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BARNARD
MAGAZINE

WINTER 2010

VIEWS FROM THE TOP

5 Alumnae Talk About Taking Charge
Introducing Kathryn Kolbert and The Athena Center for Leadership Studies
Sandra Goldmark on the Set Designer's Art
Blah, Blah, Blah—Why We Blog
Translators, Translations, and Today's World

EVENTS

SPRING 2010

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Tuesday, 02/09 6:30 PM
Diana Center Event Oval

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE IN ACTION

Wednesday, 03/03 6:30 PM
Sulzberger Parlor
3rd Floor Barnard Hall

LATINOS IN THE U.S. Assimilation or Transnationalism?

Tuesday, 02/09 7 PM
James Room
4th Floor Barnard Hall

MOVING TOWARDS UTOPIA What Kind of City Lies Ahead?

Wednesday, 04/14 6:30 PM
James Room
4th Floor Barnard Hall

MERCE CUNNINGHAM & HIS LEGACY AS A TEACHER

Monday, 02/22 7 PM
Julius S. Held Auditorium
304 Barnard Hall

Events are free and open to the public.
No reservations are required unless otherwise
noted. All listings are subject to change.

For more events and updates, please visit
www.barnard.edu or call Barnard
Communications at 212.854.2037.

SCHOLAR & FEMINIST CONFERENCE XXXV

FEMINISM & CLIMATE CHANGE

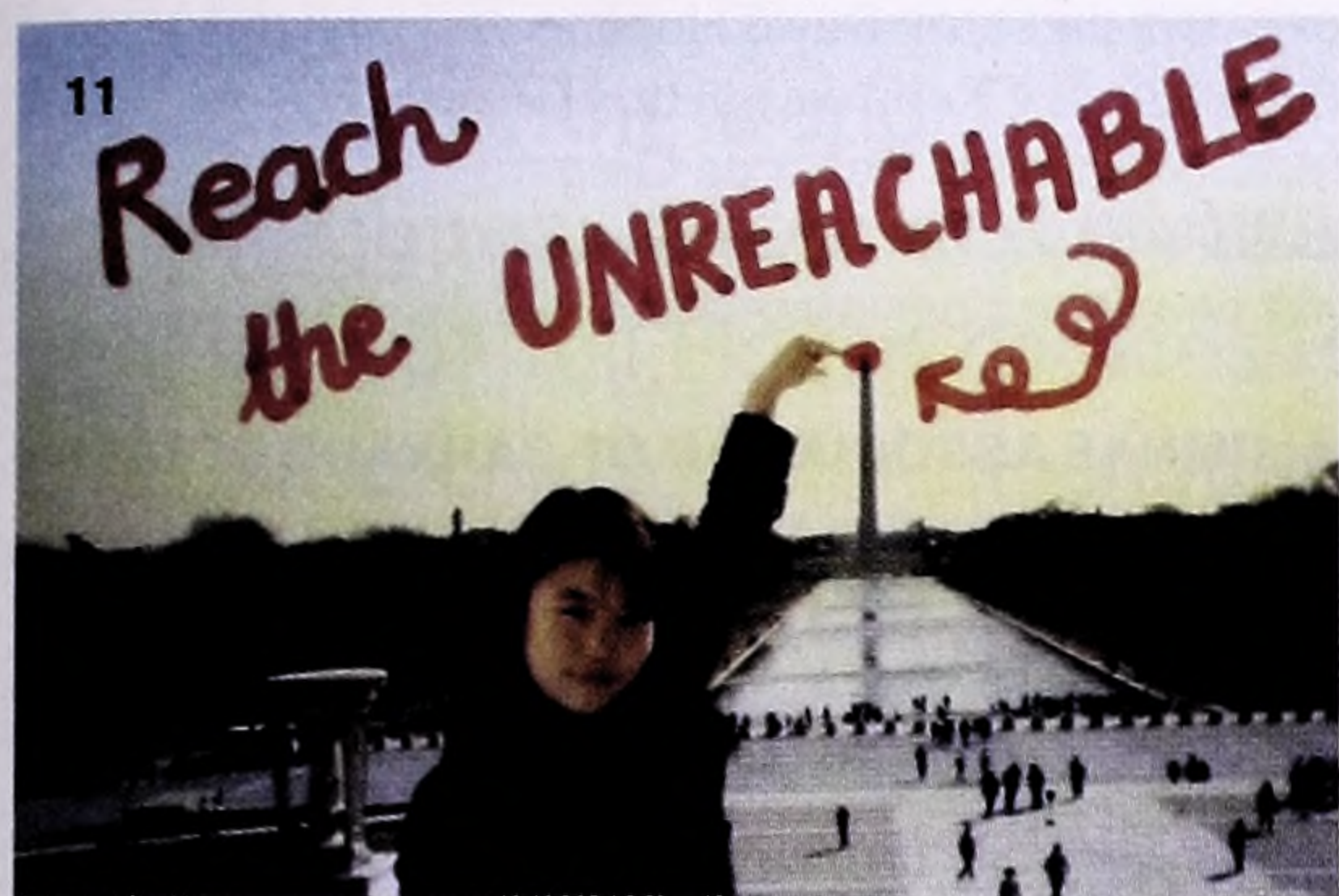
Saturday, 02/27
Registration at 9 AM
Barnard Hall Lobby

BARNARD
LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN
IN NEW YORK CITY

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BARNARD MAGAZINE

WINTER 2010

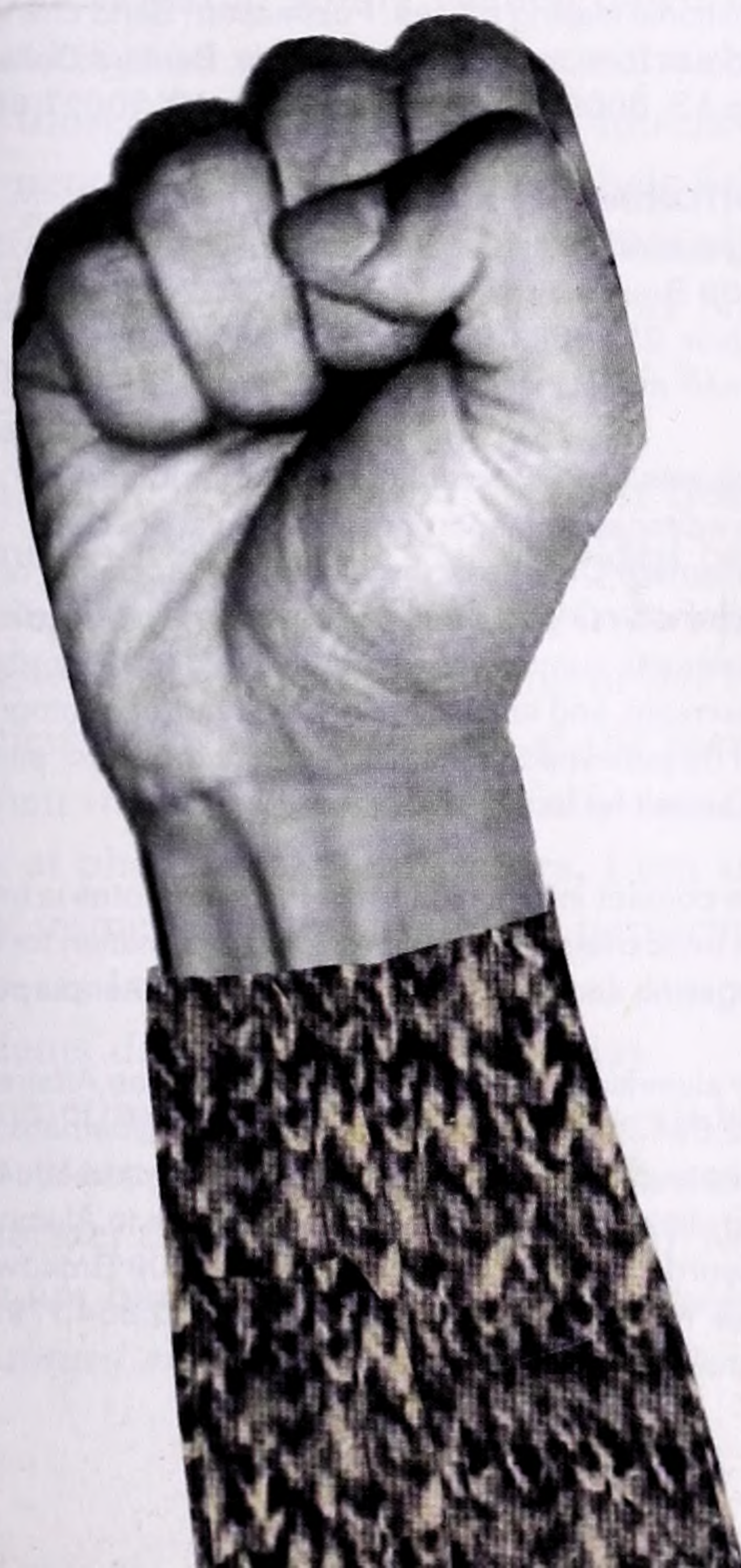


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Photograph by Dorothy Hong

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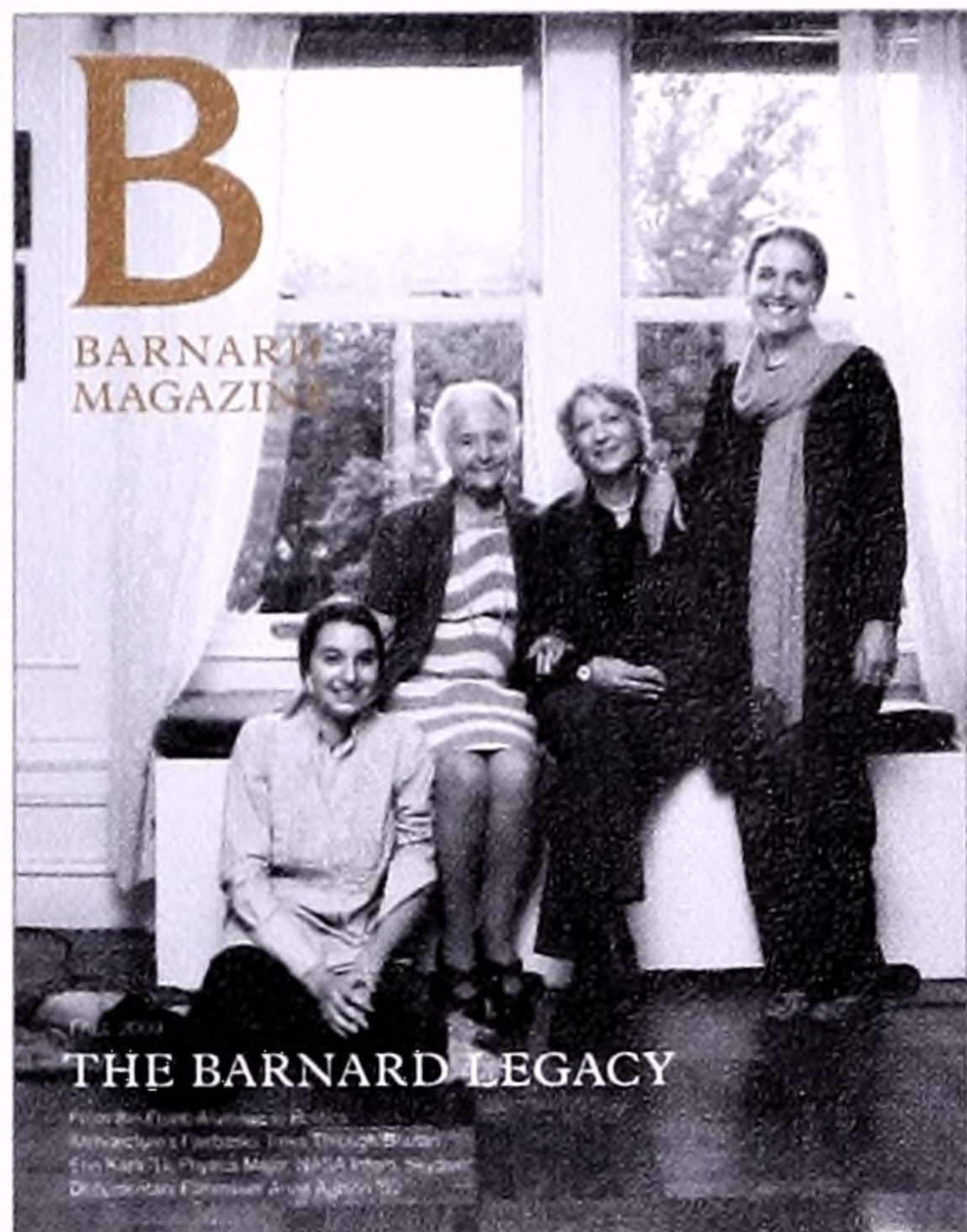
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by *Rebecca Kowalsky*

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by *Elizabeth Langer*



Official News

Thank you for the article on Barnard women in politics. I would like to add another: my sister Rachel Powell Norton '88, who won a citywide election in November 2008 to become a commissioner on the Board of Education for the San Francisco Unified School District. The support and expertise she gained from participating in Emerge, California's political leadership training program for Democratic women, was essential to her victory. I am especially proud of her for being a model for her own two girls, ages 10 and 11, who have seen their mother become an elected official.

—Daphne Powell '85
San Francisco, Calif.

What the Leap is About

I am honored and delighted to have been selected for a *Barnard* profile. I would, however, like to correct a misattribution. I do not believe that good science seeks to “prove what we already know.” I know firsthand from my 30-year work on the frontiers of empathy and emotional development that nothing engenders more surprise, new questions, and expanded horizons than good research. My career switch from science to art may resonate with others' life transitions wherein innovation and discovery link creativity across different domains. I became dissatisfied with academia because of increasing bureaucratic constraints, not a diminishing interest in psychology. Art challenged my creative growth, demanded time to learn

in different ways, and required me to explore skills left less developed during my psychology career. As in science, I endeavor to contribute and communicate well in the somewhat riskier context of art. I expect that my yearnings are not so different from those of many Barnard women who seek to complete themselves, to do jobs left undone that are felt as uniquely theirs to do. The quotation about reaching a turning point and taking a great “leap of doubt” is entirely correct. Cordially and with affection, my best wishes to you...

—Janet Strayer '66
Vancouver, Canada

Grazie mille tutti

I was thrilled to see the cover of the Fall 2009 issue with photos of Dr. Lorch and her family! Without reading the inner pages I knew instantly that her companions were her daughters and granddaughter. The resemblance is unmistakable.

How happy I am to know she is well and has such a lovely family. Dr. Lorch was a major influence in my life, not only while at Barnard, but for years after. So many remembered lessons—life lessons as well as Italian—a remarkable woman and mentor.

Please remember me to her with great respect and affection from “La Livornese.”
—Maria Livornese Fitzgibbon '53
Fort Lee, NJ

Another Look

I'm glad to see that some wrote in about the negative effects of having printing artistry take precedence over readability. I appreciate that you will not be using “pale colors” in the future.

May I go further and ask that you revisit the point size of the typeface (often soooo small). I also find the frequent use of sans-serif type especially hard to read, when it is so small. I'm sure there is a hidden meaning in the places you use sans-serif.... And putting the medium-grey screen behind the Class Notes hardly adds to the look of the page. It is somber and makes the news hard to read because of the low contrast on the page.

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BARNARD

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WINTER 2010, Vol. XCIX, No. 1
Barnard Magazine (USPS 875-280, ISSN 1071-6513)
is published quarterly by the Alumnae Association
of Barnard College.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and
additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send change of
address form to: Alumnae Records, Barnard College,
Box AS, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6598

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Vagelos Alumnae Center, Barnard College,
3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6598
Phone: 212.854.0085 Fax: 212.854.0044
E-mail: magazine@barnard.edu

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DEFINING RITUALS, DEFINING OURSELVES

In our part of the world, December is a time for ritual and celebration; for Christmas trees and Hanukkah lights, eggnog, carols, and an avalanche of holiday cards. In my house it is also, and primarily, a time of cookies—of Toll House cookies with walnuts for my husband and without them for my older son, of a chocolate-chip loaf for my mother and fat sugar cookies for my younger son, and of Russian teacakes for my daughter, who likes the fact that they come from where she does. Every year, my family chides me for getting so worked up about the baking. “It’s okay,” my mother pledges cheerfully on the phone, “you don’t really need to make so many cookies.” “It’s okay,” my husband promises, as he sees me starting to panic, “we can buy the cookies instead.” But then the lobbying begins, quiet and insistent. Don’t skimp on the Toll House, younger son urges, because last year there weren’t enough. Don’t forget the teacakes, my daughter says, because we have to have something from Russia.

Under normal circumstances, I am not a particularly good cook. But give me a Christmas deadline and three pounds of butter, and I can start rolling the little suckers out like Tater Tots: oatmeal over there; chocolate chip in the middle; sprinkled reindeer on top. My family will “ooh,” they will “aah.” They will pretend to reach for a Clementine but sneak a teacake instead, betrayed by the powdered sugar leaking from their lips. And then they will proclaim, sweetly and predictably, that this year’s cookies are the best. It may not be religion, but it’s certainly a ritual, and a powerful one at that. It’s December, it’s cookies, it’s love.

Lately, I’ve been thinking about ritual a lot. At Barnard, before we all depart for the holidays each year, we crowd for an evening into LeFrak Gymnasium, where several thousand young women down exorbitant quantities of doughnuts, bacon, pancakes, and waffles. This year the theme was disco and so, as “Waterloo” blared and those of a certain age tried to repress the urge to boogie, students in pajamas and neon glo-bracelets juggled their French toast sticks and danced with abandon. There were Muslim students with hijabs and hot-fudge sundaes, Orthodox Jews with kosher pancakes and Columbia boyfriends, vegetarians with soy bacon. On the night before finals, everyone jumps to “I Will Survive.” It’s December, it’s Midnight Breakfast, it’s Barnard.

In previous eras, Barnard’s most treasured tradition was probably the Greek Games, a yearly ritual that unfolded between 1903 and 1967. Even now, when I meet an alumna from that time, she invariably reflects upon the Games, asking me what I know of them, and telling me of her own travails or triumphs. I’ve met women in their 80s who still delight at the memory of having pulled the winning chariot; women in their 70s who woefully recall losing competitions to upstarts. When I look at photos from the Games, I am struck by how engaged the students look, how fully immersed they are in the performances, the competitions, the tableaux. Even 40 years later, the power of ritual jumps off the page—as alive, as potent, as our students dancing in the gym today.

Sometimes I worry that today’s students may not have enough ritual in their lives. Born into a Web-wired, multi-tasked world, they aren’t programmed for elaborate, time-consuming tradition. With so many communities available to them they are hard-pressed to cram any more activities into their jam-packed lives. These

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WOMEN IN THE ARAB WORLD

A SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY
BARNARD COLLEGE

Monday, March 15, 2010
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Featuring a keynote address by
Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna
Al Qasimi, Minister of Foreign
Trade for the United Arab Emirates

Based on the success of the
symposium Barnard College hosted
last year in Beijing (www.barnard.edu/womenchangingchina),
Barnard will gather the preeminent
women of the Arab world for a
dialogue on women's leadership,
women's agency and women's
voices, moderated by President
Debora Spar.



WHAT'S INSIDE

Barnard College is virtually synonymous with innovation in higher education. Given the quality of the education young women receive at this institution and the number of graduates who pursue advanced degrees, it comes as no surprise that the College has produced so many leaders in so many fields: arts, sciences, politics, business, medicine, and academics. The newly launched Athena Center for Leadership Studies, under Director Kathryn Kolbert, will not only study the qualities necessary for leadership but will also help prepare young women for top roles in whatever field they may choose. Kolbert, trained as a lawyer, is profiled in this issue. Throughout her career in the law and media, she has been committed to women's rights. We continue the theme of leadership with a photographic essay depicting five alumnae who have reached pinnacles in their own professions; they also share their ideas on what it takes to scale the heights and remain there. Barnard's leadership also extends to its recently graduated students. In this issue we speak to Dean Aaron Schneider about the impressive numbers of Fulbright scholars emerging from the College.

Barnard's Center for Translation Studies, funded with a grant from the Mellon Foundation, offers current students the opportunity to learn about the modes and methodologies of translation and explore major political, ethical, and theoretical issues in translation studies today. The new program brings added dimensions to the prevailing notions about the work of translators. In a separate feature, working translators comment on opportunities within the field, what drew them to it, and how they do, or do not, make their living in translation.

Why do we blog? How impassioned about writing and sharing our thoughts with friends and family—and strangers—have we become? Alumnae bloggers talked to our writer about the many reasons they keep such open journals, giving insights into why many of us find blogging a satisfying way of building communities and support networks. For those who have made only tentative steps into the blogosphere, this feature may offer an incentive to leap further.

Many Barnard students are drawn to the College because of its ready access

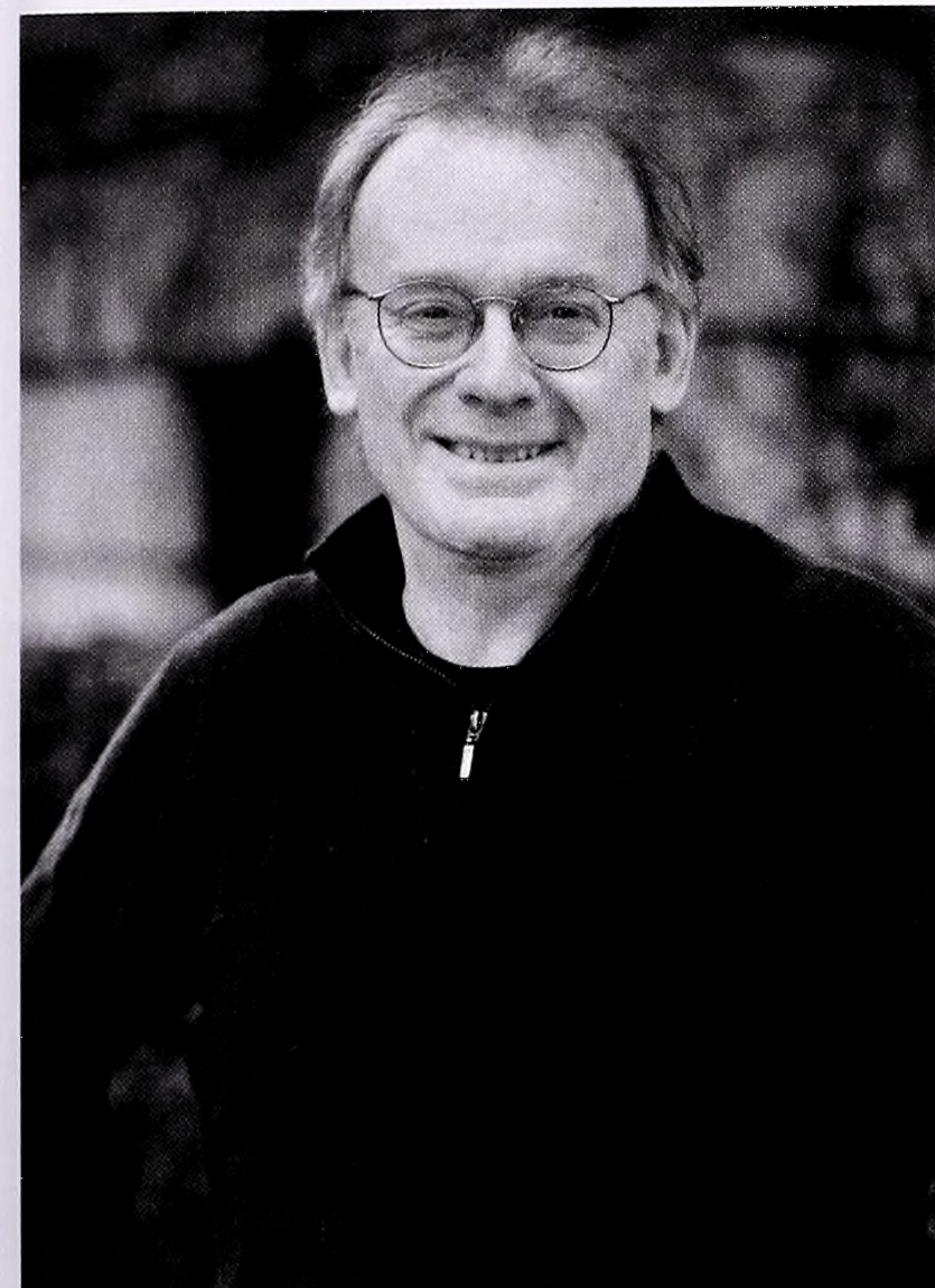
to the performing arts. Professor Sandra Goldmark introduces young theatre-lovers to another critical aspect of the theatre. Set design is more than decorating the stage, as Goldmark explains in an interview and to the students who enroll in her scenic design class.

Three of the excellent writers who have graduated from Barnard also take a moment to speak with us about their work: Delia Ephron '66 discusses her new novel, which looks at the way age affects young and old(er) alike. Lydia Davis '70, whose avant-garde work has been collected into a volume that's already garnered praise from the *New Yorker*, explores the meaning of "short story." And Elizabeth Benedict '76 considers what separates the muses from the mentors in a writer's life.

—The Editors

WRITE US

In the face of today's recession, many of us have grappled with changing careers, starting a business, or being unable to find work in a particular field. How have you been affected? We would like to hear from you; please write us at magazine@barnard.edu, or *Barnard*, Vagelos Alumnae Center, 3009 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10027.



SCHOLARS AID

DEAN AARON SCHNEIDER ON THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF FULBRIGHT GRANTS TO BARNARD STUDENTS

As Barnard stands poised to expand its global presence, it is only fitting that its students have received prestigious Fulbright grants at an impressive rate. Last year 16 Barnard students applied for these distinguished post-graduate awards, which provide funding either for independent research/study projects or English teaching assistantships. Seven students received grants, representing an acceptance rate of 44 percent.

With this percentage, Barnard was accorded inclusion in an October 19, 2009, article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* documenting the country's top producers of Fulbright scholars. As a point of comparison, this online and print newspaper for college and university faculty and administrators reported that in the same 2008-2009 period, 36 Wellesley students applied for Fulbrights, with grants going to nine of them. At Columbia's undergraduate divisions, 48 students applied and 14 received grants, reflecting a 29 percent acceptance rate. This year 27 Barnard students applied for these grants. And with President Barack Obama's request to Congress for more funding for the Fulbright program, there's the expectation that Barnard will have even more students receiving these awards.

What accounts for Barnard's strong showing? Aaron Schneider, senior associate dean of studies and responsible for helping students through the process, explains, "Barnard tends to attract students who are intellectually ambitious and self-reliant. These are students who come to college in New York City. Our students' alignments tend to be good with the Fulbrights." Schneider also suggests that Barnard attracts adventurous, independent young women undaunted by the prospect of moving to another country after graduation.

The Fulbright program, launched in 1946 and sponsored by the State Department, is available for research and teaching in 155 countries, with the mission of promoting "cross-cultural interaction and mutual understanding through engagement in the community and on a person-to-person basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom," according to the program materials. This year's Barnard Fulbright scholars are currently studying and working in the Czech Republic, Egypt, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nepal, and Spain. Two are English teaching assistants; others are exploring topics ranging from scientific research in immune diseases to esthetics and identity.

There are other factors contributing to Barnard's success, adds Schneider, "At a small liberal arts college like Barnard, students have more opportunity for independent research with faculty members," he says, which, in turn, means that students are often "seeking to develop those ideas further" through a Fulbright-supported project after graduation. Barnard candidates also receive significant faculty support throughout the process, from application suggestions to feedback on their essays to providing recommendations.

What also helps, suggests the dean, is the increase in the numbers of students Barnard has been sending on junior-year abroad study programs. "This increases our international profile," says Schneider, adding that "some of our best Fulbright candidates have laid some groundwork while abroad during their junior year. There is strong institutional support for an increased international outlook at Barnard, which is part and parcel of the Fulbright [program]."

Read about alumnae Fulbright experiences at alumnae.barnard.edu/magazine.

PROFESSOR PRESIDENTS

SPAR AND SHAPIRO HEED CALLS TO THE CLASSROOM



Judith Shapiro and students react to the past



Debora Spar talks economics and politics

It's often said in the halls of learning that teaching is more than a profession: It's a calling. Just ask Barnard College President Debora Spar and her predecessor President Judith Shapiro. They are still making time in their busy schedules to teach classes, despite many other responsibilities.

Teaching is a passion neither is willing to leave behind. Spar teaches a course on economics, while Shapiro is leading a first-year history seminar, but their teaching styles have one thing in common: They've both abandoned the traditional college lecture course. In their classes, students lead discussions, come to their own conclusions, and are encouraged to think for themselves.

BURNING DOWN THE HOUSE

Debora Spar's economics class always begins with a song. On a recent rainy Wednesday morning, The Talking Heads' "Burning Down the House" played as her students launched into a discussion of last year's subprime mortgage meltdown, the subject of this particular class. "Is this appropriate?" Spar asks. Her students burst into laughter.

She borrowed the idea from a former colleague who began every class by singing a song that related to the topic at hand. "I have a terrible voice," says Spar, a former professor at Harvard Business School. "So I needed to substitute iTunes instead. It's actually great fun to try and think of songs that 'fit,' though I will confess that it occasionally is pretty tough."

Students say the songs are a fun way to get started. But what they like best about Spar's class is that she lets them lead the discussion although she is careful not to allow them to get off track too much. But encouraging students to come to their own conclusions is paramount. "I'm glad it's not a lecture class," says Alison Goldberg '12. "She really wants to hear what people think."

Spar has been an award-winning teacher for years, and for this economics course on the Great Depression, she draws on Harvard Business School case studies to find connections with today's "Great Recession" and to consider the lessons of each. More than 50 students are enrolled, including a few young men. In class, she relies on the case study, or Socratic, method because students really do have to think for themselves and come to their own conclusions. "I've been impressed," says Elizabeth Byerly '11. "She's been able to pull off the Socratic method with 60 kids."

Spar has no trouble getting students to share their thoughts about how economics interacts with politics during an economic crisis. Many hands wave wildly in the air as the class discusses the causes of the subprime mortgage meltdown. Some said a new mortgage model had emerged in recent years. They argued that banks had relaxed their lending standards too much and had given out too many loans to people who couldn't repay them. Homeowners only had themselves to blame for buying a home they couldn't afford in the first place.

Other students were more sympathetic. A few said there's nothing wrong with making it easier for more people with low incomes to buy a home and live out their own version of the American dream. Instead, they blamed banks and mortgage brokers for becoming too greedy and overheating the market. Meanwhile others pointed out that politicians and regulators had failed to regulate the mortgage industry effectively.

Spar writes her students' thoughts and ideas on the chalkboard. By the end of the class, her black skirt is covered in chalk dust and the problems facing the American economy had become all too clear. "I wish I could end on an optimistic note," Spar says as the class came to a conclusion. "But I can't."

RE-ENACTING HISTORY

It's a Monday afternoon, several students arrive for Judith Shapiro's class wearing traditional Chinese hats and long silk dresses; costumes are encouraged in Shapiro's history seminar "Reacting to the Past," part of Barnard's first-year program. In this class, students reenact important intellectual debates throughout history in competitive "games." They're assigned specific roles, and then rely on historical texts to make their points and defeat their opponents.

On this day, about 15 students are reliving the sixteenth-century succession dispute between Chinese emperor Wan-Li and his Confucian bureaucrats, using the *Analects of Confucius* as their text. Shapiro has arrived in a long green silk dress that reaches her ankles, carrying a canvas bag that reads "I (heart) Confucius." "I think teaching should be a very joyful thing," says Shapiro, who was an anthropology professor and provost at Bryn Mawr prior to her appointment as president of Barnard.

She explains why the succession crisis behind the walls of the Forbidden City was part of the wider downfall of the Ming Dynasty. But it's clear from the start that Shapiro's students are creating their own version of Chinese history. "I didn't know exactly what I was getting myself into," comments Tamar Glattstein '13, who plays the part of Emperor Wan-Li.

The Emperor may exile or kill his opponents as he sees fit during the game. The students debate issues back and forth. Meanwhile Shapiro observes, silent for the most part. "For me to sit back and not run it and not talk too much is an effort," Shapiro admits. "But it's certainly a worthwhile effort."

In the end, the game didn't play out exactly as historical events had. In Shapiro's class, Wan-Li is allowed to name his favorite, but third-born, son as his successor instead of his first-born, something that didn't happen in real life. And that's exactly what Shapiro is willing to see happen, since it teaches students that there is no total inevitability in history. At the same time, "Reacting" classes always involve a

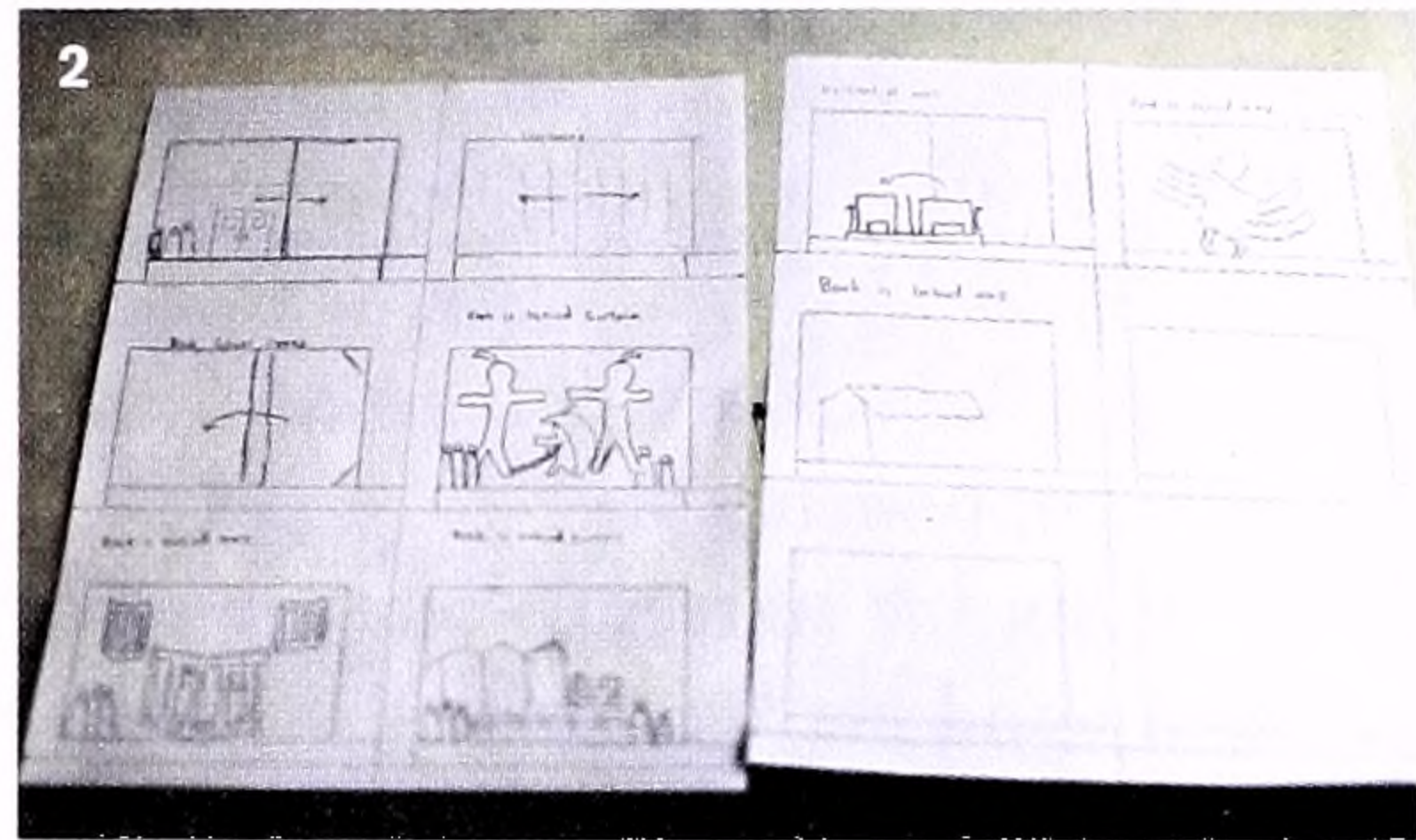
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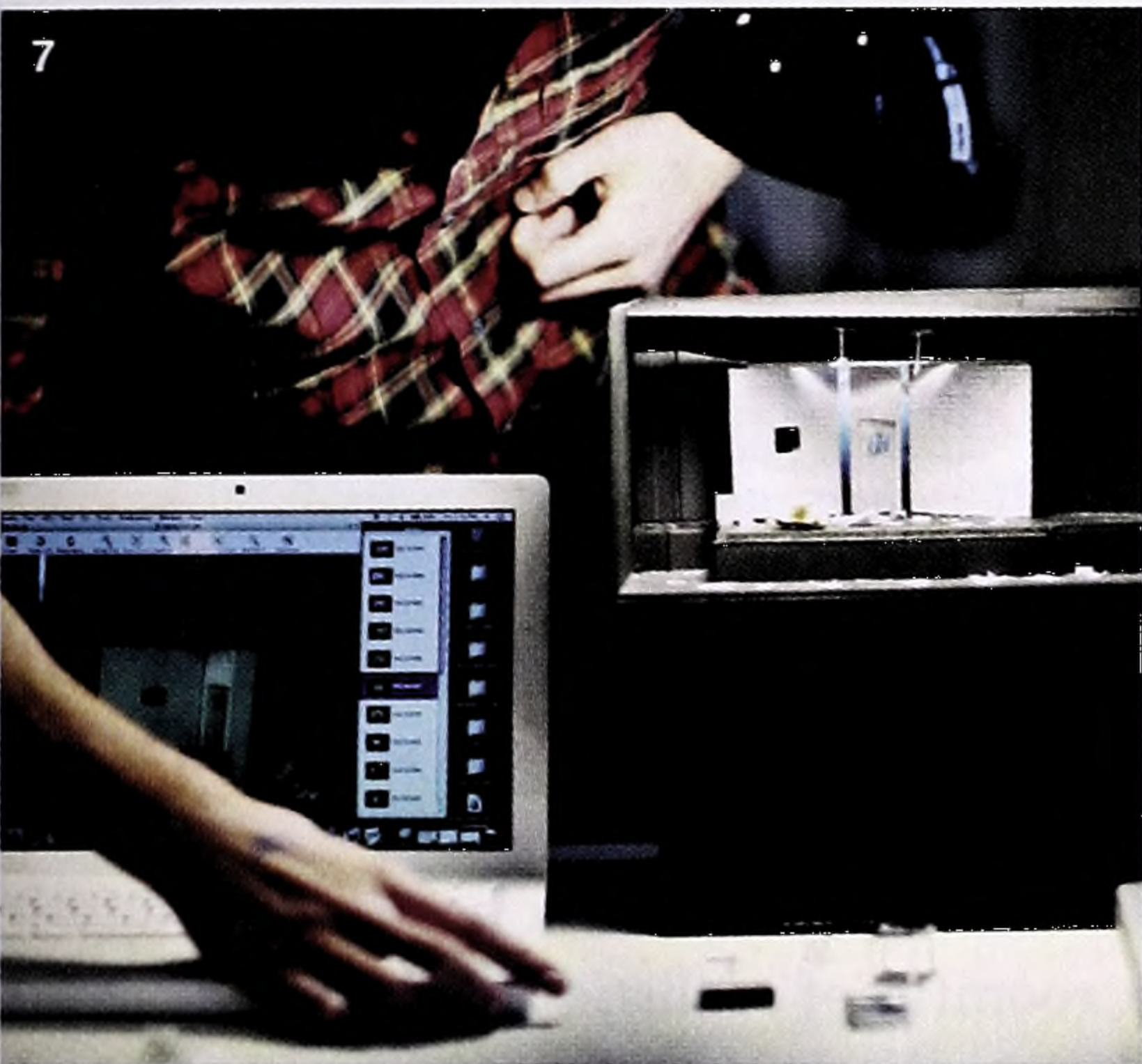


Spar has no trouble getting students to share their thoughts about how economics interacts with politics during an economic crisis. Many hands wave wildly in the air as the class discusses ... the subprime mortgage meltdown.

SETTING THE STAGE

SANDRA GOLDMARK'S CLASS CHANNELS CREATIVITY INTO SET DESIGNS THAT REFLECT THE MEANING OF A PLAY OR PERFORMANCE





WINTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 22, 7:00 PM

MERCE CUNNINGHAM & HIS LEGACY AS A TEACHER

Julius S. Held Auditorium, Barnard Hall
This panel on the world-renowned choreographer's lifelong work as a teacher who created a technique of modern dance and trained generations of dancers and dance teachers includes Robert Swinston, assistant to the choreographer at the Merce Cunningham Dance Company; Patricia Lent, director of repertory licensing; and Mary Lisa Burns, director of education for the Cunningham Dance Foundation. Moderated by Nancy Dalva, producer and writer for the foundation's Web series *Mondays with Merce*.

FEBRUARY 25, 12:00 PM

RECOVERING FROM THE GREAT RECESSION? BARNARD'S ECONOMIC EXPERTS WEIGH IN

James Room, Barnard Hall
A brown-bag lunch discussion on the state of the economy, the prognosis for recovery, and the implications of the recession. Lynn Silverstein Najman '72 moderates the panel, featuring professors Marcellus Andrews, Perry Mehrling, and David Weiman. For more information: Financial Fluency Program at financialfluency@barnard.edu or 212.854.2005.

FEBRUARY 27, REGISTRATION 9:00 AM

THE SCHOLAR & FEMINIST CONFERENCE XXXV: FEMINISM & CLIMATE CHANGE

Barnard Hall
The 2010 Conference brings together an array of environmental activists, artists, and scholars who have focused on the gender, race, and class components of global climate change. Sponsored by BCRW. Keynote speakers will be Majora Carter, environmental justice activist and president of the Majora Carter Group, a "green" economic consulting firm, and Joni Seager, scholar and activist in feminist geography and global environmental policy, and chair of the global studies department at Bentley University. For more information and to register: barnard.edu/bcrw/scholarandfeminist.

MARCH 25, 7:00 PM

WOMEN'S HISTORY AS PERSONAL & POLITICAL

AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JANE S. GOULD Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard Hall
A discussion in honor of Women's History Month and Jane S. Gould, first permanent director of BCRW. Participants include Louise Bernikow '61, author of *Among Women* and *The World Split Open*; Christina Greene, professor of Afro-American studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; Temma Kaplan, professor of history and a member of the women's and gender studies graduate faculty at Rutgers University; Elizabeth Minnich, senior scholar at the Association of American Colleges and Universities; Fanette Pollack '71, labor and employment lawyer; and Catharine R. Stimpson, university professor and dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Science, New York University.

Full calendar of events at barnard.edu/calendar.

Designing scenery is more than decorating and propping a stage, and in Sandra Goldmark's introduction to scenic design course, the first step is to understand the play or story. Goldmark, assistant professor of professional practice (design) in the theatre department, says that before any design concepts take root, her students need to plumb the work for the key ideas, emotions, or the mood the author wants to convey. These elements need to be the basis for any interior or exterior locations, propping, and colors, among other aspects of a production. Once a point of view is established, the design process begins as class members translate and frame ideas for the scenes. For students who love the theatre, but may not be inclined or have the ability to perform, set design offers the opportunity to become part of the creative theatrical experience. See *Goldmark's sets for the Boys in the Band revival at alumna.barnard.edu/magazine*.

Photos (read from left): **1** Kim Shepherd '12, Sandra Goldmark, and Diane Levy CC '12 **2** A student's storyboard details multiple scenes and set changes for a play. **3** Initial research includes photos of various interiors and potential looks for the characters. **4** Amy Larowe '12 talks about her set model, the final project for each class member. **5** Elizabeth Myers '12 checking her set model **6** Three short plays will be performed for the Thesis Festival in March 2010. This model, by Skylar Cozen '11, is for Shaw's *The Inca of Perusalem* **7** Cozen brings up a digitized storyboard on her laptop. **8** In the foreground, class members Erin Kennedy '10, Shepherd, and Levy critique a model.



“THE PLAY’S THE THING ...”

SET DESIGN FROM THE INSIDE OUT

“**I have all these friends** frantically, crazily planning their weddings, and I think, *Oh, if only they’d taken my class!*” says Sandra Goldmark, assistant professor of professional practice in the theatre department. “You have to know where you’re going but be flexible along the way; you have a budget, a timeline, opening night, actors, costumes, lines—it’s a *show*.” She laughs, but the willowy 35-year-old Brooklyn native stands by the analogy.

After graduating from Harvard in American history and literature, Goldmark spent a year in Buenos Aires working for an amusement park and wondering desperately what to do with her life. Then she remembered how much she’d enjoyed painting scenery in high school.

At Yale drama school, she came to understand that theatre was as much wedding as story, and set design partook in the action rather than simply serving as backdrop. “My professor Ming Cho Lee called it the difference between presentation and representation,” she says. “With representation you’re describing where this play takes place. With presentation you’re creating the space where these emotional moments can happen.”

For her many off- and off-off-Broadway productions, Goldmark has favored a few evocative, shape-shifting elements over a roomful of realistic and immovable objects. In last year’s *Crossing Brooklyn*, an award-winning musical by the Transport Group for whom she is resident designer, a Brooklyn schoolteacher is suffering from aftershocks of 9/11. Goldmark hung bungee cords in different positions to evoke the vertical grooves of the World Trade Center towers, the woman’s imprisonment inside her fears, and the suspension cables of the Brooklyn Bridge, which she has yet to cross since the attacks.

“The challenge of design today is to keep things fluid,” Goldmark explains. “The way people write the scene changes are *boom, boom, boom*—instantaneous. And that’s what people seeing movies are prepared to watch. Plus, you don’t have a lot of money to build a lot of things.” Those are the practical considerations. As for the artistic ones, Goldmark wants her sets to “work hand in hand with the play’s point of view,” she says, and if they can change form they’re more likely to.

At a meeting on a late afternoon in December for the Senior Thesis Festival in March—one of various projects she has championed in which student designers try out their ideas in real spaces—Goldmark helps a production team align their vision with what’s possible. The students want the stage to eventually disappear into darkness: a good idea for *4:48 Psychosis*, the bleak mindscape British playwright Sarah Kane wrote not long before committing suicide, in 1999. But rolling out a black floor during a miniscule pause between scenes? “I think you need less literal ways to go to black,” Goldmark advises.

“I’m always pushing them to do that double dance,” she later confides, “where ideas bubble up and at the same time you seek clarity.”

DATELINES: PARIS, SEOUL, NYC

When Bo Yun Park lived in Paris as a girl, her family dubbed her “the little diplomat.” In the playgrounds, Park taught Korean words to the neighborhood children. On the streets, Park translated for her mother, who spoke limited French. From a window at home, she gazed at limousines pulling up at a foreign ministry across the street. So perhaps it’s not so surprising that Park—now the sophomore class president of Barnard—would seek out an international experience as a college student.

In fact, Park returned to South Korea for high school where she attended a competitive school in Seoul that grooms its students for top-notch American universities. She didn’t question whether she would apply to colleges in the United States. The

question was, which one? “When I first mentioned Barnard to my parents, they were like, ‘Bah-what?’” says Park, who tosses American lingo about with apparent ease, but whose dress on this crisp autumn morning, a navy blue sweater and matching skirt, seems inspired by the uniforms of Korean high schools.

Park is one among many foreign students on campus, but she may soon belong to an even larger group. In her inaugural address last year, President Debora Spar underscored her intention to expand Barnard’s international presence, on campus and abroad. “President Spar’s goal of ‘internationalizing’ Barnard is my favorite among her many projects,” says Park, who has already been assigned as a “buddy” for an incoming student in the new Visiting International Students Program (VISP). Park says the international focus will “foster an environment that is even more intellectually stimulating.”

Nibbling on an almond croissant, Park smiles often and broadly as she speaks, addressing each question in the concise yet thorough manner of one accustomed to public oration. For three years in a row at Daewon Foreign Language High School, she placed in the national championships for her parliamentary debate skills.

Park says she was drawn to Barnard’s rare combination: a small, intimate college conferring the resources of a large research university. She never imagined that her first heady weeks at the school last fall would include visits to the Columbia campus by the then-presidential nominees Barack Obama and John McCain.

As class president, Park ticks off three central goals: building community among members of the sophomore class; assisting students in the challenge of declaring their majors; and keeping in touch with Columbia College students. So far, she’s organized a study break, “Gimme, Gimme S(opho)’more,” at which s’mores were served, and she introduced a “department fair” to allow students to explore the various disciplines offered at Barnard as they begin pondering their majors.

Park, who also serves as a resident assistant, finds the workload manageable after the

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STAR ATHLETES & STUDENTS



FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS, WOMEN ATHLETES FROM BOTH SIDES OF BROADWAY HAVE REPRESENTED COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN DIVISION 1 SPORTS, WHERE BARNARD WOMEN HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES ON—AND OFF—THE PLAYING FIELDS. ONE BARNARD WOMAN, A TOP TENNIS PLAYER AND CO-CAPTAIN OF THE WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM, WAS RECENTLY SELECTED AS THE IVY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NCAA DIVISION 1 STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. AND TWO BARNARD STUDENTS CURRENTLY SERVE AS TWO OF THE TRI-CAPTAINS OF THE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM, VOTED IN BY THEIR TEAMMATES' NOMINATIONS. MEET THEM HERE:

From left: Natalia Christenson '11, Danielle Browne '10, Judie Lomax '11

Natalia Christenson '11

For someone who came to tennis at the relatively advanced age of 12—“when I was 6 or 7, my mom put me in tennis lessons and I hated it,” recalls junior Natalia Christenson who then preferred ballet—she’s done quite well, indeed.

Co-captain of the Columbia women’s tennis team this year, where she is a star player, Christenson is also president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) for the Columbia campus. This summer she was appointed the Ivy League representative to the NCAA Division 1 SAAC, which represents 31 conferences that compete at the Division 1 level. Encouraged to apply by the previous Ivy League

representative, Christenson was one of three candidates chosen as finalists, and ultimately gained the position.

“I went to the meeting my first year, and saw how powerful this voice is in working to serve our interests,” says this Summit, New Jersey, native. “SAAC has a unique role on campus.” Its stated mission is to “enhance the total student athlete experience and convey positive images of student athletes on campus.” One of Christenson’s goals as the Ivy League representative to the NCAA/SAAC is to organize an Ivy-wide community service project, inspired in part by a Dartmouth athlete who launched a shoe drive.

She has been a self-starter for years. “It’s been my dream to play Division 1 tennis at an Ivy League school,” says Christenson, who always read tennis magazines and watched the game on television. After she graduated from Newark Academy, Christenson headed—by herself—to Austin, Texas, to work with renowned tennis coaches: Christo van Rensburg, who has defeated Pete Sampras and is a top-ranked doubles player with Paul Annacone; and Doug Davis, an equally well-known junior coach. She trained and competed during that gap year, and was recruited by Columbia and Brown. But Christenson chose to attend Barnard because of “all the opportunities.” She explains, “People genuinely care and look out for you here. You know your advisers on a personal level. I was looking for a more small-school feel.” While she loves tennis and sports in general, she doesn’t expect to play competitively after college. An economics major and environmental-science minor, Christenson is currently applying for internships in the financial field for next summer, where she feels her experience will translate successfully.

“I believe that my ability to manage my time, and the fact that as an athlete, by nature, I am generally a hard-working and competitive individual, will ultimately help me ... in my future career,” says Christenson.

Danielle Browne '10

Senior Danielle Browne, a guard on the Columbia women’s basketball team, has been an All-Ivy honoree for the past three years. She is in the top 10 all-time for assists and steals in Columbia women’s basketball, and in the top 20 for career scoring. With an 8-5 record as of the beginning of January, the team is having its best start since head coach Paul Nixon took over the program in 2005-2006.

Basketball has been part of her life since Browne was a 7-year-old growing up in Mount Vernon, New York, where the Bronx-born Browne spent her free time outside with similarly sports-minded boys. “I wasn’t strong enough for baseball or football,” she recalls. “Basketball was where I had an advantage.” And her mother’s abiding love for the New York Knicks meant that there was usually a basketball game on TV, too.

Browne’s strong skills on the court—“I wasn’t a fan of losing”—brought her to the attention of the Mount Vernon High School basketball coach. She played with the high school team as an eighth grader. By the time she was a freshman, she became captain, a role she held throughout her high-school career.

Recruited by Columbia, Browne found the option of attending Barnard more appealing. “I was interested in getting the best education possible,” she explains. “The ‘Nine Ways of Knowing’ ... attracted me to Barnard. I like to have the freedom to choose courses.” With a close-knit family behind her, Browne “didn’t want to go too far. My mom comes to every home game when she can.”

When she’s not playing, practicing, traveling for games, or studying, the senior donates her time to Level the Field, a group that teaches inner-city elementary school children social skills, like teamwork and leadership. An economics major with a minor in psychology, she is applying to law school and intends to become a sports agent. “I have tape holding me together,” she laughs. “I have enough injuries for five people. My aspirations are to help athletes.”

Judith “Judie” Lomax '11

With three older brothers and parents who played basketball, Columbia forward Judie Lomax '11 was reluctant to take up the sport. “I said, ‘I’m never going to

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FINDING MEANING IN TRANSLATION

New program delves into context and culture

There's more to translation than converting the text of books or articles from one language to another. It's also an invaluable tool that can help make the world a better place. Peter Connor, associate professor of French and chair of the department, is putting together a new program, The Center for Translation Studies, that aims to help students understand how translation isn't just about sharing thoughts and ideas across languages and cultures. It's also about human rights.

"[One] can translate a poem and publish it online," Connor says. "And if it happens to be about political or religious persecution, it might give a voice to someone in a far away place who might not otherwise be heard. It's an extremely valuable tool for intervening in the world."

The program began last fall with the help of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and it's still a work in progress, Connor says. The idea was to create a basic language translation course and offer colloquiums for students

and professors; recent events have included bilingual poetry readings by Greek poet Katerina Anghelaki-Rooke and Cypriot poet Kyriakos Charalambides along with their translators.

Connor says the first course last fall was a big success and gave him plenty of encouragement to expand the offerings. "I loved it, and the students did too," he says. "They want more classes." The first half of the course introduced students to some of the major theories and methods of translation in Western culture. These classes helped the students improve their skills through the translation of primarily prose, poetry, and drama into English. They could translate from any language they chose, which some students worried might create a little confusion.

That didn't happen, says Amelia Spooner (CU GS) who chose to translate contemporary French writer Antoine Volodine for her class projects. She says she signed up for

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AGELESS

THE GIRL WITH MERMAID HAIR

DELIA EPHRON '66

HarperTeen, 2010, \$16.99

Writing professionally for more than 30 years, Delia Ephron has published 10 books, many of which appeal to children or young adults. She recently channeled her talents to an off-Broadway comedy, *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*, a collaboration for the stage with her sister, writer and director Nora Ephron. The play is based on a book by Ilene Beckerman. Her latest effort is the soon-to-be-released *The Girl With the Mermaid Hair* for readers 12 and up.

Is age important? Without missing a beat, Ephron answers, "It's very meaningful." There's no avoiding or denying it, she says. Some of us might hide it a little better than others, but it's there, and it determines an awful lot in our lives. The question of age is a fitting one given the themes in *Mermaid*. The protagonist, Sukie Jamieson, is a 16-year-old girl struggling with the things that most teenage girls struggle with—her looks, her crushes, and changing relationships with herself and those around her. (That's the one-line description; the real story goes deeper, and, in parts, makes you wonder whether you're reading about troubled adolescence or troubled middle age.)

"I've written many things, but I always come back to writing kids," Ephron says. "I am in my comfort zone with children." That discovery was purely accidental. Her first book, *How to Eat Like a Child: And Other Lessons in Not Being a Grown-up*, first appeared as an essay in *The New York Times Magazine* in 1978. The article was so well received that soon after its publication, an offer to expand the article into a book landed in her lap. "Overnight I had a career," says Ephron. And overnight, the budding writer discovered her calling. "It came out of my own



childhood ... it comes from there, what you understand about childhood and how you've held onto it in some way."

That explains why the experience of writing for a young audience—children or teens—hasn't changed much for Ephron over the years. The trappings and appearance of adolescence change over time; the emotional truths remain constant. And as we discover in this latest book—and in much of her other work—those emotional truths stay with you and evolve throughout your life. "I think about age a lot," Ephron says. "You go to the movies, and you see what people have done to themselves.... There's that sort of glancing as you go down the street, and you catch a reflection of yourself and think, 'God, is that me now?'"

Reflections in mirrors feature prominently in *Mermaid*. Much of Sukie's inner life plays out in front of one, given to her by her mother, "There was so much fantasy [in mirrors] when I was younger." The teen also is obsessive about photographing herself with her cell phone—"selfies" she calls the portraits—in a constant quest to assess and adjust her look.

Sukie's struggles extend to her 40-something mother, a woman as consumed with appearance as her daughter is. "I regret every frown," Felice Jamieson says to Sukie at one point. "You can't cut out smiles,

"You finally accept your body when you're 30," says Ephron. "Then you hit 50 and you have to struggle with it all over again. It's like a second adolescence. When you get older, the mirror does become an enemy."

that's not practical, but it's better to smile only when you mean it. I regret how polite I am, I really do...." The obsession is severe enough that it leads Felice to undergo a transformation that further confuses Sukie. And for Felice, the question remains: Will the transformation really make life better? So, the struggles don't necessarily go away after our teen years. It's more likely that all the complicated feelings and issues with self-esteem evolve; they might even resurface. At best they're faced in the context of our lives at any given moment.

"You finally accept your body when you're 30," says Ephron. "Then you hit 50 and you have to struggle with it all over again. It's like a second adolescence. When you get older, the mirror does become an enemy," she says. And the body becomes something of an enemy, too. "I went to play ping-pong yesterday, and [afterwards] my back was killing me, just from picking up the ping-pong paddle," says the author. "I got home and said to my husband, 'I can't move.'"

The obsession with appearance that Ephron observes in her work—and the degree to which cosmetic and reconstructive surgery has permeated our society—both distresses and baffles her. Still, Ephron isn't unwilling to accept the natural course of things. "No matter how much yoga you do, life is either kind to you or not."

QUICK TAKE

LONG AND SHORT

THE COLLECTED STORIES
OF LYDIA DAVIS

LYDIA DAVIS '70

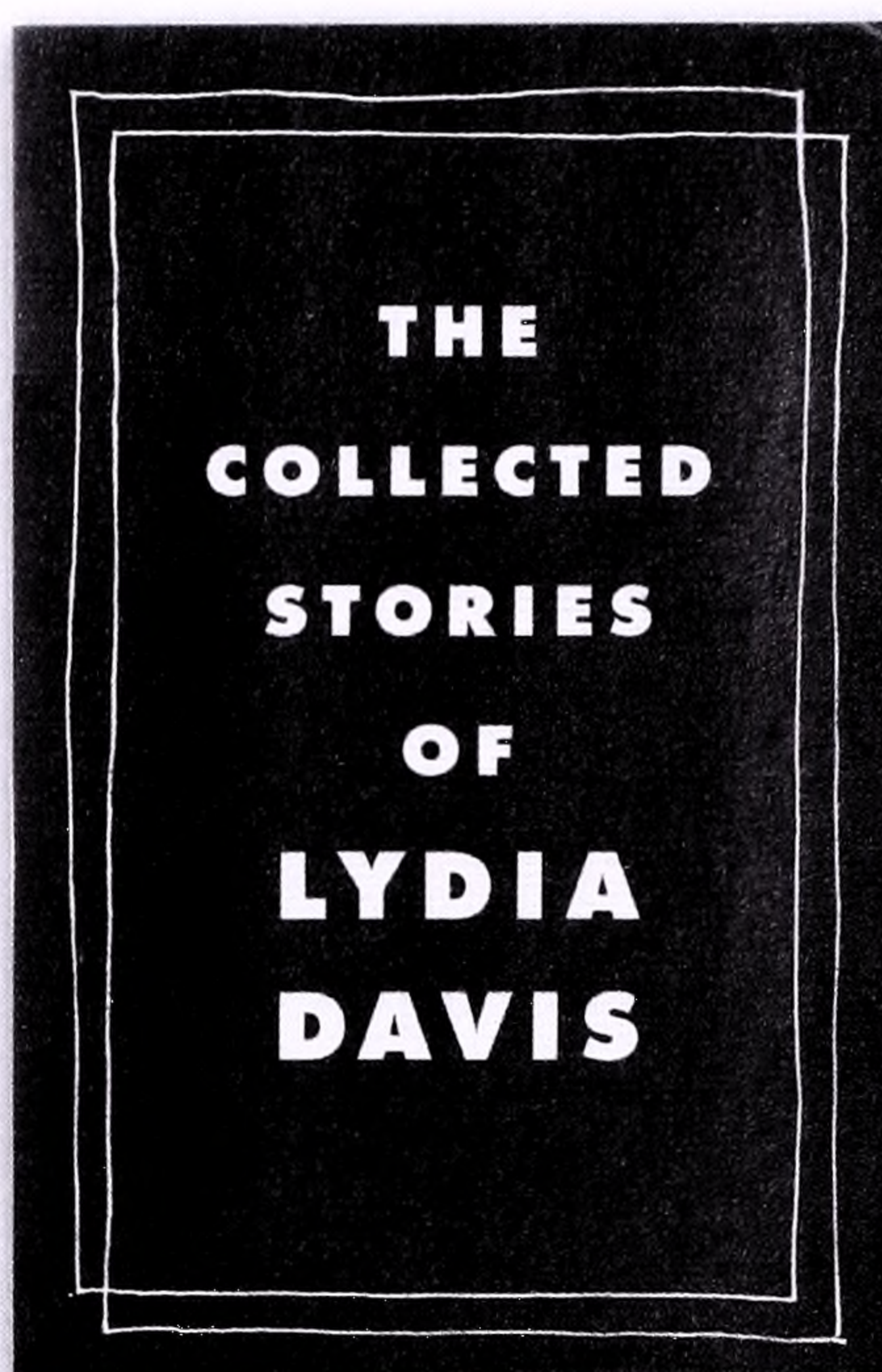
Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2009, \$30

When Lydia Davis's new collection hit bookstores this fall, *New Yorker* critic James Wood—known for his scant praise of contemporary fiction—exulted over the writing's "combination of lucidity, aphoristic brevity, formal originality, sly comedy, metaphysical bleakness, philosophical pressure, and human wisdom." He predicted that the compilation of four previously published collections spanning two decades would "in time be seen as one of the great, strange American literary contributions."

But whether *stories* is the right term for her "distinct and personally crooked" oeuvre (as Wood puts it) is another matter.

"As soon as you say 'prose poem,' the person you're talking to looks extremely bored," Davis explains on the phone from upstate New York, where she lives with her husband and younger son. The writer, translator, and 2003 MacArthur Fellow speaks at a musing pace, her voice mellifluous. "And if you say 'experimental' or 'philosophical'—*anything*—they will wish they were talking to somebody else. So I tend to stick to 'story'—long, very long, short, very short, and very, very short—because everybody does love stories."

Still, when readers encounter a "very, very short" specimen such as "Insomnia"—it reads in full, "My body aches so—/It must be this heavy bed pressing up against me"—they are likely to exclaim, "How odd that this supposed short-story writer has written only two lines!" Davis attests, "It's the first thing they latch on to." Later they may notice what else she leaves out besides words: scenes, place names, and all but the slimmest of plots. Plus, there is often only a single character, whose head we



are locked inside. "I work from what a character is likely to remember," Davis has said. "Our memories don't usually serve up whole scenes complete with dialogue."

In the seven-page "A Few Things Wrong with Me," a woman contending with a sudden breakup is trying to figure out whether the ex-lover's admission that "there were things about me he hadn't liked from the very beginning" means he never loved her. Her hyperlogical obsessiveness is at once poignant and comical. In the one-page "Enlightened," the narrator contemplates dumping a friend for being unenlightened, "although I know it's not very enlightened to say that. But I want to say it, so I'm willing to postpone being more enlightened myself."

Given that Davis's characters are mostly women, does she see excruciating self-consciousness as a female trait? "I wouldn't be distressed if someone said, 'Oh, this isn't limited to women,'" she counters. "I can think of men friends with the same brooding over themselves, and I can think of female friends who are oblivious. I once wrote a story where all I did to fictionalize something that happened was reverse the genders so that the woman became a man. And men would say, 'I'm just amazed how you could put yourself in a man's mind like that.' It made me think there's not as much difference as we would think."

"I once wrote a story where all I did to fictionalize something that happened was reverse the genders so that the woman became a man. And men would say, 'I'm just amazed how you could put yourself in a man's mind like that.' It made me think there's not as much difference as we would think."

Both of Davis's parents were writers. Hope Hale Davis wrote stories and Robert Gorham Davis—"the ultimate professor," on the Columbia faculty from 1957 until he retired two decades later—published scholarly studies, book reviews, and stories too. Davis didn't have to go searching for literature: it was all around her. The family lived adjacent to the Columbia campus, which she liked traipsing across on the way to the subway. She used the library and visited her father in his ample office at the very top of Dodge Hall, where by spooky coincidence she taught a writing class many years later. "The room was imbued with his presence," she says. "It sort of freaked me out."

Earlier, when she was at Barnard, he felt far enough away that she could major in his field. Davis has long worked as a French translator: her last project was *Swann's Way*; her current one is *Madame Bovary*, to be published by Penguin this fall. But as an undergraduate, "I thought that if you wanted to be a writer you majored in English, it was that simple."

And she still thinks it's a decent plan.

Columbia's Creative Writing Lecture Series presents the Lydia Davis talk, "A Beloved Duck Gets Cooked: Innovative Forms," Thursday, March 25, at 7 p.m. arts.columbia.edu/cwls/32510.html

QUICK TAKE

MAGICAL MEETINGS

MENTORS, MUSES & MONSTERS
30 WRITERS ON THE PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THEIR LIVES
EDITED BY ELIZABETH BENEDICT '76

Free Press, 2009, \$24.99

One evening, writer Elizabeth Benedict finished an essay on her recently deceased mentor, Barnard professor Elizabeth Hardwick, and also hatched the idea for her new book. Within days, five prominent writers had already agreed to contribute essays, including best-selling author and Millicent C. McIntosh Professor of English Mary Gordon '71. Clearly, Benedict had struck a chord. Contributors jumped at the chance to recall the personalities who helped shape their careers. As Benedict writes in her introduction, each story "is a celebration of that potent elixir of influence and serendipity," the moment when a magical relationship with profound implications happens. The resulting collection renders an animated portrait of how incredibly challenging it is to "become" a writer and, as a bonus for the rest of us, makes a wonderful reading list of well- and lesser-known literary talents—both mentors and mentored.



Photograph by Emma Dodge Hanson

How do you define the difference between mentors and muses?

I think of a muse as a source of inspiration, and a mentor as somebody who really taught you. A mentor is a force who gives direction and guidance in how to pursue being a writer. I think the writers who felt that books were their mentors didn't just feel that the books inspired them, but that they actually taught them how to be a writer.

Was "Monsters" always part of the title?

Yes, because I wanted the book to have room in it for people who might have darker stories to tell; the word added a complexity. Although there is only one full-blown "monster" essay in the book, there are essays about mentors whose reputations or personalities were such that you could say, "One person's mentor is another person's monster." Also, relationships are not static, the better you get to know someone, the more complicated your relationship becomes.

Regarding writers studying their mentors, you wrote "obsession is an occupational necessity."

To make art you have to be obsessed. You can't be an indifferent artist. Writers become obsessed with their own material, with books that have mattered to them, and with their mentors and muses. They feel these people have something they want, or these people have anointed them and said, "you have talent and you need to do something

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RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

POETRY

LOVE COMES FIRST: A COLLECTION OF POEMS

by Erica Jong '63
Tarcher/Penguin, 2009, \$24.95

FICTION

THEY IS US

by Tama Janowitz '77
HarperCollins UK, 2009, \$13.95

NONFICTION

CIVIL WAR WIVES: THE LIVES AND TIMES OF ANGELINA GRIMKE WELD, VARINA HOWELL DAVIS, & JULIA DENT GRANT

by Carol Berkin '64
Knopf, 2009, \$28.95

GENDER STEREOTYPING:

TRANSNATIONAL LEGAL PERSPECTIVES

by Rebecca J. Cook '70 and Simone Cusack
University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009, \$49.95

COMEDY IN CHAUCER AND BOCCACCIO

by Carol Falvo Heffernan '65
D.S. Brewer, 2009, \$90

LITTLE KIDS, BIG WORRIES: STRESS-BUSTING TIPS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOMS

by Alice Sterling Honig '50
Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co., 2009, \$24.95

GOING TO SCALE WITH NEW SCHOOL DESIGNS: REINVENTING HIGH SCHOOL

by Joseph P. McDonald, Emily J. Klein '94, and Meg Riordan
Teachers College Press, 2009, \$25.95/\$59

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW: RULE OF LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, & GLOBAL FINANCE

by Rumu Sarkar '81
Oxford University Press, 2009, \$95

BREADWINNERS: WORKING WOMEN AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, 1865-1920

by Lara Vapnek '90
University of Illinois Press, 2009, \$70

FACULTY

INSTITUTIONAL CRITIQUE: AN ANTHOLOGY OF ARTISTS' WRITINGS

edited by Alexander Alberro, Virginia Bloedel Wright '51 Associate Professor of Art History, and Blake Stimson
MIT Press, 2009, \$39.95

FILM

RETHINKING CANCER

Consuelo Wiener Reyes '69, executive producer
rethinkingcancer.org/index.php

Complete listings online at alum.barnard.edu/salon



ONE WOMAN'S LIFETIME OF LEADERSHIP HELPS CREATE LEADERS FOR LIFE

Kathryn Kolbert and the new Athena Center at Barnard

For decades, the knowledge, skills, and experiences gained at Barnard have helped young women to become leaders in their fields, their governments, and their communities. Now Barnard has an institutionalized focus to achieve these goals. Taking its name from the Greek goddess of wisdom, The Athena Center for Leadership Studies offers a plan of action that comprises campus visits by notable leaders and scholars within a format of distinguished lectures and panels; implementation of two student programs, Athena Scholars and the Athena Summer Fellowship; the Athena Leadership Lab, which will expand the program to women of all ages and skill sets; and cooperative research with other academic institutions and women's organizations committed to women's advancement.

Kathryn Kolbert, currently professor of leadership studies at the College, has been named the Center's first director. A public-interest attorney specializing in women's rights for most of her career, Kolbert has maintained a lifelong commitment to promoting the status of women; the Center's goals mirror those she has worked to achieve throughout her career. "I love the challenge and energy that comes with creating a new program," says Kolbert. "Most important, I was impressed with President Spar's vision for the Athena Center, the camaraderie at Barnard, and the opportunity to work with the College's wonderful students and faculty."

For Kolbert, the issue of women and leadership is pressing: "Many of the problems we face in society are intractable and extraordinarily complex. If we are to create a more compassionate and just society we need the ideas, resources, and energies of all our citizens ... women and men working together for a better world." Her own achievements in advocacy, legal, political, and journalistic fields demonstrate her dedication to the issue. Graduating *cum laude* from law school at Temple University, Kolbert soon joined Community Legal Services of Philadelphia and then the Women's Law Project where she represented Pennsylvania reproductive-health providers. After arguing her first abortion case before the United States Supreme Court in 1985, she joined the national American Civil Liberties Union as the state coordinating counsel of the group's Reproductive Freedom Project in New York. Kolbert worked with women's groups across the country to defeat state laws that restricted such freedoms. She found herself back at the Supreme Court in 1992 arguing the landmark case of *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, which has been credited with upholding *Roe v. Wade*. In her last years as a practicing attorney, she co-founded the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, and directed its domestic litigation and public policy programs.

Still working within a legal framework, she then shifted her approach. As Kolbert tells it, "In 1998, I returned to Philadelphia and became a journalist, which was a great new challenge. I created a program on law and American life at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center." That work involved serving as executive producer of *Justice Talking*, an award-winning radio program that was distributed by National Public Radio, and directing an educational Web site called JusticeLearning.org, which received a Webby Award in 2006.

Her most recent accomplishments involve another agenda that is national in scope. "I entered the world of politics in Washington, D.C., as the president and chief executive officer of People for the American Way (PFAW) and People for the American Way Foundation, two of the nation's premier civil rights organizations." Under Kolbert's leadership, PFAW was cited by the weekly magazine *National Journal* as the most successful advocacy group of the 2008 election cycle. For the foundation, Kolbert managed successful leadership development programs with college students such as Young People For and worked with young politicians through

“

Many of the problems we face in society are intractable and extraordinarily complex. If we are to create a more compassionate and just society we need the ideas, resources, and energies of all our citizens ... women and men working together for a better world.

”

the Young Elected Officials Network. She also lent her expertise to PFAW's African American Ministers in Action, which supports progressive activism in African-American congregations and communities.

Throughout her career, Kolbert has educated students at such institutions as the University of Pennsylvania on constitutional and women's rights issues in the national media, all of which has given her the knowledge and skills to train future leaders. Kolbert plans to involve the Center in groundbreaking research. It is her hope to work collaboratively with other colleges and universities to promote women's leadership by identifying a broad research agenda. After identifying an agenda, she plans to enlist the scholarship of Barnard faculty and academics across the country to find answers. By inviting scholarship from a variety of sources to inform the Center's efforts, Kolbert stresses an interdisciplinary approach, one not guided by a specific theory. She finds the most interesting work on leadership is coming from very diverse places, including the nation's nonprofit organizations, the military, psychology and brain researchers, and women entrepreneurs.

While Kolbert prefers not to characterize leadership solely along gender lines, she acknowledges that women's varied experiences contribute to different leadership styles and strengths. "For example," she states, "women tend to be more collaborative than men ... often more willing to

reach out and work across differences, and are often more methodical, [and] less risk-averse....” But, she quickly adds, emphasis should be placed on the skills people bring to leadership roles regardless of gender. “Most importantly,” Kolbert says, “we need to break down the gender stereotypes that tend to hold women back from success.” Women’s titles are often prefaced by their gender, as in “women doctors” or “women writers.” This occurs, she believes, because “there is a presumption that leaders are white males and anyone who is different from the norm must be identified as such.” It’s her hope that as women become more visible in leadership roles, this practice will end, but she notes, “our language often lags behind.”

How will the Athena Center change things? First, it is essential to define the meaning of “leadership studies.” Kolbert admits that it is not a recognized discipline. “Rather,” she says, “it is an effort to recognize that many traditional liberal-arts disciplines teach us a lot about how organizations operate and how gender affects their operation.” With this knowledge, we can better comprehend what it means to lead and how we can increase the number of women whose ideas and experiences help make the world a better place. Gaining clarity in how women lead and exercise power, if and how gender affects leadership styles, and how to inspire young women to become strong, resilient leaders are key components of the Athena Center.

The Athena Center will bring together rigorous academic studies with experiential learning, both needed by students to excel. Hands-on learning is a main theme of Kolbert’s professional philosophy. Somewhat thoughtful, she says, “Like many lawyers, when I graduated from law school I knew very little about how to practice law. I had to learn by doing.” Along the way Kolbert discovered that her mistakes and failures taught her equally, if not more, than her successes. “I believe it is important for students to learn not only about theoretical aspects of leadership; [they need] to be leaders as well,” she affirms. “Experience with both success and failure can help them become more effective.”

To that end, young women can experiment with a host of learning opportunities while at Barnard. The Athena Scholars Program serves students who submit a declaration of intent to participate. They must complete specialized coursework, an internship with women leaders—important because it gives students hands-on experience—and an independent project that demonstrates leadership skills in several workshops as well as an off-campus setting. A minimum of 10 students who meet competitive criteria will be selected to take part in the Athena Summer Fellowship Program. Interested students will submit applications and participate in interviews conducted by program administrators. They will live on campus, participate in educational events, and be placed in paid internships. Kolbert explains further, “To be an Athena Scholar, students must complete five of the various courses offered, which examine all aspects of women’s leadership from the perspective of the liberal arts. Students might uncover how

rhetoric affects a leader’s success, explore women’s leadership in history or literature, or examine the new movement of social entrepreneurs.” Students also study organizations, hierarchical and collective, decision-making, and power relationships in order to better understand the common and systemic barriers faced by women leaders. The Athena Center also draws on Barnard’s rich and diverse alumnae base. The internships work to pair students with appropriate mentors to learn about specific leadership styles and strategies.

Leadership skills can be acquired and used through different stages of life. One of Kolbert’s goals for the Athena Leadership Lab is to “create a place where women of different ages, experiences, and skill sets can share their experiences with each other.” The Lab is one of the Center’s major components and will offer workshops, seminars, and other educational programs designed to teach women at any age the practical elements of leadership. Older or more established women can share their knowledge and perspective with younger women who are emerging leaders. Participants will learn the art of negotiation, effective public speaking, financial literacy as well as political skills.

Although in the midst of a busy professional schedule, family plays a central role in Kolbert’s life. She and her partner, Joann, an award-winning gardener, have two children, Kate, 22, and Sam, 25, whom they see as much as possible. “We are avid sports fans,” she adds. “We regularly go to both Eagles and Phillies games and follow the Philadelphia teams.” Family roles can foster leadership skills, offering everyday experiences for growth. Kolbert observes: “Women take leadership roles in all aspects of their lives—in the workplace, as parents, as volunteers and coaches, etc. Women use leadership skills—how to make a presentation, run a meeting, balance the books, manage a project, whether they are leading a Fortune 500 company, running the PTA, or managing a community-based nonprofit organization.”

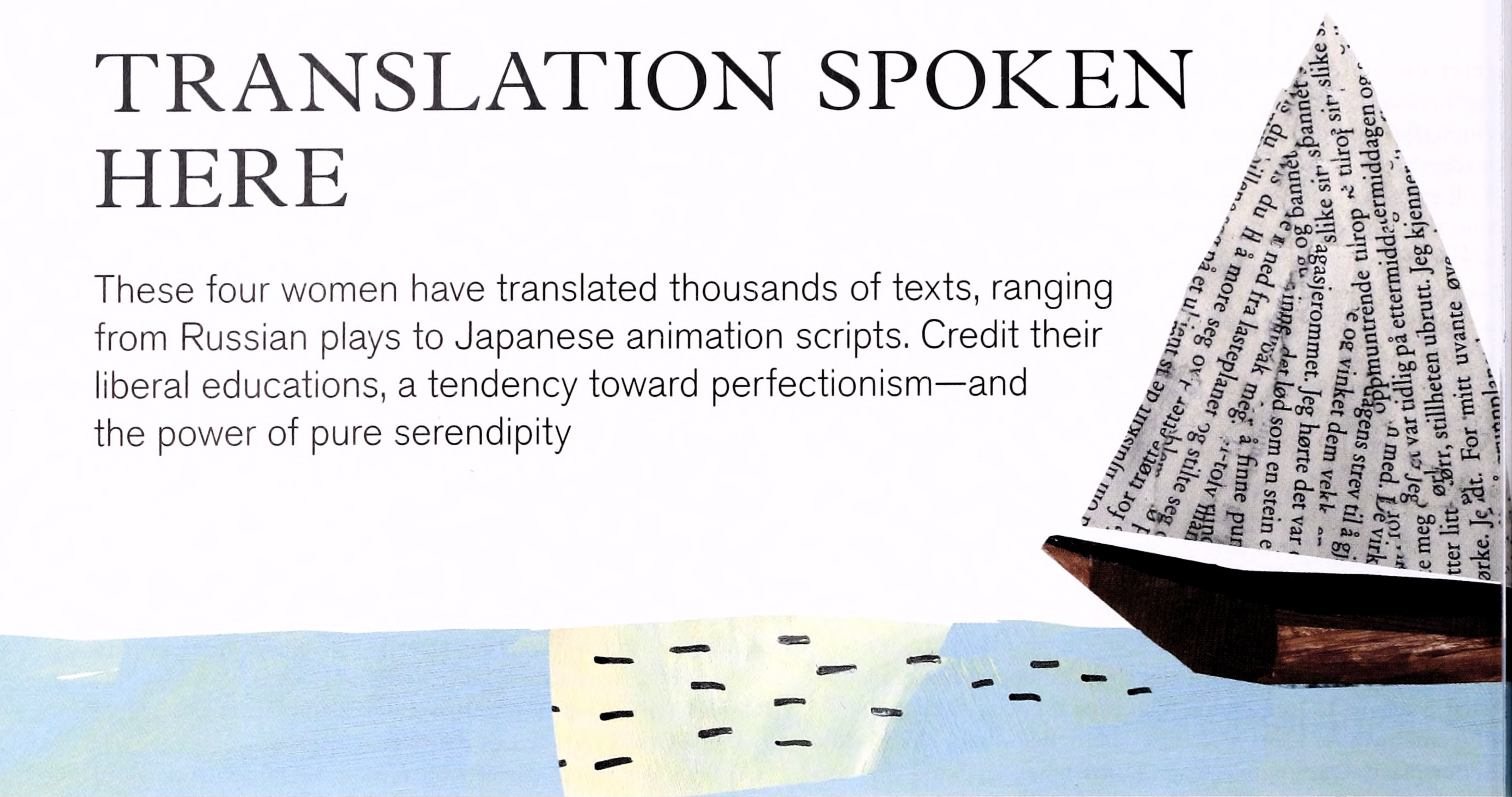
One of the most refreshing ideas Kolbert brings to the table is the idea that we all have the capacity to lead, and she espouses an inclusive theory of leadership: “As a general rule, I do not believe there are ‘born’ leaders. Rather, all persons have the capacity to become leaders if they recognize and take advantage of opportunities that they encounter and have the skills to make a difference.”

THE ATHENA CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Kathryn Kolbert, Director
103 Milbank Hall, Barnard College
212 854.1865
kkolbert@barnard.edu
barnard.edu/athenacenter

TRANSLATION SPOKEN HERE

These four women have translated thousands of texts, ranging from Russian plays to Japanese animation scripts. Credit their liberal educations, a tendency toward perfectionism—and the power of pure serendipity



How—and why—does someone become a successful translator? The stories of four Barnard graduates suggest a somewhat mysterious answer. It seems almost anything can set you on the path to translation: an interest in theatre or history, a mentor, a romance, a talent for playing the lute.

Still, a closer look at their stories turns up patterns. These women share—obviously—a flair for languages. They are strong writers: All four have published their own writing, on topics ranging from sumo wrestling to black francophone literature. Beyond that, they share a conviction that meaning is fragile. They take up the challenge of carrying it across the borders of various languages—and they take their task seriously.

BEGINNINGS

The four women's beginnings as translators reflect a commitment to language and varied artistic and intellectual pursuits—though not to translation itself. “I never set out to become a translator,” says Sharon Marie Carnicke '71, who has translated for the stage some 16 works by Russian authors, including Dostoevsky, Ostrovsky and Chekhov. (Hackett

Publishing Company recently published a collection of her Chekhov translations, *4 Plays & 3 Jokes*.)

Carnicke began acting when she was 12, and performed in on- and off-Broadway productions during her time at Barnard, where she earned a degree in Russian literature and culture. “The Barnard language requirement did it,” she says. “As long as I had to learn a language, I thought it would be fun to learn one with a different alphabet.”

She translated on and off in college for theatre students and businesses, but had no thought of translating as a career until 1979, the year she earned a doctorate in Russian/theatre arts at Columbia. That same year director Gene Nye of the Lion Theatre Company was producing Chekhov's *Three Sisters*, and asked Carnicke to help him choose from three translations: “All three seemed to misfire for actors,” she says.

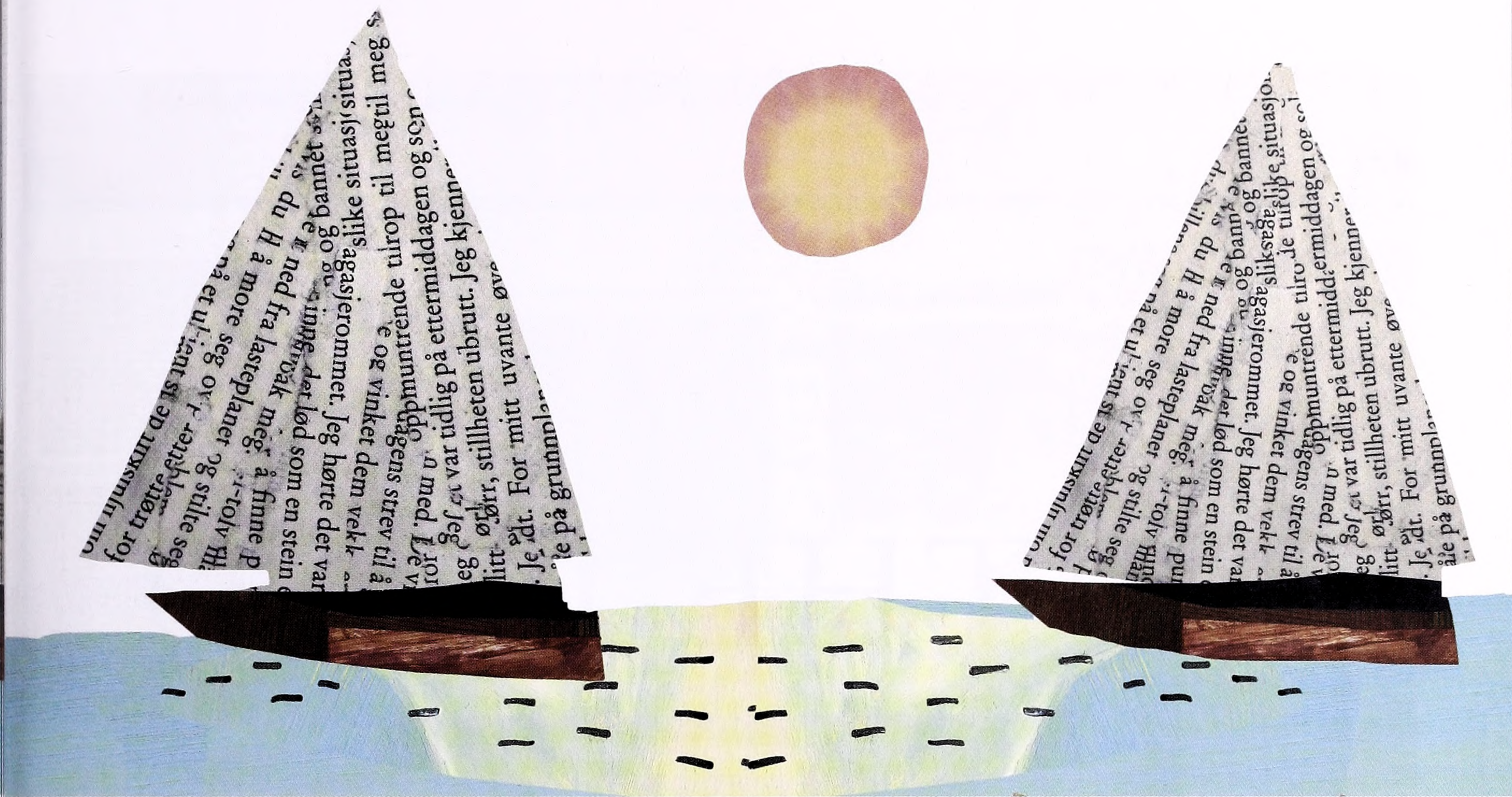
She took four days to draft a new translation and then sat in on all the rehearsals, helping guide the actors through the text and revising as the production progressed. “Every major New York newspaper reviewed not only the performance, but the translation—which is rare. After that, directors came to me.”

FALLING IN LOVE WITH FRENCH POETRY

As with Carnicke, the seeds of Ellen Conroy Kennedy's translation career were sewn at Barnard. A member of the Class of 1953, Kennedy translates from French to English and has translated four books. She was nominated for the National Book Award in 1969 for her translation of *Albert Camus Lyrical and Critical Essays*, a collection of Camus' writing edited by the late British scholar of French literature Philip Thody. “I fell in love with French poetry at Barnard,” Kennedy recalls. “Though I wasn't much of a student at the time.”

Kennedy pursued her work as a student and scholar of French literature and poetry under the guidance of Germaine Brée at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She later became interested in black francophone poetry and lived in Washington D.C., where her husband, Padraic Kennedy, worked for JFK's (no relation) administration.

“I met Gnagna, the wife of the Senegalese ambassador, and we got to chatting about Sartre and Camus,” she recalls. Gnagna gave her *Les Ecrivains Noirs de Langue Française* by Lilyan Kesteloot (L'Université libre de Bruxelles, 1963). Kennedy eventually



translated the book under the title *Black Writers in French* (Temple University Press, 1974). “I wanted to be the Julia Child of African poets in French—bring their work to Americans in a beautiful context.”

Martha Gaber Abrahamsen '69 became a translator “by accident,” she says. Music played an important role. Abrahamsen entered Barnard in 1966 as a transfer from Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. While at Barnard, she performed her own music (think a combination of Joan Baez and traditional folk music) and majored in Oriental civilizations. She worked two summers as an *au pair* in Finland, and moved to that country after graduation. She wound up playing her folk music all over Finland. She was a hit: Finnish music lovers found this American lute player and her folk songs “unbelievably exotic.”

Those first years in Finland, she had not only her musical success but also work writing and producing for the Finnish Broadcasting Company. A colleague at the station was part owner of a Finnish translation bureau where she also worked for a number of years. “I translated everything from tourist brochures to love letters on a miserable salary,” she remembers. “It was slave labor.”

Abrahamsen also began to develop her

career as a freelance translator, taking myriad jobs in order to establish a network of clients and contacts. She eventually moved to Denmark, where she maintains a long-term relationship with Copenhagen’s David Collection (one of her major clients), which includes a world-renowned collection of Islamic art. Over the last 20 years she has translated exhibition texts, online content, and other publications sponsored by the collection.

Today, she translates from Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, and Swedish into English often in art and architecture, crafts, and history; she’s also proficient in conversational French and Italian. Even so, making a living remains tricky: “I never know what my income for the next year will be.”

From animation to sumo, Lora Sharnoff '69 works in Tokyo as a freelance translator for clients that have included the University of Tokyo where she worked for 15 years, translating online content, conference papers, and administrative documents as well as interpreting; and the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, where she translated official documents, letters, and pamphlets. She also worked as an

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IN THE LEAD

Born or bred, women leaders still remain less the rule than the exception, commanding our curiosity and attention.

What brought them to the pinnacle of their professions?

Intense focus, the guidance of an enlightened mentor, networks of other professionals, sheer ambition combined with a sharp intellect, a talent for taking chances, or all of the above?

In conjunction with the launch of The Athena Center for Leadership Studies, we asked five outstanding alumnae leaders in a variety of professions about their careers, leadership styles, and shortlists of leadership requirements. Read on and see if you agree.



Joan Sherman Freilich '63

Former CFO & Vice-Chair, Consolidated Edison Company of New York

Earning a bachelor's, a master's, and a PhD in French, Freilich began her career teaching, ultimately going into academic administration as director of admissions at the College of New Rochelle. But Freilich, who became a trustee of Barnard in 2006, enjoys challenging herself: She enrolled at the Columbia University Business School to earn an executive MBA. In class, she met a public-affairs executive at Con Ed who brought her into the company. Starting in accounting, she moved into power-generation—not the dead-end she imagined because of an enlightened male superior from whom she learned a great deal about power—both electrical and corporate. Her career tracked upward until her recent retirement.

For Freilich, critical components of exemplary leadership—for both sexes—are a vision for the future of the institution and the ability to mobilize resources and personnel to help support and realize the specified goals. How to motivate staff? Says Freilich, “You need to ask as much of yourself as you do your personnel and maintain the highest level of personal integrity.” To enable such mobilization, “deep channels” of

communication must be encouraged from the head office down. But even more critical, those channels must also flow from the lower echelons to the top. Managers have to be comfortable enough to share problems with superiors and must be encouraged to do so without fear of being scorned as less than a team player. Espousing a “tough, but fair” ethic, she says a leader needs to know when an error can be forgiven and when it cannot.

Women as leaders do have some advantages over men. It's easier for many women to feel openly uncertain about a proposal, and to solicit more information, research, and expert opinions before making decisions. But, adds Freilich, “as a leader, you have to be willing to make that decision.” Because they are generally outside the “old boy network, and throw off the balance of a group,” women may also be more willing to speak up in a group dominated by men of similar backgrounds and training. This unbalance, says Freilich, can bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to problem solving, and is a major advantage to encouraging diversity in the workplace.



Dana Points '88

Editor-In-Chief, *Parents Magazine*

She got the publishing bug early on; Dana Points always knew that was the field she longed to enter. On the job as editor-in-chief of *Parents Magazine* since September 2009, Points, an English major, said she was drawn to magazines because they enabled her to help others and bring about change on a large scale. Despite the problems print media face in the electronic age, she has a major role in the business overseeing one of its strongholds: *Parents*, a monthly magazine published by Iowa-based media behemoth Meredith, has more than 10 million readers.

Before joining *Parents*, Points served as executive editor of *Self*, a woman's magazine specializing in fitness, health, nutrition, and beauty, for nine years. At *Parents*, she oversees a staff of 30 editors, designers, and writers. As a leader she strives to be clear and decisive. She avoids being too controlling, wanting to give her staff "room to grow." As an editor, she welcomes input from outsiders. With a healthy respect for publishing deadlines, which, if ignored, can be extremely costly,

Points acknowledges the need for wise, effective management and planning while maintaining a healthy respect for "creative" types. "You have to play to the strengths of people who work for you ... to a point," she says.

Hesitating when asked about differences in leadership styles between men and women, she laughs, "I've only worked for women," but allows that the business, or advertising, side of magazine publishing remains to a large degree a male domain, adding that the founder of *Parents* was a man: George J. Hecht, a businessman and social-service worker started the magazine in 1926. The first editor, Clara Savage Littledale, was a mother of two and an alumna of Smith. Points is thoughtful about women or men being greater risk-takers; she's not really sure the issue is entirely gender-based. So many other variables come into play, she adds, among them, personality, family background, and an individual's experience. She also feels that the current economy might temper the more adventurous.



Alexandra Guarnaschelli '91

Executive Chef, Butter Restaurant

In a field where top chefs have first names like Daniel, Mario, or Thomas, there's Alex—short for Alexandra, as in Alexandra Guarnaschelli, the not-so-typical female executive chef of Butter Restaurant in Manhattan's East Village. Her creative take on a menu of American cuisine with greenmarket ingredients has been drawing the rich, famous, and those who are simply hungry for fresh, delicious, and imaginative food, since 2003.

After graduating from Barnard with a degree in art history, Guarnaschelli worked with restaurateur and chef Larry Forgione, credited with fueling interest in classic American cuisine. This daughter of renowned cookbook editor Maria Guarnaschelli then went to France to study and work for restaurateur Guy Savoy. Ultimately, he put her in charge of a kitchen in Paris with 10 young French cooks—all men. "It was a life-changing experience," she says, exhaling. Today, in addition to running the Butter kitchen, she is also a member of the advisory council at the Institute of Culinary Education in New York City; new episodes of her TV show, *Alex's Day Off*, will begin airing on Food Network early this spring.

Guarnaschelli says she leads by example, "How can I expect my team to work hard if I'm off having cocktails every night during service?" She also thanks them every night, "I recognize my team for the work they do." In the kitchen, each cook is ultimately an extension of her, and she points out, "I want each person to know they are valued and respected." Given the diversity of the kitchen staff, she says food is a great unifier, bringing together different cultures over its preparation. It's something akin to a family meal: people cook dishes that will say something about their background or culture, and share the results.

Guarnaschelli gives much credit for her success to Guy Savoy, who helped her learn how to take charge of a restaurant kitchen. She believes that gender doesn't consistently affect the way a kitchen is run; women may be more motherly, men more fatherly, but the notion of family reappears. "I care for my staff and make it my business to be as involved in their lives as I can ... I try hard to establish a routine and a bond. And this style of leading has worked for me: I've had 80 percent of the same team for over five years."



Susan Baer '72

Director of Aviation, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

The first person in the history of this bi-state agency to manage all the major Port Authority airports, Susan Baer has spent the past 34 years of her working life at this Port District created by an interstate compact in 1921. As director, she's responsible for the safe, efficient running of JFK International, Newark Liberty International, LaGuardia, Teterboro, and Stewart International Airport. A major in urban studies and anthropology at Barnard, Baer has an MBA from New York University. She joined the PA as a management analyst and rose through the ranks.

Baer forthrightly ticks off what she considers to be needed leadership qualities: communicate with staff (she's responsible for 900 aviation staff, 700 dedicated police, and more than 2,000 contract employees); keep focused on the institution's mission; be able to make the tough decisions; and appear fearless. The latter quality doesn't imply *being* fearless. The same skills women use to keep their families running smoothly are the same skills that can make them effective leaders. She feels women can often take on risk more readily

than men because women's egos are less tied to their jobs. Baer also sees women as being less likely to take risks that will jeopardize or hurt families; and they will ask for input from staff before making decisions.

During her time at the Lincoln Tunnel, Baer saw male supervisors with a "paramilitary" management style and structure she was not comfortable with. Asserting herself, she was a more inclusive manager, seeking employees' feedback and ideas in round-table discussions about various issues, and instituting a family day. Among the aspects of leadership she enjoys most is being able to develop, mentor, and promote individuals, and encourage diversity in the workplace. Baer believes that a diverse staff discourages "lockstep" thinking and encourages creativity. Essentially, she sees her role is that of an enabler and a leader through a changing environment. A principal goal of the top person is to help staff be creative and solve whatever challenges the group has to face. And today, in the transportation business, those challenges are myriad and, at times, seemingly intractable.



Ellen V. Futter '71

President, American Museum of Natural History

Frequently included in media lists of “most powerful women,” Ellen Futter graduated *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa with an English major. With a law degree from Columbia University, Futter practiced corporate law at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, taking a year’s leave to become interim president of Barnard. And then, at 31, she became Barnard’s president, the youngest ever of a major American college. She led Barnard for 13 years, preserving its independence from Columbia, launching a major fund-raising campaign, and beginning construction of the Sulzberger Tower dormitory, without funding in place, among other accomplishments. In her current position since 1993, Futter has brought a dazzling array of achievements to the AMNH, including the creation of the Rose Center for Earth and Space, 12 new or renovated exhibition halls, and the establishment of the Richard Gilder Graduate School. AMNH is now the first American museum authorized to grant the PhD degree.

Futter brings a strong team orientation to her role as a leader. The top person must bring an organization forward and have a strong plan for growth. In her view, women

are inclined to be more collaborative, a notion that goes back to her endorsement of the team concept, and one, she allows, that is not that much different than running a family. She encourages staff—be they curators, professors, or administrators—to think beyond their specific area, to see how a group’s particular role might “fit into a larger context.” Futter explains, “This lifts their work and maximizes the product.” For example, when mounting an exhibit at the museum, staff must function across departments: designers, curators, educators, and installation specialists must work together to bring about an optimal result.

Her list of accomplishments suggests a supreme confidence, almost fearlessness. But Futter characterizes the projects she has led as arising “out of complex and unique decision-making processes....” She describes the whole as “prudent risk-taking,” invoking her previous training as a lawyer. That process involves such considerations as a “full briefing and analysis” of pertinent conditions, understanding the “strategic importance ... of the project,” and “the risks of both action—and inaction.”



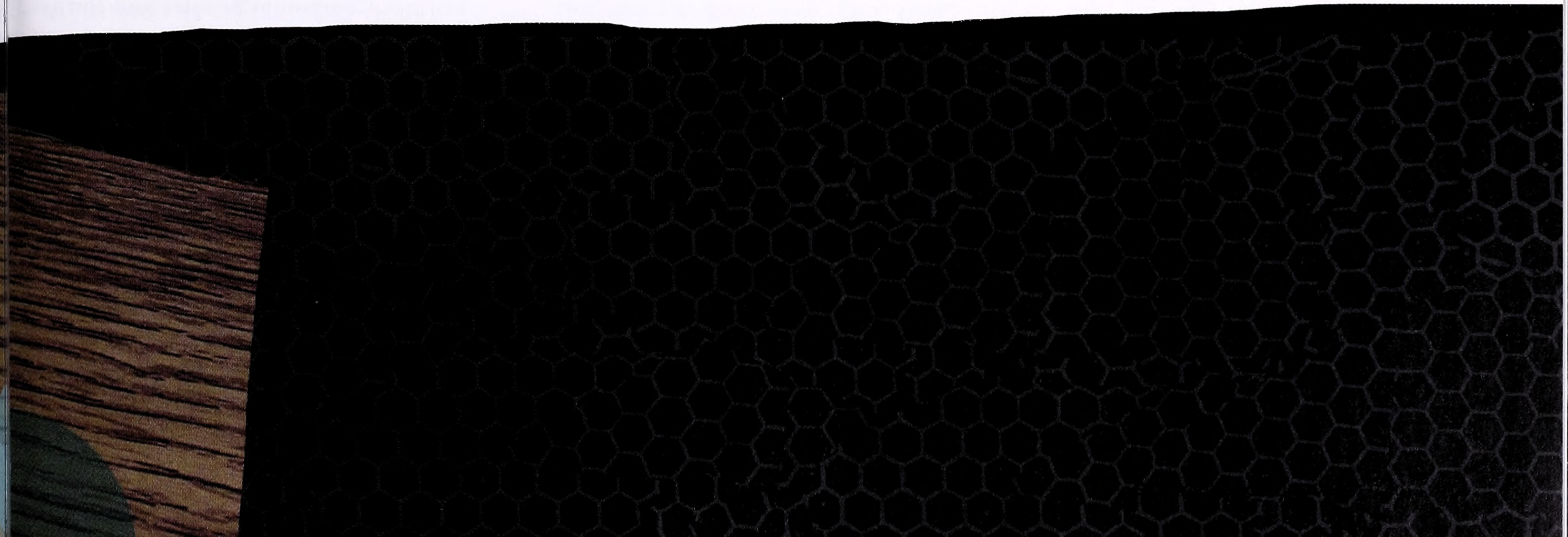


INTO ●
THE

BLOG ●

SPHERE

Keeping an online journal
brings together family, friends, and
fellow travelers



After she graduated from Barnard in 1998, Heather Currier Hunt's life started down the path she had more or less anticipated: She earned an MFA in creative writing from the New School, got married, and settled in a tiny Pennsylvania town where she and her artist husband, Colin, could work on their respective media. They bought a house and had a baby.

Then it was discovered that their daughter, Willa, had a rare genetic defect called Costello Syndrome, which causes global developmental delays and other health problems. "After the shock of the initial diagnosis," she tells *Barnard*, "you feel incredibly cut off. As a classic Barnard woman, I'd done all my homework about pregnancy and parenting. And then I had Willa and none of it applied whatsoever. I felt cut off from the life I thought I'd have, from other mothers, from my own family."

So Hunt did something that, as "a complete Luddite," she never would have anticipated: She started pouring out her feelings on the Internet. Her Web site, a blog called "Living in Invisible Cities" (see sidebar for the URL), describes her life and feelings as a mother to a special-needs child.

"I found that getting my thoughts down, specifically in the form of a blog, was wildly helpful," she says. "It was journaling, but not just for me: it was public. To my surprise, other mothers I didn't know quickly started responding, saying they know what it feels like. It gave me a community feeling, the feeling that it's OK to say the ugly stuff. It was liberating and helped me move forward."

Blogging Women

Hunt is one of 8 million American women who maintain a "blog" (short for "Web log"), an online diary, political soapbox, or creative space open to any reader who stumbles upon it. Blogs have been a popular form of expression for at least 10 years, but have grown exponentially as a phenomenon since

the creation of Blogger, WordPress, and other online services that make it possible for those with no technical expertise to create a personal Web site, often for free. Alumnae interested in reading or setting up a blog, but uncertain about where to start, can go to the new Alumnae Network, alum.barnard.edu, and create one or browse classmates' profiles for their blogs.

Today, "more than half of American women who [use the Internet] go to social networking sites [such as blogs, Facebook, and Twitter] every week," says Elisa Camahort Page, COO of BlogHer, an online media company focused on women. "That's 42 million women. It's more people than download music or share photos online."

Almost 23 million American women read blogs. Blogging is a "natural medium for women," she says, because it "fulfills the desire to have conversations, to form bonds. It's a powerful way for women to change the game for themselves, to create their own platform, be it for personal expression, or political opinions, or business views. For lots of women, blogs have replaced the kitchen table in our time-impooverished lives."

It's not just young women who blog. Although only 46 percent of baby boomer women are involved in online social networking, compared to 73 percent of "millennials" aged 18-26, since there are so many more boomers, they number about 3.5 million more than the youngest online social-networkers. According to Camahort Page, almost a third of women age 63 and older are using online social tools, including blogs. (Bloggers tend to be the most active users of all social media platforms.)

The vast majority of bloggers write about their daily lives or thoughts, often with a specific focus—such as the blogs by Barnard graduates on being a young mother with cancer ("Coffee and Chemo") or on being a Jew who is applying for German citizenship ("Fatherland")—though some alumnae,

such as Caroline Pet Ceniza-Levine '93, blog on topics related to their businesses (in Ceniza-Levine's case, career coaching) as a means to garner publicity and new clients.

Those unfamiliar with blogging are often puzzled: Why would one reveal one's activities and thoughts on as public (and often cruel) a place as the Internet—and who reads these blogs, anyhow? According to Camahort Page, the top four reasons why people blog are entertainment, self-expression, finding a community of like-minded people (since most blogs enable readers to leave comments and thereby engage in dialogue), and sharing information or advice.

Readers often gravitate to blogs that either discuss a common interest or hobby (for example, many foodies enjoy reading "Not Derby Pie" by Rivka Friedman '05) or, alternatively, expose one to different ways of living or thinking. Heterosexuals may be enlightened by the work of Lily Icangelo '13, who blogs for the site Autostraddle about her experiences as a lesbian at Barnard.

Not surprisingly, Barnard graduates blog on a wide variety of topics, from becoming a single mother via sperm donor ("Jewish Single Mom By Choice"), to how to dress stylishly and inexpensively for a corporate job ("What Would Krissie Wear").

Creative Approach

Former Centennial Scholar and Barnard Writing Fellow Sasha Soreff '94, founder and creative director of Brooklyn's Sasha Soreff Dance Theater, blogs about choreography and the rehearsal process at sashasoreffdance.com. Since 2002, a congenital problem has prevented her from dancing barefoot, leading to the creation of her movement piece "The Dancer Who Wore Sneakers and Other Tales."

The company's Web site was already in place, but she added the blog to explore the question of "what it's like

to have my whole style of dance have to change,” she explains. “How do I navigate being a dancer who cannot be barefoot? And how would the act of writing about my creative process change my creative process?”

Now the blog is an important tool for her choreography. “It helps me be more rigorous in what I’m doing,” she says, “more accountable and transparent. It forces me to be more honest about when something isn’t working. I want to be able to articulate what’s going on. Dance is hard for people to understand. It’s not as accessible as theatre or music. I wanted to break down those barriers, communicate what is going on with me while I’m creating, in the hope that it will become more relatable.” She also has open rehearsals, so that audience members can give feedback as Soreff’s work is under construction.

Moneymaker or Hobby

Like other forms of writing, the blogging genre is rarely lucrative, but in some cases it can lead to, or create, income. Eventually, Soreff hopes her blog will draw potential producers or investors, just as Ceniza-Levine’s blog—in conjunction with her newspaper articles, bi-monthly newsletters, and column for CNBC—helps her recruit new clients. “It’s a way for people to get used to [my approach],” Ceniza-Levine says, “and see if what I do will work for them.” Sarah Walker Caron ’01, whose food blog, “Sarah’s Cucina Bella,” attracts 15-20 thousand visitors each month, earns enough revenue from advertising “to pay for the month’s groceries, in a good month.” And Kathy Ebel ’89, author of “Fatherland,” is shopping her blog to book publishers. However, garnering publicity and readers for a blog is a science unto itself, and most people who blog do it simply as a hobby.

Unlike Soreff, who has always considered herself a writer, current student Melissa Lohmann ’10, started as a reluctant blogger. A psychology major,

she received a Gilman Scholarship to study Japanese language and culture this past summer and fall, first with the Hokkaido International Foundation program, and then at Doshisha University as part of Barnard’s Study Abroad program. The Gilman Scholarship requires participants to share their experiences or promote studying abroad, so Lohmann started a blog.

“I’d never been interested in reading friends’ blogs,” she says. “I didn’t understand the concept of posting things for everyone else to see until I kept my own.” She quickly discovered that her blog made it easy to stay in contact with friends and family in the States, who could check the Web site to read about her exploits. It also became a journal of her personal growth and a happy introduction to the writing life.

“I almost forgot about the whole service requirement,” she says. “It allowed me to be creative. Before, I used writing to express myself only in school papers and e-mails to friends. This was more voluntary. Now, after writing a good blog post, I feel accomplished, and that I could be a writer. My aunt printed the whole thing—it’s 200 pages—and put it in a binder and is reading it as if it were a novel. It makes me feel passionate about writing.” Still, once she finishes recording the last few weeks of her trip, and the “re-entry” process to the United States, she’s not sure whether she’ll continue the blog project. Blogging, she says, is extremely time-consuming; in the time it took to write an “interesting and factual” post, she could have been experiencing something new outside.

(Gretchen Young, Barnard’s dean for study abroad, maintains a list of blogs by Barnard students abroad at www.barnardabroad.blogspot.com.)

Proceed with Caution

Demonstrating the openness—some might say naïveté—of many young people who blog, Lohmann “never
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BLOGS TO FOLLOW

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MELISSA LOHMANN '10
hokkaido-kyoto-japan.blogspot.com
Semester in Kyoto, Japan

ANONYMOUS
breedingimperfection.blogspot.com
Raising children with allergies, hemophilia



Contacts and Connections

Hello, Beautiful Barnard Alumnae,

I write this letter as the fall semester comes to a close, and what an exciting semester it has been for me. More than 100 alumnae volunteers represented their class or club at the Leadership Assembly in October. Feedback about the revised format has been positive. Armed with new information to support them in their leadership roles, and fueled by lively conversation and a look at the Barnard experience for today's students, your representatives left campus prepared to answer questions about campus life and talk about ways you can stay connected to the College and each other. If you want more information, please contact your class officers and regional club leaders.

When I traverse the campus or attend an event, I am still amazed by the bright, articulate Barnard students that I encounter. The complex world of the twenty-first century needs the energy, enthusiasm, and thoughtful intelligence of these young women and others like them. We, as Barnard alumnae, can make a meaningful contribution to their development as mentors, advisors, and even employers. For example, during the spring semester, there will be several receptions for seniors with alumnae organized around specific career fields; contact Alumnae Affairs if you would like to participate. An affinity group for student-alumnae psychology majors began in the fall, and I am sure many other such groups will form in the coming months. The Career Development Office is planning to launch a student-alumnae mentoring program and will sponsor Take a Barnard Student to Work Day again this year. The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) is always looking for alumnae who can be mentors for the students in its program. Barnard students also appreciate the variety of internship opportunities available to them in all sorts of fields; these jobs often help them make or crystallize career decisions.

Mentoring is not only for those of us who live in the tri-state area, you can be a mentor wherever you live. As students graduate and return home, or relocate to a new city for a job or graduate school, ongoing Barnard connections can be reassuring. I can personally endorse this activity because my mentoring relationships have developed into long-term intergenerational friendships. I cherish them; they feed my soul. With today's technology, you can mentor a student via webcam or through e-mail communications as well as in person. Barnard creativity can find a way, if there is a will! Each of us has something valuable to share with the young women who have come after us, just as we have benefitted from the knowledge and experience of those who preceded us. I am calling on you to make time in your schedule to give of yourself to enrich the Barnard community.

Together, we can accomplish great things.

As ever,
Frances Sadler '72

Elections

The Nominating Committee of the Alumnae Association of Barnard College submits for your consideration the following slate of candidates to fill each of the positions that will become vacant on July 1, 2010. The committee nominates one person for each position on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors; six candidates have been nominated for three places on the nine-member nominating committee. Thanks to the three outgoing members of this committee: Amrita Master Dalal '90, this year's committee chair, and members Barbara Ballinger '71 and Linda Sweet '63. Thanks also to our outgoing Board members for leadership in the Alumnae Association: Alumnae Trustee Eileen Lee Moy '73, Barnard Fund Committee Chair Carol H. Cohen '59, Bylaws Chair Binta Brown '95, Director-at-Large Vicki Curry '90, Fellowship Committee Chair Janet Bersin Finke '56, and Reunion Committee Chair Nieca Goldberg '79.

A postcard ballot is included in this issue. Please mail completed ballots no later than May 1, 2010. Results will be shared at the Alumnae Association annual meeting during Reunion.

ALUMNAE TRUSTEE

MYRNA FISHMAN FAWCETT '70



has been actively involved with Barnard for more than 25 years. She served twice as president and/or co-president of the Barnard-in-Washington Club, three times on the Alumnae Association's board, and most recently, as chair of the President's Advisory Council. She specializes in elder law, and represents families of special-needs children and persons with disabilities. Among her volunteer and *pro bono* activities are the Washington, D.C., bar association, the district's Bioethics Network, the D.C. Jewish Community Center, the Theater J Council, Mitchell Gallery, board of St. John's College, Leadership Greater Washington, the Washington Metropolitan Dialogue of Civic Leaders on Faith, the board of her co-op, and she is a member of the ethics committee of a local nursing home. Fawcett graduated from

Georgetown University Law Center. She is also a member of the Maryland, New Jersey, and New York bars, and the National Academy of Elder Lawyers.

BARNARD FUND COMMITTEE CHAIR

DAPHNE FODOR PHILIPSON '69



retired as a partner at the private equity firm of E. M. Warburg Pincus, where she focused on investor relations. A certified public accountant, she also has an MBA from Columbia's Business School. She is on the boards of both Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic and the Leadership Council of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Daphne currently serves on the Barnard Fund Committee and has been on the Fellowship and Leadership Assembly Committees. She received the Award for Service to Barnard in 2009.

BYLAWS CHAIR

LOIS LEMPEL WEINROTH '63



is a partner in the structured-finance group at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. Originally in the corporate group, she has practiced law at the firm since her 1968 graduation from Columbia Law School. A zoology major, she worked at a publishing company to assist in creating a college-science-textbook division, and at an advertising agency. Weinroth is a director of the Centre Pompidou Foundation and MCC Theatre Company and is the president of her co-op/condo. She previously served on the President's Advisory Council. A recent widow, Lois has two step-children and four grandchildren.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

BARBI APPELQUIST '98



is a Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative (BAAR) and active with the Barnard Club of Los Angeles. She has served on the Alumnae Association's Bylaws, Leadership Assembly, and Nominating Committees and as a class co-vice president. Married with one daughter, Barbi practices *pro bono* corporate and nonprofit law in Los Angeles.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

KIMBERLEE HALLIGAN '75



majored in art history and pursued graduate study in linguistics at Columbia University's School of Arts & Sciences. Previously in marketing communications and event planning in both the profit and not-for-profit sectors, she has been working in Manhattan residential real estate for the past seven years. Halligan, a licensed associate real estate broker with Prudential Douglas Elliman, now specializes in the sales of co-ops, condos, and investment properties. Her tips for first-time home buyers have appeared on AOL's real estate Web site. She has been a member real estate panels for Barnard's Financial Fluency, Barnard Business and Professional Women (BBPW), and Columbia University's Work/Life Housing initiative. In addition to serving on the Fellowship Committee, Halligan is co-president of BBPW and a member of Barnard's Professional and Leadership Development Committee; she also served on the Reunion Committee for the 35th reunion of her class and is now class networking chair.

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIR

PATRICIA TINTO '76



an English major, launched a communications career after responding to a job posted at Barnard for a community affairs coordinator in the New York State Senate. Her career has included serving as a speechwriter, communications director for the Senate Finance Committee, press officer for Fernando Ferrer, and media relations director for a citywide political campaign. Tinto has led grassroots and media efforts for health-care organizations, public-benefit corporations and nonprofit groups. She's studied at the Università per Stranieri in Perugia, Italy. Previously, she has been a member of the AABC board, Regional Networks Committee chair, and president of the Barnard Club of Connecticut.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

Jessica Gillmor Adams '99



majoring in economics, and, after working in leveraged finance at Salomon Smith Barney, she became an institutional investor at TCW, Kingsland. She then moved to Primus, where she was the portfolio manager of a \$400 million high-yield fund. In 2008, she moved from New York City to Nashville, Tennessee, where she now lives with her husband, James, and is a stay-at-home mother to their son, Clayton. While in New York, she was an active fund-raiser for the New York Junior League, co-chairing the Spring 2008 silent auction, and for the Young Volunteers for Mount Sinai Hospital. In 2009, she chaired two events to benefit the Nashville Ballet and recently has become active in fund-raising for juvenile diabetes. She cherished her years at Barnard, and welcomes the opportunity to become significantly more involved in perpetuating its legacy for other women.

Sharon Dizenhuz '83



has been a journalist for more than 20 years, 10 of which were at *New York 1 News*, as anchor and senior correspondent, covering everything from top New York City cultural and pop culture events, to both attacks on the World Trade Center, to local election returns. She credits her double major at Barnard in English literature and art history for her writing strengths, love of New York City, and the world of ideas. She has served as a BAAR for nearly a decade, and is now involved with the Westchester Alma Maters. Currently working on a book, she is also raising her three small children, with the hope that her eldest, Samantha, 11, will enter the Barnard Class of 2020.

Noessa Higa '98



is president of Visionaire Media, a multi-platform media company dedicated to producing films, documentaries, and social media that promote cross-cultural dialogue. She is also involved in iDiplomacy, a public-private initiative to empower individuals to participate in public diplomacy. Higa majored in American studies with a concentration in film, and has been an active BAAR in Los Angeles since graduation.

Myra Greenspoon Kovey '65



a history major at Barnard, went on to graduate from George Washington University School of Law. Now retired from practice, she has spent many years as a member of the Barnard-in-Washington Club board of directors, and several as co-president and president of the club. Myra has just completed a term as AABC Regional Networks chair and also served on this year's reunion Awards Committee. She and her husband live in Chevy Chase, Md.

Ulana Lysniak '87



an English major, remains involved with Barnard as president of her class, member of the Reunion Committee, and now as her class fund co-chair. After graduation she played basketball professionally in Europe, was an assistant coach of basketball at the 1996 Olympics, and was elected into Columbia University's Inaugural Hall of Fame Class. She is now pursuing her doctoral degree at Columbia University's Teachers College. Ula has been a professor in the exercise science and physical education department at Brooklyn College for the past 10 years. She has completed 21 marathons, including the Boston Marathon the past three years.

Deborah Newman Shapiro '79



is the president and CEO of WFS Services, Inc., a full-service receivables management firm providing a variety of technology-based services to the hospital and physician marketplace. In addition to her Barnard degree, she has an MBA from Ohio State University. Shapiro has served the College as her class president and was the Alumnae Association Reunion Committee chair from 2005 to 2007. A BAAR, she is also her class correspondent, a member of the Fellowship Committee, and a representative of Barnard at local college fairs.

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to further the interests of the College and connect alumnae worldwide. Learn more online at alum.barnard.edu.

PRESIDENT & ALUMNAE TRUSTEE
Frances Sadler '72

VICE PRESIDENT
Mary Ann LoFrumento '77

TREASURER
Helene Kener Gray '88

ALUMNAE TRUSTEES
Judith Daynard Boies '59
Eileen Lee Moy '73
Jeanine Parisier Plottel '54

BYLAWS CHAIR
Binta Brown '95

THE BARNARD FUND COMMITTEE CHAIR
Carol Cohen '59

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Jami Bernard '78

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Vicki Curry '90

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/ALMA MATERS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Nicole Lowen Vianna '81

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/PROJECT CONTINUUM COMMITTEE CHAIR
Reeva Starkman Mager '64

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR
Janet Bersin Finke '56

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIR
Merri Rosenberg '78

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR
Amrita Master Dalal '90

PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR
Peri Horowitz '96

REGIONAL NETWORKS CHAIR
Susan Sommer Klapkin '76

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIR
Nieca Goldberg '79

YOUNG ALUMNAE COMMITTEE CHAIR
Ashley Kelly '04

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Katie Palillo '10

ALUMNAE AFFAIRS

The Alumnae Affairs staff work closely with students and alumnae volunteers to carry out program initiatives and further the mission of the Alumnae Association.

DIRECTOR
Erin Fredrick '01

MANAGERS & COORDINATORS
Vanessa Wolf Alexander
Susannah Jaffe Goldstein '02
Victoria Londin '79
Maryangela Moutoussis '06

PROGRAM DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL FLUENCY
Christine Valenza Shin '84

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
Jungwon Iris Yoon

DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT
Lauren Glover '09

Alumnae Association of Barnard College

This ballot has been prepared by the Alumnae Association of Barnard College nominating committee. No independent petitions have been received. Vote for your candidate by marking an "x" in the box to the left of her name. The ballot must be postmarked no later than May 1.

Board of Directors

Vote for one candidate for each office

Alumnae Trustee

Myrna Fishman Fawcett '70

Barnard Fund Committee Chair

Daphne Fodor Philipson '69

Bylaws Chair

Lois Lempel Weinroth '63

Director-at-Large

Barbi Appelquist '98

Fellowship Committee Chair

Kimberlee Halligan '75

Reunion Committee Chair

Patricia Tinto '76

Nominating Committee Members / 3 years

Vote for three

Jessica Gillmor Adams '99

Sharon Dizenhuz '83

Noessa Higa '98

Myra Greenspoon Kovey '65

Ula Lysniak '87

Deborah Newman Shapiro '79

Members of the 2009–2010 Nominating Committee:

Amrita Dalal '90 (Chair), Barbara Ballinger '71, Rosalind Marshack Gordon '62, Alison Craiglow Hockenberry '88, Ruth Weichsel Hoffman '61, Cheryl Johnson '72, Betsy Wolf Stephens '59, Audrey Appel Sterenfeld '55, and Linda Sweet '63.

Italics denote outgoing members.



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BARNARD
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
OF BARNARD COLLEGE
VAGELOS ALUMNAE CENTER
3009 BROADWAY
NEW YORK NY 10027-6598



IR

CLASS NOTES

For classes without correspondents, send notes to:

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

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Mildred Pearson Horowitz, a “lifetime learner” in the truest sense, passed away in August 2009 at the age of 96. She looked forward every year to browsing through the course catalogue to see which Barnard classes would be open to her. Though old age, frailty, and tough New York winters ultimately conspired against her and prevented her from making the twice-a-week journey, her heart remained deeply connected to Barnard. Never have I met a woman so fiercely proud of her alma mater.

As a Barnard sophomore, I met Mildred through cousins of mine and she quickly became a friend, family member, and confidante. She was “Aunt Mildred” to me and to so many others, and though in many ways life was not easy for her—she was never able to have children and was widowed young—she was always a source of inspiration, a reminder that learning and a passion for knowledge were not the exclusive domain of young 20-somethings. Together with a group of Barnard and Columbia students—friends of mine at first, but hers with time as well—we would meet after class for

lunch at the Hewitt dining hall and she would regale us with tales of a campus and a world long gone.

I continued to visit Mildred whenever I was back to New York, which, sadly, was not as often as I would have liked. But I cherished my visits with her and I know that she cherished them too; a photo of us taken at my graduation continued to grace her living room, unmoved, despite the years that had passed. Having “Aunt Mildred” enriched my Barnard experience in ways that classes and extracurricular activities never could. She is missed. —*Daphna Berman '03*

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Since no news was sent this quarter, I have to produce the column on my own. I have joined the ranks of the car-less. It's an odd and often frustrating feeling to be without a car. But with my two local daughters, one granddaughter, a few friends, and a local service, I've managed to continue my usual activities.

I expected to have a quiet 95th birthday with just my son, his wife, and a dear old friend to make it a bit special; instead I was overwhelmed with the first surprise party I've enjoyed since I was 21. My friends at Senior Scholars (a continuing education project of the local university), in cahoots with my writers' support group, arranged it. They turned a lecture on Poe, for which I had innocently signed up, into a real birthday bash—cake and hugs and singing and all—that left me speechless in shock. What a lovely shock! It's a heartwarming memory and always will be.

After the novel I'd been working

on was published last summer, I, in a burst of illogical optimism, began writing another book. We'll see what's completed first—the novel or the author. At least it keeps life interesting.

My grandson Justin, who started his family in my attic flat and now lives in Denmark with wife, son, and new daughter, will spend two months with his mother (my daughter, Jill) in San Francisco. Jill has invited me to visit, at which time I'll meet the newest family member, Natasha Wynns, my third great-grandchild, who was born last February.

Nora Lourie Percival
 478 Greer Lane
 Vilas, NC 28692
 828.297.2828
 percival@skybest.com

38

I have received the sad news of Anne Rosen Stern's death on Aug. 15, 2009. Anne resided in Blue Hill, Maine. We send our sympathy to her son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and friends.

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

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Mabel Houk King's daughter, Susan King, tells us that Mabel died peacefully

in her sleep on Aug. 31, 2009, in the home she shared with her daughter in California. Born and raised in Knoxville, Tenn., Mabel moved to New York to study at Barnard where she earned a degree in economics. She married Bill King, a national cartoonist, and pursued a master of fine art degree at the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico. Susan writes, "Widowed at an early age, Mabel raised three children and ... worked as a teacher, author, secretary, and college dean. She was also involved in various social projects and funding proposals for low-income communities. She enjoyed the ministers and members of her churches as well as her many friends. Mabel remembered her wonderful experiences and education at Barnard even during the last weeks of her life. She will be missed greatly."

70th Reunion June 3 – June 6, 2010

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This time, I have only obituaries to report. **Dorothy Needham Weber** passed away on Feb. 3, 2009, followed by **Margaret Monroe Oles** on Feb. 19. No further information was available. **Sybella L. Halliday** passed away on Aug. 20, 2009. She is survived by a niece and two grandnephews.

Georgianna Grevatt Zimm died on May 1, 2009. As a zoologist, she's remembered for her lifelong work with fruit flies, and she was once the subject of an article in *Barnard*. She is survived by two sons.

Elizabeth Woodruff Pratt, who died on May 21, 2009, is survived by a daughter, stepdaughter, stepson, three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a sister, and three nieces.

Charlotte M. Blumers died on June 28, 2009. She is survived by a niece, two nephews, seven grandnephews and grandnieces, and 18 great-grandnephews and great-grandnieces.

Jane Auerbach Gould, the first permanent director of the Barnard Center for Research on Women, died on Aug. 9, 2009. Jane returned to the College in 1965 as the director of the Barnard Placement and Career Planning

Office. In retirement, Jane participated in the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice at Seneca Falls in 1983 and in the U.N.'s NGO Conference on Women in Nairobi in 1985. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two stepdaughters, and two grandchildren. (See Page 67 for her obituary.)

Ann Landau Kwitman, our reunion chair, died on Oct. 19, 2009. She was very involved in Barnard activities and trying to stir up enthusiasm for our 70th reunion in June. A sailor and a skier, she continued her athletic pursuits well into her "golden years," when most of her peers had settled down to less active endeavors. She is survived by one daughter and two sons.

Joan Shalit Swee passed away on Oct. 7. She graduated from Columbia Teachers College and taught earth science at Fieldston for many years. Also a music teacher, she was a member of the Fieldston Recorder Group. Joan was an avid biodynamic gardener with an interest in nutritional remedies. She also enjoyed the theatre, opera, and ballet. Joan is survived by a son, two daughters, and six grandchildren.

The class sends its sympathy to all these bereaved families.

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

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Elizabeth Bishop Trussell brightened the day for a frustrated correspondent when she answered my question with a bright and cheerful laugh. "No news at all. And isn't that *good* news?" Beth is enjoying life, even though she wasn't able to get to Maine last summer. Her apartment has a 24th-floor view of the East River, and she attended a Thanksgiving family reunion in Chicago.

Prita Kumarappa Shalizi is doing well in her home in Santa Fe, N.M., with the help of her two younger sons. She says that her middle son is still working in Afghanistan to improve agricultural practices and equipment after years of

damage to the growing fields. He has his 16-year-old daughter with him, attending the American International School of Kabul. Prita also has a daughter in Albuquerque, and her oldest son is a professor in Bethesda, Md.

Athena Capraro Warren is editing *Why Not?* It's a composite of two books, one that Athena wrote, *Into the Lives of Others*, and one by Clifford Bennett called *Nursing Home Life: What It Is and What It Could Be*. The title *Why Not?* means "why not try to improve nursing homes?" Considering the average age of our class, we can sympathize with her intent.

We regret that the death of **Marjorie Ullman Hawksworth** was reported in our summer 2009 issue but did not include the information that she is survived by her four children, and that her sister, Rosemary Ullman Howley '48, predeceased her on Jan. 7, 2008.

Edith Strick Sheppard, who was a retired psychiatrist with the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, died on May 3, 2007, at her home in Meadowbrook, Pa. She is survived by her husband, C. Bradford Sheppard, a son, and several grandchildren.

On July 1, 2009, **Marion Geer Wood**, a retired *New Yorker* writer, died in her home on Hilton Head Island, S.C. She is survived by one daughter.

Louise Gray Bertsche, who left Barnard in her junior year to marry William Bertsche, died on Aug. 18, 2009, in Passaic, N.J. She is survived by her children and their spouses, eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends who are bereaved. —JRM

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

Jane Ringo Murray
Canterbury Court, Apt. 422
3750 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30319
404.231.7422
murraymj@canterburycourt.org

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Aurelia Maresca Bender is moving to an assisted-living facility near her home in Cherry Hill, N.J. She has been a professional pianist and teacher for most of her adult life and was hesitant about the move until she learned that her piano will move with her. She'll be able to practice, give lessons, and play for the other residents.

Marion Blum Sweet and her husband, Elliott, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July. This elaborate all-day affair included special dinner dishes prepared by her daughters and granddaughters in the professional kitchen of their church in Madison, Wis. The dinner was followed by a musical performance by family members in the sanctuary. Then the next day the 30 or more close family members moved on to the Sweet "enclave" at a small lake in northern Wisconsin for a great week of togetherness. Wow!

Louise Woolfolk Chesnut, who has spent most of her life working for environmental causes even before it was fashionable, feels, at age 90, it's now time for her to encourage younger alumnae to pick up the challenge.

Virginia Rogers Cushing
921 Schooner Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-6846

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Once again, we share regret over the loss of classmates. Our thoughts are with the families of **Gertrude Muhlham Bahr**, who died on May 10, 2009, and **Gladys C. Rikert**, who died on Aug. 31, 2009. Our sympathy and condolences are extended to their families.

Take a moment to send me a Barnard memory fit for publication. If I'm not at home, a message on the answering machine will delight me to no end!

Wfriede Thiele Kelso
3 Halick Court
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-1373

Tangling with Kassell was the *Times*' Ms.-take

Paula Kassell '39



New York Times publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger didn't want to consider it. And editor A.M. Rosenthal was "completely irrational about it," recalls Paula Kassell '39. By the early 1980s other newspapers had adopted "Ms." as an alternative to the honorifics "Miss" and "Mrs." Yet the *Times* refused to follow.

But Kassell, a newspaper editor and publisher herself, was undaunted. She got creative and bought *Times* company stock so she could raise the issue at shareholder meetings. Her efforts led the *Times* to begin using Ms. in mid 1986. "Language is very important to the feminist movement," says Kassell, 92. "We have to be very careful what language we use."

Today, Kassell, who lives in Dover, N.J., continues her advocacy. Her key concerns haven't changed: protecting hard-won abortion rights, equalizing pay for comparable work, and urging men take on more of the load that women bear as professionals, homemakers, and mothers.

She recently released *Taking Women in New Directions: Stories from the Second Wave of the Women's Movement*, a book to educate women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s about the feminist movement's struggles. "I'm afraid the younger generation doesn't realize what we went through to get all the changes instituted over the years," she says. The book collects dozens of articles Kassell wrote from 1972 to 1993 for a now-defunct national feminist newspaper, *New Directions for Women*. She founded and edited the paper, which had a peak circulation of 50,000.

Kassell's feminist awakening came as a first-year, when she read Margaret Mead's *Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies*. "If society can make me what it will," she recalls thinking, "I'll make myself what I will. And I did." Her career included social welfare work and nearly 15 years as a technical editor for Bell Telephone Laboratories. She kept her name when she married in 1941, raised two children, and became active in the burgeoning feminist movement in the late 1960s. Kassell's decades of advocacy didn't go unnoticed at Barnard. In 2004, she was the first recipient of the Millicent Carey McIntosh Feminism Award.

Though the battle for "Ms." was won nearly a quarter-century ago, the issue surfaced again last year. In October, *The Times*' "On Language" column conceded the paper's acceptance of "Ms." was "slow in coming" and did not mention Kassell. Betsy Wade '51, a former *Times* copy editor, responded with a letter to the editor to set the paper of record straight, making certain that Kassell got the credit she deserved. —June D. Bell

732.846.6454
ETKelso@aol.com

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Editors' Note: **Ina Campbell** brought to our attention that some of the 1944 class officers that Alumnae Affairs

provided for the fall issue of *Barnard* were incorrect. The vice presidents are **Dorothy H.L. Carroll** and **Helen Cahn Weil**, and the treasurer is **Eleanor Streichler Mintz**. We regret the error.

Marion La Fountain Stark
135 Franklin Avenue
Midland Park, NJ 07432-1955
201.447.9716
prs1546@aol.com

45

Yes, the reunion banner above is correct, June 3–6, is the weekend of our 65th reunion. This means most of us started Barnard in 1941, as World War II was becoming a reality for the United States.

Last October at the Princeton Club, **Avra Kessler Mark**, our class president, convened a meeting of the class officers with Victoria Londin '79, coordinator of Alumnae Affairs, to commence planning for our reunion. **June Wals Freeman, Eleanor Wax Mamelok, Hope Simon Miller, Ruth Carson West**, and I were in attendance.

We learned that the College will honor us by setting aside the Vagelos Alumnae Center for our class dinner on Friday, June 4. Formerly the Deanery, the space has a comfortable, well-decorated living room for gathering and a private dining room. The committee stresses that you're welcome to bring a companion to Reunion—a spouse, child, friend, etc. Many of us have frailties that prevent traveling alone. Per usual there will be overnight accommodations in the dorms, plus a class lounge. The latter is convenient if you just come for the day. Please make your plans now to join us at this special event. Remember to bring family pictures. If you have questions, contact a class officer.

Adrienne Wolfert Lobovits has come off the Barnard "lost" list. She writes, "I admit I've been remiss as an alumna, but I graduated in February 1945 as a war bride. I did not enjoy the rewards of being a senior and having a formal graduation. I lived most of my life in Connecticut and California, where I currently reside." Adrienne has published several novels and poetry books, which have received high professional acclaim. Pulitzer Prize-winner David McCullough writes, "*Distant Constellations* by Wolfert is really good. She is a terrific writer, a superb storyteller. Make no mistake." Her next novel will be *Forgive Me for Being Mad*, to be published sometime this year. She has recorded her poetry at the Library of Congress. Adrienne has three children—Dr. Barry Lobovits, Dr. Laurel Lobovits, and Dean Lobovits—four grandchildren, and two great-

grandchildren. Adrienne experienced a cultural exchange, when she won a one-month fellowship at Peredelkino, the Russian writers' retreat. She and the other Americans were given an interpreter, a car, a suite, and a samovar.

Annette Auld Kaicher
5 Seymour Place
White Plains, NY 10605
amk1945@verizon.net

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Virginia Sarafianos McCrory writes: "It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you of the death of my friend **Sally Crane Summerell** on Oct. 17, 2009, in San Francisco. She was a psychology major and received her master's in psychology from Columbia University. She taught psychology for several years and, after her marriage to Charles Summerell, moved to Plattsburgh, N.Y., where she worked as a public school psychologist and then as an area psychologist until her retirement. She also engaged in testing and writing case studies for the State of New York.

"I met Sally as a first-year, along with a group of [commuter] students. Many of us were fast friends throughout our college years and beyond. Sally and I remained in touch until two years ago, when she moved to California to be close to her son and daughter. For years, we visited one another, taking interesting trips together. She was a world traveler, touring unusual and fascinating locales, sometimes on bicycles, occasionally on an elephant or a camel. As in college, her energy was legend. She is survived by a son, daughter, grandson, nephew, and two nieces." Her ashes were scattered under the Golden Gate Bridge in November.

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We have learned of the death of **Charlotte Urquhart Van Stolk** in Cleveland on July 28, 2009. After graduation, Charlotte earned her *juris*

doctor from Western Reserve University Law School in 1965. This was followed by several years of practicing law with the Legal Aid Society in Cleveland, mainly mediating divorce settlements. She was also a published poet, novelist, and historian, and an active member of the Christ Episcopal Church in Cleveland. In 1951, she married Albert Van Stolk, an engineer; they had one son, two daughters (including Rosalind van Stolk '77), and six grandchildren. Her granddaughter, Katherine Ann van Stolk-Cooke, is in the Class of 2012.

Sadly we report the death of **Judith Mortenson** on March 2, 2009. A zoology major at Barnard, Judith spent four years in Europe, including a pilgrimage from Notre Dame Cathedral to Chartres, bicycle trips in several countries, and an extended stay in Paris. After returning to the United States, she joined the DuPont Company's department of home furnishings and textiles public relations, a position that took her all over the world. She worked there for 35 years. It was her idea for the DuPont Company to lay a carpet of DuPont nylon across the Brooklyn Bridge as publicity for the New York City Marathon in 1972. During her years in New York, she was to acquire a farm in the Berkshires, a brownstone in Chelsea, and an apartment in Paris. For 43 years, she was a supernumerary at the Metropolitan Opera. A 1947 issue of the *Barnard Bulletin*, of which she was managing editor, mentions that Judith was a member of the court of senior proctors, a delegate of the representative assembly, and a member of the Newman Club.

Jane Allen Shikoh
74 Liberty Avenue
Rockville Centre, NY 11570-3032
516.764.1051

Marguerite Harris-Chinkel
6 Beach Manor Court
West Islip, NY 11795
631.661.0049

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Eleven classmates gathered last October for a mini-reunion at the

Metropolitan Museum of Art. Thanks to **Lois Williams Emma** we enjoyed quiet conversation and lunch in the trustees' dining room. **Lawrie Trevor Nomer** traveled in from Texas and got to also visit with her daughters, Emily and Louise, and her grandson, Andy, who attends a prep school upstate. Lawrie has reluctantly given up biking in the rough. Instead, she does 10 miles on her stationary bike and lots of swimming. We were happy to see **Barbara Hewlett Conolly**, who came in from Long Island.

As a clinical psychologist, **Elinor Cahill Georgopulo** spends several days a week in New York seeing patients. She has moved to a senior residential community in Connecticut. Her daughter and grandkids are temporarily living in London, owing to her son-in-law's business transfer, but Elinor is looking forward to a visit from them. Also employed part-time, **Rosalie A. LoCurcio** works for a social agency in Westchester County, N.Y., training ombudsmen who work with senior citizens residing in nursing care facilities, helping them deal with the bureaucracy and resolving disputes with their own families. It's difficult work, Rosalie says, but something that can make a difference in people's lives. Another active woman is **Adele Kostellow Morrill**, who does research work.

Louise Lyczak Monjo also attended our mini-reunion. She retired as administrator of a day school but is now board president of her co-op. She's also involved with advocacy for seniors needing conflict resolution. One of Louise's granddaughters is a student at New York University and lives with her uptown on weekends. Three other grandchildren live in Australia. Other mini-reunion attendees were **Nancy Ackerson Kowalchuk**, **Nora Robell**, whose telephone follow-ups pulled this event together, **Nora Ravsky Schwartz**, and your correspondent.

Hilma Van Heek Orr wanted to join us, but she was in South Carolina to visit one of her grandsons who's stationed at Camp LeJeune before doing his tour in the Middle East. In New Jersey Hilma volunteers at a Christian Science reading room and takes courses.

Janet Wessling Paulsen is well and living in a Quaker-run retirement community outside Philadelphia. She

enjoys attending concerts and other events and travels to New York and Washington, D.C., to visit her son, two daughters, and six grandchildren. Janet's husband died last year. She reports that **Margaret Wittmer Grace** died on Oct. 1, 2009. Margaret had been a resident of Janet's community; only belatedly did they learn that they were classmates. Margaret had been a teacher and a volunteer for the Peace Corps in Africa and in the South Pacific, and she was active in the United Nations.

Helene Wall Gersuny writes that **Janet Wright Sullivan** died on July 11, 2009. Janet taught English at the Rhode Island School of Design and at Community College of Rhode Island. She is survived by one son, two grandchildren, and two sisters. Helene is active in her church and gives piano lessons. She was happy to get a visit from her granddaughter, Michaela, who returned home after a stint playing goalie for a girls' soccer team in Iceland. Michaela has a sports scholarship at Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn.

Sadly, we must report three other deaths: **Miriam Peabody Gale** died on June 29, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Justin, four children, and eight grandchildren. **Marion Lois Martin Higbee** died on June 19, 2009. She is survived by two daughters, one son, and four grandchildren. And **Frances Dowd Smith** died on Nov. 29, 2009. Fran served as our vice president for many years and was active in regional Barnard clubs. She co-founded the Barnard College Club of North Central New Jersey. We recall her dedication and many contributions to our reunions—the handcrafted Barnard bears, the bookmarks and tea towels with cross-stitching. Before retiring, she was executive secretary at St. Thomas More Church in Allentown, Pa. She is survived by five children, numerous grandchildren and loving friends. In a note to me a week before she died, Frances concluded, "Lasting friendships are treasures of life." We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of these classmates.

Frances Jeffery Abramowitz
10371 Lake Vista Circle
Boca Raton, FL 33498

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Eileen Brown Chamberlain has 16 grandchildren. Recently, she attended the eighth-grade graduation of the youngest and the Dartmouth College graduation of one of the oldest. Her daughter, Eileen, was named Woman of the Year by EMERGE, an organization that fosters the role of women in politics and in private-sector executive positions.

We lost two classmates last summer. **Claire Kidd Rose** died on June 28, 2009. She is survived by three children, three grandchildren, and a sister.

Marjorie Eberly Steitz died of cancer on July 4, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Philip, five children, and six grandchildren (including Sydney W. Kump '10), as well as her sister, Nancy Eberly MacClintock '44. Our sincere condolences to both families.

Joe, my wonderful husband of 57 years, passed away in his sleep on Oct. 16, 2009, after a long battle with lung cancer. He had never been a smoker.
—YDD

Rosary Scacciaferro Gilheany
11 Glenside Trail
Califon, NJ 07830-4008
tjgilheany@embarqmail.com

Yvette Delabarre DeFelice
311 Main Street
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660-1535
201.641.0668
yd311@aol.com

60th Reunion June 3 – June 6, 2010

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In October, **Maureen McCann Miletta** and **Irma Socci Moore**, along with many other alumnae class officers and representatives, attended Leadership Assembly. "We heard an excellent panel of students discussing student life, a faculty lecture by Professor of Art History Anne Higonnet, and a very informative presentation of Barnard's financial future," writes Irma. "At lunch President Debora Spar and Director of the Athena Center for Leadership

Studies Kathryn Kolbert spoke to us about new initiatives. We took a virtual tour of the Diana Center, which will open early next year, and a real-time tour of the science facilities, both old and new. As always, the students were the highlight of the program."

Since moving to New York in 2008, **Mary Louise Luginbuhl Kearns** has been volunteering at the American Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Hall, where she is a docent, WNET/Thirteen, the New York Philharmonic, and the Central Park Conservancy.

Sr. **Ruth Juchter**, OSH, is retired, but still able to spend two weeks with a friend in England every couple of years.

Eleanor Peters Lubin keeps in contact with **Carolyn Kimmelfield Balleisen**, **Alice Sterling Honig**, and **Bernice Fiering Solomon**. "While everyone is a bit more frail, everyone is still passionately involved with the world outside herself," she writes.

Elaine Wiener Berman writes, "Herb and I had a wonderful cruise to celebrate our big birthdays. We started in London, sailed from Dover, and ended in Rome. Then we spent an additional week in Paris." A highlight for them was a visit with **Marilyn Miller Flitterman** in Oporto, Portugal. "Marilyn showed us Oporto as no one else could have," she writes. "From her gorgeous apartment to a folk-dance event in the museum park, a visit to the British Club, a delightful concert at the Performing Arts Center, a delicious lunch in a restaurant on the water ... we had a day that was the envy of other passengers."

Helen Anderton Reed, 82, and her husband, John, 86, are doing OK healthwise. "Our twin daughters have been successful," she writes. "Diana is assistant general counsel with Pittsburgh Plate Glass; Susan was recently named editor-in-chief of *Oprah* magazine."

On behalf of our class, our president, Irma Moore, has sent condolences to **Rita Abrams Kaufman**, who lost her beloved husband, Boris, on April 3, 2009. Rita writes: "Boris was a dentist for 40 years; he coached baseball teams for 32 years. He served as president of Kiwanis in Passaic, and in Wayne, he fathered two remarkable sons, Glen and Neil, and grandfathered four irresistible children.... It was a gratifying life."

We have received news of the death of **Ellen Robinson Clay** on March 27, 2008, but have no other details. —NNJ

Carolyn Ogden Brotherton
59 Bridge Road
Orleans, MA 02653
gleabro@gmail.com

Nancy Nicholson Joline
290 Kings Town Way, Apt. 358
Duxbury, MA 02332
781.585.4769
ejoline@comcast.net

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After **Rhoda Zorn Mahler** and her husband, Ken, retired from their ministry in the war-torn Central America of the '80s, they returned to the United States. The next seven years were spent in Lakeland, Fla. They've settled happily in the Washington, D.C. area, where they have children and grandchildren close by. They have new friends and have even met Debora Spar at a D.C. reunion; they were favorably impressed with our new president. The reunion also introduced Rhoda to Kathleen Vogel McNally '69, with whom she joins in an exercise class at the local YMCA. She also reconnected with **Patricia Foley McCandless**, who lives with her husband on Bainbridge Island, Wash.

Joan Henderson McCain
38 Livingston Street
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
joanhmccain@aol.com

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Nancy Isaacs Klein observes that our class column is moving closer to the beginning of the section! She volunteers at a hospital gift shop (by default, runs it) and at various Jewish community organizations. Ten of her grandchildren are married and have so far given her 11 great-grandchildren, with more on the way. Nancy says she feels too young to be a great-grandmother, but

she's grateful she can still carry babies, change diapers, and get on the floor to play. Her sister-in-law, **Sarah Max Isaacs**, in Israel, is also doing the great-grandmother thing at a rapid pace.

On a beautiful August day, **Elizabeth (Bettina) S. Blake**, **Claire Delage Metz**, and **Nancy Stone Hayward** had a delightful time conversing and lunching in a restaurant overlooking the harbor in Woods Hole, Mass.

Margaret (Peggy) Collins Maron has recently seen both Claire Metz and **Carol Connors Krikun**. Peggy attends some of her church's activities and is doing *pro bono* editorial work and reading Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. To top that off, she has season tickets to the Metropolitan Opera, where she saw a production of *Aida* that, she says, was wonderful.

Margaret McVarish Bashe reports from New Hampshire that she belongs to the Tuftonboro Hikers. Their hikes are shorter these days, but they continue to raise money for local scholarships. She enjoys reading, especially mysteries, and is looking forward to the completion of a bigger, better local library.

Sheelagh Ennis Rabo and her husband are both retired and still living in their longtime home in Westchester. They've been dissuaded from gardening by the very large, hungry deer population in their area. Sheelagh, a former editor of *House & Garden*, is an active member of WESPAC, a Westchester County human-rights foundation.

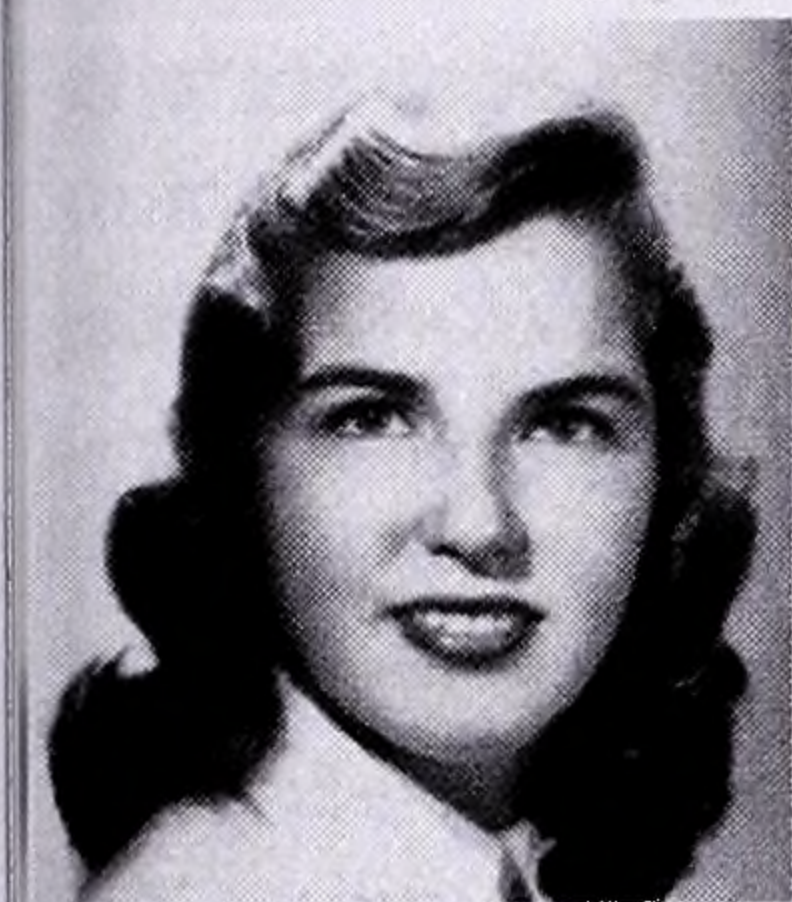
Ellen Seagle Sutton and her husband, who live in North Carolina, have raised a large, happy family. They have four children, all married, who have provided them with eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild, all of whom they see frequently. Ellen and her husband used to play bridge, but now they have difficulty finding appropriate partners. She does some reading and some exercising—if she gets to the gym. Her traveling hasn't been extensive recently and it revolves around family.

Marilyn Silver Lieberman is looking forward to enjoying the sunshine while wintering in Palm Springs, Calif. She'll be back in New York in May.

Nancy Stone Hayward
68 Chase Road
Falmouth, MA 02540-2151

508.548.5344
nancy3141@aol.com

Priscilla Redfearn Elfrey
320 Barrello Lane
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-3664
321.868.4460
pelfrey@cfl.rr.com



Harriet Newman Cohen '52

A top family-law attorney, Harriet Newman Cohen continues to be honored by her profession. In

2009 she was named a Super Lawyer, as well as one of the "Top 50 Women Lawyers," in the Metro Edition of *New York Super Lawyers Magazine*. This publication names attorneys in each state who receive the highest point totals, as chosen by their peers through its independent research process.

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I had a delightful phone conversation with **Elizabeth O'Leary Dreier**.

She's now retired from a long career in education in the New York City public school system. She has been an elementary-school teacher, a principal, and a student-teacher supervisor. Now that she's no longer working, she's enjoying life in New York and auditing a class at Barnard every year. She and her husband, Leon, have three children and six grandchildren.

Gene and I made our first trip to Israel last fall to attend the wedding of our granddaughter, Dalit Basch, who has settled in Jerusalem. We combined it with a tour of Egypt and a riverboat journey on the Nile.

Stephanie Lam Pollack
30214 Cartier Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275-5722
StephanieBPollack@alum.barnard.edu

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Arlene Kelley Winer and **Jeanine Parisier Plottel** represented our class at Leadership Assembly. There was discussion of the most effective means of improving alumnae participation financially and in College and class activities. Special note was made of efforts to include alumnae from far-flung areas (an effort I especially applaud). President Spar spoke of plans to have foreign students attend Barnard for specified periods of time. Of special import was the new Athena Center for Leadership Studies, launched by Spar on the Barnard campus to include courses, internships, and workshops for undergraduates to foster leadership training and opportunities. Professor Katherine Kolbert, a prominent attorney and past president and CEO of People for the American Way, is the new director. The Assembly's program also included workshops on fund-raising via new aspects of the Barnard Web site. Arlene also reports that she joined the board of Project Continuum. Their first presentation was a Twilight Lecture, "Looking at American Art," by Professor Barbara Novak '50.

On Aug. 9, 2009, **Erika Graf Tauber** writes that she, "attended a very mini-reunion! A few weeks earlier **Marcia Musicant Bernstein** had notified me that she would be visiting family in New England, so we planned a get-together in nearby historic Concord." They spent several hours bringing each other up-to-date on their lives and sharing news of classmates over lunch at the Colonial Inn. "As we talked the years melted away, and I felt transported back to our very [important] and meaningful years at Barnard."

On a sad note, **Muriel Huckman Walter** died recently after a long battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. We send condolences to her family.

Editors' Note: Due to an error in Alumnae Affairs' class officer list for 1954, **Shirley Henschel** was mistakenly listed as the class fund chair. While Shirley has agreed to help out as a co-chair, **Doris Barker Shiller** is the fund chair and has been since the 1954 50th reunion. We thank her for her hard

work, and we apologize for the error.

Marcia Musicant Bernstein
750 South Hanley Road, Apt. 44
St. Louis, MO 63105
314.863.7482
marcia.mb@att.net

55th Reunion June 3 - June 6, 2010

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Gisela von Scheven Fort, Barbara Kahn Gaba, Nancy Leonard Jalet, Barbara Lapcek, Florence Federman Mann, Duane Lloyd Patterson, Louise Cohen Silverman, Toni Lautman Simon, and Renee Becker Swartz met on Oct. 14, 2009, to discuss Reunion and will meet again at the Vagelos Alumnae Center on Feb. 11, at noon. If you can, please join the session. You may also send your thoughts and comments to **Carol Held Scharff**, our reunion chair, at cscharff@optonline.net. Tentative plans for our reunion include a Thursday evening cocktail buffet hosted by **Diana Touliatou Vagelos** and her husband, Roy, at their apartment, possibly followed by a theatre excursion. The College's activities include a luncheon and our class dinner on Friday; on Saturday there is a morning panel, lunch with the Class of 2005, and the gala; and on Sunday the memorial service and a possible museum visit. Among the College's events are opportunities to meet and hear President Debora Spar speak and to tour the campus and be astonished at the changes (including the new Diana Center, named for our classmate).

The College lists 314 members of our class. Of these, 51 are now deceased and 38 have lost touch or are nonresponsive to mailings. That leaves 225 reachable classmates, all of whom we hope will attend Reunion. By now you've received a letter from Carol Scharff asking you to update the biographical information supplied for our 50th reunion booklet. Please promptly forward all your new information to Louise Cohen Silverman, by e-mail to bobalou4@optonline.net, or to 14 Spring Meadow Dr., Lakewood, NJ 08701. A supplement to the 50th booklet will be

printed if there are enough responses.

Jane Were-Bey Gardner, Doris Joyner Griffin, Barbara Silver Horowitz, Gayle Abouchar Jaeger, Norma Haft Mandel, Marion Toman Marchal, Marcella Jung Rosen, Carol Scharff, **Ellen Blumenthal Sehgal, Mirella d'Ambrosio Servodidio,** Louise C. Silverman, Toni L. Simon, **Hessy Levinsons Taft,** and Diana Vagelos met on Oct. 29, 2009, to hear the reunion-planning news.

Julie C. MacDonald died on Dec. 14, 2007, in Seattle. Julie was a world traveler, a political activist, and a humanitarian working for a number of organizations on behalf of underage refugees. She earned her PhD at Columbia after spending a year in the Philippines writing her thesis about unaccompanied minor refugees. She traveled all over Africa, Asia, and Europe, spending time at The Hague and in Bellagio helping to develop policy toward these young refugees. Her daughter, Carol Hodge, who sent in this information, recalls spending most of her childhood traveling through Central America, Europe, and Mexico. Julie's career path included social work with troubled youth and mental health therapy. Her first husband, John Hodge, an eye surgeon, was the father of her three children. After getting divorced, Julie divided her time between Seattle and San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, where she met her second husband, Peter Roloff. In the San Juan Islands, they raised sheep, cows, chickens, and other animals. In 1978 she turned the farmhouse into a restaurant, working as the local mental-health therapist during the winters and a restaurateur in the summers. After her second marriage ended in divorce and she was diagnosed with breast cancer she returned to Seattle. She died of a heart attack and underlying bone cancer. Julie is survived by her children and two grandchildren.

Marcella Rosen was interviewed by *Fox 5 News* last September in connection with a survey conducted on 10 college campuses, Barnard among them, to determine the extent of bias-based violence on college campuses. Marcella has been spearheading this ongoing project by the Campus Tolerance Foundation. The survey used Facebook to reach out to students. Each

institution reported at least 40 percent—and in some colleges as much as 70 percent—of the students experiencing or witnessing bias incidents.

Finally, best of luck to the granddaughters of Renee Swartz and Carol Scharff, who are applying to Barnard for the Class of 2013.

Joyce Shimkin Usiskin
2 Bellflower Court
Princeton, NJ 08540
732.355.0915
cliveu@aol.com

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Anita Favata McKenna and **Janet Bersin Finke** have written about **Stephanie Horton Cohen**, who died on Aug. 14, 2009, after a long illness. Anita reminds us that during our sophomore year at Barnard, Stephanie was elected social chair of our class, and was our social arbiter from then on. Stephanie worked in the fashion world until her father died and she took over his travel company. She built the business and was active until her illness confined her to her home, where she was cared for by her husband, Larry. Janet writes that she and Stephanie were friends as undergraduates and goes on to say that they spent many hours together planning events and sharing thoughts. They traveled together in Europe for nine weeks and were still friends afterwards. Janet says, "Stephanie knew many people and attracted more ... it was always entertaining to be with her."

Carmen del Pilar Lancellotti and her husband, Bill, welcomed a new grandchild. Their daughter and her husband adopted a little boy in January. They are thrilled; they see him and read to him in Spanish as often as they can.

Barbara Florio Graham has expanded the book publishing options on her Web site, simonteakettle.com, with more comprehensive descriptions and links to additional information.

Joan Cobb writes, "On savethewhales.org you can view two of my songs on the CD *Songs to Heal Our Planet*. Also, my Web site,

deltawavepress.com, has the songbook for sale. The CD is great for kids, as they can learn how to care for the environment. I'm now living in Monterey, Calif., teaching piano and writing my fifth musical. I love to garden and listen to my grandson, 13, play the violin."

Gail Haskel Ruderman lives in the Pennington, N.J., area, is recently widowed, and would love to connect with classmates. She's the executive director of the Bringing the Outside World Inside Foundation, which supplies computers to children's hospitals. For more than 30 years she owned a large travel organization and did a lot of traveling.

Alessandra Comini, who retired in 2005 after 41 years of teaching (both at Columbia and Southern Methodist University), is still writing and lecturing. In 2007 she lectured on Mahler and Sibelius for the London Existential Psychotherapy Society. Last summer, her book *The Changing Image of Beethoven: A Study in Mythmaking* was reprinted in paperback with a new preface. She expects new editions of *Gustav Klimt* and *Egon Schiele* to appear later this year. She still plays the flute and recently played duets with **Isabelle Emerson**. In November, to celebrate her 75th birthday, Alessandra took a cruise to Antarctica.

On Oct. 15, 2009, about 20 classmates gathered at the Vagelos Alumnae Center for a mini-reunion. This was the first of many being planned by our class committee as we look ahead to our 55th reunion, June 2–5, 2011.

Ruth Young
215 Canton Avenue
Winter Park, FL 32789
407.325.2708
davidandruthie@aol.com

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Mary Lee Lambert says she hasn't been a very devoted alumna, but she remembers many fine teachers. "I've had a very good life, except for the tragic death of our 20-year-old son from brain cancer. I've been happily married to a wonderful man for 54 years and involved in much volunteer work. At present, the

most fun is helping potential volunteers find rewarding jobs at the Volunteer Referral Center, usually a very upbeat occupation." Mary has three children and three grandchildren.

Natalie Dickman Kutner's daughter, Lynn, and son-in-law, Dan, had a baby, Max, on Sept. 4, 2009. Natalie says, "We are enjoying the second round of grandparenting. Unfortunately much of the summer involved recovery from eye surgery, which is going well."

Joann Stern Kobin writes from Northampton, Mass., that she returned from a "wonderful trip to Italy—Venice and Sicily—with perfect weather. In Venice I was a speaker in a series about Jewish writers and modern American culture sponsored by the University of Venice and other multicultural groups. A short story of mine is included in the fall issue of the *Antioch Review*."

It is our melancholy duty to report the loss of classmates. Peter Martin writes to us about his wife, **Sylvia Schneider Martin**, who "died on Aug. 19, 2009, after a long illness. She loved nature, family, and truth." We offer our condolences to him and their two children.

Millicent Alter
172 West 79th Street, Apt. 7E
New York, NY 10024-6402
walkietalkie@alum.barnard.edu

Judith Jaffe Baum
150 West 96th Street
New York, NY 10025-6469
jbauminfo@aol.com

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Carol Herman Cohen, our class fund chair, attended Leadership Assembly in October 2009, and writes: "As chair of the Barnard Fund Committee I attended the fund-raisers' dinner. Our agenda allowed for spirited and focused table discussions on set topics. The Barnard Reunion Giving program, a new initiative, serves to maximize participation and encourage leadership giving in reunion years. Alumnae will be asked to make a five-year pledge—that's one call and one reminder per year for five years. It will allow fund-raisers time to

concentrate on classmates who need more cultivation and convincing about giving to Barnard. Despite the difficult economic climate, we concluded that there are positive ways to engage classmates who think they can't make a gift or think that a small gift won't count. I was impressed with the imaginative ideas and positive solutions that each table presented at the end of the evening." If any '59ers would take on the role of co-fund chair, please get in touch with Carol at chcohen59@hotmail.com.

Studying the Truth Vivian Gruder '57

History called and Vivian Gruder answered. First came her book *The Royal Provincial Intendants: A Governing Elite in Eighteenth-Century France* (Cornell University Press, 1968), and later—with numerous articles in between—*The Notables and the Nation: The Political Schooling of the French, 1787–1788*, published in 2007 by Harvard University Press.



"It's been fascinating," Gruder '57 recalls. "Apart from reading what I had to for my projects, I read about abrasives for cleaning teeth, poems by aristocratic ladies, swimming lessons in the Seine, and promotion of potato bread [important because many people in that era believed potatoes were poisonous]." Retired in 2002 after more than 40 years of teaching modern European and French history at Queens College and elsewhere, her detailed research into late eighteenth-century French newspapers, pamphlets, newsletters, songs, and other materials has garnered admiring reviews. Scholars commenting on her latest book have praised the evidence she has marshaled to show how the French reading public became involved in the opposition movement that eventually led to revolution.

Bronx-native Gruder, who majored in history at Barnard and holds a PhD from Harvard, says she was first drawn to the field while typing papers for her brother. She was also drawn to law—but made her decision after detecting a mistake in a talk given during her senior year by the head of the women's division of the Democratic party. "I decided I wanted to study history in order to study the truth," she says. (Her brother ended up becoming the lawyer.)

Along the way, Gruder's first book won the 1968 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians prize for the best book by a female historian, and she began a transatlantic marriage with Italian historian Carlo Poni of the University of Bologna. Gruder raised their daughter, Gabriella, largely in New York City, spending vacations and sabbaticals with her husband, and filling the time in between with long letters. Today, Gruder and Poni juggle New York and Bologna with Paris, where Gruder spends extended periods on research.

Yet her next project is turning toward Italy. With her own book finished, Gruder is focusing on finding a publisher for English editions of her husband's work, which deals with the silk industry and other topics involving the industrial revolution in Italy. Still, French history and the revolution beckon, and unread novels call. —*Trudy Balch '78*

Susan Schwartz-Giblin also attended and will send me the minutes, which I'll report on in next issue.

Janet Feldman Steig has written that she loved every minute of our 50th reunion! It was a great pleasure to renew old acquaintances and have a chance to chat with some of our remarkable classmates. Her only complaint is that it was over far too quickly. She and her husband, Don, are spending the summer in Vermont (their habit these days) with lots of visits from their children and

grandchildren. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last fall and are planning their next overseas trip, this time to Brunei, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Carol Cohen reports that for our 50th reunion, we raised \$200,337 from 213 donors (71 percent of the class). A plaque to honor us was unveiled in Reunion Courtyard on Oct. 29, 2009. Thank you for your donations.

I am sad to belatedly report the death of **Rochelle Greene Gardiner** on Oct. 31, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Peter, and their son.

*Joan Brown Olesen
3415 Silvergate Drive
Cheyenne, WY 82001
joan@jdoassoc.com*

50th Reunion June 3–June 6, 2010

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Berl Mendelson Hartman encourages us to attend our 50th reunion, June 3–6. Save your airline miles, call your friends, and get ready for a wonderful party!

Muriel Lederman Storrie has stepped down as class correspondent. “Now I have filled a year of retirement,” she writes. Muriel has collaborated with the Clinton Foundation, on behalf of her temple in Little Rock, Ark., on a proposal to the Anne Frank Center USA, in Manhattan. The idea is to plant a sapling from the horse chestnut tree outside the window of Anne Frank’s hiding place in Amsterdam on the grounds of Little Rock’s Clinton Center. “There will be a major installation that will echo a room, the text will commemorate the Holocaust and incidents of bigotry in Arkansas: the Central High School Crisis of 1957, the Trail of Tears, and the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II,” she says. “The tree will be visible through a window, and I will need to shepherd the process, including fund-raising. But it will be spectacular when it is complete.”

Judith Witkin Sandegren sends great photos of her travels in Lapland and the Lofoten Islands of Norway. She writes that these mountainous places were the most beautiful she has ever seen, adding, “The thing is, we couldn’t

just look. Oh no, we had to climb up and down them all!” After comparing notes, Judy and I agreed that tundra hiking is stepping from tussock to “squish” and back again—more difficult than it looks.

Margaret Backman divides her time between New York City and East Hampton, N.Y. Having already published professional writings in psychology, she has now seen her first fiction venture, *Did That Really Happen? Stories in Prose and Verse*, published by Driftwood Press.

Harriet Perlstein Schick passed away on Aug. 8, 2009, after a long struggle with epilepsy and cancer. Her son, Paul Geltman, writes, “She was a proud New Yorker and citizen of the world who lived life courageously and with gusto.” She is survived by two sons and four grandchildren. I recall an afternoon spent with Harriet two years ago, meandering around Boston and ending up in Chinatown, where we sought out the most adventurous food we could find. She was coping with her husband’s death and other problems, but still enjoyed the moment.”

We learned of the death of **Barbara Reimer Levine** on Aug. 9, 2002. No other information is available; if you’d like to share a memory, please send it in.

Emily Fowler Omura writes from Alabama, “As of two months ago, I am completely retired and enjoying so many things in Birmingham that I never could when I was working. I belong to three book clubs, I volunteer for the symphony, the Alabama Ballet, and I’m increasing my time as a docent at the marvelous Birmingham Museum of Art. I also travel to see grandchildren—two in Portland, Ore., and three in New Paltz, N.Y.—so I haven’t started my quilt or begun piano lessons because I don’t have time. My advice to everyone: Enjoy every day and count your blessings! I try to.”

*Susan Goldhor
45B Museum Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-1921
susangoldhor@comcast.net*

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Surya Norma Eisner Green writes,

“Many of you have not heard from me for a while and I have not yet stepped into the world of social networking. Recently I returned to Amsterdam after nearly seven months in the United States helping my mother, now almost 96. Much has happened in this period, including an invitation to speak again in India at the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture in Kolkata, India, in November. You can read about my talks and interests at sunconscious.org/Text/Homepage.html. This message sends my thoughts and best wishes for your well-being.”

Joyce Rosman Brenner writes from Israel where there is a large number of alumnae. She sees **Nancy Chezar Milgram** very often and **Rachel Max**. Joyce is also in touch with Helen Rauch-Elnekave ’63 and several classmates from the Class of 1960: Hadassah Neiman Gurfein, Rachel Friedman Shalev, and Judith Grubart Wigdor-Krausz. “I am still the director of the Wurzweiler School of Social Work block program in Israel,” she writes. “Keeps me nicely busy with social-work professional issues. As long as it’s still fun, I will continue to do it. One of my three daughters lives in Israel with three children; the other two daughters are in the U.S. I am remarried, to a great Dutch guy, and we marvel at our similarities.” Joyce took a wonderful cruise to the North Cape, Norway, and Spitsbergen. It was a pre-70th birthday celebration.

Linda Lopez McAlister writes on Facebook about her theatre activities: “Just finished four days at the Healing Circle about developing a health-promotion radio drama by and for Native Americans. We developed and performed possible pilot scripts. I got a ‘Native Academy Award’ for playing a grandma! Exciting stuff with many impressive folks from all over the country, including the Native Voice 1, Native Voices at the Autry, Arigon Starr, and more.”

Sydney Oren Brandwein visited **Mary Varney Rorty** in the Bay Area.

I have another new grandson whom I visited for a month in Geneva, Switzerland. As usual I had a visit with **Ayda Yegengil Sakbani**, who finally retired from Webster College in Geneva and has been going back and forth to her new home on the Mediterranean coast of Turkey.

In the future we will publish the passing of spouses only when notified directly by the families.

Sherry Hyman Miller
332 Richardson Drive
Mill Valley, CA 94941
sherry@sherryart.com

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The September mini-reunion at Blue Mountain Gallery, where **Cornelia Kubler Kavanagh** talked about her "Arctic Ice Melt" sculptures, was attended by her husband as well as **Angela Carracino DiDomenico, Karen Charal Gross** and her husband, **Sara Ginsburg Marks, Linda Rosenblum Persily, Susan Levinson Pringle, Rita Gabler Rover, Deborah Bersin Rubin, Nancy Brown Schmiderer, Patricia Berko Wild, Nancy Kung Wong, Susan Tiktin Yemin**, and me. Money collected at the gathering was donated to the Class of 1962 Scholarship Fund. Our class president, **Libby Guth Fishman**, suggested that, since many of us will be 70 in 2010, we consider asking our friends and relatives to make contributions to the class scholarship fund in our honor.

Nancy Kung Wong has a house in Purchase, N.Y., but she became a Florida resident in 2008. She and her husband took their children and four grandchildren to China two years ago to introduce them to their cultural heritage. Last summer the Wongs took their family to Paris and London.

Rita Gabler Rover has been growing exhibition chrysanthemums at her home in Northport, N.Y., for more than 20 years. In 2008 she was thrilled to have her cascade-form mum chosen as best container-grown plant in the show at the National Chrysanthemum Society in Baltimore. Rita is a registered dietitian and continues to work part-time as a provider of medical nutrition therapy in her private practice. Her husband, Martin G. Cohen (CC '57), has retired and is now mentoring students as a visiting scholar in the physics department at SUNY, Stony Brook. Her daughter,

Elena Rover Strothenke '88, launched a consulting company, and her son, Ted, opened a real estate office in Miami Beach. Rita has two 5-year-old grandsons who are the joys of her life. With a home on Long Island Sound and an apartment in Manhattan, she's enjoying the rich contrasts in her life.

I'd like to correct a small error. **Karen Kissin Wilkin** writes fairly regularly for the *Wall Street Journal* about major museum exhibitions, as well as for *Art in America*, *The New Criterion*, and *Hudson Review*, among others. She isn't a journalist but a curator, art historian, and art critic. Karen organizes exhibitions and writes about art in periodicals, catalogues, and monographs.

Naomi Albert Gardner attended Barnard's Leadership Assembly last fall and reports that tuition has been raised by only three percent this year; 76 percent of the operating budget coming from parents and students. **Linda Fayne Levinson** is chair of the investment committee, which manages the College's endowment. Naomi met Professor Kitty Kolbert, director of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies, which will be in the forefront of women's leadership education.

Marsha Corn Levine, our reunion co-chair, also attended the Leadership Assembly and got some very good ideas for our 50th reunion: planning activities that identify with the whole woman, not just the Barnard experience; introducing some levity; and suggesting that the College plan intellectual activities. Please let her know if you have any ideas. Remember to send your \$50 for our 50th reunion to Alumnae Affairs so we can refill our class treasury. There is room for new members in our book group, which meets once a month on Tuesday afternoons. Contact me at my new e-mail address if you're interested or if you have ideas for a mini-reunion.

Marcia Stecker Weller
150 West End Avenue, Apt. 5C
New York, NY 10023
212.706.3558
Marcia4815@aol.com

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Phyllis Hearst Hersch has moved. "After 35 years in a beautiful rural setting, I have moved into a continuing-care retirement community. (My husband has early-stage Alzheimer's disease.) I may be the youngest person here—but eventually I'll 'grow old along with thee.' Lots of nice people, lots of activities, and close enough to my former life that I can keep in touch," she writes. "Anyone else making this kind of move?"

Dale Freed Sonnenberg writes from Austin, Texas, where she continues her clinical social work practice part-time with a focus on marriage counseling. She connected with **Lucy Friedenson Shahar** and **Carol Rosenthal Wexler** on a recent trip to Israel. They both live in the Tel Aviv area. Dale recently lent her home for an alumnae gathering.

It was just like old times when **Francine (Frankie) Stein, Sheila Gordon**, and I went shopping over Labor Day, substituting the main street of Lenox, Mass., for Broadway. Sheila continues to build Interfaith Community, an organization that provides education, support, and other programs for Jewish-Christian families in many locations. Her husband, Robin Elliott, is leading the Parkinson's Disease Foundation. Sheila's younger daughter, Caroline, a writer, lives in Los Angeles where she and her husband, a video editor, navigate the entertainment business. Her daughter Janna, a doctor, lives in New York City where she is thriving as chief resident of psychiatry at New York Hospital.

After a successful run of seven books, **Camilla Trinchieri** retired Simona Griffo, the intrepid advertising executive of her mystery books, and published the novel *The Price of Silence*. She has completed a new novel, *Finding Alice*, which was published in Italy in January. She hopes it will soon come out in the States. The book is based on events in her mother's life leading up to World War II in Europe. Camilla is also painting, finding it satisfying to express herself on canvas and complete her work without spending years doing research. She has also developed a passion for cooking.

Alice Miller Weiss graduated in January with a master's in poetry from the low-residency program at New England College in Henniker, N.H. Every February her whole family spends a week in a mansion on the beach on Turks and Caicos Islands.

Twyla Tharp's new musical, *Come Fly With Me*, opened in Atlanta on Sept. 23. Conceived, directed, and choreographed by Twyla, the musical features original masters of Sinatra's voice. The dance-musical "follows four couples over the course of one night falling in and out of love." The producers plan to tour the show with a possible Broadway run.

Rhoda Greenberg-Davis
ronandrhoda@nc.rr.com

Phyllis Hearst Hersch
prhersch@gmail.com

Susan Robbins Stern
strnjcb@aol.com

Alice Miller Weiss
amjweiss@alum.barnard.edu

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Last fall our class, along with the Class of 1959, had the honor of being one of two to earn a plaque in the Reunion Courtyard. It was our third, one for every milestone reunion year we've had since plaques began being awarded in 1993. Our total this year was \$234,430, with a 49 percent participation rate, which was achieved when an anonymous donor offered, just before our class dinner, \$100 for each new person's gift, bringing our participation rate from 31 percent to 49. This rate is a significant achievement, though at 71 percent 1959's is higher, but we seem to be gaining an understanding that participation is as important as the amount. Ceremony attendees included **Helen Bernstein Berman, Diane Fabiny Byrd, Reeva Starkman Mager, Jean Murphy, Shoshanna Sofaer**, and fund chairs **Judith Lefkowitz Marcus** and **Tamra Cohen Stoller**.

Already the author of several books

on law, **Miriam Kurtzig Freedman** has published *Fixing Special Education—12 Steps to Transform a Broken System*.

Sadly, **Joan Zimmerman Purow's** death was announced in May. She is survived by her husband, children, and grandchildren. She was also related to Jennifer Purow Sokol '96.

Still living in Berkeley and dismayed by California's financial situation, **Eleanore R. Lee** plans to join an effort to revise the state's constitution so budget and revenue changes can be passed by a simple majority, rather than the two-thirds required now. She has published poetry and short stories and is looking for an agent for her novel. Eleanore is in the interesting situation of having a granddaughter who is starting college as a first-year and a daughter who is finishing college.

I, **Andrea Machlin Rosenthal**, announce that since publishing my book, *Stations of the Scale: A Photographic Memoir About Food and Suffering*, and coming out of the pantry, so to speak, I've had no trouble sticking to a diet. There's a lesson here somewhere.

Andrea Machlin Rosenthal
202 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02116
Andrea@AndreaRosenthal.com

45th Reunion June 3 – June 6, 2010

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A number of our classmates are in poor health or facing surgery or chemotherapy. To those facing these difficulties, we send our best wishes and prayers for health and strength. We hope to see you at Reunion in June.

Let us know what you'd like us to plan for our 45th. We want our reunion to be a relaxed time for sharing and celebrating together, in the spirit of the Sixties (both senses of the words).

Speaking of which, **Marjorie Rosenblum Scandizzo** is enjoying her first grandchild, who lives about 25 minutes from her home in California. Her favorite pastime is lace-making, which she demonstrates at fairs and festivals, and she's a library volunteer. Marjorie hopes to attend Reunion.

Roberta Holland Donis works full time for her son, a cardiologist in Manhattan. About once a month she finds time to visit her daughter near Lake Placid. Roberta enjoys time with her grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

Cathy Goodwin lives in Seattle with two cats and one dog. She works out at the gym and eats "99 percent healthy." A fan of WNBA basketball, Cathy also goes to the symphony, ballet, and theatre. Last spring she had her first "close encounter of the medical kind" with an ovarian cyst and a torsioned ovary. Fortunately it was outpatient surgery and tests showed her to be "amazingly healthy."

Ann Selgin Levy
82 High Street
Albans, VT 05478-1534
annsl@myfairpoint.net

Elizabeth Farber Bernhardt
924 West End Avenue, Apt. 53
New York, NY 10025-3534
bernhare@yahoo.com

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Log on to alum.barnard.edu to post and read class notes and find out about what's going on in the Barnard community. Two classmates posted messages: **Lauren Seidel Storck** would like to reconnect with you. Those wishing to contact Lauren can find her on the Alumnae Network. **Jane Geller Epstein** and her husband, Jerry, have seen major changes in their lives. Last year, Jerry retired as executive vice president and CEO of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. He had worked there since 1976. They're dividing their time between Boca Raton, Fla., where they have four grandchildren, and Jerusalem, where Jerry has taken a new position. It has been stressful downsizing from a home in which they lived for 31 years to a smaller home in Florida. They purchased an apartment in Jerusalem almost two years ago but it's still in construction. They will be based in Jerusalem about five months of the year. They'll also visit their two older children

n New York City.

In May 2009, **Karen Anderson Holden** entered a new academic stage of life as professor emeritus of public affairs and consumer science at University of Wisconsin, Madison. She was excited about spending more time with her granddaughter and having more time for music. But she ended up spending about 50 percent of her time writing a proposal that took her out of retirement, and now she's a codirector of a financial literacy research center. Her main area of research has been the adequacy of retirement savings. In the last eight years or so, she has been involved in Cajun music as a dancer, a dance instructor, and as a member of the Cajun Strangers (cajunstrangers.com) and of an all-woman Cajun band that she started (prairiebayouband.com).

I found **Esther (Estie) Stoll** on classmates.com; among her interests are walking, documentaries, and cats.

I'm saddened to report two deaths. **Carol Sheppard Camerini-Otero** died on Aug. 10, 2009. *The Washington Post* reports that Carol received a bachelor's in zoology from Barnard and a medical degree from New York University. She was a pediatrician who conducted research for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. She died of multiple organ failure. Carol is survived by two children, her father, her brother, and two grandchildren.

Melantha Cleveland died on Dec. 6, 2008. She was a talented writer, songwriter, and singer. *The Cape Codder* reports that she taught writing at George Mason University and James Madison University in Virginia. Under her married name, Anne C. Kalicki, she wrote a series of "Capeward" columns. I listened to some of her songs online; I thought were very beautiful and moving. *The New York Times* reports that her father, Harlan Cleveland, died in May 2008. He had been ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and was a distant relative of two presidents, Grover Cleveland and Martin Van Buren.

Louise Sobin Hersh
92 Club Drive
Roslyn Heights, NY 11577
516.621.3289
louisesobin@alum.barnard.edu

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After earning her bachelor's in Russian studies, **Judith Devons** pursued a career in journalism for 20 years, specializing in art and social history, first in New York and then in London. She juggled her career while raising three sons, in the later years as a single parent. About 12 years ago, she started a new marriage in a new city with a new degree in fine arts. She's now a freelance artist making, exhibiting, and teaching ceramics and printmaking to people of all ages and abilities. She lives in Leicester, the first city in Britain with more than half its population from minority cultures and, for the first time in her life, lives in a large house with lots of studio space. She's able to do volunteer work and spend time reconnecting with friends. Judith would like the next stage of her life to be more minimalist, perhaps divided between Israel and London, pursuing collective art projects. She's always interested in art projects that she can engage with in New York, where she regularly visits family.

Sheila Tocman Frankel is associate director of the R.M. Parsons Laboratory for Water Resources and Environmental Engineering Science, part of the civil and environmental department at MIT. She teaches a course in aquatic chemistry and directs a term program for students to get experience doing research in the field. The majority of the research trips have been conducted in a national park on Hawaii. She has two adult children and her husband is a scientist at MIT's Lincoln Labs.

Abby Joan Pariser works at the Huntington, Long Island, Interfaith Homeless Initiative, which provides overnight shelter and meals for four winter months, seven nights a week, in rotation at eight houses of worship. Her work as a volunteer is multifaceted: chaperoning, cooking, English as a second language, fundraising, and literacy. She's also involved with its social-justice committee, which educates about and advocates for reform of immigration laws. Her husband, Peter Gollon (CC '63), chairs the Suffolk ACLU and recently took over the Sierra Club Long Island's energy

alternatives work. Her son, David, lives in Burlington, Vt., where he runs Vermont Stone, his stone hardscaping business. Her daughter, Katie, who went to Skidmore, teaches preschool in West Greenwich, R.I. Abby's 89-year-old mom, Sylvia, continues to attend classes at the Boca Raton Jewish Community Center.

Cathy Feola Weisbrod
203 Allston Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-3917
617.876.0284
Catherine.Weisbrod@opm.gov

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Laura Gore Ross has been nominated by President Obama to serve as an alternate representative of the United States to the 64th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Laura, an attorney, has a long history of involvement in politics at the local and national levels. She's on the board of directors of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City and is a member of Senator Charles E. Schumer's judicial screening panel, and has worked as chief of staff for the State of New York Attorney General's office and as chief counsel for New York State Senator Roy Goodman. She also served as the national finance chair of the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee.

I received an e-mail from **Lois Schwartzberg Goodman** updating us on her busy life. She's a gynecologist in Weston, Mass., and is associated with Newton-Wellesley Hospital, where she had the distinction of being the first full-time female ob-gyn. Her husband, John Goodman, is a psychiatrist. They've been married since 1972 and have two adult daughters, both married and living in NYC. One is a documentary film producer and a teacher at The New School; the other is a resident in psychiatry at Columbia-Presbyterian. Lois recently became a grandmother; little Jesse was born in June 2009. As part of the Wellesley Players, Lois recently appeared as the Wicked Witch in a musical version of *Hansel and Gretel*. Sadly, she has had to give up dancing because of orthopedic

problems, which she blames, ironically, on her dancing. Lois adds that she'd love to reunite with college friends when she's in New York: "I have many fond memories of my Barnard days, as well as our revolutionary adventures in the spring of our senior year."

My co-correspondent, **Abby Sommer Kurnit**, participated in the National Chemistry Week activities of the New York chapter of the American Chemical Society, which holds an annual "lab-a-thon" at the Queens Hall of Science, where schools and companies present experiments that kids can do. Abby enjoyed talking with the Barnard students who participated and telling them what the College was like in our day. Kind of like talking to an early feminist about Seneca Falls.

We received a copy of an article in Crain's *Small Business Newsletter* about **Lida A. Orzeck's** company, Hanky Panky. The company is preparing to sell merchandise on its new Web site in addition to retail establishments. Best of luck with e-commerce to Lida, and thank you to **Linda Rosen Garfunkel** for sending me a copy of the article. —JSF

Jerilyn Seife Famighetti
425 East 79th Street, Apt. 2G
New York, NY 10021
jeri68@alum.barnard.edu

Abby Sommer Kurnit
85 Stratford Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605-2403
akurnit@alum.barnard.edu

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Cecelia Ward Riddett was Diane Keaton's stand-in on a movie called *Morning Glory* last summer. The gig "helped pay for my month-long trip to Vienna in August, where I studied German at the University of Vienna." Cecelia worked her fifth year as an usher at the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows. She volunteers at the New York-Historical Society and for Open House New York. "Several classmates generously contributed to my participation in the Revlon Run/Walk for Cancer," she says. "It was my 10th year."

She traveled to Barcelona in the spring and was in the U.K. for Thanksgiving. "My biggest passions are acting and traveling and I am happily pursuing both. I hope one day I'll make it to Mali to meet Fanta, the 11-year-old child I sponsor through Save the Children."

Francine Johanson Butler retired as professor emeritus, economics, from Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa, in 2008, after 28 years teaching economics and quantitative methods. But she quickly tired of gardening and now she's teaching international business and economics at the local community college. She's the "proud grandmother of 8-year-old Preston and 3-year-old Riona."

Seana Eileen Anderson and her wife, Kit, built a house in Brooklyn, where they live with Seana's daughter, Tamia, Tamia's husband, and their two children. Seana's parents, Paul and Barbara, 90 and 87, recently moved from Melrose, Mass., into a nursing home and celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. Executive director of the American Trust for the British Library, Seana now has National Museums Scotland as a new fund-raising client.

After returning home to Copenhagen from Reunion in June, **Martha Gaber Abrahamsen** packed up again and headed for England. Her translation of a major book on Danish architect/designer P.V. Jensen-Klint, *The Headstrong Master Builder*, was presented at a lecture and reception at the Royal Danish Embassy in London. "When the festivities were over, my son, Povl, and I headed back to Cambridge, where he still works as a physical oceanographer at British Antarctic Survey," Martha writes. "Work aside, I'm still very active in my rowing club. Our official season has just ended, but if we're lucky, the weather will be mild and calm until it gets really cold, and we can still row on sunny afternoons. Gym classes have started at the club to keep us in shape. What a great way to be active and sociable at the same time."

Anne Rosen Noran, a psychotherapist in private practice in New York since 1978, earned her doctorate in social welfare in 1998. Her husband, Charles, was a New York City fire lieutenant until his retirement after being injured in the first World Trade

Center bombing. She invites you to visit her Web sites, makeaprayer.com and hypnoticimages.com.

Rosalyn Tabachnik Schneid, who has lived in Israel for 39 years, has eight children and 24 grandchildren (between 11 years and 2 weeks old). She taught English to high school girls for 32 years and is now teaching high school boys. After living in Gush Katif for 27 years, her family moved to the Golan Heights. Her husband, a rabbi, farmed for 27 years, but since the "disengagement" has spent "his time reading, doing things for the house, and studying Torah and Jewish religious subjects," she writes. Although they used to go to the States once a year, they haven't traveled since Rosalyn's mother passed away two years ago. "We've been trying to find a bit of stability. Hopefully once we are in our (finally) permanent home, we will be able to think of traveling, entertainment, etc."

Daphne Fodor Philipson writes that she, **Linda Krakower Greene**, and **Susan J. Spelman** attended Barnard's Leadership Assembly on Oct. 8 and 9. Daphne held a mini-reunion the next evening in her Manhattan apartment. **Monique Raphel High**, our class president, who lives in Beverly Hills, Calif., and is completing her latest novel, was absent only because of health issues, but there in spirit, along with your correspondent and **Juanita Y. Benjamin**, who moved to Orlando, Fla., last summer. In addition to Linda and Susie, in attendance were **Susan Alpert, Judy Gould Cavalier, Nicole Marchal Dintenfass, Margaret (Peggy) Elwert, Susan Gould, Carol Stevenson Harlow, Karen Vexler Hartman, Frances G. Hoenigswald, Kathy Vogel McNally, Delores E. Moss, Aigli Papantonopoulou-Burgess, Carol Polis Pearson, Carol Krongold Silberstein, LaVergne Trawick, and Ellen Yamasaki Williams**. "There was lots of lively discussion and a general consensus that mini-reunions are a good idea. Waiting for five years to get together is far too long. Hopefully next year we will have even more participants," writes Daphne.

Laura Stewart
810 West Howry Avenue
DeLand, FL 32720-5287

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Reunion planning is well under way. Several respondents to the e-mail blast requesting news mentioned that they were looking forward to attending.

Alice Sturgis Feinstein's book, *NutriCures: Foods & Supplements That Work With Your Body to Relieve Symptoms and Speed Healing*, is being published by Rodale. "After editing health books for years, it's so good to get back into the writing side of publishing," she writes. She and her husband, Philip, enjoy life in the foothills of the Colorado Rockies.

Joan L. Pantsios joined the board of Teatro Vista: Theatre with a View, an Equity company committed to sharing Latino culture with Chicago theatre audiences. She and her fellow board members were very excited about their fall 2009 production with Chicago's Victory Gardens Theater—Kristoffer Diaz' *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, which received rave reviews.

Rebecca J. Cook writes that the book she coauthored with Simone Cusack, *Gender Stereotyping: Transnational Legal Perspectives*, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in December.

Gail Wolff Smith and her husband are grateful to have retired from banking before the recent financial market debacles. She writes that they "now just sit on the sidelines watching our retirement assets ebb and flow but without having to work in the chaotic banking field." She enjoys the time to relax with her husband and to engage in activities just for fun. Gail has volunteered for years in the textile department of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. With friends from their temple, she has been studying Jewish Kabbalah and other mystical practices, and slowly learning Hebrew. She swims daily ("quite an achievement," since, to the best of her knowledge, she's the only '70 graduate who never passed the swimming test). Her 2004 bout with

breast cancer put life in perspective, and this year marked the publication of a spiritual guidebook for Jewish women with cancer, sponsored by Mayyim Hayyim, the progressive mikveh (spiritual Jewish bath) in Newton, Mass. Gail was one of a group of former patients and cancer professionals who worked on this project for many months.

Anne Winters-Bishop has been named CEO of the YWCA-NYC.

Last September, **Carol-Grace Toussie Weingarten** was inducted into the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education.

In September, the children's Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia made **Laura H. Foster** its next president and chief executive officer. Laura has been with the museum since 1991 and had been serving as executive director.

Almost 40 years after we graduated, **Dorothy Urman Denburg** is still at Barnard, enjoying her work as dean of the College. She had a wonderful time teaching one of Barnard's "Reacting to the Past" seminars for the first time during the fall semester. According to Dorothy, "The pedagogy is exciting and it is fun for me to [interact] with our students in the classroom after many years; they are smart and engaged and keep me on my toes." Her husband, Howard, is taking advantage of his retirement to audit classes at Barnard and Columbia. They're enraptured by their 3-year-old grandson, who lives with his parents in Philadelphia. Their oldest daughter, Michelle, is a fellow in pediatric nephrology at Children's Hospital there. Their youngest daughter, Abigail, is a sophomore at Penn. Their middle daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Jake, live in Brooklyn; she's in education and he's a Web editor at the *New York Daily News*.

Audrey Gale Prager
43 Winchester Road
Newton, MA 02458-1909
617.965.4081
aprager@hotmail.com

Eileen McCorry
35 West 81st Street, Apt. 2E
New York, NY 10024-6045
212.580.3146
emccorry@nyc.rr.com

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Our 60th Birthday Bash on Nov. 7, 2009, was a success. A small group gathered at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. At cocktail hour, 34 of us circulated, introducing or reintroducing ourselves and trying to catch up. Dinner passed quickly with discussions and laughter. We moved on to our champagne toast and a now traditional group sharing session. Our comments about turning 60 centered on themes of self-acceptance, reconciliation, and rebirth. The names of classmates who have passed away were mentioned by those who knew them. Over a chocolate cake with candles burning "CELEBRATE 60," we sang "Happy Birthday to Us!" **Ruah Donnelly** spoke about research that scientifically measures those things in life that are essential for happiness, such as love and zest for life. **Katherine Jessop Brewster** concluded that regardless of whether or not we feel like we've accomplished what we intended thus far in life, the best is yet to come.

Besides Ruah and Katherine, classmates present included **Patricia Auspos, Barbara Ballinger, Elizabeth Bernick, Constance Brown, Lee Canossa, Melinda Sherer Chau, Catherine Bilzor Cretu, Mary Gorayeb Friberg, Ruth Garfield, Joy Horner Greenberg, Loren Wissner Greene, Linda Parnes Kahn, Ruth Katz, Madeleine Kitaj, Susan D'Andrea Lee, Carolyn Lewis, Jocelyn Linnekin, Lily Soohoo Louie, Linda Elovitz Marshall, Winifred Montuori, Laura Siegel Nagler, Michelle Patrick, Gail Perlick, Carla Wengren Ricci, Joyce Pollack Rocklin, Julia Hong Sabella, Adrienne Schure, Barbara Shear, Wendy Lobo Sowala, Renee Russian Taketomo, Eleanor Wagner, and Ina May Wool**. If I missed your name let me know, and please accept my apologies.

Unable to attend and sending best wishes: **Annette Adams, Sherrie Bayer, Bettina Berch, Frances Garrett Connell, Sandra Willner Horowitz, Christine Jaronski, Mary Lane, Ellen Falek Leonard, Alicia Pedraza Mansfield, Christine McDonnell, Andrea**

Polk-Stephenson, Melissa Riley,
Seddon Reed Savage '73, **Vikki Stark,**
Margaret Fahey Wallace, Cheryl
Weiner, and **Elizabeth Westcott.**

Cheryl was sorry she couldn't make it and wrote, "I have been unemployed for a year ... and ... wouldn't wish [my 60th year] on anyone! As a person with an MA, PhD, rabbinic ordination, outstanding references, and a résumé that has many achievements, I wonder about all of the other lost souls who cannot find work. Luckily, I am reasonably healthy and thus count my blessings." Mary was unable to travel from California, "particularly with a high-school senior visiting colleges and doing applications." "Turning 60 really hit me hard," writes Christine J., "and it's nice to know there's support and understanding out there." Bettina, who lives near campus, had a speaking engagement in Washington on the Polish writer Anzia Yezierska, the subject of her latest biography. Annette wished us "a fun birthday bash" from Washington, D.C., where she was at home recovering from a cold. Seddon, who started with our class and always thought of herself as a '71er, didn't learn of the party in time to join us. Alicia hoped to tie in our celebration with a stateside visit from Hong Kong to see her mother and sister in Michigan, but wasn't able to work it out. Andrea joked that she had "not yet reached that magic number, but with four little grandchildren I'm not far behind. I will not be able to make the date, but wish you to party hard for us all." We'll post pictures, courtesy of Lily's affable and obliging husband, Arthur, on the new Alumnae Network class page. Thank you to Susannah Goldstein '02, manager of Alumnae Affairs, and our student assistant, Emily. Hats off as well to our catering staff.

Linda Elovitz Marshall has signed contracts for two new books. In August she welcomed her eighth grandchild.

Rose Spitz Fife coedited and wrote chapters for *The American College of Physicians Handbook of Women's Health*.

Catherine Bilzor Cretu
11489 Chew's Branch Road
Owings, MD 20736
301.855.7291
ccretu@anacondapress.com

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Our class has been in the forefront of pushing for an improved Alumnae Network site. So please use it to keep everyone in your "loop." Activate your account at alum.barnard.edu. Once you've completed the new log-in procedure, go to "My Groups" and hit "The Class of 1972." This is where you'll find our class notes, photos, and information on events. Please be sure to fill in your profile information. The information from the previous alumnae directory is no longer available.

We didn't catch sight of any ghosts at our mini-reunion on the evening of Oct. 5, 2009, but we had a wonderful time. About 25 classmates and guests gathered at **Joan Spivak's** home in New York, which, legend has it, is haunted by three ghosts. The house was built in 1882 and secretly sits behind an apartment building in New York's theatre district, overlooking a lovely courtyard and rooftop flower garden. The table was loaded with delectable hors d'oeuvres, and the drinks were amiably served by a student from the Barnard Bartending Agency. Not only did we catch up with classmates we knew, we were able to get to know classmates we had not previously met. Those who attended included **Verity Bostick, Katie Cangelosi, Catherine Cline, Evelyn Ehrlich, Marcia Eisenberg, Stephanie Fins, Shoko Moriwaki Iwata, Gloria Karsten, Nancy Klaus, Jane Ficocella Lane, Cheryl Foa Pecorella, Carole Hamburg Poole, Vicki Rosenberg, Frances Sadler, Suzanne Levinson Samelson, Sally Brender Seymour, Ronda Small, Ruth Steinberg, Marjorie Stone, Jan Vinokour,** and Joan. Thank you to Joan, Katie, and Jan for organizing this.

In other news: **Jennifer Bremer** writes that the American University in Cairo is launching a School of Public Affairs and she'll be the first chair of the department of public policy and administration, which is an upgrade from a unit in the business school, and joining law and journalism. She's the first and, so far, only AUC faculty member to live on campus. The campus is beautiful, and, since she hated the bus, Jennifer

has moved into a small but very nice apartment on campus.

Ruth Steinberg writes: "I am about to celebrate the first anniversary of retiring from the practice of medicine. Thanks to the insurance industry, that practice had changed drastically from the time I had entered the profession. I've been busy since my retirement, enjoying going to the opera, traveling, and working to get Obama elected. Now I am writing my representatives trying to make my voice heard in getting full, quality health care for all Americans."

Marcia Eisenberg
302 West 86th Street, Apt. 8A
New York, NY 10024-3154
aefamily@gmail.com

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After receiving a MSED from Bank Street College of Education, **Jessica Kaplan** moved to Rye, N.Y., where she taught third grade. She now teaches fifth-grade language arts at Rye Country Day School, where she has worked for about 35 years. She has also taught sixth-grade humanities, sixth- and seventh-grade language arts, English as a second language, and resource. "I now sit on the middle school admissions committee. I am also a potter working out of my own studio and the Westchester Art Workshop, and recently showed my work at the Flat Iron Gallery in Peekskill, N.Y. I have been married for 35 years to Mark Fowler (CU Law '85) and have three sons, two of whom graduated from Tufts University and one who is a junior at Brandeis." Jessica is close with **Amy Schein Kondo** and **Margaret (Peggy) Sulerzyski Jensen.**

Madeleine (Maddie) Brody Krug teaches English to high school juniors and seniors and advises the literary magazine at Flint Hill School, an independent school in northern Virginia. Her husband, Andy, teaches physics and calculus there. "We love working together. We have two children and four grandchildren and, even though they are far away (Chicago and Boston), we try to see them as often as possible.... As a teacher of seniors, I am directing all the

great ones to Barnard and hope to have a few for the College this year."

Molly Pollak and her husband, Philip Gassel (CU Law '72) celebrated the 40th anniversary of the day they met, during her first week at Barnard. Molly loves being grandmother to Claire Dorothy, born on June 2, 2009, to her eldest daughter, Miriam. "I am in my fifth year teaching at SAR, a Jewish high school in Riverdale. This is my 35th year in the classroom," she writes.

Four years ago, **Marian Sabety** launched a social media company that provides mid-tier companies with turnkey Web-based interactive advertising programs. "We are now growing our shop on a bicoastal basis," she writes. "This venture follows about 25 years in various senior positions in telecommunications companies (what was I thinking?). I live in Washington, D.C., with family close by."

Alice Lombardo Maher writes, "I've been a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst for, well, way too long. Over the past decade I've been working to discover ways to use psychoanalytic principles and methodologies in the sociopolitical and educational arenas, and I'm delighted that my hard work is finally beginning to catalyze real change. On my Web site, changingourconsciousness.org, you can read about our anti-stigma documentary, *How to Touch a Hot Stove*, being filmed on the campus of Montclair State University; our emotional literacy curriculum being designed by the Princeton Center for Leadership Training; and the dialogue forums that bring together people with different world views willing to examine the difficulties in the development of empathy, communication, conflict resolution, and forward movement. I also have two wonderful sons. Jimmy is a photographer and Web designer, and Bobby is a senior at the University of Wisconsin, Madison."

We regret to report the death of **Zemoria Rosemond** in September. She is survived by her partner and her daughter. —JR

Jessica Raimi
6 Varick Street, Apt. 7A
New York, NY 10013
jraimi@earthlink.net

Judi Hasson
6203 Loch Raven Drive
McLean, VA 22101
judihasson@gmail.com

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Sara Brotman Angstreich was inspired to write in, after reading the notes of her former roommate **Sarrae Crane**. Sara and her husband, Aharon, married after graduation and moved to Israel. They live in Jerusalem, where she has been teaching English for 33 years at the Evelina de Rothschild Municipal Religious High School for Girls. She's now English coordinator at the school, which, she says, having been founded 146 years ago, is the oldest educational institution for women in the Middle East. Two years ago, Sara received an award from the Jerusalem municipality for her achievements as a teacher. Sara and Aharon have three children: Yehudit is doing national service in a kindergarten, Devora is about to start studying gold and silver crafting, and Netanel is studying in a yeshiva in Elon Moreh.

After Columbia Journalism School, **Jane Leavy** became a sportswriter instead of the Renaissance scholar she had originally imagined. After 12 years at *The Washington Post*, she quit to write at home. Jane has written a comic baseball novel, *Squeeze Play*, and a biography of Sandy Koufax, and her bio of Mickey Mantle will be published in April. Jane's husband, Peter, a litigator at Weil, Gotschal and Manges in Washington, D.C., still plays the piano a great deal. Their daughter is a junior at Skidmore, and their son is an electrician.

Haratia J. Pitts Trahan and her husband, Claude Trahan, have two daughters: Arenah, 27, is a special-education teacher, and Claudia, 21, is a recent graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. After Barnard, Haratia intended to teach in New York City public schools and pursue a master's in education. Thwarted by a hiring freeze of the mid '70s, she fell back on her background as an economics major and is now a senior insurance lines specialist. Demonstrating that it's never too late to follow one's dreams, Haratia

hopes to act as a volunteer in the New York City public schools after retirement.

Linda Bernstein has a PhD in English from Columbia. Her dissertation was on Middle English romance. She taught at Queens College for a few years, became a magazine writer, then a magazine editor, then a "work-life specialist at a think tank, and then a consultant for various nonprofits," and finally, a consultant for first-years at CUNY. Now between jobs, Linda's considering completing all the books and novels on her computer. She and her husband, Howard Ruttenberg, PhD, a philosophy professor, have two children: Raphael, who graduated from Vassar in 2005, and Arel, who graduated from Tufts in 2008. Both are students at Brooklyn Law School.

Catherine Blank Mermelstein
8 Patriot Court
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-3235
mermelspot@aol.com

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Annamaria Yordan Wallen was on campus in September with her husband, Bob (CC '74), to bring their daughter, Emily, for her junior year. Emily, who appeared in last year's varsity show, is a theatre major who had a summer job as a waitress/performer in a beach theatre. They live in Stroudsburg, Pa., where Annamaria teaches high-school English.

Eileen O'Neill was also on campus, honored this fall by the Barnard Center for Research on Women with a two-day conference on her work, examining the history of philosophy from a feminist perspective. She teaches at the University of Massachusetts.

Providing an example for all of you to follow, **Eve Szabo Thaler** writes for the first time this millennium. She lives in Fairlawn, N.J., working as a clinical supervisor specializing in Asperger's and anxiety disorders, and also has a private practice. Eve's youngest child is a graduate of Stern College, was recently married, and now is in social work school; her son is a recent Queens College graduate; and her eldest

daughter is an editor in Manhattan. Eve is in touch with **Abbe J. Marcus-Rand**, a psychologist in Larchmont, and **Gail Auster**, an anesthesiologist in New Jersey. She hopes to get in touch with Penny Liberatos '74.

I'm in close touch with Diana Touliatou Vagelos '55 and her husband, Roy. The new Diana Center on campus, for which they provided a great deal of funding, is named after her. To those of you who share my feelings about contextual architecture on historic campuses, I wish to report that the building is a beautiful and graceful addition to the campus.

Diana Muir Appelbaum
39 Claremont Avenue, Apt. 24
New York, NY 10027
dianamuir@aol.com

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I must report the passing of **Karen Schroder March**. Details are sparse. She is survived by her husband, Frank, her mother, and two stepchildren.

Rise Friedman has been married to Bob Levine (C Eng. '75) for 32 years. She has been employed by the Xerox Corp., in Rochester, N.Y., also for 32 years—what must be a record in corporate longevity. Bob has been working for Eastman Kodak since they moved to my former (and one of my favorite) stomping grounds in upstate New York. Their three children are doing well: Lauren finished her PhD in biochemistry at Penn State and is an assistant professor at a small university in Pennsylvania; Ally earned her law degree from the University of Buffalo and is clerking for the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany; and David graduated from Johnson and Wales University and is a chef and entrepreneur. In between, the family lived in Japan for three years. Rise also reports her midlife crisis (*excuse me, we're too young for midlife crises*) led her to athletic pursuits, including running her first marathon at age 50. Since then, she completed three full marathons and a host of Olympic triathalons and half-marathons. "Balance in life is an elusive goal and I hope I have

provided a role model for my children that no matter what you do, family is your core," Rise writes.

After double-majoring in biology and religion at Barnard, **Jeanine Barone** received a master's from Columbia in nutrition and exercise physiology. She has freelanced for major health- and-lifestyle magazines, writing about fitness, diet, nutrition, health, and medicine. She's the nutrition and exercise editor for the *Berkeley Wellness Letter* from the University of California Berkeley School of Public Health. She's written and coauthored several diet and nutrition books, published scientific papers, and appeared on *Late Night With David Letterman*, CNN's morning news, and *Good Morning America*. Jeanine is also a long-distance cyclist, a hiker, and a Nordic skier, and a vegetarian. For the past 10 years, she's been a travel, food, design, and architecture writer with articles appearing in a wide range of publications. She travels about three months a year searching off-the-beaten-track locales. Jeanine has also written two feature-length screenplays and is designing a fashion collection for traveling women, and she invented two travel-related products that she's patenting. OK, I had to ask what she does in her spare time. Her response? "I design jewelry, take photographs, teach English as a volunteer, and take classes in landscape design. That's about it."

Robin Greene Hagey
3331 Monte Carlo Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
805.241.4488
robinhagey@yahoo.com

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Since it's a new year, I'll start off with news about myself. My days are now filled with new babies, new doctors, and Mickey Mouse. In July, I became the staff pediatrician in the newborn nursery at the Goryeb Children's Hospital in Morristown, N.J. In December I added responsibilities as the assistant program director for pediatric residency. I didn't leave the parenting media

world completely, as I still maintain my own production company and Web site, simplyparenting.com. Also, I'm on the medical advisory board for Disney Interactive Media and I write for two Disney parenting Web sites. My daughter, Elizabeth, will graduate from Goucher College this spring.

Henriette Fuchs Kutscher still teaches French in a local public school. "Because I am the only teacher of AP French, I had to teach my son and all his best friends for two years. That was interesting! My husband, Marty (CC '77), is a pediatric neurologist specializing in behavioral neurology in Rye Brook, N.Y. We have two sons: Marc, who is at Vassar, and Eric, who is at Columbia."

Anne Richtman-Kaplan lives in Highland Park, Ill., with her husband, Bob. "We have two kids: Stephanie, who is a teacher's assistant at Syracuse University in Florence, Italy, having received a master's degree in early Renaissance art history last December; and Benjamin, who graduated from Purdue University in December 2009 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a minor in business management. I have worked for JCC Chicago since 1975 in almost every capacity (except as general director)."

Debbie Aschheim writes, "Two weddings in six months! In June 2009, my daughter, Aviva Weiss, married Shmuel Baumser of Passaic, N.J. In attendance were **Arlene Vogl Lowenstein** and her family, as well as Marlee Minno Flaherty '78. Aviva is working as an assistant teacher in a special-needs preschool, while she completes her bachelor's in special education and early childhood education. My son, David Weiss, who moved to Israel and is serving in the Israeli Army, married Chani Berman in January 2010 in Israel." The entire family traveled for the event, including Debbie's father-in-law, on his first trip to Israel.

Deborah L. Jacobs sends an announcement that her new book, *Estate Planning Smarts: A Practical, User-Friendly, Action-Oriented Guide*, was published in December. Designed for baby boomers and their parents, it draws on more than a decade of writing about the stressful issues that surround estate planning. Set in the context of the current economy and tax law, the book

includes examples from the estate plans of Paul Newman, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Michael Jackson, and others.

Mary Ann LoFrumento
43 Lord William Penn Drive
Morristown, NJ 07960
973.998.6281
malofro@aol.com

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I went to see **Dylan Landis** read from *Normal People Don't Live Like This*, her new "novel-in-stories," but I only got as far as the stairway landing. The place was packed. Darn that *Los Angeles Times* book review that likened her teenage protagonist to "a female Holden Caulfield"; now I'll never get a seat at one of Dylan's readings.

After 10 books on decorating and other topics—Dylan is "a former journalist who covered medicine for the *New Orleans Times-Picayune* and interior design for the *Chicago Tribune*"—this is Dylan's first book of fiction. The 2009 Pulitzer Prize-winner Elizabeth Strout calls it "a wonderful, intriguing and original debut." That *L.A. Times* review said Dylan "has a gift for creating characters" and ended with: "As for Landis, watch her very carefully." And I don't think they meant around your silverware. So, if you're planning to attend any of Dylan's future readings, be sure to wear comfortable shoes. There'll be a lot of standing involved.

There was standing of a different sort in September when **Pamela Karasik** and her husband, David Rubashkin, dropped off her eldest daughter, Hannah Rubashkin, at Broadway and 116th. "While standing in front of Barnard Hall ... as she planned to move into Reid in the same line of rooms that I occupied as a first-year, I realized that I had not let you know that another member of the Class of '78 now has a daughter starting at Barnard." (You see, whenever there is guilt, it all leads back to this column.)

"It was a moving day, to say the least, for both of us. Tears were shed by everyone. Orientation was a busy week, as she learned her way around Manhattan and struggled through the

intricacies of the course catalogue... Now the fun begins!"

Marlee Minno Flaherty took advantage of the fabulous new class notes function on Barnard's revitalized Alumnae Network to report that "after working in the development field for over 15 years, I decided to go back to school and get a master's in teaching. As of January 2010, I will be qualified to teach middle-school social studies."

Thank you, Marlee, for using the Web site. For the rest, perhaps it would interest you to know that in olden days, the class correspondent had to take the Pony Express across the land, finding bits and pieces of class news to report in *Barnard*. With the new network, you can post your news, and your correspondent can recline graciously on a settee with her laptop, merely downloading your news and recycling it in this column! Now, doesn't that sound like a fun and rewarding thing for you to do? Sure! Sign in at alum.barnard.edu.

Jami Bernard
jami@jamibernard.com



Monica Green '78 Professor of history at Arizona State University Monica Green was awarded the 2009 Margaret W. Rossiter History of Women in

Science Prize by The History of Science Society (HSS). Monica's book *Making Women's Medicine Masculine: The Rise of Male Authority in Pre-Modern Gynaecology* "takes a threadbare romantic story about the rise of modern medicine and replaces it with a complex, carefully documented, and compelling historical study," according to the HSS press release. Established in 1924, the HSS is devoted to fostering interest in the history of science.

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Evrea Ness-Bergstein writes, "I'm having fun running Israel's first high school Model U.N. Conference project in Jerusalem (this year will be our fourth

annual conference) with my students from the Hebrew University Secondary School, a school for gifted students." Also from abroad, **Ilise Levy Feitshans** has "begun at last to complete my long-lost doctorate. I am now a student at the Geneva School of Diplomacy, and even though my field is actually the law of public health, and in particular the law of occupational health as a human right, I will have a generalized degree in international relations ... As part of this endeavor, I have also a fellowship to teach fundamentals of health policy in international relations."

A little closer to home, **Holly Williams** is an interim chair of the department of theatre and dance at the University of Texas at Austin. She also heads the master of fine arts dance program. When not administrating, she's mom to Rose, 16, and Nicholas, 11, and accepts choreographic/guest artist residencies around the United States and abroad. Her husband Bill's (CC '76) latest book, *Molly Ivins: A Rebel Life*, was released in October 2009. And **Nina Hennessey** is back in the "swing" on Broadway in *Bye Bye Birdie*, swinging (covering) the five ensemble women in the company. (**Linda Bornstein Baum** attended the show with her two daughters). Nina is maintaining her real estate business as well. She quips, "With both my children almost grown (they're 20), the time I spent being Mommy is now available for my double career."

Esther Goetz just came out with a new publication, *Evolution and Politics*. It takes a different approach to evolution and how it plays a role in the political arena and in everyday life. **Patricia Picuch Semple** received a master's in library science from the University of Maryland and is now working with middle- and upper-school students at the Bullis School in Potomac, Md. She writes, "My husband, Bruce, and I are empty nesters this year: Our oldest son, Tim, majored in computer science and Chinese at the Air Force Academy and served in Iraq in 2007; our daughter, Meg, studied art history at Villanova and is a 'gallerina' in San Francisco; and our younger son, Ben, who majored in communications at Messiah College, graduated last May and had his first day of work the very next Monday. Bruce is still with IBM. We celebrated our 31st

anniversary this year." [My husband, Oliver (CC '80), and I celebrated 30 years on Christmas Day 2009! —DNS]

Sarah Rose Werner has been struggling with the trials of being in the current "sandwich" generation. Her mom, 78, "was diagnosed with Parkinson's and Lewy body dementia this past summer and moved into an assisted-living facility in July. It's been interesting to see how her five children work together—or sometimes, don't—in dealing with this, as we're geographically far-flung and have very different fields of training/experience and different levels of income/resources."

Amy Cogan Ramson is now associate professor in the behavioral and social sciences department at Hostos Community College.

At the time of this writing, I, Debby Shapiro, plan to host a multiyear mini-reunion at my house for Thanksgiving with my sisters, Eve Newman Yudelson '82 and Naomi Newman '87, my cousin, Debby Horowitz Rosenfeld '83, and my niece, Yael Grossman '11.

Ilise Levy Feitshans
SAFEWORK
Caisse Postale 500
CH 1211 Geneva
Switzerland
ilise@prodigy.net

Deborah Newman Shapiro
28 Hemlock Road
Livingston, NJ 07039
201.417.4431/fax: 201.272.0059
barnard1979@gmail.com

30th Reunion June 3–June 6, 2010

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As a group we're pretty wonderful, and here comes Reunion again, when you can buff up your sense of self by getting a sense of "Us." But Reunion is not simply for Memory Lane. You have to see it to appreciate how it grows and changes and blooms in new shapes and colors. The programs are remarkable and our class is extraordinary. After every Reunion my husband attends, he virtually kowtows when he sees me coming, so if you haven't been kowtowed

to lately, make it a date! (Exhortation, just one of the services I provide.)

Loans are practically saving the world these days, and **Sandra Kahn** is helping, without cape or unitard. She's board president of the Hebrew Free Loan Society, which has provided more than \$200 million in interest-free credit to 860,000 borrowers since its founding in 1892. Loans are made on a nonsectarian basis throughout the New York area, including small-business loans to women who have traditionally been excluded from the workforce and money-earning opportunities.

When I write news like that about one of you, I'm almost as proud as if I'd done something myself. Then I rack my brains to find a transition to our next topic and, despite all those English classes, I find none. Sadly, I announce the deaths of three classmates, two belatedly. Please send me tributes or information about these women—I'd like to celebrate the lives they lived. **Isa Maria Soto** passed away in 2004 and **Susan Solomon** in 2008. In May 2009, **Elizabeth McKenty** died of cancer. She was "Liesel" at school, the life of many parties. She is survived by her husband, Matt Beatty, and by her daughter.

Like any English major in distress, I turn to Shakespeare: Friends, classmates, Barnard women, send me your mail. I would rather praise than bury. Let not the good our friends did be interred with their bones.

Amber Spence Zeidler
4601 Vista de Oro Avenue
Woodland Hills, CA 91364-5604
818.704.7457
misatindol@aol.com

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Marcia Sells, who has been in leadership since our days at Barnard, was elected chair of the board for the YWCA-NYC. CEO Anne Winters-Bishop '70, who used to be the assistant director for Alumnae Affairs at Barnard, asked Marcia if she'd serve as chair. Marcia has been on the board since 2005. It's a bit of a family tradition for her, as her mother was on the board of

the YWCA of Greater Cincinnati, where Marcia grew up. "I know I have to work on not saying 'Yes' too often," says Marcia. "It's a great organization doing wonderful work to help women who are unemployed and struggling [to take] care of their children." Marcia, a former class president, is our class fund chair.

Wendy White, our current class president, **Marcy Goldstein**, class vice president, and **Nicole Lowen Vianna**, Alumnae Association director-at-large, had a great time at Barnard's Leadership Assembly last October. "It was very inspiring," says Wendy, who flew in from Florida. "We met with alumnae from all years. There was a lot of communication between classes. Plus, we heard from current students and how President Spar is affecting them all. They love her."

Donna Tuths, president of Ogilvy Healthworld North America, was named Advertising Person of the Year in 2008 by *Med Ad News*. Donna received a master's from Johns Hopkins Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in international economic and European studies, and a master of business administration from the Yale School of Management. Donna joined Ogilvy in 2003 to focus her consumer marketing expertise on health-care clients, after a long tenure working with telecommunications, media, and high-tech clients. She joked at the time that she "finally joined the family business!" (Her father was a general practitioner, and her mother and sister are registered nurses.) In the last six years, Tuths has been credited with transforming Ogilvy Healthworld. The agency has more than doubled in size, with a new-business win rate of more than 75 percent. Donna is on the board of Schools That Can, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing inner-city children with a quality education, and she's codirector of the Institute for Women's Health Partnership, a national organization of health-care professionals, marketers, and advocates. Donna lives in Pelham, N.Y., with her husband and three sons.

Rita Gunther McGrath says she enjoyed visiting Santiago, Chile.

I've launched *Healing Energy Newsletter*, which marries my skills as a journalist and a healer. Let me know if you want to see it and I'll send you a copy or put you on the e-mail list.

Diane Goldner
807 18th Street, Apt. 3
Santa Monica, CA 90403
310.365.5865
dianegoldner@msn.com

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Lesley Pratt is now director of development administration for the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Maude Muto is pursuing her second master's in education in the area of literacy. After being certified in literacy for children through sixth grade, she's now teaching reading at the Cutchogue East Elementary School on Long Island. The commute is easy and relaxing as she rides two short-distance ferries each way to get from her home in the Hamptons on the south fork of Long Island. Her eldest daughter, who is 13, is active in school sports and enrolled in high honor-roll classes. Maude also has a daughter in first grade. I shared cheerleading duties with Maude for the Columbia Lions in 1978.

Pamela Spencer Murray is president and owner of a company that specializes in providing strategic advice in divorce financial-planning services.

Kathy-Ann Irish-Benjamin
21 Fox Croft Road
New Hartford, NY 13413
heavylittlemd@adelphia.net
315.792.4053/315.725.2773

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Ariella Nasuti, a political science major, moved to Israel and attended the Hebrew University. She worked in Israel for some years then returned to the United States to begin a career in nonprofit finance and administration. At 33 she returned to school, graduating from the University of Michigan with a *juris doctor* in 1996. She represented commercial real-estate lenders at Weil Gotshal in New York before leaving to be a full-time caregiver. She's now writing and has completed a novel.

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Margarita (Ari) Brose returned to the States in August after spending a year in the south of France. She works at Barclays Capital Markets and enjoys being closer to her niece, Chelsea '12. Ari was honored by the Columbia Alumni Association with the Columbia Medal.

Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker announces that her daughter, Michal, will join the Barnard Class of 2014. She was accepted early admissions to the Class of 2013 but deferred to study in Israel for a year. This is a dream come true for Michal, and Carolyn looks forward to vicariously enjoying her Barnard years.

After six years in Vienna, **Linda Ravin Lodding** and her family have relocated to The Hague, Netherlands. She was appointed media and public affairs officer at the United Nations affiliate, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. Linda is also the assistant regional advisor for the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Her husband is at the Swedish Embassy in The Hague, and her daughter attends the American School.

Lorraine Newman Mackler is a full-time assistant solicitor for the city of Pittsburgh. She's also an adjunct professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh and will be team teaching a toxic torts seminar next semester with **Tybe Brett**. Lorraine's eldest child, Hannah, is a junior at Barnard.

Jennifer Astone started a consulting business in international philanthropy last year, with the goal of improving her work-life balance. Her son, Sandy Buundu, is 5 years old. Confronting fears about not having a regular paycheck has been challenging but Jennifer recognizes her old creative self from her Barnard years.

Marla Cohen received a Simon Rockower Award for her writing in the monthly *Rockland Jewish Reporter*, which she edits. She also received a Louis Rapoport Award for excellence in commentary for three of her columns at the American Jewish Press Association's awards ceremony.

Emily Novick has returned to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a public-health

advisor at the substance abuse and mental health administration, after 10 years of consulting and working in the nonprofit sector. Her husband, David, also works for the government and they live in Bethesda, Md., with their three daughters, ages 17, 14, and 11.

Eve Shalley sadly reports the loss of her family's 14-year-old pointer, Ozzie, but happily adds that they have adopted another pointer from a Westchester shelter, who gets along well with their giant schnauzer, Milou. Eve is transitioning out of the corporate world; she's starting by getting certified as a yoga instructor and starting a business called Sunara Sail with some friends.

Amanda Zinoman welcomed her son, Jonah Ari Zinoman, home to Brooklyn. He was born on Oct. 21, 2009. They were chauffeured home by **Abigail Stackpole McCall**.

Irene L. Friedland
107 West 86th Street, Apt. 7E
New York, NY 10024
212.339.0548
otterwear@hotmail.com

Derlys Gutierrez
1037 Raymond Boulevard, Suite 710
Newark, NJ 07102
973.744.8628
dgutierrez@asgllaw.com

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Lisa Morgan Bowstead posted a message that she became certified as a middle-school math teacher three years ago. "At the time, I was certain that the job market would always be in my favor, especially in New York City public schools," she wrote. She has been able to secure work as a private tutor.

Dr. **Dara Richardson-Heron** was a guest of Martha Stewart '63 on the Oct. 16, 2009, episode of *The Martha Stewart Show*. The theme of the show that day was breast cancer awareness. Dara is CEO of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, New York City.

As we go to print, I'm preparing to make two presentations on Zora Neale Hurston '28; first at Western Carolina

University on Nov. 18, 2009 for the WCU Women's Center's *Women Who Dare!* speaker series; and second, at the annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival for the Arts and Humanities on Jan. 29, 2010, in Eatonville, Fla.

The theme for our 25th reunion is *Remember, Restore, Renew*. Please plan to attend! More information will come by e-mail and regular mail.

Sharon D. Johnson
P.O. Box 491179
Los Angeles, CA 90049
646.401.3833
SharonDJohnson@alum.barnard.edu

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Rose Arce reports, "I just cowrote a book with Soledad O'Brien called *Latino in America*, which was released in early October. The book is a companion to a documentary of the same name. I was senior producer of the documentary. I talk about both projects on mylatinovoice.com in an interview with Rosa Alonso '82. I live in Greenwich Village with my partner and our 4-year-old daughter."

Audrey L. Jacobs
CF for Greater Atlanta
50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 449
Atlanta, GA 30303
404.588.3194
ajacobs@cfgreateratlanta.org

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The universe did not end on 09/09/09 at 9:09 a.m. as promised, so the search for news continues...

My erstwhile partner in 3 a.m. Madison Square Garden campouts, **Dana Gross**, writes: "I'm married to Jeff Gandel, a music biz lawyer (shocking, I know), have two great kids: Harry, 2 1/2, and Allison, 4 months. I'm unemployed, but looking for work and hoping for something in television marketing. I still live on the Upper East Side, and I am in the process of buying an apartment just

a few blocks away from where I sit."

Joy Press, most recently with salon.com, reports that she's "freelance editing and writing right now and hanging out with the kids while my husband finishes another book." Classmates who remember her old look will surely appreciate an October tweet: "My son asked if I could make him into a goth for Halloween. Yes, son. I know how to do that."

Wendy Loeser Cullitan is principal at Wordsmith Communications—her marketing consulting/writing business. Her homebase is in Lake Forest, Ill., but her clients are from across the country. Feel free to look her up. She also teaches eight yoga classes a week—vinyasa flow and hot. She says it gives her the peace and clarity of mind needed to run her business and care for her 10-year-old daughter, Emily, who is quite musical and artistic. Wendy and her husband, Tim, celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. She'd love to hear from her Barnard pals.

Penelope Angier Flynn and her husband, Mike, adopted a baby, Grace, born in Rhode Island on July 29, 2009.

Miriam Lockshin
6 Bd Pierre Dupong
L-1430 Luxembourg
Luxembourg
352.691.914.441
mlockshin@mac.com

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Denise Brodey was asked to blog about the changing world of books for the *Huffington Post*. This fall she founded Brownstone Media, a brand-strategy firm "focused on helping major players and scrappy start-ups hit the nail on the head when offering health content and brand messages to women and family." Denise lives in Brooklyn with her two kids, Toby, 11, and Emily, 13.

Kathy Ebel is working on a book that started as a blog, "FATHERLAND: There's No Place Like Home, or, How and Why a Nice Jewish Girl Asked Germany to Take Her Back." You can read her blog at kathyebel.wordpress.com. She writes: "I'm in the process of

pursuing restored German citizenship through Article 116, par. 2 of the Grundgesetz, the Federal Republic of Germany's Basic Law. I qualify for this credential through my father, Henry Ebel (CC '59), who fled Berlin during the Third Reich, who didn't raise me, and who died last year. After 14 years of working as a writer in film, TV, advertising, and magazines, I'm exploring a sweet spot where intimate family dysfunction and the larger political upheavals of the 20th century meet." Kathy is keen to connect with any alumnae who live or work in Berlin, where she plans to visit in 2010. Kathy lives in the Los Feliz neighborhood of Los Angeles with her husband and son.

Leah Kopperman performed as a member of the chorus in *Songs of Ascension*, a work by Meredith Monk and Ann Hamilton, as part of the Next Wave Festival at Brooklyn Academy of Music in October. Leah is a member of the Stonewall Chorale. After many years on the staff at Barnard, she's now a senior e-strategist at Make Waves, a communications-consulting group geared toward nonprofit organizations.

Carole LoConte Tedesco
44 Church Street
Winchester, MA 01890
781.454.9335/781.369.4040
cat@tedescoandtwomey.com

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Brenda Mendlowitz Berman and her husband, Mark (CC '90), announce the arrival of their second son, Aidan, on Aug. 19, 2009. Aidan arrived a bit earlier than planned, but his fighting spirit earned him the nickname "wild man" from the hospital nurses.

Mich Nelson
8531 North Edison Street
Portland, OR 97203
503.730.8781
Barnard90@yahoo.com

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Jenny Bruce went to France for the month of August with her husband and two sons to stay with her in-laws. She works part-time at Claremont Children's School on the Upper West Side and she tries to squeeze in a bit of music.

Hawley Anderson enjoys spending time on the beach with her 1 1/2-year-old twins, Dashiell and Beatrix. She works in Los Angeles writing scripts with her husband, Davin Palmer.

In July Rabbi **Ruth Abusch-Magder** and her family settled in San Francisco. Since her work is done remotely, she'll still direct continuing education for the alumni of Hebrew Union College. She looks forward to hiking and would love to hear from classmates in the area.

Eliza Minot Price taught a writing class at Barnard last spring. She lives in Maplewood, N.J., with her husband and four children and is working on her third novel, *American Standard*.

Loolwa Khazzoom is the founder of Dancing with Pain, a mind-body media and education company that focuses on natural pain relief. Through her company, she writes about health and wellness for mainstream magazines. Loolwa recently hired a Barnard graduate, Tara Lattimore '07, for her communications coordinator internship. Tara's boyfriend, a film school graduate, is her audio/video producer.

Elizabeth Freese was named the winner of the Franciscan Philanthropist Award in Earth Ministry's National Care for Creation Sermon Contest.

Julia Hodges Bovey was appointed head of the Office of External Affairs for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by President Obama. Before that, she was head of media relations for the Natural Resources Defense Counsel.

Elona Kogan and her husband, Mark, have a precocious 18-month-old son, Grant. She's an associate general counsel and privacy officer for a Fortune 200 pharmaceutical company. They relocated to Summit, N.J., and she'd love to hear from alumnae in the area.

Leah Leeder is proud to announce the birth of her daughter, Raphaela Danzig Leeder, on Oct. 2, 2009, at Hadassah Ein Kerem in Jerusalem,

Israel. Leah is on maternity leave from her chiropractic clinic for three months and is enjoying every moment.

Victoria Heavey Allen lives in Garden City, N.J., with her husband, Hunter, and their three children: Caroline, 11, Tess, 9, and Declan, 6. Victoria completed her PhD in political science in 2007 at CUNY Graduate School and University Center and is enjoying teaching at Queens College.

Alex Guarnaschelli appears in *Alex's Day Off*, airing Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on the Food Network.

Rosalie Steinberg has given up her 15-year career in health-care management and hospital administration to study medicine. She's a "mature" first-year medical student at McMaster University in Canada, and she's raising three children. Rosalie thanks Dean Denburg, who remembered her and wrote a recommendation for school.

*Diane Fink Rein
One Cove Lane
Kings Point, NY 11024
516.487.1296
drein@verizon.net*

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Greetings from your co-correspondents, **Kimberly Parker-Wesley** and **Jenny Milchman Frank**. We've gotten some lovely updates from classmates with growing families and careers.

Jennifer Byron Mercurio has been promoted to vice president and general counsel at the Entertainment Consumers Association. On June 26, 2009, she and her husband, Joseph, welcomed their first child, Eleanor Marie.

Rachel Marshall had a baby girl, Isabella Clarice Rossi, on June 8, 2009, at the Policlinico Gemelli in Rome.

Amy Correia is doing exciting things in her career as a singer and songwriter. Her forthcoming album, which was being recorded at the time of this writing, will be entirely fan-funded. Amy is also touring again, opening for performer Marc Cohn, famous for the 1991 hit "Walking in Memphis." You can find more information at her amycorreia.com.

Sarah DeLeo writes: "I wanted to

thank *Barnard* again for interviewing me for the summer issue. I appreciated the opportunity to talk about what I do and to introduce myself to alumnae. When I spoke with [author of the article] Karen Schwartz '93 over the summer, I was still pregnant. I gave birth to Xavier on Aug. 19. My husband, Jean-Luc Neptune (CC '92), and I have one older child, Sebastien, who turned 3 in January. Alas, no possible Barnard grads here, but maybe they'll end up across the street like their father. We still live on the Upper West Side, close to school, so yes, I really have been going to the Barnard library to do work."

I've been married for 15 wonderful years to Josh Frank (CC '92). Our daughter, Sophia, started kindergarten this year at a charter school, and our son, Caleb, is in preschool. I've been writing most of my life, which is great, but I've been at this game called publishing for more years than I like to say! Last year, I signed with an agent at the Markson Thoma Agency in New York. She's submitting my latest literary suspense novel. I have also had some short fiction published online. Links are available on my Web site, jennymilchman.com. —JMF

*Kimberly Parker-Wesley
4835 Los Arboles Place
Fremont, CA 94536-6636
kimberly@alum.barnard.edu*

*Jennifer Milchman Frank
9 Locust Street
Morristown, NJ 07960-5009
973.605.2837
jenny@wedesityull.com*

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My husband, Mitch, and I are enjoying life as our daughter, Sadie, teaches us all about life as a toddler. She's reading me a book on puppies. It's pretty cute.

Yoshiko Niiya and her husband, Eric Zaretsky, live in Cliffside Park, N.J., with their cat and dog. She and Eric were married last June on the Norwegian Dawn Cruise Line in New York. Their family and friends from all over the country joined them. Yoshiko's former

roommate, Dr. **Sherlet Kurian**, and her husband, Dr. Vinu Verghese, attended the rehearsal dinner and wedding. The wedding was officiated by Rabbi Steven Sirbu of Temple Emeth in Teaneck, N.J.

Mimi Antoine Duvall-Sajda purchased a home in New York's Financial District last May, and she celebrated 10 years of marriage in June with a renewal-of-vows ceremony on her rooftop. Mimi coaches and teaches for corporate consultant, The Handel Group, in addition to running an art and design studio. She's still having a blast painting kids' rooms on the side. Her Web site is dreamswillcome.com.

Maria Ting and her husband, Michael Fei, and their daughters, Vera, 5, and Ava, 1, moved back to Taipei in February 2009, after nearly 20 years in New York. There were job opportunities for them both, and their children will grow up near both sets of grandparents, who live there. While adjusting well to living in the Far East, they miss New York and look forward to visiting.

Caroline Ceniza-Levine, co-founder of SixFigureStart Career Coaching, was a guest of *The Brian Lehrer Show* on NPR for a segment on telephone interviews (find it online at bit.ly/QjIRf). In the June 22 issue of *BusinessWeek*, Caroline is featured, talking about job prospects for Generation Y young professionals. You can read it here: bit.ly/sfs-businessweek.

Marci Levy-Maguire
465 West 152nd Street, Apt. 45
New York, NY 10031
917.626.1917
marcilevymaguire@gmail.com

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I'm **Tracy Akner**, your new class correspondent. I live in Brooklyn with my 3-year-old son, Nachy. As a veterinarian in Manhattan, I specialize in acupuncture (acupunctureforyourdog.com).

At our 15th reunion I sat with **Lori Hoepner**, who lives in "Victorian Flatbush," Brooklyn, with her 4-year-old son and her husband, Jeb. She's pursuing a DrPH in environmental health sciences at Columbia's Mailman School

of Public Health while working full time as the deputy director of organizational and analytical data management for the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health. At Reunion's Sunday brunch, I also chatted with **Caryn Borger, Karen Wasserman,** and **Hope Zimmerman Waxman.**

Alana Riss Fine moved to Minneapolis four years ago. She's married to Brett Fine (SEAS '94) and they have three children: Gabriella, Zachary, and Sylvia. Alana is a psychologist in private practice and was recently featured in an article in the *Star Tribune* because of a talk she gave, "Bipolar Saul? Anxious Moses? Mental Woes Are Nothing New." She loves bumping into alumnae in Minneapolis on a daily basis; there are three within a few blocks of her home, and one is a teacher in her daughter's school. She's very proud that her babysitter will be starting at Barnard next year.

Michal Lemberger lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Ron Hart, and their adorable daughters, Anina, 3, and Lula, 18 months.

Rachel Rinaldo posted this to the Alumnae Network: "After many years working on my PhD at the University of Chicago, doing field research in Indonesia, and several postdoctoral fellowships, in August 2009 I joined the department of sociology at the University of Virginia. I'm writing a book about women's activism, Islam, and the public sphere in Indonesia." Her husband, Robert Wyrod, is a sociologist writing a book about the AIDS epidemic and masculinity in Uganda.

Also posted to the network was **Caralyn Spector's** note: "I have recently joined the National Endowment for the Arts as an arts policy advisor and deputy to the new senior deputy chair, Joan Shigekawa. It's a very exciting time to be in Washington, D.C., and working in the arts, and I'm grateful for the opportunity. I'm also looking forward to connecting with D.C. alumnae. In addition to moving after being in New York since fall 1990 in Sulzberger, I just got married, and my wonderful husband moved with me and is starting a multiplatform content-consulting firm with offices here and in New York."

Tracy Akner
tracyakner@gmail.com

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Myra Midel Salinas, her husband, Chad, and son, Kai, welcomed a new addition to their family, Zoe.

Carmencita San Miguel Roche and her family moved to Sydney, Australia. —GBK

Carmencita San Miguel
44 Chaleyer Street
Rose Bay NSW 2029
Australia
61.2.9343.0050
csanmiguel@alum.barnard.edu

Gail-Ann Bradshaw Krieger
3064 Manning Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90064
310.839.9982
gailann@alum.barnard.edu

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Anna Segur is married and has an 18-month-old son. She moved to Boulder, Colo., last year after living for five years in Peru and El Salvador. She works part-time as a freelance consultant for international development organizations and for a management consulting firm in Central America.

Candace Rechtschaffen Gillhoolley has started a new position at TMCnet, where she's an account executive selling integrated solutions in the machine-to-machine, smart grid, and smart-products marketplaces. She has a daughter, Autumn, 2, and a son, Ronin, 4. She has been married for 12 years and is excited to be at her pre-baby weight.

Marie Segares is now the early-college liaison at the New York City College of Technology. In this role, she has the pleasure of working with a wonderful new public high school, the City Polytechnic High School of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology, in Downtown Brooklyn.

City Poly High is the first career and technical education early-college high school in New York. Her business, Underground Crafter (undergroundcrafter.com), has been steadily expanding. She teaches crochet classes and sells items on etsy.com.

Samantha Nicosia Rowan
312 East 23rd Street, Apt. 4D
New York, NY 10010
646.602.1727
sam_nicosia@hotmail.com

Sarah Feinberg
36 Bellvista Road, Apt. 36
Brighton, MA 02135
617.501.9510
sarahdfeinberg@alum.barnard.edu

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Ya-Ching Liu has been a systems analyst at Hewitt Associates in Norwalk, Conn., for 12 years. She teaches ballroom dance as her "part-time job/hobby." In 2007, Ya-Ching married Mike Supon in Bermuda. **Loren Morales Kando** joined the reception in Stamford. Ya-Ching says Loren bought a condo in Forest Hills, N.Y. Ya-Ching and her husband bought a house in Easton, Conn., last year, and in the summer she gave birth to their first child, Abigail Liu Supon. She says she used to be in "don't want to have kids" mode, but "after Abigail's arrival, I have to say, she really is the best thing to happen to us."

Malena Watrous's first novel, *If You Follow Me*, is coming out in March from Harper Perennial. A draft of the manuscript won the Michener-Copernicus award. A former writing fellow, Malena contributes book reviews to the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *The New York Times Book Review*. She credits Barnard with helping launch her career as a writer and a book reviewer.

Taryn Roeder
9 Cambridge Terrace, Unit 1
Cambridge, MA 02140
617.351.3818
taryn.roeder@hnhpub.com

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Ruth Wikler-Luker received her master's in theatre from Hunter. Her son, Julian Albert, was born last year.

Sharon Bilar and her husband, Jeffrey Goldfarb (CU Law '01), welcomed their second daughter, Eleanor, on March 29, 2009. Sharon works at Debevoise & Plimpton as a trusts and estates attorney. And **Amy Bromberg Wolfe** announces the birth of her first son, Asher. She has three girls, Leah, 3, Estee, 5, and Sarah, 7. Amy lives in Brooklyn, freelance writing and providing marketing services for technology firms and nonprofit groups.

Jessica Ross O'Neill has been assisting with the New York City Department of Health swine flu response as the agency's pandemic influenza coordinator.

Laura (Kym) Neck is working on a doctorate in cultural anthropology at the CUNY Graduate Center. She was

appointed as a research fellow at the Cross Border Institute for Regional Development at the University of Texas at Brownsville. She's doing fieldwork on the fight against the border wall in Brownsville and won a National Science Foundation grant to fund her dissertation research.

Karen Kahn Eliot graduated from Davenport University with a master's specializing in strategic management. She lives in Royal Oak, Mich., with her two children, Jonah, 6, and Adeline, 5. Karen's the networking group manager for ZenaComp, which provides software and network solutions to small and medium-size businesses.

Kameron (Kami) Lewis Lewin is going to be "the sole social studies instructional coach for kindergarten through eighth grade, helping to shape curriculum and instruction throughout the district" in the Cambridge, Mass., public schools. She has launched a new blog called The Fence (livefromthefence.blogspot.com), "which chronicles what it's like being a working mom of two

young children and the role feminism plays for me on both sides of the fence.”

Anya Yankovich earned her master's in social work at Fordham University and worked as a drug treatment counselor. She's now enrolled in the doctoral program at Columbia School of Social Work. Last year she gave birth to her first child, Max Joseph.

Anna Hayman was the associate producer on the off-Broadway production of *Angela's Mixtape*, by Eisa Davis, which *The New Yorker* hailed as “The Obama generation's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf*.” Anna completed her master's in performing arts management at Brooklyn College, for which she received the AABC Fellowship for Graduate Study. She's now the associate producer for the Foundry Theatre Company in New York.

Melanie Vickers Torosyan and her husband, Roben, had a baby, Catherine Anne, on Aug. 3, 2008. They moved to Fairfield, Conn., in 2007 and are both working at Fairfield University.

Danielle Sapse spent the fall 2008 semester giving a series of lectures on law and forensic science at the University of Rouen, France. Some of them discussed new applications of quantum chemistry to forensic science and its implications for the law. They explained research published by Danielle and co-workers in scientific journals.

Heather Currier Hunt and her husband, Colin (CU '98), welcomed a daughter, Willa Clementine Hunt. Heather writes, “Willa was diagnosed with Costello syndrome at 2 weeks old and we have been ‘adjusting’ ourselves since. I have been writing about my experiences having a medically fragile child with special needs at my blog, livingininvisiblecities.blogspot.com.”

Mariam I. Habib
770 Ocean Parkway, Apt. 5B
Brooklyn, NY 11230
732.689.0996
mariamihabib@yahoo.com

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We, **Laura Levin Schreiber** and **Jolanka Fisher**, are excited to be your class correspondents and look forward to sharing class news and fostering connections. Laura has been married for almost eight years to Harlan Schreiber (Columbia GS '97), who also attended Jewish Theological Seminary. She's a stay-at-home mom in South Orange, N.J., raising 6-year-old twins, Emma Victoria and Jack Samuel. Jolanka returned to New York last year and lives in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, working at a solar-energy company in the city.

Also in Brooklyn are **Parry Creedon**, who works in film production and just wrapped *Going the Distance* and *Jack Goes Boating* this year, and **Alicia Bothwell Mancini**, who lives in Windsor Terrace and is a freelance editor. Alicia is also raising Henry, 2, and tiny Edith, who was born last September.

In September, **Katharina Breiting Schmitz** left Brooklyn for San Francisco, where she's working at Chronicle Books after getting her master's in business administration from New York University in 2008. **Sophia Tawil** got married twice this summer: once in Hawaii and once in Wisconsin. She reports that she's working hard as an associate at Cravath and loves it. (Jolanka would like to note that she wishes she could see more of Sophia.) Also married recently was **Elana Konstant**. A New Orleans wedding held in May, it was attended by a large contingent from our class, including **Molly Solomon**, who is the director of finance and operations at the Joyful Heart Foundation in Manhattan, **Sabrina Weiss**, who is an editor at MTV News, and **Miriam Zuk**, who has returned to the States after five years working in Mexico and is now getting her PhD in city planning at the University of California, Berkeley.

A re-transplant back to New York City is **Jennifer Taylor**, MD, who has finished her residency in Houston. She started a urologic oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center this summer. The last of the re-transplants is **Chloe Teasdale**. After

three years in South Africa working for mothers2mothers, an NGO that helps prevent perinatal transmission of HIV, she has returned to Columbia, where she's getting her PhD in epidemiology.

Deborah Oppenheim Adler writes that she's living in Woodmere, N.Y., with her husband and two sons, 3-year-old Jacob and 1-year-old Yoni. She's a fifth-grade teacher in Valley Stream, N.Y.

Kate Burlingham is finishing her PhD in history at Rutgers University. She's been married to Matt Knightly for five years and lives in Brooklyn.

Amanda Nathan Gluck had a beautiful baby girl, Rylee Paige, last November. **Jennifer Fok Kiang** and her husband, Edward Kiang (CC '99), are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Skylar Cailin, in September. Jennifer is taking a year of maternity leave from her elementary music-teaching position on Long Island. Rabbi **Rachel Ain**, who has a second bachelor's in Midrash from Jewish Theological Seminary, lives in Syracuse, N.Y., with her husband, Rabbi David Levy, who received a bachelor's in political science from Columbia and a bachelor's in Talmud from JTS. They have two sons, Jared and Zack. Rachel and David both graduated from rabbinical school at JTS in 2004. She is a solo rabbi at Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevre Shas, a Conservative synagogue. **Stefanie Strauss Small** reports that she and her family are very happy in Pittsburgh, Pa., where she moved after graduation. She's a geriatric clinical social worker at Jewish Family and Children's Service and has two boys, Gabriel, 5, and Alexander, 2. She's an active member of the Barnard Club of Pittsburgh, which started back in 1999.

Laura Levin Schreiber
Jolanka Fisher
barnard1999@gmail.com

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Astrid Tsang married Will Taubman on Sept. 12, 2009, in Camden, Maine. It was a beautiful wedding, which I attended along with **Rachel Arenas**,

Writing Novels for Today's Kids

Courtney Sheinmel '99



"I always kept a journal," acknowledges Courtney Sheinmel. But one night in 2004, while talking with a friend about how she wanted to move off her corporate litigation career path, it occurred to her: "If I wanted to be a writer, I'd have to write something."

Soon, one day every weekend became her writing day. "I generally worked the other weekend day," she recalls. As a character came to mind—a girl who didn't want to share a room with her younger sister—Sheinmel wrote a chapter and sent it to a few friends. They asked for more, and Sheinmel kept at it. By mid 2005, she had found an agent through a law school professor who is also a novelist. The result was *Sincerely, Sophie*—the young adult tale of a New York City girl and her Bay Area pen pal—due out from Simon & Schuster in June, along with its companion volume *Sincerely, Katie*.

"Once I started writing in [a young teenager's] voice, it came naturally," Sheinmel says. Two books followed, although they were published first: *My So-Called Family* (2008), about 13-year-old Leah Hoffman-Ross and her attempts to contact the half-siblings fathered by the donor who fathered her, and *Positively* (2009), the story of 13-year-old, HIV-positive Emmy Price, who faces a new life after her mother dies of AIDS. Two months before *My So-Called Family* was published, Sheinmel left her law job and began writing full time.

An English major at Barnard, Sheinmel concentrated in writing, particularly a memoir of her father. (Even then, she says, she was looking at people through a young person's eyes.) Classes with novelist and memoirist Mary Gordon '71, Millicent C. McIntosh Professor in English and Writing, made her feel "taken seriously as a writer." Hearing Anna Quindlen '74 speak at her high school had also made a light bulb go off.

Nowadays, Sheinmel starts writing at 9 a.m. after watching some of *The Today Show*—whose program on women with children fathered by the same donor helped spark *My So-Called Family*. As she edits, she concentrates on keeping the vocabulary age-appropriate and the concepts authentic. "Kids have complex thoughts ... they're concerned with friends and family, right and wrong, financial issues, relationships," she says. Her next book, *You Can't Even Measure It*, set for publication in 2011, is about a girl whose mother is sent to prison for a white-collar crime. "I've gotten e-mails from people saying my books are not appropriate for 10-year-olds," Courtney says. "But if you're truthful and honest, [I think] it's okay."—*Trudy Balch '78*

theklarichter.com.

Marina Felman and her husband, Igor, welcomed a baby boy, Daniel Joseph, into their lives last June.

Romy Goldsmith Shapiro and her husband, Daniel, had a son, Gabriel Max, on June 11, 2009. After teaching at a private school in New York City and receiving her master's in elementary education from Teachers College in

2005, Romy now loves being a stay-at-home mom in Westchester, N.Y., where Daniel is an eye surgeon.

Bianca Allyn Swift
1093 Radnor Road
Wayne, PA 19087
bianca_jordan@hotmail.com

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Melissa Shum Arata reports that **Audrey Stegmayer** married Raphael Alex Giordano on Aug. 31, 2009. Their wedding was in Jersey City, overlooking the Hudson River and Manhattan. There were rain storms during the day, but the evening and ceremony were beautiful, as was Audrey. Melissa was the matron of honor. Alex proposed on New Year's Eve while they were on vacation visiting his family in Argentina. **Stacey McMath** married Avi Glickstein (CC '98) on Aug. 15, 2009, in Northport, Maine. In attendance were Ross Beschler (CC '98), Jessica Brater '00, Emily Chen-Bendle (CC '98), Anne Cissel (CC '98), **Abigail Cooper**, Kara Feely '99, Miriam Felton-Dansky '02, Carol Kornreich '65, Jonathan McMath (CC '69), Neal Minahan (CC '98), Natalie Robin (CC '02), Katya Schapiro '02, and **Catherine Wallach**. Stacey and Avi live in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn. **Victoria Vinarsky Spodek** married Todd Spodek last February. They live in New York City. **Hee-Jung Hwang** married Ryan Jones in Napa Valley, in a beautiful outdoor ceremony. She works at Google.

Shannon Harris lives in London and is studying for a master's in classical acting at the Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London.

Mita Sanghavi went to Upstate Medical University. She's now in her last year of surgical residency at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Hospital. She married Saurin Patel last August, with several alumnae in attendance.

Monica Mercado has been thinking about Barnard as she recently curated an exhibition on the history of women's education at the University of Chicago, where she has been teaching and writing her dissertation on American religious history. Also, in October 2008 she was maid of honor at the wedding of her first-year roommate, **Lucy Orazem**, and Michael Pelham. Lucy and Michael live in Boston, where she works in communications at Wellesley.

Lauren Alexander is pursuing a master's in public health at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health, with a focus on reproductive and family health.

Jennifer Styperk lives in Los

Angeles and is in her final year as a master of fine art candidate at the California Institute of the Arts.

On May 2, **Razelle Holtz Weinstein** and her husband, Dov, welcomed Saadiah Yitzchak (grandson to Professor Toby Berger Holtz '67 of the chemistry department). Alumnae present at Saadiah's 1-month party were **Rachel Bacall Markovitz**, **Margo Averbok Rosman**, and **Aliyah Vinikoor**, and the proud grandmother, Prof. Holtz.

Laura Zupa D'Avella is happy to report that she and her husband, BJ, welcomed a beautiful baby boy, Bernard James D'Avella IV, on Feb. 24, 2009. She states, "I am enjoying our 'little man,' who will be a burrito for his first Halloween. (BJ and I used to frequent Benny's Burritos when we were dating!) ... **Ana Burcroff**, Regina DeCicco '00, and I have been seeing each other monthly for lunch dates. We met our first day at Barnard, and now Ben has two great aunts."

Jacob Lieberman left her post at the Empire State Pride Agenda to begin a program to become a rabbi at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pa. Last year, she and her partner, Nehama Benmosche, adopted their son, Eliya Ashenafi, from Ethiopia.

Erinn Smart
415 Argyle Road, Apt. 6B
Brooklyn, NY 11218
917.669.3113
erinnsmart@alum.barnard.edu

02

After living and working in New York since graduating from Barnard, **Shoshana Parker** moved to the Boston area last August. She's in her a full-time master of business administration program at Boston College. "I've reconnected with Sara Libby Robinson Epstein '01 and Miriam Yasgur '05, who live in my neighborhood," she writes.

Aviva Walls
202 West 81st Street, Apt. 5E
New York, NY 10024-5823
avivaw@alum.barnard.edu

03

In October 2009, **Jessica Davis** married David Goldstein in New Haven, Conn. Bethe Gordon '02 and Manica Piputbundit '02 attended. Through marriage, Jessica has gained an aunt-in-law, Sarah Gould Kagan '80.

Michelle Mulbauer married David Kull on Sept. 13, 2009. Her first-year roommate, **Rosemarie Iaconis**, was a bridesmaid along with Julia Gavrilov '02. Also in attendance were **Michele Cohen** and **Amelia Munger**. Michelle and David live in New York. **Sarah Kleiner** married Riccardo Buitoni in Brooklyn in the spring of 2009. In October 2009, **Jessica Alpert** married Jacob Silber at Jacob's Pillow in the Massachusetts Berkshires. Many alumnae attended, including **Aurelia Crouhy Cohen**, Chloe Cooney '04, **Stella Grizont**, **Lisa Kalikow**, Kate Levitt '02, Kala Maxym '01, Anna Pellicoli '01, and Carol Safran '66. Jessica and Jacob live in Boston, where she's a producer at WBUR, Boston's NPR affiliate. She also develops her own radio pieces, focusing mainly on religion.

Elisabeth (Lissy) Morcheles Carr, **Ilyse (Lisi) Langer Metzger**, and Katie Rubel '04 walked together in the Avon Breast Cancer Walk in New York City, raising over \$8,000. The two-day, 39-mile walk began near Barnard.

Emily Weiner visited **Molly Culver** for a weekend of organic farming in Santa Cruz, Calif. Emily also traveled to Santa Fe, N.M., last June to work with **Kristin Carlson** on an art installation project by world-record-holding card stacker Bryan Berg, for Holiday Inn. The exhibit was open to the public at South Street Seaport in New York, which **Sarah Kleiner** attended, and in Washington, D.C. Emily is enjoying more time painting and is in her first year of a master's program at the School of Visual Arts. **Julia Westerbeke** exhibited her art in California in 2009: at a Los Angeles solo show at compactspace; an Oceanside group show at the Museum of Art; and at a residency in San Francisco for the de Young Museum Artist Studio Program. Julia also works in design and marketing at Eileen West, and she hired Kristin Carlson to design

nd build the company Web site last summer. Kristin also did marketing, public relations, and design projects for the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Earth Clark Gallery, the American Lung Association, Hasbro, examiner.com, and others. She's happy to now have her office in downtown Santa Fe.

After four years in Washington, D.C., for law school and work, **Megan Tomigh** moved to Yokosuka, Japan, with the U.S. Navy. She's a criminal defense lawyer, or a judge advocate general (JAG). She attended the Navy's Officer Development School in Newport, R.I., with **Courtney Gordon-Tennant**.

Anna Melman

anna_melman@alum.barnard.edu



Kait Kerrigan '03

The 19th annual Kleban Award for most promising musical-theatre librettist was given to Kait Kerrigan.

A bookwriter, playwright, and lyricist, Kait has collaborated on half a dozen works including *Henry and Mudge*, which was commissioned by TheatreworksUSA and had an off-Broadway run at the Lucille Lortel Theatre in 2006. Kait's musicals, as well as plays *Imaginary Love* and *Transit*, have been developed by La Jolla Playhouse, Primary Stages, Manhattan Theatre Club, CAP21, and Goodspeed Opera House among others. She's a member of the BMI Advanced Musical Theatre Writing Workshop, ASCAP, and the Dramatists Guild.

04

Debra Tillinger will be on a research vessel in Antarctica this winter to study abrupt environmental change as part of her doctoral work in ocean and climate physics. She reports, "While I'm there, I'll be blogging about my experience for the general public and for a group of New York City middle school students whom I work with once a week."

Alexis Pauline Gumbs was named by *Utne Reader* as one of their "50

Visionaries Who Are Changing the World" for her media activism.

Amanda Stone graduated from Georgetown University Law Center last May. She's doing public interest work at the National Women's Law Center in Washington, D.C.

Teresa K. Miller, an Oakland teaching fellow, authored *Forever No Lo* (Tarpaulin Sky Press), and her manuscript *sped* was a finalist for the 2009 National Poetry Series.

Weddings abound for the Class of 2004! **Carolyn Simnett** married Steven Branco (CC '04) in May 2009. The couple will be members of the Columbia Business School class of 2011, and they are happy to be part of the greater Columbia community again. In September, **Danika Pramikh-Holdaway** married Bobby Ng in San Diego. Guests included **Karen Balonze**, **Celeste Rivera**, and **Christina Saratsis**, who were roommates with Danika for all four years at Barnard. **Josephine Barbieri Ettinger** was wed to Robert Ettinger (CC '04) in early October 2009, in London. Co-maids of honor were **Bernadine Goldberg** and **Regina Flores**. The other bridesmaids in the wedding were Lindsay Braverman '05, Erica Di Marco '05, and **Seechung Lee**. Bernadine says, "We had a great time and a fantastic reunion in London!" **Jody Mullen** married her high-school sweetheart, Gary Oeters, in October. She reports, "Standing up for me were Jessica Wells '00 and Irene Malatesta '05. **Blair Elefant** and Michelle Ricciuti '01 were guests."

Regine Setton Galanti completed her PhD in clinical psychology in June and had a baby girl, Sarah, in September.

Megan Mei Yin Lam
lam.megan@gmail.com

Jessy S. Warner-Cohen
jessy1@alum.barnard.edu

5th Reunion June 3–June 6, 2010

05

Colette Seter has been living in Center City, Philadelphia, since the summer of 2007 and is about to enter her third

year in Temple University's clinical psychology PhD program.

Gloria Tai just started her master's in business administration at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in Philadelphia. She'd love to meet classmates in the area.

Libby (Raffel) Smoler married Adam Smoler in Baltimore on June 28, 2009. Her bridesmaids included **Elizabeth Stone** and **Adeena Gabriel**.

Tracey Abner
267 North Wilton Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139-1417
215.747.7016
tabner1@gmail.com

06

Jill Donenfeld's *The Dish's Dish*, a weekly home chef service, now serves New York (plus the Hamptons) and Los Angeles (including Malibu). Check out *Culinista Kitchen*, a three-part DVD set that teaches you how to "cook like a Culinista," and *Le Yum*, an online video series. In July, Jill helped at a greenhouse café in Sweden, and she appeared in *Lucky* magazine.

Last May, **Jessica Brown** earned her master's in ethics, with a focus on international human-rights law and policy, from the Graduate Theological Union at the University of California, Berkeley. While writing her thesis, Jessica interned at Human Rights Without Frontiers in Brussels, Belgium, and was hired as a human-rights project consultant for La Via Campesina, an international NGO, where she worked with the office of the president of the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly. Jessica now works in Brussels as a youth coordinator for Pax Christi International.

Sarah Wilson Sherwin works for shewrites.com, a social and professional networking site for women writers in all genres and at all stages of their careers. She'd like to see more young women who are writing, or thinking about becoming writers, join the site.

Sophie Gorlin is on a Fulbright teaching assistantship in the Czech Republic. In April, she and **Rachel**

Quimby traveled to Moscow.

Nessa Heilpern Liben and her husband, Noah Liben (Columbia GS '04), welcomed their daughter, Ayelet Batya, in June.

Yocheved Schwartz Lindenbaum gave birth to Avital Yael Lindenbaum on Oct. 15, 2009.

Gauri Saxena is a third-year graduate student in the clinical psychology PhD program at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. She has spent time abroad since Barnard, including trips to Cartagena, Colombia, and Mexico City, where she got to know Elizabeth Collins '80. Gauri stays in touch with Tiffany Gillyard '07 and **Elana Slobodien**. Elana married her Chilean study-abroad boyfriend in December 2007 and moved to Brazil with her job at JPMorgan Chase in October 2009. Last July, she met with Maria Luiza Morad '09 in São Paulo.

Juliana Greenberg married Seth Sclair in Cleveland on May 25, 2009. Attendees included Leora Benson '08, **Joanna Chow, Michelle Herman, Dina Kalnicki, Avery Katz** (CC '06), **Sarah Kukin, Alexandra Leavenworth, Nicole Leavenworth,** and Ilana Lewis (CC '07).

Lindsay Dreyer signed with McDonald Selznick Associates, a major talent agency in New York, and appeared in an episode of *Ugly Betty*.

Our class president, **Maryangela (M.A.) Moutoussis**, returned to New York in April but misses Washington, D.C. She's a founding board member and director of Pets2Vets, a nonprofit dedicated to helping veterans overcome symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder through pet therapy. In partnership with Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington Animal Rescue League, and Animal Rescue Flights, Pets2Vets pairs veterans with their choice of dog or cat and offers free training programs and a year of free veterinary care. M.A. attended Leadership Assembly with **Vicki Kim** and she's excited to reach out to classmates and plan for Reunion.

Sarah McNally
2101 Chestnut Street, Apt. 426
Philadelphia, PA 19103
sarah.j.mcnally@gmail.com

08

Daniela Arreola-Segrove loves seeing **Michelle Biller-Levy, Sarah Cohen, Martina Szarek, and Judith (Ditty) Vick** on campus. She works at the Office of Admissions, where she's an admissions counselor. Last year, Sarah, the Web administrator at the College, launched a cooking blog with Jennifer Salenger '07 (her partner of several years), *getcookingblog.com*. She enjoys hearing from alumnae who love food. Martina is the Web editor for Barnard communications. She collects, edits, and creates content for Barnard's site and other Web presence (like Facebook and Twitter). If you're a Barnard Facebook fan or visit *barnard.edu*, there's a chance you've seen a photo she took or an article she wrote. She feels more connected to the College's community than ever before. One of her favorite parts of the job is working next to Sarah.

Caitlin Connolly spent the year traveling: living in a surf town in Japan, volunteering at an orphanage in Chile, backpacking around Southeast Asia, and spending a night in a berber tent during a sandstorm in a Moroccan desert. She stopped in Washington, D.C., for the presidential inauguration and in Barcelona to write an article about Catalan music for *Let's Go Travel*. Last summer, she was in Seattle learning Arabic and sailing. She's in her first year at Harvard Law School.

Mikah McCabe now works on the Energy Star program in Silver Spring, Md. She lives with her former Barnard roommate, **Eleanor Saxton**.

After a year in Spain on a Fulbright, **Kelsey Price** is now a business analyst with McKinsey and Company, a consulting firm. She's affiliated with the New Jersey office, and she regularly works with pharmaceutical clients in Spanish-speaking countries. She says it's the best of both worlds for a Spanish major with a biology minor. Kelsey has also been exploring her new neighborhood of Columbus Circle.

Elizabeth Psyck received her master's in library and information science from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information

Sciences. In November, she joined Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., as the government documents librarian and liaison to the departments of political science, international relations, and geology.

Parisa Roshan lives in Los Angeles and works for RAND. She'd love to connect with alumnae in L.A.

Cora Weiss worked on the successful campaign of German Minister of Parliament Hans-Christian Ströbele.

Brianna DeSantis
241 La Roche Avenue
Harrington Park, NJ 07640
201.741.5605/201.660.7285
brianna.desantis@gmail.com

09

Jennifer Feierman lives in Astoria and works in development at the East Harlem School, a private middle school serving low-income children. She recently connected with Kelsey Rennebohm '06, who is a Spanish teacher at the same school.

Celina Kelly spent the summer searching for a job. Having managed the Barnard store during college, she was eager to experience professional retail. She now works for Monnalisa, an upscale Italian children's clothing company. She still finds time to write and is working on a compilation of short stories about New York retail.

Nicole Matthews lives in Midtown and enjoys being a financial consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Before starting her job in August, she spent the summer traveling and fell in love with New Mexico. She looks forward to all the traveling her job will entail.

Laura Kenkel lives in Chelsea and works in the executive development program at Macy's Merchandising Group, which is "pretty sweet." —AL

Alexandra Loizzo
alexandra.v.loizzo@gmail.com

Jennifer Feierman
jennifer.feierman@gmail.com

Obituaries

Jane Auerbach Gould '40



Jane S. Gould, the first permanent director of the Barnard Center for Research on Women, died on Aug. 9, 2009, at age 91.

Gould returned to her alma mater in 1965 as director of the Barnard Placement and Career Planning Office and helped change women students' perceptions about their work options. Jane's interest in women and work brought her into the women's movement, and she became part of a working group at the College, which in 1971 succeeded in establishing the Women's Center. Jane became the first director of the Center in 1973. It began hosting major conferences the same year and attracted close to 1,000 women. The success of this was followed by the initiation of the signature event of the Center, "The Scholar & The Feminist," now in its 35th year, which continues to draw crowds and further feminist knowledge.

After retirement, Gould continued to make her mark on the women's movement by writing and participating in critical meetings. She participated in the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice at Seneca Falls in 1983 and in the United Nations NGO Conference on Women in Nairobi in 1985. She wrote a memoir, *Juggling: A Memoir of Work, Family, and Feminism*, and contributed to *Women's Studies Quarterly* and to two anthologies on women in higher education. She also served on the board of the Center for Constitutional Rights from 1984-1992.

On March 25, 2010, BCRW will present a panel titled "Women's History as Personal and Political: An Event in Honor of Jane S. Gould."

—Janet Jakobsen, Director, BCRW



**"I'm so proud to be a Barnard woman!
The College has profoundly
influenced my life, and my bequest
demonstrates my gratitude.**

**My fervent wish is that Barnard thrives
forever and that my bequest will help
her do so."**

—Alice Finkelstein Goldberg '53

**LEAVE A LEGACY!
Include Barnard in your estate plan.**

Contact
Audra M. Lewton
Planned Giving
212.854.0787
plannedgiving@barnard.edu

BARNARD
ATHENA SOCIETY

Aliyah Phillips '08



With heartfelt sadness, the College remembers former student Aliyah Phillips, who passed away on Nov. 10, 2009, just 10 days shy of her 23rd birthday. Born in Pennsylvania and raised in Athens, Georgia, Aliyah was an exceptionally intelligent and engaged member of the Class of 2008. She majored in sociology, and brought her dynamic personality, winning smile, endless curiosity, and generous spirit to Barnard's Black Organization of Soul Sisters (BOSS), where she served all four years in executive board positions from first-year representative to president in spring 2007, and to the Students of Color Leadership Retreat, the Leadership Team Sisters Circle, the peer diversity education program ROOTEd, and the Take Back the Night annual march.

"Barnard is a better place because of students like Aliyah," says Professor of Sociology Debra Minkoff, her advisor and mentor. In a letter written by Aliyah to Minkoff a year ago, she noted, "I've never regretted a day that I chose Barnard."

Aliyah is survived by her mother, Dr. Layli D. Phillips; father, Dr. Thaddeus H. Phillips, III; three siblings, Thaddeus, Alyssa, and Abigail; grandparents, Mary N. Worthy, Marjorie P. Phillips, Thaddeus H. Phillips, Jr., Pat Richman, and Nancy Cavins; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. She will be missed by the Barnard students, faculty, and staff whose lives she touched.

—Dorothy Denburg '70, Dean of the College

In Memoriam

- 1928 Florence Atkins Dunham, Aug. 24, 2009
- 1930 Ruth Goldstein Fribourg, Oct. 9, 2009
Jennie Schmidt Korsgen, Oct. 7, 2009
- 1932 Grace Joline Sonne, Jan. 24, 2004
- 1933 Imogene Jones Byerly, March 25, 2004
- 1936 Florence Hoagland McKerrow, June 9, 2009
Hazel Levine Tepper, Oct. 10, 2009
- 1937 Frances Bingham Dale, Aug. 8, 2009
- 1938 Helen Boyle Galbraith, Sept. 9, 2009
Emily Chadbourne Minor, Oct. 30, 2009
Shirley Bender Pensig, Nov. 2, 2009
- 1939 Elvira Nagel Morpeth, Nov. 26, 2009
Toussia Kremer Pines, Oct. 7, 2009
- 1940 Viola Peterson Butzner, Oct. 16, 2009
Jane Auerbach Gould, Aug. 9, 2009
Ann Landau Kwitman, Oct. 19, 2009
Jane King Nally, Oct. 5, 2009
Jean Cotillo Russo, Nov. 20, 2005
Joan Shalit Swee, Oct. 7, 2009
- 1941 Jane Rinck, Oct. 12, 2009
Doris Williams Yankee, Oct. 21, 2009
- 1942 Doris McGuffey Plough, Nov. 1, 2009
- 1943 Marion Bromilow Mendelson, Sept. 28, 2009
- 1946 Cecile Parker Carver, Sept. 26, 2009
Mary Barber Gray, Sept. 21, 2009
Phyllis Baron Luxemburg, Sept. 9, 2009
Sally Crane Summerell, Oct. 17, 2009
- 1947 Andi Emerson, Feb. 13, 2008
Anne von Phul Morgan, Nov. 23, 2009
- 1948 Margaret Wittmer Grace, Oct. 1, 2009
Frances Dowd Smith, Nov. 29, 2009
Janet Wright Sullivan, July 11, 2009
- 1949 Victoria Boothby Ross, Sept. 6, 2009
- 1950 Sheila Morris D'Aulnay, Jan. 1, 2005
Jane Joseph Sylvester, Oct. 18, 2009
- 1951 Marion Bell, May 4, 2009
Barbara Fisher Nemser, Nov. 4, 2009
- 1952 Monique Younger Prolsdorfer, Sept. 15, 2009
Gloria Sudbeaz Stauffer, April 18, 2008
- 1954 Ellen Franklin Wagner, Nov. 22, 2009
Muriel Huckman Walter, July 24, 2009
- 1956 Claude Laumont Janeway, May 1, 2009
- 1958 Jessica Hobby Catto, Sept. 30, 2009
Isabel Clahr Ford, June 15, 2009
Barbara Mann Goodman, May 20, 2009
- 1959 Mary Weber Hall, Oct. 15, 2009
- 1960 Elizabeth Franklin Ponton, Dec. 13, 2004
- 1961 Louise Mayer Kokakis, Sept. 20, 2004
- 1962 Pamela Zuckermann Humbert, April 25, 2009
- 1970 Karen Kisslinger, Nov. 9, 2009
- 1979 Valerie Caris, July 28, 2009
- 1982 Susanna Shields, Oct. 17, 2009
- 2008 Aliyah Phillips, Nov. 10, 2009

Barnard Around the World

The College takes up President Spar's challenge to increase its international presence

If there is one thing that has defined this young century, it's how "connected" the world has become. Barnard is no exception. "During the course of your life you are going to interact with people from China, Russia, and the Middle East, if not as friends, then certainly as colleagues and collaborators," says Barnard President Debora Spar. "The earlier people can get that exposure, the better."

To position Barnard as a leading institution of higher education with global stature and bring a bigger international presence to campus, the College has undertaken several initiatives. Among the newest is the International Advisory Committee (IAC) to be made up of alumnae and parents of students. Though still being formed (there are now 25 members and counting), the committee's goal is to enhance Barnard's reputation and academic credentials in all corners of the world. In addition, committee members will assist with local contacts in various regions to pave the way for partnerships with other colleges and universities and academic opportunities for faculty and students. "It's important to penetrate the local community if you want to have a global presence," says IAC member Tay Yun Cho '75, who lives in Seoul, South Korea. "If you don't know the local community, your efforts are going to be a little less effective." Cho is active in the alumnae association in Seoul and visits local high schools to speak about Barnard.

Currently international students comprise 4 percent of the student population, below the 8 percent to 14 percent rate of similar institutions. One explanation: With smaller numbers of alumnae going back to their home countries, there are fewer people talking about Barnard to potential students. While Barnard would like to increase the number of international students, one of the obstacles to doing so is that there isn't much financial aid to support overseas students. Some fundraising efforts for this purpose are beginning, "but we are not going to create more money for international students at the expense of our American students," affirms Spar.

In addition to the IAC, there are other international initiatives: The provost's advisory committee on internationalization has been meeting for the past five years and engages in curricular, research, and faculty-oriented issues where internationalization is concerned. In July 2008, Hilary



Link, assistant provost and dean for international programs, created a coordination group with those administrators who have connections to Barnard's internationalization efforts. The newest effort is the Visiting International Student Program (VISP), to bring international students to Barnard from partner universities for the spring semester each year.

In March 2009, an annual symposium to take place at a different overseas location each year was inaugurated in Beijing. The event addressed "Women Changing China" and commemorated Kang Tongbi, the first Chinese woman to attend Barnard a century ago. It drew several hundred participants, including scholars and media. Spar traveled to several locations in Asia, including South Korea and Hong Kong. The result was encouraging: Barnard entered into partnerships with several universities, three in China and two in Korea.

This March, Barnard will again host a symposium, in Dubai, where scholars and activists will address the roles of women in the Arab world. The goal is to create partnerships with higher-education institutions and academics in the Middle East.

The IAC is brainstorming additional ideas to advance the College. In Moscow, Maria Baibakova '07 wants to facilitate connections between Barnard and new, American-style higher-education institutions being founded in Russia. Baibakova, who runs the Baibakov Art Project in Moscow, would also like to help the College expand its offerings of contemporary art programs to students. Nina Fischman '86, who lives in Long Island, N.Y., but travels frequently to Israel, wants to build off the 350-person strong Israeli alumnae network to create opportunities for Barnard faculty to do research in the Middle East. Fischman's daughter is spending a gap-year in Israel before she enrolls at Barnard this fall. Last year, she participated in an event for other Barnard students spending their gap-year there. Students came together with alumnae who spoke about campus life. "They were able to see that after 20, 35, or 40 years someone still feels engaged enough with Barnard to talk to them," says Fischman. "That's powerful."

Reunion Gift Committees

A New Way to Build Support for Barnard

Late last year, Barnard began a new initiative to make its Reunion Giving program more robust, with the full support of President Debora Spar, who said, “establishing a strong Reunion Giving program is vital to raising the kind of philanthropy the College needs and deserves, which is why I am so excited about this endeavor.”

“Barnard offers a world-class education and we want to complement that with a world-class reunion giving program,” explains Bobbi Mark, vice president of development and alumnae affairs. Kelli Payne, director of reunion giving, who joined the development staff last summer, adds, “Many alumnae see reunions as milestones and a time to elevate their support to the College. At Barnard, we want to make sure that reunions foster even more of a ‘come back and give back’ tradition.”

The Reunion Giving program’s main goals are to increase participation, broaden leadership giving, and significantly expand the number of volunteers involved with reunion giving. Those volunteers can in turn reach out to their classmates in a personal way to support their alma mater. Says Payne, “We are asking alumnae with a demonstrated commitment to the College to recruit others so that Barnard can boast a volunteer corps proportional to the number of alumnae who truly value what the College has given them. The new Reunion Giving program will accelerate Barnard’s ability to develop a significantly larger number of fund-raising volunteers, similar to what has been in place for decades at peer institutions.”

The cornerstones of the new program are the Reunion Gift committees. Each committee will consist of a reunion gift chair or co-chairs and a specially selected group of volunteers, who will ask members of their class to consider leadership gifts above and beyond their typical giving in honor of their quinquennial reunion. Mark defines a leadership gift as “a stretch commitment that ranks Barnard as a top philanthropic priority for the alumna, in accordance with her capacity to provide financial support.”

The importance of the Reunion Gift committees cannot be overstated. “They provide the backbone for all reunion giving efforts and, along with the network of Barnard Fund chairs and class agents, the foundation of alumnae giving in general,” states Spar, who personally assisted in recruiting some of this year’s Reunion Gift chairs.

Serving as Reunion Gift co-chair held great appeal for Marley Blue Lewis '05. “I strongly believe in the school and understand how important it is to give back and support



Camille Kiely Kelleher '70



Marley Blue Lewis '05

the institution,” she says. As a younger alumna, Lewis is also keenly aware of her role in “encouraging a tradition of giving to Barnard,” since it has been repeatedly demonstrated that successful reunion gift programs and peer-to-peer solicitations positively impact overall future giving.

“It’s a great concept,” says Camille Kiely Kelleher '70, Reunion Gift chair for her class. “It’s still early, but the people I have called and asked to be on our committee are very happy to become involved.”

Along with this enhanced solicitation of gifts comes a new emphasis on the type of gift being requested. Instead of being encouraged to make a one-time gift during a reunion year, alumnae will be asked to maximize their commitment by considering gifts structured as five-year pledges. These multi-year pledges will be included in each class’s cumulative-giving reunion total, so that the donor and the class receive recognition for all restricted and unrestricted commitments—including critically important gifts to The Barnard Fund—made in the five years leading up to each class Reunion. “A five-year pledge is a great help to set the foundation for a lifetime of consistent giving,” says Payne.

“Any effort that can build up the amount of money donated to Barnard is great,” says Kelleher, who cites Barnard’s low endowment relative to other peer institutions and her own attendance on a scholarship as key reasons for her ongoing commitment to support the College. “I owe a lot to Barnard, so I’m happy to do what I can to give back.”

Because the program is new, and she is new to Barnard, Payne views this year as a “soft start.” She says, “We are still working on identifying committee members from each class; we want to create a vibrant reunion giving program that people look forward to being part of and supporting.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 2

You put so much (good) effort into producing *Barnard*, and I'd like to enjoy reading it even more.

—Karen Hall Herrel '63
San Mateo, Calif.

Legacies

A number of us have been discussing the Fall 2009 *Barnard Magazine*. We are sad to report that many of us share a discomfort with the most recent issue, specifically with its focus on legacy families. While women's desire to pass the Barnard experience on to their daughters, nieces, and granddaughters is a testament to the wonderful education that Barnard offers, we feel that focusing on these stories places undue emphasis on the privileged background that so many women at Barnard are lucky to come from. We acknowledge that not all legacy families come from positions of privilege, but a diverse representation of socioeconomic backgrounds seemed somewhat lacking in this article....

The overemphasis on legacy families seems to us connected to a second and more general point: the magazine's focus, time and again, on the publicly lauded career and financial success of its alumnae.... We all know Barnard alumnae who work tirelessly to support others ... as social workers, teachers, nurses, criminal advocates, Peace Corps volunteers, and so on. ... [T]heir work is important [and they] will likely never receive public recognition ... or even make enough money to make a sizable contribution to the College....

Our vision of Barnard is not of a bastion of privilege and inherited access, but of a community of creative, insightful, and hard-working women with diverse experiences and goals.... We hope to see our vision more fully represented in future issues of the magazine.

—Katherine Delaney '01
Brookfield, WI

[co-signed by 18 Class of 2001 alumnae, three Class of 2004 alumnae, and one Class of 2003 alumna]

Editors' Response: Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with us; we always welcome such comments as they tell us our content is being read and discussed. We do apologize if our intent was misread, but our aim with the legacy story was twofold: to show the great loyalty that Barnard inspires and the high-quality education that students here receive.

Despite so-called "generation gaps," many

young women do consider attending Barnard because a grandmother, mother, or great-aunt attended and felt the College had transformed her life for the better.

Three of the family stories involved sisters of the same generation who chose to attend the College because of the superior education they knew they would receive. (That knowledge superseded any notions of sibling rivalry.)

Please know that we strive to insure that our pages convey the great diversity Barnard encompasses, and encourages with a broad financial-aid program. Recently, articles have been written about alumnae working in difficult voluntary positions: one feature spoke about several alumnae working in Afghanistan; another article from an alumna commented about her life and work in Panama. Both were in Spring '08. Interviews with two environmental activists were featured in Spring '09. Additionally, several extended profiles within Class Notes have featured alumnae who are doing valuable work to benefit others without great financial reward; they include a humanitarian in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and an animal-rescue activist in Florida, among others.

Finally, we are always open to suggestions from our readers. Please feel free to get in touch with us about specific story ideas or alumnae you think might enrich the pages of Barnard.

—The Editors

The Last Hurrah

I just received *Barnard Magazine* for the first time—my daughter, Alison Palmintere, matriculated as a first-year at Barnard this year.

This is a great magazine, and I know my daughter's grandmother would love being on the mailing list for this. Would it be possible for you to send her a copy of the magazine and put her on the mailing list going forward?

—Nelda Palmintere PA13
Henderson, NV

Correction:

The full name of the illustrator of the art in "Alumnae in the Political Arena" was omitted from the Fall issue. It is Shane Harrison. We regret the error.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Continued from Page 3

centrifugal forces are clearly part of Barnard's appeal. Our students love being in the city and of the city. Yet I can't help but wonder if they're missing part of what used to be the rites of campus; the rituals, like the Greek Games, that drew everyone into a shared experience and created bonds that far outlived the festivities.

As we prepare to move into the glorious new Diana Center, I hope we can take time to think about what community means at Barnard, and what traditions we have, or might envision, that embody the indomitable sense of who Barnard women are and what they will become. I hope you will join in these conversations and I welcome any thoughts you might have.

In the meantime, best wishes for a New Year filled with cookies, and dancing, and whatever rituals you cherish most.

PROFESSOR PRESIDENTS

Continued from Page 7

"debriefing" at the end of a game, so that students understand what actually did happen.

"It was daunting at first," says Zahava Moerdler '13, who played Wan-Li's first grand secretary, the leader of the Secretariat. "I wasn't sure how to deal with each person. But in the end I really enjoyed it."

The format helps students such as Moerdler in many ways, observes Shapiro. They become more actively engaged with history, and they become more confident public speakers. It also teaches them that ideas develop in a historical context. "They don't just fall out of the sky," she says.

Perhaps most important, the format gets her students to think beyond themselves and their own experiences, at a time when exploring one's own identity and place in the world usually takes precedence. Shapiro says that's why she enjoys watching her students really take the lead in her class. "If you let go of the control," Shapiro says, "something good can happen."

LAST IMAGE: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Do you have an amazing photograph or print piece of art that you would like to share with fellow alumnae? Please send submissions to David Hopson at dhopson@barnard.edu.

DATELINES

Continued from Page 11

grueling stint at Daewon, where six hours of Korean-language instruction would be followed by another six in English. The program, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, is known for its rigor. But while Park says that high school may have stretched her “to the limit of human stress,” she says at Barnard she’s often required to spend more time thinking. “In Korea, if you sit down, you can do it.” Here, “a walk in Morningside actually might be more helpful than sitting at a desk.”

For years Park has assumed that she would one day work in international diplomacy, but after an internship last summer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in South Korea, she’s reconsidering. Instead, Park may pursue a doctorate in political science, perhaps in France. She’s quiet for a moment. Her dad, she explains, diplomatically dropping her voice to a near whisper, “says that grad school may be better in Europe.”

STAR ATHLETES & STUDENTS

Continued from Page 13

play,” she confesses. “I resisted. I wanted to be different. I couldn’t resist.”

Captain of her high school basketball team from her sophomore through senior year, she was recruited by Columbia and several other schools. But, Lomax, who hails from Washington, D.C., wanted to “get away from the East Coast” and chose Oregon State University. That college, which had a strong psychology department, offered Lomax an athletic scholarship and acceptance into its University Honors College. It wasn’t long before Lomax realized she missed her family back on the East Coast and the educational opportunities on Morningside Heights.

“I wanted to be closer to my family, and have a better education,” she admits, and is happy that her family can attend many of her games. “I wanted the best of as many worlds as possible, and the chance to win an Ivy League championship. Barnard is challenging, the professors are more accessible here, and I liked the ‘Nine Ways of Knowing’

more than the ‘Core.’ Barnard was similar to the image I had of college, of being able to choose [my] courses. I liked Barnard from the beginning. In high school, I always wanted to come here.” As someone who is passionate about what she does, Lomax values that quality at Barnard. “I love the professors I’ve come in contact with,” she says. “They’re so passionate about what they do. It’s kind of contagious....”

Even more enticing to someone who is “always looking for challenges” was the prospect of taking Columbia’s women’s team to an Ivy League championship. “I like being a trailblazer,” says Lomax. “I want to build the team and leave a mark on a program.” Then, Lomax already has. She leads the team in scoring, at a 17.2-point average per game, leads the Ivy League and nation in rebounding, at 14.0, and recently scored 30 points in a victory over Wagner College. And she’s seventh in career rebounding at Columbia. In January, she was named the Ivy League Women’s Basketball Player of the Week; it is the second time this season that Lomax has won the award, and the sixth time in her career. With such strong performances on the court, it’s no wonder that Lomax was selected as an All-Ivy first-team member. It’s “definitely an honor, and a nice start,” she says. “My main goal was to win a championship and my end goal is to win a championship.”

Lomax hopes to play professional basketball after college. “I’m not quite sure what I’d do otherwise,” says this psychology major, who is also considering law school and child psychology as future careers.

SYLLABUS: FINDING MEANING

Continued from Page 14

the class because her fiancé is French, and he’s getting his PhD in linguistics. They often talk about issues of translation. “Especially how we mutually don’t understand each other sometimes,” she says.

But the class also took a broader perspective. It examined the role translation has played in post-colonialism, globalization, and immigration, as well as

the role translators have played in conflict and war. The class also examined how different countries interpret the same event, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis. One guest lecturer discussed how U.S. history is represented in school textbooks around the world to show just how rarely history is presented objectively. “The sad fact is that much of the translation that’s going on today is going on in places of conflict and being performed in very arduous circumstances,” Connor says.

Diana Baron-Moore ’12 was particularly intrigued by *Translations*, a three-act play by Irish playwright Brian Friel. Set in a fictional town, it described the process the British used to translate place names in Ireland from Celtic to English in the nineteenth century. “I’m really interested in the hierarchies of language,” Baron-Moore says. “And I’m thinking of going into bilingual education. The space where culture and language establish power dynamics, I think, is a really important place to be conscious of.”

One subject area—community interpreting—particularly appealed to students. They studied just how critical and important translators are for immigrants in hospitals, schools, and police stations. They also heard a guest lecturer talk about the challenges and rewards of a community-interpreting program in Spain. “We need more and more translators,” Connor says. “And we need them to be aware of the ethical stakes and to be sensitive to the need for very high standards.”

Students say the topic opened their eyes to the fact that interpretation is also an issue of human rights. “How does a hospital make sure someone gets the right treatment?” asks Byung Jin Kang (CC ’11), who took the course. “How is that patient going to get all the help they need? I never thought of providing translation services as a human right. You see it everywhere in New York, but you never really think about it.”

Spooner says she’s now thinking of community interpreting as a possible career path. A friend interned with an organization in Harlem that works with African immigrants who speak French, and she’d like to do the same. She already knows from firsthand experience just how practical interpretation skills are. Spooner speaks French and recently

helped a French speaker on a plane explain to a flight attendant why his fragile musical instrument couldn't be stored in an overhead compartment. She soon found herself entangled in the middle of a heated argument, much like a comedy scene in a movie. "Both sides kept asking, 'What is he saying? What is he saying?'" Spooner says with a laugh. "It made my flight experience just a little bit better."

Now Connor says he's working to expand the translation program. He'd like to offer a course dedicated solely to community interpreting, and he hopes different language departments will soon begin to offer similar but more specific translation courses. He's also trying to encourage professors outside the language department to incorporate issues related to translation into their courses, even if it's just showing how the texts members of the class study may have been translated and by whom. "It's all evolving over time," Connor says. "And we're thinking constantly about how we can add more courses."

Explore the Translations Across the Disciplines event series through multimedia at alumna.barnard.edu/magazine.

SALON: MAGICAL MEETINGS

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with it." When you're young and uncertain and someone in authority says that to you, it's powerful.

Mentor-pupil pairing seems extremely personal. Elizabeth Hardwick was your mentor, and one of Mary Gordon's. Sigrid Nunez '72 wrote about Susan Sontag, her then boyfriend's mother.

That's true, and what's also interesting about the mentor relationship is that you often don't know you have a mentor while it's happening, it's something you sometimes only realize later on when you understand the significance someone has had in your life. You may recognize that you have a teacher who is influencing you, but you don't always actually give them that "mentor" label until sometime later when you have a broader perspective.

Was there one special gift all these mentors and muses gave these writers?

I think they gave the writers the courage to pursue something where there's no way to predict what will happen. You need a lot of courage to pursue an occupation where the rewards are so illusive, and mentors shower some gold dust on you.

TRANSLATION SPOKEN HERE

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interpreter at the Ministry.

Sharnoff also has translated countless animation scripts for popular Japanese shows such as *Dragon Ball* and *Doraemon*. But she most enjoys translating art and photography books (recently a book about kimonos and fabrics), and work on her own books, which include *Grand Sumo: The Living Sport and Tradition* (Weatherhill 1989, 1993).

The sheer variety of her work reflects the need to make a living as well as the depth and breadth of her interest in things Japanese. Sharnoff studied Japanese literature at Barnard and earned her Columbia master's in Japanese language and literature before traveling to Kyoto on a Fulbright in 1973. She took most of her undergraduate language classes at Columbia—with mixed results: "When I arrived in Kyoto I could read fourteenth-century Japanese poetry, and could buy something in a store, but I wasn't able to ask if I could try something on."

Her conversational skills soon improved, and she decided to stay in Japan after her Fulbright studies were completed. Her first gig was for a feminist press that couldn't pay her, but paying jobs soon followed.

THEORY AND PRACTICE

These days, translating plays different roles in each woman's life. Since 1987, Carnicke has been a professor of theatre and Slavic languages at the University of Southern California, teaching courses on subjects such as Greek and Roman drama, acting theory and Shakespeare. She's also one of the leading scholars of the Stanislavsky method of acting. Her skill as a translator has informed and inspired much of her work on Stanislavsky, a topic that caught her eye while at the HB Studio, a New York theatre school. "An acting teacher,

Aaron Frankel, asked me to look up a term from Stanislavsky's Russian books," she recalls. "When I looked at the books, I found that his native language writings bore little resemblance to the familiar English translations."

That discovery eventually led to her first book, *Stanislavsky in Focus*, which came out in 1998 and is now in its second edition. She's currently working on *Active Analysis: Stanislavsky's Approach to Dramatic Texts*.

Kennedy worked for 13 years on her third book, *The Negritude Poets* (Viking, 1975, Thunder's Mouth Press, 1989), an anthology of poetry written by four generations of black French-colonial poets from the Caribbean, Africa, and the Indian Ocean islands, with a foreword by Maya Angelou. Kennedy's research for the project included the work she did on *Black Writers in French*, trips to Senegal and Algeria, and as much time reading as she could spare—time that was hard to find while she and her husband were raising a family.

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Work as a translator can open new horizons, but each culture has its challenges. Sharnoff, for example, soon encountered strong gender bias in Japanese culture (the bias has since diminished, but by no means, disappeared).

The demands also vary from job to job. For example, Carnicke talks about the difficulties of translating Chekhov for the stage. "When I translate, I am really looking to retain all the ambiguities and all the gaps. I don't want to make the actors' choices for them, I want to allow the actor to pick this up and hear the voices of the character as I hear them in Russian."

Abrahamsen's method for translating technical descriptions of art and architecture is more cut and dried. "I am not at all interested in translation theory—I am a very practical, very down to earth person—I'm very square, and I want things to be correct."

With that in mind, Abrahamsen often has to research the right architecture terminology in English. "I read the term in Finnish, Danish, etc., and I know what it looks like, but you don't want to say 'it goes up and is pointy in the middle.'"

And then, of course, there is the issue of income. Ellen Kennedy's commitment to her work has earned her a reputation as a translator and scholar, but it hasn't

earned her much money. “I can’t talk about a career in the business—I certainly have serious pursuits and financial support for them, but I couldn’t have lived on what I made as a translator,” she says.

Advice for would-be translators? First, work on your own writing. “If you’re not a good writer in your own language, no matter how good you are with the foreign languages you’re not going to be a good translator,” says Sharnoff.

Second, follow your bliss—and find your niche. “Find a topic that you absolutely love, and then find some strange aspect of it that no one else knows about and make that your specialty,” says Abrahamsen. “That way you’ll be happy and make money.”

INTO THE BLOGOSPHERE

Continued from Page 33

thought about potential employers or professors looking at my blog. If they did, I have nothing to hide. I’m not ashamed of anything. I’m not scared of putting anything on my blog.”

There can be reasons to be scared, if not ashamed. Many authors of “personal blogs”—including Hunt, until recently—write anonymously to maintain their privacy. Others publish their names but blog about extremely limited subjects—Israeli politics, or photography, rather than one’s marriage or children—so as not to reveal one’s private life on a public Web site.

Including too many details on a blog can lead to awkward situations, such as the time that Kristina “Krissie” McMenamin ’05 wrote on her fashion blog that she’s only once seen her boss in a skirt. “Someone told me later that [my boss] had read it,” McMenamin says. “I freaked out because I didn’t know my boss read my blog. She never said anything to me, and told someone else that she was flattered that I wrote about her. But since then I haven’t mentioned anything about anyone else’s personal style, unless I think it’s really great.” (Camahort Page said that only 3 to 5 percent of abandoned blogs come to an end because the author’s family or employer finds out about it; the most common reasons for giving up blogging are lack of time, and loss of interest in the topic.)

One Barnard alumna, who graduated in the late 1990s, asked to remain anonymous

because her blog, “Breeding Imperfection,” focuses on her two children’s multiple, deadly food allergies, and on her older son’s hemophilia. Although those who know her can easily connect her family with the Web site, she doesn’t want her husband’s potential employers (she herself left graduate school to care for her children) to be able to discover, by Googling their names, that their health insurance must cover the older boy’s \$11,000-per-month treatments. Nor does she wish her son to be denied health insurance in the future because of her blog.

She blogs partly because writing about parenting helps her evaluate her own performance, and partly because, as an ex-academic, she needs the intellectual exercise, but “the more ruthless aspect of why I blog,” she says, is that problems like bleeding disorders and anaphylactic shock are not “appropriate topics for casual conversation, unless you want to end the conversation.” Like Hunt, she often feels invisible.

“I make my audience listen to me,” she says of her blog, specifying that her site gets only about 30 “hits” a day, and she is writing to “a pretend audience, the girlfriend to whom you can say anything.”

“I have a kid who needs me to stick needles in him,” she continues. “He needs to be comfortable with the needles. So we empower him by teaching him to perform the procedure himself. This gives people the willies. I can’t talk about it. But I can blog about it.” Still, she adds, there is much about her personal life she does not post, since she knows that her parents and in-laws are regular readers.

Camahort Page confirmed that a large percentage of women bloggers are new mothers, mothers of special needs children, or grieving mothers—in other words, women who feel isolated and use blogging as a way to reach out to others who “get it.”

“I’m surprised by the random people who leave comments on my posts,” Hunt says. “It’s a funny feeling—it’s lovely. There are people out there connecting with me. Even if they don’t know the whole me, they know the ‘Living in Invisible Cities’ me. The community of parents online with special-needs kids is so supportive, full of caring people who reach out and offer a kind word. It’s special to be part of that.”

More Barnard bloggers at alumnae.barnard.edu/magazine.

LAST WORD: WOMEN’S LAW REPORTER

Continued from Page 76

including the Women’s Center at Barnard College. With the dean’s conditions met, the *WRLR* was permitted to reside at Rutgers Law School. To our dismay, however, the administration decreed that there was to be no mention of Rutgers Law School in the publication.

A staff of student volunteers was assembled. It was agreed that *WRLR* would not become a typical law review, but would function as a law reporter featuring short articles and case summaries exclusively on women’s rights issues. It was also agreed that *WRLR* would incorporate graphics, rejecting the look of the typical law journal. Our first issues were collectively conceived and published with conscious effort made to avoid the traditional law review hierarchy.

WRLR was fortunate to have Professor Ginsburg as faculty advisor. She had a deep and active interest in women’s rights issues. She had authored the American Civil Liberties Union’s Supreme Court brief in *Reed v. Reed* in 1971 and was preparing to teach a new seminar on women’s rights. As faculty advisor, Professor Ginsburg devoted many hours to writing and editing, counseling the staff, attending meetings, and inevitably mediating with the administration when problems arose. Her comment on *Reed v. Reed* appeared as the lead article in the first issue published at Rutgers.

By the spring of 1973, *WRLR* had published three issues, a labor of love by the student board. Forty years later, it is still publishing at Rutgers Law School—the first among many current legal publications devoted to women’s issues. It is the gift of a remarkable historical moment, nurtured by a Barnard connection. For that we are grateful.

After 35 years of practicing law in Washington, D.C., Elizabeth Langer closed her law office, moved to Manhattan, and began a second career in painting, printmaking, and collage. She has a studio on West 28th Street and her work can be seen at elizabethlanger.com. A solo exhibit at FX Fowle Architects Gallery, 22 West 19th Street will open in March. The Barnard community is invited to the opening reception March 25 at 5:30 PM.





The Birth of the *Women's Rights Law Reporter*

Remember 1968? Many of us Barnard graduates vividly recall the turmoil, political longings and sense of empowerment we felt during that year—the Vietnam War protests, the Institute for Defense Analysis recruiting on Columbia's campus, Columbia's plans to gentrify Morningside Park. We had worked hard to get to Barnard and even harder to make it through to graduation. But the historical moment that year was unlike any other.

Each of us processed this remarkable year in our own way. To me it confirmed that students could initiate meaningful change in an academic institution. In 1969, I set aside carefully drawn plans to pursue a teaching career in European history and joined the defense staff of the "Chicago Conspiracy Trial." Working with David Dellinger, Abbie Hoffman, Tom Hayden, Jerry Rubin, Bill Kunstler, and Leonard Weinglass on that five-month political trial provided me with organizing skills and a very different life direction. In 1970, I enrolled in Rutgers Law School—Newark, affectionately known as "People's Electric Law School."

The entering class was 20 percent women—a previously unheard of proportion. The exhilaration among the entering women students was palpable. In making the decision to apply to law school, we were stepping out of our comfort zones. Ours was a generation groomed to be housewives, teachers, secretaries, or nurses. Not one of us women arrived at law school in 1970 with a lifelong ambition of becoming an attorney; that was not an avenue of choice normally presented to women of our generation. To the contrary, a woman entering law school in 1970, or before, can be presumed to have a story. These stories touch on common themes: how we arrived, the obstacles in our paths, our responses to these obstacles, what we absorbed and what we rejected in the legal curriculum, how we altered a hitherto male-dominated legal profession, where we took our newly minted knowledge and power, and lastly where we landed and how we link ourselves to the generation of women law students today.

In 1970, the women's movement was beginning to take hold, and women's consciousness-raising groups were being formed under the slogan "Sisterhood is Powerful." The group meetings were empowering, with supportive women discussing gender issues during a time of dramatic gender evolution. To mediate my entry into law school, still a male domain, I joined a women's group in Newark. It included Ann Marie Boylan, a recent graduate of Rutgers Law School. At an early meeting, Boylan spoke about her efforts to establish a new feminist journal—the *Women's Rights Law Reporter* (*WRLR*)—in her Newark apartment. At that time, the notion of a legal journal focused on women's issues was a novel and fairly radical idea. Boylan had managed to publish one issue, but lacked funds and personnel to keep the publication afloat. To me it made perfect sense that the journal should be housed at Rutgers Law School. A number of my fellow students agreed. "Piece of cake," I thought.

After meeting with Rutgers' dean James Paul, we realized it would not be a "piece of cake." The law school administration was less than eager to embrace the new publication on women's rights. We were told that Rutgers would provide neither funds nor office space nor an affiliation with the Law School. Our only hope for keeping *WRLR* alive was to raise the needed funds ourselves, find a faculty advisor acceptable to the dean, and negotiate for office space.

There was enough student interest to begin satisfying the administration's conditions. Professor Ruth Bader Ginsburg was asked and readily agreed to take on the position of faculty advisor. With the support of Professor Annamay T. Sheppard, the Rutgers Urban Legal Clinic made space for the *WRLR* in an old building they occupied behind the main law school facility. An advisory board was established including Professor Arthur Kinoy, Pauli Murray, and Eleanor Holmes Norton. Fund-raising letters were mailed out, and we managed to secure small grants from several organizations,

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