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Wooster Magazine: Spring 2013

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Sustainability on campus

Developing a culture of responsibility

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Wooster archaeologists unlock the past

Today's artists consider yesterday's leaders
Of Bacchus and the Crocus

I remember it distinctly. It was right after sighting a few blooming crocuses on my walk up to campus. It was the spring of my second year as a professor at The College of Wooster, and the god Bacchus had materialized in my myth class. He stood barefooted near the front of the classroom, wearing a toga but not much else. I was so astonished that I came to a halt at the classroom door. As I recall, Bacchus (a.k.a. Erik Hernandez ’09) proclaimed he was going to turn water into wine. He then performed a rather clumsy magic trick under his toga and, presto! His water bottle became a cheap merlot. In retrospect, I shouldn’t have been so surprised at the divine intervention—it was I.S. Monday.

It would be easy to turn this unexpected disruption into a cautionary tale, but perhaps I need to think more like a Greek. The ancient Greeks understood the necessity of festival. In early spring, when the crocus appears, the Athenian Greeks honored the god Dionysus, who goes by the Roman name Bacchus, with state-sanctioned revelry. Dionysus is the god of wine, theater and laughter, and his festivals suspended the civic order. At the largest festival—the City Dionysia—businesses in Athens shut down. Relatives got together for picnics and feasting while watching comic theater. Prisoners were released from jail. In the great parade, revelers danced and drank somewhat beyond the golden mean. The Athenians believed comic festivals like this made them stronger. Laughter, they claimed, made the government stronger. Maybe they had a point. Maybe all this playfulness, all this comedy and merriment, made them more adaptable as a people, more open to change.

In fact, many scholars contend that such community rituals, although transgressing boundaries, ultimately reaffirm the social order. Looked at this way, our I.S. parade is so important because it strengthens our sense of community and makes us better neighbors, scholars, and people. It places our community in historical perspective and links us with a distinctly classical heritage.

The god Dionysus is all about balancing extremes; he has a chaotic, laughing side and an order-restoring, world-recreating side. He reminds us that creative play, performance, and festival are an essential part of everyday life. As the author Victor Hugo once said, “Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.”

I held onto that warm thought during this year’s I.S. parade as the snowballs flew by, the crocuses cringed from the cold, and laughter ascended above our small historically connected campus in Ohio.

MONICA FLORENCE
Assistant professor and chair, Classical Studies
**Championing an informed humanism**

Regarding Jim Sentman’s letter in the winter issue of *Wooster*: I heartily disapprove of Mr. Sentman’s sentiments regarding a life in Christ on campus. Mr. Sentman is, in effect, asking for a return to the connection between the College and the Presbyterian Church. Students at the College have found other satisfying ways to be together, and are not, as I have come to know them, suffering from the end of required religion. To be sure, current students are a happy, well-adjusted group of scholars with admirable goals and plenty of energy.

If students want to discuss Christ, they have plenty of opportunities and fine places to meet on campus. I, myself, champion an informed humanism and I do not require the litmus test of a “life in Christ.” Mr. Sentman seems lost in the past of missionaries and a “forthright faith.” I find it insulting that he views Christianity as the exclusive, inviting other religions “in.” Perhaps we ought to ask other religions to invite Christianity “in.” Why should Christ be the centerpiece, when he is but one in a long line of prophets from the Tao on down? Why not a “life in Buddha”?

No, no, Mr. Sentman, the College does not need to promote Christianity. We went through that before, and thankfully, we found a more open way into the mind.

Janice Kazmaier Kelly ’61
Kent, Ohio

**Cheers!**

I enjoyed the most recent magazine. I have kept up with the Poethings and could relate to all of the happenings mentioned in the days of yore at the College: Rules. Regulations. The Shack, glee club, and serenades. We had such great times—sock hops after the football games and marvelous formal dances in a highly decorated gym, mock presidential conventions, Color Day, May Queen, Gym Shoe Hop, and a winning basketball team! I hope students enjoy college as much as we did. Then, of course, there were no Independent Studies.

Thanks for your good publication.

Alfie Campbell ’41
Wooster, Ohio

*Editor’s note: Alfie was the College’s first female cheerleader.*

**Kudos**

Even with the proverbial listings present in an annual report included, this was one of your best *Wooster* issues I have ever read. I actually shed a few tears reading it. The photos were colorful, full of life, and captured the essence of campus living; Matt Dilyard deserves much credit for his gift of photography. The photograph of Grant Cornwell on his motor scooter says it all! A free thinker with a sense of humor and willing to walk the talk (or ride the talk?) with that big smile on his face! It coincides with the “breath of fresh air” attitude that seems to have been happening at Wooster over the past years while he has been there. And there was Matt’s beautiful photo in Class Notes of Chris Chapman proposing to Kelly Knapp under the Kauke Arch.

The “Power of Giving and Receiving” article—descriptions of Wooster professors followed by how these teachers influenced their students’ lives—reinforced how special the teachers continue to be at Wooster. I was deeply moved when I read Sam Kitara’s journal entry on his experience in Uganda while he helped the villagers with their eye care. When I read the end of the entry, I cried when he said, “I am a man reaffirmed; more sure than I have ever been in my goal of pursuing a career in medicine. Yes, now I can see.”

This was powerful and touching for me. The “By the Numbers” article was creative and funny; it held my attention with interesting, good to know facts and a great layout. Loved it!

This issue reaffirmed that I love Wooster as much as I did when I went there 29 years ago. Now with 13-year-old boy/girl twins in my life (who will be looking at colleges soon enough), I am encouraged at the promising future of this place I called home for four wonderful years.

Thanks for your good work. Kudos to all of you for how you portray The College of Wooster!

Jill Currie Reeves ’84
Dickerson, MD
FROM THE EDITOR

Wrong war

General David Wooster must be rolling in his grave. He did not serve and die in the Civil War, as claimed in the story in the last issue, but in the Revolutionary War. “I’ve heard this error repeated many times,” wrote Tom Romich ’70 (immediately lifting the editor’s spirits). “But once one realizes that the city of Wooster was founded in 1808 (long before the Civil War), it’s easy to avoid the mistake.”

And speaking of grave-rolling: Another error commonly made, writes Romich, is the site of General Wooster’s burial. “Although he is memorialized near his widow’s grave at the Grove Street Cemetery just across the street from Yale Law School in New Haven, Conn., the General is buried at Mount Moriah Cemetery, later renamed Wooster Cemetery, in Danbury, Conn., near where he was mortally wounded.”

All writers were gracious, including Bill Vodra ’65, who added this interesting bit about General Wooster: “His death, incidentally, allowed the promotion of Benedict Arnold to the rank of major general. I wonder whether things might have turned out differently if Gen. Wooster had survived. I enjoy the magazine, and hope this correction is seen with the smile I have as I write it. A small tribute to Helen Osgood, who fired my lasting interest in American history.”

It is with great humility . . .

You know how when people who receive awards say they do so with great humility, and you seriously doubt it? When someone who has just admitted to an editorial bloopers announces an award with great humility, you know she means it. The feature in the Summer 2011 issue titled “Under the Sun: New Farmers Practice Old Ways” received a first place award for excellence in feature writing from the Great Lakes region of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, an international association of educational institutions. Said the judge, “This is an amazing set of stories that are engaging, intriguing, and incredibly interesting, all tied to an original theme. The stories, recipes, and first-person essay all tie together to tell a powerful story about this institution and its alumni.” The stories are about David Cleverdon ’63, Susan Ordway Hurd ’72, Sharon Mortimer Roeder ’93, and an essay by Mike Eisenstat ’70. Read them at http://www.virtualonlinepubs.com/publication/?i=75096.

Boy Scouts celebrate 100 years on campus

In July of 1913, Perry Daniel Strausbaugh, a 27-year-old public school teacher, had just received his B.S. in biology from Wooster and had accepted an invitation to teach at the College. But before he began teaching, he had a proposal: Would the College be interested in sponsoring a Scout troop? The Boy Scouts of America organization was only three years old, but Strausbaugh already liked what he saw and volunteered to become a charter scoutmaster. “I believe it will make better men by developing in the boy a strong, manly spirit, making him self-reliant, decisive, and thoughtful,” he wrote in his petition to the College. President Louis Holden agreed. For the first year, the College’s YMCA sponsored the troop, and from 1914 until the present, the College’s Westminster Presbyterian Church (the College’s congregation in residence) has been its sponsor.

Last February, Westminster Church invited Troop 61 to a church service and the troop and church members commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts on campus.

Both Westminster and the College— institutions whose core values contain inclusiveness—are at odds with the values of the Boy Scouts of America, which limits its membership to heterosexuals. But Rev. Andries Coetsee, minister at Westminster and an outspoken critic of the Boy Scouts’ exclusionary stance, says that he and his congregants believe that they have more power to effect change by continuing their sponsorship of the Scouts than by ending a 100-year-old relationship.

Coetsee, who advocates petitioning local, state, and national decision-makers, blogs at www.westminsterpresbyterianwooster.org/blog/2013/07; he writes: ‘Although we are disappointed with the Boy Scouts’ decision (to postpone their decision about changing their policy until May), as a community of faith, we are not giving up. Like so many other people of faith, we will continue to be in conversation with our Troop and our regional offices to ask them to muster the courage to affirm the dignity and inclusion of all God’s children.”

KC
“An extraordinarily generous gift”

Thirteen years ago, the Wooster school district sold its Beall Avenue School at an auction to a group led by Stanley Gault ’48 to use for nonprofit family-centered human service agencies. The old school, built in 1900, underwent a $4.86 million renovation and was transformed into the Gault Family Learning Center. Space was leased to a variety of nonprofit agencies, including preschools, an adult literacy program, and classes for English as a second language.

One of its tenants was the College, which leased space for temporary classrooms during the renovation of Kauke Hall, IT training space, and offices for emeritus faculty. The College has provided telecommunications services for the building, security monitoring, landscaping, and grounds maintenance for the 3.3-acre property.

But as the economy slipped and government funding diminished, tenants were increasingly unable to lease space. In mid-March the Learning Center’s Board announced that the leasing model could not be sustained. The Center would be closed and the property, including the school, restored carriage house, and two parking lots, would be transferred to the College at no cost.

Said College President Grant Cornwell, “We are deeply grateful to Mr. Gault and the other trustees of the Gault Family Learning Center for this extraordinarily generous gift. This is a magnificent facility, renovated and maintained with the same care, quality, and attention to detail that characterizes every project in which the Gault family is involved.”

In the coming months, the College will make decisions on how the property will be used. Possible uses include student residential space, administrative offices, and student organization offices.

We welcome new faces

Marcia A. Beasley is the College’s new associate vice president for human resources. She comes to Wooster from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, where she served as assistant vice president for human resources. At Wooster, she is responsible for all aspects of human resources, including employment, compensation, benefits, performance management, employee relations, staff and organization development, and HR information systems and data management.

Frank Colaprete is the College’s new head football coach. He comes to Wooster from John Hopkins University, where he has served as associate head coach and defensive coordinator. Colaprete is the 22nd head coach in the 115-year history of Fighting Scots’ football, taking over for Mike Schmitz, who resigned in December after 13 seasons.

Brian Nielson has joined the Development Department as director of planned giving. An attorney with 10 years of experience in estate planning and development, he comes to Wooster from the University of Cincinnati Foundation.

Three new members have joined the College’s Board of Trustees. James DeRose, Jr. ’72, is founder and chief executive officer of DeRose Partners, LLC, a management consulting firm based in Pleasanton, Cal. A speech major at Wooster, he was also an All-Ohio Conference running back and co-captain of the Fighting Scots football team. Leslie Simcox Hudson is a retired physician who currently serves as an adjunct faculty member and member of the Board of Regents at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. She and her husband have two sons, one who is a student at Wooster. Jeffrey Lee Keefer ’74, who majored in economics at Wooster, retired in 2010 as executive vice president of E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. and continues to consult for the company.
Distinguished alumni to be honored on Alumni Weekend

Jim Clarke '59, Ken Fischer '66, and Diane Jorkasky '73 will receive Distinguished Alumni Awards during Alumni Weekend, June 7-9. The award is given each year to three alumni who bring honor to the College through their service and/or professional accomplishments. The awardees will lead the traditional Parade of Classes and will speak at the Awards Ceremony that follows.

It's not too late to reserve your place at Alumni Weekend activities. To learn more, including which of your classmates will be attending, go to: www.http://woosteralumni.org

Jim Clarke '59

Jim Clarke, who turned an aptitude for problem solving and critical thinking into a successful business consulting career, remembers his first consulting job. An economics major, he was not thrilled with some aspects of his course of study. "I found that I was much more interested in learning about business than about the economy." But he was excited about the problem-solving opportunities afforded in his Independent Study and nurtured by his favorite professor, Hans Jenny.

As a junior, Clarke studied why businesses engage in public relations by interviewing executives at Ford and General Motors; as a senior he studied what kinds of businesses thrive in different geographic and economic environments by exploring the economic development options for northern Michigan.

"I didn't realize until many years later," he says, "that my first consulting job was my senior IS."

Clarke retired as international executive partner of the global accounting and consulting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, whose successful merger he helped to facilitate around the world. He attributes his accomplishments to two key skills: listening and keeping an open mind. "My most successful consulting assignments were the result of listening carefully and being dispassionate about what I heard. For critical thinking, you need to park your biases. It's also important to consider all the possible options for solving a problem."

He gained this insight while working for three years as assistant secretary for management in the U.S. Department of the Interior, where his job was to help improve management practices. "Decision making in many organizations typically involves responding to a recommendation that proposes a single course of action. I found that problem solving was greatly improved when decision-makers were presented with all the possible options, including the pros and cons of each choice. The result was better decisions and quicker acceptance of the decisions within the organization."

Clarke, who has served on Wooster's Board of Trustees for more than 30 years and is currently an emeritus trustee, has also used his problem-solving skills in service to his alma mater. "Service on some non-profit boards is often not particularly fulfilling or demanding," he says. "Wooster is an exception; attendance is expected and the Board is fully engaged in all decisions that are important to the College."

Clarke has chaired the student relations, development, and buildings and grounds committees and served as a member of the executive and two presidential search committees. He also chaired the Independent Minds Campaign steering committee, which raised $148 million for the College.

"I think my colleagues would say that I take my responsibilities seriously and come to the meetings prepared and committed to helping find the best way forward for the College."

At the awards ceremony on June 8, Clarke says he plans to share his views of the College from the vantage point of a trustee who has served during the administration of three presidents. "I hope to give a sense of where the institution has been and the prospects for the future."
Kenneth C. Fischer ’66

If all Ken Fischer had wanted was to maintain the status quo when he arrived on the campus of the University of Michigan 26 years ago as president of the University Musical Society (UMS), he would have been assured success. As the country's oldest university-arts-presenting organization—founded in 1879—the prestigious Society had gained a reputation for bringing the world's finest performers to Ann Arbor. Audiences could be counted on to pack the university's vintage concert hall, and it was not unusual for the world's greatest orchestras to choose this unassuming Midwestern town as their favorite tour venue.

But Ken Fischer wanted more. “I arrived to an organization quite stuck in its ivory tower,” he remembers. “When I looked at the rich diversity that made up southeast Michigan—large African American, Mexican American, Latin, and Asian populations, and the largest concentration of Arabs outside the Middle East—I saw that they had rich cultural expressions, but that we had no significant relationship with any of them.”

A natural storyteller, Fischer tells his story of change with a combination of panache and humility. “I am a born promoter, so my instinct was to say, ‘We need more blacks in the house, so let's get Wynton Marsalis, the Boys Choir of Harlem, and Kathleen Battle, and then they'll come.’ But my more experienced colleagues said, ‘Ken, that's not the way you do it. You do it by going into their communities, asking questions, listening carefully, breaking bread, and building genuine relationships.’

And that's what he did. He listened, and learned, and volunteered, and avoided using the word “outreach.” “The word implies, I'm from the university and I'm here to help you.” Rather, we took the approach, I'm from the university, and boy do I have a lot to learn from you!”

Today, if you check out the schedule of events at http://ums.org/performances, you will find that the offerings are a rich mosaic of music, dance, and theater, with more than half of the 70 performances coming from outside the United States.

You will also notice that the 30 staff members at UMS are engaged in more than just entertainment. “We're in the experience business,” says Fischer. “Our mission at UMS is to inspire individuals and to enrich communities by connecting artists and audiences in uncommon and engaging experiences.” Those connections—funded by individuals and grants from more than 65 foundations, corporations, and government agencies—include workshops, non-credit and for-credit classes, artists’ residencies, and commissioned works.

Fischer is as eclectic as his UMS arts series. A religion major at Wooster, he is an accomplished singer and French horn player (he played in the orchestra at Wooster and sang in the concert and Westminster choirs), playwright, actor, and author. He has served as cultural ambassador under U.S. State Department auspices to Brazil, China, Lithuania, and Mexico.

Before becoming president of the UMS, Fischer was a management consultant in Washington, D.C., where he advised clients on program design, special events, long-range planning, organizational development, and fundraising. While in Washington, he also produced concerts, benefits, and special events at venues that included the Kennedy Center, National Gallery of Art, and Smithsonian Institution.

“My mentor in those days was the late Patrick Hayes, founder of the Washington Performing Arts Society,” says Fischer. “His trademark was his inclusion policy, which he called EINO. It means ‘Everybody in, nobody out.’

“It is alive and well at UMS.”

Ken Fischer mugging with cellist Yo-Yo Ma at Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium.
Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations for 2014
You, more than anyone, know the accomplishments of your fellow alumni.
We’d love to hear from you. Nominations, due July 1, may be made online
at http://tinyurl.com/cg4ji3u or by contacting the Office of Alumni
Relations at alumni.wooster.edu or 330-263-2533.

Diane Jorkasky ’73
A clinician-scientist, teacher, and mentor, Diane Jorkasky ’73
doesn’t shy away from paradox. A chemistry major at Wooster who
went on for her M.D. in nephrology, internal medicine, and clinical
pharmacology, Jorkasky has worked for 26 years for the pharma-
ceutical industry helping to ensure that drugs are safe and effective.
She speaks both formally as an invited lecturer and informally
about the paradoxes in her profession: On the one hand, modern
medicine has transformed people’s lives. “Medicines like the polio
vaccine, statins for heart disease, and Gardasil for prevention of
cervical carcinoma have revolutionized health care. The pharma-
ceutical industry rallied to find drugs to treat AIDS, and now some-
one with AIDS on therapy is likely to live longer than a cigarette
smoker. The changes have been miraculous.”
But the public’s distrust for the industry has never been higher,
she says. “Not only do people mistrust the pharmaceutical indus-
ty, they also don’t trust the FDA or the Institute of Medicine.”
There are more safeguards, regulations, and standards in place
than there have ever been before, says Jorkasky. But “bad apple”
behaviors and headlines garner attention and erode trust.
The distrust negatively affects entire communities, she says,
particularly in the area of vaccines, which in the past were consid-
ered transformative. Today, many consumers believe misinformation
from neighbors or the Internet rather than considering data
and guidance from the medical profession. “Parents who them-
soever benefit from vaccinations are now refusing to vaccinate
their children.”
As vice president of development for drug companies
SmithKline Beecham and Pfizer, and as the chief medical officer
at Aileron and now Complexa, Jorkasky has been responsible for
early clinical development of new drugs—taking a drug that has
been tested only in animals and monitoring its use in humans for
the first time. “That’s a pretty scary thing,” she says. “Rats haven’t
evolved over millions of years to be easily killed by a drug.
Although we humans have been around a long time, we haven’t
adapted to conditions as vile as those of the rats. We’re a more
sensitive lot!”
She led the complex medical evaluation undertaken in multiple
international clinical research units that determined if a drug had
the “right stuff” for further development.
Yet, Jorkasky wanted external validation for a metric that was
more subjective: Was every detail of the clinical trial process ethi-
cal? “Because research subjects in early drug trials are paid to
participate, it’s important that there are strict rules of engagement
to ensure that they aren’t taken advantage of. You must
ensure that you establish policies and train staff in the pro-
tection of humans who participate in clinical research.”
She insisted on formal accreditation from the
Association for the
Accreditation of Human
Research Protection
Programs, Inc. “A team of aca-
demics came to the research
units and interrogated the
entire operation from stem to
stern,” she says. “They came
with a bias—certain that we
didn’t meet the established
standards. What was remark-
able was that within the first day, there was a 180-degree change
in their attitudes. They saw that we all were very well trained,
knowledgeable, and absolutely dedicated to the protection of the
well-being of our research subjects.” All the clinical research units
under Jorkasky’s supervision received full accreditation on an
international basis—a status that no other company has achieved.
Today, Jorkasky sits on scientific advisory boards and boards
of directors for a number of pharmaceutical and biotech compa-
nies. And as a woman, she represents a minority in her profes-
sion. “I’m sort of the ‘gray hair’ in the room. Finally, after all these
years of being deep in the weeds of drug development, I’m now
the guru who can sit back and listen, ‘harrumph,’ and share my
wisdom and insight. And you know what? It makes me very proud
to be a woman at this level in a profession that I love.”
Throughout her career—first as a clinical faculty member, then
as a clinician-scientist in the industry, and now in a chief medical
officer capacity—Jorkasky says she has always taken advantage of
“the teachable moment.” “One of the biggest influences in my
life was Ted Williams (professor of chemistry) at Wooster. He took
me under his wing and encouraged me to teach. He saw that I
had that potential. He was an outstanding mentor for me, and that
is what I wanted to be to others during my career.
“Wooster was a most fundamental grounding experience that
really shaped the rest of my life. It opened my eyes to what I
could achieve and set no boundaries.”
STUDENT-POWERED SUSTAINABILITY AT WOOSTER

Turning Beliefs into ACTION
students are the first to admit it: It can be rough to accomplish change in four years. (And if you’re studying abroad, make that three and one-half years.) It’s hard to motivate peers, to light a fire that won’t go out when you’ve graduated, to figure out a leadership succession plan—all while working on your I.S.

But they have discovered continuity and support from faculty and staff mentors and a forum for teamwork in the College’s Committee for a Sustainable Campus. At a typical committee meeting, there is excitement and mutual respect as faculty members, students, and staff share ideas.

As students told their stories for this feature, their remarks were peppered with acknowledgement of campus members who had helped them—Jim Davis, manager of maintenance operations; Chuck Wagers, director of campus dining; Matt Mariola, assistant professor of environmental studies; Susan Clayton, professor of psychology and environmental studies and chair of the Sustainability Committee; Beau Mastrine, director of grounds.

But ultimately, a culture of responsibility can be sustained only if students own it. And so we have chosen to tell a few of their stories.
WOOSTER’S FIRST
Sustainability Coordinator

SARAH-BETH LODER ’12

Sarah-Beth Loder ’12 arrived on campus as a straight-ahead physics major, with aspirations of going to veterinary school and her sights firmly fixed on her I.S., which would be titled “Experimentally and Computationally Determining the Theoretical Aqueous pKa of Three UV-absorbing Benzophenone Derivatives.”

“Environmental activism wasn’t even on my radar,” she remembers. By the time she graduated, she was hooked. “A friend of mine said that one of the program houses wanted to get energy efficiency upgrades. I thought that was awesome, so I jumped on board. “I felt a need to lead and see something more done in this movement.”

More specifically, she wanted to work on the campus of her alma mater. With the help of Matt Mariola, assistant professor of environmental studies, Beau Mastine, director of campus grounds, and Marylou LaLonde, assistant director of career services, Loder developed a job description and proposed it to the College. “They approved it as a one-year internship, reporting to Beau,” says Loder. “And off I went.”

How do you coordinate the sprawling activities of a half-dozen student organizations, each with its own leadership and projects? Loder’s strategies are informed by a central belief: “Wooster’s student sustainability movement is project-by-project. This is about individuals leading the way.” The trick, then, is to empower individuals, one semester at a time, and to celebrate small successes. Loder also listens to everything. She attends every sustainability meeting and has become a point person with a large view.

“S.B. holds us accountable.”

On a cold winter day, approximately 25 students crowd into Loder’s “office,” a desk in the campus grounds garage. Loder calls these get-togethers the Green Group meetings, and they are a clearinghouse for the College’s sustainability programs and committees, including Greenhouse, Campus Sustainability Committee,
Sustainability Help 5¢

the COORDINATOR is IN
“A LOT OF THINGS HAPPEN WHEN ONE PERSON IS MOTIVATED AND PUSHES SOMETHING THROUGH.”
— SARAH-BETH LODER

Bike Club, One Earth, Peace by Peace, and the Water Bottle Committee. Green Group is also for individuals unaffiliated with a larger group. “A lot of things happen when one person is motivated and pushes something through,” says Loder.

Chairs and table space are scarce, so the students sit on the floor, sit on each other’s laps, and lean against the drafting table. But while the atmosphere is informal and friendly, conversation is spare and the agenda is action-driven. “What’s everyone working on?” asks Loder (whom the students call S.B.).

Loder also holds office hours in the Lowry Pit, where students drop in with questions and input. “S.B. holds us accountable,” says Anna Mudd, president of the Bike Club. “And she doesn’t let good ideas fall by the wayside.”

Loder has launched new programs and strengthened those that were faltering. Combining empowerment with education, she initiated the Green Ambassadors program, in which she recruited and trained upperclassmen to speak to 17 First Year Seminar classes about sustainability initiatives open to every Wooster student. She spearheaded the installation of compost bins outside of Lowry, so that food waste wasn’t deposited into recycling bins. She helped the Bike Club secure a new garage. She coordinated a Green (Open) House and a Reduce Reuse Recycle Week.

This month, Loder learned that her contract has been extended for another year. She and a large swath of the campus community hope that position will become permanent. But if it doesn’t, Loder has ideas about next steps. She studied polymer-based solar cells at the University of Massachusetts during a summer internship and is keenly interested in energy efficiency, alternative energy, and communicating the science of sustainable energies to non-scientists.

THE RENAISSANCE OF THE Community Bike Program

The College’s Community Bike Program was launched in academic 2009-10 to great enthusiasm. And then it lost momentum, spun a few wheels, and unceremoniously bit the dust. The free program asked nothing from its users, and that’s exactly what it got. The motley array of bikes (many donated by local sheriffs’ offices) — were left outside for extended periods, and by the time they were returned, they were broken, rusted, and unusable.

[ right ] Anna Mudd ’13, Henry DeGrand ’15, and David Quigley ’14 work on bikes at the Bike Club’s new garage.
To add injury to insult, in the summer of 2012 the walls of the Pearl House garage where the bikes were stored caved in, the College had to demolish the building, and the program was assigned a tiny space that was about as useful to a bike mechanic as a broom closet.

But a few strategic interventions and the enthusiasm of a handful of students are resurrecting the program. Bike Club president Anna Mudd ’13 and sustainability coordinator Sarah-Beth Loder ’12 worked with the College’s maintenance operations staff and landed a new garage—this time one that had heating and electricity. Iceman Garage has become the club’s new hub.

David Quigley ’14 contacted Mudd, saying, “I can fix bikes,” and she answered, “Yes, please!” During the winter months, the small core of students repaired bikes and gave seriously crippled ones a second life, stripping them to their frames so that they can be transformed into bike racks.

Mudd and Loder understand that the program’s policy needs an overhaul as much as its bikes do. “Students need to make a deposit in order to check out bikes,” says Mudd. “They need to return them in good shape and on time. We need to tell students to treat the bikes as if they are their own and to be sure users know that residence halls have bike storage rooms.”

Club member Henry DeGrand ’15 has received the go-ahead from Student Life to open a service program house next fall. Residents of Bike House will help to staff the checkout service and keep the bikes in good repair. “I have 10 strapping guys signed up to live in the house and volunteer,” says DeGrand.

Continuity is the bugaboo of the student-run program, but Blair Heidkamp ’15 has signed on as vice president, and Mudd says she is optimistic that the program is in good hands. She hopes that as the group grows, someone will come forward to organize bike rides and develop a website.

“I have faith that the bike program is here for the long haul.”

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“WE NEED TO TELL STUDENTS TO TREAT THE BIKES AS IF THEY ARE THEIR OWN AND TO BE SURE USERS KNOW THAT RESIDENCE HALLS HAVE BIKE STORAGE ROOMS.”

— ANNA MUDD ’13
TAKING BACK
The Tap

For environmentalists Gus Fuguitt ’13 and Erin Plews-Ogan ’13, it makes no sense to purchase bottled water when tap water is healthy, plentiful, free, and tasty. They started saying as much when they arrived on campus four years ago. And this winter their perseverance paid off. The College stopped stocking campus outlets with bottled water that could be purchased with meal plan flex dollars (which the students also refer to as “monopoly” money).

“IT’S WRONG FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE ACCESS TO FREE, CLEAN WATER TO PURCHASE IT, WHEN IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD PEOPLE HAVE NO WATER.”

— GUS FUGUITT

Their peers should care about the issue on many levels, say the student leaders. “It’s a human rights, environmental, and ethical issue,” says Fuguitt. “It’s wrong for those of us who have access to free, clean water to purchase it, when in other parts of the world people have no water.”

Says Plews-Ogan, “Large bottling companies extract water from water tables and then ship it away; water is depleted and communities (which often don’t benefit from the sale) are marginalized. Resources, including the oil it takes to make plastic, are wasted.”

Working with campus groups Greenhouse and the Student Government Association (SGA), Fuguitt, Plews-Ogan, and a handful of other activists began a process of peer education. For example, they set up a taste test of bottled and tap water to see if tasters could tell the difference. (They couldn’t.) They found out how many plastic water bottles were thrown out every week on campus. (Nine hundred and seventy-two.) They spoke in classes and collected more than 500 signatures petitioning the administration to remove bottled water from the College’s shelves. The SGA drew up a formal resolution and presented their plan to the College’s cabinet. One of their informal advisors for the process was a member of the campus-wide Sustainability Committee, Peg Cornwell, associate to the president for community, trustee, and parent relations.

The campaign received a substantial boost on the persuasion
front when the college installed 33 filtered bottle refill stations at drinking fountains throughout campus. The students consulted the national organization “Take Back the Tap,” which works with student campaigns. Said Fugitt, “When I told them about the refill stations, they said ‘Oh, man! You’re set!’

There were a few squawks from die-hard bottled water users when water bottles disappeared, said Fugitt, but not many. “It’s such an easy thing to give up and it makes such a huge difference.”

In their final semester on campus, the students learned that total success of their initiative won’t be realized for another three years. An agreement with Coca-Cola will keep SmartWater (electrolyte enhanced water) on campus until the contract expires in 2016.

[above] 972 Bottles: Gus Fugitt and Erin Plews-Ogan used a sculpture created by Galen Cobb ’14 as a way to communicate the number of bottles of water used every week on campus. Before water bottles were removed from College outlets, they represented 10 percent of all plastic bottles disposed of on campus.

Following graduation, Fugitt, a sociology major, will attend Green Corps, a field school for environmental organizing. Plews-Ogan, an anthropology major and environmental studies minor has applied to fellowships to study public health, and is a Fulbright finalist.
“WITH DINING PLANS, NO MONEY PASSES HANDS WHEN YOU PUT FOOD ON YOUR PLATE. THERE IS NO CONSEQUENCE FOR WASTE; IT JUST GOES AWAY.”

— SARAH-BETH LODER

REDUCING
Food Waste

The amount of food wasted on campus plummeted in 2009 when the College removed trays from their dining halls, making it more difficult for diners to take more than they could eat.

The trayless initiative, spearheaded by Austin Beer '10, past president of Greenhouse, resulted in the amount of food wasted going from six ounces per person to two ounces—a two-thirds reduction.

But current students aren’t resting on yesterday’s laurels. They want even less waste. To this end, leaders are contributing to an education program that includes daily posting of food wasted and a periodic “scrape-in,” in which plates are scraped in plain sight by popular faculty, administrators, and staff.

Education is important, says sustainability coordinator Sarah-Beth Loder, because students have little economic incentive to reduce food waste. “With dining plans, no money passes hands when you put food on your plate. There is no consequence for waste; it just goes away.”

[ above ] Students are regular attendees at the Westminster Presbyterian Church’s vegan potluck.

THE VEGAN Potluck

The vegan potluck began about three years ago as a kind of support group for a few members of Westminster Presbyterian Church (including Dave Noble ’63 and heart specialist and college trustee Ken Shafer ’75) who wanted to share recipes and the dining experience.

When it started growing, the group moved it out of their homes and into the church (the College’s congregation in residence) and threw the doors wide open to students.

And then it really exploded. It is not unusual for 50 students to attend the monthly event, which often includes a cooking lesson from staff members at the local food cooperative and a short lecture on sustainability issues, delivered by both students and community members.

Over bowls of lentil soup, pita and humus, stuffed cabbage, and rich brownies, 60-year-olds and 20-year-olds exchange cooking and recipe ideas. Most of the students who attend aren’t vegan but say they come to the potluck as a way to connect with the community. “And,” adds Alissa Weinman ’15, “to get away from Lowry for an evening.”

[ left ] Last winter, Chuck Wagers, director of campus dining, gave student leaders a behind-the-scenes tour of Lowry Center’s food preparation areas. Composting food, initiated in 2009, last year diverted 45 tons of food from the landfill, said Wagers.
TRANSFORMATIVE Education

(Leaving campus to become a baby bird, only to be devoured by a hawk)

On a muddy spring morning, members of the WOODS program house are fully engaged in a game of prey and predator with preschoolers at the local Montessori school.

The program house, part of the College’s volunteer network, grew out of the Wooster Outdoors (WOODS) Club. The 10 members of the program house come from diverse disciplines but have one thing in common: “We all love nature and kids,” says Adair Creach ’15, house president.

Inhibitions melt away as 19-year-olds and five-year-olds become baby birds and hawks. The hawks’ job is to chase down the baby birds, who have blithely left their nests to hunt for food. Once caught, the birds transform into hawks, resulting in a severe ecosystem imbalance.

Midway through the game, Creach institutes a new rule: So that their species is obvious, the hawks must thrust out their wings and squawk loudly. (Baby birds may continue screaming.) An earnest child confides to Creach that he’s really a baby bird but is pretending to be a hawk to save his neck. Seizing the moment, Creach explains that this is a technique found in the animal kingdom. There is a brief reprieve in the squawking and screaming as the kids gather around to learn about a species of fly that Pretends to be a bee.

The prey and predator game turns to a scavenger hunt. “We’re looking for something symmetrical,” says Bjorn Olsen ’15 to his group of tykes. Displaying elegant non sequitur logic, understood best by five-year-olds, one of them rejoins, “You have a hole in your shirt.”

The Wooster students return to campus, muddy and laughing. “It’s so exciting to observe the intrinsic rewards these kids get from learning,” says Abbey Daniel ’15. “And they are so advanced. You can ask a child about his favorite animal, and he’ll tell you the Latin name for it”
Organic Gardening Club members Ivy Jackson ’13, Micah Motenko ’13, Kelsey Schreck ’15, and adviser Matt Mariola work with a community member on a proposed community garden.

Organic gardening

Members of the organic gardening club met in mid-March at the home of a home owner with a large backyard a stone’s throw from campus. The community member had a proposal for the students: If she supplied the seeds, space, and top soil, would the students transform her yard into an organic garden and share the produce? The answer was a resounding “Yes!” and the remainder of the consulting session was spent discussing mulch and rain barrels.

Advised by Matt Mariola, assistant professor of sociology and environmental studies, members of the club volunteer for local growers who are just beginning their enterprises and also for seasoned farmers. The benefits include free produce, harvest parties, and farming experience, says Ivy Jackson ’13, president of the group.

“It’s fun to notice people’s mood when we’re driving out, and then after we’re finished working. We drive back to campus smiling and laughing. My friend, Sarah Kristeller ’14, who is vice president of the group and is into creative writing, likes to say there’s serotonin in the soil.”
RAINDROPS on Roses

(hold the oil, grease, herbicides, pesticides, copper, and magnesium)

INDEPENDENT MINDS ACCEPT A CHALLENGE

What would motivate five students to meet every Monday night for four months to work on a storm water management grant proposal? They weren’t members of a club, program house, committee, or class. They would receive no salary or class credit. They simply cared.

And, of course, there was that word “challenge,” designed to spark excitement in true learners. The Environmental Protection Agency issued its Campus Rainwater Challenge to undergraduate and graduate students to design an innovative green infrastructure for their schools to manage storm water. Two first-place $12,000 prizes would be awarded to launch the projects—one to a larger institution, the other to a smaller.

An alert from chemistry professor Paul EDMiston about the opportunity and a strategic call-for-participants from environmental studies professor Susan Clayton resulted in a five-person independent, interdisciplinary student team including Galen Cobb ’14, biology; Ben Glor ’15, applied art; Sarah Frederick ’15, geology; Christine Kasprisin ’14, biochemistry; and team leader Zachary Harvey ’14, chemistry.

The requirements of the proposal were complex, and soon the students—who weren’t acquainted when they began—began to know each other very well. “Every week we’d give each other assignments,” says Cobb, who put together a video for the proposal.

They were competing against 200 other institutions, but Team Wooster was optimistic because of a unique aspect of their two designs. These weren’t just ordinary rain gardens (indentations filled with native plants to hold and filter pollutant-laden water from parking lots). Wooster’s rain gardens would have Osorb™.

Discovered and developed by Prof. EDMiston about eight years ago and patented by the College, Osorb is a modified glass substance that swells to eight times its size in order to absorb contaminants in water, without absorbing the water itself. About two and a half years ago, EDMiston and others began researching the feasibility of adding the substance to rain gardens to assist in removing toxic materials from run-off. Two small pilot test sites on campus revealed that the technology worked, and three rain gardens have been established in northeast Ohio, with more in the planning stages.

Team Wooster also identified the unique geography of their campus, which sits at the headwaters of the Killbuck Marsh complex, one of the state’s most ecologically sensitive areas. Working closely with the College’s engineers, landscapers, and architects, the students prepared a 16-page proposal that outlined all aspects of the plan—from a description of native plants, to final budget figures, to multidisciplinary research and educational goals.

Of course Team Wooster wants to win. But if they don’t, it’s
It would be difficult to find a better illustration of the aptness of Wooster's tagline—"Independent Minds, Working Together"—than the student-driven sustainability efforts highlighted in this issue. From reducing food waste and removing bottled water from campus stores, to the community bike program and organic gardening club, sustainability intern Sarah-Beth Loder '12 says, "This is about individuals leading the way.”

It’s also about people coming together. One student with an idea and the passion to pursue it may start the ball rolling, but it takes a whole network of people collaborating to bring that idea to life. Along the way, students work with and get to know peers outside their regular circle of friends, faculty outside their major, and staff from campus grounds, maintenance operations, dining services, and other areas that they might not otherwise. Very Wooster.

That all this happens in pursuit of the goal of making this a more sustainable campus is exactly as it should be. I believe strongly that a college campus ought to model both the values and the practices that we want our students to learn and ultimately to carry with them out into the world. Part of the global perspective we want our students to develop is an appreciation of their responsibility not simply to their local community, important as that is, but as global stewards of the earth and its resources.

I am proud of their efforts and of all that we are doing on a broader, institutional level—from the Scot Center’s solar roof and the conversion of the power plant from coal to natural gas, to more energy-efficient fixtures in campus building—to make this a greener, more sustainable campus. This year, those efforts have earned Wooster a silver rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, and we have our sights set on gold.

truly OK, they say. “It’s been exciting and we’ve learned a lot,” says team leader Harvey, an intern at ABS Materials, the Wooster company that manufacturers and develops Osorb.

Mentorship from campus staff members has been exceptionally rewarding, says Cobb. “We’d be all excited, ready to take on the world, and they’d say, ’Hold up here a minute; let’s think this through a little more.’”

And the team agrees: No matter the outcome of the challenge, their College is ready for rain gardens and other green infrastructures. Says Cobb: “We’re excited about taking the next steps.”

AND THE WINNER IS . . .

The results of the competition were announced on April 22, too late for Wooster magazine deadlines; For results, check http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/crw_challenge
ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNLOCK THE PAST
ARCHAEOLOGY AT WOOSTER—LAUNCHING CAREERS

For archaeologists, there’s nothing metaphoric about the phrases “getting your hands dirty” or “working in the trenches.” Archaeology students use class time for subject matter background, but it is in the laboratory and field where they learn techniques that will become the bread-and-butter skills of the professional archaeologist. “Archaeology,” says Nick Kardulias, professor of archaeology and department head, “is a field-based discipline.”

The field might be as romantic as an ancient cemetery or as prosaic as a county courthouse. And techniques might involve delicately removing dirt with a toothbrush, or meticulously filing legal paperwork. About half of Wooster’s current 22 archaeology majors will probably work as contract archaeologists at some point in their careers, says Kardulias. “Federal and state laws require developers of everything from bridges, to roads, to sewage plants, to assess areas for biological and cultural resources; private consulting archaeologists are often used for these assessments.”

Wooster students gain practical experience by volunteering with the Wayne County Historical Society, local county offices, and summer internships at museums. But nothing piques interest more than the Athienou Archaeological Project in the Mesaoria plain near Athienou, Cyprus. Initiated by Davidson College in 1990 and subsequently joined by Wooster and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the project has maintained a field school since 1992 and has received National Science Foundation funding since 1995. Ten students from institutions throughout the U.S. are selected to work at the site for approximately six weeks in the summer. Participants also include graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars from Canada, Cyprus, France, Greece, and the U.S.

A rare excavation site because of its rural location, the area was inhabited for nearly 2,500 years and encompasses nine different periods in the island’s history, says Kardulias, associate director of the project. Its diverse archaeological remains—including domestic, religious, and funerary—make it an ideal training ground for students, and over the past 20 years it has attracted more than 400 scholars and students from around the world.
ASHLEIGH SIMS ’14 and Emily Kate ’14, archaeology majors who worked at the Athienou project last summer, say the experience was tedious, grueling, and fabulous. Blistering afternoon temperatures prompt team members to begin fieldwork at 6:30 a.m. By 2:00 p.m., the students return to the laboratory, where they carefully clean, sort, bag, and weigh the day’s discoveries. Lectures and class presentations give the students a break from their small trench.

But their trench was a great one, says Sims, yielding almost 200 objects, while a trench only a few feet away gave up only a fraction of that number, with a randomness that would surely please the Greek gods. The “Wooster trench” (supervised by Wooster alumni of the project Alicia Dissinger ’08 and Brittany Rancour ’09) was probably an area dedicated to the god Pan. The team found much pipe and Pan statuary, but as is often the case, all the statues were headless, said Sims. “It’s frustrating and sad to find torsos but no heads. The sites are often looted, and heads cut off and sold.”

The high point of the dig, she says, occurred on the last day, when researchers at the site found a rare sculpture of a chariot cast in limestone, rather than in the more common terra cotta. “It was super cool—two guys and four horses—of course no one had heads—and you could see that it had been painted,” recalls Sims. “The cloaks were red and had amazing detail and texture; even the hairs of the horse’s tail had been scraped in.”

Sims has applied for a Copeland Grant to return to Athienou this summer to work on her Independent Study (I.S.)—a project that will catalogue the graves of a modern cemetery in order to inform theories of social structure and change. She says she chose to attend Wooster because of its archaeology program and hopes to pursue an M.S. in public archaeology and to work in cultural heritage management.

Emily Kate became hooked on the discipline when she took an introductory archaeology class. For her I.S., she will analyze burial grounds in Mexico as a way to identify cultural links between two groups of people living between 500 and 900 AD.
LYNN NEAL ’88
PRESERVING THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST’S PAST

Lynn Neal was interested in majoring in archaeology before it was established as a major at Wooster, so she created her own course of study, combining classes in classical and biblical studies, geology, sociology, history, and chemistry to become one of the College’s first archaeology graduates.

A double major in archaeology and geology (with two Independent Studies to show for it), Neal made a memorable decision early on to pursue archaeology as a career. A successful alumnus working in the field of hydrology visited campus and—acting upon the recommendation of Fred Cropp ’54, Neal’s geology professor and adviser—offered Neal a job following graduation. “I had to really think about what direction I should take—geology or archaeology,” she remembers. “Archaeology won.” She turned down the job, earned her M.A. in anthropology/applied archaeology, and has worked as an archaeologist ever since. In 2003, she joined EnviroSystems Management, Inc., in Flagstaff, Ariz., where she is vice president and cultural resources program manager.

EnviroSystems was created to help clients comply with federal, state, tribal, and local regulations that mitigate the possible negative impacts of development on natural and cultural resources. The regulations, developed in 1906 and amended in 1966, didn’t begin to significantly affect archaeological careers in cultural resources

ATHIENOU
PAVES THE WAY

David Massey ’04, who attended the Athienou project as a sophomore in 2002, is still feeling its effects as a Ph.D. student in cultural geography at Ohio State University.

He used the field experience in both his junior and senior Independent Studies, in which he examined the site using geographic information systems (GIS). “At the time, GIS was a relatively new tool for archaeologists,” he says. His Wooster research landed him a job for the next five years with two GIS companies. In addition, Massey recently co-authored a chapter with Kardulias about his GIS research in a volume about the Cyprus project.

For his M.S. and current research at Ohio State, Massey continues to study Athienou, this time with an emphasis on how Athienou farmers’ agricultural decisions affect land use changes. Says Massey: “I credit Prof. Kardulias for instilling a strong work ethic and emphasizing the importance of research in my academic career.”
management and historic preservation in the private sector until the late ’70s and ’80s, says Neal. “Before then, professional archaeologists didn’t exist in large numbers outside universities and museums.”

Until this influx of work, the profession had been dominated by men, says Neal. “Historically, women have been more likely to go into the field of anthropology. Anthropologists talk to live people; archaeologists talk to dead ones. Women were often thought of as happier sitting at someone’s kitchen table taking in information than digging in the dirt.” The field of resources management, she says, allows women to do both—dig in the dirt and educate clients about how the past intersects with and impacts the present.

“Archaeologists are a difficult breed; we spend so much time with our heads down that we don’t do so well with people.” But Neal appears to have little patience with that particular idiosyncrasy. As a manager of more than a dozen people at any one time, she has necessarily developed successful people skills and requires that her employees do the same.

“They are out in the field camping together at eight-day intervals. This forces them to learn to mesh well as a team.”

WALKING THE LINE

There is little Indiana Jones mystique in the daily grind of the consulting archaeologist, who typically walks about 10 miles a day and sifts tons of dirt through screens, says Neal. There are also major differences between the work of the consultant, whose venue is a function of, say, the 150-mile distance between the end points of a proposed power line across the desert or forest, and that of the university or museum archaeologist, whose research question may be tied to a specific geographic area. “We’re walking the line directly ahead of the back hoes,” she says. “When we make that rare and exciting find, it is often difficult to interpret and put into context. Ironically, time is not on our side.”

But the rare finds do occur. Several years ago, Neal was “walking the line,” head down, with chances of finding a meaningful relic highly unlikely, when she found what looked like the rusted end of an old butter knife poking out of the earth. In fact, it was an extremely rare metal point/arrowhead, evidence of collaboration between native Apache people and the Spanish conquistadors, who brought metallurgy technology to the New World beginning in the 1500s.

Neal, who has lived and worked in Flagstaff for 24 years, chose the area because of its natural beauty and breadth of cultures. Also, 80 percent of the state’s land is publically owned, making it a good fit for her discipline. Her clients, colleagues, and employees are frequently members of Native American tribes, and one of her areas of expertise and passions is preserving the ancient architecture made by the ancestors of today’s tribes of the American Southwest. Neal, who is adopted, didn’t discover until she moved to Arizona that her birth mother was Native American.

Her double-major proclivities still in evidence, Neal has served as guest geologist and archaeologist on recreational tours, including with Environmental Experiences, Inc. (http://www.ecanyon.com/index.php). The non-profit organization, which hosts raft trips through the Grand Canyon, was founded by her mentor, Fred Cropp, and is currently operated by Fred’s son, Tom Cropp, and Doug Drushal ’74.
THE PROFESSOR AND THE WARRIOR QUEEN
A DISCOVERY OF A LIFETIME

Ever since she began excavating the remains of an ancient Maya building located deep in the rainforest of northwest Guatemala for her doctoral research in 2003, Olivia Navarro-Farr suspected that her findings had deep significance. Last summer, Navarro-Farr, Wooster assistant professor of anthropology, returned to the site with a research team, and what they found made international news.

As she excavated the site over the years, Navarro-Farr was convinced that she had found a sacred place. Hundreds of thousands of relics—bits of ceramic figurines, carved shells, whistles, tool fragments, jewelry—told her and fellow researchers that this was probably a shrine maintained for many generations after the fall of the dynasty at El Perú-Waka, one of the most influential cities of the Maya empire, which flourished from 250 to about 800 AD. In early June 2012, Navarro-Farr and her team pierced the corner of a collapsed masonry chamber that they suspected might hold a body. Protected from looters by members of the Guatemalan military, they worked around the clock for the next 10 days to uncover not just any tomb, but that of the Holy Snake Lady—Supreme Warrior Lady K’ábel, who ruled with her husband for at least 20 years between 672–692 AD. “Lady K’ábel,” says Navarro-Farr, “was the greatest ruler of Waka during the late Classic period.”

The discovery, one of only a handful of Maya tombs whose occupants have been identified, electrified scientists. The team found the bones of a stout adult, arm bones flexed, laying on a bench. A decorated ceramic plate, mimicking a shield, covered the body’s left torso, and a jade jewel near the chest showed the portrait of a young woman. The details were important: The style of the ceramic plate was associated with the kingdom of the lady’s birth, the Classic Maya capitol of Calakmul. And a protrusion on the rear of the skull would have been caused by a heavy headdress worn by royalty, noted the project’s bone specialist, Erin Patterson.

Also, a red spiny oyster shell lay on the lower torso, reflecting a Maya royal tradition of using oyster shells to decorate girdles. The team found fragments of a hematite mirror, reflecting the belief that a powerful Maya queen could communicate with dead ancestors using a mirror. They also found what was probably the most significant indication of the skeleton’s identity—an alabaster effigy jar, carved with Mayan hieroglyphs.

Navarro-Farr teaches introductory courses in archaeology, four-field anthropology, archaeological method and theory, physical anthropology, and ritual and religion in ancient Mesoamerica.

The discovery was a “once-in-a-lifetime experience,” says Navarro-Farr. She is returning for ongoing research on the project, which is sponsored by the Foundation for the Cultural and Natural Patrimony of Guatemala. All artifacts will eventually go to the National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology in Guatemala City.

[ left ] Of great importance in the (almost certain) identification of the tomb as that belonging to the powerful warrior queen Lady K’ábel, the “Holy Snake Lady” of Seventh-Century classic Maya civilization, was this small alabaster effigy jar, showing the bust of an elderly woman emerging from a conch shell. Photos by Juan Carlos Perez.
ne September afternoon in 1865, Rev. James Reed, the minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Wooster, was making calls to members of his congregation, when suddenly overcome by the natural beauty around him, he reined his horse to a stop. Writes Lucy Lilian Nostein in Wooster of the Middle West, “The beauty of the view overwhelmed him. To the east and south and west he looked, beyond the valleys of the Applecreek and Killbuck, to the hills... with heart full, he dismounted, and at the edge of the woodland fell on his knees to give thanks for such beauty. Rising he was startled with a new thought. What a site this would be for a college! What a place this for youth to come to for study, where in this view across the hills they might constantly be reminded of the glory of God!”

His inspiration was contagious. Ephraim Quinby, the owner of the land and a member of Reed’s congregation, agreed to donate the land and its beautiful oak grove; the Presbyterian Synod encouraged Reed to discover whether the citizens of Wooster and Wayne County could raise the necessary $100,000 as seed money. They could and did. On Dec. 18, 1866, 15 months after Rev. Reed had a dream, the Presbyterian Synod incorporated the institution and named its first Board of Trustees. Included was Rev. Reed, who was named secretary.

Reed remained in Wooster for only one more year. After brief stops in Washington, D.C., and Dubuque, Iowa, in 1869, he was called to be minister of the Third Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Ill., where he served until 1888. His church was the site for Mary Todd Lincoln’s funeral in 1882, and he delivered the eulogy.

Today, the College recognizes its visionary founder with a plaque outside Galpin Hall and also with The James Reed Society, which recognizes donors whose giving over the course of their lifetimes is $1 million and more.
M
teer was a 31-year-old physician practic-
ing in Wooster when President Sylvester
Fifthian Scovel asked him to teach zoolo-
ogy and biology. In 1895, Mateer coura-
geously launched the College's first class on evolution,
"Organic Descent." Just a year earlier, a famous visiting
astronomer had given a talk on campus to substantial
student acclaim, including this viewpoint: "Your great,
great, great, great, great grandfather was never a polly-
wog, and your great, great, great, great grandfather was
never a ring tailed monkey. No relative of yours was ever
anything but a man; there is no connecting link between
the mortal and the immortal."

Mateer's early interpretation of evolution, often
called theistic evolution, was first published in *The Post
Graduate* and *Wooster Quarterly* in 1895 and in a pam-
phlet at the same time. He wrote, "We cease to regard
God as sitting idly upon His throne and come to view
Him as constantly employing all His power in the per-
fec tion of His works ..."
EMELINE STIBBS MCSWEENEY
Serving Students and Alumni

Emeline McSweeney had strong ties to the Wooster community and good reasons to attend Wooster University. Her great, great, great grandfather was General Reasin Beall, a Revolutionary War veteran and one of Wooster's earliest settlers. She received her B.A., M.A., and Ph.B. degrees from Wooster and joined the faculty in 1918 as an instructor of Greek, later taught Latin, and became professor of French in 1924.

President Wishart, hoping to organize alumni forces, in 1923 appointed McSweeney as the institution's first acting alumni secretary, and she quickly produced an alumni index.

McSweeney, who had polio when she was five years old, navigated Wooster's brick paths, heavy doors, and steep stairways with crutches and a wheelchair every day for 28 years.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT:
Karin Barend '13, studio art, used digital illustration in the style of a traditional etching, her area of expertise. McSweeney's role as alumni secretary inspired Barend to feature a postcard with French references, reflecting McSweeney's discipline. "I knew she needed to reach out to alumni, and I imagined she might have done it using a postcard."

Although some College photos show McSweeney in a wheelchair, Barend chose to only faintly allude to it in the upper left corner. "I wasn't sure if that was how Emeline would have wanted to be remembered," she said.
In the days following the fire of 1901 that ravaged Old Main, the College’s main building, President Holden wrote letters to a number of philanthropists. “Yesterday I was president of a college. Today I am president of a hole in the ground.”

The disaster and plea for help resulted in the beginning of a close relationship between Holden, the College, and a retired oilman named Louis Severance, a deeply committed Presbyterian. When he heard of the fire, Severance sent Holden a telegram that read, “Don’t worry. Perhaps it is the best thing that could happen to Wooster. When you have formulated a plan come and see me.”

The plan was produced, and a $50,000 donation from Severance for a new science building soon followed. He was immediately elected to the Board of Trustees and named chair in 1905. Severance’s legacy to the College also included Severance Gymnasium, the accompanying athletic fields, Holden Hall men’s residence hall, and a close and influential friendship with President Holden.

The dedicatory plaque on Severance Gymnasium reflects Severance’s commitment to his faith: “Exercise thyself unto godliness; for bodily exercise is profitable for a little; but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come.” 1 Timothy 4:7, the Bible

ARTIST’S STATEMENT:
Emily Koelmel ’13, studio art, used an overlay of old found prints and current photography. “Images include Louis Severance in a chair, emphasizing his power as a self-made millionaire, a faded tin type of his entire family, an image of oil rigs (to represent his work as the first treasurer of Standard Oil), and the symbol and plaque adorning the Ebert Art building (formerly Severance Gymnasium).”
Tradition Requires Vigilance

Contact us for more information about the Society or charitable estate gifts.
Today’s students and yesterday’s graduates depend on the tradition of excellence that has taken root at Wooster. But traditions are not self-sustaining. Like our beautiful Oak Grove, they require proper care and support to thrive and grow. Traditions can stay vibrant and strong when the resources are there to sustain them. You can help sustain Wooster’s tradition of excellence by including The College of Wooster in your estate planning. As you plan to carry on the traditions in your own family, please consider also nourishing the Wooster family by becoming a member of the 1866 Legacy Society and including a portion of life insurance, retirement accounts, or a designation in your will or trust.

Photo Matt Dilyard

Visit: http://wooster.giftplans.org
Email: plannedgifts@wooster.edu

Call 330.263.2390
In Closing

Saving makes sense
The College's Committee for a Sustainable Campus has taken the lead in urging the campus community to stop using paper coffee cups and instead use plastic non-disposable mugs, provided by the College, or their own mugs. The initiative comes with a built-in financial incentive: Coffee for customers who bring their own cups is 25 cents cheaper.

Photo: Kari Cramer