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BARNARD
MAGAZINE

FALL 2007

A BRIGHT FUTURE IN SCIENCE

Future Physicist: Maika Takita
The EcoReps: Greening Barnard
New Curriculum: Genomics
Science Faculty: Bridging The Gender Gap
Alumnae Physicians: A Lifetime of Practice

“As a graduate student at Columbia in the early '60s, I had my first introduction to Barnard as a part-time instructor in English—
the beginning of my love affair with the College.”

R. Christine Royer
Athena Society Member



“I came to Barnard in 1965 for the happiest of my many years in academia. I've viewed Barnard through many lenses: as a member of the English department; as advisor to the Class of 1970 during the turbulent years of the Vietnam War protests and profound social change; as the College's first Associate Dean of the Faculty; as Director of Admissions and, finally, as VP for Public Affairs.

My support of the College through annual and testamentary gifts is an expression of my gratitude for the professional and personal experiences that have enriched my life and my faith in Barnard's continuing excellence as the nation's premier college for women.”

**Please consider joining
The Athena Society today.**

The Athena Society recognizes the many alumnae and friends who have included Barnard in their estate plan or through other planned gifts, ensuring Barnard's excellence for future generations. Please advise us if Barnard is in your estate plan so we may welcome you into The Athena Society. Contact Audra Lewton, 212.854.0787 or plannedgiving@barnard.edu.

BARNARD
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B

BARNARD MAGAZINE

FALL 2007



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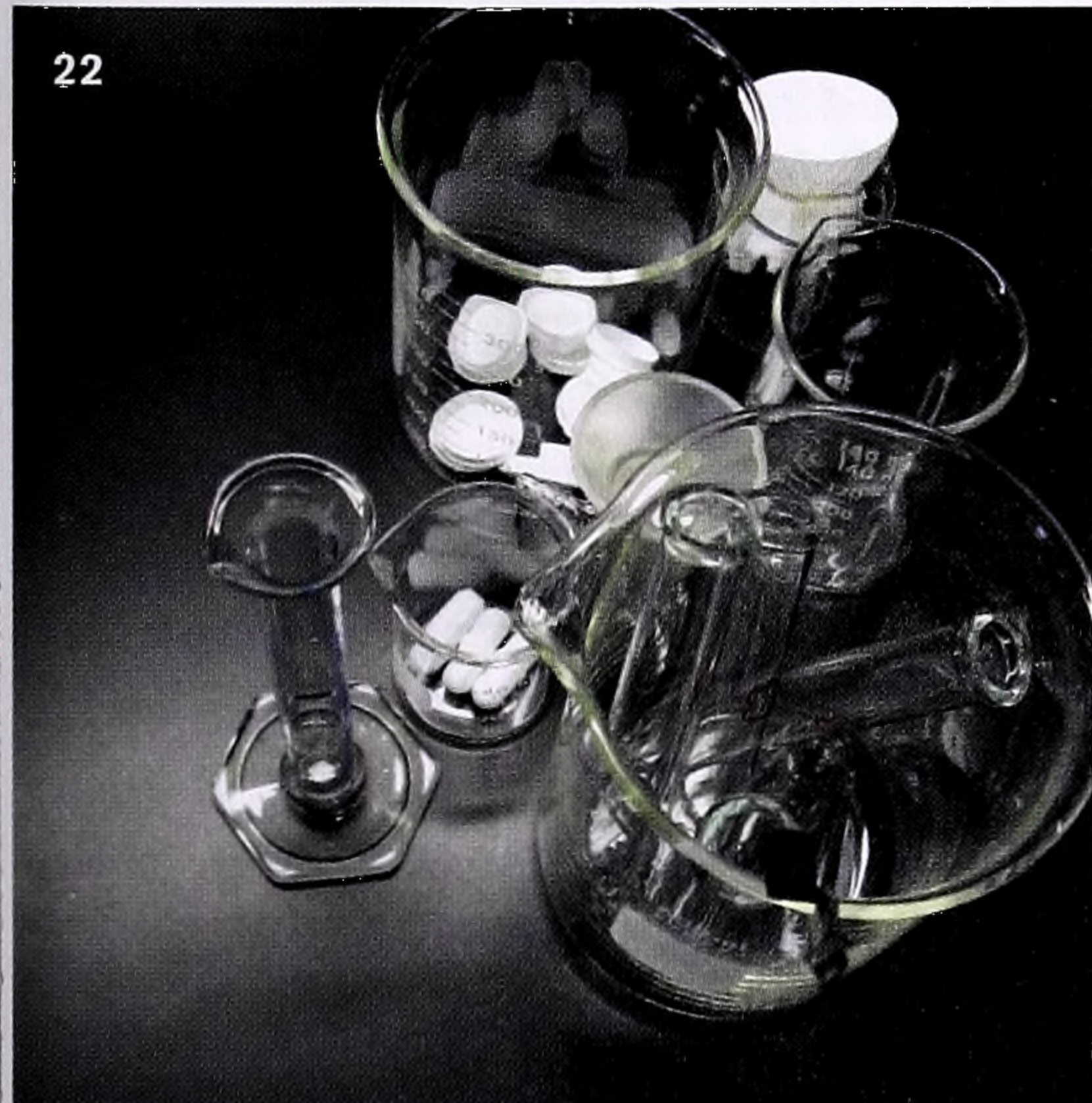
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OPPORTUNITY & CHALLENGE:

A SCIENCE GRANT MEETS A VITAL NEED



I'm delighted to have this opportunity to share news of a vastly important new grant. Barnard will receive \$3 million from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's Centers of Excellence Initiative for the enhancement of science education. We will apply these much-needed funds to projects that will have an enduring impact on the faculty, curriculum, and facilities in Altschul Hall. The resulting improvements will enrich the educational experience of virtually every Barnard student, and will increase our ability to attract applicants who excel in science and foresee careers in medicine or research.

The Foundation stipulates that Barnard must raise three dollars from other donors for every dollar Mellon contributes over a six-year period. Thus, if we meet the Mellon challenge, we will gain a total of *12 million new dollars* for our science programs.

I am so proud that Mellon has recognized the strength of our science faculty, just as I take pride in the fact that the sciences have always been a key component of a Barnard education. It is inspiring to know that one year after its founding, Barnard equipped its first laboratory and hired a woman, Dr. Emily Gregory, as its first professor of science.

As we have for decades, Barnard requires that every student complete at least two laboratory-based courses in a single science. We also encourage students to major in scientific disciplines, participate in advanced research, and prepare for challenging graduate programs and careers in scientific fields.

Barnard's science requirement is actually uncommon in American higher education where students can often earn a degree without ever stepping foot in a science lab. But Barnard is committed to a curriculum that addresses the universal need for scientific literacy. My colleagues and I are also guided by the conviction that experience with scientific research develops critical thinking skills applicable to problem solving in all areas of life. And of course, a college dedicated to the advancement of women has a special responsibility to address the stubborn gender imbalance in the sciences.

Our challenge? It costs a lot of money to offer a superior education in science. Barnard's economic and space constraints place us at a severe disadvantage in recruiting science faculty. While we made substantial renovations to some science facilities in the late 1990s, most of Altschul has remained basically unaltered since the building opened in 1969. Our Manhattan campus is confined to four acres, so the expansion strategy other colleges use (to construct a brand new science building) is not feasible. At the same time, our historically low endowment seriously limits our ability to pay for space renovations and new equipment.

In fact, the size of our endowment was a factor that qualified us for the Mellon grant. The original letter inviting us to submit a proposal stated that all 16 institutions receiving the invitation were "excellent but under-endowed liberal arts

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BARNARD

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TALKING TENURE

Academic tenure is a mainstay of our system of higher education. At Barnard and on campuses across the United States, the rigorous tenure process is designed to be a guarantor of the faculty's excellence, integrity, achievement, and intellectual diversity. Colleges and universities also benefit substantially from tenured professors' participation in campus governance. Above all, by enabling scholars to work without fear of reprisal when they take unpopular positions on controversial issues, tenure promotes an academic faculty's engagement in the free exchange of ideas with students, colleagues and the public, and supports the pursuit of research that will eventually add to or alter established knowledge in academic fields.

Yet, as critical as tenure is in promoting inquiry and scholarship, it is not widely understood off campus. This nationwide lack of awareness was revealed last year, when the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) sponsored a telephone poll of a thousand Americans aged 18 and older. Almost half of those surveyed admitted they had never heard of tenure—which might be sketchily defined as a guarantee of permanent job security for a college professor who has been a teacher and scholar in a field for several years, and who has successfully completed a probationary period and series of reviews in which classroom skills, published scholarship, and overall contributions to an academic institution and a profession have been scrupulously evaluated.

Even people who have heard of tenure may not fully understand the extent to which the process is defined by exacting standards and scrupulous review, not only by campus administrators but also by a candidate's peers (including departmental colleagues, other professors on review committees, and outside scholars expert in the relevant discipline). In my view, this lack of understanding needs to be remedied as quickly as possible. Such widespread unawareness is working to the advantage of partisan political individuals and organizations—often from outside academia—who are leading aggressive campaigns against professors whose ideas they dislike, against the academic institutions that employ those professors, and against academic freedom on our nation's campuses.

These outside forces often claim to speak for students who are uncomfortable with what they read or hear in class. But it should be clear that, in addition to benefiting individual professors, educational institutions, and scholarly disciplines, tenure and academic freedom profoundly benefit college students and society as a whole.

The benefits to students go to the very core of a liberal arts education. A free flow of ideas in the classroom and elsewhere on campus trains students to think critically and present reasoned intellectual arguments. During four years of study toward a liberal arts degree, no matter how open and civil classroom discussions are, a student will inevitably face challenges to her previous assumptions and beliefs. Barnard is working to enhance this healthy process in many ways, particularly through the faculty seminars, public events, and curricular initiatives we are creating through our *Religion, Freedom and Politics of Identity* project, which receives funding from the Ford Foundation under its *Difficult Dialogues* initiative.

In addition to having foundation support for this particular effort, we have

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WHAT'S INSIDE

The 1957 launch of Sputnik, the first man-made—and Russian—satellite to orbit earth, sent shivers down the spines of American educators and official policy-makers. Ultimately the shock led to major increases in U.S. government spending on scientific research and education. Now, as the world marks the 50th anniversary of that launch, a re-examination of the value we place on science has already begun.

At Barnard, all branches of learning are accorded resources and respect; even women studying science at the turn of the century found a solid education here. One need only look at a 1900 photograph of the College's chemistry lab and the many instructors who swelled its faculty (including two women) to realize that this institution has always been committed to providing quality education in both physical and biological sciences. Our science graduates have been in the vanguard of their professional fields; a major accomplishment given the bias against women that pervades many of these disciplines. (The feature profiling several alumnae who have gone on to build outstanding medical careers starts on page 33.)

We invite you to explore with us Barnard's continual efforts to strengthen its exemplary science base. Stories throughout this issue will introduce you to our innovative teachers and their research, a critical adjunct to any scientist's reputation as a scholar. Barnard's enviable student/faculty ratio offers science majors a rare opportunity to participate in real research with outstanding leaders of the scientific community. An important science grant will enable the College to renovate and expand science facilities, which will surely lead to more and greater discoveries. It's an exciting time to be here.

— The Editors

CORRECTION

A profile of Susan Krown '67 in the summer 2007 issue incorrectly referred to Dr. Krown's work as "transnational." It should have read "translational." We regret the error.



Elaine Vitone

Pittsburgh-based freelance writer Elaine Vitone's work has appeared in *Publishers Weekly*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Pittsburgh* magazine. Vitone contributed "Of Mice & Manduca," page 26, to *Barnard*. "The more I talk to the researchers who are reshaping these fields, the more I realize that science, at its core, is an art [that] takes creativity and collaboration," Vitone says. "I think Barnard's new genomics curriculum reflects this."



Michaela Cavallaro

Writer, editor, and former English major Michaela Cavallaro was a bit daunted by the two science stories assigned for this issue ("Filling The Pipeline," page 10, and the Sally Chapman profile in "Bridging The Gender Gap" on page 18). "My background in women's studies made the issues that Sally Chapman addresses extremely compelling," says Cavallaro. In addition to teaching courses on writing at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Maine, Cavallaro is a contributor to *Boston Magazine*, *Smart Computing*, and the *Portland Press Herald*.



Katherine Wolkoff

"I really loved photographing the Barnard students," says Katherine Wolkoff '98 of some of her recent work, which has made its way into the alumnae magazine. "They were each so individual and yet reminded me so much of myself and my friends." One of Wolkoff's photos can be seen in the feature that begins on page 22. Also, silhouette-style portraits were taken of Barnard students that now grace the wall around the Nexus site (see *Through The Gates*, page 12). Wolkoff earned her MFA in photography from the Yale School of Art. Her work has been featured in the *New York Times Magazine*, *W*, and *Gourmet*.




Noah Sheldon

Born in Indiana and raised in Chicago, Sheldon is a Brooklyn-based photographer. He received his MFA in visual arts from Columbia University in 2000. "I enjoyed working with Barnard very much. The students featured in 'A Future In Science,' page 30, impressed me as being very mature; they were a pleasure to work with."

ADVANCING WOMEN

A NEW BARNARD REPORT PRESENTS STRATEGIES
FOR COMBATING GENDER INEQUITIES IN ACADEMIA




Janet Jakobsen and Alison Wylie have devoted a good part of their careers to the extra challenges facing women academics. Jakobsen is director of Barnard's Center for Research on Women; Wylie is a former Barnard women's studies professor who now teaches at the University of Washington in Seattle. The two recently collaborated as coauthors on a new Barnard report, "Women, Work, and the Academy: Strategies for Responding to Post Civil Rights Era Gender Discrimination." The publication stems from a 2004 Barnard conference on gender inequities in academia. (A particular focus of the report is on women scientists.)

Lest anyone think that gender discrimination on U.S. college campuses has ceased to be an issue, both women are quick to point out that subtle biases and stereotyping persist. It's not that university administrators or department heads are intentionally trying to exclude women scientists, they say—in most cases they're likely not even aware of their biases, which makes the problem that much harder to identify and address. "These are a series of micro-inequities that build up over time," says Jakobsen, resulting in major differences between how quickly men and women advance through the academic ranks, as well as persistent disparities in pay, even when they have similar levels of experience and hold the same position.

As for ongoing stereotyping, Wylie recalls that less than six weeks after the December 2004 Barnard conference, Lawrence Summers, then president of Harvard, set off a firestorm with his remarks on the alleged "innate differences" between men and women—and on how those differences might make it harder for women to succeed in math and the sciences. Those comments, Wylie notes, were striking for their bluntness, and also served to bring fresh scrutiny to a problem that some might have thought was passé. "Larry Summers definitely helped breathe new life into the topic," she says. "In that sense, he did us a favor."

In the new report, Jakobsen and Wylie pull together a wide mix of research detailing the scope and causes of the gender inequity problems, while also laying out various strategies for combating them.

The bottom line: Women academics today may no longer have to contend with old-boy networks or flat-out discrimination, but they continue to face a host of more subtle forms of bias. The result, as the report notes, is that women continue to be disproportionately employed in part-time and limited-tenure faculty posts and their rate of advancement and representation in top faculty positions lags below that of men. Indeed, a 2006 American Association of University Professors study cited by the report found that full-time women faculty members at doctoral-granting institutions are only half as likely as men to have tenure. Another study reported



Women academics today may no longer have to contend with old-boy networks or flat-out discrimination, but they continue to face a host of more subtle forms of bias.

that those differences were even starker at the most elite universities, where women hold only a fifth of full professor positions.

And the problem is particularly acute for minority women, according to a 2005 diversity study, which found that women of color were “almost nonexistent” in the science and engineering departments of the country’s top research universities.

One breakthrough 1999 study done by faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for example, found that women received less lab space and skimpier research grants than their male colleagues did, in addition to lower salaries. Combined with some of the subtler inequities—for example, says Jakobsen, patronizing letters of recommendation in which women academics are described as “hardworking” and “reliable”—the barriers to both access and equality are great.

The MIT study prompted an effort to address the inequality. Still, Wylie and Jakobsen note, a several hundred page blue-ribbon report issued this year by the National Academy of Sciences found that women in many science and engineering programs across the country continue to face evaluation biases, inhospitable work environments, and other barriers to hiring and promotion, which have reduced the numbers of women in those fields and, according to NAS, have led to “a needless waste of the nation’s scientific talent.”

Besides highlighting the NAS findings and other key studies, the new Barnard report also provides a comprehensive rundown on current policy recommendations and strategies that college and university leaders could employ for addressing gender inequities. One example: the National Science Foundation’s ADVANCE program, which has been offering millions of dollars in grants to promote the recruitment and retention of women science faculty and researchers.

Other remedies include creating new high-level administrative posts on campuses to develop and implement strategic plans to counteract biases in hiring, promotion, and institutional support. Likewise, universities could require deans, search-committee chairs, and other faculty with personnel-management responsibilities to take workshops in order to boost their awareness of unconscious gender discrimination—and they could ask hiring committees to provide proof they have conducted a fair, broad, and aggressive candidate search before any new faculty appointments are approved.

Jakobsen says the Center plans to send the report out to college administrators and women’s studies departments across the country, along with other professional groups. And both she and coauthor Wylie are hopeful that it will help keep the consciousness-raising effort going.

“The good news is there’s now real attention to the problem,” says Jakobsen. “We need to make sure that it’s not just a temporary burst of light.”



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

& OTHER LESSONS FROM THE ECOREPS

When the members of the Class of 2011 arrived at Barnard for orientation in August, each one was handed a light bulb. More specifically, a compact fluorescent light bulb, which consumes 75 percent less energy and lasts 10 times longer than a regular bulb. The effort was part of this year's Green Move-In, organized by the newly minted student group the EcoReps. They are 10 ambitious and enthusiastic Barnard women who hope to make the campus more environmentally conscious. The way to start, they say, is to focus on Barnard's incoming and younger students, enlisting them in their mission with light bulbs for starters.

Alumna Miriam Rubin '07 was inspired by the EcoReps program at Columbia; last fall, she attended a BarnardEarth meeting to reach out to like-minded students willing to launch a similar effort at Barnard. She found Acadia Roher '10, Aja Hazelhoff '09, and Amanda Rook '08. Last spring, the planning began. They were joined soon after by Sasha Feldstein '08, Megan McNally '10, Alison Powell '09, Kirsten Scheu '10, Elizabeth Tuper '08, Mariel Villere '08, and Rachel Waldholz '08.

"Our experience with environmental student projects had taught us that there was a lot of environmental enthusiasm among Barnard staff, faculty, administration, and students, but that it was largely untapped because there were no official means by which to *connect* these separate sectors of the school," says Amanda Rook.

EcoReps operate under Residential Life's First-Year Focus program, which provides them with a \$1,000 stipend. The group's work comes at a time when more students, and the College overall, are focused on green efforts; for example, this year's Student Government Association has committed to making meaningful change on campus to reduce waste and preserve resources. Because EcoReps are considered employees of the College, Rook believes the group will make an impact. "In order for things to happen in a big way you really need to have support and be part of the structure of the College, rather than propositioning the school as an independent club," she says.

A \$2,500 donation by Samantha Unger '01 for the greening of Barnard's campus, along with a \$1,000 Social Innovators grant from the nonprofit group Conscious Lifestyle (this last grant is to be shared with Columbia's EcoReps group) and the ResLife stipend, make it possible for these Barnard students to spread environmental awareness and action. Activities include round-table discussions with students over meals, considering the environmental impact of the food we eat, and screenings of films such as *King Corn* and *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*.

Two months into their launch, the EcoReps already are seeing a positive response from the Barnard community. "We've attended [first-year] floor meetings," says Mariel Villere. "They're definitely receptive and interested in learning what they can do to make changes in their daily lives." The women hope to expand both their numbers and their reach in the coming year, but are confident that embarking on the effort with first-years was a wise, and manageable, move. To "get a handle on one [residence hall] and figure out exactly what's going on there" takes a lot of effort, says Acadia Roher. Adds Villere: "If we continue to follow [the Class of 2011] throughout their four years while adding each incoming first-year class, that's the most effective way to move forward."



METAL WORK

JOHN MAGYAR IS AN EXPERT ON THE BIOINORGANIC CHEMISTRY OF LEAD POISONING

John Magyar has always been fascinated by science. “When I was growing up, my favorite museums were Chicago’s Field Museum of Natural History and the Boston Museum of Science. My parents are both chemists,” he says. “I grew up in an academic household, where my mother and father discussed chemistry at dinner. During the summer, my brothers and I went with them to chemistry conferences.”

One favorite memory is of a family outing to Purdue University in the summer of 1988, when he was 12. There, at the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education, Magyar joined his mother at a lecture by Nobel Laureate Herbert C. Brown and attended a chemistry lab for kids, where they extracted iron filings from Total cereal.

“We mushed the flakes up in water and stirred the slurry with a strong magnet. Small bits of metallic iron stuck to the magnet,” he remembers.

Years later, in his graduate work with Professor Hilary Godwin at Northwestern University, Magyar focused on another common metal—one known not for its nutritional value but for its lasting toxicity. “We elucidated the molecular mechanism of the developmental toxicity of lead,” he says. “Lead poisoning is a major public health problem, and the symptoms are well known, but we’re only beginning to understand the toxicity at a molecular level.” With Godwin and the other members of the Northwestern team, he made discoveries that contributed significantly to science’s understanding of how lead binds to sulfur-rich peptides. Their study was published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

As a postdoctoral scholar at the California Institute of Technology, Magyar continued to examine the structure and function of metalloproteins. Working with Professor Harry Gray, he studied the dynamics of unfolded proteins, fundamental research preparing the way for future studies of unfolded and misfolded proteins linked to Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases.

When Magyar arrived at Barnard this past summer, he immediately set to work on a study of how marine microorganisms take up metals and use them as vital nutrients. “Marine phytoplankton play a major role in the carbon cycle, performing roughly half of global photosynthesis. Metals such as cobalt, iron, and manganese are required for these processes, but scientists are only beginning to understand the details. One reason that it is so difficult to predict the impact of steadily rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (resulting primarily from combustion of fossil fuels) is that we don’t yet understand the detailed role of microorganisms in global biogeochemical cycles. The research that my students and I are doing at Barnard will fill in some of these essential details.”

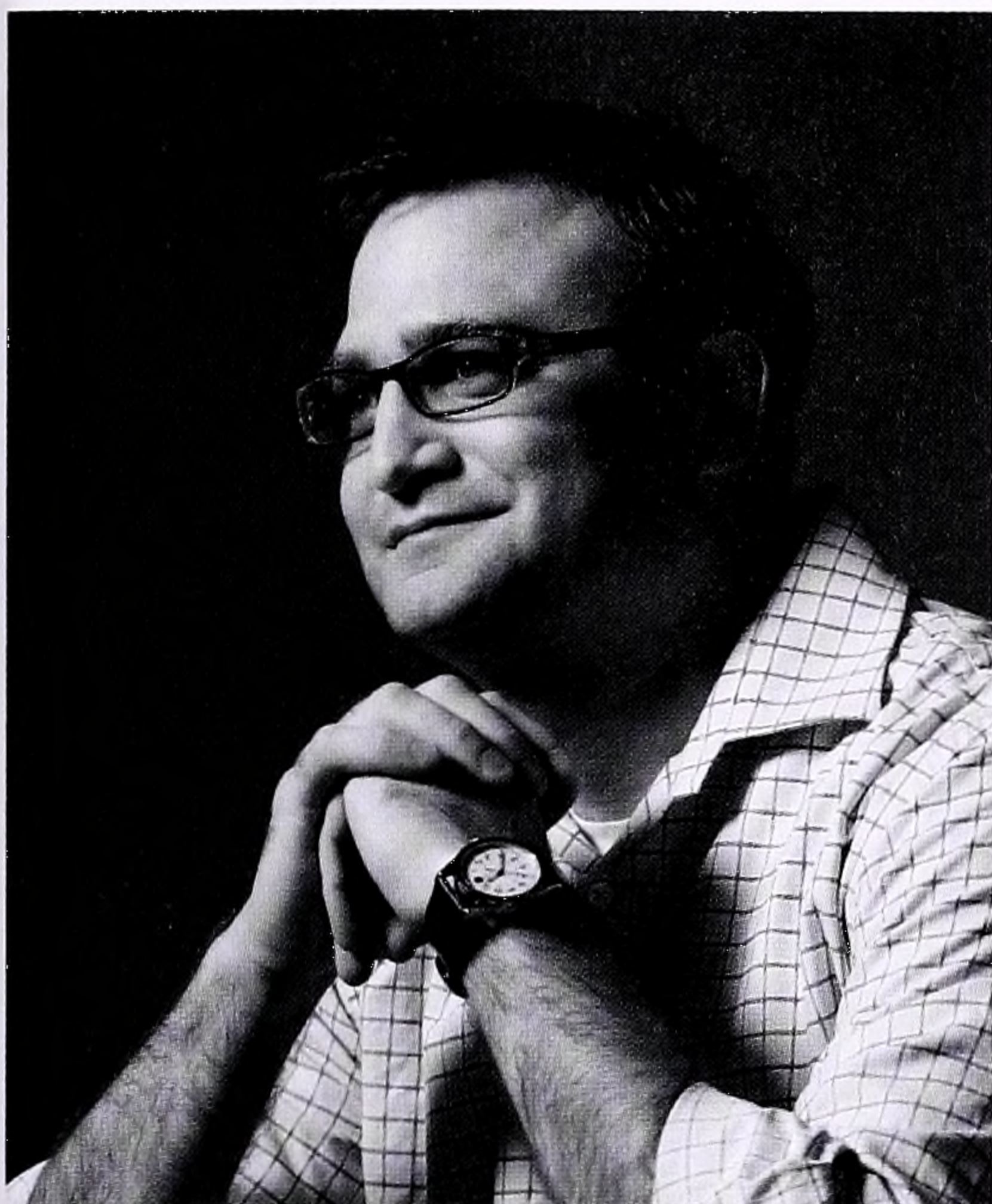
“Barnard has been generous in providing me with what I need to get started,” he says. “And our affiliation with Columbia University and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory dramatically expands the resources and equipment we have access to.”

Magyar is an experienced teacher as well as a researcher, having instructed and mentored students at Northwestern, Caltech, and Dartmouth, his undergraduate alma mater. This fall he is teaching “Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry,” a requirement for chemistry majors, and “Senior Honors Thesis,” in which he is guiding students through the formulation and completion of their advanced research projects.

SCIENTISTS AT BARNARD

This year, as the scientists profiled on these pages joined Barnard’s faculty, three veteran members of the science faculty were promoted to full professor. Newly appointed to that honored rank in physics and astronomy are two women: **Laura Kay** and **Reshmi Mukherjee**. **Steven Stroessner** is now a full professor of psychology.

Professor Mukherjee currently plays a leading role in campus governance, as chair of her department. The other scientists chairing Barnard departments are chemist Sally Chapman, biologist Brian Morton, environmental scientist Stephanie Pfirman, and psychologist Barbara Woike.



BRAIN WORK

RUSSELL ROMEO IS EXAMINING HOW STRESS
IN ADOLESCENCE AFFECTS BRAIN FUNCTION IN ADULTHOOD

When asked if he always wanted to be a scientist, Russell D. Romeo answers instantly and without equivocation: “Absolutely not. When I arrived at college, I planned to major in music theory and train as a classical guitarist,” he says.

But Edinboro University’s first-year courses in psychology, sociology, anthropology, and philosophy introduced him to the study of human behavior and the workings of the brain.

“For me, the combination of those courses was the perfect storm of getting interested in the mind,” he recalls. “I decided I didn’t want to be a starving artist my whole life. I decided to be a starving scientist instead.”

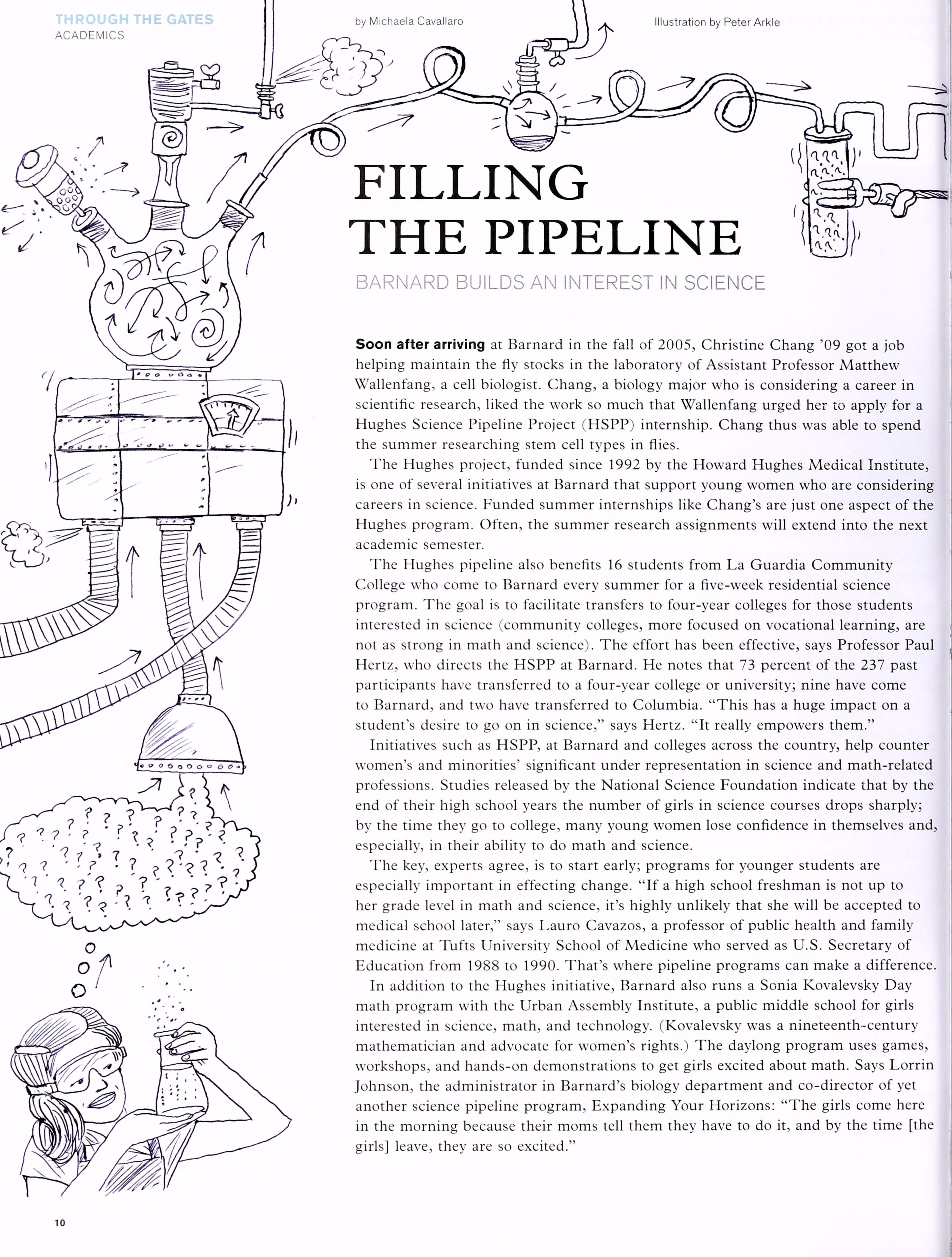
After graduating with a major in psychology, Romeo entered the master’s program in experimental psychology at Villanova University and worked with the husband-and-wife neuroscience team of Ingeborg and O. Byron Ward. Their collective research documented the effects of a pregnant mother’s stress levels and alcohol use on the developing fetal brain and nervous system, on sexual differentiation in the fetus, and on the subsequent sexual behavior of male and female offspring. Later, in doctoral work at Michigan State University and a postdoctoral fellowship at Rockefeller University, Romeo shifted most of his focus from the developing fetal brain to the developing adolescent one.

“Over the past decade, we’ve begun to appreciate the tremendous maturation that continues through adolescence and young adulthood,” he says. “Imaging of the brain shows significant changes in the areas that control emotionality, risk taking, impulsivity, and cognitive ability. We know that during adolescence, stress hormones can disturb the development of these areas and have long-term negative effects.”

Using state-of-the-art techniques like immunofluorescence histochemistry, in situ hybridization, and confocal microscopy, Romeo is currently looking at how stress during puberty affects physiological, psychological, and behavioral functions in adulthood. Last year, his work in this area earned him the Young Investigator Award from the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology.

At Barnard, he is training a new generation of young scientific investigators. He teaches the fall semester course “Science and Scientists,” an introductory seminar that brings distinguished researchers and physicians into the classroom to personally answer questions about their work and what drew them to their chosen fields. In the spring, Romeo will teach “Behavioral Neuroscience,” where he will introduce students to the nervous system and the physiological bases of behavior and thought.

“I decided I didn’t want to be a starving artist my whole life. I decided to be a starving scientist instead,” says Romeo of his choice to study human behavior and the workings of the brain.



FILLING THE PIPELINE

BARNARD BUILDS AN INTEREST IN SCIENCE

Soon after arriving at Barnard in the fall of 2005, Christine Chang '09 got a job helping maintain the fly stocks in the laboratory of Assistant Professor Matthew Wallenfang, a cell biologist. Chang, a biology major who is considering a career in scientific research, liked the work so much that Wallenfang urged her to apply for a Hughes Science Pipeline Project (HSPP) internship. Chang thus was able to spend the summer researching stem cell types in flies.

The Hughes project, funded since 1992 by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, is one of several initiatives at Barnard that support young women who are considering careers in science. Funded summer internships like Chang's are just one aspect of the Hughes program. Often, the summer research assignments will extend into the next academic semester.

The Hughes pipeline also benefits 16 students from La Guardia Community College who come to Barnard every summer for a five-week residential science program. The goal is to facilitate transfers to four-year colleges for those students interested in science (community colleges, more focused on vocational learning, are not as strong in math and science). The effort has been effective, says Professor Paul Hertz, who directs the HSPP at Barnard. He notes that 73 percent of the 237 past participants have transferred to a four-year college or university; nine have come to Barnard, and two have transferred to Columbia. "This has a huge impact on a student's desire to go on in science," says Hertz. "It really empowers them."

Initiatives such as HSPP, at Barnard and colleges across the country, help counter women's and minorities' significant under representation in science and math-related professions. Studies released by the National Science Foundation indicate that by the end of their high school years the number of girls in science courses drops sharply; by the time they go to college, many young women lose confidence in themselves and, especially, in their ability to do math and science.

The key, experts agree, is to start early; programs for younger students are especially important in effecting change. "If a high school freshman is not up to her grade level in math and science, it's highly unlikely that she will be accepted to medical school later," says Lauro Cavazos, a professor of public health and family medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine who served as U.S. Secretary of Education from 1988 to 1990. That's where pipeline programs can make a difference.

In addition to the Hughes initiative, Barnard also runs a Sonia Kovalevsky Day math program with the Urban Assembly Institute, a public middle school for girls interested in science, math, and technology. (Kovalevsky was a nineteenth-century mathematician and advocate for women's rights.) The daylong program uses games, workshops, and hands-on demonstrations to get girls excited about math. Says Lorrin Johnson, the administrator in Barnard's biology department and co-director of yet another science pipeline program, Expanding Your Horizons: "The girls come here in the morning because their moms tell them they have to do it, and by the time [the girls] leave, they are so excited."

OUT OF AFRICA

STUDENTS DOCUMENT CONFERENCE ON
THE LEGACY OF THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY



Ghana was on the travel agenda for six Barnard students in August. Supported by a grant from the Gilder Foundation, the students—Toi Carrion '08, Asiya Khaki '09, Svati Mariam Lelyveld '08, Keondra Prier '08, Ellen Robinson '08, and Raia Small '09—participated in a historic conference on the legacy of the abolition of slavery in Ghana. The event also celebrated the 50th anniversary of Ghana's independence.

“Last year and this year are such important years in slavery studies,” says Professor Kim Hall, director of the Africana Studies Program at Barnard, who accompanied the students along with professors Christine Cynn and José Moya. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade in Britain; 2008 is the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the U.S. slave trade. “To reconsider our past, particularly the effects of abolition in the United States and Africa, and then to see the effects of Ghanaian Independence on Ghana and the Diaspora has been very meaningful,” Hall says. Adds Professor Moya, director of the Barnard Forum on Migration: “One does not have to suspend critical judgment to meet this African country, or any other, on its own terms. This is more than a question of tolerance; it is the key to appreciation, empathy, and learning.”

The conference was organized by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture at William and Mary College and was hosted by the Historical Society of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast. The Africana Studies Program coordinated Barnard's participation. The two-week itinerary included travel to local schools and several historical and national sites in and around the capital, Accra, as well as visits to and workshops with various nongovernmental organizations.

Since their return in late August, the students have been completing individual projects reflecting on the experience, including a school curriculum on the Middle Passage, a

multimedia presentation (incorporating photographs taken by some of the participants, such as the one above), and an economic timeline of the slave trade. Their work will reside on a new student-led Middle Passage Initiative Web site to be unveiled on November 13.

Senior Ellen Robinson was impressed with the scholars, the ideas, and the topics encountered at the conference. The environment also made an impression. “It was really different than anything that we've experienced in our studies, and it was so stimulating,” she says. Other conference participants were clearly impressed with the young women representing Barnard, according to both Hall and Moya. Several, says Moya, “spontaneously complimented the intellectual sophistication, grace, and professionalism of, as they put it, ‘the Barnard girls.’”

THE WRITING ON THE WALL

A CONSTRUCTION BARRIER CONNECTS A CAMPUS



Creative thinking, interaction, and the exchange of ideas are in full view on campus. In July, several weeks before students returned to the College, the wall surrounding the Nexus construction site was transformed to feature larger-than-life profile silhouettes of actual Barnard students. Photographed by alumna Katherine Wolkoff '98, the giant faces greet people from several points across the campus. The portraits sit on a grid of 8.5 x 11-inch boxes—identified by categories such as *graffiti*, *rants & raves*, *for sale* and *lessons*—for students and others in the Barnard community to post notices, announcements, and musings.

FALL 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHOREOGRAPHIES OF MIGRATION DANCE CONCERT

NOVEMBER 10, 6:00 PM
MINOR LATHAM PLAYHOUSE

The Department of Dance and the Forum on Migration present a concert of dances, including works by renowned modern dance choreographer José Limón performed by the José Limón Dance Company. Reservations are required. Please call 212.854.2995.

URBAN DIASPORAS

NOVEMBER 13, 7:00 PM
JAMES ROOM

The Middle Passage Initiative joins the Africana Studies Program for a thought-provoking two-part program about the future of the Black diaspora, featuring the 2007 Barnard-Gilder Fellows presenting an educational Web site showcasing research recently conducted in Ghana that provides rare and valuable insight into the Atlantic Slave Trade. For more information call 212.854.2055.

RAISING FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE CHILDREN

NOVEMBER 13, 7:00 – 8:30 PM
JAMES ROOM

Neale Godfrey, founder of Children's Financial Network, Inc., discusses how to convey your financial values to children, while teaching them money skills. Part of the Smart Women, Smart Money Financial Fluency series. Registration deadline November 8. Visit alum.barnard.edu/smart or call 212.854.2005 for information or to register.

GREAT WRITERS: RICHARD PANEK & KATHLEEN HILL

NOVEMBER 20, 7:00 PM
SULZBERGER PARLOR

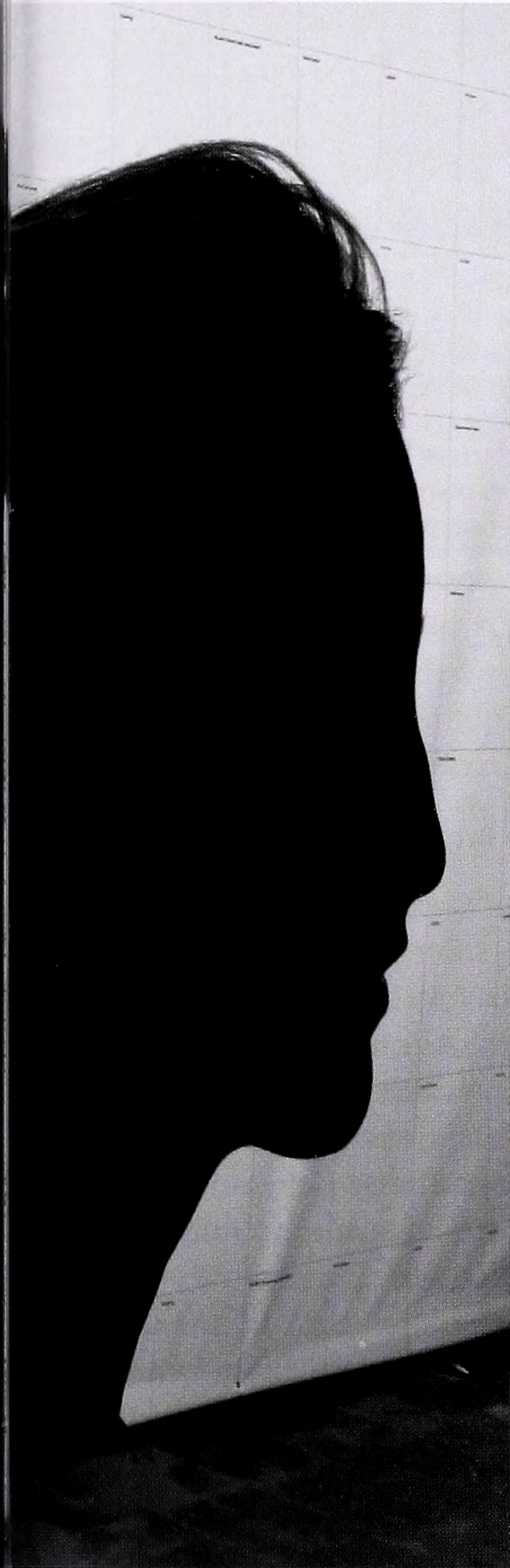
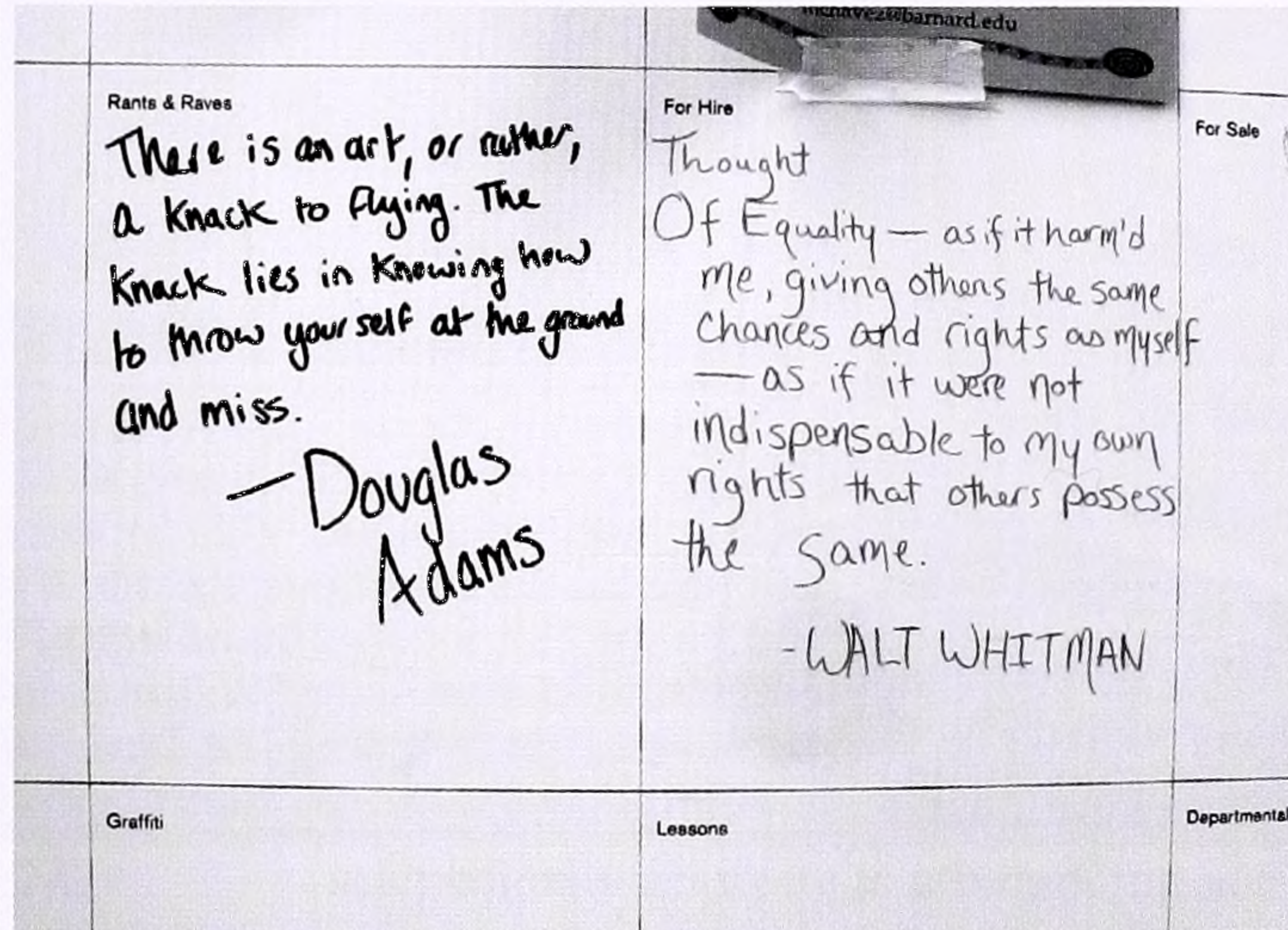
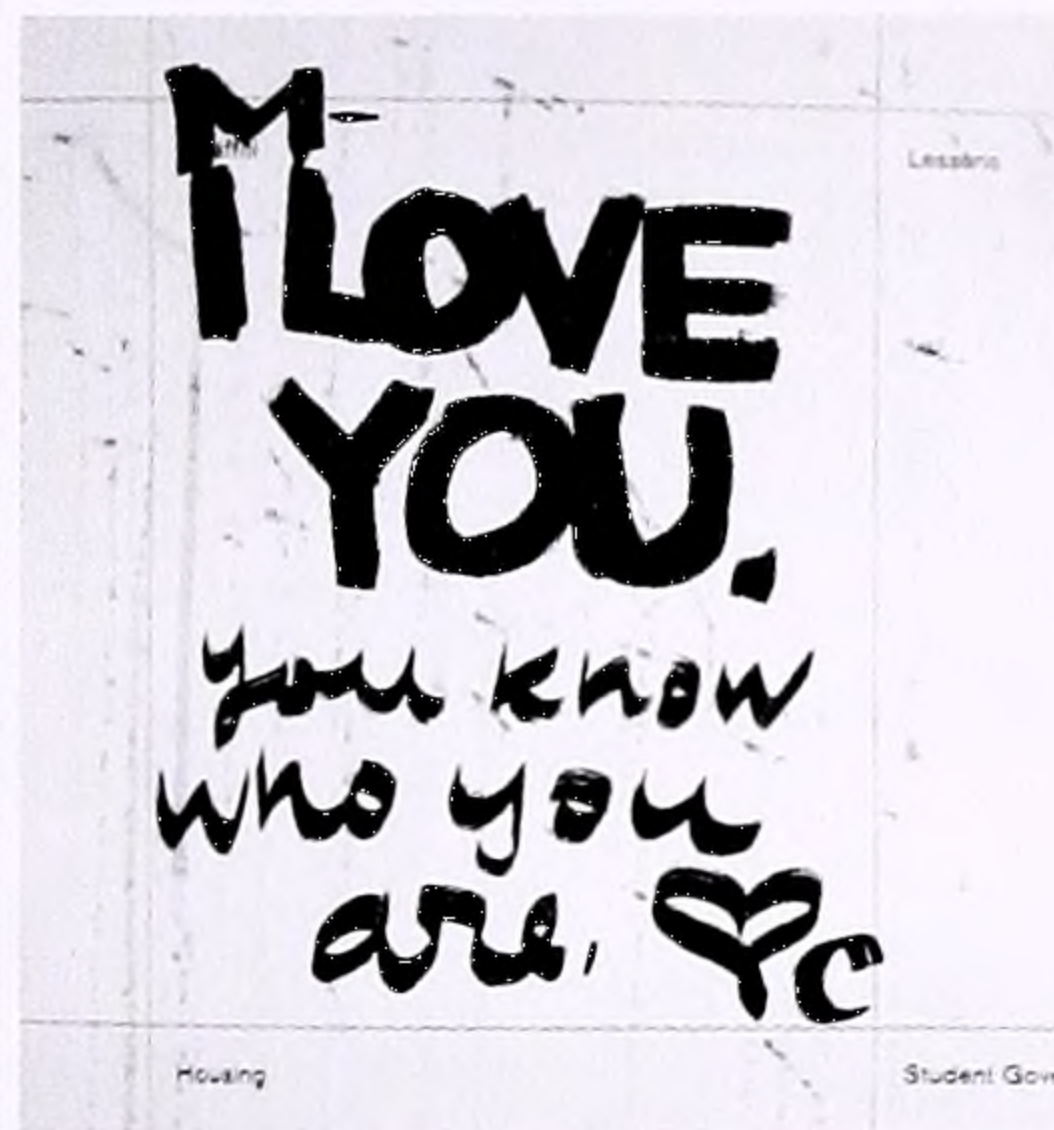
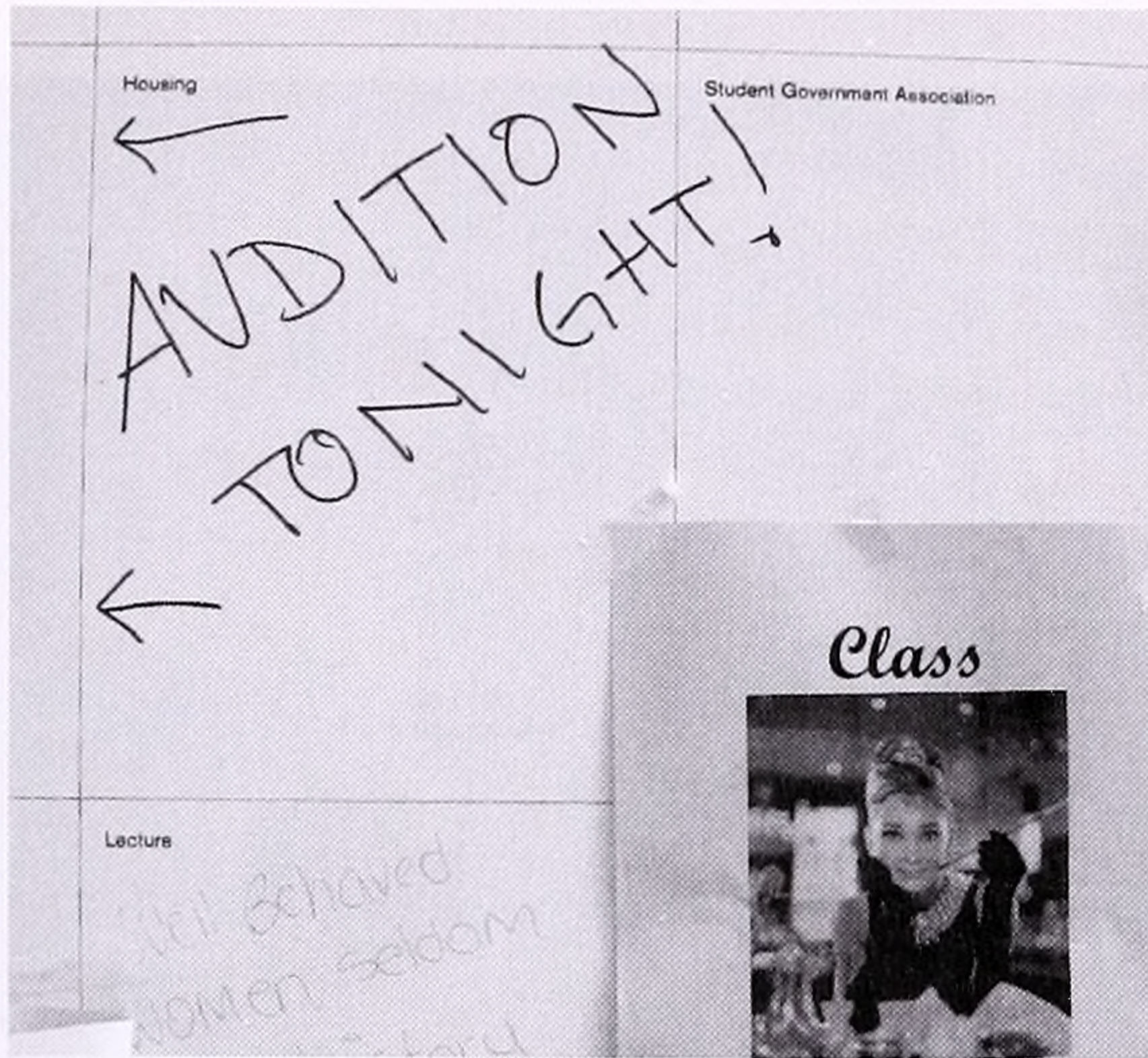
Creative writing adjunct Richard Panek, author of *Let There Be Dark: At the Dawn of the Next Universe* and a 2007 fellowship recipient in nonfiction literature from the New York Foundation for the Arts, reads along with Kathleen Hill, creative writing instructor in the MFA Program at Sarah Lawrence College and author of *Still Waters in Niger*.

THE BARNARD PROJECT AT DANCE THEATER WORKSHOP

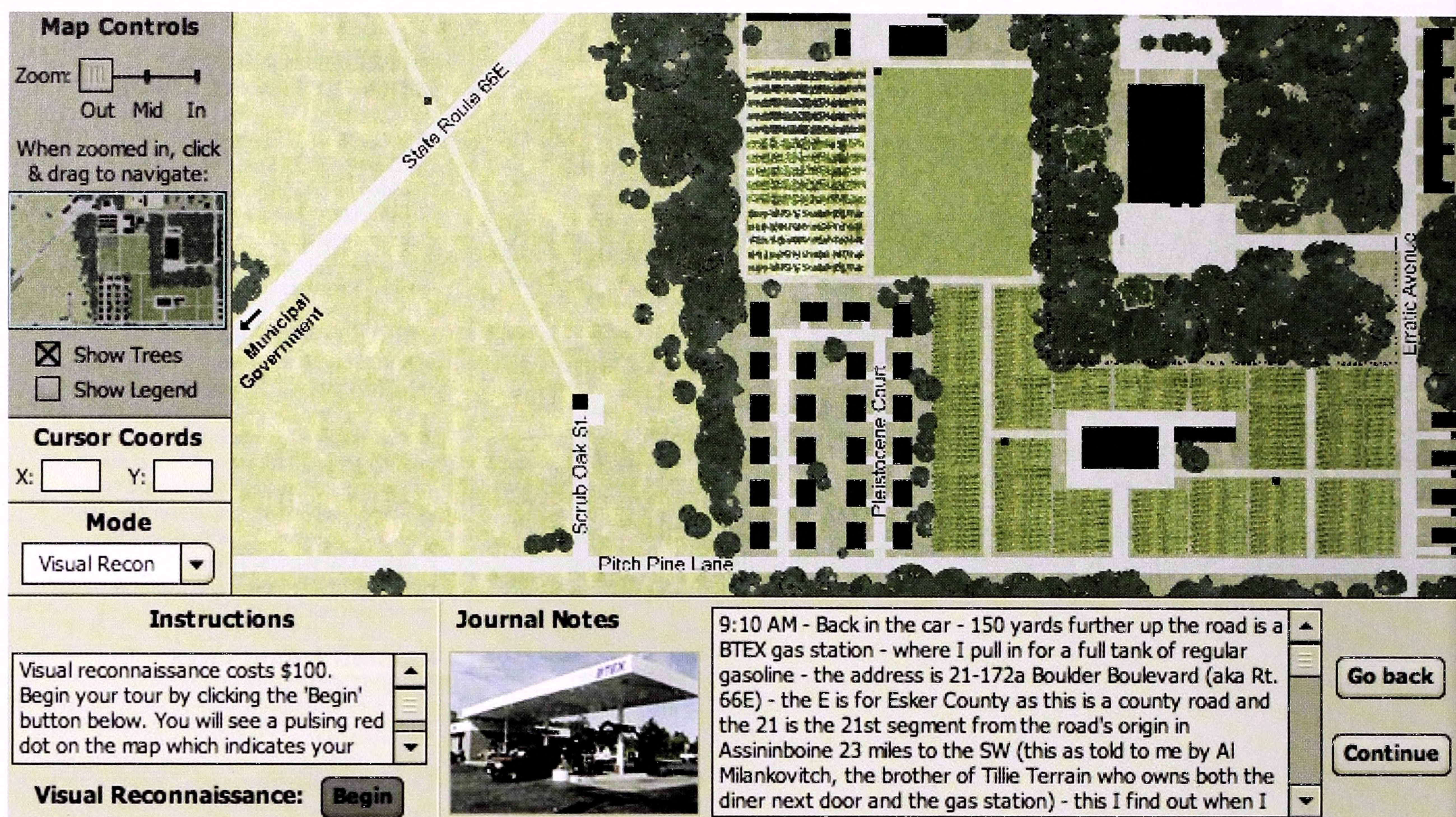
DECEMBER 6 & 7, 7:30 PM
DECEMBER 8, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
DANCE THEATER WORKSHOP
219 WEST 19TH STREET

Dance Theater Workshop (DTW) continues its three-year partnership with Barnard on The Barnard Project, a culmination of choreographic residencies by DTW artists working with Barnard students. Featuring choreography by Gerald Casel, Amanda Loulaki, RoseAnne Spradlin, and Keith Thompson. The residencies offer artists a rare opportunity to work in an educational environment, exposing themselves and their companies to new processes. For tickets call 212.924.0077 or visit www.dtw.org.

Please visit www.barnard.edu/calendar for the College's full events calendar.



"It's like the new Facebook," says Kirsten Scheu '10. "I love reading the random and typically humorous words of wisdom left by other students." And more than just offering a fun and creative way to express oneself, the grid enables students to share information for mass consumption. As Zara Chaudary '09 puts it, "To find out what's going on around campus, all I have to do is surf the wall."



A screen shot from a portion of Brownfield Action.

CLEAN UP ACT

Turning students into environmental consultants, Brownfield Action offers a firsthand experience into the complexity, ambiguity, and risk involved in environmental site assessments.

In an unassuming but forthright way, senior lecturer Peter Bower, who has taught an introduction to environmental science course at Barnard for more than two decades, is a determined enemy of the status quo. Eight years ago, Bower worked with technologist Ryan Kelsey of Columbia University's Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL) to create a computer simulation—called Brownfield Action—that models the complexity, uncertainty, and impact of real-life practices on the environment. The first major undertaking of the center, the program went on to win wide acclaim and it was named a “model course” by the Association of American Colleges and Universities in 2003. With the aid of a \$450,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, it is now poised to spread to classrooms around the country.

“The traditional lab-science curriculum is what I call ‘cookbook,’” explains Bower from his office in Altschul Hall. “That is, if you do the assignments and follow the instructions, you know that within three hours you should be able to do what you need to and come to a conclusion.” The pattern remains the same with the traditional lecture portion of a course. Students absorb information presented in class or cram it in order to pass the exam.

Such habits are totally at odds with the way science works in the real world. Outside the classroom, choices have to be made when investigating questions without the aid of a road map. The questions and answers are tied to very real consequences. For example, polluted groundwater can be sickening or even deadly; the character and safety of a community may hang in the balance; millions of dollars could be at stake.

The students enrolled in the semester-long course built around Brownfield Action are paired up into environmental consulting firms hired by a developer to search for contamination on an abandoned factory site. They explore a parcel of land modeled in three dimensions with more than two million pieces of information, including topography, water tables, soil composition, and contamination plumes. The land is a part of a virtual town populated by 50 residents with a newspaper, a television station, and a municipal building housing the city's health, water, and sanitation departments.

The consulting firms hunt for clues to the site's condition in municipal records, news accounts, interviews with government officials and residents, and through visual inspection of various parts of the town. The investigators then deploy tools

Continued on Page 72



SCIENCE FOR THE MASSES

ONE POWERFUL IDEA LIES AT THE HEART OF NATALIE ANGIER'S NEW BOOK—OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON EMBRACING SCIENCE

Reading Natalie Angier's work is like taking a class with the fun science teacher you wish you had in high school.

At one point in her new book, *The Canon*, the *New York Times* science columnist gives an overview of the first law of thermodynamics, a topic that can send a shiver down the spine of anyone who has muddled through intro physics. But Angier '78 is clear and patient when explaining how energy is always conserved in a closed system, how the universe is the ultimate closed system, and how its total mass and energy will never be increased or destroyed, no matter how much it may change form. Along the way, she punctuates her points with colorful and meaningful metaphors ("Our universe is like a French pastry: full of air and unspeakably rich, and really, don't you think one will do?") and offers a sage quotation from the British physicist James Prescott Joule. But she lets her 11-year-old daughter, Katherine, have the last word on this base of cosmic knowledge: "On leaving the house one frigid morning for school, she glanced wistfully at Manny, a purring well-fed spit-curl of fur tucked in the arm of the couch. 'When I die,' my daughter said, 'I hope some of my atoms can find their way into a cat.'"

The follow-up to her National Book Award finalist, *Woman: An Intimate*

Geography, The Canon carries the subtitle, *A Whirligig Tour of the Beautiful Basics of Science*, and that gleeful science-is-fun! attitude is sustained throughout the book. After getting a crash course in statistical probability, the reader travels from the smallest atomic particles through evolving organisms and shifting tectonic plates to the celestial realm, all the while feeling like this journey through the sciences is a ripping good yarn. For Angier, explaining through earthbound analogies while staying scientifically accurate is a balancing act that is necessary to reach the layperson. "One problem I have with a lot of science writing is that it becomes a glossary of boldface terms," she says. "People accuse me of anthropomorphizing too much, but that's the way we are. Everything is a story, and as with a molecule, I give it a sense of purpose. Of course, a molecule doesn't really 'want' to form a new protein, but if you make it a character, people will care what happens to it. If they bring empathy to bear along with all five senses, it will only aid understanding and not inhibit it."

This ability to marry scientific know-how with literary prowess may be rare. For Angier, it's what she's been doing since she graduated from college, almost 30 years ago. After spending two years at the University of Michigan, she transferred to Barnard in 1976, where she majored in English while studying physics and astronomy. Bridging these fields of interest was her goal, especially since her relative incompetence in the lab indicated that she would be a mediocre scientist. ("People who like doing benchwork like using their hands," she says with a laugh, "and I never learned to sew or knit.") Then one day, she

had her eureka moment in the physics library when she came across a copy of the British *New Scientist* magazine. Combining science, politics, and humor, it was educating in content but not too educational in tone, and from there she knew her life's calling.

Fortunately for Angier, science journalism was then an emerging field, as newspapers were increasing their coverage and new magazines were hitting the market. After graduation, she did some technical writing for a company that was trying to computerize record distribution in the music industry. Recognizing that such computer knowledge was unusual at the time, she leveraged this brief experience to secure a job on the founding staff at *Discover* upon its launch in 1980. Over the next decade, she also wrote for *Time* and taught science reporting at New York University. In 1990, she was hired by the *New York Times* to be a science reporter, beating out then *Science News* writer Rick Weiss for the job. She began writing about everything under—and beyond—the sun and was an immediate success, winning the Pulitzer Prize for beat reporting in 1991.

Remarkably, she took Weiss's hand in marriage that same year. The two met by chance a couple times after competing for the *Times* job—with Weiss congratulating or confronting her, depending on which person is telling the story—and they fell in love at a genetics conference in Bar Harbor, Maine. Weiss now reports for the *Washington Post*, and Angier says their home in Takoma Park, Maryland, has room for two premier science journalists: "Both of us were in our 30s when we met and we both

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QUICK TAKE

RIOT GIRL

JAMIE BABBIT '93

Itty Bitty Titty Committee, Andrea Sperling Productions, 2007



“There’s definitely a feminist spirit in all my movies,” admits writer-director Jamie Babbit. “And it’s all Barnard’s fault. They indoctrinated me.” Babbit, who fondly recalls her first women’s studies course at Barnard, has gone on to channel that spirit into a number of projects, whether episodes of *Gilmore Girls*, *The L Word*, or *Gossip Girl*, or her latest independent feature, *Itty Bitty Titty Committee*, which was released in select cities in September. It’s a political comedy about a Hispanic high school student who joins a guerrilla feminist group. The 37-year-old filmmaker spoke to *Barnard* about her career, the film, and making feminism relevant for a younger generation.

You have cultivated a career balancing television and independent films. Was that by accident or by choice?

After college, I saw a lot of independent filmmakers who couldn’t make money, even though their first movies were somewhat successful. I saw a lot of them were waiting tables, or they had trust funds. I didn’t have a trust fund and didn’t want to wait tables, so I had to direct either commercials or television to supplement my independent film habit. And I’d rather follow my passion in movies and sell out for short periods of time in TV and commercials, rather than sell out for three years doing a bad studio movie.

Isn’t *Itty Bitty* about that struggle: buying into the system versus completely rebelling against it?

Yes, the thing about *Itty Bitty* is I’m not saying one side is better than the other, because I live both sides of that same coin. When you’re totally independent, your message isn’t getting out to a lot of people, but it comes out in a pure form and it’s very true. If you’re working with bigger groups, you’re reaching out to a lot more people, but there are compromises

you have to make to work within the system. I see the benefits of both.

How did *Itty Bitty* first come about?

It came about as a love letter to the riot grrrl music of the early 1990s. I wanted to make the cinematic equivalent. I’m a big fan of Bikini Kill and Hole, and a lot of the music coming out of Olympia, Washington, and later offshoots like Le Tigre and Peaches. I wanted to make a movie where I could use all that music to inspire girls to think in a feminist way that was punk rock and fun and cool and not a polemic and boring.

I have also been a part of so many micro-feminist groups, and I’d never seen a movie that talked about the craziness of those groups, especially in [their] early 20s. It’s such a big part of our [lesbian-feminist] community. Guys go to gay bars; girls go to political groups.

Do you think it’s still important to have a vocal feminist movement?

I do think it’s important to get on the soapbox. Maybe that’s part of my Barnard upbringing. I do think feminism is still relevant. But I’m trying to find a way to define feminism that doesn’t turn young women off.

QUICK TAKE

TWIN PEAKS

EMILY LEE '00

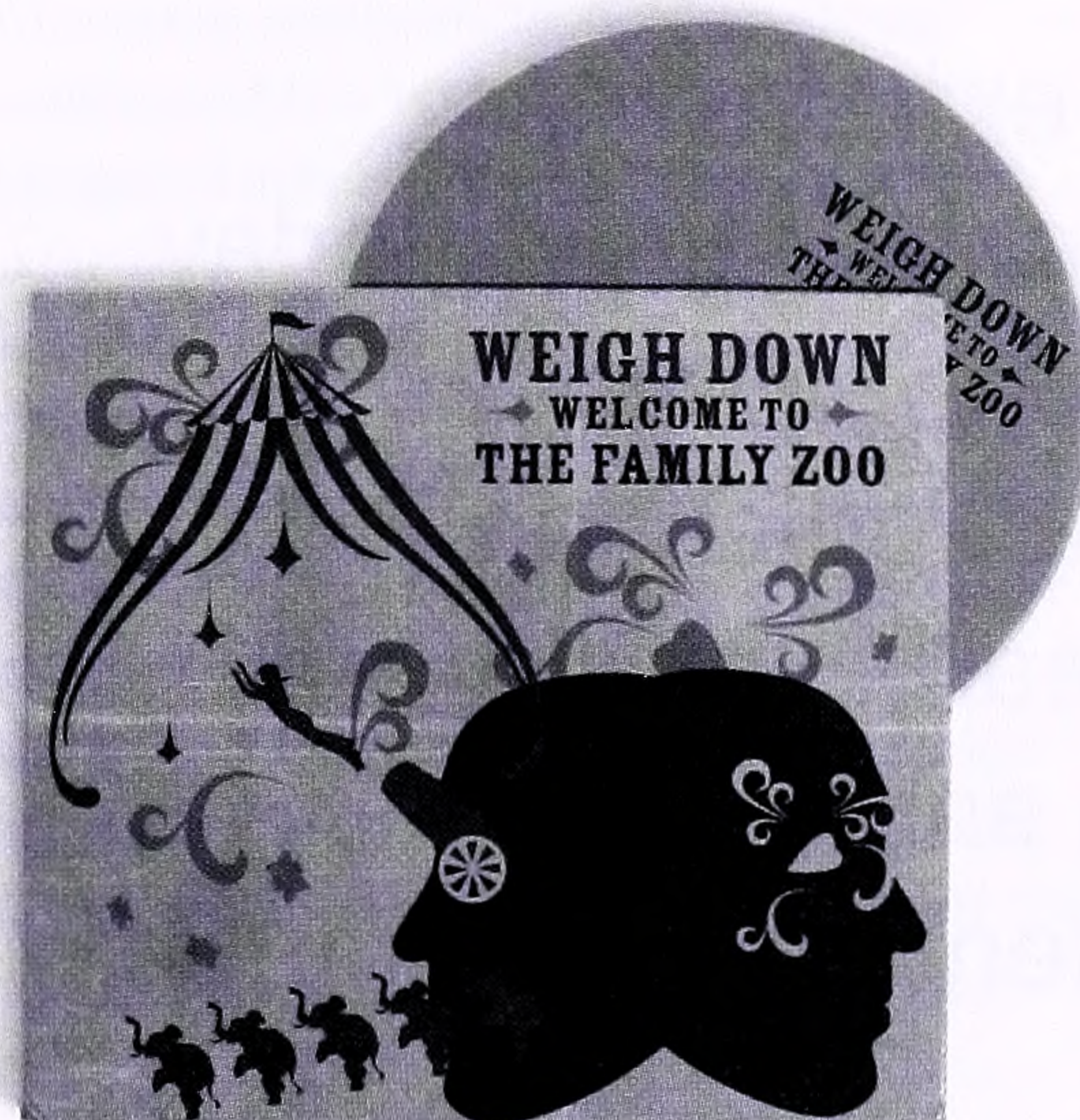
Welcome to the Family Zoo, Weigh Down, Safety Meeting Records, \$12.97

Weigh Down is an indie-rock quintet that make happy-sad music, reflecting a lack of single-mindedness that was ideally suited to crafting *Welcome to the Family Zoo*, a concept album about Siamese twins who eventually separate. Like The Hold Steady and Modest Mouse, the group—led by vocalist-guitarist Matthew Thomas and featuring lead guitarist and backup vocalist, Trevor Healy, who sounds like a less-deadpan David Byrne, and Barnard alumna Emily Lee '00, who plays keyboards and contributes vocals—prefer its melodies scruffy and ragtag. Theirs is a disheveled kind of beauty that incorporates handclaps, group-shouted choruses, and, on the boisterous “Michu Bean (howdoyoudoit),” the occasional background cheer. “Bend Any Way You Can,” which includes the doleful lyric “I don’t want my stitched hip to mend,” erupts in a burst of multi-instrumental cacophony around the 15-second point that almost sounds like a mixing-board error but is actually an indication of the angst to come.

The band’s splintered perspective is right in line with its own fractured history. Weigh Down came into being in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1998 with a different lineup and a few extra letters: Back then, they were called The Weigh Down, and their first full-length album, 2001’s *Good People in the Making*, got them labeled as purveyors of “math rock.” Displeased with that categorization, the band reduced its name to Weigh Down the next year, and Lee came on board in 2003 to “add new tones and textures,” as the group’s MySpace bio puts it. In 2004 and 2005, they recorded *Family Zoo*, which clearly prizes said textures but wisely retains math rock’s unpredictable song

structures, especially on twisty tracks like “A New Plan for Old Siam” and “The Hawaiian Martyr.”

Without a label to distribute it, however, the disc languished unreleased, and in the intervening years, the individual bandmates pursued other projects. They were much like their imagined Siamese twins: no longer a unit but bound by their shared past. Now that they’ve found distribution through New Haven indie label Safety Meeting Records, Weigh Down reunited this past summer to play some shows (minus Healy, who now lives in San Francisco) in support of *Family Zoo*. “It is no nostalgia trip,” they promised in their MySpace post, announcing what was their first gig since 2004. Who knows—maybe this is yet another new start for Weigh Down, as they come back together stronger than ever, having learned what it’s like to be apart.



RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

FICTION

DON'T MAKE A SCENE

by Valerie Block '85
Random House, 2007, \$24.95

THE PIRATE'S DAUGHTER

by Margaret Cezair-Thompson '79
Unbridled Books, 2007, \$24.95

**WHO'S AFRAID OF RED:
A STORY CYCLE IN THREE PARTS**

by Alessandra Gelmi '78
PublishAmerica, 2007, \$17.95

POETRY

TERRAIN

by Julia Lisella '83
WordTech Communications, 2007, \$17

**THE LIGHT SANG AS IT LEFT
YOUR EYES**

by Eileen R. Tabios '82
Marsh Hawk Press, 2007, \$19.95

NONFICTION

**A CITY'S LIFE AND TIMES: CAMBRIDGE
IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY**

edited by Daphne Abeel '59
The Cambridge Historical Society, 2007, \$20

SHAAREI SIMACHAH: GATES OF JOY

by Adena Berkowitz '81 and Rivka Haut
Rivka Haut, Ktav Publishing House, 2007, \$5

**TO-DO LIST: DREAM IT, WRITE IT,
LIVE IT, CROSS IT OFF**

by (Alexandra) Sasha Cagen '96
Fireside Books, 2007, \$16

NEOLITHIC

by Susan Foster McCarter '67
Routledge, 2007, \$110/\$34.95

**THE UNKNOWN GULAG:
THE LOST WORLD OF STALIN'S
SPECIAL SETTLEMENTS**

by Lynne Viola '78
Oxford University Press, 2007, \$30

**CHINATOWN NEW YORK:
PORTRAITS, RECIPES, & MEMORIES**

by Ann Volkwein '94
Collins Design, 2007, \$34.95

FACULTY

**VIENNA IN THE AGE OF UNCERTAINTY:
SCIENCE, LIBERALISM, & PRIVATE LIFE**

by Deborah R. Coen,
Assistant professor of history
University of Chicago Press, 2007, \$45

YOUNG READERS

SNIFFY THE BEAGLE

by Rita (Ashmann) Eagle '59
Outskirts Press, 2007, \$13.95

Complete listings online

BRIDGING THE GENDER GAP

Since the College's earliest years, a top Barnard priority has been to offer young women a superior education in science and to encourage students to consider careers in medicine or research. Providing students with female role models and mentors in the classroom and the lab has always been critical to this endeavor.

These are three of the extraordinary women on Barnard's science faculty today. For these professors and their colleagues—men and women alike—a dedication to pursuing pioneering research is equaled by a dedication to teaching and a determination to prepare as many students as possible for lives of scientific inquiry.



Stephanie Pfirman

Environmental Science

Stephanie Pfirman, chair of Barnard's department of environmental science, has spent much of her academic life tracking glaciers and sea ice in the Arctic. So it's no wonder she's emerged as an expert on the Arctic environment. But Pfirman wasn't always so sure that her chosen field of study would be so critical. In fact, back in the mid-1980s when she was considering doing postdoctoral research on the forces that cause Arctic ice sheets to become unstable and surge, she had a major crisis of doubt. "I was thinking, 'Who cares about surging glaciers, anyway,'" recalls Pfirman, who received her PhD in marine geology and geophysics through a joint program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. "It seemed like such a remote issue. I thought I should do something that was more important. It's funny because now everyone wants to know more about glaciers given concerns about global sea level rise."

Graduate school was followed by a stint in Washington, D.C., as a U.S. congressional committee staffer, pulling together congressional hearings on arid lands agriculture and contraceptive technology for the developing world.

Pfirman later came back to the Arctic continuing to build a rich, varied career that has included a half-dozen research expeditions north of the

Arctic Circle, three and a half years of research in Germany, as well as assessing potential offshore oil lease sites as an oceanographer with the U.S. Geological Survey. In the early 1990s, she worked as a senior scientist with the Environmental Defense Fund, where she helped create an award-winning (and prescient) exhibit on global warming for New York's American Museum of Natural History.

Pfirman recalls a dream she had during that time in which she looked down at the Arctic sea and saw that almost all the ice had melted. "It seemed like science fiction," recalls Pfirman, who joined Barnard's faculty in 1993. "It was something that might happen in a hundred years."

Since then the Arctic ice has been disappearing far faster than anyone predicted. Late this summer, Pfirman says she was as stunned by satellite images showing that in the past two years alone, almost 25 percent more of the polar sea ice had melted—a phenomenon that she believes will only compound the problems of global warming, since the Arctic ice serves to reflect heat away from the earth.

At Barnard, Pfirman, who holds the Alena Wels Hirschorn '58 and Martin Hirschorn Chair in Environmental and Applied Sciences, has used some innovative methods to help students understand the implications of the changes. In her first-year seminar, for instance, she has had students immerse themselves in the history of the early polar explorers of a century ago, and then plot their own virtual expeditions based on current conditions. "There are whole new passageways opening up," says Pfirman. She notes that the melting ice is already spawning major development plans, which will bring more stress on the food chains that support whales, polar bears, and other Arctic wildlife.

Beyond her work on polar sea ice, Pfirman is also a big proponent of boosting the ranks of women scientists. With the help of a 2004 National

Science Foundation ADVANCE grant to Columbia's Earth Institute, Pfirman has been working with a team of researchers to study the obstacles that keep women from advancing in the sciences. And she has also devoted a good portion of her time to training young female scientists on how to negotiate and manage the academic ropes.

The good news, says Pfirman, is that the gender balance has definitely improved since the days she was a young researcher on Arctic expeditions, when she'd be lucky to find more than a couple other women on the ship. Indeed, on one month-long trip she recalls being the only woman scientist on a ship with 30 men. "You were always in the minority," she says.

Pfirman notes that she did wind up meeting her future partner, Environmental Science Professor Peter Schlosser, on one of those expeditions. The two moved to New York in 1989, when Schlosser joined the Columbia University faculty. They have one child, a 9-year-old daughter they adopted from Russia in 1998.

Being one of the few women in a male-dominated field probably helped her land speaking invitations to academic conferences, which in turn helped her to build her visibility and reputation. On the other hand, she's definitely had her share of frustrations, and like other women scientists she has worked hard to win the respect of male colleagues, and overcome what she says are subtle gender biases.

"It's a lot of little things," says Pfirman. For example, women in meetings often find their ideas attributed to men, and women scientists can expect to be grilled much harder on the grounds for their interpretations.

That said, Pfirman believes things are continuing to change for the better, and she plans to keep doing her part to keep women scientists moving ahead. "Women make up half the population," she says. "I'm hoping that soon they'll make up half the scientists."

Laura Kay

Astronomy

When asked how she first became interested in astronomy, Barnard Professor Laura Kay goes silent. Then a sly smile sneaks across her face. “Okay, I admit it,” she says, breaking out into a grin. “*Star Trek!*”

Considering that Kay grew up in New York City, where stargazing is virtually out of the question, it’s not surprising to learn that her inspiration came from things like *Star Trek* and essays by Isaac Asimov. What is perhaps more odd is that Kay is an astronomer at all, given that the field has historically been dominated by men—a trend she is doing everything in her power to change.

As both a professor of physics and astronomy and the chair of Barnard’s women’s studies department, Kay is determined to bring more women into science. Not only does she teach a women’s studies class on women in the sciences, she also has helped to create a handful of related courses taught by other interdisciplinary professors. She believes that she can help to overcome existing stereotypes about women in science when non-science majors take her general astronomy class, for instance. “Laura doesn’t think anything is impossible for women to achieve,” says Reshmi Mukherjee, chair of Barnard’s physics department.

Kay’s interest in women’s studies was initially sparked by her interest in science. When she attended Manhattan’s Hunter College High School, which was then all-girls, she was fairly sheltered from gender social pressures. “If you talk to most women scientists my age, they went to all-girls high schools,” she says. “I was on the math team for five years, and I was this little geek, and it wasn’t considered unusual.”



At Stanford, where she enrolled as an undergraduate, the math geek was in for a big change. “I was the only female in advanced freshman physics,” she remembers. Kay immediately wanted to understand why women were so underrepresented in the sciences—especially in physics and math. Curiosity led to a double major in physics and feminist studies.

Kay’s primary research interest is in astronomy. She studies active galactic nuclei—galaxies that house black holes in their center. Comparing the features of nearby galaxies to more distant ones enables her to study and understand the evolution of these galaxies over time (since the light takes so long to reach us, distant galaxies are “younger” than closer galaxies—we are seeing them as they were in the past). Kay often travels with some of her students to MDM Observatory on Kitt Peak in Tucson, Arizona, to observe the galaxies and gather data using the observatory’s advanced telescopes.

If her scientific research and teaching responsibilities in astronomy and women’s studies aren’t enough, Kay remains active in the realm of women’s issues. She will co-edit an upcoming issue of *The Scholar and Feminist Online*, a publication of the Barnard Center for Research on Women—the

edition she is working on is devoted to the International Polar Year. Kay also was part of the U.S. delegation to the 2005 International Conference on Women in Physics, which brought together female physicists from around the world to consider the full range of issues facing female scientists. The conference released a report on the current state of women in physics, pointing out that, for example, in 2003, only 18 percent of PhDs awarded in physics went to women.

Kay notes that there are many more women in the biomedical sciences, and even in astronomy, than in physics. This discrepancy might be partially explained by how girls are raised, she says. Physicists tend to fall into one of two camps—the theorists or the experimentalists. Theorists, Kay says, are supposed to be math whizzes, whereas experimentalists are thought of as excelling at taking things apart and putting them back together. “If a little girl takes things apart, she gets yelled at for being messy,” Kay explains. “I think little girls don’t get to take apart the toasters as much as little boys do.” Astronomy is different, she says, in that it’s often observational using telescopes and analyzing data.

Whatever the reason’s for today’s persistent gender imbalances throughout the sciences, Kay is committed to doing her part to ultimately close that gap through her research, teaching, and mentoring. Especially through her enthusiasm for science, which is contagious. “The idea that comes across from her is [this]: If you really want to pursue a career in science, you can do it,” says Mukherjee. “By being an active astronomer herself, Laura is teaching by example.”

If the ratios of women to men in the sciences is a product of our culture, then it’s something we can change—and Kay is doing so.

Sally Chapman

Chemistry

When Sally Chapman was a young woman considering a career in chemistry some 35 years ago, her father, a chemical engineer, suggested she choose a more welcoming field. “He told me, ‘Chemistry has historically been dominated by the Germanic tradition; it’s very male-dominated,’” Chapman remembers. “He went on, ‘You love computers; it’s a new field, and if you go in that direction you will probably encounter far fewer barriers.’”

A generation of students at Barnard and elsewhere can be grateful that Sally Chapman chose to ignore her father’s advice (though she has managed to combine her interest in computers with her chemistry career). Chapman, who received her undergraduate degree at Smith College and her doctorate from Yale University, was hired as a

chemistry professor at Barnard in 1975. She has served as chair of the chemistry department for a total of 10 years over her tenure. Along the way, Chapman has mentored hundreds of students on campus. Furthermore, she’s spent a significant amount of time advocating nationally for women in the sciences.

Chapman notes that women today earn about half of the chemistry bachelor’s degrees granted nationwide and about 30 percent of the doctorates. When Chapman was a student women represented just 10 percent of chemistry doctoral students. “There has been a distinct improvement,” she says. “But chemistry remains an area where the further you go up the ladder of prestige and seniority, the less encouraging the numbers.”

One of the ways Chapman hopes to change that situation is through her work with the Committee on the Advancement of Women Chemists, or COACH. Chapman is a founding

articulate, very aggressive and very nurturing—that wonderful combination that you would want to have in both a friend and a colleague,” she says.

Hannah Storrie ’99, a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard’s Mooney Lab for cell and tissue engineering, took Chapman’s general chemistry course as a college first-year. Storrie later asked Chapman to be her academic advisor precisely because of the qualities Richmond describes. “She’s no-nonsense. She cares so much. And she doesn’t let you get away with anything,” says Storrie.

Chapman and her colleagues have had a significant impact at Barnard, where chemistry graduates have a disproportionately high rate of success after graduation, according to Chapman’s analysis of the Directory of Graduate Research (DGR)—the American Chemical Society’s biennial list of chemistry faculty at PhD-granting institutions in the United States and

Chapman and her colleagues have had a significant impact at Barnard, where chemistry graduates have a disproportionately high rate of success after graduation.



member of the organization’s advisory board and frequently helps conceive the workshops it offers on negotiation, management, and leadership for women in academia. “As a 1999 MIT report showed, smart, successful women are being shortchanged—not because somebody sat there in a pernicious way and said let’s shortchange the women, but because men are going ahead and asking for what they want,” says Chapman. “Women have to learn to be the squeaky wheels.”

Chapman’s efforts at change have been successful in large part because of her straightforward approach, according to COACH founder Dr. Geraldine Richmond, a chemistry professor at the University of Oregon. “Sally is very

Canada. A few years ago, Chapman compiled a list of about 25 liberal arts colleges, then searched the DGR to determine how many of Barnard alumnae were listed. “Frankly, I didn’t expect Barnard to pop up at the top of the list,” she says. “But four or six years ago, there we were—number one in terms of women alums. In the most recent directory Wellesley is on top with 14 alums listed; we have 13.”

Chapman also has been working as principal investigator on a project, initiated by the American Chemical Society and funded by the National Science Foundation, to evaluate the barriers to advancement and climate for women in chemistry and chemical
Continued on Page 72



A **LAB**

IS JUST A LAB,

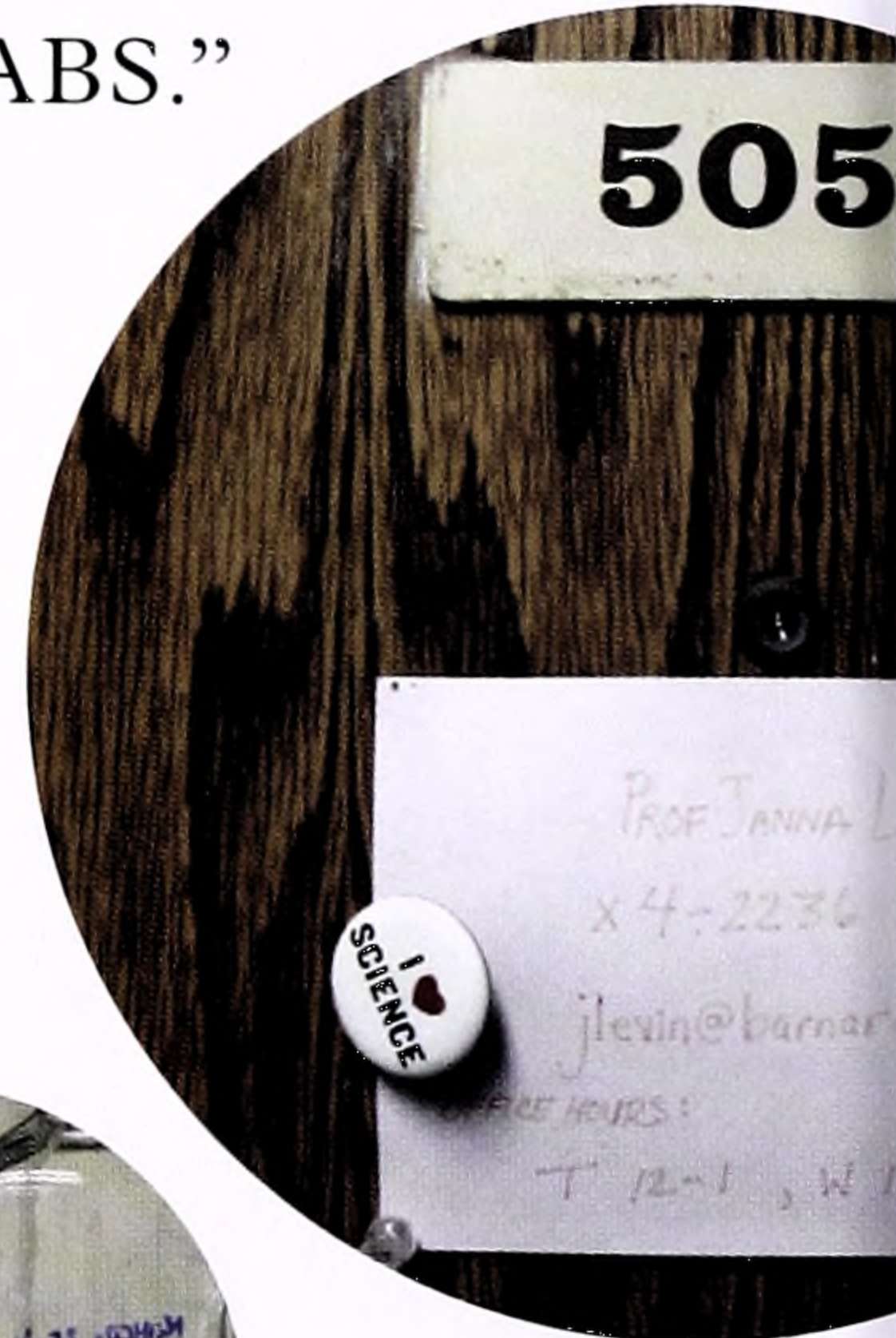
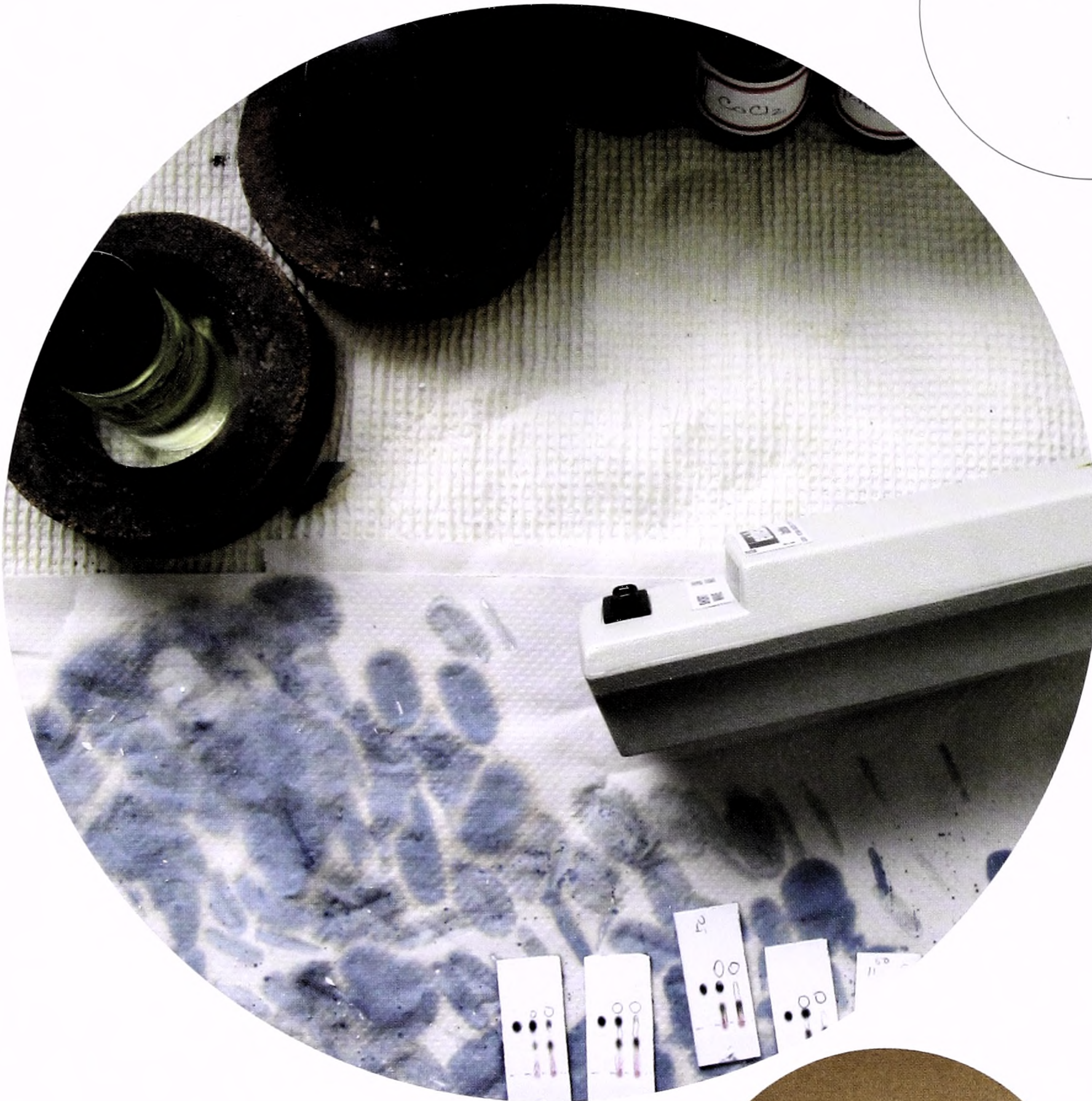
OR IS IT?

“THE POINT IS

NOT TO HAVE

BEAUTIFUL

LABS.”





A laboratory, to those who spend little time in or near one, might seem like a fairly simple proposition. It is a space, big or small, in which people study science and engage in experiments. It is equipped with instruments and tools and hooked up to utilities. It houses counter tops and benches, flasks and test tubes, and all manner of liquids and potions and gases and fumes. Teachers and students spend endless hours in this space collecting data, analyzing results, and testing findings.

More than 100 years ago when Barnard College came into being, and soon thereafter as science found its way into the curriculum, the people who envisioned a future of unwavering support for women in science surely could not have foreseen the laboratory needs of today's scientists. In the late 1960s, as Altschul Hall was conceived, then constructed, the plan for one of the departments, chemistry, included laboratories for just four full-time faculty. Today, there are six.

The fact is a laboratory is far more complex than either the description above or the images that shape our popular imaginations suggest. At Barnard, a laboratory on the seventh floor of Altschul dedicated to the study of organic chemistry is quite distinct from yet another space on the ninth floor in which biological experiments are conducted. The reasons have not only to do with subject matter (or, for that matter, with the recent face lift the former lab has undergone). One must consider the professor occupying the lab, and the nature of her work. Also, what are the ideas at play among the students inhabiting that lab for five, 10, 12 hours each week?

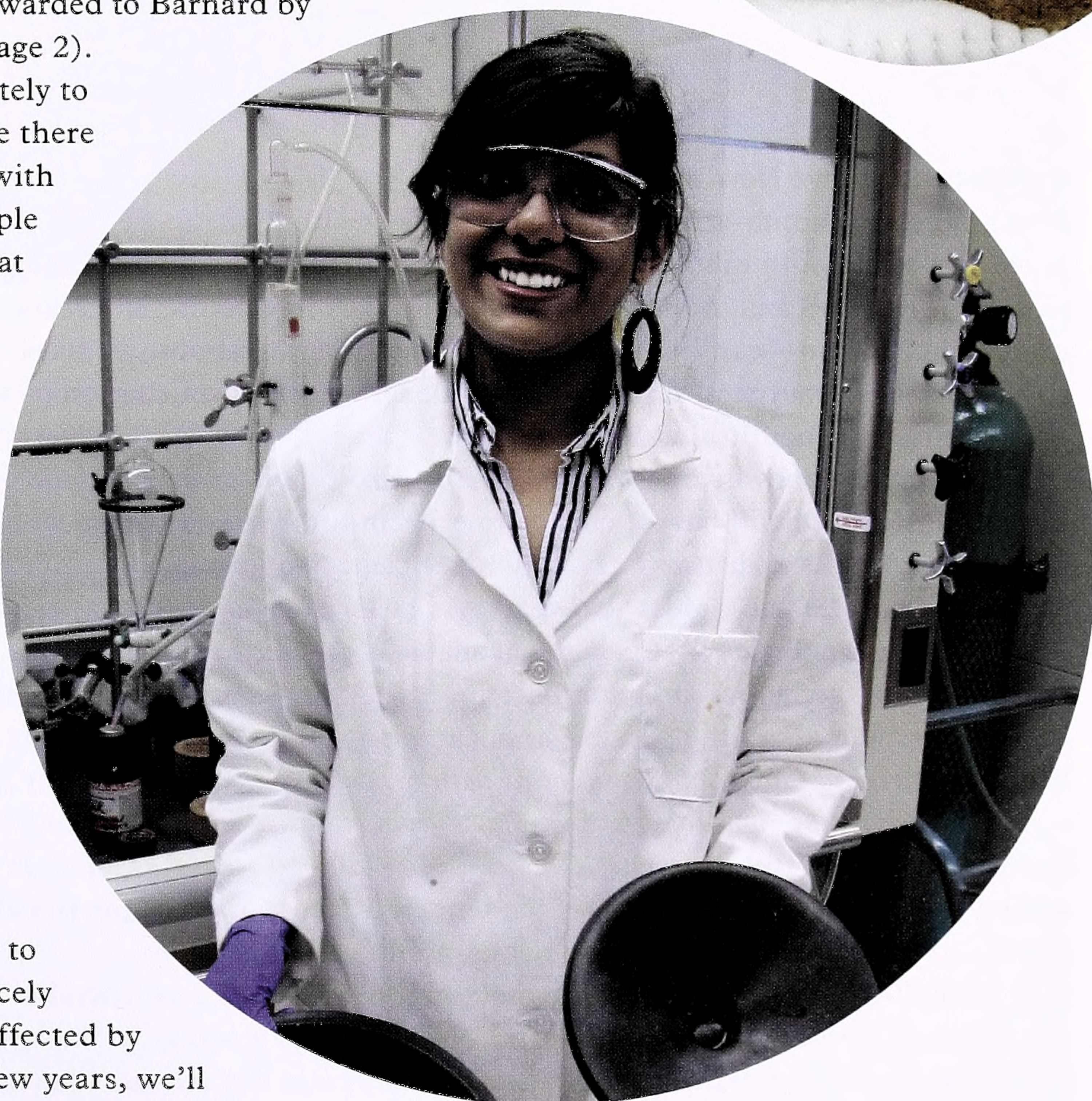
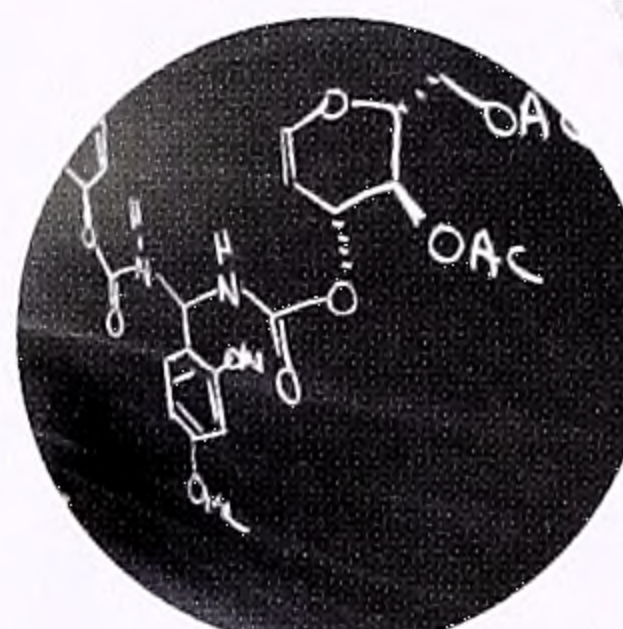
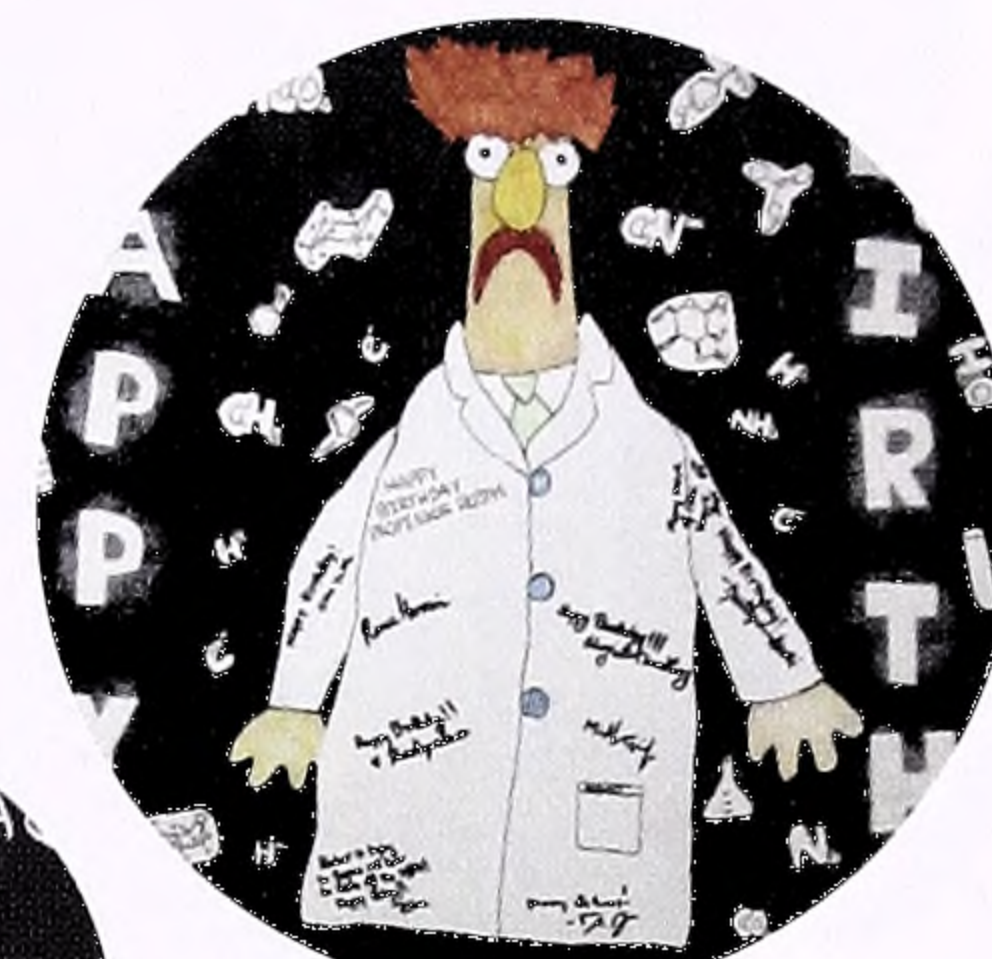
"The point of course is not just to have beautiful labs," says Professor of Chemistry Christian Rojas, although old or new, there is much beauty to be found, and discovered, in them. For the past year, Rojas has contributed—along with faculty in all of Barnard's physical sciences—to an effort to shape the manner in which the College's finite science space might be further transformed in the coming years. The effort is a key part of the "Centers of Excellence" grant awarded to Barnard by the Mellon Foundation (see Letter From The Provost, page 2).

"Laboratories are there to support faculty and ultimately to support students, because at a place like Barnard, where there is no graduate program, the faculty are doing research with undergraduate students." As Rojas explains, hiring people in the sciences means providing the laboratory space that those people must have in order to engage in research.

"You run a search. Then when they come to interview and ask, 'where's my lab going to be,' you can't just point to the broom closet."

And so Altschul Hall—a building designed by Vincent Kling and erected in 1969—will undergo a substantial transformation in the coming years: one including but not limited to a land-swap between environmental science and chemistry; a complete overhaul of the ninth floor, dedicated to teaching all the introductory biology courses for both majors and non-majors; and more. The College is working now with architects who understand the needs and requirements of scientific laboratories. *Build it and they will come...*

"You have to have an ongoing program where you try to do this in a fairly regular way," says Rojas. "This is a nicely thought-out plan, we're getting input from the people affected by this, and we're making sure it's done right so that in a few years, we'll have the faculty and the resources needed to serve our students' needs."



OF MICE & MANDUCA

How an insect and a soon-to-be realized biology curriculum promise to revolutionize the way science is taught.

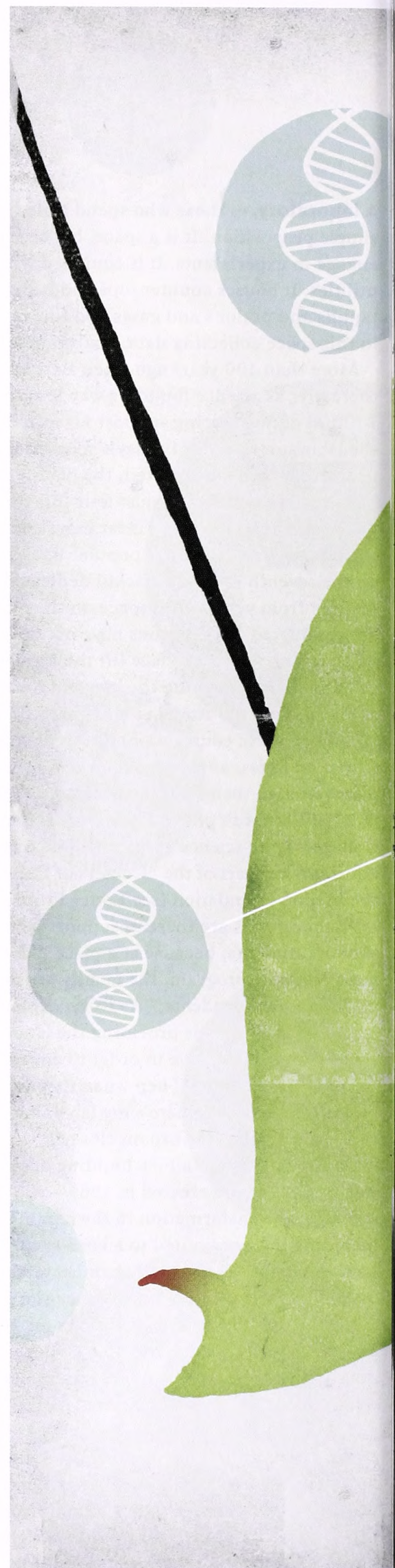
Genomics: A Brave New World

A bright green, thumb-sized caterpillar crawls stealthily along the underside of a leaf, his motor of a mouth nibbling away with the appetite of an animal several times his size. Working solo, one *Manduca sexta*—an insect more commonly known as the tobacco hornworm—can do in an entire tomato plant in about two days. He has a reputation as a scourge of farmers and gardeners alike, devouring crops and plants one microscopic mouthful at a time.

Thanks to an innovative new effort by Barnard's biology department, the infamous *Manduca* will have a chance to redeem himself and earn new fame. In the coming years, he just may revolutionize science education.

The effort dates back about two years. As faster and more cost-efficient gene-sequencing technologies first became available, Lynn Caporale, associate director of comparative genomics at Columbia's Judith P. Sulzberger M.D. Genome Center, began to wonder about the possible applications for the science-education community. *What if undergraduates could be supplied with the information from a newly sequenced organism—given the right tools and guidance from qualified instructors, couldn't college students help to unravel the mysteries hidden in an animal's DNA?* Caporale began calling professors at colleges across the United States to discuss the possibilities. The answer to Caporale's question was a resounding yes.

In May 2006, Barnard hosted the inaugural meeting for a partnership between the Genome Center and 14 liberal-arts colleges that is working to implement a new model for basic-science curricula that will incorporate the science of genomics. The Genome Center will sequence organisms that never before have been sequenced;





the sequencing will serve as the basis of student experiments at the participating colleges. At Barnard—the school most likely to first implement the program once the funds have been raised (two significant proposals are pending)—the organism under investigation will be the tobacco hornworm.

Barnard, Carleton, Vassar, and Williams colleges have each secured a three-year grant from the Teagle Foundation to jumpstart this effort. Carleton College's Science Education Resource Center (SERC) is developing a pedagogic national genome Web site for the effort that will include curriculum modules (contributed by faculty from the various participants), resource links, and a teacher's guide.

At Barnard, the excitement is mounting, as the curriculum is sure to become an important means to introduce students to the world of genomics, a branch of science that has emerged as a major area of study.

"The idea is that rather than taking the organisms that fall off the truck of other genome sequencing projects for other purposes," says Caporale, "let's find organisms that can be studied easily in an undergraduate setting—organisms that will capture the imagination of people who may not have considered a science major."

It's not news that the sciences are in dire need of new recruits. Just this August, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* published a special report with the sobering statistic that although 30 percent of college first-years plan to earn bachelor's degrees in science, mathematics, and engineering, only about half the students follow through.

Many scholars are in agreement that much of the problem stems from the traditional approach to basic-science education—lectures, rote memorization, tests requiring little more than calling up memorized information.

"Science is usually taught as a bit of hazing that a lot of us never get through," Caporale says. She has seen firsthand how bright students can get lost along the way, caught up in the will-this-be-on-the-test mentality that passive learning often breeds. "Unfortunately it's especially true in introductory science," she says.

Caporale doesn't dwell on statistics or bring up America's slipping leadership role in the sciences. To her, we're robbing ourselves of something far more precious—our curiosity. We all start out wanting to know what makes the sky blue, the grass green. By nature, we're driven by our wonderment, always asking what?, why?, and how?

"Well," she says, "that's science, right?"

Taste & Olfaction

On the 11th floor of Altschul sits an empty incubator twice the size of a fridge, a once and future home to thousands of *Manduca*. After the hornworm genome is sequenced and ready for use in Barnard's newly revised curriculum, students and faculty will set to work on restocking the incubator with cake pans full of *Manduca* eggs. They'll yield caterpillars within four days. About two weeks after that, pupae will follow, ready to move to a nearby Plexiglas flight cage. At the ripe age of about four weeks, adult *Manduca* moths will emerge, open and close their great, tree-bark-patterned wings to dry, and take flight.

John Glendinning, an associate professor of physiology and behavior who has spent much of his career working with *Manduca*, says that the moths, with their four-inch wingspans, are quite impressive. "The 747s of the moth world," he calls them.

As insects go, *Manduca* are pretty tough, as indicated by their diets. They thrive on the poisonous leaves of tomato, potato, and tobacco plants as young hornworms. The bitter taste of these greens is nature's way of saying, "Warning: Harmful if swallowed."

Glendinning is interested in the plasticity of the systems of taste and smell and how organisms learn to eat things they initially reject. *Manduca* are masters at this, but examples are everywhere, even in humans. Take alcohol, for example. Though the first sip of a martini might be a turn-off for most people, many develop a taste for them.

A big fan of Glendinning's work is Brian Morton, associate professor and chair of the department of biological sciences. Since Caporale first contacted him two years ago, Morton has led the effort to develop Barnard's new curriculum. The key to the effort's success, Morton and Caporale say, is to use model organisms that are user-friendly and that participating colleges have had experience working with.

"I thought John's research on *Manduca* would be perfect," says Morton. "We could establish a fair amount of work that builds on it. And we all understand taste and olfaction, so these are things that students can identify with. It should be very exciting."

For the past year, Glendinning has closed down his hornworm colony

"Our students will actually contribute true new knowledge to science across the world. A student at any course level could not only experience the thrill of that but also produce something meaningful for the scientific literature." —Liz Boylan

temporarily to work with mice; he's testing how well the results from his insect studies carry over to small mammals before ultimately applying them to humans. ("Of Mice and *Manduca* is the theme of my work," he says.) He looks forward to having the colony up and running again, with some 500 *Manduca* flying, crawling, incubating, and pupating in his lab.

The overall goal of Barnard's newly revamped basic-science curriculum will be for students to identify the genes involved in taste and olfaction in *Manduca* first, then to demonstrate these genes' effects. After her first year, a student may participate as much or as little as she wishes. In theory, she could work on her own *Manduca* project for four years; however, Morton says, it's more likely that students from different courses will build upon a common body of work over time.

In their first year at Barnard, students will meet the *Manduca* in the intro biology lab, wherein they'll study the organism's taste and olfactory systems using behavioral and physiological-response-related experiments. For the former, they'll regulate the hornworms' diets and monitor their feeding habits. For the latter, the process is a bit more technical, but still fairly straightforward: anaesthetize the hornworm, expose it to a food compound, and record the response from the insect's sensilla, its olfactory or taste receptors.

Each taste sensilla is a jointed, peg-shaped structure with a hole at the tip. Inside the sensilla are taste cells, where foods dissolve and trigger neural responses, which then travel to the brain. After placing an anaesthetized *Manduca*'s head under a microscope, students will gently touch the sensilla with a glass electrode tipped with a sugar solution, for example. The neural response that follows will be amplified and displayed on a computer screen for students to monitor for patterns. A similar experiment can be used for the olfactory response from the antenna of a

moth using odor molecules.

If students choose to pursue the *Manduca* project in their second year, they can take Morton's "Genomics and Bioinformatics" course, in which they'll use computer-based tools to identify genes related to taste and smell by comparing the structures of the genes to those of other organisms that have previously been sequenced (e.g., humans, fruit flies, and silkworms).

Third-year students can test the second-year students' results in "Molecular Biology," a course that will be taught by assistant professor of developmental genetics Jennifer Mansfield. Using RNA, they will develop compounds that will prevent the expression of certain genes that code for taste or olfactory receptors.

Lastly, in "Laboratory in Physiology," a fourth-year course, students will conduct taste and smell experiments similar to those they conducted in the first year, this time using the genetically modified organisms from Mansfield's course to test whether or not the RNA had the intended effect.

Students As Researchers

By all accounts, hornworms are a breeze to work with. They're slow-moving, unlike grasshoppers or ants. They don't have much of an ick factor like cockroaches. They have fairly short life cycles and are easy to raise. Their nervous systems are quite tractable because of their size. And their taste cells respond to many of the readily available items that humans respond to. Anaesthetizing them doesn't require drugs or needles; because they respire through the skin along their bodies, knocking them out simply requires submerging them in water. The whole process is quick and painless; 10 minutes after bathtime, the hornworms are back in action, none the wiser for what they've just been through.

From a pedagogical standpoint, these are ideal experiments. They're handy for teaching students how the nervous

system controls behavior and how to record from the nervous system, all without harming the animal. They reinforce the links between what are often considered and treated as different parts of biology. They're an exciting way to teach students how specific genes influence the development and functioning of an organism.

In many ways, says Caporale, the new curriculum will mimic the experience of a scientist/researcher at the graduate level and beyond. "Students won't just be getting the right answer that somebody else knew a long time ago. They'll have the tools to ask questions that no one has ever asked before."

The *Manduca* project will be collaborative between students, disciplines, and institutions, allowing students to study a single organism on multiple levels over a period of several years. Rather than distributing a pre-planned experiment, instructors will engage students in designing parts of the experimental procedure.

The students will own their research, a distinction that Provost Elizabeth Boylan says is a singular opportunity for undergraduates. "Our students will actually contribute new knowledge to science globally," she says. "A student at any course level could not only experience the thrill of that contribution, but also produce something meaningful for the scientific literature."

Adrienne Jerud '03 is a prime example. In her fourth year as a neuroscience major, she collaborated with classmate and biology major Ariella Reinherz '03 in a seminar led by Glendinning, the basis for the students' senior theses. The results were recently published in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*.

The team arrived at a better understanding of what makes *Manduca* such a voracious eater. They found that mixtures of sugars (sucrose and glucose, for example), not individual ones, stimulate vigorous feeding by the insect. The finding was unexpected because

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From left: Tamara Vital, Maika Takita, and Denise Napolitano

A FUTURE IN SCIENCE

“Everyday life makes all that much more sense because of science,” says Tamara Vital '08.

That view is shared by the students on these pages, all three of whom are actively engaged in scientific inquiry, day in and day out. These young women—a budding chemist, a future doctor, and a physicist-in-the-making—realized a love of science early in their lives. In part because of their Barnard education, all three envision a life in science, working in fields that for too long seemed unwelcoming to women. “I’m surrounded by women doing chemistry, that’s what I see,” says Denise Napolitano '08.

Here, all three share their stories of discovering, and loving, science.

The Doctor

Tamara Vital '08 came to Barnard in the fall of 2006 from Bard College at Simon's Rock, in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and immediately set about studying biology, starting with an upper level course on plant evolution taught by her advisor, Professor Hillary Callahan. Today, several science and language classes later, Vital plans eventually to apply to and enroll in medical school, perhaps to pursue an MD/PhD. The topics that most interest her are public health issues affecting women, as well as botany and agriculture. Vital's more immediate post-graduation plan is to pursue a job with Teach for America to work as a science teacher. Below, she explains, among other things, her interest in plants and crops and a fascination with corn.

I've always been interested in science. Part of my interest is that I've always known that I want to be a doctor. I can't remember anyone saying, 'Oh, you'd be such a good doctor.' But I do remember that always being what I want to do. My mom is a medical assistant and when I was little, she worked in the pediatrics department of a hospital. I would have my checkups there, and I'd visit and hang out there sometimes. At school everyone would always say, 'Your mom is my doctor,' even though she is not. So it was something that was always there and fed my interest.

When I was in sixth grade, I was diagnosed with scoliosis. I went through a whole process of going to an orthopaedic surgeon, having lots of X-rays, watching the doctor measure the degree of curvature of my spine, and then seeing the X-rays. Eventually I had to have surgery. That whole process really solidified for me what medicine is, what it is to be a doctor. I've known for a long time what that involves.

As a biology major, I focus on botany and plants. I think plants are really cool, and the diversity that exists within plants interests me. Also, I'm fascinated by certain crops, like corn. People might think, 'What is there to know? It's corn, it grows on a cob, you can eat it.' But it's so incredibly interesting. Last spring, I took a medieval history course, and we were reading a page from England, from like 1215. All of a sudden the word corn popped up in the reading, and I

thought, ‘Hold on, they didn’t have corn in England then.’ It was so troubling to me. Why were they talking about corn since corn comes from Central America? So I researched this and found that corn has other meanings. It turns out the word originally meant any major grain that was harvested, so the text might have been talking about barley or oats. When English speaking people came to the Americas, the Indians grew what was known as Indian corn, and over time our corn just became so prevalent and pervasive that the “Indian” was dropped.

Being a scientist helps not just in knowing scientific facts—that a pineapple is a compound fruit, for example—but in being able to make connections between things that have nothing to do with science. It develops that inquisitive mindset that makes connections between this cause and that effect and the way that things happen.

As a woman in the sciences, I thought that it was a great idea to transfer to Barnard—a women’s college is a great place to study science. My opinions are valued and I’m surrounded by other female scientists. This idea that women aren’t scientists is pervasive enough in our culture that at times I catch myself thinking, ‘What am I doing? I am a girl. I should just be a sociology major.’ But no one has ever said, ‘Tamara, you’re a girl, why are you trying to be a doctor?’

There’s a lot of historical bias there. I’m sure male nurses feel this all the time. Even though we’ve had this paradigm shift for a while, I have an uncle who’s a nurse, and people think that’s weird—nurses are typically women, and even the word nursing is something that women do to their babies.

There are many forms of encouragement at Barnard. My advisor, Hillary Callahan, and my research mentor, Kristen Shepard, are both women in the sciences, and both are amazing. There’s also the idea that if a college offers science courses to women, then women must be capable of doing this. And if this larger university extends its resources and courses to women then women must be capable. Everyone and everything is saying this is something I am capable of. Even if I have a setback or two, this is something I can do.

“Science develops that inquisitive mindset that makes connections between this cause and that effect and the way that things happen.” –Tamara Vital

The Chemist

There’s a chemist behind practically everything that we come into contact with in our daily lives, says Denise Napolitano ’08. Foods, soaps, detergents, cosmetics, plastics—chemistry in all. Napolitano, a native of Queens, New York, sees opportunity and potential when she considers a future as a chemist. But her interest, she says, stems more from the joy and pleasure she has experienced simply in practicing science.

Chemistry was my fun class in high school. I took it for two years. The teacher had a great sense of humor and class was always enjoyable. If I had to write a paper for an English or a history course, it was tedious for me to plough through it. But when I sat down to do chemistry problems—especially in advanced placement chemistry—I felt happy when I solved them. It’s a great feeling when you work hard on a problem for half an hour and then the answer comes to you. Mathematics and science feel more active to me. You sit down, you write out problems, you think hard. If you solve a problem and it’s right, it’s right. It’s much more objective than the arts.

Barnard interested me not specifically because of science, but because of the liberal arts education offered here. I wasn’t completely set on being a chemistry major when I started. I thought I would have so many fields to consider, and I was thinking about going into medicine. In my first year, I took general chemistry—I felt I had the strongest background in this subject. The class was taught by Linda Doerrer, who’s now at Boston University, and it was great. She was friendly and very open to questions in class, and her lectures were so detailed. It was more intense than what I learned in high school. We had covered a lot of the material when I took AP chemistry, but this was so much more in depth.

The lab that went with the lecture was amazing. We worked with Olympia Jebejian, the lab director. There was great camaraderie among the students, with everyone supporting each other. This made it a very laid back and relaxed environment.

I have noticed that there have been many more students taking introductory lecture and laboratory courses in chemistry. This has caused issues with the amount of lab space available; for example, it was necessary last spring to offer an extra section of the “Introductory Organic Chemistry” lab. Even though space in these courses is tight, I think it is wonderful that so many students are interested in chemistry.


On average, I spend about eight to 10 hours a week in the lab during the semester working on my research project. Right now, I’m trying to verify the mechanisms of carbene addition reactions by product analysis. What I’m doing is preparing the prospective products via different synthetic routes. It takes a lot of work and a lot of thinking to find ways around these reactions. With my own project and research, time in the lab is

Continued on Page 74

A LIFETIME OF PRACTICE

Barnard physicians are keeping women healthy at all life stages.





"I worked hard at Barnard," says Freya Schnabel '78. "My chemistry professors demonstrated dedication to teaching and great mastery of their fields; as a chemistry major I learned to organize and integrate information in ways that enabled me to see both the big picture as well as the small. It was great preparation for a medical career." Schnabel, the director of breast surgery at New York University Medical Center and a professor of surgery at NYU School of Medicine, is just one of Barnard's many science majors who went on to earn MDs and to make significant contributions to the field of medicine. And to break down barriers. They were among a minority of women in medical school in the 1970s and 1980s. Today, according to a 2004–05 report of the Association of American Medical Colleges, women represent 50 percent of medical school applicants and 47 percent of graduates.

Barbara Stoll '71, a neonatologist in Atlanta, says that the message at Barnard during her undergraduate years was clearly one of empowerment: "Young women could and would be successful." That lesson enabled Stoll and so many others to succeed in a highly competitive field. It wasn't just the classes, or the ability to study and research in what was then a brand-new science building (Altschul Hall opened in 1969); there were role models for the young women, like biology instructor Patricia Farnsworth. Cardiologist Annabelle Santos Volgman '80 also found encouragement and support from her professors in the biology department. "They made me feel as if I could conquer the world," she says. Help outside the classroom was another plus. Assistant Dean of Studies Esther Rowland was instrumental in assisting Volgman to obtain a research position at a medical center.

A course with Abraham Monk on the sociology of aging led Cathryn Devons '82 to specialize in gerontology. The course included visits to nursing homes and a lecture from a geriatric physician who pointed out that the field was underserved by specialists. Devons listened; today she is assistant clinical professor of geriatrics and adult development at Mount Sinai School of Medicine (the first medical school in the United States with a full department of geriatrics) and head of geriatrics at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y.

The profiles that follow highlight the remarkable careers of these women and others, each of them in the forefront of the U.S. medical community, each with a differing specialty, and each contributing to the health and well-being of women.

Dr. Barbara Stoll '71

Neonatology/Pediatrics

"Taking care of sick babies is acute-care medicine," says Barbara Stoll, "but it is also about taking care of mothers and families. You can't separate caring for a sick newborn from how you interact with the family." The latter includes working through decision points, explaining new technology, even dealing with end-of-life issues. All this, says Stoll, contributes to a very woman-centric practice.

Stoll has a full schedule, running a large pediatrics department, coordinating a multispecialty group practice, and maintaining a leadership role at the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. She also runs two active NIH grants. Stoll has worked with the NICHD Neonatal Research Network, a consortium of 16 academic centers (Stoll is a principal investigator) that conducts studies on newborns with the aim of improving both short- and long-term outcomes for high-risk infants. Focusing on very low birth weight preterm infants, the consortium has run numerous studies related to the most frequent complications of prematurity: lung disease, gastrointestinal disease, brain injury, and infections.

Some of medicine's most dramatic gains in recent decades have occurred in neonatology. "I have seen amazing advances that have improved the survival rate of very low birth weight preterm infants," says Stoll. Prematurity remains a vital health issue in the U.S., accounting for more than 85 percent of all instances of perinatal mortality. The price tag is \$26.2 billion, or \$51,600 per preterm infant in 2005, and unfortunately, prematurity is on the rise. In 2004, 12.5 percent of live births were preterm (defined as before 37 weeks completed gestation), a 14 percent rise from 1994. Given the health consequences, Stoll adds, "The next frontier is ensuring the very best neurodevelopmental outcome for high-risk infants."

Stoll's second grant supports investigation of the scope and causes of stillbirth in the U.S. Currently, there is no known cause for half of all stillbirths. Stoll's work involves preparation of a case-control study to evaluate the roles that maternal stress, disease, genetics, infection, and sociodemographic factors might play in stillbirth. "There is great value in overseeing broader issues related to healthcare for children," Stoll says, adding how gratifying it is "to know that I am contributing to changing and improving how we care for children."

Dr. Annabelle Santos Volgman '80

Cardiology

Having successfully navigated the shoals of childhood and puberty, both younger and older women must next focus on maintaining a healthy heart. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in women, and, says Annabelle Santos Volgman, "Women are not being treated as aggressively as they should be."

Volgman received her MD from Columbia and was recruited by the American Heart Association to increase public awareness of heart disease. Three years into what was to be an eight-year stint, she found herself increasingly frustrated. "I kept talking about the fact that women weren't as well taken care of as men, and I felt the need to do something about it." Four years ago, Volgman opened the Rush Heart Center for Women in Chicago to help women focus on preventive care. The center is the first of its kind in the city.

Patients see not only a cardiologist but a nutritionist as well. For Volgman, the best preventive care involves changes to diet and activity, rather than a host of prescriptions. "It's often as simple as lowering salt, increasing fruits, vegetables, and activity, and losing weight," she insists.

Serious about her work, Volgman also has a lighter side. She laughs when

asked if it's really true that she's Oprah's cardiologist, then reveals that she's also the official cardiologist for the Chicago Bulls and White Sox. ("It's great," she says. "I'm 4 feet 10 inches and they're 7-feet tall, but they're all afraid of me until I tell them they can play.")

Committed to spreading the message, she co-chaired a series of fund-raising lecture-luncheons for the American Heart Association in 1999 and raised \$100,000, inspiring the AHA's "Go Red for Women" platform. The AHA awarded Volgman its Women with Heart Award in 2004 in recognition of her contributions. Soon Volgman will be speaking at African-American churches in Chicago. African-American women have the highest risk of heart disease, but are often the least aware of that risk. "Don't wait for symptoms," Volgman warns. "Take action now."

Dr. Freya Schnabel '78

Oncology/Breast Cancer

The power of preventive care is just as integral to Freya Schnabel's work. The breast cancer specialist is currently establishing a multi-institutional program at NYU for women at high risk for the disease. In 1991, Schnabel, along with Alison Estabrook '74 (then chief of breast surgery at Columbia), founded Women at Risk (WaR), a breast-cancer program of Columbia University Medical Center. WaR offered intensive surveillance for early detection, and presented lectures and support groups. The doctors also compiled longitudinal data registries to track outcomes.

Earlier this year, Schnabel left Columbia for NYU. She is optimistic about the broad and diverse demographic she's able to work with there. Schnabel also notes the importance of working in multi-institutional collaborative programs. "We learn more and learn faster if we all combine our data," she says. "Research done in a vacuum is not nearly as effective."

Schnabel is particularly excited by NYU's affiliation with Bellevue Hospital, the oldest public hospital in the U.S., which will allow her to reach this broader demographic of women.

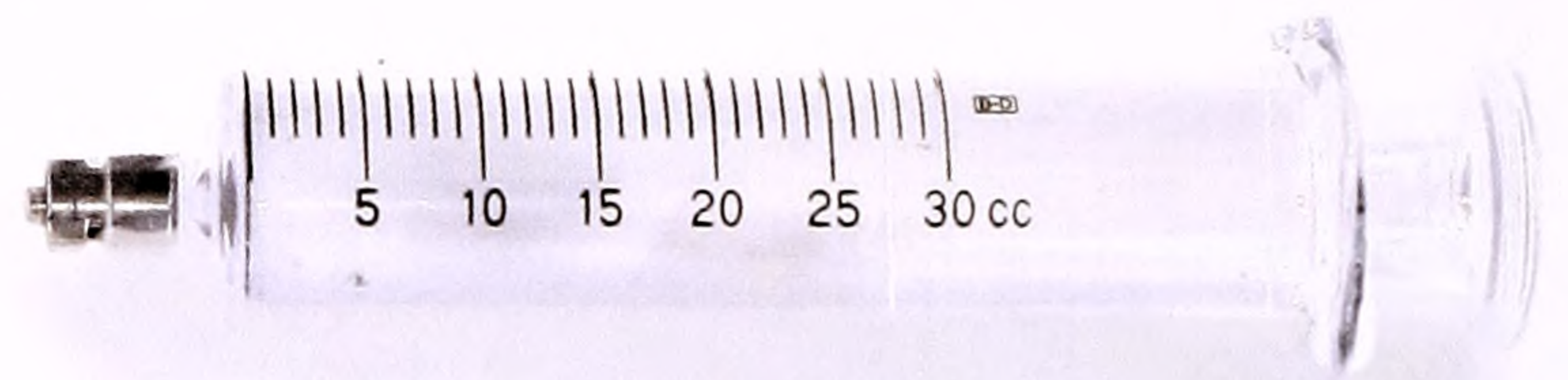
"We're trying to develop mathematical models to assess risk," Schnabel explains, as risk assessment is key to providing the best preventive care. As an example, Schnabel mentions the MRI, a sensitive screening tool for breast cancer detection, which finds about 3 percent of cancers that have no other identification on mammograms or ultrasounds. But MRIs are costly, intrusive, and can result in false-positives. Likewise, the drug tamoxifen reduces the risk of developing cancer for high-risk women, but it has well-known side effects. "It's important to be thoughtful about who really needs [these interventions]. Risk assessment has become an important part of what we do and how we design programs."

Schnabel did not set out to become a breast surgeon, but quickly found that, as a female surgical oncologist, women seeking breast surgery were drawn to her. "It's a fascinating and fast-evolving field," she says. "*Multidisciplinary* is a catchword you hear a lot, but with breast surgery you have to have close relationships with colleagues in other fields—medical oncology, radiation oncology, medical genetics." Schnabel also places tremendous value on the interactions she has with her patients. While surgeons don't necessarily have long-term relationships with patients, breast surgeons are an exception. "We have made strides," Schnabel says, "Patients are surviving. I sit with them and say, 'Wow, 10 years out, you're doing great.' It's a nice area to practice in."

Dr. Cathryn Devons '82

Gerontology

When Cathryn Devons first told a cousin that she'd decided to specialize in the scientific study of the biological, psychological, and sociological



phenomena associated with aging, her cousin asked, “Did you choose that or did you get assigned?”

“It’s perhaps not the most glamorous field,” Devons says of gerontology.

Still, Devons loves her career and imparts her enthusiasm to her Mount Sinai School of Medicine students. In addition to claiming the first full geriatrics department of a medical school in the U.S., Mount Sinai’s program is also one of the few in which geriatrics is required for all medical students.

As Devons notes, doctors in nearly every specialty see elderly patients, so it’s important to know how to provide the best care for them. She sees an increasing interest in geriatrics, especially as palliative medicine gains momentum. “It’s becoming a little more hip,” she says. Plus, all the aging baby boomers are going to need care.

Although a geriatric is defined as anyone over 65, most of Devons’ patients are over 80—and more than a few are over 100. Strikingly, 80 percent of them are women, since women live on average about five years longer than men. Devons emphasizes that many of her patients are quite active, but “the frail elderly are most often brought in by their daughters,” she says. “I see women in their late 40s and early 50s concerned about their parents. They are the designated worriers/caregivers.” Devons is the rare physician who makes house calls, visiting three to four patients a week in their homes. “I have a lady who is 103, a couple who are 95 and 99. It’s a crisis to get them out,” she explains.

Gerontology as a primary-care field allows Devons to work “with a whole person rather than one system.” Beyond the clinical challenges, she enjoys her patients. “I like older people,” she says. “They’re interesting, they have life stories. There is a lot of need for people to go into the field, so usually they’re very appreciative. It’s gratifying that you’re doing something so needed.”

Devons’s philosophy of health care seems to underline the goals of so many

Barnard-educated doctors. “Longevity is not enough,” she asserts. “People need good preventive care so that they are happy and healthy and productive throughout their lives.” And compassion never hurt, either.

Leading the Science Advisory Council: Dr. Maureen Strafford ’71

As a Barnard student, Maureen Strafford’s interest in science was stoked by her professors. She points to Donald Ritchie, then chair of the biological sciences department, and instructor Patricia Farnsworth as knowledgeable and appreciated mentors and advisers. Strafford arrived on campus with an interest in anthropology but soon changed course as she explored the biological sciences. She graduated with a double major. Strafford says her career in medicine reflects her years at Barnard. Each course exposed her to other interests, which led to broadened studies, which beckoned her forward. The story of Strafford’s career is a tale of transitions.

After graduation, Strafford earned her MD at Boston University School of Medicine, then returned to New York to train in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. She returned to Boston in the early 1980s to start a residency in anesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital and Children’s Hospital. She was interested in intensive care, especially in pediatrics, although pediatric intensive-care units were not then part of hospital services. Strafford was instrumental in setting up the unit at Mass General, and went on to become director of pediatric cardiac anesthesia and director of pediatric anesthesia at the Floating Hospital for Children of the New England Medical Center. She also specialized in acute and chronic pain in children. Her career track seemed settled.

But nine years ago, she was astounded to learn she had developed an allergy to anesthesia gases. “I couldn’t be near anesthesia; and could no longer stay in the operating room.” Strafford ultimately

overcame the career shock and expanded her teaching responsibilities. She now serves as associate professor of anesthesiology and pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine. She also devoted more time to exploring the notion of humanism in medicine, and the values of compassion and care, as they relate to pain management. The recipient of a grant from the Tow Foundation, Strafford studied the use of meditation in treating children with chronic pain. As a result, she’s now the regional director for the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, which is a leader in medical education. Strafford credits Gold’s work as being seminal in fostering and maintaining humanism in the medical profession.

Recently appointed chair of Barnard’s Science Advisory Council (SAC), Strafford envisions an expanding conversation about careers in the sciences with students, faculty, and alumnae. (A daughter, Nora McDonald, is a Barnard senior.) Her goals for the Council stem from both her experience as an undergraduate science major and a medical professional. She’s set ambitious goals, reflected in the council’s mission statement (see page 73). Strafford also hopes to create a forum where alumnae provide feedback on the council’s goals and the College’s progress in meeting them.

“We need dynamic and expanding dialogues with alumnae, and we need to expand our alumnae base,” she avers. “We want to know our alumnae in the sciences—who are you and what are you doing within your profession? Please get in touch with us,” she urges. Networking and mentoring opportunities, knowledge of current research projects, and creation of internships are also part of Strafford’s vision for SAC. Strafford believes SAC has great potential to become an important resource for students and faculty. “We aim to be the Craigslist of science.”

—Annette Kahn

BARNARD ON THE WEB

Read more about Barnard alumnae in science and medicine, and the Science Advisory Council, at www.barnard.edu/womeninscience.

News & Notes

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

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Florence Mann '55

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Rebecca Amitai '79

Leadership Council

Linda Sweet '63

Regional Networks

Myra Greenspoon Kovey '65

Reunion

Nieca Goldberg '79

Student Government Association

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Young Alumnae

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ALUMNAE AFFAIRS

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Senior Associate Director of Alumnae Affairs

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Associate Director, Reunion and Leadership Council

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Alice Eckstein '99

Manager of Recent Alumnae, Students,
and Multicultural Programs

Elizabeth H. Glynn

Project Continuum Coordinator

Annette Stramesi Kahn '67

Financial Fluency Coordinator

Christine Valenza Shin '84

Financial Fluency Assistant Coordinator

Mary Bruch '05

Dear Barnard College Alumna,

With the construction of the Nexus and the search for a new Barnard President, the 2007-08 academic year marks a year of change for the Barnard community. Given this environment, the Alumnae Association strives to be an even greater constant in the lives of our alumnae. Each of you is a member of the Alumnae Association whose mission is to further the interests of Barnard alumnae and Barnard by engaging you and connecting you to each other and the College. The Alumnae Association's volunteer Board, committees and regional officers partner with the Office of Alumnae Affairs staff. The list of committee chairs on the left is a window to the many facets of alumnae life we oversee.

What benefits does the Alumnae Association offer you? Beyond the tangible, such as access to the Barnard library, Office of Career Development services, free course auditing, and a lifetime e-mail forwarding address, the Alumnae Association provides other benefits that are harder to quantify: We exist to serve the needs of our alumnae first and foremost; we are YOUR alumnae association. We offer a diverse array of opportunities for you to widen your Barnard network in general or within a particular affinity group, geographic location or special interest. As an alumna, you know you can depend on us to provide consistently high-caliber, quality programming that supports life-long learning. These programs and events—from Reunion to regional group activities—foster connections and present the opportunity to learn or just socialize in the company of Barnard women. And that just may be the biggest benefit of all!

To better serve you, the Alumnae Association goals for this year include improving the synergy between our New York City "headquarters" and regional clubs here and abroad. We will also be enhancing our website pages and on-line community to make them more informative, user-friendly and timely. Another critical goal is to increase your awareness of the benefits, both tangible and intangible, that the Alumnae Association has to offer. We encourage you to flaunt your membership in the Alumnae Association of Barnard College.

I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Lisa Phillips Davis '76

President

Benefits of Alumnae Association Membership

Auditing Classes

Barnard alumnae can reconnect with the academic subjects that interest them through auditing. Many Barnard courses may be audited for no credit and no fee. The spring 2008 semester begins January 22. Interested alumnae must obtain instructor approval cards from the Office of Alumnae Affairs before classes begin. Please visit alum.barnard.edu/auditing for more information about auditing classes, including a course catalogue and list of restricted classes.

2007 Fellowship Award Recipients



Graduating cum laude, **Jackie Vimo '99** recently completed her MA at the New School for Social Research. She is now working towards a PhD in political science at UC-Berkeley.



Planning a career in global energy security, **Nadejda Zaets '06**, is enrolled in a joint degree program at Columbia Business School and the School of International and Public Affairs.



Shu-Wen Wang '04, who graduated with a double-major in psychology and anthropology, is pursuing a PhD in clinical psychology at UCLA.



Siobhán Cooke '02, a PhD candidate in physical anthropology at City University of New York Graduate Center, plans to conduct field work in Cuba and Haiti.



With a degree in American studies, **Ronnie Grinberg '01** is working on her dissertation for a PhD in American history from Northwestern University.

Alumnae Connections to the Class of 2011

Daughters

Olivia M Barry
Laura E. Benton
Elizabeth L. Bibi
Julia C. Burgi
Stephanie E. Davis
Tatiana M. de Dalmas
Sophie M. DeBenedetto
Rachelle C. Dugue
Nora E. Feinstein
Francesca L. Gottardo,
Yael S. Grossman
Leora B. Kanner
Emily K. Kenison
Jamie N. Klein
Hannah E. Mackler

Lauren S. Oh
Rebecca L. Pattiz
Abigail Pines
Lauren A. Rothe
Allegra H. Sachs
Sarah E. Sullivan
Rachael S. Tice
Jenny P. Vallancourt
Emily S. Wallen
Cassandra C. Wyma
Stephanie M. Zaleski

Granddaughters

Elizabeth B. Hazard
Clare H. Kelley
Lindsay C. Orlov

Great Granddaughter

Sonya G. Chemouni Bach

Sisters

Fatima Al Zahra Abdul-Nabi
Aanam M. Aslam,
Esther Elbaum
Marisa M. Franklin
Ann C. Frisse
Natalie Galpern
Simone D. Grazi
Yuli Hayashi

Christina F. Jobe
Hwajin Jung
Patina Lui

Kaitlyn D. Olson
Radha Parameswaran
Melissa L. Pearlman
Juliana E. Richard
Martyna M. Urbanowicz
Patricia C. Urena

JoAnne Slosberg Barry '81
Dr. Deborah Pasik '78
Shari Z. Teitelbaum '79
Mary C. Hutton '83
Georgia Papaefthymiou-Davis '68
Renata de Dalmas '83
Victoria Londin '79
Yanick C. Dugue '83
Jessica Elfenbein '84
Lisa Gottardo '87
Eve N. Yudelson '82
Meryl Irwin Kanner '78
Bilun Z. Karal '76
Joyce Helfman '81
Lorraine Newman Mackler '84
Rita Smilowitz Newman '57, *Grandmother*
Halan Park Oh '85
Jill Scheuer '76
Doralynn Schlossman-Pines '69
Deborah Johnson-Rothe '79
Joanna Lisanti '77
Karen O. Fried '79
Melanie Schwartz Maslow '73
Jil E. Persons '82
Annamaria Yordan Wallen '75
Katerina Monemvassitis '79
Shelley Migden Zaleski '76

Dorothy Crook Hazard '33
Ruth Mulvey Harmen-Carew '41
Elizabeth Price Richards Chisholm '50
Elizabeth Winston Price Richards '24,
Great-grandmother

Ruth Bach '27

Khadijah Abdul-Nabi '08
Sana Aslam '10
Rebecca Elbaum '08
Elise Franklin '09
Elizabeth Frisse '07
Nicole Galpern '09
Paulette Grazi '07
Rika L. Hayashi '01
Yumi Hayashi '06
Marlene Jobe '09
Hwa Kyung Jung '10
Amanda Lui '08
Alicia Lui '10
Chrysta Olson '07
Janaki Parameswaran '07
Hillary Pearlman '08
Mara Richard '09
Monika Urbanowicz '08
Caroline Urena '04

2008-09 Fellowships

The AABC has supported scholastic excellence for more than 30 years by awarding annual fellowships for graduate study. To date, nearly 150 alumnae representing Barnard's best and brightest have been named fellows in a wide range of fields. One-year grants are awarded to alumnae who show a clear interest in a particular field of study, demonstrate strong motivation and potential for accomplishment, present a creative approach to their work, and express a willingness to explore uncharted territory.

Applications for 2008-09 awards are due Monday, December 3, 2007; they are available online at <http://alum.barnard.edu/fellowship>

Class Notes

For classes without correspondents, send notes to:

Deborah M. Staab
Barnard College
Vagelos Alumnae Center
3009 Broadway
New York, NY 10027-6598
cnotes@barnard.edu

32 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$3,220
Participation 26%
6 donors/23 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$1,345,975

33 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$3,968
Participation 37%
13 donors/35 in class

Mildred Pearson Horowitz sends greetings to all. She now uses a walker so she cannot audit classes at Barnard as she used to and misses it very much.

34 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$1,300
Participation 17%
6 donors/36 in class

35 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$7,060
Participation 26%
11 donors/43 in class

The article "At 91, She's Still a Revolutionary" in the May 20, 2007 *Ann Arbor News* profiles **Grace Chin Lee Boggs** and how her experience as an activist is introducing her to a new generation. Besides her weekly column for the *Michigan Citizen* and speaking engagements, Grace was recently interviewed on *Bill Moyers Journal*. More

dedicated than ever to endorsing and humanizing revolution, she's still active with projects like Detroit Summer, which enlists young people to "rebuild, redefine and respirit Detroit." Additionally, she's at work on a book compilation of her writings.

36 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$13,785
Participation 37%
19 donors/51 in class

My first great-grandchild was born just in time to make my deadline. William Peyton Wynns arrived on July 31, the son of my oldest grandson Justin Wynns, who for the past four years has been living upstairs from me while earning his master's degree. His wife, Anja Nielsen, is a botanist and my computer guru. The new grandmother, my daughter, Jill, came from San Francisco for the occasion. Since my youngest grandchild, Irene, is now 14, it's been a long time since I had a baby to play with, so I am thrilled.

Our class president, **Margaret Davidson Barnett**, writes that her granddaughter, Elizabeth Barnett is headed to "the theatre program at Syracuse with honors. Her older sister, Rebecca, will be a junior at Oberlin. I went to a meeting of Barnard Club of Connecticut, and they were absolutely amazed to be eating and drinking (Japanese food, no less) with a member of the Class of 1936."

I'm saddened to report the loss of two classmates. **Gladys Kreeger Friedman** died in July 2006 in Los Angeles. **Marjorie Friedman Leonard** died

in Colorado Springs on May 12. Her daughter-in-law, Lisa Noll, sent an obituary: "Marge moved to San Francisco in 1938 after graduating from Columbia Law School with her husband, Norman Leonard. She lived and worked there until after Norm's death in early 2006, spending more than 50 years in the same house on a hill above the Mission District. In December, she moved to Colorado Springs to be near her son, Eric, and his family. Although she struggled with forgetfulness in her last few years, she never lost her keen wit, her love of friends, family, and music, or her ability to correct our grammar. In her final months she continued to enjoy hearing the headlines from the *New York Times* and singing, astounding us with her command of lyrics—from Gilbert & Sullivan to Pete Seeger. We will miss her."

Please send your news.

Nora Lourie Percival
478 Greer Lane
Vilas, NC 28692
828.297.2828
percival@goboone.net

37 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$25,191
Participation 55%
26 donors/47 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$743,148

Ruth Harris Adams
12000 North 90th Street, Unit 2037
Scottsdale, AZ 85260-8632
480.451.2344
rha@wmvaz.com

70th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

38 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$10,514
Participation 32%
28 donors/88 in class

Mary-Elizabeth Lawlor Lynyak

writes that she has moved from Little River, Nova Scotia, to Orleans, Mass., on Cape Cod. She's lucky enough to have the company of her daughter, her son, his wife, and two granddaughters. I expect they all will enjoy their new location.

Reporting losses in this column is always hard; this report is as hard as it gets. **Leonore Schanhous Krieger**, our class president, died on June 21 at her home in Manhattan. Her daughter, Eileen, had closely attended to her for the last several weeks. Leonore and I had been friends since our first year at Barnard and we had been neighbors on West End Avenue for the past several years. It's hard to let go of these rare and deep friendships, but it was a joy to share her company and her interest in everything going on in the world as well as in our families and the community of friends she had built. Leonore lived in Far Rockaway, N.Y., most of her life. There, she and her beloved husband, Dr. Jerry Krieger, (who predeceased her), raised their two children. Leonore went back to work as a school librarian once her own children were in school. Since her retirement she went on learning, auditing classes at Barnard, with the senior citizens program at New York University, and at the Jewish Theological Seminary. And she indulged in many of New York's cultural offerings, including museums, ballet, opera, New York Philharmonic concerts, theatre, and movies. Until her last few weeks, she volunteered at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. I'm sure I've left out half of her activities, but those are the ones I remember, in addition to her interests at Barnard, where she and **Vera Halper Schiller**, our vice-president, were already planning our 70th Reunion.

We will miss Leonore. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her family. She was so looking forward to the arrival of two more great-grandchildren—they will have to count on their parents for stories of that almost mythological great-grandma.

Another sad note: Amy Krbecek Irons '40 reports the death of her sister **Alice Krbecek Fraser**, on April 30. Alice had been living on Hilton Head Island for 32 years. Our deep sympathy to all of Alice's family.

Our sad list of losses grows. **Elizabeth Newkom Moore** died on Feb. 5. **Shirley Hageman Willett** died on May 15. Shirley is survived by one son, one daughter, and three grandchildren. **Virginia MacEachern Dunford** died on July 12, at the age of 90, in Atlantic Beach, Fla. She married Captain James M. Dunford in 1941 and raised eight children. She is survived by her husband, her brother, her children, 13 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

It is sad to add the name of **Harriet Harlin Knirsch** to our list of recent losses. Her daughter, Susan Clafin, notified Barnard of her mother's death on July 1, 2005. We offer our sympathy to the families and friends of Elizabeth, Shirley, Virginia, and Harriet.

Barbara Lake Dolgin
150 West End Avenue, Apt. 18D
New York, NY 10023
212.874.3234
bldolgin@alum.barnard.edu

39 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$31,207
Participation 30%
20 donors/66 in class

Amy Montague, daughter of **Louise Comer Turner**, called to tell us that her mother passed away in January at the age of 96 after six years of failing health and dementia. Louise was a mathematician and cryptologist during World War II and taught math at Barnard from 1941 to 1947. Amy says Louise was the founder and first president of the mathematics club, the valedictorian of her class, and that she received her PhD in math from Columbia.

40 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$15,033
Participation 45%
37 donors/83 in class

We have several deaths to report.

Caroline Duncombe Pelz died on June 28 in Bennington, Vt. She was for many years director of admissions of Grace Church School in New York, and previously worked at Allen-Stevenson School and the educational records bureau there. At Barnard, Caroline was a trustee from 1963 to 1967 and president of the Alumnae Association. In 2005 she received the College's Recognition for Service to Barnard Award. Survivors include her husband, Edward, two daughters, one son, five grandchildren, and four nieces and nephews, and sisters-in-law Patricia Warburton Duncombe '44 and Dame Anne Warburton '46. A daughter, Margaret, predeceased her.

We received belated news of the death of **Frances Danforth Thomas** last December. She is survived by her daughter Susan Thomas Kattan '68.

Adeline Weierich Martin passed away on March 12. She is survived by three daughters, three sons, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Helen Fabricant Saidel died on April 21. She is survived by her husband, Leo, two daughters, one son, five grandchildren, and one niece, Deborah Fabricant '74.

Agnes Cassidy Serbaroli's husband, Joseph, died on June 21 after a long illness.

We extend our sincere condolences to the families of all.

On a happier note, two distant classmates have been heard from.

Marguerite King Lindsay phoned from Dunfermline, Scotland—a really pleasant surprise. She keeps active, she says, but resents the fact that age is slowing her down. And from Liverpool comes news from **Nansi Pugh**. She still leads a good life. She recently enjoyed a cruise on the Rhine and is planning a trip to the United States. Nansi also is working on a book about the Welsh chorale.

Shirley Ellenbogen Rothkrug in San Francisco says she thinks about Barnard a lot and would love to hear

from classmates. Also, on the social side, **Margaret (Peggy) Pardee Bates** and **Florence Dubroff Shelley** enjoyed lunch together when Peggy was visiting from California.

Flora Ehram Dudley
437 Melbourne Avenue
Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2730
914.698.1273

41 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$57,982
Participation 47%
47 donors/100 in class

The English language newspaper in Indonesia published a lovely feature honoring **Herawati Latip Diah** on her 90th birthday. Her book, *An Endless Journey: Reflections of an Indonesian Journalist* (Equinox Publishing, 2005), tells the story of her life and the life of her country, from its days as a Dutch colony, through World War II, to its efforts to become an independent nation. She was a journalist for much of her life, working with her husband, and also following him as he became an ambassador and later a minister in the government. Her second career was to assist her family in the construction and operation of the first world-class hotel in the country. Here are a few of the thoughts with which Herawati closes her book: "The thought of the achievements made by women within my lifetime is something I am grateful for. But I feel that I still have to go on in spite of the signs of age, forgetting where I put my glasses, osteoporosis exercises three times a week, and walking at a slower pace." She is indeed doing well.

Betty Clifford Macomber learned from *Princeton University* magazine that alumni S. Hart Moore died recently. We send our condolences to his wife, **Patricia Lambdin Moore**, and his family.

The work **Rita Roher Semel** has done for years with the San Francisco Interfaith Council and the Graduate Theological Union has brought her the distinction of a doctorate of humane letters from the University of San Francisco, a Jesuit school dedicated to promoting diversity. Rita says, "I feel so blessed to be able to try to make a difference, working with so many others

who feel this world of ours needs all the help it can get."

Madelyn Lotz McKean is very active, traveling to Ashland, Ore., and to Hawaii to visit her sister. She laughed at her own optimism in renewing a magazine subscription until 2010.

Elizabeth Harris Mersey says she's busy in her Florida paradise with golf. She plans to submit her novel *Lust, Avarice, and Other Vices* to an agent, in hopes of becoming "the Grandma Moses of the contemporary novel."

Marguerite Binder Zamaitis is still happy in the retirement home she moved to five years ago. She volunteers at the medical library of Chilton Memorial Hospital and uses her computer skills for the Protestant Council and the newly built non-denominational chapel. I asked if she was still tap-dancing. She says she's working with a group to prepare a show for next February.

We've received death notices from the alumnae office for three classmates.

Madeleine Freund Bemelmans, former wife of Ludwig Bemelmans, died in December of 2004, leaving her daughter Barbara and three grandsons; **Mary Scully Johnson** was reported to have passed away in 1994, with no further information; and **Sue Gillies** died in Lancaster, Pa., on March 20, and is survived by a niece. Our condolences are extended to their families.

The mini-reunion that was proposed has not taken place, although there are perhaps six to eight alumnae who have expressed interest. One problem is finding a quiet restaurant that allows reservations and is located near the stations through which alumnae arrive in town. The consensus is that going to the Alumnae Center would entail too long a roundtrip for a one-day excursion.

Please contact Betty Macomber with suggestions.

Athena Capraro Warren
21 Village Hill Road
Williamsburg, MA 01096-9706
413.268.7551

Jane Ringo Murray
Canterbury Court, Apt. 442
3750 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30319
404.231.7422
murraymj@canterburycourt.org

42 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$35,350
Participation 51%
54 donors/106 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$3,162,746

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Doris Bayer Coster; Vice President, Helen Baker Cushman; Reunion Chairs, Helen Marraro Abdoo and Doris Bayer Coster; Fund Chairs, Glafyra Fernandez Ennis and Lois Voltter Silberman; Correspondent, Virginia Rogers Cushing.

I still have some items from classmates who couldn't make it to reunion.

Elinore Jacoff Tunick, who lives in Manhattan, has had a difficult time since she broke her hip. She's been doing the prescribed exercises and is now able to use a walker. She still paints, mostly acrylics, in her living room. Some of her work is on display at the AIR Museum as part of an exhibit of postcard-size art entitled *Wish You Were Here*. **Elizabeth Fuller**, who also lives in Manhattan, has been ill for some time and seldom leaves her apartment. However, from her apartment she's able to help other shut-ins with their paperwork and grocery orders.

Barbara Fish Saltzman lives in a lovely home in the hills surrounding Los Angeles and is recovering from a fall. She has published her extensive research on schizophrenia and is now watching over the work of her younger colleagues as they try to identify the causes of that disease. **Janet Quinn Eichacker** lives in Heath, Va., and was unable to attend reunion because it conflicted with the wedding of her grandchild. **Janet Dempsey** volunteers in the local library and has been the town historian of Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y., for more than 20 years. We received the sad news that **Peggy Pratt Williams** of Peterborough, N.H., died on March 16, after a long, courageous struggle with lymphoma. She majored in government and was active in several clubs while at Barnard. Peggy is survived by five children, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Her children remember her as a lover of music, art, nature, and poetry. She was, they say, a formidable

Scrabble player.

Doris Burley Maxwell died on May 20. She had been living in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, for many years and delighted in showing alumnae around the local sites. She is survived by a son, a daughter-in-law, and a niece. Her family will take over her home cantilevered over the harbor, and will run the souvenir shop on the main street of Boothbay Harbor in the summer season.

Clytia Capraro Chambers died on Feb. 20. She attended the reunion in 2002 and was sorely missed this year by her many friends. After graduating from Barnard at the age of 19, Clytia served in the Army Signal Corps until the end of the war. She then traveled as the wife of a career diplomat to Argentina, Cambodia, France, and Haiti. She earned a law degree from the University of Lyon and was one of the few lawyers in our class. After her divorce she worked for many years as a public relations executive in Chicago and Los Angeles. Clytia and her second husband, Robert Chambers, moved to the West Coast in the late 1960s. They cultivated rare fruits in their orchards in Fallbrook, Calif. In the early 1990s they were tending more than 40 varieties of *sapotes*, a member of the citrus family. Clytia took over the editing of a newsletter about exotic fruits and developed it into a bimonthly magazine, *The Fruit Gardener*. She is survived by her husband, her three children, three stepchildren, and her sister, Athena Capraro Warren '41. Here is an excerpt of her memorial to Clytia: "We had a lively childhood. You were the brains; I was the brawn. I used to give you piggyback rides when you were in grade school; and you used to help me with Latin when we were in high school. Here I am today at your memorial service in Pasadena, where everybody remembers you for one reason or another. And we are still playing the same see-saw game: You are saying hello; I am saying good-bye." We extend our condolences to the families of our classmates Peggy, Doris, and Clytia.

Virginia Rogers Cushing
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65th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

43 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$33,767
Participation 45%
49 donors/110 in class

I hope that our lives in 2008 will be as productive as they have been so far. For some of us the focus has changed from the immediate family to the accomplishments of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Do they value their education as much as we did? Let's make the effort to get to New York for our 65th Reunion next year. It's never too early to start planning. Keep in touch.

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44 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$43,358
Participation 52%
64 donors/122 in class

We received delayed notice of the death of **Jacqueline Block Koch** in February 2000. *Mortarboard* indicates that she lived in Switzerland for eight years, where she developed a "passion for skiing" prior to crossing the Atlantic to attend Barnard. Jacqueline lived many years in the Northeast with her three sons and husband, who served at one time as director of administration of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. She left the city for Phoenix, according to our 1980 reunion booklet, where she became a rabbi and served as spiritual leader of Temple Chai in that city. Still on the move is **Françoise Kelz**, who found a variety of places to tour in France last spring. She studied pictures on cave walls underground, traipsed through castles, and cruised lakes and rivers. She also stepped back in time at the Natural Museum of Prehistory, which is housed in a 13th-century castle in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac, France.

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45 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$46,077
Participation 49%
68 donors/138 in class

Last spring I had a delightful visit with **Jane Brunstetter Forsthoff** in Naples, Fla., where she lives with her husband, Earle, an Annapolis graduate and retired naval officer. They live in a high-rise immediately on the shore of the Gulf of Mexico and were severely impacted by Hurricane Wilma in 2005 with much water and wind damage to their building. When we met in March they were back in their home but still had carpeting and other items to replace. Jane and Earle are involved in Southwest Florida's Habitat for Humanity. Earle helps build homes three days a week. Jane screens applicants to determine their eligibility to occupy completed properties. When the hurricane was forecast, they left their home two days in advance to set up a Red Cross shelter to accommodate 500 people. Jane also tutors and helps children with their homework three afternoons per week. Jane, who has four children from a previous marriage, has lived and worked all over the world: 18 years in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; two and a half in Teheran, Iran; and three and a half in Papua New Guinea. She loved living and working in three such different cultures and contributing to those communities. A graduate of Simmons College in Boston, Jane is a librarian, having gained her professional experience in the City of San Francisco Library system. She looks the same, the perky, smiling girl you knew at Barnard. **Renée Friedman Cooper** lives in Chevy Chase, Md. with her husband, Mitchell, who practices law part-time. Renée is involved with volunteer activities, going to the National Archives one day a week and giving tours of both the rotunda and adjacent exhibits. She plays two tennis games per week (indoors in the winter), and she expects to continue next season.

Two sets of grandchildren have settled near her. Late in March, she enjoyed a visit from **Betty Booth Smith**. Renée's travels have taken her on a Norwegian Coastal Cruise ship up the coast of Norway and to London, where she went sightseeing with a son and his family.

Miriam Skinner Cartwright and her husband live in Ridgecrest, Calif., in the Mojave Desert. Ridgecrest neighbors China Lake, a naval station where they both used to work. They spend several months each year in Cavalaire, a French town on the Mediterranean. "We've been doing this for more than 10 years as co-owners of a very small apartment there. We thoroughly enjoy our adventures in France and recently had the pleasure of exploring various areas there with **Harriet Hanley**, who lives near Vichy, and with whom I got reacquainted at our 60th Reunion. One of our four daughters lives near Paris with her French husband and two daughters, so we get to visit with her each time we're in France." Miriam says that her two granddaughters' preparations for college constantly remind her how much she appreciates her years at Barnard.

An editorial page of the *New York Times* lamented the closing of the Claremont Riding Academy on West 89th Street. To all who enjoyed satisfying a semester of the Barnard gym requirements by riding on high-spirited horses from this stable through Central Park, an era is ended. We rode our mounts down the wooden Academy ramp and through the high doors to the magical world of green Central Park.

Sadly we report **Helen Seibert Martin** died on March 27. She transferred to Barnard from Pelham and was a psychology major. We send our condolences to her husband, Richard P. Martin, Jr., of Springfield, Mass., and her two children.

Sr. **Marjorie Wysong Raphael**, SSM, an Episcopal sister who has been serving the elderly poor in Port au Prince, Haiti, for years, returned home expecting a reassignment, but her superiors had scheduled her to continue her work in Haiti. She sends her sympathy to the friends and families of recently deceased alumnae.

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46 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$21,144
Participation 46%
72 donors/157 in class

47 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$73,431
Participation 55%
104 donors/190 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$706,311

Class Officers 2007–2012:

President, Marguerite Traeris Harris-Chinkel; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Jane Allen Shikoh; Fund Chairs, Meredith Nevins Mayer and Frances Warshavsky Zehngelot; Treasurer, Marilyn Sebald Tanner; Correspondents, Marguerite Traeris Harris-Chinkel and Jane Allen Shikoh; Nominating Chair, Ruth Maier Baer.

Jane Allen Shikoh and I, **Marguerite Traeris Harris-Chinkel**, are your new co-correspondents. We hope you'll share your experiences and family events with us. Don't hesitate to write! I was able to attend a family reunion with my cousins in Switzerland this May. While in Switzerland, I enjoyed having lunch with **Nancy Saroli Garces**, who lives near Lausanne. We visited the Musée Romain in Lausanne-Vidy and were impressed with Roman artifacts found in that area. Nancy directs an organization that she founded, *Cartons de Coeur*. They provide special services, food, and clothing to needy people.

Helen Trevor Vietor writes from Houston that she's still running her school, The House at Pooh Corner, and teaches kindergarten.

Yvonne (Bonnie) Hauser Swing writes from Ashland, Ore., that she has retired from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, where she worked backstage for 20 years. She has eight children and 13 grandchildren. She often reminisces, particularly over working in theatre in London for four years.

In the spring, **Jeanne Bergquist Flagg** and I met our class-sponsored scholarship student, Emily Donaldson '07, at the Torchbearers Reception. We were very impressed with Emily and her accomplishments. She's a women's studies major from McLean, Va., and plans to attend law school.

We are sad to report the deaths of **Pearl Cogen Cohen**, **Helena Zil de Roeth**, and **Mary Lee Vinkemulder**. We send sincere condolences to their families.

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Jane Allen Shikoh
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60th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

48 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$46,299
Participation 49%
102 donors/208 in class

Our 60th Reunion is six months away. Make plans now to join us in New York City. Our class will schedule special activities in addition to the full program of events and meals arranged by Alumnae Affairs. Send us your suggestions.

We encourage classmates to bring a spouse, companion, or child to reunion. Guests at our 50th and 55th events had a great time.

We will write or phone each of you individually to encourage attendance. To accomplish this mission, we're asking for volunteers. Over the next few months, each network volunteer will personally contact 10 or 15 classmates. At this writing we have already enlisted **Helene Wall Gersuny**, **Nancy Ackerson Kowalchuk**, **Lawrie Trevor Nomer**, **Katherine Anne Battley Phipps**, **Elsie Koerner Youtcheff-Rayl**, and **Nora Ravsky Schwartz**, in addition to our class officers and others. Here's a wonderful opportunity to get in touch with old friends and to make new friends. We'll provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers, as well as some talking points, if needed. If you'd like to join our '48–60th Reunion networking brigade

please contact your correspondent at the address below. Watch for other reunion announcements in the mail. We saved space to tell you about **Nora Robell's** long-planned trip to Costa Rica this summer. Alas, Nora was one of the unfortunate thousands whose passport renewal documents were sucked into the great void of the national passport-processing center. All efforts to unplug the missing document failed, and Nora was turned away at the JFK departure gates. They rejected all other valid IDs she submitted and sent her home. We wish her happy trails on her future adventures.

We're sorry to report the deaths of several classmates and extend our condolences to their families and friends. **Eileen Gilmore Serocke** reports that her good friend and roommate at our 50th Reunion, **Mary Wilson Bodensab**, died on March 27. Mary is survived by her husband, Harold, five sons, and 11 grandchildren. A history major, Mary did not begin a career outside her home until her youngest child was in high school. She took courses to be certified as a teacher and for many years taught at the Friends School in Wilmington, Del. Her oldest son, Dr. Alex Bodensab, remembers that she often spoke to her children of her years at Barnard with great affection and appreciation. The simplicity and sincerity of her nature characterized her throughout her life.

Only recently, we learned of the death of **Irene-Mary Lang Howard** on Oct. 1, 2001. A retired college teacher and published writer, Irene-Mary lived in Arizona.

Mary Sneed Pharris died on March 28, leaving five children, 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, among others. A teenage counselor and a Realtor, Mary had retired and was residing in Maine. We were recently informed of the death of **Marjorie Steele** on Feb. 25, 2000 in the United Kingdom.

We extend our condolences to **Alibeth Howell** on the death of her brother, Alan, in July 2007.

Cornelia (Keena) Barber McGuinness's husband, William, died on June 4. In recent years Keena and Bill traveled throughout the world. After

retiring, Bill volunteered his services as an ob/gyn in, among other countries, Haiti and Guyana. We remember seeing Bill at many of our reunions, and we'll miss him. Keena is comforted by her large family of eight children and 14 grandchildren.

Frances Jeffery Abramowitz
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Boca Raton, FL 33498
561.488.7132

49 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$47,753
Participation 52%
98 donors/187 in class

Marion Hausner Pauck is teaching a course, "Reinhold Niebuhr, Public and Private," at Stanford University. There has been a renewed interest in Niebuhr's writings, which express his strong Protestant faith and its relation to liberal thought. Marion studied with Niebuhr at Union Theological Seminary and worked with him for two years. She became friends with the Niebuhrs when she married the late Wilhelm Pauck, who had been a visiting professor of church history at Stanford. Marion was the assistant editor of religious books at Oxford University Press for 10 years and is the co-author of *Paul Tillich, His Life and Thought* with her husband.

Alma Schuhmacher Rehkamp's daughter, Marlene O'Brien Rehkamp, spoke at the Radcliffe commemorative service in June at her 25th reunion. Marlene has been a corporate attorney and a government lawyer, serving under Elizabeth Holtzman and Rudolph Giuliani. She encouraged the Radcliffe audience to use their gifts and energy with purpose and passion. Alma and her husband now live in East Falmouth on Cape Cod after many years on Long Island. They have three daughters. Alma welcomes visits from classmates.

In retirement I'm busier than ever, as parish historian and as household/family organizer. My aunt, Martha Scacciaferro Beattie '31, lives in Georgia so we make trips there fairly often. In an attempt to downsize, I have been cataloging some of our books and recently gave many of the Italian books to the Seton Hall

University library. Sadly, there are more deaths to report. **Nancy Marshall Everett** died on May 17. **Brenda Cooke Pratt** on Feb. 14, in San Juan, Wash. She is survived by two sons and four grandchildren. **Marylou Dixon Smith** passed away on Sept. 28, 2006 in Atlantic Beach, Fla. She is survived by her husband, Alwyn. Our condolences to their families.

—RSG

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50 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$90,019
Participation 55%
121 donors/219 in class

Our 57th mini-reunion attracted six classmates, **Rose Sgammato Annis Jean Scheller Cain, Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum, Maureen McCann Miletta, and Irma Socci Moore.** Maureen has retired after 58 years of teaching, the last 24 at Hofstra, where she received the 2007 Teacher of the Year Award. She and her oldest daughter, Alexandra, have just completed an edited volume of articles that they consider essential reading for parents and new teachers. Both have been teaching courses on the problems and issues in education and they share the perspectives of two generations. Alexandra is a professor at City College of New York. Maureen's younger daughter, Jennifer, is an atmospheric scientist living in Olney, Md., outside of Washington, D.C., where her husband is at the National Institutes of Health. They have two children. Maureen plans to occupy her retirement writing about her year in Iran, playing the cello, and swimming half a mile every day. Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum, a senior judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, was invited to sit as a visiting judge with

the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Pasadena, Calif. She was honored and excited at the offer.

In June, **Nancy Nicholson Joline** and her husband enjoyed a Yale-sponsored Lisbon-to-Venice cruise. Highlights were Corsica; Seville, Spain; Kotor, Montenegro, an ancient walled town situated at the head of a fjord; and Split, Croatia, a seaside city where the air is fragrant with lavender.

Barbara Novak's husband, Brian O'Doherty, had an art show at the Grey Gallery at New York University from May to July, titled *Beyond the White Cube: A Retrospective of Brian O'Doherty/ Patrick Ireland*. Starting in the mid-1960s he made conceptual art that underpins today's most significant installation and performance art. The *New York Times* called it a "must-see."

We were saddened to learn of the death of **Dorothy Balzer Villee** on April 23, after a short illness. She is survived by four children and three grandchildren. Many of us remember **Phyllis Isaacson Shapiro**, whose death on Dec. 1, 2005, was reported by her daughter, Laurie Shapiro. Laurie writes, "Barnard was a very special place for my mother, and even though she didn't graduate (having met and married my father), it holds a special place in our family." Two other daughters survive Phyllis.

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51

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$56,225
Participation 53%
104 donors/197 in class

Writing this on my birthday gives me a pensive feeling, especially since I have sad news to report. Fred Parnon of Oyster Bay, N.Y., sends news of the death of his mother, **Rosemarie Towbin Parnon**, from lung cancer on Jan. 2. Also, we received word of the

death of **Alma Besso Sertel** on Jan. 10, 1999 and the death of **Dorothy Minton Crist** on May 16, 1999. Here's happier news; **Theodora Tunney Rosenbaum** writes that she's delighted to have five grandchildren, the youngest are twins, a boy and girl, 2 years old.

Elna Loscher Robbins and her husband, Murray, continue to teach chemistry to third-graders in an enrichment program designed by Murray, a retired Bell Labs chemist.

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52

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$86,760
Participation 63%
137 donors/218 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$538,874

Class Officers 2007–2012: Presidents, Marilyn Rich Rosenblatt and Marilyn Silver Lieberman; Vice President, Harriet Newman Cohen; Fund Chair, Elizabeth (Bettina) Blake; Treasurer, Marietta Moskin; Correspondents, Priscilla Redfearn Elfrey and Nancy Stone Hayward; Networking Chairs, Norma Glaser Justin and Inez Schapiro Reiser; Recording Secretary, Claire Delage Metz.

Are class notes the first thing you look at when you receive *Barnard*? Someone out there is looking for your name. Help by sending a few words via e-mail, snail mail, or phone to either of your new class co-correspondents listed below. We'd like to hear from you.

Thanks to **Margaret (Peggy) Collins Maron**, for the excellent job she did as our class correspondent. Peggy reports that on June 28, she, **Mary Lee Fuhr Baranger**, **Carol Connors Krikun**, and **Ruth Ryskind Ohman** joined a Project Continuum–sponsored trip to Philadelphia to view the King Tut exhibit. She says it was fabulous. Mary Lee, an art historian, spoke about the exhibit and about ancient Egyptian art collections in New York City. **Nancy Stone Hayward** attended reunion, which she says is a wonderful

time to visit with classmates and to talk with women from other classes whose experiences show her new ways that the world is changing. One of the reunion activities she enjoyed was a tour of the Barnard Archives' repository of our Class of 1952 Personal Archives, led by Donald Glassman, College archivist. **Priscilla Redfearn Elfrey** reports that she has been traveling on business to Europe, where she was a plenary speaker for the European Simulation Interoperability Workshop and chair of the Space Committee Forum. Closer to home, she attended the Wooden Boat Show at Mystic, Conn.

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55th Reunion May 29 – June 1, 2008

53

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$195,752
Participation 58%
138 donors/237 in class

Our 55th Reunion is May 29 through June 1, 2008. A committee is planning the cocktail party for that Thursday and events at the College on Friday and Saturday. Contact **Margaret (Nancy) Underwood Lourie** at 212.677.3863 with ideas or questions.

Larry and **Natalie Marx Appel's** daughter, Julie, has had several children's books published. They deal with art, painters, paintings, etc., and are a popular item at all the big book chain stores.

Sue Sayre Harrington has moved from New York to Cambridge to be near her daughter, who teaches at Harvard. Those in the Boston area can find Sue through the online directory, www.barnard.edu/alum.

Evelyn Ilton Strauss and her husband, Herb, are gearing up for another of their gala, star-studded concerts at Carnegie Hall on Nov 26. They have raised millions

for leukemia research through the Laurie Strauss Leukemia Foundation, established in memory of their daughter Laurie who died of the disease at age 26. For additional information visit their Web site, lsf.org.

Stephanie Lam Pollack
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54 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$35,746
Participation 58%
128 donors/221 in class

I spoke to **Joanne Slater**, who came to New York City several months ago from Prairie Village, Kan. She brought a lot of Class of 1954 memorabilia to Barnard and they were thrilled with it. It seems her parents packed up her dorm room and put everything into storage when she moved to Indiana right after graduation. She hadn't looked at it until now. She also visited with her middle daughter who came down from Providence, R.I. They enjoyed three Broadway shows together.

Joanne mentioned seeing a *World Telegram & Sun* article about my first job after graduation. Coincidentally, that article also highlighted Attilio Bisio (CC '54), who is married to **Rosemary Ronzoni Bisio**. My husband, Armand, and I went on a wonderful trip to Russia, and out of 29 people on our tour, there were two other Barnard graduates, Rita Stein Kobler '64 and Rhoda Lampidis Papaioannou '61. Somehow we discovered our common background.

Emma Aslan Baba works part-time at a winery in the Napa Valley just to keep busy. Formerly she was a children's wear buyer for Orbach's, a fourth-grade teacher, and a travel agent. Emma worked while at Barnard, as did **Janet Jansen Dunham**, which is why they feel such a bond and keep in touch.

Patricia Barry Baker worked for child-support enforcement in Massachusetts. But her real love is gardening. Now that she has retired and her four children are grown, she can devote quality time to her garden, which was on the Newburyport garden tour this year.

Elena Mayer '10, granddaughter of **Lenore Self Katkin**, addressed the Barnard Club of Seattle, and has led tours of Barnard for students considering the College. A Seattle native, she must have done a bang-up job, as **Dorothy Cohn Feldman** called Lenore to rave about it, and there will be nine incoming first-years from Seattle this fall.

It is with sadness that we report the death of **Sally Fuhring Status-Muller**. Married in 1954, she lived in many places with her husband, who worked for NATO. Sally published translations from Portuguese, and the *Lancet* published a research project she conducted on Curaçao, where she passed away on May 9. Our condolences to her husband, children, and grandchildren.

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55 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$142,057
Participation 58%
122 donors/211 in class

Congratulations to **Jane Were-Bey Gardner** and her husband, Herbert, on the marriage of their younger son, Jeff, to Federica Paganin on May 21. Jeff works in theatre and is involved in bringing the show *Grumpy Old Men* to Broadway. Jane has been most diligent about corresponding with our class, sending out invitations and noting responses for all of the local New York City class luncheons. These events would not be as successful as they are if it weren't for Jane.

Toni Lautman Simon, Marcella Jung Sacks Rosen, Hessa Levinsons Taft, and Jane met for lunch on July 18 to continue the tradition and schedule the next luncheon.

Renée Becker Swartz, ably assisted by **Louise Cohen Silverman**, has continued the tradition of holding a summer scholarship luncheon for Barnard alumnae, students, and faculty in New Jersey. The luncheon was held on Aug. 7, at the Ocean Beach Club and featured a presentation, "On Women in Politics," a timely topic addressed by Amy Handlin, New

Jersey Assemblywoman and associate professor of marketing at Monmouth University. The scholarship luncheon was sponsored by the Barnard College Club of Monmouth County, New Jersey, and the Alumnae Association of Barnard College. Marilyn Chin '74, the director of Alumnae Affairs, was present and greeted the guests.

Tamara Rippner Casriel is delighted that her granddaughter Madeleine Gyory '10 entered her sophomore year at Barnard this fall and plans to major in English, as did Tammy. "She's a chip off my block," says Tammy, who is still using her literature training by leading two book groups in her home neighborhood of Deal, N.J.

Sylvia Simmons Prozan was the subject of an article appearing in the June issue of the *Boalt Hall Alumni Magazine*. Sylvia earned her law degree from Boalt Hall. The article tracks her career after Barnard as a pioneering television newscaster to her entry into law school. Sylvia had started as a weather girl on an ABC affiliate in her native Cleveland, which she followed with a brief stint as a newscaster in Akron, Ohio, and then graduated from local consumer issues to an assignment covering politics with KNTV in San Jose, Calif. Known for her investigative reporting, she was one of the first women to cover news on TV in the Bay area. All of this was accomplished despite frequent moves because of her husband's army service and medical career, and the birth of four children. I lived in Cleveland in 1957 when Sylvia began her TV career as a weather reporter from 5:55 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each weekday evening. For those five minutes, I bundled my baby on my bed and we both watched Sylvia show us weather patterns on a reconditioned TV specifically bought for this purpose. It was exciting to have a classmate break into TV reporting, a totally masculine field at that time.

I heard from Melissa Marks, daughter of **Estelle Davidson Marks**, who lives in Boca Raton, Fla. Estelle would love to hear from classmates. Look her up in the online directory, www.barnard.edu/alum. I'd love to hear from you, too.

Joyce Usiskin
2 Bellflower Court

56

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$132,838
Participation 55%
157 donors/283 in class

Every quarter, there seems to be news of another classmate's death. This time, we report the death of **Joy Stern Grant** in April 2006 and of **Carol Richardson Holt** last April. We send their families our condolences.

Some deaths bring shock as well as sadness. The death of **Lilly Spiegel Schwebel**'s daughter, Lana Schwebel, due to an accident in Siberia, was that kind, a death out of order.

Lana's dying is an occasion of widespread grief, not merely that she was an alumna, nor that her mother is among our most active alumnae. I paid a shiva call with **Janet Bersin Finke** and **Bernice Rubinstein Moskowitz** who had both gone to high school with Lilly at Erasmus Hall. Bernice also knew Lilly and her family when they first arrived here as refugees after World War II. Lana's death happened as *Barnard's* summer issue went to press. In that issue, I promised that this column would celebrate Lana's life. During museum trips made with Lilly, I heard about Lana and her adventurous life. I told Lilly how I hoped to meet Lana. Since I was not able to meet her, I rely on what her sisters said at Lana's funeral.

Liz expressed an older sister's pride in Lana's generous spirit. Lana's sister Pam, her senior by 11 years, shared that her little sister, the esteemed scholar, was a "funky dresser" with a "sweet" wit. Lana, who decided to skip senior year at her yeshiva, did so well on her SAT's that Barnard admitted her without a high school diploma. After Barnard, she earned graduate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. Wherever Lana taught—Stern College, Vassar, Yale Divinity School—she was able to connect with her students. As a teacher, she was a natural, able to make the "mundane exciting and the esoteric tangible." Lana bridged worlds that seem in opposition but for someone whose immersion in her field and in her faith

presented no inner conflict. To Lana, teaching medieval English literature—virtually entirely Christian—and living an Orthodox Jewish life were equally natural. No wonder Pam said Lana was a role model for the modern Jewish woman.

Beautifully, Pam spoke of Lana's intimacy with Lilly, which extended to their filling in gaps in each other's crossword puzzles. Lana's sisters said that, in her 35 years, she lived a full life. Who, listening to their words, could doubt it?

Lilly asked us to say how moved she and Philip have been by the dozens of notes and e-mails they've received about Lana and about the reprint of the talk she gave at 2007 Reunion.

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57

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$226,484
Participation 71%
206 donors/292 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$758,361

Class Officers 2007–2012: Presidents, Louise Greene Klaber and Dorothea Eidenberg Ellern; Vice Presidents and Reunion Chairs, Rhoda Mermelstein Berley, Phyllis Raphael, and Barbara Salant; Fund Chairs, Rhoda Mermelstein Berley and Lisa Cohen Damesek; Correspondents, Millicent Alter and Judith Jaffe Baum; Nominating Chair: Carol Podell Vinson.

Here's a quote from Nora Lourie Percival '36: "My dear ones, if you want to read news of our class you must write (or e-mail) me and give me some." Perhaps you all exhausted yourselves at reunion. We heard from **Devara (Lee) Ullian Blumenthal**, who married Victor Blumenthal 50 years ago. They have three children and six grandchildren. Lee left Barnard after two years to join Columbia's physical therapy program. She practiced as a physical therapist, mostly in home health care, and retired a few years ago. They have lived in many states and now reside in Florida and on Cape Cod, Mass.

Marilyn Fields Soloway was unable to come to reunion because her son's wedding was the same weekend, but she sends us her warmest regards.

Hiroko Ogawa Fujimoto sends a card saying she looked at our class picture and although recognized only four people, she says we "all looked happy, young, and healthy."

We were recently notified by **Arlene Jackson Lowell**'s daughter, Kenza Adams, that Arlene died in 2001. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

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50th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

58

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$56,561
Participation 49%
148 donors/303 in class

Our BIG 50th Reunion next spring is already on our minds!

Ellen Weintrob Schor writes, "I just may come to the reunion. It is hard to believe that 50 years have gone by. I remember Barnard life so clearly. It feels like it was yesterday."

The way to this big event is paved by mini-reunions. **Doris Platzker Friedensohn**, our co-president, reported that one occurred on May 14 at the Neue Gallerie in New York City. In addition to Doris, **Elizabeth Jaros Biers, Marian Bradley, Elaine Greenberg Erichson, Joan Kent Finkelstein, Judith Kotik Freudman, Joan Sweet Jankell, Sondra Bank Scharf, Carol Schott Sterling, Helene Jaffe Swedowsky, and Myrna Ziegler Weiss**, and six guests attended. "With guidance from an excellent docent, we viewed the exhibit, Van Gogh and Expressionism," says Doris.

Unfortunately, Ellen Weintrob Schor and her sister, who were scheduled to fly in from Washington, D.C., had their flight canceled that morning.

Doris adds that after the exhibit nine attendees gathered in the museum's café. "At a long table with windows on Fifth Avenue, we gabbed about art, families, and politics as the light slowly faded."

We also heard from **Maida Zuparn Maxham**, back in Vermont for the summer for a "chance to play in the dirt in my garden. Old habits die hard. When I was 3 years old, living in the Bronx, my aunt got a summons to appear in court for allowing me to play in the dirt and dig holes in Claremont Park." She adds that her travels in the past year included Antarctica (her fourth time there) and a cruise on the Amazon, "visiting Brazil, French Guyana, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad, and Venezuela. Birding and photography are serious addictions with no known cure."

We also heard from two classmates who are on the move. In August, **Abigail Mann Thernstrom** moved from the Boston area to McLean, Va. She wrote, "Except for four years in Los Angeles and one in England, we have been in Massachusetts for roughly half a century. Hard to believe that we are actually uprooting ourselves, but the time seems right. Even though Steve is not yet ready to give up teaching at Harvard, and will commute—at least for next year."

Virginia Birkenmayer Svane who wrote with news about the publications and lectures of her son, Erik, mentions that she and her husband, Eskil, "moved to Ascona in Ticino, the southernmost Italian-speaking Swiss canton..." They plan to spend eight or nine months a year there with summers spent in their old farmhouse in the south of France. She says, "We love our new home. The region offers a perfect blend of Swiss efficiency and Italian charm."

—HRS

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59 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$92,150
Participation 52%
159 donors/304 in class

It was with fond memories of Greek Games (remember Prometheus?), Junior Show ("What was that, Mr. Boone?"; "I'm Joanie's mother."), and exciting academics that I agreed to be class correspondent. Let's keep this column full.

Carol Herman Cohen writes, "I was recently chosen to be chair of The Barnard Fund Committee and remain the fund chair for our class. With our 50th Reunion coming up, I am looking forward to being in touch with many of our classmates—not just to raise money, but to urge them to come to reunion in 2009. Many exciting events are offered on campus—it's not the usual reunion anymore."

Since 1991, I've been helping people with fibromyalgia find doctors who will be nice to them while treating their disease. Upon returning to show biz, I spent a few years doing traveling cabaret, and I'm now doing voice-over work. I've written and self-published a funny but delicious cookbook called *The Abnormal Cookbook*. The title says it all.

—BRJ

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60 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$52,929
Participation 44%
128 donors/293 in class

I'm writing this having just returned from France, where I had a lovely lunch with **Judith Reich Andreyev**, who lives in Paris. She continues to play music, teach English, write books about

language, and enjoy her two daughters, one a musician and one a psychologist. We met at the sufficiently minor museum, *Musée de la Vie Romantique*, where exhibits would not distract us from talking, talking, talking about our lives, and catching up. We had reconnected at the reunion before last, and I put Judith's card in my France file, knowing that sooner or later I'd be there and luckily so was she. A major benefit of attending reunions.

Just before departure, I had lunch with my co-correspondent, **Muriel Lederman Storrie**, who was in town to help her daughter welcome a new baby. That was fun, too, although I'm not sure a Somerville Indian restaurant can compete with the Garden of Romantic Life. **Nancy Odinov Baiter** e-mailed me from Portland, Ore., where she has lived for almost 15 years. She had hoped to attend reunion but couldn't quite swing it. (I hope you make it to our next one, Nancy! It's our 50th and should be massive.) Despite all the advantages of Portland (green in every sense of the word and in all seasons), she says she misses serious culture and hopes to move back to New York City. She'd love to hear from classmates, and I, for one, was delighted to hear from her after so long a silence.

Having recently returned from the Pacific Northwest (Vancouver and Seattle), I'd switch with Nancy—at least part-time. I think of the mountains, the hiking, the local produce (and wines!), the gardening, the mushroom-picking, the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. I could go on and on. Nancy could take over my place in Cambridge, Mass., where we have culture up the wazoo, and I'd live in her house. Our longings could be satisfied on a part-time basis without the cost and disruption of moving.

Mary Campbell Gallagher gave a presentation on her Under-Here-Therefore™ legal-writing system at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference in Las Vegas. Mary says she first introduced her system, which is based on Aristotelian logic, in her book, *Scoring High on Bar Exam Essays*. Her Web site (www.barwrite.com), explains that Mary runs a nineteen-year-old empire that helps aspiring lawyers to pass the bar exam, using publications, coaching sessions, and bar boot camps. The tes-

testimonials from grateful customers would make Aristotle proud.

We regret to report the death of **Jane Gonyou Neilsen** of Walpole, N.H., on May 4. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and four children, to whom we send our condolences.

—SG

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61 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$106,266
Participation 48%
139 donors/289 in class

Nine of our classmates gathered at reunion in June for afternoon lectures, a cocktail hour, and dinner: **Dorothy Memolo Bheddah, Hanita Frymer Blumfield, Alice Brody, Elaine Schlozman Chapnick, Sarita Newman Hart, Tobe Sokolow Joffe, Suzanne Yormark Scherby, Eleanor Kavelle Schwartz, and Tess Kourkoumelis Sholom.** Thanks to Dottie for sending the list of those who attended, plus a report that they all had a wonderful time.

Dottie is still retired, playing tennis and doing yoga. "See why I don't send in class news more often. But at my stage of life (and most likely yours too, if you are interested in this column) staying the same is a fabulous basis on which to build change. I am a devoted student of the Bible and have been enjoying an excellent course at our local university. My husband, Peter, and I were in India most of the winter. At a medical camp, I examined rural women for breast cancer, after training, and then, if they needed, follow-up by a physician. Our granddaughter Grace is

2. Both daughters are fine. Peter, too, is in acceptable health."

Hanita, our reunion chair, has just published an as-told-to memoir of Holocaust survivor Hannah Rigler, *Ten British Prisoners of War Saved My Life* (Jay Street Publishers). Hanita is now finishing a book, *The Dog Lover's Guide to the Good Life*, with artist Carole Saxe. (Quite a contrast.) Her daughter, Allegra Blumfield DiGia '83, is senior counsel at Citigroup and has two children, Brooke and Carolyn (future Barnard material). Hanita's son, Darrin, is associate dean of Abraham Lincoln Law School and has a 1-year-old, Rachael Elise.

Alice, a resident of the Upper West Side, is working on fiber-art pieces and exhibiting them. She has exhibited in Berkeley, Calif., at Quilting by the Lake, a symposium in upstate New York, and at a gallery in Hartford, Conn. Alice is also participating in a traveling show mounted by the New York State chapter of the Studio Art Quilt Associates. She retired a couple of years ago and has been making art for the past 15 years. We missed Alice at our 45th Reunion because she was cruising on the shores of Alaska where, she's sad to report, the glaciers are indeed receding.

Tobe, our class president, reports that she participated in a Singapore Math conference last July in Singapore. "This will be a stop along my path of lifelong learning. My work with teachers in the Bronx, N.Y., has permitted me to participate in very meaningful teaching and learning experiences with these dedicated professionals," she says. Her husband, Joe, and her family are also engaged in interesting work: computers, education, and fine dining. Sarita, a CPA, survived tax season with the help of her new exercise program, which she feels helped relieve stress. She also plays tennis. Sarita and Dottie compared the benefits of various knee braces for keeping bodies intact. One of Sarita's sons moved to Corpus Christi, Texas. She has two other sons and grandchildren in the New York City area. Sarita says, "Dottie and I found a wonderful coffee bar in McIntosh Center—all kinds of 'java' flavors with lots of whipped cream." Since then Millicent McIntosh Student Center has been torn down to be replaced by the new Nexus building (see *Barnard*,

Spring 2007, feature package). Tess is planning a trip to India. Since Dottie's husband is Indian, she's helping with the travel arrangements. Tess's husband, Ron, is seriously considering retiring and so, in self-defense, Tess applied and was accepted to the docent program at the Rubin Museum of Art in Manhattan. She's also taking Spanish lessons and will be starting flamenco lessons. Tess says, "I hope my knees can take it."

It is with great sadness, and respect, that I report the passing of **Mary Varney Rorty's** husband of over 30 years, Richard, a well-known philosopher. They moved to California about 10 years ago. **Julia Brandes Wall** and I attended a memorial service for Richard held at Stanford. The Rorty children, some lifelong friends, and some colleagues all spoke. They didn't speak at length about his genius as a philosopher, but rather about the wonderful qualities he had as a man, husband, father, and teacher, and about how much he adored Mary. More than Richard's pragmatic philosophy, the accolades of him as a person showed the possibilities of living a conscious, loving, caring life.

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62 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$238,154
Participation 62%
196 donors/314 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$939,789

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Libby Guth Fishman; Vice Presidents and Reunion Chairs, Marsha Corn Levine and Elinor Yudin Sachse; Fund Chairs, Alice Finkelstein Alekman, Abbe Fessenden, and Naomi Albert Gardner; Treasurer, Nancy Brown Schmiderer; Correspondent, Marcia Stecker Weller; Nominating Chair, Sara Ginsberg Marks; Networking Chairs, Maya Freed Brown, Joy Felsher Perla, and Joyce Ragen Prenner.

Congratulations to our new class officers. Their updated contact information is in the 45th Reunion classbook, put

together by **Barbara Lovenheim** and **Roslyn Leventhal Siegel**.

The classbook is available through the Alumnae Office for \$10 as is the CD of Barnard archival pictures for \$5 (check made out to the College). Ellie has packaged her reunion candid photos on Shutterfly, or you may purchase the CD for \$2 (send a check to Ellie).

Libby has sent out a letter about our "50 for 50" Campaign explaining that, until now, we haven't collected dues. However, we need to replenish our treasury to prepare for our 50th Reunion. We're asking everyone to voluntarily contribute \$50 as class dues. That is \$10 a year for the next five years. You may pay it all at once or in installments. Simply send your check, payable to Barnard College, marked Class of 1962 Treasury, to Alumnae Affairs Office, c/o Erin Fredrick, 50 for 50, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027.

Congratulations go to the following classmates. **Eleanor Edelstein** is proud to announce the graduation of her niece Elizabeth Ness-Edelstein '07, who will share reunion years with her aunt. **Rita Gabler Rover**'s daughter, Elena Rover Strothenke '88, has published *The Chelsea Piers Fitness Solution*, featuring Rita in the bicycling section. **Lynn Puerschner Hurst** recently retired from a 20-year association with hospice social work in Denver, which allows her time with three small grandsons, as well as time to play the viola. **Ellen Torrance** writes that she had quadruple bypass earlier this year in Lynchburg, Va., "One of the best places in the country for this kind of surgery."

We sadly report that **Renée Brosell Garrelick**, an educator, historian, and communications consultant, passed away in January in Concord, Mass. Renée is survived by her husband, Joel, two sons, one daughter, and a grandson.

Francine Grossbart Aaron came to our 25th Reunion and returned for our 45th. Francine reports that **Sheila Nathanson Duncan** introduced her to her colleague at work, Arnie Aaron, in 1992. A year later, Francine married him. Sadly, Sheila passed away in 2001 in Jerusalem; the Aarons miss her very much.

On a happier note, **Helen Geiger**

Rabin, a former baker and current artist in Vermont, who had never come to a reunion before, attended our 45th. So did **Valerie Horst**, who lives near Barnard and proudly showed her new Barnard library card—available to alumnae. **Linda Theil Cahill**, who attended reunion for the first time in a long while, heads an emergency center just for children at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. It's designed so that children who might have been abused can be checked without having to wait with adults at a regular clinic.

I'm very happy to be your new class correspondent. Please send in your news.

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45th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

63 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$97,056
Participation 48%
159 donors/330 in class

On June 28, **Vera Wagner Frances**, former co-correspondent, passed away. After graduation, Vera married Columbia graduate Allen Frances. She became a psychologist and he, a psychiatrist. They had two sons, Bob, a lawyer in San Diego, and Craig, a physician in Palo Alto, Calif. She had five grandchildren and worked in New York and Connecticut public schools as a school psychologist. But at the age of 47, Vera was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. She was given a year to live, but her incredible capacity to love her husband, children, and friends, her deep sweetness and her kind heart, must have carried her through the years. It is only now, 18 years later that we all have to say good-bye. Her sons have set up a Web site, verafrances.com, to remember her; they welcome all to visit.

I had wonderful conversations with **Frances Fenkel Freedman, Virginia Greene, Barbara-Ann Kissel Greenberg**, and all of whom live in the Philadelphia area.

Frances married right out of Barnard and had four children, but in 1980 she was suddenly widowed. She had established a publishing business in 1978 in Atlantic City, N.J., starting with a small press and

growing the business with spin-offs until it was purchased in 1991 by another press. In 1993, she attended Temple Law School and now has a practice in which she wears many hats (author's agent, editorial and marketing consulting, and the like). She says she could never get out of publishing. She is remarried to John Blum. Her three sons run a very successful business in Colorado, her daughter teaches there, and they are all headed for China in the fall. Virginia, happily single, heads the conservation lab at Penn Museum, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. She attended graduate school at Penn in Mayan archaeology, which explores the archaeology of Mexico, Guatemala, and neighboring countries. After deciding she preferred to work with objects after excavation, she finished a conservation-training program at the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, in 1971, and returned to Penn to take up the directorship she has now. She has two employees and an intern and they handle the repair and treatment of all objects on exhibition and on loan. Organic objects like baskets and textiles have a special appeal for her since she's a weaver and makes all her own clothes. Virginia recalls one year at Barnard when she made all the costumes for Greek Games. Barbara-Ann has retired from her clinical psychology practice to spend more time with her husband, Morton, a judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. He has taken senior status and cut his workload. She enjoys their travels together with family and friends, using back lanes and finding historical sights. Her son, Carl Hoyler, is a representative for Bristol-Myers. She's happy to be in good health.

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64 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$157,534
Participation 43%
155 donors/362 in class

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Moving?

Send name, telephone, address and e-mail address changes and updated employment information to: Alumnae Records, Barnard College, Box AS, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6598 / Fax: 212.854.0044. You can also submit updates online at www.barnard.edu/alum by clicking on "Keeping in Touch" and "Alumnae Online Records Form."

65

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$77,038
Participation 39%
126 donors/322 in class

Doreen Polak Liebeskind, a diagnostic radiologist, died in March at age 62. She is survived by her husband, three children, including Elise Liebeskind '94, and four grandchildren. Our hearts go out to Doreen's family.

We have a special request. **Alice Levin Sokolik** died in 1974 at age 29, leaving a very young daughter. Alice's now-grown daughter, Julianna, is looking for information about her mother. Can anyone help? Julianna has only a few photos and very little information. She'd like to hear from and speak to Alice's friends and others who have memories of her. We'll forward all information to Julianna. Many thanks.

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66

Barnard Fund Gifts
\$94,434
Participation 34%
109 donors/318 in class

Carrie L. Wilson writes that in April, she and her husband, Edward Green,

A Healthy Choice

Charlynn Goins '63

If Charlynn Goins had been asked 10 years ago to chair the largest municipal hospital system in the country, she would have responded with a polite, but immediate, "No, thank you."

Three years ago, when a friend did recommend her to New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg as the best choice to lead the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), Goins still maintained this quick thanks-but-no-thanks mentality.

"What initially went through my mind was that I couldn't think of considering it," says Goins, noting HHC's less than stellar history.

But upon further investigation, she discovered that what a decade ago had been thought of as "one's last choice" for health-service board work, was now a very different, much-improved organization.

"I had not been aware of the tremendous changes, not only in the quality of care, but in technology, that had occurred there. Once I started calling around, I learned that there were a lot of exciting things going on at HHC."

One recent project at HHC is its Chronic Disease Management initiative—a plan aimed to keep people with serious, chronic illnesses (e.g., diabetes) healthy in order to avoid surgery and expensive hospital visits. As chair, Goins is responsible for interfacing with the CEO and guiding preventative care from the idea room, to the boardroom, to the senior staff, and then to rest of HHC's 38,000 employees.

Goins credits her ability to handle the rigors of her voluntary position at HHC to two traits she learned early on at Barnard: to be organized, and to work very, very hard. She says these two attributes have served her very well throughout her career and life; from raising her two children to her time as a tax lawyer in the late 1970s to being the director of international marketing for a mutual-fund division of Prudential in the mid-1990s. In addition to her work with HHC, she also holds a seat on the board of trustees of the Brooklyn Museum and membership with both the Council on Foreign Relations and the Century Association.

Goins also ascribes her affinity for public service to Barnard and its former president, Millicent McIntosh. President McIntosh told her students that it was just as acceptable to be a homemaker and mother as having a career, as long the former featured involvement in the community. In the 10 years immediately following her graduation from Barnard, this is precisely what Goins did.

"I was married at 19 and graduated from Barnard at 20. I stayed at home while my children were young, and while I was at home I was active in not-for-profit boards and local politics, so I started out on the road to public service early on." —*John Ward*

made a concert/lecture tour to three cities in Argentina. Carrie sang songs of the British Isles and North America with comments about the principles of Aesthetic Realism. All beauty is a making of opposites, and that is what we are going after in ourselves. She and Ed were guest lecturers at the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina and presented a concert reading of the poetry of Eli Siegel, the founder of



Aesthetic Realism. There were also two concerts of Ed's orchestral music. It's a busy and exciting time for Carrie. Over the next year I'll be writing to many of you hoping to hear news for this column. I was happy that **Meredith (Merry) Stetson Hall** and **Deborah Rogers Butler** answered my e-mail. Merry's writing a book, *Mainely Organic*, which takes her all over Maine interviewing organic farmers,

gardeners, landscapers, foresters, and others about building an alternative food community. She says, "It is incredible how well thought out their ecological, sociological, and political philosophies are." Merry says she's learning a great deal. She's also taking care of her grandchildren while her daughter works. She and her new husband, Brad, are starting a permaculture garden as a combination food source, landscaping, and eco-repair venture. Merry regrets not putting her heart into the "back to the land" movement in the '60s instead of going into the educational system, but feels very fulfilled and happy that everything has worked out.

Deborah lives in Connecticut full-time with her husband, an architect, and their labradoodle puppy. She retired from teaching at the Chapin School in 2000, and is now busy gardening, playing with grandchildren, and volunteering at her church. During the summer her children and their families stay with her. She and her husband took a "fabulous" trip to China and Japan in April. Deborah prepared for the excursion by taking two courses at Connecticut College, and enjoyed them so much that this fall she has signed up for "The Confucian Tradition." Although she goes to New York City often to visit her four children, she prefers the country life.

Marcia Weinstein Stern writes that she saw **Peggyanne Semel Kahn** at a Fieldston School reunion. Marcia's husband and Peggy went to Fieldston. They were surprised to learn that they were nearby neighbors in Westchester. I'm sure that you're all aware that Barnard is searching for a successor to Judith Shapiro who will be leaving as president at the end of the 2007-08 academic year. Helene Finkelstein Kaplan '53 and Jolyne Caruso-FitzGerald '81 have agreed to be co-chairs of the committee. Also on the committee is **Augusta Souza Kappner**, president of Bank Street College of Education. We wish them all good luck.

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67 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$153,243
Participation 49%
163 donors/332 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$2,018,293

Class Officers 2007-2012: President, Joan Lerner Johnson; Vice President, Estelle Haferling; Fund Chair, Susan Abramowitz; Treasurer, Karen Kraskow; Correspondent, Catherine Feola Weisbrod; Nominating Chair, Janet Edla Carlson Taylor; Networking Chair, Christine Nodini Bullen.

Susan Goldsmith Wooldridge was unable to attend reunion, having just completed a book, *Fools Gold: Making Something From Nothing*.

Idie Silver Emery, Nancy Schneider Heller, and Arline J. Tannenbaum had a mini-vacation visiting Galveston, Texas, Nancy's hometown. Both of Idie's children live near her home in Thousand Oaks, Calif., and she has a 1-year-old grandson. Don't forget to sign up for the Class of 1967 listserv on Yahoo.com

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40th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

68 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$174,749
Participation 37%
144 donors/394 in class

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69 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$72,709
Participation 34%
150 donors/444 in class

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70 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$54,139
Participation 28%
109 donors/387 in class

Sadly, two classmates passed away in March of this year, **Melissa Blake Rowny** and **Ruth Lubka**. **Bonnie Fox Sirower** recalled singing together with Melissa in *Princess Ida*, as members of the Gilbert & Sullivan group at Barnard. **Leslie Brooks** of Ipswich, Mass., writes, "Melissa and I met at the beginning of our first year. We both lived on 6 Reid. She was the first person I knew who wore boots! She was a wonderful friend, always. She had enormous style and great creativity. Even though our contact became more sporadic as years went by, whenever we saw one another we seemed to pick up as though we'd seen each other only days before. I spent a weekend with her this past December, and her strength and spirit in dealing with her illness were remarkable. I'd always admired her, but never more than then. Her death was a great loss."

Deborah Cohen Levine writes from Los Angeles that she went to the Hebrew University with Ruthie Lubka during the summer between their sophomore and junior years at Barnard, and that they lived in the same suite during their senior year. Deborah reminisces, "I can still hear her playing 'Leaving on a Jet Plane' after she broke up with her Israeli boyfriend." If you'd like to contact Melissa's surviving relatives, I'll pass your messages on to her husband, Michael J. Rowny.

In other class news, **Evelyn Langlieb Greer** reports that she's completing her first term on the Miami-Dade County Public School Board and preparing to run again. Her district has an enrollment of 350,000 and includes children from very diverse backgrounds, from wealthy suburbs to migrant camps. Her older children, Matt Greer (CC '00) and Rachel Greer Narvaez '03, live in Miami. Evelyn and Bruce's youngest child, Laura, graduated *magna cum laude*

from Yale in May and joined Teach for America, which has placed her in an inner-city school in Phoenix.

It's been nine years since **Janine Grace Palmer** retired and moved from Hoboken, N.J., to Old Lyme, Conn. She and her husband, Norman Ashcraft, who retired from Adelphi University, are enjoying retirement. "I have really loved doing all those things here that I couldn't do before in the city, such as riding my two horses, gardening in an enormous flower and vegetable patch, working with oils in my studio, and skiing in the winter." This past winter Janine and Norman went to Cairo to visit his daughter who's finishing her doctorate at MIT on the Nile Basin water usage. "Our trip to the Sinai desert, Cairo, and Luxor was one of the dreams of my life."

Sarah Cameron Lerer received the gift of a new kidney from her niece on June 21, and now looks forward to a life free of dialysis. She urges all her classmates to consider organ donation as part of their estate plans, as the list of people who need kidney and other transplants is long and growing much faster than organs are being donated.

Ida Sharon Susser is president of the American Ethnological Society. She has helped to found a group, Athena for Feminists, to work on AIDS and women's issues internationally (athenainetwork.org), and published a short article about the group in the June 2007 issue of *Women's Studies Quarterly*. She's also co-chair of the social science track for the 2008 International AIDS Society Conference, to be held in Mexico City. She welcomes suggestions on women's issues from classmates.

After years of developing math materials for grades one through eight, **Marla Shapiro Weiss** is writing a textbook. *MAVA Math: Number Sense* and *MAVA Math: Number Sense Solutions* (for elementary grades) will be available in September from online bookstores.

Alice Gosfield of Philadelphia has been named by Expert Guides as one of the top 25 health lawyers in the United States. She chairs the board of PROMETHEUS Payment, Inc., a not-for-profit organization that's developing an innovative health-care provider payment model.

Elizabeth Langland moved to Phoenix to take a position at Arizona State University as dean of the New College

of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences and vice president of the west campus.

Laura Foster has been promoted to executive director of the Please Touch Museum, the Philadelphia children's museum, that will be enlarged and relocated to Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park in fall 2008.

Madeleine Toor says hello from her summer home in Las Terrenas, Samana, Dominican Republic. She's working on her second book, a fictionalized memoir about being raised by three Dominican women in Jamaica, Queens. The book deals with issues of faith, love, and Caribbean men.

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71

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$81,652

Participation 34%

137 donors/399 in class

The benefits of serving as class correspondent continue to surprise me: This summer I had the pleasure of reuniting two long-lost childhood friends. Via Google and the Barnard Web site, I was contacted by a woman who grew up with **Mary Gorayeb Friberg** in Brooklyn. Lately, Mary had been thinking of this friend, and she was delighted to hear from her. Mary lives in Norwood, N.J., with Norman, her husband of 35 years, and teaches social studies in middle school. Their three daughters are out of college. Karen graduated from Cornell in 2003, and the twins, Christina and Honor, graduated from Vassar and The College of New Jersey respectively, in 2006.

Katherine Brewster, our class president, is delighted to announce that, after many phone conferences and much deliberation, debate, and playing around with words, class officers have selected a slogan for our next reunion: "Women of the '60s take on their 60s."

We considered themes that included "Raging Aging" and "Refuse to turn 60," but in the end, we agreed we just need to take 'em on.

We want to plan reunion programming that will address our class's concerns for taking on our 60s, and we want your input. One possibility is holding discussion groups, for our class only, on topics of special concern such as maintaining health and fitness, coping with degenerative and life-threatening disease, charitable giving, avoiding shopping bag lady mentality, making a difference in retirement, all with a special focus on how we bring the lessons and experiences of the '60s to bear on how we'll live and experience our 60s. We could structure our Class Dinner informally, with a buffet service in a lounge setting with couches and easy chairs, rather than the usual sit-down dinner. This might allow for more mingling with classmates during the meal. **Joy Horner Greenberg** has proposed a Web site or book similar to one she's working on for her 40th high school reunion, which features stories and anecdotes about "coming of age during such a turbulent period in history." Joy would be willing to help work on this project. You can go to laserna1967.myevent.com/3/ourstory.htm to get a sense of what she's doing with that group.

If you e-mail me your feedback and suggestions I'll forward your comments to the other class officers.

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72

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$115,576

Participation 43%

184 donors/430 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$651,453

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Jan Vinokour; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Katie Cangelosi; Fund Chair, Ronda Small; Treasurer, Cheryl Foa Pecorella; Correspondent, Marcia Eisenberg; Nominating Chair, Toby Levy; Networking Chair, Frances Sadler.

This news is a tad old. Remember to send your e-mail address to Barnard so we can do class news blasts. **Betsy Nichols** of New Mexico wrote on a Christmas card that it was still snowing in April. Enclosed with it was a picture of her and her husband, Steve, and a copy of her Christmas letter, which I shared at reunion and never got back. She couldn't attend our 35th Reunion but plans to be at our 40th. **Peggy Ellen Ludwig** writes that she's married and lives in the Bay Area with her husband and three children. Her oldest child just graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a bachelor's in biology. Peggy's second child is a sophomore at Santa Clara University with a double major of environmental studies and anthropology. Her youngest will be a senior in high school. Peggy's working at an elementary school in Berkeley. **Danita McVay Greene's** schedule was too crowded to get in for reunion. She is serving as the interim president of the United Theological Seminary in Minneapolis. She received a degree there several years ago and served on its board. She and **Linda Masters Barrows** hold a luncheon twice a year for alumnae in the area. **Cynthia Maybury Sawyer** wrote a while ago that she loves teaching fourth grade in a magnet school in western Massachusetts, which she has done for the past 15 years. She also does teacher training. **Jeanette Wasserstein** edited a well-received issue in the *New York Academy of Sciences Annual: Adult ADHD, Biological Mechanisms and Life Outcomes*. She's working on a new book on adult learning disabilities. **Evalynne Gould Elias** sent reunion regrets as her husband, David, and she were attending the graduation of their daughter, Ariel, from high school, and the following weekend their son, Adam, graduated from George Washington University. They're going to be empty nesters and can't believe it. Evalynne is a part-time private-practice social worker. **Jane Ficocella Lane** was applying to social work school "to give back." She has two developmentally disabled sisters and has become quite proficient at working the social welfare and justice system. Her daughter, Eva, lives in France and works for Google. Jane hopes that Eva can do some remedial propaganda as the

people she meets think that Americans are "fat religious fanatics." **Ann Nowak** sent reunion regrets because she's one of the four directors of the new Jacobson Center for the Performing Arts in the East Hampton/Southampton area, and they were doing their first fund-raiser, an original musical revue called *Joe Sent Me*. About 17 years ago, she switched careers, leaving behind a job reporting for *Newsday* to start her own law firm. She has been a member of the Southampton Town Zoning Board for the past 10 years and is married to Joe Lombardo, an attorney and educator. She reports that she had a wonderful time on a Barnard alumnae trip to the Berkshires where, among other things, she got to thank Anne Lake Prescott '59 for being such a wonderful advisor to her at Barnard.

Marcia Eisenberg
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35th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

73 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$99,136
Participation 32%
151 donors/468 in class

Anne Russell Sullivan
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Los Angeles, CA 90068-1703
323.697.9733
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74 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$154,744
Participation 30%
151 donors/509 in class

Catherine Blank Mermelstein
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75 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$111,749
Participation 25%
130 donors/512 in class

As I write, I'm watching heavy equipment demolish McIntosh Student

Center from my window. The neighborhood is quiet in August, until the fleet of minivans arrives with an eager crop of first-years. If you're not certain how to help your daughter become one of them, you might consult **Elizabeth Wissner-Gross's** books *What High Schools Don't Tell You: 300+ Secrets to Make Your Kid Irresistible to Colleges by Senior Year* and *What Colleges Don't Tell You (And Other Parents Don't Want You to Know)*, both from Hudson Street Press.

In family news, Elizabeth's son Zach just graduated from MIT in June with two bachelor's degrees and won a Hertz Award, a DOD, and an NSF to pursue doctoral studies at Harvard and MIT. Her son Alex is completing his PhD in physics at Harvard as a Hertz Fellow. Our daughter, Avigail Appelbaum '05, received her master's in architectural conservation from Columbia this spring. She then flew off to conserve her first structure, the 10th-century BCE city gates and wall at Tel Gezer in Israel, thought to have been built by King Solomon. Later she was married in a starlit Jerusalem garden.

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76 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$118,287
Participation 32%
147 donors/454 in class

A couple of fun items this month: I heard from **Nina Shaw**, who was named to the *Hollywood Reporter's* inaugural list of the 100 most powerful entertainment lawyers. Here's what the magazine said: "The most prominent African-American talent lawyer, Shaw has built a stellar list of some key black performers like Jamie Foxx, Laurence Fishburne, James Earl Jones, and director F. Gary Gray, many of whose careers she helped build from scratch. But it would be incorrect to assume Shaw is limited to representing minorities: The Harlem-raised attorney—who attributes her perfectionism to the influence of a fifth grade teacher and who is a passionate supporter of education causes—also represents

actors like Denise Richards." The magazine quoted Fishburne, who says, "I know she cares about me as a client but, more importantly, she cares about me as a human being, as a friend."

On the other side of the country, **Patricia Tinto** reports that she had lunch with **Lisa Phillips Davis, Joyce Rachel Ellman, and Ronda Wist** at this year's reunion. Pat also attended a birthday party for Joyce's son, Bobby Schoolman-Ellman, in Brooklyn Heights. Ronda left her position as executive director at the Landmarks Commission and will begin work in September as a principal for the consulting firm HR&A Advisors, Inc., focusing on urban policy issues with an emphasis on real estate development.

Susan Sommer Klapkin has been on the move. She left Connecticut, where she was president of the Barnard Club of Connecticut, and went to Westfield, N.J., where she immediately joined the Barnard Club of Greater Northern New Jersey, serving on its board for eight months. Then it was another move to Manalapan, N.J., where she joined the Barnard Club of Monmouth County. Connecticut's loss is New Jersey's gain. Lisa Davis, president of the Barnard Alumnae Association, is working to expand the Connecticut club—so now's a great time to become an active member. At the end of June, Lisa retired from the Board of Education in Chappaqua, N.Y., where she served for nine years and the Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association, where she served as president for the past two years. Lisa told me she was going to take some time to smell the roses—for what, two minutes? In mid-July, she joined the Child Care Council of Westchester as a management consultant. She'll work on a quality improvement initiative for the childcare industry in Westchester. By the time you read this, Lisa and her husband, Steve Davis (CC '76), will be returning from a trip to Turkey celebrating their 30th anniversary.

My daughter, Sara, spent a week this summer at Barnard's pre-college program and had a fabulous time exploring New York City (and we have the bills to prove it). I knew it would be an extraordinary experience for my southern California girl but my comfort level was certainly improved knowing

that Lisa and her daughter, Hilary, would be watching out for her. That's what Barnard friends are for.

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77 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$170,074
Participation 33%
133 donors/401 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$1,577,951

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Theresa Racht; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Joanna Lisanti; Fund Chair, Carole Mahoney Everett; Treasurer, Nancy Crown; Correspondent, Mary Ann LoFrumento; Nominating Chair, Faith Paulsen; Networking Chair, Francine Benzaken Glick.

Upon returning from a trip to Moscow and St. Petersburg—which allowed me to complete my plan to visit the Louvre, Uffizzi, Prado, and Hermitage—I learned that this column was due. So as promised, here's more reunion news. Friday night's dinner, held in McIntosh, was attended by classmates from as close as Morningside Heights and as far as Los Angeles and Seattle. Dean Dorothy Denburg and Professor Richard Pious were our special guests. In addition to providing a history of McIntosh, which is now gone, Dorothy mentioned that she interviewed or read the applications of everyone in the room. **Florrie Brafman** works closely with her in the Registrar's office. Many thanks to **Andrea Shepard** for the Mardi Gras theme and for creating amazing masks of those attendees from our college photos.

Attendees included **Ann Loughlin Berrios**, who had to leave early because her son was taking the SAT exam on Saturday; **Suzanne Bilello**, who is a senior public information and liaison officer for UNESCO in New York; **Jacqueline Koch Ellenson**, who has one daughter at Tufts and another at Wellesley; **Katherine Raymond, Deborah Anne Waldman**. It was especially

great to see **Celia Weisman Chance**, who shared pictures of her beautiful little girl, and **Pat Herring Parisi**, who traveled all the way from California and hosted an impromptu late night dorm get-together.

During the weekend, I got a chance to spend time with **Sunia Zaterman**, the executive director of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities in Washington, D.C., and **Lori Solinger**, a producer at NBC10 in Providence, R.I. **Katherine Best** took pictures and video throughout the weekend.

Saturday night featured a marathon of partying, starting with the Tri-College Wine Tasting, followed by jazz and cocktails on Lehman Lawn. We started dancing at the Gala Reunion Dinner and continued at Dancing Under the Stars at Columbia. Speaking of which, I don't want to forget some of the guys—**Jacqueline Laks Gorman**, our outgoing class correspondent, could not attend, but I did see her husband, David Gorman, as well as Jon Lukomnik and Lou DiStefano. John Hallacy, the husband of **Mary Ann LoFrumento**, outgoing class president, had a wonderful time representing his class and dancing with all on Saturday night. The weekend ended with a delicious lunch and a tour of the newly renovated Morgan Library.

Mary Ann LoFrumento is the new class correspondent and will take over the column with the next issue. She looks forward to hearing news from all of you. She'd especially like to hear from classmates who have reinvented themselves at this point in our lives. She's still collecting pictures, movies, and clippings from our time at Barnard for a Class of 1977 DVD. Mary Ann left her pediatric practice five years ago to create Simply Parenting, a production company that creates books, DVDs, and digital Web content for parents. Her daughter, Elizabeth, is a sophomore at Goucher College.

To see our class photo, the list of new class officers and a more complete list of reunion attendees check out our class page on the Barnard Web site.

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78 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$69,239
Participation 29%
141 donors/487 in class

Rebecca Trumbull is “not sure” she has ever written to Class Notes before. I guess I can forgive that, since I’m “not sure” whether I deserve some chocolate this afternoon ... oh, wait, I am sure about that!

Rebecca writes, “I have been happily married to Steve Wiesenthal for 23 years and we live in the heart of the beautiful city of San Francisco. I am an academic planner with the Stanford University School of Medicine, an esoteric but very challenging and rewarding career.”

Rebecca and Steve have two children, Daniel, 20, a sophomore at Stanford University, and Bettina, 15, a sophomore at the International High School of the French American School in San Francisco. “Bettina is undertaking the French baccalaureate program,” writes Rebecca. Both kids are fluent in French, and one also speaks German, the other Mandarin. “Their educational opportunities have made them true citizens of the world.” But Rebecca has something better than family, opportunity, and cultural awareness—her “classy and understated Barnard mug on my desk.”

Our very own entrepreneur **Cyndi Stivers**, late of Martha Stewart Omnimedia, has helped found and is the CEO of Blue Egg, described as “an e-media company that celebrates attainable, sustainable living.” In other words, Blue Egg is green.

“By providing clear, credible information and practical solutions, we want to help you become more mindful of the environment—without suggesting that you surrender style, comfort, and convenience, and without asking you to spend a lot of extra cash,” says Cyndi’s Web site. At press time, Blue Egg was still in beta format, but by the time you read this, blue will be the new green.

Jami Bernard
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79 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$83,151
Participation 27%
131 donors/492 in class

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80 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$67,643
Participation 25%
123 donors/483 in class

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81 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$176,197
Participation 25%
137 donors/553 in class

Elka Kristo-Nagy just finished her second summer in the master’s teaching program at the School for International Training in Vermont. Soon she’ll have a degree for teaching English as a second language. “It’s been a pleasure and a privilege to be here,” she writes of her sojourn. She topped off her summer with visits to friends in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Jane Butkiewicz Parker writes to us for the first time. Arriving at Barnard from the small town in Massachusetts where she had grown up, she found New York City to be a bit of a shock—especially after getting mugged on her first day. She graduated from Boston College Law School. After Barnard, she married a Columbia graduate, and had a daughter, Izzy, now 9, who attends the Convent of the Sacred Heart school in Greenwich. Jane and her husband divorced after 18 years, but Jane is happily in a new relationship. Currently she’s chief of litigation for a holding company in Greenwich, Conn. “It’s a pretty fun job,” she writes. Prior to that, she worked for a while in the Bermudas. “It would be great to hear from other single, working moms,” writes Jane.

Maria Deutscher celebrated her 50th birthday with a party at her beautiful Victorian home in Brooklyn: “It was one of those rare moments when you imagine how you want something to be and then it actually turns out that way!” Her husband’s band played in the late afternoon, and a neighbor joined in to sing with the group. “We had a combination of old friends, newer friends, and neighbors.” Maria and her husband, Joel, are the parents of Daniel, 2, who they adopted a year ago. “I’m loving being a mother. It is really amazing seeing this little person develop, learn to walk, talk, and see his understanding grow each day,” she writes. “But I feel like there’s not enough time to get everything done, between working and spending time with Daniel.”

Wendy White, our class president, and Roland Ruocco, her husband, presented a collection of their paintings at the studio they run, New Light Gallery in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Fla. The exhibition, Kaleidoscope, which opened in July and ran through September, also featured works from other noted artists.

Wendy’s newest series of miniature oil paintings are in her abstract impressionist style and are noted for their high level of detail, texture, and color. Roland’s works in the “South Florida school of art” theme employ his vision of tropical landscape interpretation.

The New Light Gallery donates a percentage of its art sales to its scholarship fund and the New Light Foundation to promote the arts and community outreach. Wendy and Roland, who both have a following in New York and Europe, are entering their sixth year in their working art studio and gallery in South Florida.

Wendy commutes between Florida and New York City, where she works for the committee overseeing the rebuilding of the World Trade Center area.

I still commute between Santa Monica, Calif., and New York for my healing practice and to teach classes. I’m almost finished with my second book, which incorporates stories from my healing practice with work people can do to help themselves.

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Stay in the Loop

Stay informed about the College through Barnard Bits & Bytes, a monthly electronic newsletter featuring news about faculty achievements, distinguished alumnae, campus events, and more. To receive BB&B, visit www.barnard.edu/alum/intouch

82

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$360,055

Participation 31%

184 donors/601 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$5,705,151

Class Officers 2007–2012: Vice President and Reunion Chair, Janis Hardiman-Robinson; Fund Chair, Ruth Fischbein Willner; Correspondent, Kathy-Ann Irish-Benjamin.

After leaving Barnard 25 years ago it was a genuinely wonderful experience to attend reunion this spring. This was the first time I set foot on campus since 1982. So many of us had fabulous stories to share, and I wished I could have made it to more events. As this is the first column I'm writing, I don't have a lot of news but I'm looking forward to hearing about our achievements and more as you send them in (ideally via e-mail). I practice general pediatrics here in upstate New York, and I have three children.

Our congratulations to **Beverly Weintraub**. Earlier this year Bev won a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in association with two of her colleagues from the *New York Daily News*. Her work involved 10 editorials examining health issues among rescue and recovery workers at the World Trade Center site. This information was shared earlier this year in the alumnae news online.

Jami Bernard '78, correspondent for her class year, heard from **Flor Estevez** from out of the blue. Flor works in information technology, and is currently an operations manager and producer at Greater IBM Connection. Jami writes, "I believe the last time I saw her we

were riding horses on a beach in the Dominican Republic. You'd think I could pin that memory down more precisely."

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25th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

83

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$79,222

Participation 27%

171 donors/626 in class

Carol Degener has joined the New York office of Pepper Hamilton LLP as of counsel in the Financial Services Practice Group. A press release states, "Ms. Degener has a broad corporate and corporate finance practice that includes the establishment and operation of hedge funds and fund of funds, domestically and offshore." She received her master's from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs in 1984 and her JD from Harvard Law School in 1987.

Marie Diven-Stelluti writes that since 9/11 she has been working with Mount Sinai as director of public policy and with legislators and union leaders to support the national health response aiding tens of thousands of ill and injured World Trade Center responders and others.

Johanna S. Youner, DPM, married Gary Gutterman on Oct. 22, 2006. He's the director of housing for Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty. Johanna entered Baruch College, Zicklin School of Business, to begin its executive MBA program in September. She has been practicing podiatry on Park Avenue for the past 11 years.

We'd like to issue a correction to the news printed in the previous issue about **Rebecca (Becky) Siegel Singer**. She lives in her hometown, Dallas, with her husband, Larry, and their twin 11-year-old sons. After leaving a successful large-firm practice as a partner at Fulbright & Jaworski, Becky decided to form her own firm focusing on employment and labor issues. Becky occasionally sees other graduates at Dallas alumnae association events.

84

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$116,291

Participation 22%

125 donors/560 in class

Lorraine Newman Mackler, whose daughter started at Barnard this fall, notes that incoming first-years received **Jeannette Walls'** *The Glass Castle* to read over the summer. How nice of Jeannette to speak and sign books at orientation.

Jessica Elfenbein has exciting career news herself. Currently professor and director of the undergraduate program in community studies and civic engagement in the University of Baltimore's Yale Gordon College of Liberal Arts, she has been named the University's first associate provost for university engagement. In this role, Jessica will foster communication, initiatives and special projects involving external constituencies and the University.

Rebecca Jean Emigh was promoted to full professor at UCLA. She signed a book contract with Temple University Press for her work on urban/rural relations in 15th-century Tuscany. Rebecca's daughter with Steven A. McGinty (CC '82), Vashti, will be a senior in high school this year. "I'm doing all sorts of musical activities, playing oboe in a community orchestra, and singing (alto and soprano) and playing oboe in three different church groups. [And] I do a lot of outside sports, running, swimming, and biking." After more than 20 years, **Rosemary Siciliano** moved back to Manhattan with her 12-year-old son, Alessandro. Rosemary would love to connect with classmates and anyone involved in the arts or film/video. She writes, "I'm looking for studio space and a community to go with it."

Marla Cohen won first place in the Louis Rapoport Award for Excellence in Commentary from the American Jewish Press Association for her monthly editorial column in the *Rockland Jewish Reporter*. The three columns she submitted were, "Balancing on One Foot," about the genocide in Darfur, "Remembering May Have to Be Enough," about the three Israeli soldiers who were kidnapped

last summer, and "Truth, Justice and the Hasmonean Way," regarding the Jewish heroes, real and imaginary, past and present.

Polly Kanganis is director of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Lawrence Hospital, a Columbia affiliate in Bronxville, N.Y., where she's been in private practice since 1994 and in solo ob/gyn practice since 1999.

Mindy Siegel Ohringer and her husband, Richard, sent an e-mail to us after returning from a Bar Harbor vacation. Their son, Noah, became a certified scuba diver earlier this summer while studying coral-reef ecology at Seacamp in Big Pine Key, Fla. Mindy has been working for months as a "relentless advocate for freedom of the press, when publication of the underground newspaper (a school-sponsored publication and, thus, legally a complex hybrid) at a local high school was unilaterally suspended." This year, she expects to continue volunteer work as a member of the PTA executive board and as an active member of her Reconstructionist synagogue. Her husband is slated for retirement next summer, and she looks forward to sharing the adventure with him. Mindy hopes that this new phase of life will include travel and political advocacy.

Sarah Ricks, who teaches at Rutgers Law School - Camden, signed a book contract for *Current Issues in Constitutional Litigation: The Roles of the Courts, Attorneys, and Administrators* (Carolina Academic Press). She lives in Philadelphia with her family.

Leslie Greenbaum Fram and her 5-year-old son, Stanford, will spend less time in Los Angeles and more time in Seattle next year, where her husband is a partner at a venture capital firm.

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85 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$49,501
Participation 23%
116 donors/500 in class

Maris Fink Liss and her family are now residents of Silver Spring, Md., where Maris looks forward to connecting with local alumnae. She continues her work in immigration law by telecommuting and developing a local practice.

Bettina Gilois and her husband, Christopher Cleveland, were recently contracted to write a one-hour fictional drama for the AMC network, based on the on-and-off-court lives of professional basketball players. Bettina and Chris wrote the feature film *Glory Road*.

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86 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$57,858
Participation 17%
89 donors/526 in class

After more than seven years as a clinical social worker at the Santa Monica-UCLA Rape Treatment Center, **Ava Rose Friedman** was hired by the National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles as clinical director of Women Helping Women Services. "I am enjoying providing clinical supervision and training for staff social workers, being a field instructor for MSW interns, and doing program development and advocacy in the community. I also have a private therapy practice in Santa Monica, Calif., specializing in treating adolescents and working with survivors of sexual abuse and domestic violence. My husband, Jim, has worked for the UCLA Film and Television Archive for 11 years, and our son, Aaron, will be a junior at Santa Monica High School, where he is on the Science Bowl team and plays in the marching and jazz bands. We enjoy living in Venice and would love to hear from local Barnard alumnae and classmates."

Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein and her husband, Rabbi Joel Finkelstein, were honored by the Margolin Hebrew

Academy/Feinstone Yeshiva of the South's Rabbinic Service Award for 10 years of service to the school and the Memphis Jewish community. "In addition to teaching a two-year course on Zionism and modern Israel to the high school girls at the school, I teach courses on the political history of Israel and the Arab-Israeli conflict at the University of Memphis. I write a quarterly, Web-based, counterterrorism newsletter for the American Jewish Committee. Our four children, Asher, 10, Natan, 8, Akiva, 6, and Rakhel, 3, all attend the MHA/FYOS."

Ellen Levitt had lots of fun at **Mindy Braunstein-Weinblatt's** second annual Fourth of July party. She also enjoyed catching up with **Allison Stewart** over sushi. And when Ellen and her family went to a New York Liberty basketball game at Madison Square Garden she ran into **Sarah Gribetz Stern** and her husband. After a "grueling return year back to work" teaching seventh-grade social studies, it was a very enjoyable for Ellen.

87 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$54,757
Participation 25%
118 donors/481 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$539,206

Class Officers 2007-2012: President, Beth Wightman; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Olympia Fiedler; Fund Chairs, Deborah Feyerick and Ulana Lysniak; Treasurer, Christiane Orto; Correspondent, Wendy Allegaert and Colleen M. Hadigan; Nominating Chair, Tracey Donner; Networking Chair, Ellen Lagow-Nettles.

Lexi Leban lives in Oakland, Calif., and has accepted a position as the academic director of the digital filmmaking and interactive media design programs at the Art Institute of California in San Francisco. Her documentary *Girl Trouble* is touring the country on a grant for educational outreach to facilitate dialogue among judges, lawyers, and police officers about the issues of girls in the juvenile justice system. Lexi spends her downtime with her partner, Helga, and her almost-2-year-old daughter, Sola. She's sad to have missed reunion but happy to have reconnected with **Wendy Allegaert** and **Christianne Orto**.

Casting Her Ballot

Penny Venetis '83



Penny Venetis, onetime Barnard art history major and current associate director of the Constitutional Litigation Clinic and clinical associate professor at Rutgers School of Law, calls herself a Luddite. Perhaps that is why she was intrigued a few summers ago by a rash of articles about the technological insecurities of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines, which are in use around the country, including the state of New Jersey where she works. The machines are apparently vulnerable to hacking and

furthermore provided no confirmation that one's vote was actually cast. (A journalist was able to find tools over the Internet to manipulate machines using passwords, encryption keys, and the source code; and as recently as last spring, a Princeton computer-science professor was able to buy out-of-use machines at a government auction Web site.) "I was concerned as a voter, a citizen, and a constitutional lawyer. I thought somebody must be doing a big lawsuit," Venetis recalls. She did some digging and, discovering that no one was, dove in herself, hooking up with clients such as the Coalition for Peace Action, a grassroots group from Princeton, N.J. One of their members believes she was disenfranchised when she voted in a June 2004 primary election. "She pressed the 'cast vote' button four times because a poll worker told her to," Venetis says. "She either voted four times or zero times—she has no clue. That's our point."

In the summer of 2004, several months before the presidential election, Venetis along with others worked for passage of a law in New Jersey requiring voter-verified paper ballots to confirm and back up (necessary in the event of a recount or audit, for instance) votes cast. The law, not enacted until 2005, calls for implementation of voting machines (including DREs) that have paper ballots by January 2008. With that date fast approaching, Venetis is worried. One of the bigger problems uncovered by testing done on three of the printers to be used is that the machines do not alert polling officials to malfunctions, such as paper jams, that would cause a ballot to be printed incorrectly or not at all. And the DREs themselves, Venetis says, are still unable to be adequately tested. "New Jersey bought technology they thought was going to be state-of-the-art without doing due diligence," Venetis says. "They bought shoddy, hackable machines and they don't have testing procedures [in place for them]." Venetis and her team are now petitioning the court to order the state to scrap DREs altogether in favor of optical scanners, which count, on-site, paper ballots filled out by voters. "Studies show they're more effective, [they're] cheaper, and they process more voters in the same amount of time," she says. "And you have the paper ballot as a record, not something computer-generated."

Ultimately, Venetis would like the problem to be resolved at the state level and addressed substantively at the federal level. She sees this happening with Rep. Rush Holt, D-N.J., who is sponsoring a bill in Congress that would ensure the security and auditability of the machines used nationwide. "This is a nonpartisan issue," Venetis says. "I'm working with advocates around the world—[I] have no idea what their politics are and I don't care. This affects everybody equally and it should concern everybody equally."

—Elizabeth Herr

Zealand. **Sabrina Nichelle Scott** moved to Lancaster, Pa., where she's working for a process consultancy company. She enjoys her new role as an aunt following the birth of her niece last year.

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Christianne is an associate dean of distance learning and recording at the Manhattan School of Music. Wendy Allegaert, your co-correspondent, is finishing her second year of training at The Alexander Technique Center – New York City to become a teacher of the Alexander Technique. "It's amazing work that has changed my perception of just about everything. What can I say? It's the central nervous system."

Olympia (Pia) Fiedler reports, "I played two piano concerts: one on June 16 at the Bloomfield Public Library and another on July 1 at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park, Md. The concerts were both well received and I collected some donations toward the Olympia Music World Fund for a needy piano student. My son, Rex, is now 18 months old and enjoying his music classes and his playtime at the gym and playground."

Your other co-correspondent, **Colleen Hadigan**, has a word to say about her new position, "Like so many of us, I grab *Barnard* magazine when it arrives and flip immediately to Class Notes to see what our classmates are up to these days. It is only now, after 20 years of not writing and facing the first deadline for submission that I realize how much these notes rely on all of us. Wendy and I want to thank **Signe Taylor** and **Debbie Lynn Davis** for their incredible work over the past years, and we want to ask all of you to keep the news coming so we can make every flip to our notes fun, interesting, and informative."

Mary Sheehan moved to Mount Kisco, N.Y., in 2005 and is working as a counselor in a supportive housing program at Mental Health Associates of Westchester. She's married and has two growing boys. **Lisanne Brown** works for the Louisiana Public Health Institute with renewed commitment to the city of New Orleans, where she has lived since 1989. **Sari Zimmer** was honored by the Children's Aid Society as volunteer of the year for providing dental care in New Jersey. **Amy Heard White** writes that she was sorry to miss reunion, but she and her husband live in New Zealand where she edits a triathlon magazine. She notes that while we were dining in a steamy classroom in Barnard Hall at reunion, she was spending a wet and chilly weekend in Wellington, New

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20th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

88 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$42,473
Participation 22%
106 donors/472 in class

Stacy Waldman Bass writes that she's a freelance photographer, mainly shooting home/garden, architecture, and interiors for magazines, architects, and designers. You can see her work on www.stacybassphotography.com. In February, she had a one-woman show of her garden and botanica work at Gallerie Je Reviens in Westport, Conn., which was also a fund raiser for the Discovery Museum in Bridgeport. Stacy is still active with local philanthropies and just completed a nine-year stint on the board of the Westport Public Library.

I sent out an APB for class news and heard back from old faithful, **Hope Kirschner Casey**. She still works from home, full-time, as a worldwide marketing manager for HP Services. She's working on a program she developed that helps clients put in place appropriate communications and training programs for their employees to successfully adopt technical solutions. Hope is still very involved with member communications for the Barnard Club of Boston. One of the club's more notable events was a discussion by **Miriam Tuchman** of her recent trip to Rwanda to build a girl's school. On the mommy-front, Hope had a birthday marathon for her daughters, Gabrielle and Sabrina—1 and 6, with birthdays five days apart—and her son, Bryce, 4, in early September. Hope and her friends, **Rita Fournier Barnett, Amy Leonard, Enid Newman Melville**, Miriam Tuchman, and **Glorianna Valls Neiman**, had their annual get-together at the end of July in New Hampshire at Rita's farmhouse.

I was happy hear that **Mia Ahnholz Howard**, a fellow English major, will be working in my hometown of Wyckoff, N.J., this year. Mia, who took a position

at the Christian Health Care Center, has a daughter, Sara, 2. We'll be planning a mini-reunion as we look toward our 20th Reunion in New York next year. Meanwhile, send me some interesting news to read.

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89 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$61,547
Participation 25%
126 donors/503 in class

Allison Winikoff Ziefert writes, "I live in Maplewood, N.J., with my husband, Jon (CC '89), a real estate attorney in New York City, and three kids, Will, 11, Nate, 7, and Sylvie, 2. I just started a new company called AntiOXinabox with my husband and a friend of his who are both cancer survivors. The company is a response to the unhealthy 'get well' gifts they received during their treatment. Through our Web site, we sell naturally antioxidant-rich superfoods and spa products in beautiful, environmentally friendly gift packaging. I still keep in touch with **Kari Berman Litman** who lives in Minneapolis and practices law there. We recently saw **Emily Robertson**, Greg Smith (CC '89), and Ben Coes (CC '89) at Tad Goltra's (CC '89) 40th birthday party in the Boston area." Love the company's name, Allison! I'm glad to hear that everyone is now healthy. I hope more classmates will follow Allison's example and send me some news.

As we mentioned in the previous issue, **Sarah Block** passed away on March 14, 2007. I'm sure everyone in the Barnard family joins me in expressing our condolences to her family, and I invite her friends to share memories for the next column.

I hope this issue finds you happy and healthy.

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90 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$37,445
Participation 24%
121 donors/501 in class

Lots of news from **Vivian Aguilar**, MD, this time. Vivian attended medical school at SUNY Stony Brook, served an ob/gyn residency in Rochester, N.Y., and then completed a sub-specialty fellowship in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive pelvic surgery at Brown University in Rhode Island. Until recently, Vivian was practicing in New Jersey. However, she and her family recently relocated to Weston, Fla., near Ft. Lauderdale. She was very happy to read the recent article in *Barnard* about alumnae in Florida and plans to look up classmates in the area. She's looking forward to being outdoors all year round, and being around her Cuban roots and community. Vivian also reports that she met her husband, Raymond Fournier, online through Match.com. Vivian and Raymond have two little ones, Olivia Rose Fournier, 4, and Zachary Miguel, almost 2.

Charlene Schuessler Fiderer shares news that her divorce is complete. She lives in Luxembourg with her son Kai, 5, and daughter, Kina, 2 ½. She recently bought a new house and welcomes classmates to visit for a real cup of coffee next time they pass through Europe. Charlene is very proud that she still runs her own relocation company and that she still plays basketball.

Finally, **Kathryn Gross-Colletta** reports that she lives in Arlington, Mass., with her husband, David, a software developer, and their daughter, Lucy, 4. Kathy earned a master of social work degree from Simmons College of Social Work in 2001 and recently started a small private practice. Kathy wonders if we're all shell-shocked at turning 40 and hopes everyone is well.

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91**Barnard Fund Gifts**

\$27,305

Participation 21%107 donors/516 in class

It was great to hear from **Judith Aks** who announces that her daughter, Sofia Juanita, was born in February, joining her big brother, Sebastian, 4. Judy and her partner, Diana, live with their children in Seattle. **Alison Lovell** writes that she moved from California to Delaware, Ohio, for a tenure-track teaching position as assistant professor in the department of humanities and classics at Ohio Wesleyan University. Her field is French Renaissance literature. Alison writes that she taught as a postdoc at Stanford for two years and before that was in New York City, which she misses. **Leah Leeder** founded a private chiropractic clinic in Jerusalem in 1997 and still works there. She worked in Efrat (Gush Etzion) also for many years. Leah is a member of the executive board of the Israeli Chiropractic Society. A few years ago, she had her first black-and-white photography exhibit in a small gallery in Jerusalem. Recently, she finished the first drafts of an adult novel and a children's book. Now she's looking for a literary agent. Leah was planning to take a surfing course over the summer.

It was nice to hear from **Leah Shankman Aizen** who lives in Manhattan with her husband, Ron, and daughter, Eriella, who was born in November 2006. Leah has her own Manhattan math tutoring business, which will expand to the Westchester area. She attended the bris of J.J. Saba, son of Jennifer Fetner Saba '93 and Joe Saba (CC '93). Jennifer and Joe also have a girl named Carly, 3, who enjoys playdates with Eriella.

Edith Lee Kase and her husband, Thomas, live in Atlanta, Ga. Their second daughter is 10 months old. Edith is having fun "reliving" the baby years, as now she can actually appreciate the baby being a baby. Her husband is a private tutor teaching high school students to prepare for standardized exams, as well as college-prep classes. Edith is an operations and compliance manager at Wachovia Securities. She writes that her pets (two cats and one

dog) are great and provide hours of entertainment along with her girls.

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92**Barnard Fund Gifts**

\$96,014

Participation 25%

127 donors/503 in class

Five-Year Comprehensive Giving**\$281,296**

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Andrea Lans Donahue; Vice Presidents and Reunion Chairs, Elizabeth Atkins and Dana Gelman Keiles; Fund Chairs, Janet Alperstein and Alla Rosenzweig Weisberg; Treasurer, Rebecca Lacher Leibowitz; Correspondents, Rana Dogar Foroohar and Kimberly Parker-Wesley; Nominating Chair, Edina Sultanik; Networking Chair, Jennifer Byron Mercurio.

It has been 15 years since we graduated from Barnard. After returning from reunion, I wonder how we've managed to look exactly the same!

In the past decade and a half, I've been working in the field of law. Six years ago, I married my soul mate, Anthony Wesley. We have two children, Kyla, 5, and Amir, 3. After the Silicon Valley, Calif., bubble burst, I was laid off from a large corporate law firm. It was time for a change anyway; I'm now employed as an attorney for the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, assisting in the growth of the County's self-help services centers, where we assist unrepresented litigants to navigate through the legal system and the courts. Regardless of what life has thrown at me since graduating, the pivotal point in my life these past 15 years was the loss of my dear friend and mentor, my father, Kellis E. Parker (a Columbia law professor), who passed away in October of 2000. I know that Barnard helped me to cope with all of life's challenges and am grateful for that.

Reunion 2007 was a great success in bringing out many of the stars of our class. Traveling from California was **Margot Kong** who, in July 2006,

married Todd Edwards. **Victoria Vurtser Hecht, Selina Lin, and Meng-Ching Lin** were in attendance.

I believe that **Daedra Levine** should get the prize for having traveled the most miles to attend reunion. She lives with her husband in Australia.

I was fortunate to have been able to sit with **Tara Jefferson**, who works at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City as a psychiatric assistant.

Sadly, as reported in the summer issue, **Lana Schwebel** passed away in July. She was in a car accident in Russia. Many of you may have seen her or spoken with her at reunion. Our hearts go out to her family.

I'd love to include your personal news in the next issue of *Barnard*.

—KPW

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20th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

93**Barnard Fund Gifts**

\$57,434

Participation 18%85 donors/469 in class

I write this column on a hot, muggy day in Harlem, just a few weeks shy of my first wedding anniversary. Life is good here. I'd love to hear about what you've been up to!

Amy Talkington married Robert Adams, a sound mixer and recording engineer. The first film she wrote and directed, *The Night of the White Pants*, debuted at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival. She's currently working on her sophomore effort, *Deeply Shallow and Really Fake*. Both films are based in Dallas, her hometown, while her new husband brings a taste of Ireland, his native land, into the mix. For nearly a year of their courtship, Amy was in Dallas filming her first movie, while Robert was touring

with U2. It sounds like they've prepared nicely for a lifetime of pursuing both their individual and joint interests.

After returning from Belize, **Elicia Lisk Blumberg** and her husband settled back in Washington, D.C., and found a great way to build on their joint Peace Corps experience. They established a scholarship fund to support Belizean youth whose families cannot afford to send them to high school. If you'd like to learn more about the Blumberg Fund for Belizean Youth, Inc., please contact me.

Atoosa Behnegar Rubenstein received the Inspiration Award from Step Up Women's Network, a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to strengthening community resources for women and girls.

The award was given to honor the work Atoosa has done through the multimedia work of her Big Momma Productions.

Elisabeth Oldmixon lives in Jersey City with her husband, Andrew Reibman, and their 1-year-old son, Isaac Robert. After graduation, Elisabeth worked as a public school teacher

for five years before returning to Columbia University to obtain her master's degree in social work. These days, Elisabeth spends most of her time with her son, while working part-time as a counselor at a school in Hoboken.

The McIntosh Center has been torn down to make way for a six-story multi-purpose building, the Nexus. I thought we might share some of our favorite McIntosh stories. Some memories I have from McIntosh include the bowling alley I swore I would use, but never did; a Valentine's Day dance we had during our sophomore year; and seeing a lot of you for the first time in 10 years at our 10th Reunion.

As much as things change, so much remains the same. The Barnard graduation procession in May—on a bright sunny day—made me laugh as I thought about the miserable cold and rain that accompanied our own graduation. Some of you may still have the clear rain ponchos they handed out at the ceremony.

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94 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$19,262
Participation 18%
91 donors/510 in class

Allegra Cummings is an ob/gyn practicing on Manhattan's Upper West Side and affiliated with St. Luke's Roosevelt. She says, "I was very sad to hear of the passing of Jayma Abdoo, the premed student coordinator. I did a great deal of work with her speaking to the premeds and running workshops, etc. I hope to find whoever replaced her and help out in any way I can."

Wanda Cole-Frieman and her family love living in northern California. "Our kids, Taylor and Isaac, are 3½ and continue to keep us busy. I am working part-time as an executive recruiter for my own business occasionally. In addition, I am the event chair for the Bay Area nonprofit The Princess Project (princessproject.org), which gives away free prom dresses and accessories to close to 3,000 underprivileged girls each year. We just returned from a two-week holiday in Sydney, Australia, visiting Dae Levine '92 and her family. It was a great trip, and Dae and her husband, Wade, have made a fabulous life for themselves in Sydney."

Apologies to **Joanne Parker-Lentz** for letting her news slip through the cracks in the last issue. Joanne writes, "I am a broker in the New Jersey real estate market for Re/Max Village Square Realtors, and I am one of 12 people from my company to be featured in a new series on HGTV called *Bought and Sold* that aired on April 29. My business partner and I will be in eight of the episodes in the 12-part miniseries and our first episode was May 6. It is getting a lot of national publicity. It is in a new time slot, Wednesdays at 11 p.m. The show is officially in re-runs now.

"I have not written in a while so to fill in my news since graduation in a nutshell: worked as an actress and did a few great shows, an Oldsmobile commercial, appeared in print photography ads, and retired my acting hat shortly thereafter. I got married and currently have three kids, Anya, 11, Kate, 7, and Jake, 5. I did my last off-Broadway show in 1997 and moved to the suburbs, Short Hills, N.J. I have been a Realtor for eight years and

am excited to be in a great new TV show. I also completed a longstanding New Yorker dream of mine and ran the New York City marathon in November of 2006 in four hours."

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95 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$38,618
Participation 21%
93 donors/450 in class

Thank you to everyone who sent in their news. Everyone loves to read what their classmates are up to.

Colleen (Kelly) McMenamin reports that she married Fred Wang (SEAS '95) on May 12, in New York City at St. Thomas' Church. Kelly and Fred enjoyed a two-week European honeymoon, which included a trip on the famed Orient Express. Kelly left her job in finance to start a home-and-life-organization business with her sister, called Pixies Did It.

Learka Bosnak still lives in Los Angeles and works in real estate. She lives next door to **Joy Gorman**, and they share a backyard and a few palm trees.

Jena Schwartz Strong launched Strong Coaching, a personal coaching service focused on helping her clients overcome the personal obstacles and other challenges they face in their personal and professional lives.

Abigail Anderson had been working in publishing and interactive media but recently switched careers. She received her master of social work degree from Fordham University in 2005 and has since been working as a community health educator for Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic. She married David Schloss in 1999 and lives in Nyack, N.Y.

Maria Toy married Victor Gong on Aug. 12, 2006. Her sister, Victoria Toy '96, was a matron of honor and her friends **Hye (Helen) Youn Kim**, **Grace Soo How**, **Kwak (Jane) Lun Lee**, **Wendy Kong**, Anne Behk '96, and **Susan Paek**, also joined in the celebration. Maria says she continues

to teach at CUNY and practices immigration law part-time.

Alexandra Schlesinger and her husband, Eric Jacobs, welcomed their third child, Bennett Anderson, on Feb. 22. Their twins, Zoe and Jessica, turned 5 in April. **Stephanie Drescher Gorman** and her husband, Les, welcomed their first child on March 4. They're happy to report that Bennett Eli is a very happy baby. **Susan Connelly Thompson** and her husband welcomed the birth of their first baby, Alexander Mowry, in March.

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96 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$31,450
Participation 19%
112 donors/579 in class

Just two updates from our classmates this time! Please send us your news. **Janine Utell** writes that she was accepted for an NEH Summer Seminar, "Ulysses: Texts and Contexts," which took place at Trinity College in Dublin, June 23 through Aug. 4. Janine hopes to finish a book-length study of adultery in James Joyce's fiction. She's on the tenure track in the English department at Widener University in Chester, Pa. **Ericka Schnitzer-Reese** sent an e-mail telling us about the birth of her daughter. "My husband, Robert Reese, and I welcomed our first child, Charlotte Isadora, in October 2006. We are counting on her being a member of Barnard's Class of 2029. I'm a stay-at-home mom for now, and every day is truly a joy with this little bundle of sunshine." Ericka also brings us news of **Amy Blumenfeld**, who she says has a beautiful 1½-year-old daughter and loves motherhood.

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97 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$30,322
Participation 26%
142 donors/536 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$93,159

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Cherith Bailey Velez; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Ronit Siegel Berger; Fund Chair, Andrea Lane Stein; Treasurer, Elisa Miller-Out; Correspondent, Taryn R. Roeder; Nominating Chair, Joey Kaiser; Networking Chair, Melissa Edmands Marsh.

I'm thrilled to be your new class correspondent; it's a pleasure to receive all of your news. I have babies on the brain, so let's start there.

Ernaida (Erna) Hernandez Barenio gave birth to her first baby, Lukas Kidlat Barenio, on July 23. **Dahlia Sporn Brander** and her husband, Jonah, welcomed Evan Charles on June 30. **Hannah Evans** and her husband, Thor Denmark (CC '96), introduced their identical twin girls to the world on April 16. Nadine and Caroline weighed in together at over 13 pounds and joined their 2-year-old brother, Oscar. **Elisa Miller-Out** had a home birth for Chiara Sofia on May 2. I bet her older daughter, Louisa Mirella, 3, is excited. **Jana Refowitz** and her husband moved from New Orleans to Washington, D.C., last August. Jana missed our 10th Reunion (which by all accounts was fantastic) because she spent that June with **Natalie Pishanidar** in the hospital where Natalie was in labor with her second daughter.

Rachel Pressman Kaunfer and her husband, Oren, also have a new member of the family; Layla Tal was born in February 2007. In October 2006, **Dana Landau Leibowitz** and her husband, Neil, welcomed Sophia Lilliana. **Juliette**

Tritaris Diamand greeted a son, Hunter, on March 22, 2006.

Lisa Brenner Devlin celebrated the first birthday of her daughter, Hannah Pilar. She lives in Los Angeles where Gloria Steinem spoke at her house for a Choice USA fund-raiser. Lisa calls it "the highlight of my adult life." Last week I saw Lisa in a smart new film called *I'm Through with White Girls*. I work in book publishing at Houghton Mifflin Co., and I often bump into classmates in the publishing world. I saw **Carolyn Sawyer O'Keefe**, a publicity manager at Little, Brown and Co. I attended a luncheon with **Alana Newhouse**, *The Forward's* arts and entertainment editor. She's also the editor of ForwardBooks, a new line from W.W. Norton. **Celeste Guzman** works at the University of Texas Press in Austin. She received her master's in poetry from Bennington and has poems in upcoming issues of *Salamander* and *5 a.m.* **Katherine Lange Meyer** works at the *Wall Street Journal Online*. **Ellen Goodenow** telecommutes from San Francisco, writing and editing educational children's books. Meanwhile, in other news, **Nicole Crisci Harris** celebrated her seventh year at Chanel in May. **Hilary Vesell** is an attorney representing children for the court in Fort Lauderdale. **Martina Brosnahan** is a sixth-year associate at Morgan Lewis & Bockius in New York City working in securities law. **Rebecca Miller** received her PhD in clinical psychology and was promoted to a faculty appointment at the Yale School of Medicine, department of psychiatry. **Kathryn Drabinski** received her PhD in rhetoric from University of California, Berkeley, and will teach women's studies at Tulane University. **Patricia Dramitinos** finished her residency in ob/gyn at Stony Brook University Medical Center and started a urogynecology fellowship in Cambridge, Mass. **Melissa (Missy) LoPorto** graduated from a dual master's degree program in early childhood general and special education and social work from Bank Street College and Columbia School of Social Work. She also married her longtime partner, Ben Glazer, last summer, and lives with him in Brooklyn. There are a ton of other weddings,

world travels, fascinating accomplishments and classmate insights. But I'm out of space! Stay tuned for the next issue of *Barnard* and don't forget to send me your updates.

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10th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

98 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$25,920
Participation 18%
96 donors/530 in class

Where are you, class of 1998? I eagerly await your news. Please send it to me at the addresses below.

Those of us who still live or work within Morningside Heights will have noticed that the Nexus project at Barnard has begun. Each day, as I walk from the subway to Teachers College (where I work), I see progress. I'll miss good old McIntosh Center. I'm sure we all have our fond memories of it—grabbing lunch, catching up with friends, anxiously awaiting mail and care packages, noshing on cheese fries—but the Nexus will create even more positive experiences for Barnard's future students in a state-of-the-art building with lots to offer the Barnard community. For info on the project visit barnard.edu/nexus. In other exciting news, our 10th Reunion is planned for Thursday, May 29 through Sunday, June 1, 2008. It's going to be a great reunion so mark your calendars. More details will follow.

Until then, send me your news!

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99 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$11,371
Participation 16%
88 donors/542 in class

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00 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$18,757
Participation 20%
118 donors/582 in class

Jennifer Flandro spent the summer in Boston participating in a program run by New Leaders for New Schools, a national organization that recruits and trains future principals of urban public schools. This fall, she's working as a resident principal at the Harlem charter school Future Leaders Institute. Jennifer has loved living in Brooklyn with her boyfriend, Scott Sampson (CC), for the past two years.

Emily Gyenes Kirschenbaum, her husband, David, and their two kids, Simon and Eli, moved to Israel in June and will live there for 13 months. They love being there, and she writes, "Watching our 3-year-old start to pick up some Hebrew words is very entertaining." Emily is attending the international MBA program at Bar-Ilan University.

Maya Kolipakam is finishing her dermatology residency this year, and she recently got married.

Esther Greenbaum started law school at Tulane University in New Orleans this fall.

Emily Lee works in the music department at Thirteen/WNET in New York City. Her band, Weigh Down, recently released an album called *Welcome to the Family Zoo*. Weigh Down is a Brooklyn- and New Haven-based band, and this is their second full-length album. The band's songs have been featured on compilation albums alongside Bright Eyes and Ted Leo.

Ashley Burczak is working at SUNY Plattsburg.

Jennifer Hensley married Vincent Taddoni on May 19. Over the summer she interned at Bank of America's investment banking division in New York City. She'll graduate from New York University with an MBA and MPA joint degree next year.

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01 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$17,778
Participation 20%
110 donors/541 in class

On July 20, **Kathleen Szabocsik** and Eric Wilson welcomed their baby girl, Rylie Skye Wilson, to their family.

Congratulations to **Veronica Alvarez**, who graduated from Columbia this past spring with a master's of public administration in nonprofit management and education policy.

Vanessa Garcia started a new theatre, arts, and design company in Miami called The Krane (thekrane.com). In October, they put on a play she wrote called *cloudcuckooland*. The previous play was called *Death of Kings: An Encyclopedia*, a tragi-comedy narrated by a Harlequin "who takes us around the globe, focusing on his journey from New Orleans to New York during the 9/11 disaster."

Claire Temin has lived in Los Angeles for three years. She records music for feature films and commercials and produces music festivals and lectures in alliance with the French cultural centers.

Congratulations to **Sky Spiegel**, who married Bill Meakem on May 26 at the Pleasantdale Chateau in West Orange, N.J. They live in Morristown and teach high school, English and math, respectively.

Marsha Corchado reports that she completed her first Olympic Triathlon in New York City. She swam the Hudson River and survived!

Julia Kronrod lives in Moscow and is excited to report that she has finished directing her first short film.

Kristina Napolitano is the senior equity analyst at First New York Securities and lives in Gramercy Park with her fiancée, Christopher Bauer. She says that **Melissa Landauer** is the director of fabric and development at Helmut Lang, and

Morgan Gilman works for Juicy Couture. **Natalie Hoyer** is singing and teaching music in Philadelphia. She performed with the Blue Martini and at our class dinner during Reunion 2006.

Congratulations to **Melissa Shum** and Vincent Arata who were married on July 27. **Audrey Stegmayer** and Lisa Perlson Silverman '02 were bridesmaids. The bride and groom honeymooned in St. Lucia. Melissa is a pharmaceutical representative for GlaxoSmithKline.

Nancy Liu has had a big year. She graduated in May with a master's in business administration from Columbia, and shortly after was married to Sergio Canales (SEAS '99). **Anna Skubikowski** was one of her bridesmaids. The couple spent two weeks in Italy for their honeymoon. Nancy started a new job at Kurt Salmon Associates in New York City. It's a boutique consulting firm specializing in the retail and health-care industries. After two and a half years as a community organizer with Stand for Children, **Dana Hepper** is now the statewide advocacy coordinator, which means she leads all of its direct and grassroots lobbying efforts. This year they were able to secure \$260 million in additional funding for public schools, \$5 million to provide mentors to new teachers and principals, and three bills to improve school facilities. On Oct. 31, 2006, **Aura M. Lifschutz** gave birth to her daughter, Annabelle Honey.

In May, **Tammy Moy** married Gerald M. Feige of Erie, Pa., in Queens, N.Y. Her good friends **Jodi Berkowitz**, Sarah Bookbinder '00, Regina DeCicco '00, Maya Capoor '00, **Laura Messier**, **Anne Seiwerath**, and **Melissa Viscovich** attended the wedding. "We hired Barnard Bartenders for the Chinese banquet after the wedding. The bartenders were a big hit." Congratulations to **Caroline Whalen**, who married Zachary Taggart on July 14. In attendance were **Sarah Hines**, Darcy Hirsh '02, **Brittany Retherford**, **Oriana Scherr**, **Aliyah Vinikoor**, and Margaret Woollatt (CC '01).

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02 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$13,092
Participation 21%
114 donors/532 in class
Five-Year Comprehensive Giving
\$40,777

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Kate Richlin Zack; Vice President and

Portrait of an Artist

Joyce Wan '00

Joyce Wan's whimsical art may not hang on the walls at the Smithsonian (yet), but it is ringing up sales in the museum's gift shop. At just 29, Wan finds that she needs to downplay her full role at Wanart, her Hoboken, New Jersey-based company. "I've had a hard time getting people to take me seriously. To that point, I had 'president' printed on my business card, but I ended up taking it off because people would question me about my experience," she says. It is just one of the many challenges this young artist and businesswoman manages every day.

Wan, an architecture major, founded Wanart in 2003. The company produces greetings cards and soft goods like infant clothing, tote bags, and artists' notebooks, featuring art inspired by Wan's Chinese-American heritage. "I had been making greeting cards for my parents and they don't speak English all that well. The cards I did myself were bilingual and they really liked them. Then I realized that there was a big hole in the market for Asian themes that were contemporary," she says. She started the company while working full-time at a New York architecture firm; by summer 2004 she made the leap into full-time business owner. Wan's first line of greeting cards—and still her biggest seller—features modern takes on the Chinese zodiac figures. Later collections, such as her bamboo line, came from her childhood. "They are interpretations of images I grew up with in my home, (but) I never knew what they stood for. I did a lot of research and all the motifs I use have meaning behind them," she says.

Still, despite her marketable designs, starting a business from zero was tough, and it accounted for many sleepless nights. Even more difficult was learning how to divorce her artistic sensibilities from her newly acquired business acumen. "Your work is personal, it comes from inside you. And then you have to show your work at a trade show and open yourself to comment—it is like baring your soul," she says. "It was so hard. For a little while I thought, 'I can't sell my own product.' But you learn to do it," she concludes.

Wan's commitment is paying off. Her boxed cards and other products are sold at museum shops, including the Museum of Fine Arts in Wan's hometown of Boston, at stationery stores, and online at target.com in addition to Wanart.com. She also has distribution in Europe and Asia. The infant clothes displaying Wan's zodiac figures were featured in *Every Day with Rachael Ray* magazine earlier this year—providing a nice boost in Wanart's Web site traffic. "Although there is never a moment that isn't a challenge, I'm really getting to do what I love. I'm getting to design my path and carve out my own future," she says. —Allison Enright



Reunion Chair, Gretchen Collazo; Fund Chair, Kiryn Haslinger; Treasurer, Erica Zeichner; Correspondent, Aviva Walls; Nominating Chair, Gareth White; Networking Chair, Kate Torgovnick.

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5th Reunion May 29 — June 1, 2008

03 **Barnard Fund Gifts**
\$12,544
Participation 26%
148 donors/572 in class

Aurélia Crouhy married Dan Cohen on June 10, in Paris. In attendance were **Jessica Alpert**, **Stella Grizont**, and **Charity Hanley**. As a clinical psycholo-

gist, Aurélie works with young children and their parents in Paris. Charity is still living in London, where she works as an account manager for Business in the Community, an organization that promotes corporate responsibility. Stella recently started a job as director of strategic development at Ladies Who Launch, a venue for motivated women to exchange products and services, ideas, and strategic relationships. Jessica is working toward her PhD in history at Indiana University–Bloomington. Anna Pellicoli '02 could not join the celebration but was there in spirit. This summer, Anna started working as a teacher at MEI Futures Academy, a school for young mothers in Washington, D.C.

Ilana Greenberg is pursuing her master's in business administration at Fordham University with plans for a dual concentration in marketing and communications and media management, and a designation in entrepreneurship. For the past two years she has served as associate editor at MDPublish, a medical marketing and publishing company. Also, she has managed the New York office of Wendy Lewis & Co Ltd., the international consulting firm of fellow Wendy Lewis '79, which specializes in medical and aesthetic trend watching and strategic marketing. She and her former Barnard roommate **Ilana Garon** remain close—they live four blocks apart on the Upper West Side. Ilana Garon will begin the master of fine arts program in nonfiction writing at Sarah Lawrence in the fall. She has completed her fourth year teaching high school English in the New York City Public School System (including two years as a teaching fellow). Her students lovingly referred to her as the most “gangsta” teacher they know. Ilana received her master's in education at City College in 2005.

Although temporarily separated from **Jennifer Margulies** by a few states, Ilana Greenberg looks forward to the frequent long bus rides to visit her in Baltimore. Jenny graduated from The University of Maryland School of Law in 2006 and was admitted to the Maryland bar with the option to waive into Washington, D.C. She is completing a one-year clerkship with Associate Judge Dennis M. Sweeney in the Circuit Court for Howard County, Md. In September,

Jenny moved to D.C. to begin a new position as staff attorney for the Board of Veteran's Appeals.

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04 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$14,283
Participation 21%
114 donors/550 in class

Ashley Payton will attend Stanford Business School this fall. She's the recipient of a few scholarship awards. Ashley is excited about this new chapter and plans to focus on corporate social responsibility.

Simone Young is earning a master's at NYU School of Education. Her dissertation is on rebuilding the public education system in New Orleans post-Hurricane Katrina. She conducted her research in South Africa over the summer and studied how they rebuilt their education system after apartheid.

Nubia DuVall is a rising star at *Real Simple*. Recently her work was featured prominently in both the travel and family issues. She's also contributing heavily to magazine's Web site.

Laura Riley moved to California to pursue her JD at University of Southern California in Los Angeles. She and her new husband are settling in.

Laci Watkins finished her master's degree at St. Andrews in Edinburgh, Scotland, last year. Over the summer she was preparing to be a New York Teaching Fellow. Best of luck to Laci as she broadens the minds of young New York public school students.

Ebony Wiresinger is working at Lehman Brothers and was recently promoted to a position in the communications, marketing, and brand strategies group.

After living and working for a mid-sized daily newspaper out in Arizona for a year and a half, **Sarah N. Lynch** is excited to be back in New York City, where she has enrolled full-time at the Journalism School at Columbia University this fall. Sarah and her

boyfriend, Eugene Mulero, will both be students at the school's new Toni Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism. Together, they had their first story appear on the national page of the *New York Times*, July 14 edition. They hope to continue stringing for the *Times* while studying at Columbia.

In addition, Sarah writes, “I was recently honored to learn that I am the recipient of the National Press Club's Dennis Feldman Fellowship as well as the Newswomen's Club of New York's Anne O'Hare McCormick scholarship. I received the Press Club's award at its annual dinner in Washington, D.C.... We are looking forward to our classes at Columbia and I hope to visit again more regularly with my friends from Barnard, **Erika Flores, Regina Udler, Cindy Pulver** (who got married last month), and **Natalia Chan.**”

Your class officers would like to remind you that we have a Facebook group—Barnard Class of 2004—and a class listserv up and running. The listserv is great way to stay connected and get help if you're looking for a new job, moving to a new town, publicizing an event you're organizing, or anything else under the sun. To join, go to: groups.google.com/group/barnard-2004?hl=en. The listserv will be moderated to protect against spam, and e-mail traffic will be kept to no more than one message a day.

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05 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$9,639
Participation 22%
118 donors/546 in class

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06 Barnard Fund Gifts
\$6,213
Participation 23%
120 donors/522 in class

07

Barnard Fund Gifts

\$11,000

Participation 78%

406 donors/521 in class

Class Officers 2007–2012: President, Martha Norrick; Vice President and Reunion Chair, Gillian DiPietro; Fund Chair, Pamela Wiznitzer; Correspondent, Frances Howorth; Networking Chair, Lala Wu.

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Obituaries

Caroline Lockwood Duncombe Pelz '40

Caroline Lockwood Duncombe Pelz passed away of a stroke at the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center on June 28, 2007. Pelz was well-known for her deep commitment to the College. She served as a trustee of Barnard from 1963–67 and as president of its alumnae association. Among her other commitments, she served as a class officer, was involved in phonathons, was a President's Circle sponsor, was a part of the Centennial Committee, and a participant in Athena's Forum. In recognition of her incredible devotion to Barnard, she was awarded Barnard's Lifetime Alumnae Service Recognition Award in 2005. She will be sorely missed by her family and friends.

Madeleine B. Stern '32

On August 18, 2007, Madeleine B. Stern died at her home in Manhattan at the age of 95. A well-known rare-book dealer, biographer, and "literary sleuth," she ran Rostenberg & Stern Rare Books with her longtime companion Leona Rostenberg. The two met as teachers in 1929 and later wrote memoirs together. Born in Manhattan on July 1, 1912, Stern was an English literature major who received her master's from Columbia in 1934 and was the recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship. In addition to writing and editing many books, she helped bring the once lost Gothic stories of Louisa May Alcott to print and she helped found the New York Antiquarian Book Fair. Stern had no immediate survivors.

In Memoriam

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1923 | Antoinette Raia, Feb. 25, 1996 | 1942 | Nancy Chapman Ewell, June 23, 2007 |
| 1924 | Gertrude Marks Veit, Jan. 1, 2000 | | Helen Hearn Jones, June 6, 2007 |
| 1926 | Madeleine Lorch, Jan. 1, 1990 | 1944 | Alice Halpert Aronson, June 9, 2007 |
| | C. Isabel Williams, Jan. 1, 1996 | | Helen McConville Screder, June 18, 2007 |
| 1927 | Rosemary Keating Morrissey, Jan. 9, 2007 | | Irma Schocken Wachtel, June 16, 2007 |
| 1928 | Elsie Herrmann, Jan. 1, 1992 | 1945 | Madeline Kessler Ramsey, July 18, 2007 |
| 1929 | Mabel Freeman Allen, Aug. 12, 2007 | 1947 | Marcia Balfour Haupt, July 12, 2007 |
| 1932 | Madeleine Stern, Aug. 18, 2007 | | Marjorie White Lohwater, June 24, 2007 |
| 1933 | Martha Loewenstein, June 4, 2007 | | Mary Seymour Paige, July 8, 2007 |
| 1934 | Marion Gibbs Galland, Aug. 5, 2007 | 1948 | Marjorie Greenwald Jacobson, Jan. 12, 2007 |
| | Mary Dickinson Gettel, July 15, 2007 | | Betty Lou Kirtley Kasnoff, March 27, 2007 |
| | Ann Zahringer Hottelet, March 24, 2007 | 1950 | Phyllis Maloy Hobe, July 2, 2007 |
| | Margherita Sylvester, Jan. 1, 1996 | 1952 | Eunice Messler, Aug. 6, 2007 |
| 1935 | Anne Glenn Bradbury, Aug. 10, 2007 | 1954 | Erica Levy, Aug. 14, 2007 |
| | Kathleen Strain Feerick, Aug. 19, 2007 | | Sally Fuhring Statius-Muller, May 9, 2007 |
| | Ruth Bower Hatch, July 28, 2007 | 1955 | Hannah Salomon Janovsky, Oct. 26, 2006 |
| | Ruth Bedford McDaniel, June 20, 2007 | 1956 | Judith Yedlin Deylin, June 17, 2007 |
| 1937 | Page Johnston Karling, June 25, 2007 | | Ann Stofer Johnson, July 23, 2007 |
| | Harriet Jones Tiebel, Sept. 15, 2006 | 1957 | Sharon Greer Phillips, Feb. 27, 2007 |
| 1938 | Virginia MacEachern Dunford, July 12, 2007 | 1959 | Tove Andersen Solomon, June 24, 2007 |
| | Harriet Harlin Knirsch, July 1, 2005 | 1960 | Gail Weinberg, Aug. 10, 2007 |
| | Leonore Schanhous Krieger, June 22, 2007 | 1962 | Sheila Nathanson Duncan, Aug. 11, 2001 |
| 1939 | Miriam Wechsler Linn, July 11, 2007 | 1963 | Vera Wagner Frances, June 28, 2007 |
| | Louise Comer Turner, Aug. 20, 2007 | 1971 | Sherrie Echols, June 13, 2007 |
| 1940 | June Rossbach Birge, Aug. 21, 2007 | 1975 | Martha Keck Zalkind, June 17, 2007 |
| | Caroline Duncombe Pelz, June 28, 2007 | 1996 | Mona Osman, June 12, 2007 |

LETTER FROM THE PROVOST

Continued from Page 2

colleges.” The foundation further specified that we had to show that we would use the funds “to address a major priority, leading to a long-lasting positive educational and financial outcome.”

That request for proposals came at a time when there was little question where we needed the money most for a major, unfunded priority. During the previous two years, I’d been meeting with the chairs of our science departments, discussing their most critical needs and collectively making creative, relatively low-cost plans for improvements in laboratories, pedagogies, and personnel. We were also compiling a comprehensive needs list for the biology, chemistry, and environmental science departments, should some funding sources be identified. Mostly, we were making painful choices.

For too long, our wonderful science faculty and students have had to settle for modest improvements while making individual sacrifices for the common good. An inspirational example is the sacrifice made by senior faculty members in the chemistry department: Professors Sally Chapman and Les Lessinger have both given up laboratory space so that junior faculty members can use those labs to pursue their research. As Professor Chapman said in a recent discussion, “Altschul was built with space for only four active chemists. Now we have six, and we really need eight. Until Christian Rojas gained tenure a couple of years ago, Les and I were the only tenured people in our department. We’re approaching retirement age and desperate to have more young people succeed.”

To honor the vision and generosity of Professors Chapman and Lessinger, and other dedicated science faculty, you can make a gift toward the project as a whole or one of its specific aims, i.e. the creation of a new chemistry faculty laboratory, or the endowment of a new faculty professorship in chemistry; the modernization of the ninth-floor introductory biology laboratories in which hundreds of students study every year; or the renovations needed to recruit a new faculty member in environmental science.

Barnard needs your financial help to meet the Mellon challenge to transform the sciences here. Your support will enable us to educate women who go on to use their scientific thinking skills as knowledgeable and engaged citizens, and to prepare them to overcome enduring barriers in the sciences, join the front ranks in medicine and research, and contribute to major discoveries and advancements in the decades ahead. Let’s do this together, grateful for the legacy of Emily Gregory and the trust that the Mellon Foundation has in Barnard’s future as a center of excellence for women in science.

PRESIDENT’S PAGE

Continued from Page 3

considerable company in our overall stance. Earlier this year, the AAUP released a report entitled “Freedom in the Classroom,” which addresses campaigns by private groups to promote legislation that would prohibit teachers and educational institutions from “indoctrinating” students or challenging their deeply held beliefs. The report explains that ambiguous calls for “balance” would in fact restrict the professor’s role to one of offering “a neutral summary of the current state of a discipline, abjuring controversial and individual views,” and it reaffirms John Dewey’s position that indoctrination occurs only when a teacher requires that students unquestioningly accept the validity of an unproven, professionally contestable, proposition. At the same time, the report says, vigorous classroom engagement is “essential if students are to acquire skills of critical independence,” and the essence of higher education lies not in placid, passive learning but in “the inculcation of a mature independence of the mind.”

The AAUP report goes on to caution that aggressive attacks on academic freedom can have devastating effects that extend far beyond the campus gates. It warns, “Calls for the regulation of higher education are almost invariably appeals to the coercive power of the state,” and concludes, “We ought to learn from history that education cannot possibly thrive in an atmosphere

of state-encouraged suspicion and surveillance.”

These wider societal issues are eloquently addressed in “Academic Freedom Under Fire,” an article from the spring 2005 issue of *Daedalus*, the journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The article’s author is Jonathan R. Cole, Columbia University’s John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, who served from 1989 to 2003 as provost and dean of faculties at Columbia and is now provost and dean emeritus. Early in that article, my colleague reminds us that extensive freedom of inquiry distinguishes American higher education from university systems in many other countries, and warns that “a threat to academic freedom poses a threat as well to the welfare and prosperity of the nation.” He also credits academic freedom as being “a key to innovation and progress over the long term in the sciences as well as the humanities.”

Barnard is committed to protecting academic freedom and the integrity of the tenure system, and this year we granted tenure to seven wonderful professors across a variety of disciplines. Like all scholars on Barnard’s tenure track, these individuals had to pass meticulous muster—having their scholarship, teaching and institutional service evaluated by their department colleagues and by outside scholars whose identities were undisclosed to the candidates, as well as by the College-wide faculty committee charged with overseeing tenure, and by the provost, president, and board of trustees. They also had to be approved by Columbia, since Barnard faculty also participate in the graduate programs of the University.

Every year, as we undergo a tenure decision process that is difficult for everyone involved, we are moved and fortified by a basic understanding: Maintaining the integrity of this process and protecting academic freedom are weighty responsibilities with far-reaching consequences. In fulfilling these responsibilities, Barnard plays a central role in protecting and fostering the vigorous exchange of ideas that characterizes and sustains a democratic society.

Environmental Protection

Martin Hirschorn came to New York after World War II possessing a degree in chemical engineering and little else. As a young refugee from Nazi Germany, he had attended college in England while working full time.

Today he is a retired businessman and active philanthropist whose concerns about our planet's finite water supply spurred him to endow a science chair at Barnard—the Alena Wels Hirschorn '58 and Martin Hirschorn Professorship in Environmental and Applied Sciences. That faculty chair, a chair in economics, a scholarship for economics majors, and prizes for students writing about economic subjects all honor his late wife, a Barnard alumna who was a prominent expert on global monetary issues and the chief editorial writer for *The Journal of Commerce*.

When asked about his own formidable path to success, Hirschorn says, "It began with an article about noise." Noise was a big problem at the company he worked for when he first came to New York, he says, explaining, "Companies with noise problems were constantly getting citations from the city. People were going deaf from the noise, and if the companies couldn't stop the noise, they eventually had to shut down. But nobody knew how to solve the problem, including me. So I went to libraries, talked to people, started designing silencers and audiometric testing rooms to measure people's hearing, and wrote a paper that was published in *Chemical Engineering* magazine. The article was very dry, but afterward I got a lot of phone calls." The phone calls came from businesses all over the country, and almost every call brought a customer for Industrial Acoustics, the company Hirschorn had just founded.

"I started traveling around the United States, and practically

every other stop I made resulted in an order for noise control equipment," he recalls. Eventually his business expanded internationally. As a result, factories, airports, roads, office buildings, and residential buildings became quieter around the world—from England to Germany to

Hong Kong. One example Hirschorn is particularly proud of is New York's famed Lever House, an architectural icon with massive mechanical fans that were sending noise through the neighboring area. The problem was solved, and the building's reputation was saved, when Hirschorn's company designed, produced, and installed huge intake silencers.

In his wide-reaching travels, Hirschorn has taken note of the various sources of potable water, and the limits on those sources. "Saudi Arabia and its neighbors in the Middle East take salt water from the ocean and distill it. China, other countries in Asia, several countries in Africa, and the west coast of our own country have constant shortages. And now you have many countries in already dry regions with less rainfall than before. Any country that doesn't have enough rain has to import drinking water or distill saline waters, which is expensive and consumes a lot of energy. Sooner or later this problem will concern everybody."

Barnard's Hirschorn Professorship in Environmental and Applied Sciences is held by Stephanie Pfirman, an expert on melting Arctic sea ice and its effects on the earth's oceans and climate. As department chair, Pfirman has developed new courses in polar exploration, climate, energy resources, oceanography, and data analysis. Working with her to build the curriculum are colleagues like Martin Stute, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Environmental Science, whose research focuses on the effects of climate change on groundwater, the dynamics of water miles below the Earth's surface, and the sources of arsenic in drinking water.

In addition to understanding that our oceans and other large bodies of water are prime sources of life, most people also treasure them for their beauty and the inspiration, peace, and solace we experience at their shores. This emotional bond is certainly felt by Martin Hirschorn, whose first sight of Alena Wels was at the beach. The couple met on a sunny morning at Montauk Point, and their first activity together was a swim in the Atlantic Ocean. After they were married, they built a house on the south shore of Long Island, and Hirschorn says that many of his most precious memories are of times spent there.

Alena Wels Hirschorn graduated from Barnard three years before she met her husband. She had thrived during her college years, majoring in economics and serving as photo editor of *Mortarboard*, chess club president, and writer of a campus musical comedy show called "Ever Since Eve." Throughout her life, she remained an active and committed alumna. She would undoubtedly be proud to know that her husband was honoring her in an enduring and meaningful way—by supporting a Barnard professor engaged in the study of our oceans and other critical environmental research.



The Philanthropic Physicist



“I had it in mind for a long time that after I retired, I would make a gift to the physics and astronomy department,” says Professor Richard Friedberg, a physicist who served as department chair at Barnard for 35 years before retiring in 2003. “When I was told that a new lounge was the big thing afoot, that was fine with me.”

Friedberg’s gift supporting the creation of a lounge on the fifth floor of Altschul Hall supplemented the project’s original funding by the Overbrook Foundation—a family foundation run by descendants of Helen Goodhart Altschul, the 1907 Barnard graduate for whom the science building is named. (Among the family members active in this foundation are Emily Altschul Miller ’88, Stephen F. Altschul, and Caroline K. James ’82, who is Stephen’s wife.) An anonymous third donor also supported the project.

The idea for an attractive gathering space for science faculty and students came from Ann Whitney Olin Professor Timothy Halpin-Healy, who had collaborated with Friedberg on a less ambitious but similarly motivated venture about 15 years ago. At that time, the two physicists laid claim to the office of a retired geology professor and converted it to a physics reading room. Room 502 Altschul soon became famous on campus for the review sessions Friedberg held there every Thursday. Starting after dinner and often lasting past midnight, Friedberg’s conversations with students addressed physics questions at every level (“ranging from poets’ physics to quantum field theory,” according to Halpin-Healy). After Friedberg retired, the room reverted to a faculty office.

This year, Halpin-Healy has taken charge of designing and furnishing the new lounge, Room 514. In doing so, he says, he sees the monies from the three donors as fulfilling three overlapping needs: the Overbrook Foundation’s grant has made

it possible to convert an old machine shop into a modern space, where spontaneous discussions among colleagues may spark new scientific advances; the anonymous donor’s gift has made it possible to install a high-end espresso machine that draws visitors by sending irresistible aromas through the science corridors; and his colleague’s gift has made it possible to create an atmosphere that is exceedingly plush.

“I wanted to use Richard’s money for the finer objects in the room,” Halpin-Healy says. The room is indeed filled with fine objects—from the custom-made conference table at its center to the bookcases along the walls and the cabinetry in the kitchenette. “Everything is made of Pennsylvania cherry—very warm, organic, and attractive,” Halpin-Healy says.

At the same time, he admits that he found some of the room’s most interesting contents by “salvaging ancient scientific apparatus from the Columbia physics building.” The results of 17 years of collecting are displayed in a glass case near the lounge’s front door, in tribute to the room’s former function.

“Every physics department used to have a machine shop where they made equipment,” Halpin-Healy says. Now, what he calls the “cabinet of curiosities” holds such antiques as a 1950s General Radio Co. audio oscillator, an 1898 Clerkenwell Road London resistance box, and a Parisian device from the Société Anonyme de Électricité of even older vintage.

Next to the case of scientific objects is a worktable holding Apple iMac computers. The room also has complete multimedia capability, making it the perfect venue not only for help sessions and collegial chats, but also for seminar courses and senior thesis presentations. On the walls hang two large posters with NASA pedigrees: a close-up photo of Saturn taken by the Cassini-Huygens satellite, and a panoramic photo of the surface of Mars taken by a Mars Rover. “I wanted images of the planets, like the pictures at the old Hayden Planetarium,” Halpin-Healy says.

Friedberg is happy with the results: “It looks absolutely beautiful ... a lot of intelligent things have been done.” He also expresses great satisfaction with “the strength that’s been built up in the sciences in general at Barnard in the last 20 years,” citing as an example the growing number of students participating in cutting-edge research.

Meanwhile, he maintains an office at Columbia University and continues his own research. “I’m working on a few things in physics and trying to get a foothold in certain areas in biomathematics,” he says.

Upon learning of Friedberg’s latest research foray, Halpin-Healy smiles and says, “I hope the biomathematicians are ready for Richard! As for us in Barnard physics, we’d be delighted to have him back for those marathon help sessions in the new reading room. I’ve got a few questions to ask him myself.”

Match Game: Alumnae Supporting Science

A major proviso governs the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Centers of Excellence grant for science at Barnard: For every dollar the foundation delivers, Barnard must first raise three dollars from other sources. Over the next six years, Barnard must independently raise \$9 million for its science programs in order to receive \$3 million in Mellon funding and thus have \$12 million dollars to spend on improvements—the renovation of aging labs, the endowment of more senior professorships, and an increase in start-up funds and other faculty support.

Several donors have already made gifts that qualify for Mellon Foundation matching funds. Among them are three Barnard graduates who went on to medical school and highly successful careers. All three are members of the Science Advisory Council, an alumnae group of physicians and researchers who meet periodically with President Judith Shapiro and other College leaders to discuss ways to advance the sciences at Barnard.

Hematologist Helen Ranney '41, a leading expert on diseases caused by genetic blood disorders, is one of these benefactors. Early in her career, she published a landmark study on the relationship between sickle-cell anemia and Hemoglobin C, an abnormal form of hemoglobin. In the early 1970s at the University of California at San Diego, she was the first woman to chair a department of medicine in the United States.

Ranney says she entered college intending to become a lawyer, but was eventually influenced by Barnard classmates who were premed. She was also influenced by the results of an aptitude test that highlighted her scientific talents—talents that spurred the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons to award her a full scholarship. She received her medical degree in 1947, one of six women in a class of 113, and her strong interest in biochemistry led her to hematology.

Over the years, Ranney has helped finance the modernization of science facilities at Barnard. The Mellon Foundation will match her recent gift establishing The Helen Ranney '41 Start-Up Fund for Newly Hired Faculty in the Sciences.

“Being competitive in the size of our start-up packages is key to our success in recruiting the best junior faculty,” says provost and dean of the faculty Elizabeth S. Boylan. “These funds are awarded for laboratory equipment suited specifically for the individual’s work, supplies that will enable the professor to get experiments up and running before they can get their own grants, computers, student assistance, technical support, and minor lab renovations.”

“Having been in an administrative position, I know start-up funds are essential when you try to recruit people,” Ranney says. “It can be hard to get gifted new people on your faculty.” It’s fitting that, in overcoming this obstacle, Barnard

has the help of a woman who herself surmounted daunting obstacles to rise to the top of her profession and make singular contributions to medical science. “If you don’t dwell on the difficulties, they don’t seem so big,” Ranney says.

Ellise Delphin '71 is another alumna whose gift for faculty support will receive a Mellon Foundation match. Delphin, who chairs the department of anesthesiology at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, says that as a young woman she benefited greatly from the nurturing atmosphere at Barnard. She praises Barnard’s “community of women” inside and outside the classroom for providing her with the confidence to set high goals.

“Talented human beings are a college’s most important resource,” Delphin says of her motivation for establishing the Ellise S. Delphin Start-Up Fund for Newly Hired Faculty in the Sciences.

Like Ranney, Delphin studied medicine at Columbia. While the profession’s gender ratio was beginning to improve during the 1970s, women still made up only 10 percent of Delphin’s class. “Now it’s 50 percent or higher at leading medical schools,” she says. “Women’s overall interest in science is much greater than it was 30 years ago, and science is more open to having women succeed.” She believes that as top colleges and universities increasingly compete for young women who excel in science, Barnard will attract these students only if it continues to build the faculty and update campus laboratories.

Michelle Friedman '74 had another impetus for meeting the Mellon challenge: “I have tremendous admiration for President Shapiro, and I wanted to make a gift honoring what she’s done for Barnard.” Friedman earned her medical degree at NYU before completing advanced psychoanalytic training at Columbia. A psychiatrist in private practice, she also teaches at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and chairs the department of pastoral counseling at the Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School.

Friedman says discussions with faculty members at Science Advisory Council meetings have shown her “how integrated the science curriculum is at Barnard today.” Examples of such integration, she says, are environmental policy courses that bridge natural science with social science and the humanities. She is also impressed by the advanced research she sees science majors pursuing.

Perhaps one day her daughter, Sarah, will engage in such research. Sarah was accepted to Barnard, and after taking a “gap year,” will join the class of 2012. During their time here, she and her classmates will see a substantial improvement in the science laboratories on campus—due in large part to the Mellon Foundation grant and the matching gifts it inspires.

to test the site's bedrock, groundwater, and soil. Everything they do costs money drawn from a budget of \$60,000 per team. There's a reality embedded in those two million data points that everyone is searching for, but there are as many ways to go about discovering that reality as there are teams engaged in the search.

"I have to tell students upfront," says Bower, "that if you're experiencing ambiguity or stress as a result of this—well, that's right, that's what we intended."

During lectures, Bower provides his students with everything they'll need in order to master the complex fictional world of the simulation. He lectures on basic chemistry, nuclear chemistry, water tables, geology, and toxins—the full array of topics taught in more traditional environmental science courses—working without a textbook. He relies instead on *A Civil Action*, Jonathan Harr's nonfiction account of a groundbreaking environmental lawsuit, to introduce students to the vocabulary of the field and the human stakes of the work done by environmental scientists. He also lectures on civics (Bower was once the mayor of Teaneck, N.J.), economics, and legal terms. Students' final reports reflect a range of skills directly applicable to the real world. "The students have to unlearn [typical] academic behavior," notes Bower. In order to keep up with the simulation, they must work and remain engaged all the way through the course.

Ryan Kelsey, associate director of education research at the Center for New Media, which has designed computer simulations for economics and humanitarian aid courses, focused on Brownfield Action in his dissertation. Through a series of interviews held throughout one semester, Kelsey followed a group of students as they dealt with the site's challenges. He was struck by the different ways in which the students, drawn from various classes and majors, found value in the experience. "It became quite obvious that this is a powerful thing," he says.

The program has created great demand from teachers interested in adopting the program. It's being used

for both introductory courses and upper-level hydrology classes at Georgia College & State University, Lafayette College, and Connecticut College. But because the program was written in a now defunct computer language and hosted on an Internet server with limited capacity, Bower had to turn away many of those interested teachers. The National Science Foundation grant, awarded in February, has financed a complete rewriting and upgrade of the program and its user interface, as well its re-installation on a server large enough to handle virtually unlimited use of the program. (The expansion was unveiled at a mini-conference held at Barnard in mid-August.) It opens the way for an expansive future for Brownfield Action, which Bower intends to share freely. He foresees the program eventually being adopted and used in creative ways not just by other professors but also by professional training programs, government, and community groups. And he expects it to serve as a resource and model for experiments in teaching designed to convey the skills most relevant to students entering the workforce.

Brownfield Action teaches the single most important skill a college student can acquire in a way that traditional curricula overlook, Bower says. It forces students to develop what he calls "self-renewing intellectual resourcefulness"—the ability to confront ambiguous situations and learn from them. Today's flexible workforce calls on employees to skip from job to job, orient themselves quickly to new surroundings, collaborate easily with others, and discover the resources to tackle a shifting set of problems. "You need to be able to reform yourself continuously," says Bower. "And education should be preparing students for that by giving them real-world problems that don't have one single pathway to the answer."

THE SALON: NATALIE ANGIER

Continued from Page 15

knew what we were looking for. I don't think we compete with each other: He's more of a news person, keeping up with current events and policy, and I just like the weird and offbeat stories that I

do." In the past year, for example, her subjects have ranged from springtime's nitrogenous odors to rat personalities to seeing red, literally.

But if Angier's oeuvre and writing voice has its share of whimsy, her intent with *The Canon* is completely serious. She wrote the book not just as a "whirligig tour" but as a direct response to what she sees as the critical decline in Americans' scientific literacy. Not only does she consider it a threat to the United States' technological and economic primacy, but also a sociopolitical concern, especially when hype and opinion spread faster than fact through pop culture and media. "What I'm trying to accomplish is to train people's way of thinking, to get them to appreciate the grand enterprise of understanding the universe, and this is the power of science," she says. "A lot of anecdote does not equal evidence; we need to get people thinking quantitatively and analytically so that they're not bamboozled. Once you see probability shake out, you tend not to be as impressed by coincidence or risk, and that gives you the opportunity not to be cheated or made hysterical.... So we need to see science as utterly indispensable. If you don't have that, your country's sunk. Our future depends on loving science."

BRIDGING THE GENDER GAP

Continued from Page 21

engineering departments. The results have been revealing: "There are too many departments where women represent less than 15 percent of the faculty, and ultimately those departments are suffering," says Chapman. "According to our statistical analysis, where there are more women on the faculty, mentoring programs work better, students are better supported, and faculty are better supported."

With Chapman on the case, that scenario will continue to improve, both at Barnard and nationally.

many insects and mammals, including humans, feed avidly on foods with only one sugar. In theory, future research might utilize this insight to create pesticides that could prevent serious environmental and economic damage.

Jerud is now a fourth-year medical student in radiology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. On a quick break from studying for her licensing exam, she says her experience in Glendinning's lab was especially helpful to her as she transitioned into medical school.

"It was a time- and labor-intensive year, but it was so exciting," she says.

"We uncovered another small piece of the picture, and it gave me a different kind of appreciation for the complexity of the human central nervous system."

"John's a lot of fun to work with," Jerud continues. "He treats students like scientists, involving you in the process and getting you thinking and designing the experiments."

Boylan says that future scientists such as Jerud aren't the only ones who will benefit such a curriculum. "Part of me is very excited for the students who will not go on in biology," she says. "This is a way to reinforce to them that whatever they learn at the molecular level has relevance at the organismal population level through behavior, and vice versa."

Caporale stresses that it is in students' best interests to familiarize themselves with genomics sooner rather than later, regardless of their chosen academic and professional paths. "A student entering college now will be confronted with personal medical decisions—and certainly public-policy decisions—related to this," she says. "As the cost continues to fall dramatically—and it will—eventually everyone will have their genome sequence. That opens new ethical questions."

Wondrous Science

The *Manduca* are easy to work with and easy to learn from, but for those students spending countless hours with them in the lab, are they easy to like? Jerud and Glendinning seem to think so. "They're very cool—almost like a caricature of what you'd think a caterpillar would be," says Jerud. "They have these 20 little Velcro feet that

stick to you. They're mostly water, and you can feel it when you touch them—they're kind of soft and squishy."

Glendinning is of course full of fascinating *Manduca* trivia: like the fact that males can locate a female from half a mile away using only their sense of smell.

Then there's the amazing—and certainly amusing—defense mechanisms of *Manduca* caterpillars. If a bird is unfortunate enough to happen upon one, the hornworm's camouflaged body will blend in with the leaf it's sticking to, except for its "horn"—a tiny red decoy protruding from its back. The *Manduca* then swings its head around and head-butts its opponent over and over. While vomiting on it.

If the bird does manage to win the fight, it will likely get sick because the hornworm has been eating poisonous plants and is now itself poisonous. But Glendinning says the bird usually isn't so lucky to get that far.

"It's oftentimes immediately repelled," he says, laughing. "I have videos of birds trying to attack these guys and they really *whack* 'em."

There's also the way *Manduca* move. As caterpillars, they're slowpokes, but as moths they fly with unfathomable speed and precision, just like hummingbirds. They're also about the same size as hummingbirds and share a common diet: nectar. But unlike their feathered competitors, *Manduca* moths have an added challenge when homing in on food—they don't have beaks. Instead, they have proboscises—elephant-trunk-shaped appendages they keep coiled up until meal time—that are eight to 10 times as long as their body. "It'd be like you having a giant straw that you'd have to uncurl and put in a cup 60 feet away," says Glendinning. "And they're doing this while *hovering in midair*."

Glendinning still fondly remembers the first time he observed this. It was with the sphingid, a close cousin of *Manduca*, and it happened while he was a graduate student studying tropical biology in Costa Rica. After a long day of fieldwork, Glendinning and his classmates stopped to rest as the setting sun gilded the Earth. In an instant, a squadron of half a dozen moths flocked up to a flowering bush next to them, slowly unfurling their immense straws

into the flowers. Each moth drew in several lightning-quick sips. Then, in a flash, the moths disappeared.

It was an awe-inspiring moment, a what-why-how moment that would dazzle any curiosity-driven wanderer. It was... *science*.

BARNARD ON THE WEB

To learn more about the faculty and curriculum of Barnard's biology department, please visit www.barnard.edu/biology. Profiles of faculty, students and scientific discoveries can be found at www.barnard.edu/womeninscience

SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Barnard Science Advisory Council (SAC) is to develop partnerships between the College and alumnae in the sciences to:

1. Enrich opportunities for Barnard students in the sciences.
2. Develop a strong network of alumnae in the sciences.
3. Inform alumnae about innovations in science education at Barnard.
4. Educate alumnae about institutional needs that must be met in order to strengthen the College's position in science.
5. Create a forum where alumnae may provide feedback on the College's progress and goals in the sciences.

The Science Advisory Council meets twice yearly. During these meetings a challenge that Barnard faces will be presented to the alumnae for input; Council members will offer recommendations to the institution. The SAC will also undertake an alumnae-focused project that strengthens the College's position in science.

A chair for the Science Advisory Council will be appointed by the College and will serve a two year term. The current chair is Maureen Strafford '71. Alumnae, parents and friends of the institution are eligible to serve on the Council; terms for members will be three years.

a little more solitary than it would be in a lab course. However, I can still discuss lab dilemmas with other students, and my advisor, Professor Dina Merrer, is always available. I also meet with my research group once a week, and that's when we address all of our research problems. There are four of us in the group, and our meetings give us a chance to receive feedback and advice.

The opportunities in chemistry excite me. A chemistry PhD can work at a pharmaceutical or chemical company, in cosmetics and food companies. I'm very interested in the chemistry in food. The Barnard Chemical Society organized a career panel last spring, and Jack Cordova from PepsiCo spoke to us. He told us about his first job working at Campbell's and how the experience inspired him to work in the food industry. He now works on developing new flavors of carbonated beverages.

I am planning on applying to graduate school, but I would first like to take some time off to work. I would like to be sure of my focus before I apply to a graduate studies program, and to make sure that I enjoy and fully appreciate the field of chemistry I study. My parents are pushing for the PhD, and I want it as well. I know there will be so many opportunities open to me after that.

It's a little hard for me to see what it's like for women in science outside of my lab. I went to an all-girl's high school. Now I'm at a women's college. I'm in the lab and surrounded by women doing chemistry. That's what I see, women doing chemistry. I don't know if I'm just going to be hit over the head with gender issues in the workplace after graduation. I know that the number of women obtaining higher degrees in the sciences is much smaller than the number of men receiving degrees. I hope that in this new age women will achieve a greater presence in science and mathematics.

BARNARD ON THE WEB

To read more about students studying science—and to hear from Denise Napolitano about how to make ice cream using liquid nitrogen—please visit www.barnard.edu/womeninscience.

The Physicist

Maika Takita '08 embarked on her higher education in her native Tokyo. She'd had plenty of math by the time she started university: "I think schools in Japan are more advanced in math, starting us at a younger age." Good thing—the physics major says she likes numbers, and has always relished the problem-solving involved in her coursework. Strikingly, Tamara Vital and Denise Napolitano both singled out physics as a course of study they found too challenging in high school and beyond: "I really admire physicists, because that stuff is way over my head," Napolitano says. As for Takita, there's a reason she's a budding physicist and not a biologist: "Biology was something that I wasn't very good at or enjoyed too much. There aren't too many numbers in biology."

I work in an experimental physics lab. What I'm actually doing is engaging in experiments to measure electronic properties, and I make devices on silicon wafers. I also work in a clean room where there is a controlled level of contamination—you have to wear a lab jacket, goggles, gloves, caps, and shoe covers. There's a lot of equipment in the clean room, and there are two yellow rooms. When you develop photoresists, or when you handle chips, you don't want the chips to be exposed to regular light, so you work in the yellow room.

It's hands-on work. We mechanically press graphene, which is a single atomic layer of carbon, onto the silicon wafers. Then, using some of the equipment in the lab, we draw on the wafers. The "drawing" is actually a pattern of metal deposits that you make on the chips. I'm still learning about semiconductors and how this applies to real life—I'm not too sure of the connection yet, but I enjoy the process of making devices.

Once I make the device I give it to someone I'm working with—a graduate student or a postdoctoral researcher working with us. Then they take the actual measurements to determine electronic properties and they analyze the data. By making the devices, we are helping them to find something new. I know it is important to their work.

We had lots of science classes in middle school and high school. I really enjoyed the physics classes in high school, but I enjoyed math more. I can sit in front

of a problem for hours and try to figure out the solution—I like calculating and applying math.

During my first year of college back in Japan, I met a professor who studied solid states physics [also known as condensed matter physics, or simply the study of solids]. His lab had vacuum chambers, which I didn't know anything about. I had seen them in pictures and catalogues, but I'd never used one. Once I started using the chambers to make devices, I understood more about what went on internally in the chamber. The experiments were very different from the projects we did in class when I was younger.

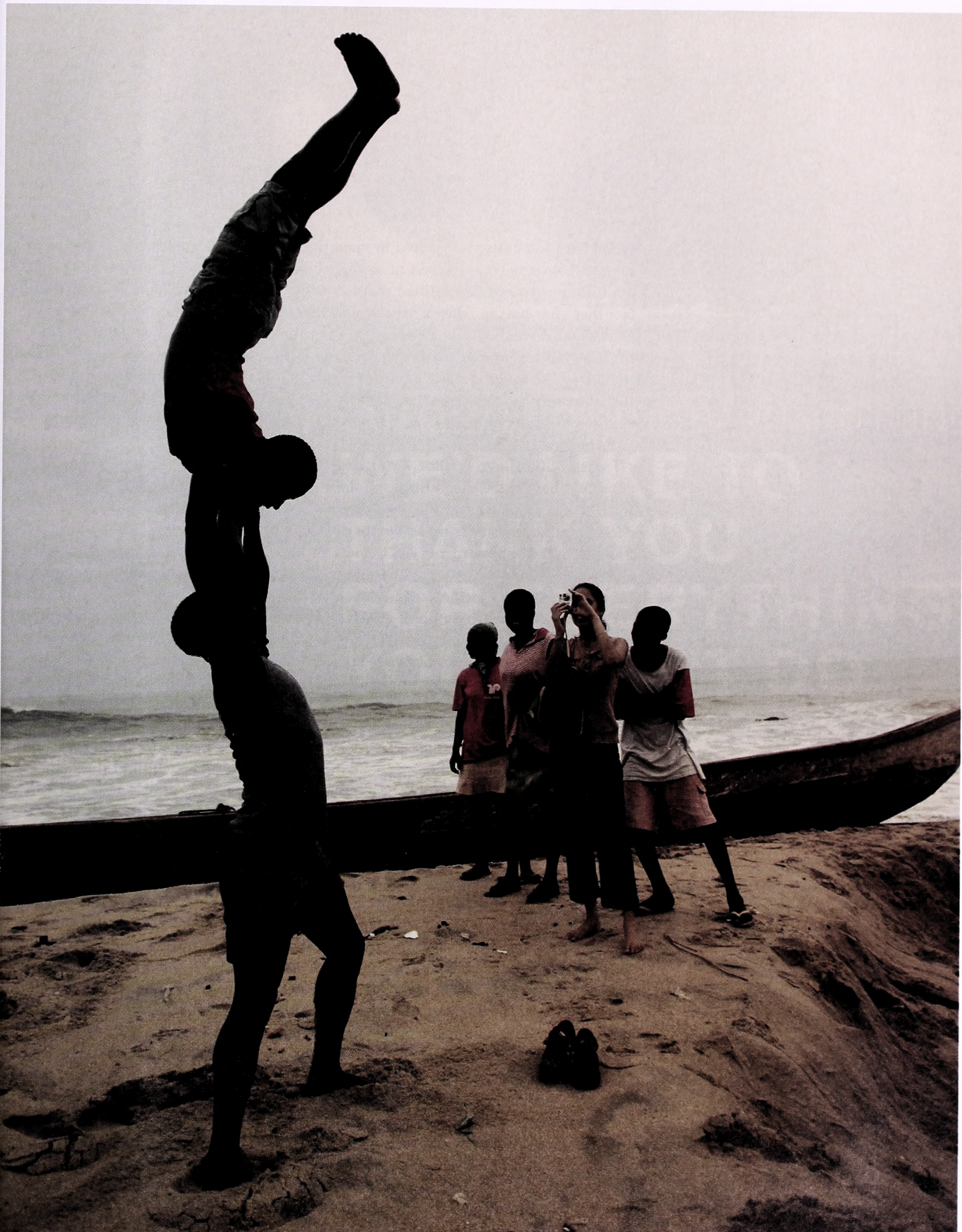
In Japan, it doesn't really matter too much what you major in as an undergraduate. Because I enjoy numbers and physics, I decided to do something I like. I also took chemistry, biology, and math classes. My parents are both artists. They don't really understand why I'm in science, so I don't know where I got this ability.

When I first came to Barnard, I was actually not too sure if I wanted to continue with physics. That was because I had many ideas when I came here—I wanted to do premed and theatre. My first semester here, I took quantum mechanics and I loved it. I ended up working in a lab second semester of last year, and that drew me back to physics.

This past summer, through the Hughes internship program, I got funding to work for 10 weeks in the lab of Professor Horst Stormer, the Nobel laureate. Professor Tim Halpin-Healy was my advisor. I've continued with that research this semester. I'm enjoying it a lot, even though I'm not exactly sure what's going to happen to the devices.

There definitely are more male students in physics. But I believe that if you're a woman in science, if you're confident of what you're doing, then you can survive. If you are not sure, if you feel overpowered, it will be harder. I don't feel uncomfortable being around male students. One of the labs where I worked in the electrical engineering department was 98 percent male.

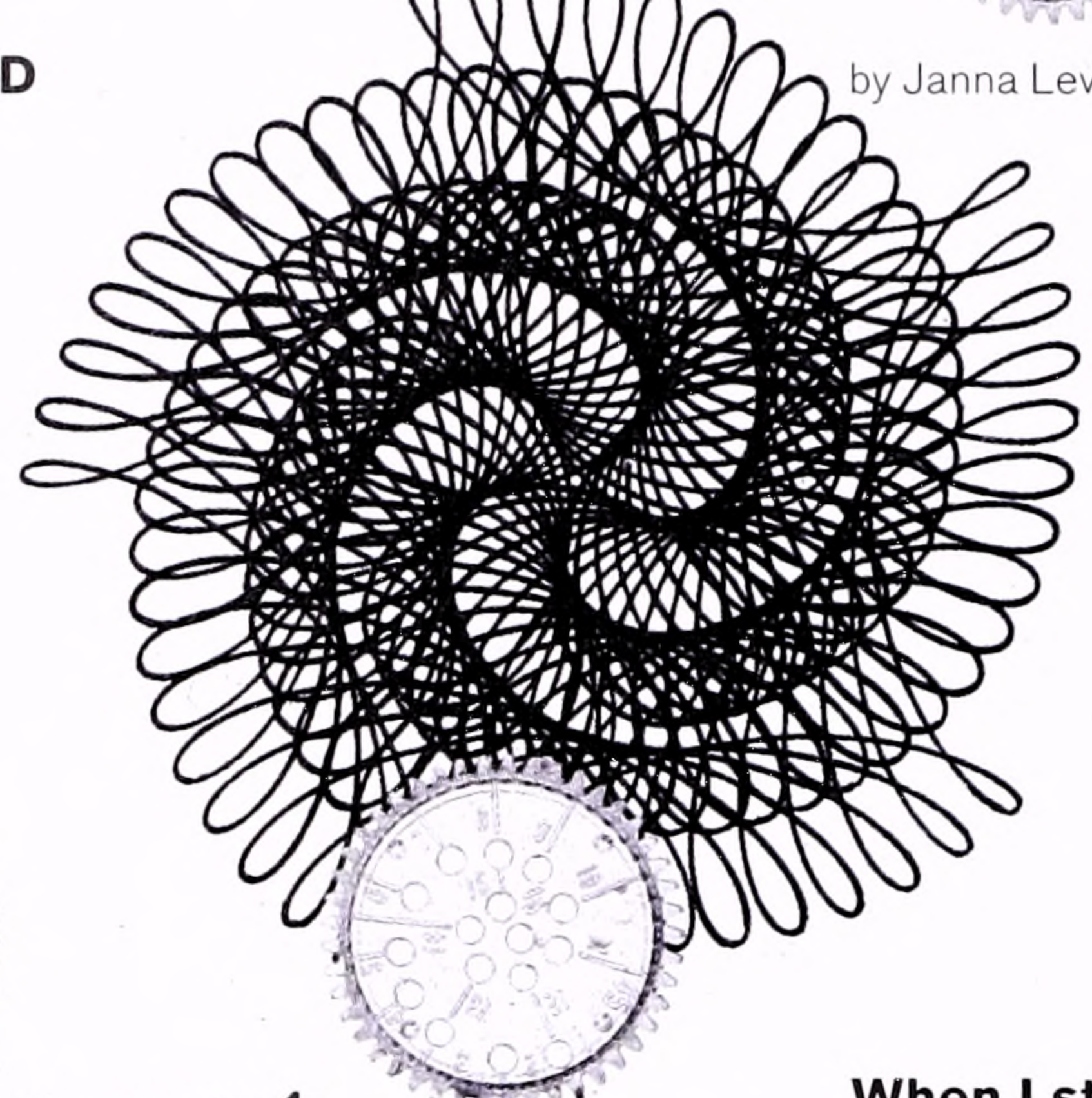
It has never occurred to me that I am a woman in science. I don't feel like I am a minority—I just feel comfortable.





I Heart Science

Janna Levin '88 is a professor of physics and astronomy at Barnard. Her scientific research concerns the early universe, chaos, and black holes. Her second book—the novel *A Madman Dreams of Turing Machines* (Knopf, 2006)—won the PEN/Bingham Fellowship for Writers. She is also the author of *How the Universe Got Its Spots: Diary of a Finite Time in a Finite Space*.



When I started college I wanted to major in philosophy. I wouldn't go so far as to say I had absolutely no interest in science. It would be more accurate to say that I had not fully recognized or admitted that I outright loved science. There was the peculiar fact that after having taken a year of chemistry to satisfy my science requirement, I then took a seemingly unnecessary year of the most dreaded of undergraduate courses—at least among my friends and, honestly, every one of the premeds—organic chemistry. Although I really had to override my instinct to present a sheer danger in the laboratory (to this day I can barely toast bread), I secretly loved the theoretical lectures. And, for some reason, I was taking calculus. But still, I wouldn't admit I loved science.

I was not hostile to science, by any means. Except physics. I was hostile to physics. I have the clearest memory of sitting by a window in what was then called BHR (the Brooks-Hewitt-Reed dining room, now called Hewitt Dining Hall) declaring that physicists made bombs and memorized equations. A few years later I had a PhD in physics from MIT and I suppose there are people who think as I did, although, for the record, I have never made a bomb and actually I don't think I have any equations memorized.

I remember the turning point clearly. I was well into my philosophy major. There was a guest lecturer in my class on free will and determinism. The guest spoke about quantum mechanics and how attempts to resuscitate the notion of free will through quantum physics had failed. I had never seen a room of college-age philosophers so quiet. What impressed me was not the detailed subject matter of the lecture, which is still contentious. Rather, I was utterly taken with the power of the method. Quantum mechanics appears to be true. There's evidence. And everyone on the planet is welcome to reproduce the calculations. They will find the same thing. Mathematical truth is not rooted in our genders, our cultures, our differences. Mathematical truth is found in our commonalities.

I knew I had to study physics. And I knew it was going to be beautiful. It wasn't. Not at first. It was tedious. But then, finally, after the introductory courses on pre-twentieth-century discoveries, there was quantum mechanics, relativity, curved space-time. I had found my subject.

I don't know why it took me so long to admit a profound admiration for science. It just wasn't how I identified myself. All these years later, I know that science is the lens through which I perceive the world and it has been since I was a child. I'm not a complete geek (although I appreciate the “chic geek” expression I heard after *Time Out New York's* pick of the week focused on the recent wave of science cafés in venues around the city, from SoHo to Brooklyn). And I do sport an “I ♥ Science” pin on my office door, which, let's admit it, is pretty geeky.

Teaching at Barnard now, I have classrooms full of women learning physics. Maybe many of them feel the same way about my “Electricity and Magnetism” course as my classmates felt about organic chemistry. But they're not afraid to be scientifically minded. And they seem very comfortable to self-identify as scientists, of the “chic geek” variety or otherwise. I discourage them from memorizing equations and they struggle with that paradigm shift. However they might feel about my pre-twentieth-century course in physics, I hope each of them will get a glimpse of how utterly beautiful it is.





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