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Wooster Magazine: 2011-Present

Winter 2011

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Karol Crosbie

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Andy Weaver’s passion for spiders influences students to become leaders in the field

Global health care motivates Wooster alumni

Chinese and Japanese art exhibition stimulates teaching and learning
From the alumni director

My favorite commemorative brick on campus is inscribed, “I learned, I laughed, I loved, I left.” Like most seniors walking through Kauke arch at commencement, returning to campus (other than for reunions) was not likely. Our aim was to move beyond the Oak Grove, and we left. I knew a career in education was in my future and never imagined that it would bring me back to Wooster. After 25 years, I expected changes on campus. There are new, improved buildings and a recreation center on the way. However, I am most impressed by what has stayed the same: the reasons students choose Wooster. The Class of 2014 cited the following:

“I wanted to be surrounded by people who love learning, and I am excited by how warm and welcoming the school and the students are.”

“Wooster is a place where students become and do whatever they set their minds to.”

“They have passion for their studies and truly are ‘independent minds, working together.’”

“It already feels like home. The sense of community is through the roof!”

Sounds like the Wooster I knew when I was a student, and I am delighted to be back.

The New Year brings an opportunity for reflection, and a chance to engage in strategic thinking. This past fall, I met with many of you and listened to your thoughts and hopes for the College as it strives to implement the strategic objectives and initiatives set forth by President Cornwell. This comes on the heels of a recent survey of alumni. One of the goals of the Alumni Relations Office—and the focused objective of this survey—is to engage alumni with the College by determining what is important to you. Your responses will shape our collective future. The participation rate was 27 percent, a wonderful response. More about the survey results can be found on page 6.

Wherever I meet alumni, your generosity, gratitude, and loyalty toward the College are palpable. You are Wooster. You are the embodiment and end result of what our alma mater aspires to be— independent minds, working together. Your contributions of time, talent and capital move Wooster forward, as the College continues to advance in rankings, in worldwide stature, and especially in the quality of the students it attracts. By promoting Wooster, engaging with each other, and aiding our efforts to secure financial resources through gifts to The Wooster Fund, you move the needle ever upward. I thank you now and always for championing The College of Wooster.

Go, Scots!

Heidi McCormick ’86
On the cover: A detail from Six Crabs, a hanging scroll by Qi Baishi.

COVER PHOTO: Matt Dilyard
The great bagpipe blunder

I read your article on Wooster's bagpipes and bagpipers with great interest and enjoyment. I was somewhat surprised, however, to discover that a set of pipes contains a bass drum and a couple of tenor drums. The better to make an ear splitting noise, presumably.

As Wooster's first (to the best of my knowledge) student piper (that was in 1940), I feel qualified to tell your readers that the word should not have been "drums" but "drones." Those are the pipes that don't play tunes, but just sit on one note and accompany the real music. And the tunes, including the 32nd-notes (grace-notes, really), are played on the chanter.

But never mind technicalities. It was a real pleasure to hear how important bagpiping has become at Wooster, and how much piping is being done. Long may ye skirl!

CHARLES CHANDLER '40
LEXINGTON, MASS.

In the middle of page 18 the word "drum" occurs three times where clearly "drone" was intended. And on page 19 "full plate" surely should be "full plaid." (Plaid, pronounced "played," is the piece of tartan worn around the body and over the left shoulder in full dress.)

I learned the pipes at Wooster and am playing today with the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums in Virginia, so I'm always glad to read an article that, like yours, takes piping seriously. Thanks for a fine magazine,

RICHARD H. HUNTER '65
ALEXANDRIA, VA.

I want to let you know how much I enjoyed your article, "The Pipers." I have played the Great Highland bagpipe for more than 10 years, and I really appreciate any article that shines a positive light on our instrument and shows how much hard work goes into sounding good. Hopefully it will open some eyes to the bagpipe's potential.

One minor correction: On page 18, you mention the bagpipe's "drums," as in, "the two tenor drums and the bass drum." The correct term for that part of the bagpipe is drone, not drum, but it's easy to see how, vocally, they sound similar.

KEVIN PALM
GRAFTON, OHIO

Abbreviated tradition

You can't be serious! You're writing a story about "Wooster's Choral Tradition" and not only do you not mention such contributors to the choral tradition as Karl Trump, Eve Richmond and Dale Moore, but you jumped from Karl Merz (with a nod to Jack Russell's 34-year legacy) to the current new choral director, Lisa Yosviak.

To write about Wooster's choral tradition without reminding us of the rich, eccentric, enthusiastic, wonderful guidance and direction of Professors R. T. Gore and John R. Russell would be laughable if it weren't so sad!

It is as if you had written about the history, tradition, and success of Wooster's men's basketball program without mentioning Mose Hole or Al Van Wiel!

GORDON COLLINS
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, PSYCHOLOGY

From the editor

Thank you to all the good-humored pipers who contacted me, none of whom used the word "clueless." Blame the mistake on aging ear drums. Err, ear drums.

Regarding choral traditions: The goal of the magazine is to honor the past and report on the present. It's a delicate and important balance. We regret that the use of the word "tradition" may have made the feature appear to be something it wasn't—a complete historic account.

The good news is that a book is underway that can be comprehensive in a way that the magazine can't. See the adjacent page.

KAROL CROSBIE
EDITOR
A modern history of the College in progress: Help wanted

To write the modern history of The College of Wooster, I need the help of every former student who is able to contribute. *Wooster of the Middle West*, two volumes by Lucy Lilian Notestein, concluded in 1944. The new book will carry Wooster's story from 1944 into the 21st century, through the presidencies of Howard Lowry, Garber Drushal, Henry Copeland, and Stan Hales, and into the presidency of Grant Cornwell. We will interview presidents, alumni, faculty, and other friends of the College. We will study the archives.

But any personal touch you add to the historical picture of the College will be welcome:

- Your experiences on campus, significant or seemingly trivial.
- The true learning experience, hard work and worth it, in classrooms, labs, and library.
- Favorite faculty and not so favorite.
- Adventures in the dorms, from pillow fights to bull sessions. What did you talk about—and did the culture and politics of the time infuse those sessions? Did boys and girls—as we were called before students were called men and women—talk about different things? Anecdotes, humorous or otherwise.
- Friendships, brief or lifetime, fostered at the College.
- Letters you've kept, or other written material. (Tell me about them or quote from them, but, for now, don't send anything.)

Besides these important general subjects, we are particularly interested in certain seminal events you may have been part of or know about. A few examples: The march from campus downtown after the 1970 Kent State killings and the related gathering in Lowry Center; the open letter from the Presbyterian Scholars in 1960 about religion at the College; the ’70s rallies outside Galpin to protest parietal rules. In short, anything that can cast light on more than six decades of change and progress.

With your contributions, please give me a touch of biographical material—the dates you attended Wooster, your major, perhaps the title and a brief description of your I.S., what you are doing now, how your Wooster education impacted your life. If you have pictures that might fit a book, tell us (but don’t send them for now). Some of your messages will lead to further exchanges, so let me know how to reach you.

Please send me your thoughts and memories, preferably by e-mail, or letters (handwritten or typed)—but, please, no telephone calls for the time being. We are not desperate for instant responses, but the sooner you offer your memories, the less likely you are to forget to do it. Together we will create the modern history of the College.

Thank you,

JERROLD K. FOOTLICK
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JKFCC@NC.RR.COM
IN THE NEWS

U.S. collegiate cricket attendance record broken

From the Oct. 15, 2010 Plain Dealer:
"Cheers to Grant Cornwell, president of The College of Wooster, for an inspired bit of creativity and cultural education. Left standing at the goal post by its scheduled opponent for the homecoming football game, the school whipped up a cracking good cricket match instead."

Egged on by their enthusiastic president, 967 spectators showed up at the homecoming cricket match against a team made up of members of the City of Wooster's international community. The game broke the record for the largest U.S. collegiate cricket game, set last year by Montgomery College, which drew 400 fans to a match in New York.

Cricket is a long-time tradition at the College, and current squad members, whose homes include Pakistan, India, Bosnia, Nepal, and Pittsburgh, represent the diversity of Wooster's students.

New CD by Jack Gallagher

The newest recording of compositions by Jack Gallagher, professor of music, is receiving critical acclaim from reviewers, and classical radio stations nationwide have given the CD widespread airplay. Recorded at Abbey Road Studios by the London Symphony Orchestra, the CD features Gallagher's "Diversions Overture," "Berceuse," "Sinfonietta for String Orchestra," and "Symphony in One Movement: Threnody."

Wooster magazine receives award

Wooster magazine received a gold (first place) award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District V for best alumni magazine in the category of publications produced by fewer than three full-time employees. Wooster edged out other magazines in this category from Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan.

College chosen for global curriculum enhancement project

The College has been chosen to participate in General Education for a Global Century, a curriculum and faculty development project organized by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and funded by The Henry Luce Foundation. Wooster was one of 32 colleges and universities selected in a competitive process.

Institutional teams will first take stock of opportunities for global learning on their campuses and then identify common areas of interest and concern with other institutions, via a social networking website and an intensive summer institute.
Music professor elected to national post

Nancy Ditmer, professor of music education and director of the Scot Marching and Symphonic Bands, has been elected president of the National Association for Music Education.

Faculty author honored

Denise Bostdorff, professor of communication studies, was recognized at the National Communication Association annual meeting for her book, Proclaiming the Truman Doctrine: The Cold War Call to Arms. Bostdorff received the Bruce E. Gronbeck Political Communication Research Award, presented to the author of the best political communication work of the past two years.

Scot Center milestones build excitement

As Wooster’s new athletic facility takes shape, two milestones were cause for celebration. The College contracted with an Ohio-based solar company to install a 20,000 square-foot-solar roof, the largest on any college facility in the country. It will generate 271,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each year, enough to power one residence hall.

Carbon Vision LLC will install the roof and for the next 12.5 years will own it and lease it to the College, which will purchase the power the roof generates. At the end of that term, the College will receive title to the roof, which has a life of up to 40 years.

A second milestone occurred when an estimated 1,000 members of the Wooster family signed a beam that will hang in the northeast corner of the main floor, visible to all who use the Center for generations to come. “The beam-signing was a way to reinforce that this building is for everyone,” said Bob Rodda, director of Lowry Center, who spearheaded the effort. “For the people who signed it, it’s a link to the campus forever.”

The 12,000 square-foot-facility, scheduled to open in January 2012, will house four courts for basketball, tennis, and volleyball; an NCAA regulation 200-meter running track; a fitness center; new locker rooms; athletic department offices; and meeting rooms.

Scot Center beam-signers included trustees, student athletes, faculty, staff, alumni, and townspeople. Photo: Matt Dilyard
Alumni survey results  
We asked; you answered  

By Heidi McCormick ’86, director of Alumni Relations and The Wooster Fund

In true Wooster fashion, thousands of alumni (more than 27 percent) from the classes of 1935 to 2010 answered our call for participation in the spring 2010 alumni survey. Thank you! The Office of Alumni Relations confirmed many important pieces of information about how you prefer to receive communications, what you find meaningful, your perceptions about your giving to Wooster, and how the Office of Alumni Relations can better connect with you.  

One of the things learned is that we need to ask your opinion more often! Alumni rated Wooster magazine as an important source of information, as it can provide in-depth news, alumni features, and Class Notes. Younger alumni would like to see more targeted communications, especially through e-mail and social media. And, even though interest in Wooster events did not rate as a high priority, over a third of you are interested in connecting with fellow alumni in your local areas.

The findings pertaining to philanthropic motivation were the most revealing and warrant further inquiry. Almost sixty percent believe that annual financial support of the College is very important. Motivation for giving includes the desire to give back and an ongoing commitment to the College.

However, the current alumni giving rate for The Wooster Fund is 33 percent. This discrepancy between attitudes and behavior affirms that it is essential to communicate each year about the importance of every gift to The Wooster Fund.  

High alumni participation rate is an indicator of the strength of the College and alumni support and helps offset the College’s annual operating budget. In addition, when the College seeks grant funding, our Wooster Fund participation rate is a measure of the College’s vitality. The importance of your participation in the annual fund each year at a level comfortable to you cannot be stressed enough. Your gift matters!  

Your answers to the survey are already being used to guide the Office of Alumni Relations and The Wooster Fund to better connect with the 26,000 alumni living around the world. Just to name one example, the online alumni directory is receiving an overhaul to expand functionality and be more user-friendly. Here are a few additional items we learned:  

- Ninety-two percent indicated that Wooster provided them with the tools to become creative and independent thinkers;  
- 88 percent own Wooster gear;  
- 53 percent attended Alumni Weekend at least once;  
- 50 percent volunteered for Wooster;  
- 48 percent connect with fellow classmates at least once a year;  
- 41 percent have a Wooster brick.

Results of the survey will be evident in each of our strategic initiatives, moving forward. Again, thank you for your opinion.

Upcoming events

MAR. 12: Scot Symphonic Band, Columbus, Ohio  
MAR. 13: Scot Symphonic Band, Maria Stein, Ohio, Wooster Chorus, West Chester, Ohio  
MAR. 14: Wooster Chorus, Cin., Ohio  
Scot Symphonic Band, Swanton, Ohio (Toledo area)  
MAR. 15: Scot Symphonic Band (Detroit area)  
   Wooster Chorus, Louisville, Ky.  
MAR. 16: Wooster Chorus, Knoxville, Tenn.  
Scot Symphonic Band, Batavia High School, Batavia, Ill.  
MAR. 17: Wooster Chorus, Dunwoody, Ga.  
MAY 4: Alumni Attributes, Cleveland, Ohio  
MAY 24: Alumni Attributes, Boston, Mass.

For information on times and locations, go to http://woosteralumni.org
New Board members

The Alumni Board welcomed its newest members, who began their three-year terms in June, 2010: (from left, bottom row) Diana Dewey Emanuele '78 is executive assistant for masters programs at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa.; Zoe Gustafson '74 is an accountant for the University of South Florida Pediatrics in Tampa, Fla; (top) Barry Eisenberg '85 is director of communications and marketing for the Plastics Industry Trade Association in Washington, D.C.; Steve Graff '68 is a management consultant with The College Board in Reston, Va; Lee Eberhardt Limbird '70 is dean at the School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Business at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn; Chris Thomas '83 is vice president for sales at Pathfinder Consulting in Union, Tex.

Call for Distinguished Alumni Award

To nominate an alumnus or alumna for a Distinguished Alumni Award, please complete and submit the nomination form found on http://woosteralumni.org/award by July 1, 2011. The award is presented annually to alumni who exemplify Wooster's dedication to excellence and commitment to service, and have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas: professional career, service to humanity, and service to Wooster.

GLBT alumni and friends “Go True”

The launch of Going True, The College of Wooster's first organization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender alumni and their friends and allies, was celebrated during Homecoming 2010.

Alumni Board member Daren Batke ’02 (pictured below), who chairs the group's steering committee, said the organization will help to promote the College's mission of inclusivity and respect.

One of the initial objectives of the 10-person steering committee is to reach out to the approximately 200 alumni who have expressed interest in the group. “We can also reach out to current students who may feel isolated and alumni who have never before identified themselves,” says Batke.

Going True (http://woosteralumni.org/) will play an active role in developing, publicizing, and awarding the John Plummer Memorial Scholarship for Promoting a Welcoming Campus for LGBT People, awarded annually to a current student. John Plummer '64, who died in 2006, was an openly gay man who was a lifeline to others in the community. He served the College for 36 years as an instructor, accounting supervisor, and assistant treasurer.
Philosophers tussle with paradigms and challenge hidden assumptions. It's what they do. So when President Grant Cornwell (pictured, right) suggested engaging alumni and parents in the strategic planning process, Dean Henry Kreuzman (left) was not surprised. The two administrators are also members of the College's philosophy department.

Strategic planning and curriculum discussions at colleges are usually restricted to on-campus groups and are frequently met with glazed eyes. But a new twist on strategic planning emerged when Cornwell posed a simple question: "Why don't we ask our alumni?" The result was a new paradigm for connecting alumni and parents to the strategic planning process.

The first step in the College's strategic planning process, taken more than a year ago, was to revisit the mission statement. "We didn't change what Wooster is," explains Cornwell, "but rather rearticulated our core values."

A next step was to engage the campus community in a discussion about how our curriculum and co-curricular programs support the College's core mission.

"Rather than looking at our curriculum as an end in itself, we looked at it as a means to an end," says Kreuzman, dean for curriculum and academic engagement. "In order to do this, we engaged faculty, staff, and students in a conversation about what personal and intellectual qualities we want to nourish and cultivate in our students." The result was a working document of Graduate Qualities.

Clearly articulating these qualities has facilitated a shift in campus thinking, says Kreuzman. "With this end in mind, we are able to be more intentional about our curriculum and resources. The crucial question becomes: What can we do differently in order to help our students to develop these personal and intellectual qualities?"

Cornwell's question was a second shift, a paradigm change. "If we are talking about the outcomes of a Wooster education, how can we possibly do that without asking the people who are out there?" he asked.

And so Cornwell and Kreuzman began a series of conversations with alumni and the parents of students. More than 300 people showed up at sessions in Washington, D.C., New York, Columbus, and Chicago. More sessions will be conducted in San Francisco, Cleveland, Boston, and Naples.

The administrators (and philosophers) presented to their new planners the list of graduate qualities that had been shaped on campus and asked two questions: "Are these the qualities we should be aspiring to cultivate in our graduates?" and "Did your Wooster education provide you with a foundation in these qualities?"

Alumni met the challenge with enthusiasm and critical thinking, and two core messages emerged. At the session in Washington, D.C., an alumnus said, "Wooster gave me an ethical foundation. The way I move through the world, as someone who is concerned about making the world a better place, is a direct result of my Wooster experience. You need to say more about that."

"And so we did," says Cornwell.

The second request was an increased emphasis on "Real-life 101"—competencies that would bridge the gap between college and professional working lives. The liberal arts provide a foundation for connecting theory and practice. "As we seek to find ways to do a better job of fulfilling our mission and helping our students transition from their college experience to their future lives, we'll call on our alumni and parents to provide opportunities and mentoring," says Cornwell.

The College of Wooster is a community of independent minds, working together to prepare students to become leaders of character and influence in an interdependent global community. We engage motivated students in a rigorous and dynamic liberal education. Mentored by a faculty nationally recognized for excellence in teaching, Wooster graduates are creative and independent thinkers with exceptional abilities to ask important questions, research complex issues, solve problems, and communicate new knowledge and insight.
GRADUATE QUALITIES

Graduates of the College should exhibit the following personal and intellectual capacities:

Independent thinking  Engage in critical and creative thinking; devise, formulate, research, and bring to fruition a complex and creative project; embody the intellectual curiosity, passion, and self-confidence necessary for lifelong learning.

Integrative and collaborative inquiry  Synthesize knowledge from multiple disciplines; actively integrate theory and practice; engage in effective intellectual collaboration.

Dynamic understanding of the liberal arts  Understand disciplinary knowledge in arts, humanities, social sciences, mathematics, and physical and natural sciences; use and integrate methodologies from multiple disciplines; apply knowledge and methodologies to real-world problems.

Effective communication  Exhibit skill in oral, written, and digital communication; engage in effective discourse through active listening, questioning, and reasoning.

Global engagement and respect for diversity  Understand the histories, causes, and implications of global processes; engage with the global community through knowledge of a second language; understand and respect diverse cultural and religious traditions; display self-reflective awareness of one’s role as a citizen in a diverse local, national, and global community.

Civic and social responsibility  Appreciate and critique values and beliefs, including one’s own; demonstrate ethical citizenship and leadership and embody a concern for social justice; exhibit a commitment to community and serving others.

“Independent Thinking is key! I see Wooster graduates as free-thinkers, innovators, risk takers. Being comfortable with creating new ideas to explore and research is key to expressing the Wooster experience.”

“In an era where professional specialization is an ever increasing trend, the ‘dynamic understanding of the liberal arts’ is essential in order to leverage a more generalized perspective across disciplines so that one can connect the dots in a multidisciplinary world.”

“The ability to effectively write, speak, and express is key to success in the world outside of Wooster.”

“Wooster ought to find a way to enable immersion in ‘otherness’ as significantly as we do with Independent Study. It should be as much a part of the ethos as I.S.”

“In the end, the seeds Wooster nurtures must find fertile ground in the wider world. It is critical that students develop pragmatic tools to identify and gain entry to the professional path that will fulfill their promise.”

“The need for young people to learn how to actively listen is an increasingly important quality given the boom in media noise and the increase in sheer volume of messages that social media outlets generate.”

“If we are talking about the outcomes of a Wooster education, how can we possibly do that without asking the people who are out there?”

... President Grant Cornwell
Wooster trustee H. Christopher Luce, one of the nation's premier collectors of Chinese and Japanese art, worked closely with the campus community to create an exhibit that would be a focus for teaching and learning.

Photo: Matt Dilyard
Chinese and Japanese Calligraphy and Painting

The College of Wooster
Art Museum
Or three and a half months last fall, the Wooster community enjoyed, studied, and discussed the exhibition, *Chinese and Japanese Calligraphy and Painting*, comprising East Asian graphic art spanning 14 centuries and selected from the world-class collection of H. Christopher Luce, a College trustee.

An eminent collector of Chinese and Japanese calligraphy and art, Luce designed the 62-piece exhibit specifically for the Wooster community, choosing from a personal collection of more than 350 scrolls, paintings, fans, artifacts, and albums. “I wanted an exhibit that was interdisciplinary. Everything was chosen for a specific reason.”

In preparing for the exhibition in the Sussel and Burton D. Morgan galleries in The College of Wooster Art Museum, Luce consulted six Wooster faculty members—John Siewert, art history; David McConnell, anthropology; Setsuko Matsuzara, sociology; Rujie Wang, Chinese and comparative literature; Mark Graham, religious studies; and Elizabeth Schiltz, philosophy—and their comments influenced his selections. For example, a request for contemporary art prompted Luce to acquire contemporary paintings and objects specifically for this exhibition.

Luce and Kitty McManus Zurko, director and curator of the art museum, organized the exhibition into five sections: *Writing as the Basis of Graphic Art* introduced Chinese and Japanese script styles; *Writing is Painting* presented the interplay between character and image; *Artistic Techniques and Materials* featured various approaches to the application of ink to paper.
Hawweh Laroche ‘12, a double major in Chinese and art history, wrote her junior Independent Study on a 17th-century handscroll, *Essay on Enjoying One’s Will*, by Chinese calligrapher Dong Qichang. Laroche researched the relationship of late-Ming calligraphers to the transformation of the dynasty.

“The artist’s spontaneity and running script captures his belief in leaving behind the traditional in order to find his inner self,” says Laroche.

—I HAWWEH LAROCHE ‘12

and silk; *Aesthetic Concepts in Painting* illustrated concepts such as naturalism, optical illusion, and abstraction in East Asian painting; and *Religious Inspiration* explored the influence of traditional Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, and Zen Buddhism on the creative process.

These works of art, which spend most of their lives rolled up in storage, are a rare treat for art lovers and students, said Luce. “It’s an aberration for art like this to be hung or opened flat on a table for long periods of time. Chinese and Japanese scholars and artists would only open a scroll for a particular guest or a special occasion. They might have opened it for a group of friends and then rolled it back up again when they were finished.

“It’s exciting for me to see the art become a focus of learning at Wooster.”

Four generations of Wooster leadership

H. Christopher Luce received his B.A. in 1972 from Yale University and then worked for 10 years as a journalist and photojournalist. He began collecting Chinese art in 1978 and attended Harvard University in order to learn Chinese. He has served as curator for exhibitions at Yale University and at the China Institute in America, and serves on the boards of the Freer/Sackler Galleries of Art of the Smithsonian Institution and the Yale University Art Gallery.

Luce, who is a director of the board of The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc., is the fourth generation of Luces to serve the College. His great-grandfather, Henry W. Luce, was appointed as a missionary to China by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in 1896. He established the first college in Shandong province and later founded Beijing University. Wooster awarded Henry W. Luce an honorary degree in 1920. Luce’s grandfather, Henry R. Luce, who was born in China and founded Time Inc. and The Henry Luce Foundation, was awarded an honorary degree from the College in 1962. His father, Henry III, served as a College trustee for 31 years and initiated the construction of Luce Hall and other projects.

The Luce family has supported the mission of the College through a variety of endowments and scholarships, including a recent grant, initiated by H. Christopher Luce, that supports student and faculty engagement with environmental issues.

Kitty McManus Zurko, museum director and curator, conducted a gallery walk for college, local, and regional visitors.

Photo by Karol Crosbie
Zhou Lianggong

ZHOU LIANGGONG
(Chinese, 1612–1672)
Bronze seal
1½ h x 1½ w x 1¼ d (inches)
Seal script (zhuan shu)

Zhou Lianggong was an important patron, art critic, connoisseur, and calligrapher. The characters of this rare bronze seal spell Lianggong’s art name, jian-zhai, and its handle is a stylized qilin, or supernatural unicorn.

Dong Qichang

DONG QICHANG
(Chinese, 1555–1936)
China, Ming dynasty (1368–1644)
Essay on Enjoying One’s Will, c. 1600
Handscroll; ink on satin
9¾ x 127¼ (inches)
Running script (xing shu)
**QIAN DIAN**

(Chinese, 1741–1806)

Excerpt from a *Commentary to the Classic of Waterways*, 1798

Handscroll; ink on paper

14 3/4 x 28 1/4 (inches)

Seal script (*zhuan shu*)

This handscroll describes life along the Su River. Calligrapher Qian Dian was a master of seal script, an ancient style of pictographic writing used on seals, which underwent a renaissance as an art form in the 18th and 19th centuries.

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**ZHANG RUITU**

(Chinese, 1570–1641)

*Poems Written in an Idle Moment*, by Wang Wei, 1625

Album of 46 leaves; ink on gold-flecked paper

11 3/4 x 6 15/32 (inches, each panel)

Running-cursive script (*xing cao shu*)

The work of Zhang Ruitu, known as one of the four masters of late-Ming calligraphy, is distinguished by the way he links several characters in a continuous line to make them more artistic. Because the brush is lifted from the paper only when it runs dry, ink tones range from the rich black of a newly loaded brush to pale streaks as characters fade into ghostly shadows.

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**张瑞图**

(Chinese, 1570–1641)

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MOKUAN SHÔTÔ
(Japanese, 1611–1684)

Ancient, 1675
Hanging scroll; ink on paper
16 h x 36 w (inches)
Kanji script

The eyes of the ancient holy, the wise,
And the noble are of course bright and clear.
When eyes are clear, wisdom rises and
Benevolence is insincere.
If there are these two righteous qualities,
Then heaven and earth are great.
Millions of countries will hear about it, and
There is no more room for struggles.

The word “ancient” is written with a large brush at
the beginning of the poem to serve as a focus for
meditation. The artist’s seals are also large—as is
typical of Obaku fashion—and are important to the
balance of the composition.
唐寅

TANG YIN
(Chinese, 1470–1524)
Bamboo in the Rain, undated
Fan; ink on paper
8 9/16 h x 18 1/8 w (inches)

齐白石

QI BAISHI
(Chinese, 1864–1957)
Six Crabs, 1945
Hanging scroll; ink on paper
41 1/8 x 13 3/8 (inches)
Li Huayi
(CHinese, born 1948)
*Untitled (Landscape)*, 2009
Ink and pigment on paper
60 h x 33 w (inches)

Li Huayi paints pictures that are at once steeped in Chinese tradition and deeply appreciative of Western modernism. The majestic lyricism of this untitled landscape connects it to the work of Northern Song Dynasty masters, especially the painters Fan Kuan (active c. 990–1030) and Guo Xi (c. 1020–1090). Like them, Li Huayi often works on a large scale, as he had been required to do previously in producing revolutionary propaganda images.

Symbolically, mountains in Chinese landscape paintings are powerful manifestations of nature’s vital energy, or *qi*, while mist or clouds around the mountains indicate good fortune and happiness, a union of the yin and yang. Indeed, such complementarity can be read more fully in Li’s painting in the dialogue it carries on between East and West, between large gesture and small, and between nature and imagination. Perhaps most fundamentally, it is present in the ways Li Huayi integrates his reverence for the past into a uniquely personal style that is very much of the present.

*From an essay by John Siewert, associate professor of art history*
Support for Chinese and Japanese Calligraphy and Painting was provided by The Henry Luce Foundation, an anonymous donor, a bequest from Muriel Mulac Kozlow '48, the Julia Shoolroy Halloran Endowed Fund, and The Burton D. Morgan Foundation. The exhibition was designed and installed by Doug McGlumphy, and the digital images were photographed and prepared by Matt Dilyard and Roger Collier.

NIRVANA SUTRA
China, Sui dynasty (A.D. 589–618)
Handscroll; ink on paper, detail
11 1/8 h x 285 w (inches)
Sutra-style script

The Mahaparinirvana Sutra is arguably the most important of Buddhist scriptures because it purports to remember the last speech of Shakyamuni Buddha before his passing away ("great final nirvana"—mahaparinirvana). Thus, this sutra recollects for Buddhists a turning point in the life of many religions—the crisis of succession when the founding leader dies. To survive, communities must find ways to live beyond the leader's passing. In the Mahaparinirvana Sutra, the dying Shakyamuni recommended the practices and ideas needed for carrying on without his familiar presence. Chinese versions of the Mahaparinirvana Sutra—from which this scroll is an excerpt—offered doctrines of universal salvation, including the idea that all beings contain the seed of Buddhahood, which became central to Chinese Buddhist devotional and meditation communities.

From an essay by Mark Graham, associate professor of religious studies

NAKAHARA NANTENBÔ
(Japanese, 1839–1925)
Hand, 1924
Hanging scroll; ink on paper, detail
50 3/4 h x 12 1/4 w (inches)
Cursive kanji and kana scripts with cipher

The handprint in this hanging scroll is a response to the koan attributed to Hakuin Ekaku. “What is the sound of one hand?” Here Nantenbo illustrates this same koan with:

Listen up!
What is the sound of one hand?
Some would call it serendipity. Others might call it fate. Craig Lindsey ’80, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Skaneateles, calls it a miracle.

It so happened that Lindsey’s congregation of 610 souls in upstate New York was a little lost. Lindsey had arrived at the church in 1996, to a climate he describes as one of “buried conflict, violated trusts, and a yearning to be in relationships rather than in programs.”

In 2001, the congregation stepped forward when they learned that three of southern Sudan’s “Lost Boys,” refugees who had been homeless and wandering for 17 years, were coming to the United States and needed sponsorship. They could not know that one of the refugees, John Dau, would also step forward to help his forsaken country, and that together they would find their way.

In the beginning, the Presbyterians from Skaneateles knew only that these young men were among the 27,000 children who had walked thousands of miles from country to country, seeking refuge from Sudan’s civil war. They had seen thousands of children, just like themselves, kidnapped, murdered, drowned, or felled by starvation and disease. Although they had received education in the refugee camps, they knew nothing of running water, flush toilets, electricity, telephones, or safety.

“Everything they owned fit into one duffel bag,” remembers Lindsey. “We gave them what they needed for their new life—beds, dressers, clothes, food, pots and pans. On the first
night, they looked around and said, ‘You have been so generous; you have given us things we didn't even know existed. But where are the Bibles?’

“They believed that the only reason they had survived was because of the grace of God. To them, salvation was not a warm feeling, nor a cathartic event. Salvation was a life-and-death trust in God.”

Standing six feet, eight inches tall, John Dau (the African rendition of “John Doe,” because he had never received a name) soon emerged as a leader. “It was only later,” says Lindsey, “that we understood that he had descended from a lineage of chiefs in his village.”

John Dau quickly became adept at Internet research, and one day came to church beaming, said Lindsey. “John said, ‘There’s a passage in the Bible that says the dead have come back to life, and I know this is true, because my family—who I thought were dead—are alive, and I have found them.’”

Members of the First Presbyterian Church helped John Dau’s mother and sister come to the U.S.—uniting a family that had been separated for more than 17 years.

John Dau attended a gathering of Lost Boys in Salt Lake City, Utah, and returned to his church in Skaneateles with a request: Could the congregation help build a clinic in his village? The nearest health care for the people of Duk County was 70 miles away. The answer was, “yes.” But nothing could happen, church members learned, without first building trust by sending one of their members to war-ravaged southern Sudan.

And so it was that six weeks later, in early April 2005, Rev. Lindsey found himself in the village of Poktap, laden with $20,000 (there were no banks) that he had tucked into shoes and pockets—money needed to begin planning the clinic. He also carried photographs and money from Sudanese living in America who had learned that he would be visiting their country, and who hoped he could make contact with family members.

“...”

Lindsey’s visit to Poktap was one of darkness and light, despair and exultation. In 120-degree heat, he preached to a congregation of 3,000 people. “I told them that their sons and daughters were never lost from God, that they were never lost from the love and memory of their village.”

The service continued for three hours, and Lindsey collapsed, seriously ill from dehydration. “They were quite
afraid for me," he said. But with treatment, he recovered and persevered.

An urban studies major at Wooster, Lindsey had a deep understanding of how infrastructures are interdependent. But here, there was no infrastructure. "Any development is good," he was told, even if it meant putting a trash dump next to the hospital.

He wrestled with an ironic directive: "Build trust, but in Africa, trust no one." The Dinka culture demands that all members agree on a plan, and Lindsey watched as tribal members struggled to agree on clinic plans. Twenty-five years of war had eroded the village's spirit, leaving behind depression, alcoholism, and distrust.

But at the conclusion of his visit, Lindsey trusted the village's unanimous and passionate resolution: To enter into a partnership with his church members to build a clinic in Duk Payuel, a nearby village of one family, 46 cows, and a rusted water tank.

BACK TO SKANEATELES

The 610 members of Lindsey's congregation, who had so deeply embraced John Dau and the other lost boys, now embraced Dau's vision, which came to be called the Duk Lost Boys Clinic. The America Cares for Sudan Foundation was established and members raised $500,000. Leaders, including a contractor and a chemical engineer, emerged. Lindsey's wife, Judy Simmons Lindsey '80, provided a deeper understanding of the country and of the task at hand: she had traveled to northern Sudan when she was a student at Wooster and went on to receive a master's in public health administration.

Because Duk County was without power or supplies, everything to build the clinic had to be shipped. Two 40-foot steel shipping containers were loaded with a diesel-powered generator, steel beams and girders, construction equipment, and medical supplies. "In short," says Lindsey, "it was a clinic in a box."

But the boxes fell victim to known and unknown perils, and one completely disappeared. Three church volunteers ventured halfway around the world to Duk Payuel, knowing that their supplies were missing. "The night after their arrival, one of the volunteers saw something large, moving slowly towards their camp," says Lindsey. At first he thought it was an elephant. But then he recognized it as one of the two containers. Within a few hours the other container also arrived.

"Shipped 14 weeks before, lost on a truck for nearly two weeks on the African Savannah, with no roads, the containers arrived within 30 hours of the volunteers, shortly after the exact location for construction had been identified," says Lindsey. "We have no explanation for it." (But he did, of course, have an explanation.)

And the miracles kept on coming. Shortly after the containers were unloaded, the volunteers discovered that the only well within 25 miles had run dry. Mixing concrete would be impossible. But that night, the volunteers went to a wedding in the village. "And who should happen to be there," says Lindsey, "but a well driller from Texas, whose church had sent him to drill wells across Sudan. By the next morning, we had a well."

Lindsey's brother-in-law (married to Sarah Simmons '85) donated a satellite dish, and a member of Lindsey's congregation installed solar panels, a wind turbine, and refrigeration for medications.

In January 2006, the need for help in southern Sudan received national attention with the release of the documentary, God Grew Tired of Us, which included the story of John Dau's journey. Produced by Brad Pitt and narrated by Nicole Kidman, the movie swept the Sundance Film Awards. The America Cares for Sudan Foundation was renamed the John Dau Foundation (http://johndaufoundation.org/). Significant international and federal grants helped assure its ongoing solvency.

Invited to accompany medical students from George Washington University Medical College for a one-month mission trip, Lindsey returned to Sudan in late 2007 and saw the clinic for the first time. "I cried openly," he says.

By late 2009, clinic staff had seen more than 26,000 cases. The town of Duk Payuel had grown from one family to 1,700 residents. Lindsey will probably never know how many lives were changed in the seven townships of Duk County. But he knows the precise number of lives changed in Skaneateles, New York. "Ours is a church that has learned about mission, and mission has brought the church to life."

He is careful to explain that for him, "mission" is not about proselytizing and moral superiority, but about partnerships. "There was nothing linear and logical in how this mission developed," he says. "A partnership of trust was forged, according to the principles of forging steel. There is extreme heat, and pressure, and a life- jarring pounding, as two disparate elements become one.

"This care and compassion has changed who we are."
Every day, American hospitals discard tons of useable medical supplies. The most recent data is 16 years old, but it is still staggering: In the U.S., 2,000 tons of equipment are discarded annually from operating rooms alone.

- Analog EKGs and defibrillators are thrown away because many patient records are now digital.
- All supplies paid for by insurance or Medicare and delivered to home-care patients are non-returnable, even if they have never been used. And so they are thrown away.
- When hospitals change vendors of the same product, a competitor's product is often discarded so that all hospital staff are using the same product.
- Outdated waiting room chairs (orange vinyl is so last century) are replaced and thrown away.
- All supplies needed for a surgical procedure are pre-packaged, and anything the surgeon doesn't use (such as extra suture) is thrown away.

But this is not the case for 28 hospitals, located mostly in western Pennsylvania, with additional partners in West Virginia, upstate New York, and at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Maryland. These hospitals donate old equipment weekly or biweekly to Global Links, the Pittsburgh-based nonprofit that 21 years ago pioneered a lifesaving idea. Every year, the organization retrieves 175 tons of medical supplies, much of it unused. Instead of ending up in landfills, the equipment is sent to nine of the poorest countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

On a gray November day, Global Links deputy director Angela Bakaysza Garcia ’95 is swamped with work. Cholera has hit earthquake-ravaged Haiti, and a national epidemic is feared. Large quantities of mattresses, intravenous (IV) poles, and soap are desperately needed. Even orange vinyl chairs are necessary.
“OUR GOAL IS ALWAYS TO INVOLVE NEW PEOPLE.”

Garcia had worked for Global Links for about a year before one of the organization’s board members realized she wasn't Latina. In fact, she grew up in Pittsburgh and came to Wooster because of its study-abroad program.

Originally a violin major, Garcia soon discovered she had an affinity for languages and changed her major to international studies. For her Independent Study (I.S.), she researched immigration issues with Islamic populations. “My I.S. started to change how I thought,” she says. She fell in love with Yucatan, Mexico, during an alternative semester break trip, where she served as a translator for doctors treating indigenous Mayans.

After she graduated, Garcia returned to the Yucatan to teach rural women math and reading. She married a man of Mayan descent and remained in Mexico for the next four years. She loves her job at Global Links, which puts to use her passion for world issues and the environment. “And this intersection of ideas, she says, “is a direct result of my Wooster experience.”

Garcia believes that Global Links will continue to grow. The mission of the organization, which partners with international ministries of health and the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization, is not only to find a use for America’s surplus, but also to educate about global health issues both at home and abroad. At this time, the organization is accepting new partnering hospitals only within the mid-Atlantic region. “We’d love to be everywhere, but we must keep our practices environmentally and economically sustainable.”

However, volunteers need not be constrained by logistics or geography, she says. “I only need to talk with someone for about 10 minutes before we discover a way for them to help.”

For example, Global Link’s partnering health authorities in Central America needed an incentive to convince indigenous women to visit clinics for prenatal care. So Garcia worked with Global Links staff and volunteers to develop a goodie bag, filled with supplies such as soap and cloth diapers. But the bag itself was the problem. “We didn’t want one of those American-style bags with lots of compartments, but instead something the women could use while shopping in markets,” said Garcia.

So a pattern was created, which volunteers can now access online (http://globallinks.org/files/misc/Baby_Bag_directions_10-12-10.pdf) and use to sew a bag, which they mail to Pittsburgh headquarters. “Our goal is always to involve new people, and I’m amazed by the numbers of people who are sewing bags whom I’ve never heard from before,” Garcia says.

Garcia’s love for her job far outweighs its frustrations, but they are there nonetheless. “Emotional lows come when people say they won’t support the organization because we help with medical problems abroad rather than locally. When a country is unstable because the basic needs of its people are not being met, peace throughout the world is threatened.

“The suture program

It's just thread, after all, but the availability of suture can mean life or death. Global Links, which runs the world’s only dedicated suture donation program, receives these lightweight little packages from 30 hospitals throughout the United States and hopes to increase that number. “It's glorified thread, but it's sophisticated thread, developed for different human tissues,” says Garcia.

In developing countries, suture’s most vital use is for Cesarean sections. “Every year, 500,000 women die from childbirth-related issues in the world—more than from any other cause,” says Garcia. “If a C-section is required, but there is no suture, chances are high that the mother, and often the infant, will die.”

“Without chairs, patients’ relatives must sit on the floor,” says Garcia. “Without IV poles, a family member must stand by the bed and hold the bag, or it must be nailed to the wall, immobilizing the patient. Without mattresses, patients lie wherever they can. There can be no infection control on cardboard or foam.”

Garcia joined Global Links in 2000, when the organization had only seven staff members. But its unique plan—to request supplies from hospitals rather than from manufacturers—received grassroots support, and Global Links now has 20 staff members and annually uses 8,000 volunteer hours to sort donations and check expiration dates. Not only must Garcia and her colleagues understand the dynamics of America’s intricate insurance and liability restrictions, they must also understand the politics of the countries receiving the donations. “Every developing country is different—there are so many challenges,” she says.

“Without chairs, patients’ relatives must sit on the floor,” says Garcia. “Without IV poles, a family member must stand by the bed and hold the bag, or it must be nailed to the wall, immobilizing the patient. Without mattresses, patients lie wherever they can. There can be no infection control on cardboard or foam.”
As a sports medicine physician, Dr. Jay Cox rubbed the elbows of the rich and famous. He was team physician for the NBA’s Baltimore Bullets and assistant with the NFL’s Baltimore Colts, assistant team physician with the Oakland Raiders, and doctored Joe Paterno’s Nittany Lions at Penn State. He also put in 25 years of service with the Navy as an orthopedic surgeon, commander of a field hospital in Vietnam, and chief of orthopedics and team physician at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

So you might think that at age 78, he would have slid into luxurious retirement. In fact, since retiring in 2000, Cox ’54 and his wife have made 16 medical mission trips with the orthopedic division of Health Volunteers Overseas, including four visits to South Africa, two to Tanzania, and trips to Kenya, Bhutan, the Philippines, Peru, and several Caribbean islands. “I still thought I had something left,” he says. “I didn’t want to give up.”

Cox, a former president of Orthopedics Overseas and a current board member, explains the mission of the organization: teach skills to physicians in developing countries that are relevant, realistic, and empowering. “We don’t go in with a bunch of fancy equipment unless we can leave it for them to use after we’re gone.”

Cox works one-on-one with young doctors—demonstrating how to take a patient’s history, consulting on the proposed treatment, and demonstrating and giving feedback in the operating room. “Sometimes we communicate through interpreters,” he says, “and that can be challenging.”

Illnesses and injuries run the gamut from polio, bone infections, and congenital deformities, to burns from cooking over an open fire. The best thing about the volunteer experience, Cox says, is returning to a village hospital and seeing how his teaching has affected the doctors and patients. “I remember the little girl in Tanzania, whose legs we straightened with surgery and straightening devices. The following year, I returned to the clinic, and she came in to see me dressed so nicely in her school dress, with perfectly straight legs.”

Cox, who received the President’s Call to Service Award in 2007 for completing 4,000 hours of overseas volunteer service, admits he’s slowing down. “You don’t think you’re ever going to have to give it up. But the knees don’t work as well any more.

“It’s just so much fun.”
Medical Humanitarian Fellows (one of six areas funded by the Lilly Project for the Exploration of Vocation at the College) have launched many Wooster students into careers in medicine and a commitment to help others. The purpose of the summer volunteer work experience, says project director Cathy McConnell, is to help students discover their vocational calling and to experience—not just study—global engagement.

Students research opportunities and write competitive grants; every year approximately 12 students receive grants that range from $2,500 to $3,000. Lilly scholars, who are mentored by a faculty member, share what they learned with a variety of audiences, and the experience often influences the classes they choose and their Independent Studies. “The guiding, reporting, and reflection that take place turn a summer experience into an integrated part of the college experience,” says McConnell.

This year’s Medical Humanitarian Fellows worked in Malawi, India, Costa Rica, Brazil, and Somaliland, in maternal health, traditional medicine, community outreach and education, and ophthalmology.

Following are the stories of two Lilly Project participants—an alumna and a current student—who used their experiences to affirm their life’s work.

Susan McDowell ’05

Two weeks in rural Belize solidified Susan McDowell’s intent to go to medical school and sparked an interest in rural health in undeveloped areas. McDowell went on to volunteer in Jamaica, Guatemala, and Liberia and is currently doing her residency at the Mountain Area Health Education Commission in Asheville, North Carolina.

Supported by a Lilly grant, Susan McDowell (center) volunteered in rural Belize.

From the Journal of Susan McDowell

May 20, 2003

Wow, what a day to be introduced to Belizean culture. Our morning was spent doing a health survey in this slum area of Belize. The Presbyterians are trying to put a clinic, school, and church in this area, so we were doing a survey of health conditions in hopes that they could receive more funding from the government.

May 27, 2003

Today was such an overwhelming day that I think I am dealing with it by not dealing with it, if that makes sense . . . We saw more than 110 patients in three hours. It was so crowded at times and so hot. The sweat poured off of me as I poured 10 vitamins into a bag for each child as they came through.

June 3, 2003 (back home)

I am not the same person who got on the plane two weeks ago . . . On my trip, I learned more about America and how much I appreciate modern conveniences but also how much I hate its extravagant and unnecessary excesses. I think I’m in a bit of a culture shock as I look out upon neon lights and supermarkets instead of huts and ramshackle little houses.

It’s hard to put into black and white all that I have seen, when it was in colors that no one will ever understand fully, not even myself.
Blain Tesfaye '12

Blain Tesfaye was feeling seriously muddled. A junior biochemistry major from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, she was headed towards a career in medicine. But she just wasn’t sure. Was she being influenced by the career’s prestige and by a desire to please her parents (her mother is a pharmacist, her father an insurance broker), or because of her own passion? How could she know what she was passionate about, living in the Wooster bubble? “Wooster was my whole world. I went to classes, studied, slept, ate. I felt programmed—as if I was playing a role in a movie.”

And so last summer, Blain volunteered at the Edna Adan University Hospital, a teaching hospital that specializes in maternal and infant care in Hargeisa, Somaliland. She shadowed physicians, cuddled babies, taught English to nursing students, worked in the laboratory, and paid close attention to her heart.

“I loved it,” she says. Inspiration came from all directions, including from the hospital’s founder, Edna Adan, the region’s former foreign minister, who built the hospital from scratch. “Edna said to me, ‘We receive a lot of volunteers from America, Canada, and Australia. But there is something different about you. You are African. You went away, achieved, and then came back. I want you to be a role model for our African students.’”

“It was a big responsibility,” says Blain. “My biggest fear about volunteering was that I would just be a taker and not a giver. It seemed kind of egotistical—that I would explore my vocation, and then just leave.”

Her two weeks of teaching English, she said, did much to erase that fear. “I was so proud when they called me teacher. When I came back to Wooster, I was on the hospital’s website, and I saw the picture of the nursing graduates, and I knew all of them. They achieved, and through them, I felt I had achieved, too.”

Inspiration did not come without heartache. Blain remembers the time she laughed at the chubby, gap-toothed five-year-old in the blue hijab who was chasing her brother in the waiting room. She remembers how she felt when she learned in the lab that the little girl was HIV positive. And the day the patient who everyone thought would make it, didn’t. “He was just 26, and the sweetest man. I never thought he would die.”

Blain says she is certain she wants to work in health care. Perhaps she will return to Ethiopia, and do what Edna Adan did—build a hospital. When she talks to other Wooster students, her message is pointed and personal:

“Doubting and questioning can really tear you up. But do it! Doubt yourself and then go explore. Before, I never really understood how a liberal arts education was going to help me to explore. You have to experience exploration in order to understand it.”

“Before, I never really understood how a liberal arts education was going to help me to explore. You have to experience exploration in order to understand it.”

—BLAIN TESFAYE

Blain Tesfaye secured a grant from the College’s Lilly Project to work in the pediatric unit of the Edna Adan University Hospital in Somaliland and to teach English to nursing students.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF BLAIN TESFAYE

JULY 20, 2010

Around 10:30 p.m., I went down to the surgical theater and there was a C-section going on. We waited for the baby, then weighed him, gave him his eye drops, and Vitamin K. Then I asked if I could give him to his family. I went to Room 2 and I asked them the baby’s name. They told me that he didn’t have a name, so I called him, “Abdullah,” and they all laughed.

JULY 21, 2010

In the afternoon, I went to Room 2 to visit the mother and baby from yesterday’s C-section. As soon as I entered the room, the family greeted me with a smile and started shouting “Abdullah!” I was so pleased, wishing that the name would stick around for the rest of his life.

JULY 24, 2010

After the lab, I went to visit Abdullah. Hinde and Ayan greeted me with a smile. I held Abdullah, and he just made my life perfect. When they told me he was going to leave, I was really sad. I took Abdullah to the taxi and I kissed him goodbye. That wasn’t the end of Abdullah and me. You will hear more about us, inshallah! (God willing).
One man’s passion about spiders snags four students, who go on to become leaders in the field.

“As a person, Andy was so accessible. And his teaching style just fascinated me. I could listen to the guy talk for hours. A lot of classes at Wooster were like that, but for some reason his really grabbed me and got me started down a long, long road.”

—WILLIAM SHEAR ’63

by KAROL CROSBIE
One spring day, Dave Grant ’59, back in Wooster for his 50th class reunion, was talking about spiders with his former professor, Andy Weaver ’49. They were down in the basement of Weaver’s 150-year-old house south of Wooster, and they might have been talking about the healthy population of long-legged cellar spiders scuttling around, keeping the centipedes under control, or the nature of their extremely messy webs. But they were not.

They were talking about the 1,570 specimens of spiders carefully preserved in tiny vials. Would Grant, now a professor emeritus of biology and a museum curator, like to receive Weaver’s collection as a gift?

“I was stunned,” says Grant. “They represented specimens from all over the world.”

Grant carefully transported his former professor’s life’s work back to North Carolina, where the gift has added 15 new families to the collection of the Discovery Place and Nature Museum in Charlotte and 10 new families to the Schiele Museum’s collection in Gastonia.

“AH, WHAT TANGLED WEBS WE WEAVE, WHEN FIRST WE TEACH!”

When Andy Weaver arrived at Wooster in 1955 to teach invertebrate biology, he had already developed a deep interest in arthropods, gained from high school and college summer jobs at the entomology department at the Ohio

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Above is a male *Missulena* trapdoor spider from western Australia, which Fred Coyle believes may be mimicking a wasp with his bright colors. Male trappers live in burrows like females, but when they undergo their last molt and become adults, they leave the burrow forever and go wandering, looking for mates.

Photo by Fred Coyle
Agricultural Research and Development Center. Weaver’s parents were teachers and amateur naturalists, and an inclination to attend and remain at Wooster was firmly established in his family: His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were alumni, and his grandfather, John Black, Class of 1889, was a Wooster professor of geology, botany, and math.

Weaver offered the College’s first class on spiders in 1959, beginning a web of interest that would snare many students, including David Grant ’59, William Shear ’63, Fred Coyle ’64, and the late Joe Beatty ’59, who would go on to weave their own webs.

There was much to like about Professor Weaver’s course—a pet tarantula that would climb his arm, field trips that sent students tromping around Wayne County, and spider-collecting camping expeditions to Florida over spring break. “Andy was the perfect mentor for me,” says Coyle. “I’ve gone on to fledge a lot of students—Andy Weaver’s academic grandchildren. Seven have gone on to get Ph.D.s on spider research.”

Says Shear, “As a person, Andy was so accessible. And his teaching style just fascinated me. I could listen to the guy talk for hours. A lot of classes at Wooster were like that, but for some reason his really grabbed me and got me started down a long, long road. I’m teaching a class on the biology of arthropods right now and am using modified versions of information Andy presented 50 years ago.”

Over the course of 20 years, Shear and Coyle (who were graduate students together at Harvard) team-taught a course on spiders at the Biological Station in Highlands, N.C. Their students, who went on to become spider researchers, came from Australia, New Zealand, Slovenia, Canada, Iceland, Britain, Africa, and China. “Indirectly, Andy has influenced young leaders in arachnology all over the world,” says Coyle.

WHAT’S TO LOVE ABOUT SPIDERS?
(And can’t humans be forgiven — just a little— for spider-squishing behaviors?)

Well, no. Leading the clarion call for arthropod respect is Dave Grant. “I don’t think you can be forgiven for taking that attitude about something that is so essential, diverse, beautiful, and amazing.”

Without spiders, say the Wooster spidermen, humans would be up to their armpits in insects. The 41,000 known species of spiders (most likely only a fraction of what actually exists) have developed highly specialized anatomies and behaviors to dispatch everything from mosquitoes to cockroaches. For example, Coyle (who has discovered and named 36 species of spiders) recently catalogued spider populations in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. One typical acre of hardwood forest in the Smokies harbors more than 100 species and a half million individuals. They use diverse foraging techniques capable of capturing almost the entire array of insects there. “It’s an amazing assemblage,” says Coyle.
Andy Weaver has always been intrigued by the diversity and beauty of webs. “Dispersing spiders can spin threads of silk that are lifted by air currents and carry the spiders up to 30,000 feet. There’s nothing more beautiful than a field white with the gossamer silk that accumulates when multitudes of these spider aeronauts attempt to balloon.”

The strength of spider silk (greater than steel of the same diameter) has captured the interest of U.S. Army scientists, who for many years have tried to unlock the silk-making secrets of spiders in hopes of making lighter weight bulletproof vests and stronger parachutes. And pharmaceutical companies are increasingly interested in spider venom as a rich source of bioactive compounds (such as calcium channel blockers).

(And speaking of venom, can’t humans be forgiven—just a little—for their fear?)

Well, no again. Most spiders present no danger to humans. In North America, humans should avoid only two—female black widow and brown recluse spiders. “Ignorance and misunderstanding fuel a lot of fear,” says Coyle.

Grant, who recently retired from 30 years of teaching invertebrate zoology classes at Davidson College, routinely gives workshops to community groups and museums. His goal for his students, who range from ages 5-90, is to ease fear and generate respect. “If you put your hand above the spider’s web and bring it down slowly in an arc over the spider, you can walk it down its web and onto your hand. They have little claws, and you can feel the silk building, as they trail their drag line behind them,” says Grant.

And how does he know when he has made a convert? Students willing to let Grant show them how to walk spiders up their arms are not likely to return to their former, spider-squishing ways.
Gardeners rarely notice *Argiope aurantia* residents until the spiders are full-grown, says David Grant. This is a full-grown female, living in Grant’s neighbor’s garden.

**SPECIMEN COLLECTIONS—WHY THEY MATTER**

Documenting the past

Researchers and laypersons who view spiders at the U.S. Museum of Natural History in the nation’s capital, or the Schiele Museum in Gastonia, N.C., or the Discovery Place and Nature Museum in Charlotte, will never know (or care) that some were collected in Wooster by Andy Weaver’s students. But the gift is there, nonetheless:

“Collections are essential for biodiversity-based research,” says Bill Shear, “because they document the presence of organisms in particular areas at particular times. I tell my students that the objective is not to get one of each kind—the objective is to document populations or organisms, so that a future researcher can study genetic variation.

“A biological collection is not like a stamp or coin collection. It’s like a library... but a library in which not everybody knows how to read the books. These collections are national treasures, because they allow us to document the way the world was at a particular point in time so that we can see how our environment is changing.”

Bill Shear, reviewing a collection of daddy-long-legs (*Opiliones*) from David Grant.
FRED COYLE ’64

Fred Coyle ’64 is professor emeritus of biology at Western Carolina University, in Cullowhee, N.C. Among his discoveries is a tiny spider in Jamaica, a stealthy kleptoparasite that steals blood from the prey of a much larger host spider.

PREDATORY BEHAVIORS

Who needs insecticides? Spiders have hundreds of diverse, predatory behaviors that allow them to eliminate insects that most humans don’t even know exist. Here, Fred Coyle photographs and explains a few strategies for Wooster readers.

TRAPPING

Coyle and a graduate student dissected the burrow of this female *Ummidia* trapdoor spider in Costa Rica. She makes her home in her burrow, which she has lined with heavy silk to strengthen its walls and conserve moisture. At night, in response to vibrations above her, she pops open her trap door, made of layers of silk and soil, grabs her prey, and returns home. Below, Coyle has pried open the trapdoor with the tip of a penknife to reveal the spider’s fangs and legs, which she uses to hold the door shut.
NETCASTING

Coyle found this *Deinopsis*, or ogre-faced spider, in Costa Rica. At night she hangs on a few strong web lines and holds a small sticky elastic web about the size of a postage stamp until an insect walks below her. Here, the hapless victim is a cockroach, which the *Deinopsis* has detected with eyes that may be the most sensitive in the animal kingdom. As she drops, she expands her web by spreading her first four legs apart and then slaps it on the cockroach.

During the day, she hides from visual predators by squeezing her long legs and narrow body tightly together on a twig.

FISHING

This large *Dolomedes albineus* (sometimes mistaken for a tarantula) from South Carolina often sits on the water’s edge, and when she detects telltale vibrations on the water surface, dives into the water and grabs insects, tadpoles, and small fish.
WAITING, POUNCING

- *Castianeira crocata* from North Carolina doesn’t weave a web but sits and waits. She doesn’t have good eyes but can detect minute vibrations with the sensitive hairs on her legs.

- *Pirata insularis*, a little wolf spider who lives in wetland areas, likes to sit on moss, wait for predators, and pounce. She can run fairly fast but generally doesn’t unless alarmed by a fast approaching object. The white dots visible on her abdomen are her babies, which she is carrying until they can be independent.

- This crab spider, *Misumenia vatia*, likes to sit on flowers, wait for pollinators, and grab them. She often looks like the flower she is hiding on and can change color from pale yellow to orange. Her venom is powerful and although it won’t bother people, can instantly paralyze a bumblebee 10 times her weight.

JUMPING

- The jumping spiders, like this *Phidippus otiosus*, are the cats of the spider kingdom. They have keen vision and stalk their prey, moving slowly, and then leap, catapulting themselves with their hind legs to land upon and bite their victims.

SNARING

- This spiny-bellied spider in the genus *Micrathena* weaves the classic sticky orb web. This is the kind of web spun by Charlotte in E. B. White’s *Charlotte’s Web*. 
THE DEFENSIVE DADDY-LONG-LEGS

Bill Shear specializes in studying the behaviors of Opiliones, also known as daddy-long-legs or harvestmen, and has become particularly interested in their defensive behaviors. For example, they produce noxious chemicals that repel predators, which Shear describes as smelling like “very old, very dirty gym socks.” Shear has also observed them massing together and bouncing their legs in a synchronized way so that a predator would have difficulty picking out an individual to attack. If threatened, the Opiliones can also drop off a leg or two. The legs have their own breathing pores and keep twitching, which distracts the predator.

Shear discovered and named the tiny Appalachian harvestman, Fumontana deprehendor. Photo by Marshal Hedin

BILL SHEAR ’63

Bill Shear ’63 is a professor of biology at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. Among Shear’s discoveries is a fossil of the planet’s oldest spider, a 385-million-year-old tiny specimen that he named Attercopus, an Old English word for spider used by J. R. R. Tolkien in The Hobbit. (Tolkien’s son took note of the name, and wrote Shear a congratulatory letter.)
THE MISADVENTURES
of
WOOSTER’S LINCOLN

by MARY DIXON ’12
twenty-five years ago, Lee Culp ’41, former registrar of the College, and J. Stewart Simonds ’70, a local blacksmith, descended to the locker room in Severance Art Building (once Severance Gymnasium). There, in a corner behind a trough that served as the men’s urinal, stood President Abraham Lincoln. Or, rather, it was his likeness, cast in bronze, a gift to the College 70 years earlier. “Imagine, the great Lincoln, in a dank locker room, stored away,” recalls Culp.

“This is unacceptable,” Culp said to Simonds. “Let’s take him out of here right now.” Simonds agreed, and the men transported Lincoln to Simonds’ metalworking studio, where Abe would live for the next 13 years.
Though this episode was perhaps the low point in the statue’s history, Lincoln’s position at the College has frequently been uncertain. The creation of sculptor John G. Segesman and a gift of James Mullins of Wooster, he was formally dedicated in October of 1915, in front of Kauke Hall. But from the beginning, Lincoln drew complaints—primarily that he obstructed one’s view of Kauke Hall when approaching from College Avenue. In response, administrators relocated him in 1923 to the south side of the old chapel.

While the chapel provided an elegant backdrop for Lincoln’s larger-than-life figure, his more secluded location made him an easy target for student pranks. According to a 1960 Daily Record feature, “Year in, year out, come ‘Hell Week’ and Abe would mysteriously vanish from his perch, wind up in one campus ‘Section’ or another, in someone’s attic or under a resident’s porch.” Despite his chronic disappearances, students were careful with Lincoln; the only serious damages he incurred were related to removal from his base, which could not withstand repeated student attention, even with added structural reinforcements.

Even when Abe was firmly attached to his pedestal, he enjoyed the attentions of students. One winter, Lincoln was seen wearing a bra (“the girls’ doing, I’m sure,” says Culp), and during the Elvis era, he once sported blue suede shoes. On the opening night of campus plays, cast members threw pennies at the statue, said to bring good luck to the players.

Despite the relatively harmless nature of most of these antics, by 1956, the administration had had enough, and Lincoln was placed in storage. There he stood in lonely isolation for seven years, fading from student memories until 1963, when he reappeared in honor of the Civil War centennial. At the Senior Day celebration of that year, Lincoln received an (unofficial) honorary degree, conferred by Howard-Lowry-look-alike Bob Boerum ’63. Once again a campus icon, Abe returned to his post in front of the old chapel, though not for long. The chapel was razed in 1969, and Lincoln moved again, this time to the north side of Andrews Library, where the Flo K. Gault Library for Independent Study now stands.

Yet from this unprotected vantage point, Lincoln again became the object of theft, and circa 1986, he was again relegated to storage, away from the deft hands of campus pranksters. Thus Lincoln came to inhabit the men’s locker room beneath Severance, where Culp and Simonds later encountered him.

After rescuing him from these unsavory quarters, Simonds set to work restoring Abe. He studied an identical Segesman model on display in Detroit, which he imitated to reconstruct the statue’s hands. Simonds removed layers of paint, the residue of Section rivalries of years past, and added metal supports to the interior of the statue, to safeguard Lincoln’s limbs against future theft.

Once the restoration was complete, College administrators debated where Lincoln ought to be placed. Should he make his home inside the library, where shelter was certain, or outdoors, the setting for which he was intended?

Planners eventually chose an outdoor spot on the west porch of Andrews Library, adding a floodlight for protection. Since his formal rededication ceremony during the Alumni Weekend activities of 1999, Lincoln has remained at this site.

Looking at the beautifully restored statue today, the unsuspecting visitor might never guess the trials that Wooster’s Lincoln has endured. The perpetrators of bygone deeds may never be known, and Abe now stands in a place of reverence and relative peace. Yet walk by the statue today and you may notice a gathering of pennies twinkling at his base. Clearly, the vestiges of the past have not completely been forgotten, as Abe continues to bring luck to those who know his power.

Says Culp, “I think Lincoln would have gotten a kick out of it.”

To see and hear an interview between Mary Dixon and Lee Culp, go to pg. 40 of the online magazine at http://woosteralumni.org/magazine.
Finding himself removed from his pedestal, Lincoln becomes an honorary member of Sixth Section. Continuing to advocate for civil rights 100 years after his death, Abe serves as a vehicle for protest. Looking at the beautifully restored statue today, the unsuspecting visitor might never guess the trials that Wooster’s Lincoln has endured.
Scots fall highlights

By Matt Dilyard

1. Jonathon Fox ’12 drives the ball up field during the Fighting Scots’ 1-0 victory over Marietta, part of the men’s soccer team’s 6-0-3 start to the season.

2. This shot by Amanda Artman ’10 found its way through the Oberlin defense and resulted in career goal No. 100; Artman is just the sixth player in NCAA Div. III history to reach this milestone. The Scots’ four-time field hockey All-American finished her career as the fourth all-time leading scorer in Div. III with 257 points (104 goals, 49 assists).

3. Quarterback Richard Barnes ’14 helped lead Wooster to the brink of a conference championship, as the Scots took a 17-16 lead late in this season-finale match-up with Wittenberg before the Tigers prevailed. For his efforts, Barnes was voted NCAC Newcomer of the Year.

4. Janet Zahorsky ’12 takes one of the first swings for the women’s golf program. The Scots’ inaugural season began well with a dual-match win against Ohio Wesleyan.

5. A line of cross country runners work their way up a hill at the season-opening Wooster invitational.

6. Three-time all-North Coast Athletic Conference goalkeeper Taylor Tekacs ’12 collects one of his 79 saves of the season, while avoiding a collision with teammate David Mallett ’13 in Wooster’s game with Denison.
Anna Goodman, a senior in anthropology, is one of 169 students who studied off-campus in 2009-10. She participated in the Wooster in Thailand program and traveled to India during break.

“When we arrived in Kolkata, we were quickly overwhelmed by the unfamiliar vibrancy of Indian life. By the end of our travels, my view of India had changed and adapted, allowing me to realize that even with its chaos, India still offers moments of tranquility. This photo of a sage climbing the stairs along the Ganges River in Varanasi illustrates the serenity of one of these rare and essential quiet moments.”