. 22]. Central to my goals are to build an endowment so that more students can afford to study away, to help the faculty integrate international perspectives more deeply into the curriculum, and to continue to refine the quality of the academic off-campus study programs that students can choose. It’s also important that we expand the numbers of international students who study at Gustavus, and this means we have to work on how to fund that.

Carolyn O’Grady

Carolyn can be contacted at cogrady@gustavus.edu. The CICE website is gustavus.edu/academics/ied/.
Gustavus offers three exemplary semester programs that focus on aspects of the College’s mission and heritage: our commitment to social justice and our Lutheran and Swedish foundations. The programs are designed and led by Gustavus faculty members.

Social Justice, Peace and Development: A Semester in India

A semester in India opportunity had been available to Gustavus students in the 1980s, but it took the vision and efforts of several individuals to create what would become a signature program for Gustavus. In 1992, Deane Curtin, professor of philosophy, Peter Hovde, director of the Office of International Education at Concordia College in Moorhead, and Ruth Mason, director of international education, proposed to the faculty a Gustavus–Concordia semester program focusing on community development in India. In the fall 1993 semester, 18 students enrolled in the first offering of “Community Development in India,” with funding and collaboration from the ELCA. Courses focused on theories of development, the environment, the role of women, and the history of India. Students also engaged in independent study. By 1996, the consortium included Visthar, an NGO in Bangalore led by David Selvaraj, who became the program dean for “Community Development in India.” Now in its 15th year, the program has a different name and slightly different academic courses, but its focus on the environment, culture, gender, ethics, and development remains the same. The program is led in even years by a Concordia faculty member and in odd years by a Gustavus faculty member. Professors Doug Huff (philosophy), Barbara Simpson (psychology), and Phil Voight (communication studies) have been past faculty leaders. In fall 2009, Pam Kittelson (biology) will lead the program. As one anonymous student participant wrote about the experience, “The trip to India isn’t just a trip, but a journey into yourself. All of a sudden, India becomes part of you, and you end up being more afraid of going home than coming [to India].”

Gustavus Semester in Germany

This program is based entirely in the former East Germany and explores the history, culture, and religion of the country. Students study the language and gain an informed understanding of Germany and of Germans in the modern era. Weekly cultural excursions augment students’ academic learning, and lodging through the semester includes home stays, a monastery, and guesthouses. Run in collaboration with the ELCA Wittenberg Center, the program began in 2001 and is offered in the fall semester. Faculty director for Fall 2009 is Mary Solberg (religion).

Gustavus Semester in Sweden

A Gustavus semester program in Sweden has long been a goal for Scandinavian studies professor Roland Thorstensson, and his planning has finally borne fruit. During the Spring 2009 semester, he and 13 students are spending four months studying contemporary Swedish history, current migration policies, environmental policies, the culture of the indigenous Sami, and emigration/emigration history. Anders Wall, Uppsala, Sweden, has provided funding for the 2009 group to ensure the program cost for students is as low as possible. The Spring 2010 faculty director will be Lisa Heldke (philosophy). Three members of the 2009 student group are blogging: Alex Legeros is at http://alexinsweden2009.blogspot.com/; Andrew Nelson is at http://nearthenorthpole.blogspot.com/; and Kristen Chirafisi is at http://kristensin sweden2009.blogspot.com/.

The most valuable thing studying abroad taught me was . . . to trust yourself. I was an unsure, naive sophomore when the Gustavus/Concordia Semester in India program found me. I learned more about myself during the months I spent traveling in India than I had in my whole life. It clarified for me my goals, my dreams, and my beliefs. My time spent studying India’s healthcare system put me on the path to becoming a registered nurse. Today I am a nurse manager in my hometown hospital, thrilled to be able to give back in a tangible way to the community I grew up in. My study-abroad experience is never far from my mind and on a daily basis I can still feel the effects of what I learned.

from Jennifer Bottke ’04 (nursing)
even a different state, can set an applicant apart from the majority of job candidates, who will look less well-rounded or experienced than the applicant who studied away. The same skills that make someone marketable in employment are also valued by graduate schools. Flexibility, an understanding of cultural contexts, ability to adapt to new circumstances, independence, self-confidence, teamwork, analytical skills—these traits are what employers and graduate schools are looking for.

And the majority of Gustavus graduates understand how important such an experience can be. About two-thirds of our students study off-campus before graduation, either in short-term courses during January Interim, or on semester- or yearlong programs. Since an international education office was first established at Gustavus, our students have studied in almost every country of the world, and many students select study abroad in places that are challenging. They tend to choose India more often than Italy, for instance, or somewhere in Central America rather than somewhere in central Europe. Because students are engaged in academic study, their off-campus study courses generally count toward graduation and, often, toward general education or major requirements. The personal, emotional, and intellectual growth that takes place is, to quote students’ most mentioned comment, “life changing.” These students are begin-

continued on next page

continued from page 24

Exposure to different traditions and religions is critical to functioning and communicating across national and cultural boundaries. Photo by Kyle Chester ’07, Chiang Mai, Thailand, spring 2006.

WHAT’S IN A NAME? STUDY AWAY, STUDY ABROAD, OFF-CAMPUS STUDY?

Off-campus study is more than just “study abroad,” though that is the first term that comes to mind, especially when we think about global study opportunities. But “study abroad” is in fact too narrow a description of the opportunities Gustavus students have for off-campus study. The Center for International and Cultural Education has a list of almost 150 approved semester- or yearlong programs from which students can choose. Among these are programs in Oregon, Washington, D.C., and Minneapolis. Off-campus study experiences during January Interim include courses to India, Argentina, and Tanzania, but also the U.S. Southwest and northern Minnesota. The term “study away” is a more accurate description of what students are doing, since it expresses their choice to study in an approved off-campus program.

Students may be most significantly affected when they choose to travel abroad, but not always. It can be more potentially transformative to immerse oneself in a study program on the Texas-Mexico border, among illegal immigrants and those who work with them, than to engage with the more familiar cultural context of central London. At the same time, some students will find studying in central London to be a big stretch merely because the location is outside the boundary of the United States. The mission of Gustavus is to develop culturally and globally engaged students. Whether students develop these competencies through international or domestic off-campus study also depends upon their personalities, backgrounds, comfort levels, and objectives.

Transcultural learners are challenged to develop thoughtful and clarified identifications, not only as members of particular cultural and national communities, but also as global citizens who understand that their neighbor is everyone alive. In a world that daily grows smaller, and in which everyone’s problems are everyone else’s, transcultural understanding will become the only place where peace can find a home.  

Carolyn O’Grady, professor of education, joined the Gustavus faculty in 1994 and was named director of the Center for International and Cultural Education in 2008.

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The cost of off-campus study is a challenge for parents, students, program providers, and colleges. Program and travel costs are up, scholarship and loan availability is down, and everyone is looking closely at their budgets. The global economic crisis has hit us all, and it is fair to ask whether the value of off-campus study is worth the cost.

At Gustavus, off-campus study will generally cost more than the comprehensive fee (tuition plus room and board), but how much more depends on the program type and its location. The College contributes a portion of a student’s tuition toward the cost of the program (currently that contribution is 60 percent). Some colleges and universities do not contribute any part of a student’s tuition to the cost of off-campus study, expecting students to pay full on-campus tuition and full off-campus program tuition. Other colleges or universities send all the tuition money off campus, but for budget reasons choose to limit the number of students who can be off-campus at any one time. Gustavus has chosen a middle path. Our philosophy is that any student should have the right to study off-campus (providing he or she meets our requirements for off-campus study), and the cost should be borne by both the student and the institution.

The long-term benefits of off-campus study, particularly at international locations, far exceed the short-term program cost. A student’s future employment prospects are enhanced with international experience, facility with a second language is increased, and the skills that are learned through the experience positively impact a student’s world view and sense of self. In economic terms, the cost of off-campus study is still a good value, earning a student credits that count toward graduation or toward major or general education requirements. At no other time in their lives will students have the flexibility in time, the support of many individuals working on their behalf to make the experience worthwhile, and an underwriting of the costs as they have while in college. Generally, students who are financial aid recipients will continue to receive the same financial aid awards as they would have received had they remained on campus, with the exception of a work-study award for the term they will be abroad and certain scholarships that require a student’s participation on-campus (e.g., some music and theatre scholarships).

For more information about how program costs are figured, see the CICE website (gustavus.edu/academics/ied/studyabroad/Programfees.php).
on exchange programs

Participating in an exchange program can be an especially cost-effective way to study off-campus. Gustavus offers seven exchange programs, which generally operate on a one-to-one tuition exchange. For each, students pay their regular tuition at Gustavus and receive tuition at the exchange school. At Kansai Gaidai University and Universiti Sains Malaysia, exchange students also pay their room and board to Gustavus and it is applied to the cost of the program; at the other five listed below, students pay room and board direct on-site.

- Uppsala University, Sweden
- Växjö University, Sweden
- Mora Folkhögskola, Sweden
- CAL-Besançon, France
- United International College-Zhuhai, China
- Kansai Gaidai University, Japan
- Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia

Exchange programs—
an alum’s perspective

Beth Zirbes ’06 signed up for Swedish 101 completely on a whim. She had intended to take Spanish for all the typical reasons: she had some experience from high school, it was a useful language to know, etc. But, as a freshmen, her registration priority was low, and she wasn’t able to make it into any of the convenient sections of Spanish. “The options that worked in my schedule,” she recalls, “were German, French, and Swedish. Since I had heard good things about Professor Roland Thorstensson, I decided to take Swedish. I have no Swedish heritage and I knew nothing about Sweden.”

At first, Beth’s intent was simply to learn another language. “I had no particular interest in the Swedish culture,” she admits. After being exposed to it, however, she became more and more interested in Sweden for its culture. “After all, how many places require fathers to take leave from work when they have a baby?”

Somewhere in the middle of her second year studying Swedish, Beth decided to study abroad in Sweden. “Gustavus has exchange programs with a few universities in Sweden. Studying at a big university allowed the opportunity to take upper-level courses, but there was a chance that all of the Swedes, eager to practice their English skills, would only speak English with me. Also, it was very likely that the classes I would take would be taught in English.

There was also an exchange program with a little school in Mora. My classes in Mora would only give me elective credits, but all of those classes would be in Swedish. Since my primary goal was to master the Swedish language, in the end I decided to study in Mora. Most students in Mora are preparing for college, so the difficulty level is lower than at a university. However, from day one, I spoke nothing but Swedish. In the beginning it was terribly confusing, but over time, I became more and more proficient. At one point in time I started to dream in Swedish! On a few occasions I even forgot how to say some things in English. Mora was the perfect environment to learn the Swedish language.”

Looking back, I now view my semester abroad as having had two roles in my development. First, it supplemented and enhanced the well-rounded nature of my Gustavus education. I had the opportunity to see historical sites in person—to smell the air at the swimming pools from the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, to feel the energy of the crowd around the Mona Lisa at the Louvre in Paris, to taste my own tears at the International Red Cross Museum’s Holocaust exhibit in Geneva. . . .

I learned to mesh academics with personal perspective.

Secondly, and more importantly in my estimation, my travels afforded me a sense of cultural tolerance and of self-reliance that I only thought I had prior to living in a foreign country. I had been fortunate enough to travel to Europe as a teenager, visiting family friends for a couple of weeks. They shepherded me around Paris, closely under wing. I thought I had seen the world! A few years later, mapping out my own adventures and navigating my plans in the “real world” proved to be a more challenging task. In one day, I experienced both prejudice and unexpected kindness from strangers, each from the most surprising of sources. I learned to temper hasty judgment of others while remaining in tune with my instincts.

from Tracy Sorenson ’95, RN (international management major; semester abroad in France, 1992)

from Beth Zirbes ’06 (math)

more “cultural competency”
When Graziela Tanaka ’02 arrived at Gustavus from Brazil, she was planning an academic career in archaeology, but, as happens with many people, she left the College with a completely different idea of what she wanted to do.

“My last semester was the Fall of 2001, when the Twin Towers fell, and like everyone else my perspective of the world shifted dramatically. As an international student in the United States at that time, I developed a strong globalist identity, and sensed a vocation to take responsibility for the world. I had already been active with the Gustavus chapter of Amnesty International and also Gusties Against Poverty. The Nobel Conference on globalization was also an important formative experience, where I was exposed to development theories and personally met Jeffery Sacks, who is an inspiration on issues of global poverty, trade and globalization.”

After graduating, Graziela’s first job was as a community organizer in the Bronx. After two years in New York City, she decided that it was time to start building a bridge between the United States and Brazil. “There was an increasing global sense of people’s shared struggle and a drive to change things,” she recalls, “and I wanted to be a part of it. So I organized a delegation of 104 community leaders from the U.S. to the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, bringing together local communities to address global issues. After that I got involved with different projects in Brazil such as a HIV/AIDS prevention program in favelas in Rio de Janeiro, a technology cooperative, and an NGO that promoted digital inclusion in low-income communities.”

In 2007 she joined a new global Web movement—Avaaz—that promised to “close the gap between the world we have and the world most people everywhere want.”

Graziela says, “People talked about how the Internet would revolutionize politics, but no one really had an idea of how that would happen. Avaaz . . . showed how it could happen. It started ambitiously, tackling big global issues such as climate change, Israel and Palestine, global poverty, and conflict situations. In less than two years we created a list of more than 3.4 million people from every

I participated in two programs while attending Gustavus. During the fall of my junior year, I studied in Geneva, Switzerland, and followed it up a year later with a semester in Apia, Samoa. I used my study-abroad experience to study a subject I couldn’t otherwise study at Gustavus: the airline industry. I spent two semesters on opposite ends of the world meeting airline executives, government officials, and opponents of the airline industry. When I returned to Gustavus, I used my experience abroad and wrote my senior thesis on the airline industry. That thesis then helped me get my first job in the airline industry working on the commercial side for Southwest Airlines in Dallas, Texas. I spent a few years in Dallas and eventually moved on to other airlines in Washington, D.C., and New York. Seven years after graduating from Gustavus, I’m still involved with the industry but now living and working in Barcelona, Spain, as the European director of sales and support for a U.S.-based software company that provides software to airlines.

from Martin Kaduc ’01 (political science)
country on the globe, which responds quickly
to global crisis moments. We bring the
world’s representation to global decision-
making moments, meeting directly with world
leaders and attending international events
which have always been out of reach to the
average person. We have accomplished some
pretty big feats, such as raising more than 2
million dollars for the cyclone relief efforts in
Burma and passing a human chain handshake
from the Dalai Lama all the way to China. We
created a YouTube hit to challenge the ‘Islam
versus West’ mentality, and helped pass glob-
al policies on cluster bombs and overfishing.
“It’s exciting to work for an organization
where one day I am coordinating volunteers
in Warsaw and the next talking to civil socie-
ty groups in Zimbabwe. I work with people
from Iraq to Singapore, and I love being able
to act as a world citizen expressing a shared
vision for the planet and actually working to
impact it.”

Vwaire Orhurhu, a senior chemistry
major and pre-med student from
Nigeria, is using education to help prevent
needless death in Africa. That is the goal of
Africa Partners Medical, a national organiza-
tion developed by health care practitioners at
Mayo Clinic in which Vwaire is active.

Vwaire has created a chapter of Africa
Partners Medical at Gustavus, the first at an
undergraduate institution in the United
States. Vwaire and 40 other Gustavus stu-
dents gather surplus medical supplies from
hospitals and send them to Mayo Clinic,
which ships them to Ghana to be distributed
to doctors throughout Africa. The
Gustavus chapter of Africa Partners
Medical has held fundraisers and has
raised awareness of the need for health
care in Africa with campus programs such
as “Battle of the Majors” and volunteering
at Immanuel-St. Joseph Hospital in
Mankato, Habitat for Humanity, and the
Salvation Army.

Vwaire feels that his experience as a
Collegiate Fellow for three years at
Gustavus has helped improve his leader-
ship skills, critical thinking, organization,
and independence, which was necessary
to begin the chapter of Africa Partners
Medical at the College. Vwaire also has
been a chemistry teaching assistant, an
assistant in the Office of the Chaplains, a
tour guide for the Office of Admission,
and a member of the Gustavus Percussion
Ensemble, the Pan African Student
Organization, and the International Cultures
Club. He has conducted neuroscience research
at Gustavus and genetic research at Mayo
Clinic, and has taught children in local
schools about Nigerian culture.

“It is all about creating community,” says
Vwaire. Clearly for Vwaire and Gustavus, that
community is international.
Five students from the Department of Education completed a session of their student teaching in Spain during Fall 2008. They were assigned to the International School at Sotogrande (SIS), which was founded in 1978 and is located on the southeast coast of Spain. The curriculum and instruction used at the school is under the direction of the International Baccalaureate Organization (www.ibo.org) and is based upon project-oriented curriculum and facilitative instruction. Students conference with teachers to choose, develop, and present conceptual topics of interest they learn about and experience.

Rachael Click, Riley Hoffman, Dawn Lewis, Brittany Oslund, and Annika Torkelson were the first students in the Sotogrande-Gustavus teaching partnership, inaugurated in 2008. According to headmaster Christopher T.J. Charleson, the student teachers “had an amazing impact at SIS.” At least two of the students have been offered jobs at SIS when they graduate with their teaching certification.

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This experience is one of four proposed “study away” opportunities for student teachers. In Spring 2009, five students will student-teach in Barrow, Alaska. In addition to Spain and Alaska, proposed sites include China, South Africa, and a border-state domestic site. Read more about the Sotogrande experience on the students’ blog: http://rclick9.blogspot.com.

I studied abroad in Berlin in the fall of 2004 and in Dijon in the spring of 2005. During the summer of 2006, I also was an intern at RUBIS, a program at the Freie Universitaet in Berlin, Germany. I knew even before I started college that I wanted to study abroad, and I knew that I wanted programs where I could learn to speak the language, live with a host family, and also have the opportunity to take unique courses and have time to travel. The year I spent abroad proved what I was capable of, and I came back a different, and also hopefully a better, person. I began working at CIEE (Council on International Education Exchange) in Portland, Maine, a few months after I graduated from Gustavus. Since working at CIEE I have traveled to various countries, such as Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Jamaica, Trinidad, Singapore, and my all-time favorite, Thailand. My study-abroad experience helped prepare me for working in an international setting, and I am extremely grateful for all of the opportunities that I’ve had because of it.

from Danielle Brandts ’06 (international management and German)
OFF-CAMPUS STUDY EXPERIENCE BENEFITS PROFESSOR AND HER STUDENTS

The opportunity to lead January courses abroad has been of huge benefit to me as a professor and as an artist,” says Priscilla Briggs, assistant professor of art at Gustavus. “Researching and designing a course abroad with a colleague from the geography department was a great learning experience. We worked to create an interdisciplinary course in which students study the positive and negative effects of tourism in a developing nation through a combination of assigned readings, research, experiential learning, and photography.”

Briggs maintains that her teaching experience has informed her personal artwork as well. “While in Thailand with the students, I took photographs that became part of a solo exhibition, ‘Global Market,’ which explores the interconnectedness of the global market and, specifically, tourist markets. One example of a photograph in this exhibit is a portrait of a long-neck Karen woman holding a postcard she sells in a souvenir stall in front of her house. The image on the postcard is a picture of her dressed in the traditional clothing she wears on a daily basis because her village has become a tourist destination. Admission is charged to enter the village, and its occupants—Burmes refugees without Thai citizenship—have little choice but to participate in this charade in order to earn a living.”

In addition to leading January courses abroad, Briggs has participated in two faculty seminars focused on social justice and service-learning, in Cuba and Namibia. After these trips, she worked to bring the seminars’ experiences to the larger campus and community by curating exhibitions of photographs by faculty members who were on these trips. “I also show some of these photos to students in classes when addressing image and text and advertising. For instance, one section of the exhibit on Cuba included photographs of public advertising—exclusively government propaganda, which is in sharp contrast to American billboards and advertising. A parallel in the photographs of Namibia was the ubiquitous presence of Coca-Cola advertising as it appeared on schools, welcome signs for towns, and even shanties in the settlements.”

ROLE OF PARENTS

Parents have an essential role in helping their son or daughter decide when and how to pursue off-campus study. In many cases, parents provide the financial means, but they also provide the moral support, encouragement, and good advice that are needed in selecting a program or country in which to study.

What are some reasonable expectations your son or daughter should have of your role in the process?

- You will talk with your child about his or her plans and goals for the experience. Your interest and enthusiasm will be clear through the kind of questions you ask.
- You will research your child’s destination in collaboration with him or her. Both of you should know about the culture and geography of the location of study. This pre-departure preparation always pays off.
- You will help your child plan for day-to-day expenses while on off-campus study and what kind of daily budget to live within.
- You will support your son or daughter through inevitable culture shock or homesickness. It is important to be responsive and sympathetic, and to remember that these emotions are a typical part of the off-campus study experience.
- You will expect your child to be changed by this experience. Encourage your son or daughter to share stories, thoughts, and perspectives, and be prepared to hear new passions and new ideas.

What are some unreasonable expectations of your role in the process?

- You interfere with your child’s control of the experience. Remember that this is not your study-abroad adventure, it is your son or daughter’s. It is very important that your child take primary responsibility for the selecting, applying, and planning of the off-campus study experience.
- You allow your fears about your child’s safety to undermine his or her confidence in traveling. It is normal to have anxiety when a son or daughter ventures far from home. It is important not to let this anxiety inappropriately influence the choices your child makes.
- You expect daily e-mail or telephone updates from your child. Too frequent communication with family or friends back home can undermine the experience your child is seeking. Encourage your son or daughter to communicate with you regularly, but remember that he or she should be busy and fully engaged in the study experience.

The Center for International and Cultural Education can answer many questions parents may have (within the guidelines of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act—FERPA). We include parents in the application process of off-campus study by requiring your signature on some forms. For more information, please see the Parent page of the Gustavus website (gustavus.edu/academics/ied/parents/).

MORE “CULTURAL COMPETENCY” ➤
The Gustavus Quarterly

International Education
in a More Dangerous World

by Carolyn O’Grady

Late in November, terrorists attacked several key targets in Mumbai, India, including the main Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) railway station, the CAMA hospital, a Jewish religious center, and the luxury Taj Mahal and Oberoi Trident hotels. At least 174 people died in the attacks, including 27 foreigners; roughly 239 others were wounded. All eyes were on India, and news reports of possible further violence continued for weeks. At the time of the bombings, Gustavus students were on the Gustavus/Concordia Social Justice, Peace, and Development Semester in India program. Our students were in Udaipur with their faculty leader (near New Delhi in the north), but scheduled to return to Bangalore by way of Mumbai. Such events fray the nerves of study-abroad advisers, parents, and college administrators. What is the right course of action in such an event?

There is no question that traveling involves some risks, regardless of whether one is traveling to Southern California or to the southern hemisphere. News reports of violent events in far-flung places can reinforce parent or student anxieties about studying off-campus. These anxieties are understandable, but should not be blown out of proportion. The truth is, students may be safer on an approved off-campus study program than visiting the hottest new destination for spring break.

Indeed, within hours of the bombings in India, Concordia and Gustavus had implemented the emergency management protocols that immediately go into effect in such a situation. Among other things, this involves ensuring that students are in a safe place and, with the help of contacts in-country as well as security services to which we subscribe, determining whether we should keep the students where they are, move them, or even bring them home. After much consultation and monitoring the situation closely, it was clear that students were safer where they were than had we tried to bring them home prematurely. This decision also ensured that their academic study could continue. The students on the Fall SJP program were adamant that they did not want to be sent home early.

The Center for International and Cultural Education conducts regular reviews of all approved programs to ensure academic rigor and high quality student service, including attention to health and safety for program participants. But no off-campus study office can guarantee anyone’s health and safety. Instead, our goal is to “manage risk” to the greatest extent possible, and prepare for both the known and the unknown circumstance.

In considering international off-campus study, it is important to have a comparative perspective of the United States and the world. International observers view the United States as a quite dangerous country. Our street crime statistics back up this view. No country has as many guns or gun-related injuries and deaths. U.S. drug and alcohol abuse is among the highest in the world. Yet, the perception is often that life at home is safer than life “over there.” U.S. media coverage of the rest of the world focuses on overseas political upheavals, violent strife, and natural disasters rather than on positive political and social developments or on the richness and human warmth of life as it is actually lived. Students who study abroad often comment on how “normal” life seems abroad, in spite of cultural differences.

Regardless of whether a student studies off-campus within the United States or at an international location, safety is everyone’s responsibility. Parents, students, and the Center for International and Cultural Education all have a role to play in minimizing potential dangers. It is essential that both students and parents educate themselves about the potential safety risks associated with any area of the world. Whether in the United States or in another country, a student’s safety depends most on his or her exercising good judgment and responsible behavior.

The Office of International and Cultural Education works closely with students as they plan their off-campus study so that they will have the best experience possible. Several policies govern health and safety, and Gustavus will not allow students to begin a program at a site that is under a U.S. State Department travel warning. Situations throughout the world are monitored on a daily basis. Most importantly, our office tries to prepare students and faculty prior to departure for whatever may arise. Terrorist attacks remain extraordinary situations, and the vast majority of trips to India or other countries are incident-free. We may not be able to guarantee safety, but we work hard to plan for the unexpected and educate the College’s student and faculty travelers to do the same.

Resources

U.S. Department of State country-specific information

U.S. Department of State travel safety tips

CICE website for policies regarding health and safety
(gustavus.edu/academics/ied/studyabroad/policies.php).

Center for Global Education Study Abroad Handbook
(http://studentsabroad.com/resources.html; scroll down to section on Safety).
I spent a semester in Nepal my junior year at Gustavus and that experience has had a profound impact on my life, both personally and professionally. Living with a host family really opened my eyes to a different way of life, while at the same time I learned that at the end of the day we all care about the same things. My study-abroad experience undoubtedly helped me to get my internship my senior year at Children’s HeartLink, an Edina-based International NGO. After college I got the itch to travel again, so another Gustie and I lived in Seoul, South Korea, for a year teaching English and traveling around Asia. The following summer I backpacked around Europe for seven weeks and got a taste of European culture. I am currently working as an international services specialist for a relocation company in the Twin Cities. I feel extremely fortunate that I was given such a wonderful opportunity. The Center for International and Cultural Education helped me choose a program that was right for me, and it had a greater impact on me than anything else up to that point in my life.

from Amber Wilson '05 (communication studies)
Gustavus football player T.J. Ridley, a junior safety from Edina, Minn., has been named to the CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America College Division Second Team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Ridley, who carries a 3.96 grade point average with a major in biology, finished the season with 38 tackles (18 solo), two interceptions, and 1.5 tackles for loss. He is also a forward on the Golden Gustie men’s hockey team.

Ridley becomes the 75th Gustavus student-athlete to be named to a CoSIDA Academic All-America team. He is the eighth Gustavus football player to be honored, following Dave Najarian ’82 (1980, 1981), Dan Duncan ’00 (1998, 1999), Andy Kopperud ’01 (2000), Brian Bergstrom ’02 (2000), Andy Traetow ’03 (2002), Ben Spilseth ’03 (2002), and Isaac Sie ling ’05 (2004).

Gustavus ranks ninth among all Division III institutions in total number of CoSIDA Academic All-Americans (75). Last year, the Gusties tied for the fourth-highest number of Academic All-Americans among all divisions, with eight.

Peter Haugen, a Minneapolis, Minn., native who has been the head football coach at Washburn High School in Minneapolis for the past 15 years, has been named the head football coach at Gustavus. Haugen succeeds Jay Schoenebeck ’80, who announced just prior to the 2008 season that he was stepping down after 15 years as the Gusties’ head coach to pursue other interests and spend more time with his family.

Beginning his responsibilities in January, Haugen was enthusiastic about joining the Gustavus community: “My wife, Brenda, and I are excited to begin serving Gustavus Adolphus College, and we feel blessed to be a part of its incredibly rich academic and athletic heritage.”

During his 15 years as the head coach at Washburn High School, Haugen compiled an overall record of 111–44, while winning 11 league championships and posting a league record of 76–8. He directed the Millers to the Class AAAA quarterfinals in 2007, finishing with a mark of 9–3. While building the program at Washburn, Haugen increased player participation from 35 players in 1994 to 110 players last fall.

Gustavus Athletics Director Al Molde stated, “Peter Haugen brings an outstanding record of success on the football field. Eleven conference championships speak volumes about his ability to lead a football team. However, Peter is much more than a football coach. He is a valued administrator, a caring counselor and leader, working in a multicultural setting to develop programs for student leadership and retention. We are excited to have him join our coaching staff.”
Welch named to d3football.com All-America Team

Gustavus Adolphus junior safety Joe Welch (Hastings, Minn.) has been named to the 2008 D3football.com All-America Team. Welch, who was selected to the Third Team Defense, is the second Gustavus player ever to be named to the D3football.com All-America team, joining Andy Traetow ’03, who was a second-team selection as a return specialist in 2000. Welch was also a d3football.com First Team All-West Region selection.

Welch had an outstanding 2008 season, leading the Gusties with 98 tackles, including 51 solo stops, to go along with one tackle for loss, one forced fumble, and one fumble recovery. Welch finished third among MIAC defensive players with 10.1 tackles per game as he was named to the All-MIAC first-team defense.

Fall Sports Summary

by Tim Kennedy ’82

Football – The Gustavus football team was in contention for the MIAC title the entire season, but heartbreaking losses to St. Olaf (in overtime) and Concordia in the final two weeks of play landed the Gusties in a fifth-place tie with a league mark of 4–4 (6–4 overall). Senior wide receiver Chad Aitt (St. Michael, Minn.) shattered multiple career receiving marks and was named First Team All-MIAC for the second straight year. Others earning First Team All-MIAC honors were senior guard Jared Thelemann (Kilkenny, Minn.), junior linebacker Tony Palma (Lino Lakes, Minn.), and junior safety Joe Welch (Hastings, Minn.). Welch was also named to the d3football.com All-West Region First Team.

Men’s Soccer – Coach Larry Zelenz’s squad just missed claiming its fifth consecutive league title, as the Gusties finished one point (8–2–0, 16 points) behind champion Carleton (8–1–1, 17 points). The team also saw its streak of four consecutive playoff titles come to an end with a 3–0 loss to Augsburg in a semifinal playoff game. The Gusties registered double-digit wins for the eighth consecutive season, finishing with an overall mark of 13–5–0. Senior defender Flynn Stewart-Franzen (Minneapolis, Minn.), junior midfielder Fraser Horton (Missoula, Mont.), and first-year defender Justin Eglauer (Eden Prairie, Minn.) were named to the all-conference team. In addition, Stewart-Franzen and Horton were named First Team All-Region selections by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).

Women’s Soccer – The Gustie women’s soccer team posted a record of 7–8–3 overall and finished eighth in the MIAC with a mark of 4–5–2. Junior forward Chelsea Craven (St. Cloud, Minn.) was named to the all-conference team. Several players received academic honors, including Alison Dittmer (Jr., Ply won, Minn.), who was a First Team CoSIDA Academic All-District selection; Cailie Christensen (Sr., Bloomington, Minn.), who was a Third Team NSCAA All-Central Region First Team Scholar; and Craven and Christy Tupy (Sr., Burnsville, Minn.), who received honorable mention on the NSCAA All-Central Region Scholar Team.

Volleyball – Coach Kari Eckheart’s squad recorded one of the finest seasons in the history of the program, posting a 26–5 overall record, finishing second in MIAC regular-season play with a mark of 9–2, placing second in the MIAC post-season tournament, and earning a spot in the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1986. The Gusties saw their season come to an end with a 3–0 loss to UW-Eau Claire (18–25, 21–25, 21–25) in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

continued on next page
Women’s golf team claims MIAC championship

The Gustavus women’s golf team held off longtime rival St. Thomas to win the first MIAC championship in the program’s history in early October at Bunker Hills Golf Club in Coon Rapids, Minn. The Gusties fired a 54-hole total of 324–333–323–980 to finish nine strokes ahead of St. Thomas, which posted a total of 328–335–326–989. Senior Kimbra Kosak (Grand Rapids, Minn.) tied for second individually with a total of 80–84–79–243.

By winning the MIAC championship, Gustavus earns an automatic bid to the NCAA championships, which will be held May 13–16 at the PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fla. The Gusties are ranked #2 nationally in the most recent National Golf Coaches Association (NGCA) poll.

The 2008 MIAC champion women’s golf team – front row from left: Lauren Runsvold, Katie Schenfeld; back row: Kali Griggs, Kimbra Kosak, Taylor Drenttel, and head coach Scott Moe.

Fall Sports Summary
Continued from previous page

tournament, which was held at the University of St. Thomas. Senior setter Bridget Burtzel (Cold Spring, Minn.) and senior libero Emily Klein (Red Wing, Minn.) received First Team All-MIAC honors. Burtzel and Klein were also named to the America Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-West Region Team.

Men’s Cross Country – The Gustavus men’s cross country team closed out a solid 2008 season with a sixth-place finish at the MIAC championships and a 14th-place finish at the NCAA Central Region meet. Senior Dan Foley (Minneapolis, Minn.), who led the Gusties all season, earned all-conference honors with a fifth-place finish at the MIAC championships, as well as All-Region honors with a 14th-place finish at the NCAA Central Region meet.

Women’s Cross Country – The Gustavus women’s cross country team capped its 2008 season with a sixth-place finish at the MIAC championships and an 11th-place finish at the NCAA Central Region meet. Sophomore Brooke Beskau (Hastings, Minn.) earned all-conference honors with a ninth-place finish at the MIAC championships. She also received All-Region honors by virtue of placing 18th at the NCAA Central Region meet.
John Kauss wins singles title at ITA Small College Championships

Gustavus men's tennis player John Kauss defeated Chris Goodwin of Emory University 6–2, 6–3 to claim the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Division III Singles Championship in early October in Mobile, Ala. Kauss, a senior from St. Paul, Minn., is the first Gustavus men's tennis player to win the ITA Division III singles title. Seeded fourth out of eight players in the tournament, Kauss upset defending champion and top-seed John Watts of Washington University (St. Louis, Mo.) 6–4, 6–3 in the semifinals before knocking off #3-seed Goodwin in the finals. He did not drop a set in any of his three matches at the tournament.

Kauss joins former Gustavus men's tennis players Kevin Whipple '03 and Eric Butorac '03 as the only Midwest Region players to claim ITA Division III titles. Whipple and Butorac won back-to-back doubles titles in 2001 and 2002.

Kauss also played in the doubles portion of the ITA championships with partner Mike Burdakin, a junior from Bettendorf, Iowa. Kauss and Burdakin, who were not seeded in the tournament, played extremely well, finishing second out of eight teams. The Gusties top doubles team lost the championship match to Chris and Michael Goodwin of Emory, 6–7 (3), 1–6. Both Kauss and Burdakin received All-America honors by virtue of advancing to the ITA Small College Championships.

Women's Golf – Coach Scott Moe's squad ended a frustrating string of four consecutive second-place finishes at the MIAC championships by winning the program's first-ever conference title at Bunker Hills Golf Club in Coon Rapids, Minn. in early October. The Gusties fired a 54-hole total of 324-333-323=980 to finish nine strokes ahead of St. Thomas. Four Gustavus golfers finished in the top ten, earning all-conference honors: senior Kimbra Kosak (Grand Rapids, Minn.), who placed second; junior Kali Griggs (Burnsville, Minn.) and sophomore Katie Schenfeld (Indianola, Iowa), who tied for sixth; and first-year Taylor Drenttel (Eagan, Minn.), who placed eighth. By winning the MIAC title, the Gusties automatically qualified for the NCAA championships, which will take place May 13–16 in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Men's Golf – The Gustie men's golf team closed out its fall season with a second-place finish at the MIAC championships, which were played at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids, Minn. Top finishers for Gustavus were junior Ricky Copeland (Mahtomedi, Minn.), who finished third, and junior Josh Curb (Bemidji, Minn.), who tied for tenth. Copeland and Curb both received all-conference honors by virtue of placing in the top ten. The Gusties will spend the spring season trying to earn an at-large berth to the NCAA tournament, which will take place May 13–16 in Port St. Lucie, Florida.
Volleyball player Emily Klein named MIAC Defensive Player of the Year

Senior Emily Klein has been named the 2008 Defensive Player of the Year by Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference volleyball coaches for a third consecutive year.

A libero* from Red Wing, Minn., Klein is a two-time all-conference honoree who led the league in service aces per set at 0.48 and ranked third in digs per set at 6.31. The heart of the Gustie defense, Klein committed just 40 receiving errors in 670 opportunities this past season. She set a new single-season dig record with 664 digs in 31 matches, breaking her own record of 649 digs set in 2006. Klein will graduate holding every dig record in program history, including career digs (2,329) and digs in a match (48).

* A libero (pronounced "LEE-bah-ro") is a designated back-row player, intended to be used as a ball-control specialist. Introduced in NCAA play in 2002, the libero is allowed to replace any player in the back row without counting as a substitution. There is no limit to the number of libero replacements a team is allowed.
Alumni gift will ‘make a difference’ for students with ‘big’ questions

by Kari Clark ’91

For alumni Brian and Janice Johnson ’63 ’63, Gustavus Adolphus College is where they started their life together. Brian and Jan met at Gustavus during their first year of college; Brian went on to pursue a career in dentistry and Janice in education. Together they raised three sons. Brian and Jan see the College as the place where they gained the education, experiences, and values that helped shape their lives.

As Brian and Jan approached their 45th class reunion, they wanted to make a gift that would acknowledge their connection to Gustavus and have an impact on future generations of Gustavus students. They also wanted to be smart about their giving. First, they considered how they wanted to make a difference at the College. In their research, Brian and Jan learned about the Center for Vocational Reflection (CVR), a program established in 2001 through a Lilly Endowment grant. Among the first of just a few programs like it in the country, the CVR is a significant mark of distinction for Gustavus. The Center’s mission—to challenge and equip students, faculty, and staff to more intentionally reflect on their vocations, their callings to live out their distinctive gifts, passions, and senses of faith and meaning in ways that benefit their communities and help to address the world’s deep needs—is aligned with Brian and Jan. The Johnsons understand decisions ranging from career choice to faith can be difficult and confusing. They believe in the value of a program like the CVR, where students can go with questions about life-direction, purpose, passion and faith. They decided to create a named endowment to support the CVR.

With the help of a Gustavus gift planner, the Johnsons explored strategic ways to make their gift. Instead of funding their endowment with cash, they wisely decided to make a gift of appreciated stock. This type of gift allowed the Johnsons to support Gustavus and avoid paying capital gains tax on the stock gain. They also received an income tax deduction on the full market value of the stock they donated. With their gift, the Brian and Janice Johnson Center for Vocational Reflection Endowment was established to help fund the programs of the CVR at Gustavus.

“We greatly appreciate this significant gift from Brian and Jan,” CVR Director Chris Johnson ’85 said. “It is an inspiration for fellow alumni, and signals their belief in Gustavus as a place that tackles questions that really matter. Most importantly, they are helping students prepare for meaningful lives of leadership and service in society.”

If you would like to discuss intentional ways to make a gift to Gustavus, please call the Gustavus gift planning staff at 1-800-726-6192.

Kari Clark ’91 joined the institutional advancement staff in 2007 as a director of planned giving.
Recently I celebrated my third anniversary at Gustavus. I find myself in a leadership role that I wasn’t anticipating when I celebrated my second anniversary at the College. A year ago Gustavus was looking for a new president and a vice president of institutional advancement. Both positions have now been filled. I can assure you that we have a great president in Jack Ohle. He is going to help us move forward in incredible ways.

I was quite satisfied working as a gift planner for the College and felt I was doing what I was called to do for my alma mater. It was only after meeting with President Ohle that I felt a strong urge to be a part of his administration in a different way. His energy, his drive, his vision for how all of us together will determine the future of the College paved the way for my decision to accept his invitation to serve as the vice president for institutional advancement. It is my honor to do so, and I look forward to the challenges ahead as we work to ensure that the Gustavus we know and love will be strongly positioned to meet the challenges of the future.

I want to touch on three areas affecting institutional advancement to keep you in the loop on activities at Gustavus and as a way of clarifying what we do in institutional advancement (with perhaps even a word or two about what we don’t do).

First, a few words about the Office of Institutional Advancement. For too many years, I believe, advancement at Gustavus has been synonymous with simply “fundraising,” without regard for the important role that alumni relations plays in our office. As a staff we have discussed and refined a mission statement for advancement that will help us think more clearly about what we do and how we communicate our role internally at the College and externally. We arrived at this statement: “Institutional advancement at Gustavus Adolphus College does three things: Engage alumni and friends, Invite philanthropy, and Steward great relationships.”

My hope is that you will help us talk about our office in terms of each of these areas of responsibility. So that our office may functionally meet these three opportunities and ensure that the vice president—regardless of who it is—can lead effectively, we have structured the office around these areas.

Alumni relations is led by Randall Stuckey ’83, the person you go to for anything related to alumni engagement, activities, and services. One of his great opportunities this year will be to think strategically about how we engage current students about what it means to be alumni of Gustavus, even as they are students at Gustavus.

Philanthropy is led by Director of Development Willie Johnson. Willie comes to us with 25 years of higher education development work, most recently for DePauw University. He gets to lie awake at night thinking about how we raise $12 million in gift income this year with major gifts, Gustavus Annual Fund gifts, planned gifts, and corporate and foundation gifts.

We are currently searching for a director of advancement services, whose job in one sense will begin with a great audit in mind and back up from there. That person will be charged with documentation of gifts, receipting of gifts, and thanking the givers. He or she is the person to call when you have a question about a pledge payment or matching gift.

These three individuals will be working with another 20 who are the advancement team at Gustavus. These three will allow me to conduct my work in a fashion that will enable me to travel with the president to develop the relationships, secure the funds needed to ensure our success, articulate and plan for the culture of philanthropy we must have at the College, and lead—not micro-manage—the office.

Obviously the three areas in which we work overlap and relate strongly to each other. They are part of a culture of philanthropy that is a circle, each depending on the others. Alumni relations cannot be divorced from fundraising, because for some alumni their gift to Gustavus is the expression of their relationship to the College. Development or fundraising cannot separate itself from alumni relations—great philanthropy is built on profoundly personal relationships. And of course, without the stewardship of great relationships, neither is possible.

You can expect the Office of Institutional Advancement to play a strong role in engaging you more fully in the life of the College and actively, enthusiastically, and unapologetically inviting your philanthropy at levels you may not have imagined possible—both because you can and because we must.

Thomas W. Young ’88
Vice President, Office of Institutional Advancement
Gustavus Alumni Association

The mission of the Alumni Association is to facilitate among former students lifelong relationships with Gustavus and with each other, to enable alumni to actively advance and engage in the mission of the College.

Class news and information to be included in the Alumni section of the Quarterly should be sent to:
Alumni Relations Office
Gustavus Adolphus College
800 West College Avenue
St. Peter, MN 56082-1498
phone • 800-487-8437
e-mail • alumni@gustavus.edu
website • gustavus.edu

The camel wore Gustie colors
Celebrating 75
Seven members of the Class of 1955 celebrated their 75th birthdays during Jackie Carlson’s birthday party in October. Classmates pictured are from left: Cecile Hilding Swenson, Eileen Ekberg Scott, Carol Roby Ford Lind, Clarice Tack Swisher, Joan Bonn Wright, Audrey Anderson Jaeger, and Jackie Carlson. Spouses also were in attendance.

DeCorsey inducted into Minnesota Old Timers Hall of Fame
Charles “Cubby” DeCorsey ’57 (left), Bloomington, was inducted into the Minnesota Old Timers Football Hall of Fame at a banquet last September. He is pictured with 2008 Hall of Fame Committee president Gary Gustafson ’57.

56 Class Agents: Carolyn Jens Brusseau, JoAnn Johnson Lundborg
e-mail: 1956classagent@gustavus.edu
Reuben L. Carlson, Tigerton, WI, and his wife, Kay (Jacobson ’58), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

57 Class Agents: Nancy Reiter Grimes, Marlys Mattson Nelson
e-mail: 1957classagent@gustavus.edu
Karen Stewart Kittlesen, Faribault, and her husband, Jim ’56, traveled to Alaska in June 2007 to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

58 Class Agents: Owen Sammelson, Carolyn LUND Sandvig
e-mail: 1958classagent@gustavus.edu
Sonya Johnson Berg, Glenwood, volunteers as a foster grandmother.

Chet and Marcia Amundson Janasz, Brooklyn Park, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

59 Class Agents: Carol Johnson Heyl
e-mail: 1959classagent@gustavus.edu
Ralph Abermark, Des Moines, IA, is remodeling an old home.

Duane Aldrich, Willmar, is a retired insurance agent.

Dennis A. Anderson, Omaha, NE, is president emeritus of Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

Joyce Ford Anderson, Eugene, OR, is a member
of the League of Women Voters and is active at Central Lutheran Church.

■ Stu Anderson, Axtell, NE, is owner and operator of G & S Farms. Hope Plute Amnestad, St. Peter, is a retired social worker.

■ Jack W. Arthur, Lake Nebagamon, WI, is a retired biologist.

■ Marilyn Gustafson Asp, Blaine, is a retired visitation minister.

■ Jane Wells Behrhorst, Axtell, NE, is retired.

■ Delores Johnson Bergman, Bloomington, is a retired Realtor.

■ Louis Bittrich, Rogersville, TN, is professor emeritus of English studies and theatre at Texas Lutheran University.

■ Joanne B. Broten, Denver, CO, is a retired associate conference minister for the United Church of Christ.

■ Elizabeth Johnson Dahl, Apple Valley, is a retired elementary school teacher.

■ David V. Eckman, Duluth, is a retired pastor.

■ John Edman, Okatie, SC, is retired and professor and director of the Center for Vector Borne Diseases at University of California, Davis.

■ Muriel Doherty Haegel, Federal Way, WA, is a retired librarian.

■ Ann M. Hendrickson, Wauwatosa, WI, is a retired special education teacher.

■ Carol Johnson Heyl, Winona, is a retired bank officer and is active at Central United Methodist Church.

■ Dean E. Hillman, Fairmont, is a retired professor of otolaryngology and neuroscience.

■ Clifford and Diana Soder, Johnson, Albuquerque, NM, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Belize with their family.

■ Orville D. Johnson, Stillwater, is retired.

■ Ronald N. Johnson, Crossville, TN, is a retired pastor and is active at Christ Lutheran Church.

■ Marvin L. Larson, Alexandria, is a retired pastor.

■ Charles B. Lower, Madison, GA, is enjoying spending time with his nine grandchildren.

■ Connie Ostrom Lund, Olympia, WA, is director of Capitol Healing Rooms of Olympia, WA.

■ Allegra Nelson Olson, San Diego, CA, is a retired teacher and an avid quilter.

■ Roger L. Peterson, Bemidji, is a retired math teacher.

■ Jack R. Proeschel, Wesley Chapel, FL, is retired from Johnson & Johnson.

■ Dean Hjert Richmond, Las Vegas, NV, is a retired junior high teacher.

■ Pat and Shirley Zaske Sweeney, Green Valley, AZ, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2008.

■ Bob Swenson, Janesville, WI, is employed by Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.

■ Floie Vane. Ancortes, WA, retired from the research division at Hoffman-La Roche Inc.

■ Warren E. Woods, Fridley, played on a 70+ baseball team last summer.

■ Paul Youngdahl, Golden Valley, is senior pastor at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church.

■ Virgine Grock Sehlín, e-mail: 1961classagent@gustavus.edu

■ Jan Sanftner Eekevrog, Birmingham, MI, is retired.

■ Evelyn Madsen Schroeder, Apple Valley, traveled to one of Gustavus’s exchange schools, Uppsala University in Sweden.

■ Marilynn Clark Tanner, Hot Springs, AR, is retired.

■ Bob Swenson, Cannon Falls, is retired.

■ e-mail: 1962classagent@gustavus.edu

■ Sandra Luettke Buendorf, Jan Effert Hoomani, Ben Leadholm, Arthur V. Collins, Hayden Lake, ID, is president of Health Connections LLC.

■ Mary Anderson Kennedy, Vining, is a retired teacher.

■ Charlotte Tesberg Stanley, Balsam Lake, WI, is retired.
63
Class Agents:
Bill Loht, Paul Tillquist
E-mail: 1963classagents@gustavus.edu
Margit Johnson Asmus, Monroe, WI, is a retired teacher
Jerry D. Rice, Edina, is the CFO of BioDrain Medical
Otto E. Tempel, Hutchinson, is retired.

54th ANNIVERSARY
May 30–31, 2009
Alumni Spring 09 masters.3:Alumni Fall 03 MASTERS.2  2/4/09  8:09 PM  Page 4

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Class Agents:
Linda Leonardson Hallman, Joanna Carlson Swanson
E-mail: 1964classagents@gustavus.edu
Gordon D. Olseen, Tipton, IA, recently retired.

65
Class Agents:
Bev Nordskog Hedeen, Elaine Buck Stenman
E-mail: 1965classagents@gustavus.edu
Eunice Madson Carlson, Jacksboro, TN, traveled to one of Gustavus’s exchange schools, Uppsala University in Sweden
Mary Beth Faehre Delaher, West Lafayette, IN, recently retired after 38 years in parish ministry
The Rev. Bruce Dissell, Hibbing, is interim pastor at Calvary Lutheran and Bear River Lutheran
Dan R. Dokken, Rochester, is retired
Mark Kuechenmeister, Walla Walla, WA, is a retired ophthalmologist
Marilyn Swenson Richter, Wayzata, is a Realtor with Roger Fazendin Realtors
Joyce Pick Vigness, Woodbury, is a retired nurse
Richard B. Whitlock, Bloomington, IL, retired as vice president for advancement at Illinois Wesleyan University.

66
Class Agents:
Sharon Anderson Engman, Joyce Henrikson Ramseth
E-mail: 1966classagents@gustavus.edu
Ed Gustavson, Tulsa, OK, was honored as Physician of the Year by the Tulsa Area United Way
Margaret Ims Selfridge, Wayzata, is a retired teacher.

67
Class Agent:
position open
E-mail: 1967classagents@gustavus.edu
Celeste Moberg Chayabutr, Arden Hills, is an application developer at ASI Communication
Karen Gjesteen, Seattle, WA, received the 2007 Gregory Falls Sustained Achievement Award in theatre, design, and education in Seattle
Sara Jacobson Hensley, Hebron, NE, is retired.

Gustavus Alumni

1962 classmates celebrate Festival of St. Lucia at Gustavus
The Centennial Class of 1962 was well represented at the College’s 68th Festival of St. Lucia on Dec. 11, 2008, as a group of 14 women returned to the campus for the chapel service and luncheon. Pictured, front row from left: Toni Bennett Easterson, Jackie Falk Anderson, and Ruth Ann Johnson Leadholm; second row: Janet Swanson Swanson, Karen Koehn Anderson, LouAnn Eckberg Reese, Roz Johnson Anderson, and Geri Sparks Evans; third row: Solveig Overdahl Goldstrand, Audrey Kylander Kramer, Sandy Luedtke Buendorf, Kay Estessen Mowbray, Mary Linnebroth Petersen, and Jan Swanson Sammelson.

Luedtke visits White House
Luther Luedtke ’65, Newton, MA, president and CEO of Educational Development Center, Inc., attended a White House dinner September 15 honoring President John and Theresa Kufuor of Ghana. Pictured from left are Luther Luedtke ’65, Theresa Kufuor, First Lady Laura Bush, Ghana’s President John Kufuor, President George Bush, and Carol Lindstrom Luedtke ’67.
Class Agents: John and Kris Lundberg Moorhead, Paula Navano
  e-mail: 1964classagent@gustavus.edu
Mary Kaye Anderson, Dellwood, is retired Loretta Larvick
Harmatuck. Madison, WI, is the government services and reference librarian at a Wisconsin state library. Kirk Sikorowski. Burnsville, is a financial affairs coordinator for Silver Sages.

Class Agents: Dave and Jane Norman Leitzman
  e-mail: 1969classagent@gustavus.edu
Peter J. Andersen. Woodbury, retired after 35 years at 3M. Barb Seeley Devlin, Richfield, is a part-time consultant for Springsted Public Sector Advisors
  ■ Cynthia Blomquist

Class Agent: Lindy Turner Purdy
  e-mail: 1970classagent@gustavus.edu
Kathy Murphy Garner. Eden Prairie, is the chief EED examiner for Hopkins Community Ed. ■ Steven A. From. Cambridge, is a consultant for Western Red Cedar Lumber Association. ■ Janet Rice Jaeger. Willmar, is retired. ■ Craig Nelson. St. Peter, has retired from the Le Sueur-Henderson schools after teaching for 36 years: he is now a field representative for the U.S. Census Bureau and works part-time at Richard’s Restaurant and Pub in St. Peter. ■ Bill Santee. Milford, MA, is a research physical scientist for the U.S. Army. ■ Luella Peterson Weiss. Colfax, WI, is employed at Community Health Partnerships, Inc.

Class Agent: Bruce Johnson
  e-mail: 1971classagent@gustavus.edu

Class Agent: Todd Dohken
  e-mail: 1972classagent@gustavus.edu

Class Agents: Rob Linner, Jan Ledin Michaleutz
  e-mail: 1974classagent@gustavus.edu

Class Agent: Paul Heckt
  e-mail: 1975classagent@gustavus.edu

Class Agent: Bruce Olson
  e-mail: 1976classagent@gustavus.edu
Dave Fritz. Little Rock, AR, works for EDS, an HP Company. ■ Gail L. Gutsche. Missoula, MT, was recently elected to the Montana Public Service Commission. ■ Jeff Odegren. Boyertown, PA, is a pastor at St. John’s Hill Lutheran Church. ■ Elaine Johnson Spangler. Lancaster, PA, received a master’s degree in health education. ■ Mary Kingbay Stubstad. Encinitas, CA, is employed by the Encinitas School District.

Class Agent: Mike Stanch
  e-mail: 1977classagent@gustavus.edu

Ballata publishes book

Women’s Health magazine names Gustavus alumnus one of nation’s top dermatologists for women
Heil Fenske ’99 was among four dermatologists in the Southeast and 17 nationwide recently listed among “America’s Top Doctors for Women” in Women’s Health magazine. The magazine teamed up with research firm Castle Connolly to create a definitive list of America’s best doctors in specialties of particular interest to women. The list appears in the November 2008 issue of the magazine (available online at www.womenshealthmag.com).

Using mail and telephone surveys and electronic ballots, physicians and the medical leadership at leading hospitals were asked to identify exceptional candidates. Each doctor’s experience was then thoroughly screened before a final selection was made. Fenske’s special expertise in skin cancer and melanoma was noted. Melanoma is the second most common cancer in women in their late 20s but when treated early the success rate tops 90 percent.

Fenske earned his M.D. degree at St. Louis University and completed a residency in dermatology at the University of Wisconsin Center for Health Sciences. He is currently professor and chair of dermatology at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL.
Classmates from the Class of 1969 had such fun getting together in Florida in 2007 they decided to do it again last September in Park City, Utah. The group reports they’re looking forward to their 40th reunion on campus. Pictured front row from left are Sue McNamara Showalter, Judy Matalamaki, and Jeanne Taylor Erickson ’68. Back row are Cathy Carlson Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, Cindy Courtlandt Anderson Kelliher ’90, Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, and Don Stoorer.}

Representing Gustavus
In the November 2008 elections, two more Gusties won Minnesota state office. Paul Torkelson ’74, St. James, and Kory Keth ’00, Owatonna, join Mindy Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, Roseville, and Margaret Anderson Kelliher ’90, Minneapolis, in the House of Representatives. David Hann ’73, Eden Prairie, is the lone Gustavus grad in the Senate.

Class of 1969 ready for reunion
Classmates from the Class of 1969 had such fun getting together in Florida in 2007 they decided to do it again last September in Park City, Utah. The group reports they’re looking forward to their 40th reunion on campus. Pictured front row from left are Sue McNamara Showalter, Judy Matalamaki, and Jeanne Taylor Erickson ’68. Back row are Cathy Carlson Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, Cindy Courtlandt Anderson Kelliher ’90, Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, and Don Stoorer.

Alumni Class Reunions 2009
Classes of 1949, 1954, 1959, and 1964
Classes of 1949, 1954, 1959, and 1964
Classes of 1954, 1959, 1964
October 9 & 10, 2009, Homecoming Weekend
Information will be included in class letters, postcards, and on the alumni website. If you wish to serve on your class reunion committee, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 800-487-8437 or alumni@gustavus.edu.

Class of 1969 ready for reunion
Classmates from the Class of 1969 had such fun getting together in Florida in 2007 they decided to do it again last September in Park City, Utah. The group reports they’re looking forward to their 40th reunion on campus. Pictured front row from left are Sue McNamara Showalter, Judy Matalamaki, and Jeanne Taylor Erickson ’68. Back row are Cathy Carlson Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, Cindy Courtlandt Anderson Kelliher ’90, Rittenhouse Greiling ’70, and Don Stoorer.
Alumni Spring 09 masters.3:Alumni Fall 03 MASTERS.2  2/4/09  8:09 PM  Page 7

Princeton, ME, is president of Munich Re America HealthCare. Uwe P. Kausch, Duluth, is marketing and international sales manager at North Shore. Carol Duncan Koutsen, Middleton, WI, is a freelance editor. Dan B. McGinty, Shoreview, is president and CEO of Essentia Community Hospitals and Clinics. Lynn Lutz McGinty, Shoreview, is a part-time assistant teacher at Incarnation Lutheran Preschool. Paul C. Nelson, Minneapolis, is an exclusive sales agent and agency owner for Paul Nelson Agency, Inc.

Jeff C. Pedersen, Lake Elmo, is employed at Assurant Health. Susan M. Sandberg, St. Paul, opened Almeland Mercantile, an antique and gift shop. Ellen Lund Strom, Minneapolis, is a self-employed consultant. Julie Anderson Wawczak, Roselle, IL, is a media center technician for Spring Hills School.

85 Class Agent: Susan Johnson Chwaled
E-mail: 1985classagent@gustavus.edu

Rene Vadnais Congquist, Brooklyn Park, is assistant director for the Minnesota Board of Nursing. Bruce R. Gullikson, Burnsville, is employed at Lifetime Fitness. David T. Montgomery, Cupertino, CA, is a senior manager, education marketing, for Apple, Inc.

Per Magnus Ranstorp, Copenhagen, Denmark, is the research director of the Centre for Asymmetric Threat Studies at the Swedish National Defence College.

86 Class Agents: Melinda Moen Batz, Dave Meyers, Dan Murray, Sara Freeman Kekow
E-mail: 1986classagent@gustavus.edu

Lisa Larson Albers, St. Louis, MO, is an assistant professor at Maryville University. Susan King Christenson, Red Wing, is a substitute teacher in the Red Wing school district. Maynard D. Manthe, Mankato, is a business analyst manager for Navitol. Laura Peterson Olson, Burnsville, is director of the EMT division at Health East. Mark R. Roenier, Lakeville, is president of Purolator. Rebecca Hakala Rowland, Eden Prairie, is an editor at Mpls. St. Paul magazine.

87 Class Agents: Lee Fahnen, Steve Harstad, Paul Koch
E-mail: 1987classagent@gustavus.edu

Lisa Baumgartner Bonds, Washington, DC, is vice president/external relations for Lutheran World Relief. Susanne Stannok Degn, Eau Claire, WI, is director of radiology at Luther Hospital. Peter J. Hendrickson, Milford, MA, teaches Spanish in the Westborough School District. Deborah McNeil Olson, Los Lunas, NM, is a private practice clinical psychologist. Dave J. Spiegel, Chicago, IL, is senior assistant director for development at Feinberg Medical School, Northwestern University.

88 Class Agents: Gail Chase Ericson, Luther Hagen, JoAnn Wackerfuss Quakenbush, Jamin Johnson Schneider
E-mail: 1988classagent@gustavus.edu

John R. Bliski, Minneapolis, is a manager for Urbanland Development Corporation. Rhonda L. Ganske, Andover, is a small animal and exotic veterinarian in Champlin. Leif Hagen, Eagan, is an LPL financial adviser at Hagen Financial Network, Inc.

Elizabeth Peasley Janssen, Freeman, SD, is a northern tier regional associate for Minnesota Central Committee. Anne Johnson Pedraz, Eagan, is a resource teacher, enrichment specialist, and administrative assistant in the Burnsville-Eagan-Savage school district.

89 Class Agents: Scott Anderson, Mike Dueber, Francine Pawelik Mocchi
E-mail: 1989classagent@gustavus.edu

Kris Engdahl Deyo, Inver Grove Heights, is supervisor/complex case management for Health Partners.

Kimberly Kehl Pearce, Omaha, NE, is employed at First National Bank of Omaha. Scott A. Stai, Brule, WI, is a pastor at Hope Lutheran Church. Kris Dying Wahlers, Sperry, IA, is an adjunct instructor at Southeastern Community College. Sally J. Wahman, St. Paul, is vice president/ambulatory services for Fairview Health Services.

90 Class Agents: Liesl Batz, Dan Michel, Anne K. Miller, Scott Nelson
E-mail: 1990classagent@gustavus.edu

Melissa Brunning-Matteau, Irvine, CA, completed her term as president of Associated Graduate Students at the University of California. Sherra Eckloff Buckley, Burnsville, was announced as a President’s Club winner for her individual achievements in 2007 at BI: The Business Improvement Company. Karin Holm Cortese, Grand Rapids, teaches kindergarten at Grand Rapids ISD #318. Heidi Kennedy Manning, Moorhead, is division director of the Department of Science and Mathematics at Concordia College.

Jon C. Olson, Wayzata, was announced as a President’s Club winner for his individual achievements in 2007 at BI: The Business Improvement Company. Teresa Burgess Paetznick, Rosemount, is a team manager at 3M. Jill Matthews Rickheim, Bloomington, is director of external reporting at Ameriprise Financial. Jim F. Roberge, Zimmerman, is senior vice president at Cobank. Mary Sutherland Ryseus, Woodbury, is regional director—Minnesota and Washington for Evticus. Teri Hedquist Scott, Winona, is the traffic office manager for KDOM Radio.

Kim Kroemer Westra, Inver Grove Heights, teaches fourth grade in Inver Grove Heights.

Hedstrand receives Health Hero Award
Dale Hedstrand ’70, Shoreview, was awarded the “Health Hero” Award for 2008 by the Cedar Riverside People’s Center of Minneapolis. The Center is a non-profit organization that provides medical care to disadvantaged individuals. This marks the first time the award has been given, as the Center was looking for a way to honor Hedstrand, a board member of 19 years. As part of the award, a medical examination room will be endowed in his name. In 2006, Hedstrand also received a “Lifetime Achievement Award” from AIG for his contributions throughout his career in the financial services industry. Hedstrand funded as well as manages Focal Point Financial Services, which won Business of the Year Award in 2001 from the White Bear Chamber of Commerce.

Agerter named CEO at Austin Medical Center
David Agerter ’75, Rochester, has been named CEO for the Austin (MN) Medical Center and its four satellite clinics. In addition to his medical center duties, Agerter will continue to serve as associate dean for the Mayo School of Health Sciences’ College of Medicine. Agerter has practiced at Mayo Family Clinic in Rochester for 26 years, served as chair of the Department of Family Medicine at Mayo Clinic from 1996 to 2005, and was honored as the Minnesota Family Physician of the Year in 2007.

91 Class Agent: Bjorn Ingvoldstad
E-mail: 1991classagent@gustavus.edu

Kathy Beckers Almndt, Benson, won a $10,000 classroom makeover. Bob C. Baker, Cary, IL, is director at OPS Capital. Rick Barbari, Eden Prairie, is vice president of health services and operations at Optum Health. Eric J. Carlson, Maple Grove, is the vice president of sales and marketing for XL Re Life America.

Mike Downing, Northbrook, IL, is vice president of pension solutions for Allstate. Mark A. Mayer, Maple Grove, is a business analyst at Mortenson Construction. M. Sharon Perera Miranda, Anaheim Hills, CA, is a teacher at the Montessori Academy of Yorba Linda.

Eric J. Munch, Parkville, MO, is employed at Thermo Fisher Scientific Company. Ingrid Nyholm-Lange, St. Paul, is employed at the American Swedish Institute. C.J. Page, Minneapolis, is co-founder of Present Moment Conscious Living Retreat in Troncones Beach, Mexico.

Sherri Jenkins Patterson, St.
Gustavus Alumni

‘Hosta Vista’—Alumni takes fresh approach to horticulture industry

Tom Carlson ’77 can’t get enough of the green stuff—foliage, that is. The Rossville, Minn., hosta grower has turned his passion into two innovative companies in the horticulture industry. HostasDirect, Inc., is now in its third year on the Internet (www.hostasdirect.com), and Ideal™ Garden Markers (www.idealgardencenters.com) is now a year old.

“Hostas are the number-one-selling shade perennial in North America, and for good reason,” Carlson says. “They are beautiful in many ways, solve landscape problems, and add value to property. As evidence for that, we have customers in 49 states, and people visiting our website from 74 countries.

“My co-workers and customers are what make it fun. Some of our customers in Los Angeles and Florida are so hosta-crazy that they put their hostas into dormancy by refrigerating during the winter. We even have an e-mail newsletter subscriber from close to the Arctic Circle in Sweden.”

HostasDirect has taken a fresh approach to a mature industry, Carlson says. “We uniquely offer disease-free plants; they might not be as large as those sold at some garden centers, but we save customers 30 to 70 percent. We offer more than 400 varieties and also offer divisions from mature hostas. Our hosta database, HostaSearch—the world’s largest—lists more than 6,300 hostas. Combined with over 5,400 photos and a search engine that can search for hostas using 70 hosta characteristics, our visitors can identify their own plants or just have fun looking. Our video streams of the plants we sell enable visitors to see mature hostas in three dimensions, and we also provide slide shows of our plants. We use the same technology to provide gardening or hosta-related educational information. My goal is to provide all of the hosta information a visitor needs, succinctly, easily, and using the latest technology.”

Carlson’s new endeavor, Ideal Garden Markers, is also an innovative company. Carlson explains, “Our unique software allows customers to easily cut and paste data from our database, place it where they want on the label or marker they desire, format the text, and then we print it out on a sun-resistant tape or have it engraved. We have a patent pending as well on a new product we hope to market soon.”

“The company has had to endure some trials, like most small businesses. “Just before we opened one year we got hammered by two inches of hail,” Carlson recounts, “then I had successful back surgery our new greenhouse collapsed one winter following a blizzard, a woman ran her car into our greenhouse (no one was hurt), and the list goes on. Most product-oriented businesses are similar but growing things is very different.”

“I have been very fortunate to have some very talented and outstanding workers, including college students, working with me,” Carlson says. “We keep it loose and have a good time.”

Michael, a teacher at Big Woods Elementary, is a teacher at Big Woods Elementary. Steven C. Wilson, Omaha, NE, is an executive recruiter at C & A Industries.

Class Agent: Annie Marshall

Corey Bianchi-Rossi, Brooklyn Park, 50 The Gustavus Quarterly

Kyla D. Eggler, Hayfield, is a self-employed handyman. Peter R. Kitundu, Des Moines, IA, is assistant general counsel at Nationwide Insurance. Karla DeKam Lubben, Sioux Falls, SD, is employed at Sanford Health. Mark D. Parten, Mound, is senior VP of property management for Welch Company, L.L.C.

Paul A. Preeders, Fergus Falls, is a math professor at Minnesota State Technical College. Lori Pingatore, Hibbing, is manager of family investments and finance at the Hibbing Housing and Development Authority.

Class Agent: Lisa Ness Lay, Minnetonka, is a pre-kindergarten teacher in the Hopkins School District. Ann Hansen Lininger, Union Grove, WI, is a librarian for the Racine Public Library. Erin E. Mathern, North Oaks, has joined the real estate group at Messerli and Kramer. Kate Peterson, Minneapolis, is an information literacy librarian at the University of Minnesota. Anne Schauer Roed, Rush City, is the youth and family minister at First Lutheran Church. Jennifer Reuss Spande is a foreign service officer for the Department of State currently assigned to Santiago, Chile. Nathan D. Spande, Santiago, Chile, is an independent computer consultant/primary care parent.
30 Gusties working at Travelers’ St. Paul campus

There are 30 Gusties working at the St. Paul campus of Travelers Insurance Company. They tried to get together for a group photo recently but eventually settled for two photos, and even then a few missed being pictured.

Seated from left in the upper photo are: Erin Halligan-Hanson Tait ’02, Tasha Erickson ’07, Mary Meilken ’06, Jennifer Knutson ’06, Patoa Lee ’06, and Laura Green Rapercz ’01. Standing are Steve Briggs ’77, Bob Ditmore ’75, Lisa Krause Heutmaker ’83, Scott Moesle ’74, Nancy Hagstrom Huart ’72, David Mohn ’77, Paul Sandbakken ’87, Greg Schaeffer ’87, John Madsen ’99, Joe Arlt ’02, Scott Frederick ’01, and Thor Raarup ’86.

The smaller group in the lower photo comprised Kim Gabrielson Jonas ’90, Rachel Kronberger ’08, Julie Dresell Goettl ’96, Amy Boyd Marthaler ’92, Al Stromback ’83, Bryce Anderson ’99, and Laura Ridson ’03. Managing to miss both photo opps were Brian DePaulis ’92, Jordan Iblings ’06, Bill Larson ’87, Eric Lewanski ’07, and Lana Elsenpeter Matzek ’01.

Class Agents:
Karen Delgelter, Gigi Walt Doboszenski, Brad Peterson, Alicia Matzek
e-mail: 1999classagent@gustavus.edu

Jen Gilberg, Cloquet, is an interface analyst for BU Medical Systems. Katrina B. Hugenot, Hillsboro, OR, is a psychiatric consultant-liaison nurse and fill-in staff nurse at Sacred Heart Medical Center. Carl L. Lackren, West Bend, WI, is the development director at Grand Avenue Club.

Class Agents:
Philip Edsvold, Jesse Torgerson
Alimee Olson Bauman, Lakeville, is a financial planner for Wells Fargo - The Private Bank. Megan Bayrd, Menomonie, WI, is a family medicine physician at Red Cedar Medical Center. Dan Daubert, Boise, ID, is fisheries research specialist for Trout Unlimited. Nicole Wood Erickson, Bloomington, is a business analyst for Katun Corporation.

Paul R. Horvath, Menomonie, WI, is an emergency physician for Luther Mideford Clinic-Mayo Health System. Jonathan M. Hunds, Gaithersburg, MD, is associate pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Joe Kelker, Mound, is a medical endo-therapy representative for Olympus America, Inc. Matt Long, Bloomington, is director of information service at Globe University. Deborah Koch Keister, Little Falls, is a higher education sales manager at Atomic Learning. Nathan B. Meyer, Minneapolis, is science theatre and outreach manager for The Bakken Museum. Karena E. Nafstad, Minneapolis, is account director/digital for Universal Music Group Distribution. Michael J. Oldegemeyer, Princeton, NJ, is a real-time trader for MRG Energy, Inc. Sarah L. Schuetz, Henderson, is senior editor/photo studio specialist for Capstone Publishers. Jeffrey S. Skistad, Madison Lake, is marketing director at Kronesel Technology. Erica VandeWall Wagner, Normal, IL, is a teacher/media specialist for Dee-Mack High School.

Class Agents:
Paul R. Horvath, Menomonie, WI
Nissa Stulp Fell, Minneapolis, is a nurse practitioner at the Student Health Service of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Mack High School. Kirsten Bland Walters, Eagan, is a sponsored programs specialist for College of St. Catherine. Stephanie Lee Whitney, Tempe, AZ, is a doctoral candidate in math education at University of Minnesota.

Class Agents: Corey Bartlett, Bonnie Dahlke, Meghan Krause

Nissa Stulp Fell, Hopkins, is a nurse practitioner at the Student Health Service of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Michael J. Fogal, Minneapolis, is an audit manager at Ernst and Young. Sandi Petrich Heller, Inc., St. Peter, is an accounting manager at Kato Engineering. Erik Lindstrom, Evanston, IL, is the swim coach at New Trier High School in Winnetka. Julie Luttenin Miller, Highlands Ranch, CO, has been elected to the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Board of Directors. Julie, who has been working in congregational youth ministry for more than 10 years, is currently director of youth and family ministry at Joy Lutheran Church in Parker, CO.

Liz Ackert, San Diego, CA, received an M.A. in Latin American studies from University of California, San Francisco.
Unanimous decision

Five nurses from the Class of 1980 traveled to Bimini in the Bahamas, where they managed to pose for a photo with former boxer Yama Bahama, a world-ranked middleweight in the ‘50s and ‘60s. Pictured in front of his restaurant, “The Bahama Breeze,” in Alice Town are from left Barb Hart Stoll, Candy Mandt Ketelslager, Kathy Furney Dardick, Yama Bahama, Teri Gerik Garin, and Paula Anderson Berger.

Farrow named Mankato Clinic CEO

Randy Farrow, B’83, North Mankato, MN, has been named CEO of the Mankato Clinic.

Assuming that position on July 21, 2008, Farrow became the sixth chief executive officer in the 92-year history of the clinic.

The Mankato Clinic has grown to more than 113 physicians and practitioners located in Mankato, North Mankato, St. Peter, Mapleton, and Lake Crystal. The clinic and its satellites employ more than 700 people to rank among the top 15 employers in the region.

Farrow, who has an M.B.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder, brings over 16 years of experience in health care administration and leadership to the Mankato Clinic. He had been the president of the River Falls Area Hospitals/Allina Health Systems for the past four years. Prior to his employment in River Falls, he led the Mille Lacs Health System/Allina Health System in Onamia, MN, as their CEO. He resides in North Mankato with his wife, Jean (Hogberg ’85), and two sons.

Andy Barnick, St. Paul, is MP manager for Target.

Jack Evans, St. Paul, is assistant attorney general for the State of Minnesota.

Jody Anderson, Minneapolis, is a staff RN in the spinal cord injury specialty center at the University of California, Davis Medical Center.

DeWitte, Minneapolis, is a reproductive health counselor at Robbinsdale Clinic, P.A.

Katie Hoffman Anderson, Nicoller, is a family medicine resident at Creighton University.

Brian P. Beckmann, Minneapolis, is president of Greening Strategies.

Matt J. Baran, Shakopee, is a service desk team lead for American Medical Systems.

Jennifer Johnson Bottke, Lake City, is a nurse manager at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Randy B. Habedank, Washington, DC, is a special assistant to the chief of staff for the Office of U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan.

Kathleen D. Johnson, Minneapolis, is a family medicine resident at Gundersen Lutheran Hospital.

Eric Carl, St. Paul, is MP manager for Target.

Michael O’Brien, Edina, is an attorney for Regan Tax Law Firm.

Parrish, Worthington, is an instructor of music and theatre at Minnesota West Community and Technical College.

Class Agents:

2004: Amanda Frie, Guthrie Michael, Mamie Nelson, Josh Williams

e-mail: 2004classagent@gustavus.edu

2003: Katie Hoffman Anderson

2002: Erin M. Danielson

2001: Jon Dale, Los Angeles, CA

2000: Vidya Sivan, Boston, MA

1999: Erin Holloway Wilken, Maple Grove, is assistant director of alumni relations at Gustavus Adolphus College.

1998: Christopher E. Swee, West Fargo, ND, is a project manager for Wells Fargo.

1997: Karen Warkentien Oglesby, Katherine Medbery Olson

1996: Laura Beres Bristle, Montevideo, teaches in the Yellow Medicine East school district.

1995: Joe Carlile, Arlington, VA, is professional staff, Committee on Appropriations, for the U.S. House of Representatives.

1994: Jon Dale, Los Angeles, CA, is in his second year at UCLA School of Law.

1993: Shelly Hochhalter, St. Paul, is a marketing consultant at Health Partners.

1992: Jenny A. Pratt, New Hope, is a court operations lead-worker for the State of Minnesota District Court, Division III - Criminal.

1991: Amanda Larson Scott, West Sacramento, CA, is the quality management and education assistant for the University of California, Davis Medical Center.

1990: Vidya Sivan, Boston, MA, is a communications coordinator, external affairs, for Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

1989: Erin Holloway Wilken, Maple Grove, is assistant director of alumni relations at Gustavus Adolphus College.

1988: Leah Langaehau Wang, Minneapolis, is vice president of events and marketing for the Minneapolis Downtown Council.

1987: Karen Warkentien Oglesby, Katherine Medbery Olson

1986: Laura Beres Bristle, Montevideo, teaches in the Yellow Medicine East

1985: Joe Carlile, Arlington, VA, is professional staff, Committee on Appropriations, for the U.S. House of Representatives.

1984: Jon Dale, Los Angeles, CA, is in his second year at UCLA School of Law.

1983: Shelly Hochhalter, St. Paul, is a marketing consultant at Health Partners.

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1978: Leah Langaehau Wang, Minneapolis, is vice president of events and marketing for the Minneapolis Downtown Council.

1977: Karen Warkentien Oglesby, Katherine Medbery Olson

1976: Laura Beres Bristle, Montevideo, teaches in the Yellow Medicine East...
Minneapolis, is accounts operations specialist/French for General Mills
Ryan M. Kaufman, Eagan, is a programmer for LSS Data Systems
Tyler R. Klewe, Shakopee, is an inventory control analyst for Best Buy
Sarah Lippert LaRoe, Chicago, IL, is an administrative service clerk at the International House at University of Chicago
Allysa M. LaVie, Park Rapids, teaches kindergarten in Park Rapids
Cassandra Raduenz Maier, Burnsville, is a general waived service manager for Alliance Health Care
Marcus J. Maynard, St. Paul, works at Verizon
Michelle M. McLean, Brainerd, is assistant district public defender for the State of Minnesota
Brian D. Merchant, Roseville, is national sales operation manager at Abbott Laboratories
Michael Metcafe, Inver Grove Heights, is an athletic trainer, Rancho Cucamonga Quake, for the Angels Baseball LP
Nate Novak, Prior Lake, is employed at the University of Minnesota
Megan M. Purcell, Minneapolis, teaches fourth grade at Mississippi Elementary School
Paul T. Richardson, St. Paul, teaches at Humboldt High School
Becky Papa Ryan, Mahtomedi, teaches sixth-eighth grade science at Parkview Center School in Roseville
April D. Schaust, Big Lake, is a registered client service associate for UBS Financial Services, Inc.
Nathan Shepherd, Minneapolis, is a law student at University of Minnesota
Heidi J. Steinhilber, Hastings, works for the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Department
Michelle Kroenke TeBrake, Eden Prairie, is a marketing specialist for ShopNJC
Taimi Tuomie Thomsen, Roseville, teaches at Turtle Lake School
Matt S. Treichel, Shoreview, is a design engineer for Emerson Network Power
Jaynie Rivers Twedt, North Mankato, is an RN in OB-labor/delivery.

Class Agents: Kevin Hansen, Liz Zappetillo Lewis, Becky Netzke, Jessica Nelson, Anne Shipley, Anne Michaletz Vlajste

Join other Gusties for a morning cup of coffee and breakfast while getting an update on Gustavus—a great way to meet and network with Gusties in the Twin Cities. The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at: Doubletree Hotel, Minneapolis-Park Place 1500 Park Place Boulevard (Hwy. 394 & Hwy. 100) 8 a.m. breakfast, 8:30 a.m. program $10 per person Reserve by calling Don Swanson ’55 at 763-533-9083

Class Agents:
Anders Eckman, Matt Forbes, Jessica Olson, Katie Parks, Mollie Peterson, Matt Swenson
Lindsey M. Beyer, Mankato, is a Web designer for Lime Valley Advertising Inc.
Blythe E. Bittman, Eden Prairie, is a member activities assistant for Life Time Fitness
Toshia Christofferson Boline, Fridley, is a customer service representative at Pediatric Home Service
Jen Delano, Minneapolis, is employed by Pineview Elementary School in Eagan
Christine L. Fiebiger, St. Paul, is general manager at Pheasen’s West
Jennifer Burke Grass, Berlin, MD, is a zoning specialist II for Worcester County, MD
Dave Hansen, St. Paul, is a manager at Walgreens
Ty Haschig, Bloomington, is a sales associate for State Farm

Breitmayer in demand
Peter Breitmayer ’87, Los Angeles, CA, is pictured between filmmakers Ethan and Joel Coen. Breitmayer plays the role of Gar Brandt in the Coen’s movie A Serious Man, which finished filming last fall. The film is a black comedy set in 1967 and centered on a Midwestern professor who watches his life unravel when his wife prepares to leave him because his inept brother won’t move out of the house. Breitmayer also played the role of Councilman Thorpe in Clint Eastwood’s recent film, The Changeling.

Twin Cities Breakfasts

Tuomie Hoffman, Mounds View, works at Owens-Minor
Ana Sietsema Huizsboes, Anoka, is a bookkeeper at American Guitar and Band
Mark J. Huizsboes, Anoka, is a data reviewer at Upsher-Smith Laboratories
Tara A. LaCoe, Cambridge, MA, is a consulting safety officer for Safety Partners Inc.
Mike Leonard, Burnsville, teaches in the Chaska school district
Zach Park, Pittsburgh, PA, is a senior consultant at BI Consulting Group
Corey P. Reagan. Excelsius, is a financial services associate for B. Cohen Wealth Management, Inc.
Teal L. Silvik. Stillwater, is client services and party planner for Instudio Inc.
Elsa M. Stavig, Minneapolis, is a manager for Bare Essentials
Robin E. Thomson, Roseville, is a graduate assistant in the entomology department at University of Minnesota
Ross E. Welte, Circle Pines, is a registered representative for The Uram
Two psych grads are McKnight Presidential Fellows at the U of Minnesota

The McKnight Department of Psychology can claim 40 percent of The McKnight Presidential Fellow awards announced at the University of Minnesota this year! Kathryn Vohs ’96, McKnight Land-Grant Professor and associate professor of marketing, Carlson School of Management, and Joseph Gaugler ’95, associate professor, School of Nursing, both received the award.

The McKnight Presidential Fellow award is a prestigious award for newly tenured faculty at the University of Minnesota. It is targeted at the five most promising faculty who have been newly granted tenure and promotion to associate professor, to recognize their accomplishments and support their ongoing research and scholarship. Candidates are considered for these awards at the conclusion of the regular promotion and tenure review process each year. Vohs was also recently recognized with the 2008 International Society for Self and Identity Early Career Award.

Group/Farmers Financial Solutions ■ Mike Wobschall, Eden Prairie, is the vikings.com writer for the Minnesota Vikings ■ Erin Greenlee Young, Elicott City, MD, spent the past year traveling to 25 countries around the world.

Class Agents: ■ Eric Brown, Barry Cattadoris, Travis Michelson, Ben Richter, Adam Tehle

Ana Gronseth Bartz, Bloomington, is an RN at Methodist Hospital ■ Steph Berglund, Plymouth, is a second-grade Spanish immersion teacher in the Minnetonka Schools ■ Greg Dokken, Duluth, is studying music performance at University of Minnesota, Duluth ■ Emily E. Hansen, Burlington, MA, is a young toddler teacher for the Infant Toddler Children’s Center ■ Kristen N. Heider, Minneapolis, is an office manager for Theater Latte Da ■ Allison L. Helland, New London, is an RN at United Hospital ■ Violete Hernandez Espinoza, Wichita, KS, is a field recruiter for Carlile Meat Solutions ■ Bridget L. Hoestly, Rochester, is a research technologist for Mayo Medical Center ■ Keisha N. Husby, Duluth, is employed by Duluth Edison Charter Schools at Washburn Junior Academy ■ Kailee A. Larson, Minneapolis, is a production manager for Equinox Creative ■ Derek D. Martin, Crookston, is a sports editor for the Crookston Daily Times ■ Drew P. Nelson, Maplewood, is a recruiter at Entero ■ Andrea D. Peterson, Vadnais Heights, is an assistant women’s hockey coach at Gustavus Adolphus College ■ Emily A. Petratis, Eden Prairie, is attending Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine ■ Dana L. Setterheim, Marine, is the membership coordinator for the American Swedish Institute ■ Christopher M. Skordahl, St. Paul, is an account executive for KAISERComm, Inc. ■ Katie Stoeckel, Rochester, is a program assistant for Out for Equity in the St. Paul School District ■ Anikka C. Wattnem, Superior, WI, is an administrative assistant for the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation ■ Josh Weylander, Montevideo, is a manager trainee at Menard’s ■ Landon J. Zinda, Washington, DC, is a research assistant for The Heritage Foundation.

08 Class Agents: ■ Donny Bechtie, Adam Eckhardt, Erin Larsen, John Michaletz, Katelyn Nelson

e-mail: 2008classagent@gustavus.edu

Chad M. Anderson, Brainerd, is an actor at Chanhassen Dinner Theater ■ Grayce E. Backstrom, Minneapolis, is employed by Fishman’s Kosher Deli ■ Emily K. Barnard, St. Peter, is a medical scribe for Immanuel-St. Joseph’s Hospital ■ Sam Barthell, Bloomington, is a development engineer for Seagate Technology ■ Veronica M. Bean, Minneapolis, is a law student at University of Minnesota ■ Holly L. Bernstetter, St. Anthony, is a global survey center administrator for Korn/Ferry Talent & Leadership Consulting ■ Ben Birks, Sioux Falls, SD, is a retention sales associate for Citibank ■ Eva K. Cornell, Brookline, MA, is studying physics at Boston University ■ Apryl N. Galbreath, Houston, TX, is HR & sales/marketing staffing assistant for Burnett Staffing ■ Alex Horton, Northfield, IL, is a media coordinator for N.C.S.A. ■ Lisa M. Johnson, Minneapolis, is an RN at Fairview Southdale Hospital ■ Linnea J. Martinson, Minnetonka, is employed by Advantage Sales and Marketing ■ Emily Petratis is attending Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts, West
Indies Meghann A. Scott, White Bear Lake, is a marketing specialist in the wedding division at The Occasions Group Kelley D. Sikich, Bloomington, is a veterans service representative for the Department of Veterans Affairs Brittany Kruzesmark Ward. New Ulm, is employed by Lake Crystal ISD 2071.

All Charlie Wobschall, Eden Prairie, is director of marketing and public relations at The Date Safe Project.

Weddings

Dave J. Spiegl er ’87 and H.J. Cho, 8/31/08, Chicago, IL.
Tim Gilbertson ’89 and Camilla Gilbertson, Tunbridge Wells, England.
David M. Davis ’94 and Lindsay Davis, St. Paul, MN.
Brad M. Nodland ’95 and Sonja Johnson, 8/2/08, Bloomington, MN.
Jon Blaha ’96 and Kathryn Blaha, Golden Valley, MN.
Adina Miller ’96 and Mark D. Connolly, 7/5/08, Lakeville, MN.
Sarah Young ’96 and Quinten Reuben, 8/16/08, Minneapolis, MN.
Dan Dauwalter ’99 and Stacey Dauwalter, Boise, ID.
Tricia M. Turk ’99 and Stephen Pietch, Minneapolis, MN.
Chad M. Bigalke ’00 and Rhiannon Tokarz, 8/9/08, Apple Valley, MN.
Brie Gauthier ’00 and Aaron Kidd, Farmington, MN.
Teresa P. Angier ’01 and Michael Bigalke, St. Louis Park, MN.
Jon Dale ’02 and Tiina Manne, Minneapolis, MN.
Teresa P. Angier ’01 and Michael Brie Gauthier ’00 and Aaron Kidd, Minneapolis, MN.
Chad M. Bigalke ’00 and Rhiannon Tokarz, 8/9/08, Apple Valley, MN.
Brie Gauthier ’00 and Aaron Kidd, Farmington, MN.
Teresa P. Angier ’01 and Michael Brie Gauthier ’00 and Aaron Kidd, Minneapolis, MN.
Chad M. Bigalke ’00 and Rhiannon Tokarz, 8/9/08, Apple Valley,
Mustaphi named deputy press secretary for the First Lady
Semonti Mustaphi ’03, Arlington, VA, has been named deputy press secretary for First Lady Michelle Obama. Mustaphi currently serves as Mrs. Obama’s deputy communications director on the Obama-Biden Transition Team, a position she also held on the Obama-Biden Presidential Campaign. Prior to her work on the campaign, she held communications positions on Capitol Hill for Senators Harkin, Schumer, and Klobuchar, including Klobuchar’s senatorial campaign. She also worked on the Gephardt for President campaign. A native of Minnesota, her political experience began with the late Senator Wellstone when she worked in his Washington, DC, office and on his last campaign. Semonti graduated with degrees in political science and communication studies.

Johnson “unretires” again—this time for legislative duties
The Rev. Dennis Johnson ’60 was sworn in as chaplain of the Minnesota House of Representatives on Jan. 6, 2009. Along with being a spiritual counselor for House members, he opens every session with prayer or hosts the guest chaplain. As Speaker of the House, six-term representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher ’90 had the privilege of appointing the chaplain. After a few invitations to Johnson, he finally was able to accept. His appointment is for five months, after which he can choose to renew or not. Although he has just begun his work, he says that he is excited for what is to come in his position, and he will have gained much by the end of his work with the House.

He is pictured here before the portrait of another Gustie who served the state—former Governor Harold LeVander ’32 (1967–1971).

Johnson follows two of his classmates from the Class of 1960—the Rev. Jim Anderson and the Rev. Roger Anderson—in serving as a chaplain in the Minnesota Legislature. In addition, the Rev. Leman Olsenius ’34 served earlier in the Senate.

Gustavus alumni

Excerpts from the Alumni Fall 03 MASTERS.2
In Memoriam

E. Irving Bergeson '35, Sun City, AZ, on October 9, 2008. He was a retired assistant program manager for Eastman Kodak Company, served as a chapter agent for the Gustavus Alumni Association, and is survived by one daughter.

Elisabeth Davis Weller '35, Chaska, MN, on October 21, 2008. She was a retired employee of Chaska and Carver County libraries and is survived by two sons and one daughter.

Mary Almen Barthelemy '37, Lafayette Hill, PA, on January 16, 2009. She was a homemaker and is survived by two sons including James '68.

Bernhard "Peter" LeVander '37, Arden Hills, MN, on December 24, 2008. A retired senior partner for the Minneapolis law firm LeVander, Zimmerman & Zotaly, he was the recipient of a Gustavus Distinguished Alumni Citation in law in 1977, served on the Gustavus Alumni Board of Directors 1957–1963, was president of the Gustavus Alumni Association 1958–59, and served as class agent 2000–2005. He is survived by one son and daughter, Kirsten Dawson '64.


Paul Anderson '40, Duluth, GA, on October 25, 2008. He was a retired ELCA pastor and missionary and is survived by his wife, Joyce (Wenstrom '46), and four daughters.

Lucille Johnson Agard '41, Ames, IA, on November 25, 2008. She was a retired teacher and active volunteer and is survived by her husband, Kenneth, two sons, two daughters, four brothers, and one sister.

Genevieve Loff Strom '41, Nashville, TN, on November 3, 2008. She was a retired church secretary at St. John's Lutheran Church and is survived by three daughters.

Robert Hansen '42, Richville, MN, on January 11, 2009. He was retired teacher, coach, and director of guidance for Madison schools and city manager of Madison, and was elected to the Gustavus Athletics Hall of Fame in 1982. He is survived by one son and one daughter.

Elaine Larson Larson '42, Boise, Idaho, on November 10, 2008. She was a retired school teacher and is survived by two sons and one daughter.

Verner Mattson '42, West Palm Beach, FL, on November 2, 2008. He was retired owner of West Gate Sheet Metal, Inc., and is survived by his wife, Lois, and four sons.

J. Mark Holmes '43, Hopkins, MN, on December 21, 2008. He was retired president of The Viking Craft Inc., and is survived by his wife, Bette, three sons including Terry '77, a sister, Alyss Hood '47, and two brothers including David '53.

Sigfred Johnson '43, Aurora, CO, on November 21, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Jo, two sons, and one stepson.

Marvin Greene '44, Boise, ID, on November 20, 2008. He was a retired ELCA pastor and is survived by his wife, Maurine, one son, two daughters, and two sisters.

Elder Jackson '45, St. Peter, MN, on November 29, 2008. He was a retired ELCA missionary in Tanzania and Kenya from 1949–83, served as a class agent for many years, and is survived by his wife, Renee; sons Dean '71 and Joel '71; five daughters including Beth Crawford '73; Kim “Birdie” '74, Deborah Andros, staff, and Martha Mascarenas, staff; and two sisters.

Laurel "Bud" Lindberg '47, Edina, MN, on November 8, 2008. He was a semi-retired associate pastor at Mt. Olivet Church, and is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three daughters.

Kathy Johnson Martinson '47, Minnetonka, MN, on December 18, 2008. She was retired shop manager for Wayzata Country Club and is survived by her husband, Homer '48, one son, and one daughter.

Stuart Johnson '49, Wichita, KS, on October 7, 2008. He was a retired employee of 3M and is survived by his wife, Margaret, one son, and daughter Connie Pile '82.

Gerald Miller '49, Alamo, TX, on November 19, 2008. He was a retired employee of 3M and is survived by his wife, Texa.

Jack Thommen '50, Bloomington, MN, on October 22, 2008. He was a retired Minneapolis school teacher and administrator and is survived by sisters Marilyn Dawson '48 and Joanne "Odi" Pieschel '50.

Herbert "Burnell" Baldwin '51, Litchfield, MN, on October 30, 2008. He was a retired ELCA pastor and is survived by his wife, Berniece, two daughters, and three sisters.

Gordon Helm '51, Tonka Bay, MN, on November 29, 2008. He was a retired employee of First Federal Savings and Loan, Wayzata, and is survived by his wife, Lorraine, and two daughters.

Howard Rundquist '51, Chatham, NJ, on December 2, 2008. He was retired executive vice president at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., New York City, and is survived by his wife, Nancy, four daughters, one son, and one sister.

Ray Thompson '51, Silver Bay, MN, on January 15, 2009. He was a retired owner of Norsk Kubbe Hus Bed and Breakfast, Silver Bay, and survived by his wife, Geraldine '51, one daughter, and two sons.

Walter Hartenberger '52, Beaverton, OR, on November 11, 2008. He was a retired teacher and school administrator, owner of School Futures, and is survived by his wife, Mary, three daughters, and two sons.

John Myers '54, Plymouth, MN, on December 8, 2008. He was a retired vice president and general manager of Sauer Sundstrand, and is survived by his wife, Lois (Norman '54), three daughters, and two sons.

Gerald Schwarz '54, Fulda, MN. Fred Sommer '54, Roseville, MN, on November 17, 2008. He was a former employee of Plastech Corp., Rush City, and is survived by two sons, one daughter, and one sister.

Carl Tolley '54, Plymouth, MN, on January 14, 2009. He was former chief, department of pastoral care, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield, MA, and directed Veteran's Administration CPE programs. He is survived by his wife, Susan, four daughters, two sons, and four step-daughters.

Dwayne Wise '54, Prior Lake, MN, on October 12, 2008.

Jim Knapp '56, Detroit Lakes, MN, on November 4, 2008. He was retired executive director for Community Integrated Service Network and is survived by his wife, Joann (Gould '56), one son, and three daughters including Leigh Ota '83.

Lloyd Johnson '58, Bemidji, MN, on November 24, 2008. He was a retired social service supervisor for Beltrami County Human Services and is survived by his wife, Wanda (Heuer '58), one daughter, three sons including Mark '81 and Gregg '90, brother Orville '59, and sister Eunice Anderson '48.

Bettendorf at Harvard Medical School

Erin Bettendorf '07, Boston, MA, is pictured at her white coat ceremony for first-year students at Harvard Medical School last August. She was inducted into the Peabody Society, a program that seeks to prepare students for leadership roles in medicine by exploring the inter-relationships among those disciplines and social institutions that impact upon patient care.
China exchange opens doors for students, faculty

Bruce H. Johnson, professor of economics and management, joined a 10-person delegation visiting United International College (UIC) in Zhuhai, China, in November 2008.

Gustavus Adolphus College and UIC have an exchange agreement involving students and faculty. Two UIC students—Yuan (Timo) Lin and Haisang (Hector) Wu—studied at Gustavus during the Fall 2008 semester while Gustavus students Greg Boone and Cynthia Yang were enrolled at UIC. Four recent Gustavus graduates have been teaching and tutoring at UIC.

This photo was taken at a High Table Dinner held at UIC during Johnson’s visit. Pictured from left are Ben Barnes ’08, English language teaching assistant and tutor in the English Language Center Department at UIC; Tim Bergmann ’08, teaching assistant and tutor for UIC’s Department of Government and International Relations; Pat Quade, former director of international education at Gustavus and now chief of international development at Beijing Normal University-Hong Kong Baptist University and United International College; exchange students Greg Boone, a senior communication studies major, and Cynthia Yang, a junior management major; Carl Johnson ’08, teaching assistant and tutor for the English Language Center Department; Bruce Johnson; and Pat’s wife, Cathy Quade. Not pictured is a fourth Gustie TA, Jonathan Olson ’07, who is also a tutor for the English Language Center Department.

Peter Boman ’60, Duluth, MN, on November 12, 2008. He was a retired surgeon, was a developer in Duluth, and is survived by his wife, Susan, one daughter, three sons including Peter ’88, and brother Tom ’53.

Carolyn Rydell Kreuzer ’60, Edina, MN, on January 3, 2009. She was former administrative assistant for Tillinghast-Towers Perrin and is survived by two daughters, Bill Pell ’61, St. Peter, MN, on November 10, 2008. He was owner of Pell Insurance and Real Estate and is survived by his wife, Sandra “Sis,” one daughter, and two sons.

Barb Moylan Pluto ’62, Austin, MN, on December 6, 2008. She is survived by two sons including Christopher Moylan ’91, and two brothers.

Cecelia Erickson ’64, Eden Prairie, MN. She was a longtime employee of Honeywell and Control Data.

Tony Bennett finished second . . .

When the results of JazzTimes magazine’s 2008 Readers’ Poll were announced in the January–February 2009 issue of the magazine, Tony Bennett was runner-up in the Male Vocalist category. The winner—and Male Vocalist of the Year for the fifth time since 1998—was Kurt Elling ’89. The Chicago-based Elling, an eight-time Grammy Award nominee, reclaimed the top spot after holding it for three consecutive years in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

In November 2008 Elling had been recognized again in Downbeat magazine’s annual polls, topping both the magazine’s annual Critics’ Poll in the Male Vocalist category for the ninth straight year and its Readers’ Poll for the fourth time (2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008). He has also earned three Jazz Journalists’ Association Awards for Best Male Vocalist and the Prix Billie Holiday from the Academie du Jazz in Paris. His quartet has toured the world, performing to critical acclaim in Europe, the Middle East, South America, Asia and Australia, and at jazz festivals and concert halls across the North America. The notoriously hard-to-please Downbeat has called Elling “the best jazz singer ever.”

Pamela Stillwell Keefe ’71, Scituate, MA, on December 29, 2008. She was a homemaker and internationally recognized home decorator and is survived by her husband, David, two sons, one daughter, and her parents.

Correction

Information was accidentally omitted from David Landin’s obituary in the Winter 2008-09 issue:

David Landin ’71, Derby, KS, on September 17, 2008. He was a retired U.S. Air Force navigator and marketing rep for John Hancock Financial Services, and had been employed for several years as an adjunct college professor of government and history at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Berta (Lanterman ’70), one son, and two daughters.
Where do Gusties live? Well, just about everywhere, according to the statistics we retrieved from our database. Gustavus boasts more than 24,500 located, living alumni as of December 2008, living in all 50 states as well as Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Canada and 57 other nations are also represented.

Alabama 29
Alaska 92
Arizona 351
Arkansas 35
California 819
Colorado 548
Connecticut 72
Delaware 6
District of Columbia 58
Florida 346
Georgia 131
Guam 3
Hawaii 37
Idaho 74
Illinois 642
Indiana 116
Iowa 405
Kansas 86
Kentucky 26
Louisiana 33
Maine 42
Maryland 139
Massachusetts 167
Michigan 215
Minnesota 15,768
Mississippi 17
Missouri 139
Montana 103
Nebraska 189
Nevada 66
New Hampshire 18
New Jersey 73
New Mexico 67
New York 170
North Carolina 151
North Dakota 144
Ohio 158
Oklahoma 35
Oregon 164
Pennsylvania 148
Puerto Rico 1
Rhode Island 12
South Carolina 55
South Dakota 179
Tennessee 67
Texas 355
Utah 42
Vermont 24
Virgin Islands 2
Virginia 237
Washington 338
West Virginia 10
Wisconsin 1,044
Wyoming 38
Armed Forces Americas 2
Armed Forces Europe 14
Armed Forces Pacific 5
TOTAL 24,297
Foreign addresses 387
from 58 countries

Grand Total 24,684

More fun facts about who we are:
Nearly one-fourth (23%) of the College’s entire living alumni base are in the nine classes that have graduated since 2000. Close to half (44%) graduated since 1990, and the percentage approaches two-thirds (64%) since 1980.

Classes of the 2000s = 5,672
Classes of the 1990s = 5,277
Classes of the 1980s = 4,764
Classes of the 1970s = 3,948
Classes of the 1960s = 2,601
Classes of the 1950s = 1,751
Classes of the 1940s = 583
Classes of the 1930s = 80
Classes of the 1920s = 8
TOTAL 24,684
Editor's note: Magnus Ranstorp ’85 was selected for a Distinguished Alumni Citation in 2006 but was unable to schedule a time to return to the Gustavus campus to accept the award until November 2008.

Over Magnus Ranstorp’s four years on campus we got to know each other quite well, from his first semester to his last, and I am awed by where he has gone since those days when he was a student. To be sure, his is a story richly deserving of a Distinguished Alumni Citation.

This particular alumnus has forged for himself a stellar academic and scholarly career. And by itself, that career trajectory might well qualify him for this award. But there is more to tell. He has at times lived a life more akin to Indiana Jones than anything I have known in academia, and both inside and outside of the academy he has and continues to make a difference in the world. That is a rare combination of

"Not your typical academic experience"

from his award presentation introduction by Kevin Byrne
life experiences, indeed, outside of the fantasy world of Hollywood. But it is part of the life of Dr. Per Magnus Ranstorp, Class of 1985.

Gustavus has a proud heritage of attracting students from countries around the world to pursue their studies on our campus. In the fall semester of 1981, a fresh-faced young Swede with a ready smile and an impressive amount of intellectual curiosity showed up in one of my U.S. history classes, and subsequently several others. As he grew intellectually, he developed a scholarly interest in the radical politics that were part of U.S. culture in the late 1960s, eventually researching and writing in his senior year a 75-page paper on the Weatherman faction of the Students for a Democratic Society. That effort, he attests, was the beginning of what would become the focus of his career: the study of political radicalism and terrorism, with a particular interest in the Middle East.

With an undergraduate degree from Gustavus in hand, Magnus continued the internationalization of his studies, earning a doctorate from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland while producing the dissertation that would become his first book, Hizb'Allah in Lebanon: The Politics of the Western Hostage Crisis, published in 1996. For that volume and for his subsequent publications he interviewed hundreds of members of political organizations, many of them “non-state actors,” as people in international relations say. His knowledge of and familiarity with individuals and groups involved in the turbulent politics of the Middle East grew dramatically, and it moved beyond that area of the world as well.

St. Andrews recognized the talent it had, hiring Magnus to teach courses in international relations and Middle East politics, and eventually naming him director of its Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence. He remained there for 15 years, apparently living the typical life of a scholar—teaching, researching, writing, and publishing. An idyllic, perhaps even contemplative, life . . . or so it would seem.

Reality was more complicated. Take, for example, his experience in 1990 as the Soviet Union was collapsing, when Magnus participated in nine extensive dialogues on counter-terrorism with Western European and Soviet colleagues, including generals from the KGB and several European nations. Or the time he later spent in South American jungles with anti-kidnapping units of the Colombian military.

And then there were his three years of serving as a secret back channel between Lebanon's radical Hizballah movement and the Israeli government, living, as he put it, a “surreal existence,” teaching in the classroom at one moment and carrying clandestine messages between these two organizations at the next. The Israeli media, in fact, singled out Magnus for his role in the Israeli decision to remove its troops from southern Lebanon in 2000.

Clearly, this is not your “typical academic” existence.

Magnus subsequently worked with British and Libyan governments in their efforts to establish a rapprochement in their relations. No wonder CNN asked him to serve as a consultant in 2001 for the documentary One Day Soon, anticipating by a few months the attacks of September 11. At the moment of that tragedy, CNN named Magnus their principal terrorism expert and the following day asked him to brief reporter Christiane Amanpour on the relationship between Pakistan’s intelligence service and terrorist training camps in Afghanistan. Few others in the world were aware of the connection. Two years later, the 9/11 Commission invited him to come to the United States and present his evaluation of the future of the global terrorist threat and his advice for initiatives in response.

But even then, most of these experiences might have seemed rather tame to Dr. Ranstorp. After all, back in 1990, as he prepared to address a conference on terrorism he had organized, someone very fortuitously discovered the plastic explosives that an agent of the Provisional Irish Republican Army had placed under the podium. Perhaps after that experience, everything else has seemed rather mundane. Really and truly, this is not your “typical academic” experience!

In the past few years, Magnus has shifted his affiliation from Scotland back to his native Sweden, where he presently serves as the research director of the Centre of Asymmetric Threat Studies at the Swedish National Defence College. But his work outside the academy has continued as well. Magnus is a member of the European Union’s Expert Group on Violent Radicalization, regularly briefs the governments of Sweden and Denmark on the issue of terrorism, and lectures around the world. Recognizing his extraordinary contributions, his peers have elected him a Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

And still he has found time to serve on several editorial boards, as well as continue to research and publish, most recently a book titled Terrorism and Human Rights. The title tells us a lot. All along, Magnus Ranstorp has brought to his studies and his professional work a humanistic sensitivity to questions about civil liberties and human rights. He talks about the need to balance security concerns with those two crucial issues. It is a sensitivity I noticed many years ago, when he produced that 75-page paper on the Weathermen for me.

To put it in simple terms, Magnus Ranstorp has made a difference in the world, a contribution to humanity, beginning with his students but extending far beyond the classroom and the campus. It is certainly fitting, and we know it is overdue, that we present him with a Distinguished Alumni Citation in international relations.

Professor of history Kevin Byrne has been a member of the Gustavus faculty since 1971.
Invest in excellence today.

Make a gift to the Gustavus Annual Fund.

Gifts to the Gustavus Annual Fund help fund the various academic and extracurricular programs Gustavus has to offer. But most important, contributions also help fund student scholarships. Nearly 70 percent of all students at Gustavus receive financial aid, and I am one of those students. Annual Fund gifts ensure that I am able not only to obtain a world-class education from one of the nation’s top liberal arts colleges but also to immerse myself in a variety of activities and organizations, including the Gustavus Adolphus College Forensics Team, Big Partner Little Partner, GAC TV, PLEDGE Substance Free Lifestyle Program, Student Senate, and Relay for Life.

I want to thank you for giving the gift of a Gustavus education, regardless of its size, because every gift matters. I am here because of your generosity. While this is merely a small show of my gratitude, please realize that your gift has changed my life forever.

Best Wishes,

Phillip Helt ’11,

Gustavus Student

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arts on campus

The Ying Quartet, four siblings from Chicago who are now the quartet in residence at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., bring their mix of Western string quartets, traditional Chinese compositions, and works by contemporary Chinese American composers to the Gustavus campus for a residency and concert March 13–14, 2009. Their visit is among the events of the College's Global Insight program, which focuses this year on China. Photo by Jay Blakesberg.