



WINTER 2015

IMAGINE THAT!
WHAT YOU CAN DO
WITH A LIBERAL
ARTS EDUCATION

SATISFACTION!

Surprising Careers
Feed Mind and Spirit

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A NATURAL
PASSION

Troy Townsend '07
Works to Harness Sunlight

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ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
of Maryland



The
MULBERRY
TREE

WINTER 2015, VOL. XXXVI, NO. 1

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The magazine is named for the famous mulberry tree under which the Calvert colonists signed a treaty of friendship with the Yaocomico people and on the trunk of which public notices were posted in the mid-1600s. The tree endured long into the 19th century and was once a popular meeting spot for St. Mary's students. The illustration of the mulberry tree on the cover was drawn in 1972 by Earl Hofmann, artist-in-residence when St. Mary's College President Renwick Jackson launched the magazine.

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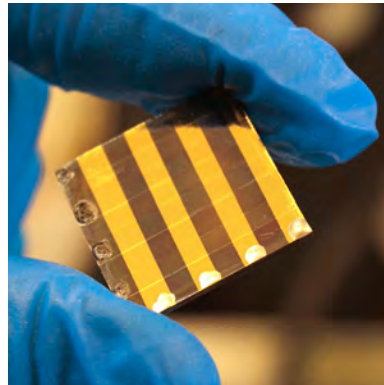
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Photo by John Dean

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THE NEXUS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

THIS YEAR WE ARE CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE founding of our institution. In these 175 years there have been substantial and significant changes. Through it all we have remained true to our mission to provide an excellent and affordable education.

In 1840, the College, known as St. Mary's Seminary ("Female" was inserted into the name later) was started. The Board of Trustees, comprised of three local men of high esteem, raised a little more than \$18,000 to purchase the land, pay taxes, and hire teaching staff.

The school opened its doors in 1846 with three teaching faculty led by Edward Meaney, the principal. There were 10 boarding students and the cost was \$120 per year for the elementary branch, \$130 for the advanced English curriculum, and \$267 if you wanted to take everything the school had to offer (impossible!). The guiding principle was to offer girls within Maryland the best education possible that was affordable. Indeed, at that time, St. Mary's Seminary was the lowest priced "girls" institution in the state.¹

Today we are a four-year, public honors college governed by a board of 22, led by a woman of color. We provide an excellent education to women *and* men from across the country. Our 2014 full-time enrollment is 1,694 students and our operating budget is \$68 million. U.S. News & World Report consistently ranks us in the top 90 national liberal arts colleges. Equally important, Kiplinger's ranks us in the top 50 *Best Buy* schools. In 2015-16, our tuition will be lower than it was in 2010. We boast the highest four-year graduation rate among all Maryland public institutions and an educational experience that is evident by the long-term success of our alumni, mentored by our excellent faculty of 149 across 26 academic departments.

The liberal arts approach is the nexus of higher education in the context of student preparation for an unknown future. St. Mary's College has always placed a premium on student preparation for *life*, an avocation that is more lasting and impactful than simply preparing our students for a job. The stories in this issue represent some of the best of what the liberal arts experience is all about: preparing global citizens who have the profound ability to work at their passion while helping the world in all its beauty and complexity to be a better place for all.

Enjoy these stories. I look forward to see you at some of our events celebrating 175 years of all that is St. Mary's College of Maryland.



DR. TUAJUANDA C. JORDAN, *President, St. Mary's College of Maryland*

The stories in this issue represent some of the best of what the liberal arts experience is all about.



Editor's Note

I DIDN'T GO TO COLLEGE TO LEARN how to think.

I went to college to gain more knowledge about English and American literature, about Spanish culture, the world's religions, modern history, Renaissance art. I went to college so I could study abroad.

For four years, I drank thirstily from the "fire hydrant of knowledge" (thanks, Dad, for that visual) and graduated with my thirst quenched, or so I thought. After one year of teaching high school English, I was thirsty again, this time for knowledge that I imagined would be useful in the world of work. I pushed through a master's program to learn a paid-for skill: technical writing and editing.

What I didn't know until much later is what Christopher B. Nelson (president of St. John's College) explained in a Washington Post article on Nov. 1, 2014, and that is that "information transfer" is not the primary purpose of a college education. Rather, he says, it's the maturation of the student in learning how to think. He writes, "the educated graduate is an independent learner, able to seek out answers to whatever questions arise, and able to direct his or her own learning in accordance with the challenges that life presents in the circumstances of his or her own life."

Life's experiences have given me opportunity to write, to edit, to think. I am thankful for that and for work that feeds my mind and spirit. In this issue, St. Mary's alums share their surprising careers and the passion that fuels them. How did English major Jen McCabe '04 become a venture capitalist? Why would political scientist Jared Romey '93 quit his government job to start Speaking Latino? Find out, beginning on page 6.

LEE CAPRISTO, *editor*

¹ "The Monument School of the People" by J. Frederick Fausz (openlibrary.org)

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY NEWS



PHOTO: ASHLEY STOPERA

THE ST. MARY'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY FARM was the Southeast region winner of Bon Appétit's "Fork to Farm" grant on Sept. 29, 2014. The initiative requires Bon Appétit chefs to buy at least 20% of their ingredients from small farmers, ranchers, fishermen, and food producers within 150 miles of their kitchens. The \$5,000 grant will fund a much-needed greenhouse to grow seedlings in the winter months.

Nnamdi Delivers Carter G. Woodson Lecture

Kojo Nnamdi, host of "The Kojo Nnamdi Show," a daily news program produced by American University's WAMU 88.5, gave the Carter G. Woodson Lecture on Oct. 23, 2014 to a full house in Auerbach Auditorium of St. Mary's Hall.



PHOTO: BILL WOOD

Tuition Frozen for Third Year

In an action firmly signaling an ongoing commitment by St. Mary's College of Maryland to provide a top liberal arts education that is affordable, the Board of Trustees voted on Dec. 6, 2014 to approve no tuition increase for the 2015-16 academic year. This is the third straight year with no increase for Maryland residents and the second year with no increase for out-of-state students. The vote locks into place the 2014-15 tuition rate of \$11,195 for in-state students which had already been cut by 8.6% from the previous year. It also locks into place the 2014 tuition rate of \$26,045 for out-of-state students.

Students Awarded Research Grants

Sarah Jarrin '15 and **Bradley Roberts '15** were jointly awarded an undergraduate research grant from Beta Beta Beta (biological honor society) for the neuroscience research they are conducting for their joint St. Mary's Project. Their research is a collaborative work with Brain N. Mathur (Ph.D.) at the University of Maryland Baltimore School of Medicine and Aileen M. Bailey (Ph.D) from the St. Mary's College Psychology Department. Their research, "In Vivo Optogenetic Disinhibition of the Indirect Output Pathway for the Dorsolateral Striatum in a Hemi-Parkinsonian Mouse Model," may aid future developments of Parkinson's disease therapeutics.



Traffic Calmed By Rte. 5 Project

A federally funded pedestrian and traffic safety improvement project during the fall semester added sidewalks and bike lanes along both sides of the road between the College's main crosswalk and Trinity Church Road. It also included additional street lighting and realignment of the Trinity Church Road intersection and crosswalks. Improved stormwater management was realized through a bio-retention zone, reducing road runoff into St. John's Pond.

Dr. Jordan was unanimously elected the seventh president of St. Mary's College by the Board of Trustees in March 2014 and took office on July 1.

PRESIDENT'S NEWS



PHOTOS: BILL WOOD

INAUGURATION CELEBRATION

St. Mary's College of Maryland celebrated the installation of its seventh president, Tuajuanda C. Jordan, with inauguration ceremonies Oct. 17-18, 2014. Guest speakers included Howard Hughes Medical Institute Vice President Emeritus Peter Bruns; Univ. of Md. Baltimore County President Freeman Hrabowski; Florida Southern College's Associate Provost Mary Crowe; Morgan Odell Professor of Humanities (Lewis & Clark College) and Literary Executor for Ralph Ellison's Estate, John Callahan; and Jordan Starck, teacher and son of Tuajuanda Jordan. Jordan was unanimously elected the seventh president of St. Mary's College by the Board of Trustees in March 2014 and took office on July 1. A transcript of her inauguration speech, "Making the Invisible Visible," is available at www.smcm.edu/about/administration/index.html.



President Jordan Receives Torchbearer Award

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Baltimore Metropolitan Chapter, presented Tuajuanda C. Jordan its Torchbearer Award at its 25th annual Torchbearer Awards Breakfast held Sept. 27, 2014 at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Md. The coalition honors women who have distinguished themselves in the areas of health, education, economic development, cultural arts or social and political action. This year's honorees, recommended by the coalition's membership, are women in education with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

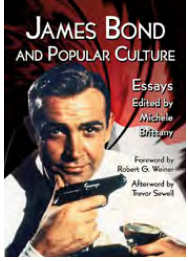
WYPR's Dan Rodrick Interviews President Jordan

Dan Rodricks of WYPR's "Mid-day with Dan Rodricks" welcomed President Tuajuanda C. Jordan to his show on Nov. 13, 2014. A podcast of the interview is available at www.smcm.edu/about/administration/index.html.

Clockwise, from top: Tuajuanda C. Jordan during her inauguration ceremony; President Jordan snaps a selfie with her son, Jordan Starck; first-year student Cody Dorsey gets his own selfie with President Jordan; Lewis & Clark colleague John Callahan was a guest speaker; Freeman Hrabowski (president, Univ. of Md. Baltimore County) congratulates President Jordan with Chip Jackson, vice president for business and finance.

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Thomas Barrett, professor of history, had his essay included in the new book, “James Bond and Popular Culture: Essays on the Influence of the Fictional Superspy” (McFarland & Co., 2014). The essay, “The Undefined Agent, Illya Kuryakin: Making the Russian (In)Visible in The Man from U.N.C.L.E.,” explores the portrayal of the Russian spy in that 1960’s television show.



“Wizards, Aliens and Starships: Physics and Math in Fantasy and Science Fiction” (Princeton Univ. Press, 2014) by

Charles Adler, professor of physics, was a Book of the Year finalist for Physics World’s 2014 award and one of “Five Books That Stood Out in 2014” as chosen by Physics Today.



Lin Muilenburg, associate professor of educational studies, was awarded a 2014-2015 Fulbright Scholar Grant

to teach courses at the Faculty of Education of the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. The focus of her project is to help K-12 teachers create engaging, student-centered instruction that

builds technology skills. Muilenburg also won the Association for Educational Communications and Technology Distance Education Book Award for “Handbook of Mobile Learning” (Routledge 2013) which she co-edited with Zane Berge (UMBC).



PHOTO: L. MACCOURTAIN

Anne Marie Brady, associate professor of psychology, was recipient of the fall 2014 joVE award. The joVE

award is offered by the Journal of Visualized Experiments and allows researchers the opportunity to publish their methods-related studies in its video-based journal.



PHOTO: BILL WOOD

Katharina von Kellenbach, professor of religious studies, received a grant to serve as researcher in residence at the

faculty of theology at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam for fall 2014. She published a book chapter: “Cultivating a Hermeneutic of Respect for Judaism: Feminist Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible after the Holocaust” in “A Retrospective of Feminist Hebrew Bible Exegesis: Context & Ideologies” (vol. 2), edited by Susanne Scholz (Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2014). She also published a journal article: “Satisfactio als Reinigung des Gedächtnisses” in Tübinger Theologische Quartalzeitschrift, edited by Michael Theobald and Ottmar Fuchs (2014) vol. 194, no. 3.



Julia King, professor of anthropology, is recipient of funding from St. Mary’s County to complete an assessment of known archaeological resources in the county.



Chris Tanner, professor of biology, received funding from Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust for an

oyster restoration project in the St. Mary’s River. The project evaluates three-dimensional reefs.

Barbara Beliveau, Dana Cullison and **Paula Ropshaw** retired from St. Mary’s during calendar year 2014. Barbara Beliveau was associate professor of economics for eight years. Dana Cullison was the OneCard administrator and worked at the College for 31 years and was active in the Staff Senate. Paula Ropshaw, who came to the College after many years working at Historic St. Mary’s City, worked for 14 years as an office associate for Student Activities.



Seahawks’ Charity Soars

Seahawk athletes gathered shoes and food for charity the fall semester. The men’s and women’s cross country teams collected 1,200 pairs of shoes for the Soles4Souls distribution center in Frederick, Md. while the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee collected 200 pounds of food for the food pantry at St. Cecilia’s Church in St. Mary’s City.



IN AN AGE WHERE BEING “EMPLOYMENT-READY” IS SEEN AS SO VITAL, SOME SNEER at the idea of a liberal arts education, calling it superfluous or a waste of money. In actuality, a survey conducted by CNBC found that 74% of employers cited a liberal arts education as “the best way to prepare for success in today’s global economy.” Skills gained from a liberal arts education (such as critical thinking, problem solving, and communication) can transfer to nearly any career, regardless of the undergraduate major one pursues. Nine alums shared stories of how their St. Mary’s education has taken them to careers and success they would not have expected.

Satisfaction!

Surprising Careers Feed Mind and Spirit

EDITED AND INTRODUCED BY MAUREEN SHEA '17,
ENGLISH MAJOR, PUBLICATIONS AND
MEDIA RELATIONS FELLOW

OPPOSITE:

Evan Wallace (e-dubble), who studied to become a political scientist, lays down tracks for his new release at the Lineup Room studio in Parkville, Md.

Photo by John Dean



JARED ROMNEY '93

After majoring in political science, Romey worked for the federal government. However, Romey eventually realized his future did not lie in politics and moved to South America. Today, he publishes Spanish language guides through his own company, Speaking Latino. He also owns a company that imports and distributes beauty and party products in Puerto Rico and is currently developing its own brand of products.

Where did you originally intend to go with your bachelor's degree, career-wise?

I had some general ideas about where I was going and what to do, but really had no clear direction or goals. I knew I enjoyed economics and politics, so working in D.C. made sense. I interned with the federal government during St. Mary's and then took a job at the same agency. However, after a short time, I realized it was definitely not something I wanted to spend the next 40 years doing. So I moved to the next job, again without much of a plan.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

It helped open my eyes to the world beyond Maryland. In part because of my liberal arts degree, I moved abroad for 15 years, living in South America and the Caribbean, learned a language, studied others, started several businesses and have been able to travel extensively. My experiences have allowed me to learn to think differently, see the world differently, and have opened up opportunities and a lifestyle I would never have experienced had I stayed in that first government job out of school.

“My experiences have allowed me to learn to think differently, see the world differently, and have opened up opportunities and a lifestyle I would never have experienced had I stayed in that first government job out of school.” – Jared Romey '93

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

A liberal arts degree teaches you how to think for yourself. As a businessman, a person is significantly more helpful to me if they can identify problems, propose answers and then execute the required changes. People who can't think for themselves can't work through these steps and, because of that, will not be as helpful to improving my businesses.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

You bet.

CATHY PELL '86

Originally intending to be a counselor, Pell majored in human development. She ended up entering the engineering field after graduation, and currently serves as the senior compliance engineer for Plantronics.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

I remember taking a class with Professor Wesley Jordan, which taught me more about the scientific method. That class in particular helped develop my interest for hands-on experimentation. I learned a lot about engineering while doing safety testing during my time working at Underwriters Laboratory and this was valuable training, just as that original SMCM class was.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

By far, one of the most valuable benefits of my liberal arts education was learning how to think critically. My SMCM classes, which included discussion in addition to the lectures, provided an environment encouraging thought and the exposure and exchange of different ideas.

St. Mary's helped nurture my curiosity for learning, and this has equipped me well for my career as a senior compliance engineer. Looking back, I can see how my critical thinking skills and love of learning have continued to grow and mature since studying at SMCM.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

I think employers seek out people who have a variety of strengths to offer, including creativity, integrity, and interpersonal savvy in addition to the core skills required to do a specific job. The ability to connect with others and develop strong personal relationships within an organization is highly valued. Those with a liberal arts education tend to have a firm foundation of these sought-after abilities and strengths.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

Yes, I would. I fell in love with SMCM as soon as I rounded the corner and saw the river on the right-hand side of the road. I've never had a second thought or regret about graduating from SMCM. The small class sizes, getting to know my classmates and professors, living on the beautiful campus, and reading in the Garden of Remembrance are all cherished memories for me. I am pleased and proud to be an SMCM graduate.



TIFFANY GOODYEAR '04

While pursuing a major in philosophy, Goodyear was more interested in obtaining a well-rounded education than pursuing any one vocation. After graduation, she eventually found herself drawn to advertising and then founded Yours Truly Cupcake, her own company, in Denver, Colorado.

Where did you originally intend to go with your bachelor's degree, career-wise?

Having chosen to major in philosophy, I knew that there were endless possibilities regarding my future career. My original intention was simply to have a well-rounded liberal arts education. I didn't look at my college education as a vocational school. I wanted to read and think and learn about all aspects of the world around me. I loved all my classes at St. Mary's, from Russian history to economics, women in politics, mathematics and all of the philosophy classes. Somewhat ironically, "Biology of Civilization" was probably my favorite. After graduation, I knew I would want to pursue a graduate level degree in something more specialized, but it took several years after graduation to find what that would be.

What led you to your current career?

My first job out of college was a full-time position at a luxury apartment building in D.C. From there, I was hired as the executive aide to the president of a non-profit called Seeds of Peace. Seeds of Peace takes children from areas of conflict and gives them the traditional American summer camp experience. I learned so much, met diplomats from around the world and got to travel to the Middle East on several occasions. I then became a lobbyist at a boutique firm that dealt with defense and security issues before landing a job in advertising. I fell in love with advertising; it is the pinnacle of business and art. I loved it so much that I moved back to my hometown, Denver, to pursue a master's in advertising management. While in school, I started Yours Truly Cupcake, which combined my hobby for baking with what I was learning in school. Upon graduation, instead of working for a large ad agency, I decided to stay in Denver to see the company out of its infancy.



Tiffany Goodyear opened Yours Truly Cupcake while pursuing her master's degree.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

The amount of knowledge gained while pursuing my degree is immeasurable. In each of my career choices, I was hired because of my ability to see the big picture and to connect the dots. I use my problem-solving skills every day, along with my writing skills, critical thinking and the art of persuasion when hawking my wares.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

First, I don't think liberal arts is for everyone. I think it is for people who like learning, for those who are able to gather insights from any experience and apply them to other situations. The value in today's market is that all industries can benefit from individuals that know about the world around them through different lenses, from arts to science, to business and community.

SCOTT McCORMICK '95

McCormick initially had ambitions of working in politics. However, during his time at St. Mary's, McCormick found more passion in developing his acting talents. He found his calling after not finding happiness in his chosen profession and joined a theater touring company. McCormick currently works as an audiobook director for Graphic Audio, a position he calls his "dream job."

Where did you originally intend to go with your bachelor's degree, career-wise?

When I graduated with a major in political science, my goal was a job on Capitol Hill and to then attend a graduate program in peace studies after gaining some real world experience. I had a number of interviews and made it to a lot of second interviews, and then nothing. I think while I had a depth of knowledge, thanks to St. Mary's and the opportunities it provided, both my interviewers and I realized that my true passion laid somewhere else.

What led you to your current career?

Looking for direction, I reached out to friend and mentor Sandy Wilkes, who was then a member of the St. Mary's College Board of Trustees, hoping he would help me find a job in the law or politics. Having laid out my experiences in

“**P**eople need to be given the tools, resources and experiences to recognize what they want in life, and a good liberal arts education can and should provide them with that.” – *Evan Wallace '05*



Scott McCormick

college and since I graduated, Sandy asked me if I wanted him to tell me a hard truth. I said yes. He said, “The only time you have had showed any excitement was when you were talking about your time in the theater at St. Mary’s.” He suggested that instead of pursuing a career in politics, I should try the theater. I took his advice and did some regional auditions, which led to a tour with National Players, a classical theater touring company. After I finished touring, I settled in D.C. with some friends from SMC and began auditioning at area theaters. I have performed in the D.C. region, become a company member of Rorschach Theatre and worked in television, film and voice-overs. Eventually, I began working for GraphicAudio as a voice artist. They came to like my work ethic and asked them to join them as a book adapter and then a director.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

Every good thing that has ever happened in my life has been because I chose to go to St. Mary’s. It inspired a thirst for knowledge. It has given me a network of friends that have supported and been there for me every important moment of my adult life. And it was at St. Mary’s that my talent for acting found its feet with guidance from amazing professors such as Michael Ellis-Tolaydo, Joanne Klein and Merideth Taylor.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today’s job market?

A liberal arts education is experiencing new ways of thinking. Rather than locking your brain into one way of problem solving, a liberal arts education allows you to explore numerous ways of approaching a problem. If I had only ever taken political science courses, I would think like a political scientist. But because I took classes in literature, art history, math, biology, anthropology and even sailing, I have multiple means of solving a problem in my mental tool box.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary’s?

When you turn that corner going down Route 5, you know you have come home. I believe that every good choice in my life began when my high school counselor came into my fifth period Spanish class and told me that St. Mary’s College wanted to know whether I wanted to be considered for Early Admission. And now that I have found my dream job with GraphicAudio, I attribute a good deal of my happiness to that decision.

ASHLEY BUTLER '11

Originally intending to pursue early childhood development or educational policy, Butler majored in sociology. After a friend introduced her to the Chobani Greek yogurt company, however, Butler found her skills translated well to a position on the communications team. She currently assists in social media strategy and engagement for Chobani.

What led you to your current career?

Around the time I graduated from St. Mary’s, Chobani was beginning to make its mark on the community I grew up in. A friend introduced

me to the company and thought that I’d be a perfect fit for their communications team.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

Studying sociology afforded me an intimate understanding of the consumer, helping to deepen Chobani’s relationship with its loyal and passionate fan base while recognizing key tactics to bring in new consumers.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

The most valuable thing my liberal arts education at St. Mary’s gave me was a well-rounded view of the world and how various parts fit in it.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today’s job market?

To me, a liberal arts education gives you creative, communicative and problem-solving skills that are crucial to succeeding in any industry.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary’s?

There’s no debate. The river is and always will be home.

Ashley Butler



EVAN WALLACE '05

While attending St. Mary's, Wallace (e-dubbe) had an initial interest in pursuing political science and economics. Though he ended up majoring in political science, Wallace opened his eyes to his true passion during his undergraduate years—music. He's now a rapper and has released multiple albums and singles since graduating in 2005.

What led you to your current career?

After a few years of focusing on political science and economics courses, I was finally freed up to take some more elective courses outside of my concentration. I took a few digital art courses, where I managed to use my music production skill set to score some of the projects. It was so much fun and did not feel like work or studying at all. I felt kind of “awakened,” like I had been doing “what I was supposed to be doing” but now I was actually onto something I loved.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

My time at SMCM was key to my ultimate decision to pursue a career in music. If it weren't an actual liberal arts education I was receiving, I would probably have never been exposed to the factors that gave me the belief and strength in myself and my education to pursue a career in an industry as challenging as music.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

I would say, now (maybe) more than ever, the value of a liberal arts education can't be overstated. People need to be given the tools, resources and experiences to recognize what they want in life, and a good liberal arts education can and should provide them with that. If I hadn't stumbled across “Intro to Digital Art” with Colby Caldwell, I may never have pumped the brakes on my “socially constructed, ingrained, involuntary reflex” to go the poli sci/econ route without any real knowledge or aspirations of what I wanted to do. The opportunities and culture at SMCM allowed me to open my eyes again to my real passion and help me prepare to carve a path less traveled.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

I would still choose SMCM. The great people I met (many of whom are still in my life today), the access to resources and facilities, the “build your own major” concept – these are all at the foundation of a great liberal arts education, and SMCM covers those bases and many more. My only regret is not having the confidence back then to march into the audio engineering department and say, “Hey, I don't have any musical training, but for some reason I HAVE to make music. Mind if I play studio rat while I get my album together?”

CALVIN WISE '09

A four-year starter playing forward on the men's basketball team (co-captain his senior year), Calvin was an economics major who figured he would go into finance as a career. He was a member of the Multicultural Achievement Peer Program and worked for the Office of Admissions as a student. It was in Admissions that he got a taste of higher education as a career possibility. Today, he's senior associate director of admissions at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

What led you to your current career?

The former director of admissions at St. Mary's, Rich Edgar, introduced me to the field. After spending two years at St. Mary's working in the Admissions Office, I wanted to broaden my experience to see if a career in higher education was all that I perceived it to be. My time at Johns Hopkins has solidified my love for the field.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

The data analysis skills I developed in my economics courses have been immensely helpful. The ability to evaluate policy has also been beneficial.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

The diversity of classes I took in a liberal arts curriculum allows me to look a problem from a number of different perspectives. Liberal arts



Calvin Wise

schools also attract so many different types of people, which helped me develop the skills to relate to individuals from diverse backgrounds.

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

A liberal arts education helps you develop skills that transfer into any field. I've been conditioned to think critically about problems that need solutions. I've learned how to express myself in either a written or oral interaction. I think my generation is different from my parents. We will be offered many opportunities in the future that currently do not exist. While at St. Mary's, I was preparing for a career that I had never even heard of.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

Of course. I met some of the most amazing people down there, including the best of friends and my beautiful wife (**Elyse Tyler Wise '08**). Every time I see someone with a SMCM bumper sticker or sweatshirt, I introduce myself. Even if our years did not overlap, experiences at the boathouse, the path or the Green Door connect us.

JEN McCABE '04

A Nitze Scholar, Jen started out thinking she'd go into pre-med, but switched to English, earning the Ted Lewis Poetry Prize. She worked in healthcare research and noticed missed opportunities to use technology to deliver healthcare. McCabe then joined a health startup, eventually becoming CEO of Contagion Health, an app company that helped people take control of their health. Then she went to Romotive to work on robots and later joined VegasTechFund in Las Vegas. She's interested in making starting a hardware company as easy as a software



PHOTO: EMILY WILSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Jen McCabe

company and helps startups with five key challenges: designing a product, building, selling, shipping it and delivering quality customer service.

What led you to your current career?

Happy accidents, sheer blind luck, and necessity. At Romotive, a robotics startup, we needed someone to go to China and get robots delivered in nine months, and I was the only one on the team at the time available to go. Living in China for months and learning manufacturing on the line gave me the experience to come home and start investing in hardware companies who wanted a venture capitalist on their side with some real operational experience on the line. There are lots of little traumas and jolts in the manufacturing process for introducing a new product, and when you have been through those it's like vets sharing stories of deployment. As an investor with plenty of "China stories," I can listen empathetically and (hopefully) make helpful suggestions to the entrepreneurs we fund, or at the very least provide a shoulder to cry on. I definitely do NOT want to be "dumb money." I want to be functionally useful to the founders we fund, so hopefully they may be able to avoid some of the mistakes we made.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

When lucky enough to run into another liberal arts graduate in startups, tech and investing we generally agree on the approach to creative thinking, supporting arguments in theory and practice, and the insatiable curiosity for more—learning, education and self-improvement for the good of ourselves, our families and our communities—benefits us and our employers. When we compare notes, we are often told we "think outside the box," although I sort of loathe that particular platitude. Plus, I use my writing skills daily to communicate effectively via email

"Perhaps the single biggest benefit I see today in my liberal arts education is the ability to challenge different perspectives and not feel threatened or react emotionally when I encounter the same, inside and outside the workplace." — Jen McCabe '04

and write project plans, construct marketing copy and design collateral, and I really enjoy the time-pressure to execute by applying creative composition to concrete business needs.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

Debating with friends from the drama program, bio kids, sailors and Nitze Scholars in the Great Room about how gendered biases and their influences on situational leadership may affect corporate America and academia while munching a fruit pizza was much harder than trying to defend why we should/should not invest in a particular company or venture. My earliest on the job training probably happened there, and in the frank discussions with female professors (in particular) like Professor Jennifer Cognard-Black, who were very open in discussion about challenges faced as professional women with ambitious career goals. These liberal women who make teaching an art taught that I could achieve whatever job goals I wanted, but also that there may be personal tradeoffs. I had to go out and do my own study, of course, and re-learned some of their lessons the hard way, but now I feel like I'm finally striking the right balance between work acceleration and life pursuits, including family (I got married last week!) and hobbies (rock climbing and working with my adopted mustang horse, Odin).

What would you say is the value of a liberal arts education in today's job market?

Whatever you make it out to be. A degree now is just one part of the multi-faceted package you present to the world when chasing a dream job. Perhaps the single biggest benefit I see today in my liberal arts education is the ability to challenge different perspectives and not feel threatened or react emotionally when I encounter the same, inside and outside the workplace. Well, I don't always succeed at that, but I've become far less reactionary to having my biases confronted over time.

If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

Absolutely. I found myself in the still waters beside our campus. When I talk to MBAs who come from business or engineering undergrad programs I often discover a yearning for the kind of experience we had at SMCM. I would love to see an interdisciplinary, workshop-style executive education program at SMCM with a focus on diversity.

CHRIS SEGAL '05

An English major, Chris now works as a AAA minor league baseball umpire and "call-up" umpire for the major leagues. His major league debut was on April 14, 2014, during the Oakland Athletics-Anaheim Angels game, serving as first base umpire. On May 17, 2014, as home plate umpire for the Baltimore Orioles-Kansas City Royals game, he ejected the Royals team manager for arguing a foul ball call in the top of the ninth inning. Chris replaced injured major league umpires throughout the 2014 season, umpiring over 100 games.

Where did you originally intend to go with your bachelor's degree, career-wise?

I seriously thought about pursuing journalism in some capacity. My senior year at St. Mary's, I worked as the sports editor and as a managing editor for The Point News and really enjoyed the whole process.

What led you to your current career?

I have umpired baseball since I was 13 years old, mainly just as a source of extra cash flow. After I graduated college, several members of my college association in Northern Virginia told me about professional umpire school in Florida, suggesting I should give it a shot. I've always loved baseball and having just graduated, there was really nothing to keep me from giving it a shot.

How do you translate what you learned while pursuing your degree to your current work?

While the English degree has proved beneficial in writing reports and improving my ability to communicate with others, I feel that my entire experience at St. Mary's is what I have benefited the most from. It seemed as though the guys who had life experience (college) adjusted better to life on the road than those who had been at home all their lives. In the minor leagues, the baseball is sometimes the easiest part—learning to live on the road is what proves hardest for most new umpires.

How do you feel a liberal arts education has helped you to get to be where you are now?

My close friends in the game joke about my spreadsheet and management abilities, but I always seem to be one of the guys who organizes things, whether it be training classes, housing for multiple guys at spring training, airline/hotel arrangements and other scheduling. I also am able to use various skills to help raise money for UmpsCare, a charitable organization where MLB umpires visit children in hospitals throughout the country during the season.

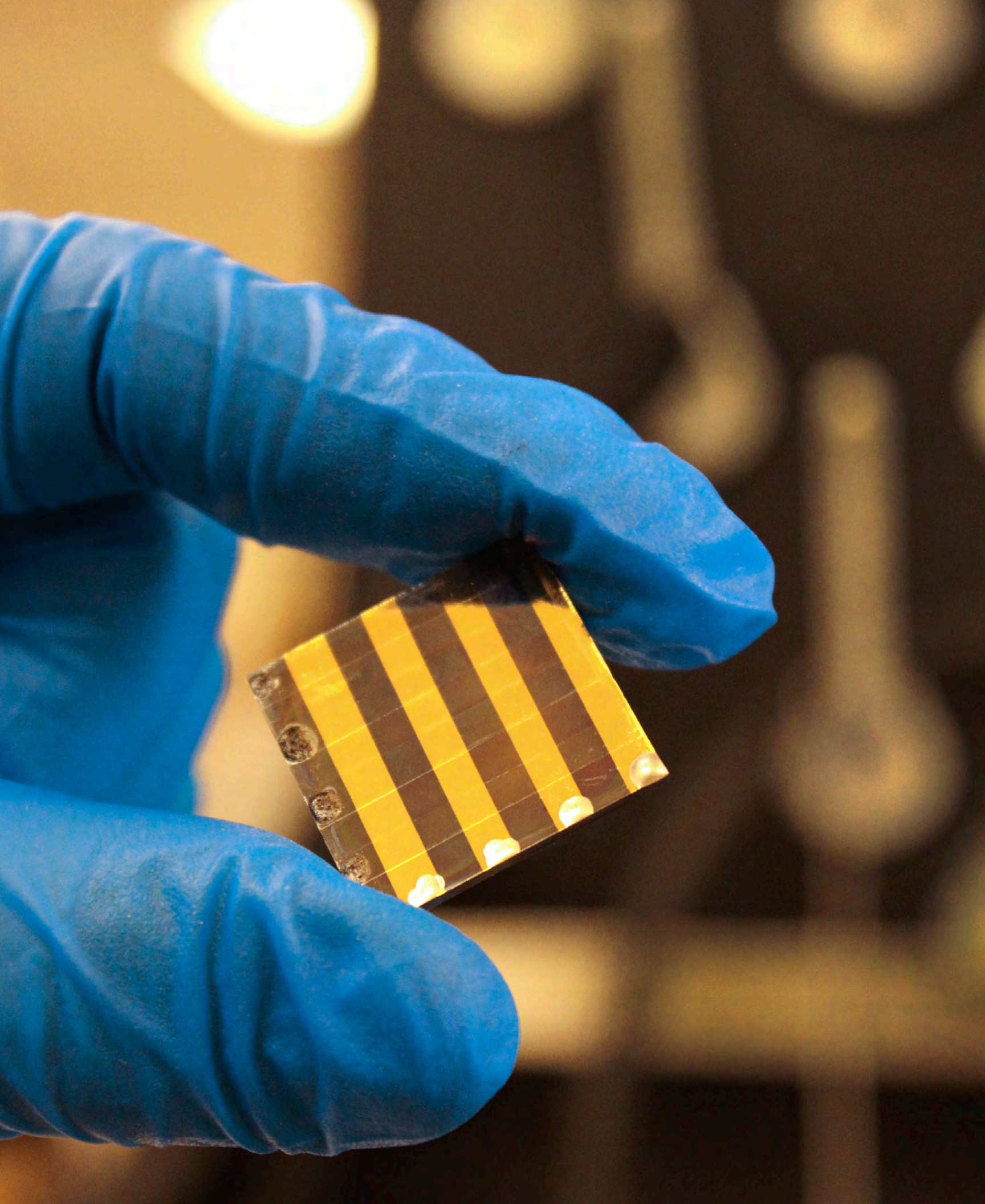
If you could do it all over again, would you still choose St. Mary's?

No question about it. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at St. Mary's and feel that I really grew up there. This past fall when I returned for the baseball alumni game, I walked around campus by myself for a little while to take in all the changes. But for the things that have remained the same – for instance, the squeak of the stairway door to walk down to Dorch[ester] first right where I lived my freshman year—great memories came flooding back to me. ♦

Chris Segal relaxing in the off season near his Burke, Va. home.

Photo by Bill Wood





A NATURAL PASSION

St. Mary's Alumnus **Troy Townsend '07**
Brings His Liberal Arts Experience Full Circle

BY JOHN ALEXANDER BIRD '16, ENGLISH MAJOR



Chemistry professor Troy Townsend '07 (right) with student Keene Kelderman '15 prepare reagents for inorganic nanocrystal synthesis reactions. At left, a spray-on nanocrystal solar cell array.

AS STUDENTS OF THE LIBERAL ARTS, WE DEVOTE OUR STUDIES to exploring questions of great social and personal import, hoping to find answers that enlighten our understanding of the world as well as ourselves. The reasons for this pursuit seem clear and easy on the banks of the St. Mary's River; anyone who's had the chance to do their homework while digging their toes into the sands of Church Point knows that there's something more to the liberal arts than just practical knowledge. However, it can be difficult to explain to skeptics when they ask the looming question, "What on earth are you going to do with a liberal arts degree?" The journey to answer this question often starts long before we enter the classroom. In fact, it can start by asking another question completely: "What are your passions?"

Troy Townsend first realized his passion for the environment in the woods of rural West Virginia. Townsend spent his childhood years on his family's farm, where he developed a close bond with the environment. "I grew up with a full set of stars every night and food on the table from our back yard," he says. "I felt connected with nature." This connection led to a growing concern over our society's dependence on the environment's resources, particularly our use of fossil fuels.

To Townsend, it was evident that society's reliance on a finite resource was a significant threat to the well-being of our planet. Concern over the future of man's dependence on fossil fuels led Townsend to develop a desire to preserve the environment, to find a balance between society's appetite for energy and the fragile balance of the natural world. "This problem needs solutions and I knew I wanted to be a part of this movement," he said.

Coming from a family deeply seated in the medical profession, Townsend was no stranger to the idea of pursuing a college degree. However, his desire to help the environment and engage with other people with a passion for the natural world steered him away from the pre-med programs his family encouraged him to pursue, and towards the liberal arts approach offered by St. Mary's College.

“Because of the liberal arts nature of St. Mary’s, I was naturally exposed to many disciplines. I drew from each of these in order to focus my ambitions toward solving problems that I am passionate about. I learned more about the environmental aspects of ecology, evolution and conservation than I had previously understood.”

Townsend attributes this choice to a mix of student engagement and relationship with the environment. “I chose St. Mary’s College because of its stellar reputation, small class sizes and beautiful campus. In many ways, I felt at home here on a campus that was not highly manicured but instead holds true to minimal environmental impact. Many native plant species are allowed to grow here on campus and this natural beauty drew me in.”

However, it was not the campus’ connection to the environment that ended up holding Townsend’s attention. His adviser, chemistry professor Al Hovland, cultivated Townsend’s passion for preserving nature. “We spent hours discussing the state of our dependence on non-renewable resources and its impact on the environment,” says Townsend. Taking a range of general chemistry and biology courses, Townsend developed a better understanding of how he could apply his interests. “Because of the liberal arts nature of St. Mary’s, I was naturally exposed to many disciplines. I drew from each of these in order to focus my ambitions toward solving problems that I am passionate about,” he says. “I learned more about the environmental aspects of ecology, evolution and conservation than I had previously understood.” It was clear that biology and chemistry would allow him the means by which to improve man’s relationship with the environment.

Townsend took his first step towards actualizing this application with his St. Mary’s Project. Joining up with an old high school friend and his father, Townsend traveled to Lake Malawi, Africa. Working under a research grant with the supervision of Dr. Ken McKaye, one of the world’s leading experts on the tropical fish of Lake Malawi, Townsend spent two summers scuba diving in the fresh water lake, studying the ecological impact of a pervasive snail species. Through his research, Townsend discovered a correlation between overfishing and the growing prevalence of a parasite known as schistosomiasis. This parasite is known to cause a variety of health problems in developing countries, often increasing the rise of infection by other diseases, including HIV.

Townsend’s St. Mary’s Project served as a stepping stone for his post-graduate pursuits,

where his focus shifted from conservation biology to renewable energy. “I decided that I needed to start from the ground up with a renewable energy that would meet people’s need for convenience while having minimal environmental impact.” In the end, Townsend saw solar energy as the answer. “I knew that developing and implementing renewable energy sources would favor economic growth and save people money,” he says.

He applied and was admitted to the University of California, Davis, to work with Dr. Frank Osterloh, whose research on solar fuels from water splitting appealed to Townsend. Together, Townsend and Osterloh designed, built and tested inorganic nanocrystals that, when suspended in water, could use energy from the sun to split water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen, resulting in a clean, combustible fuel.

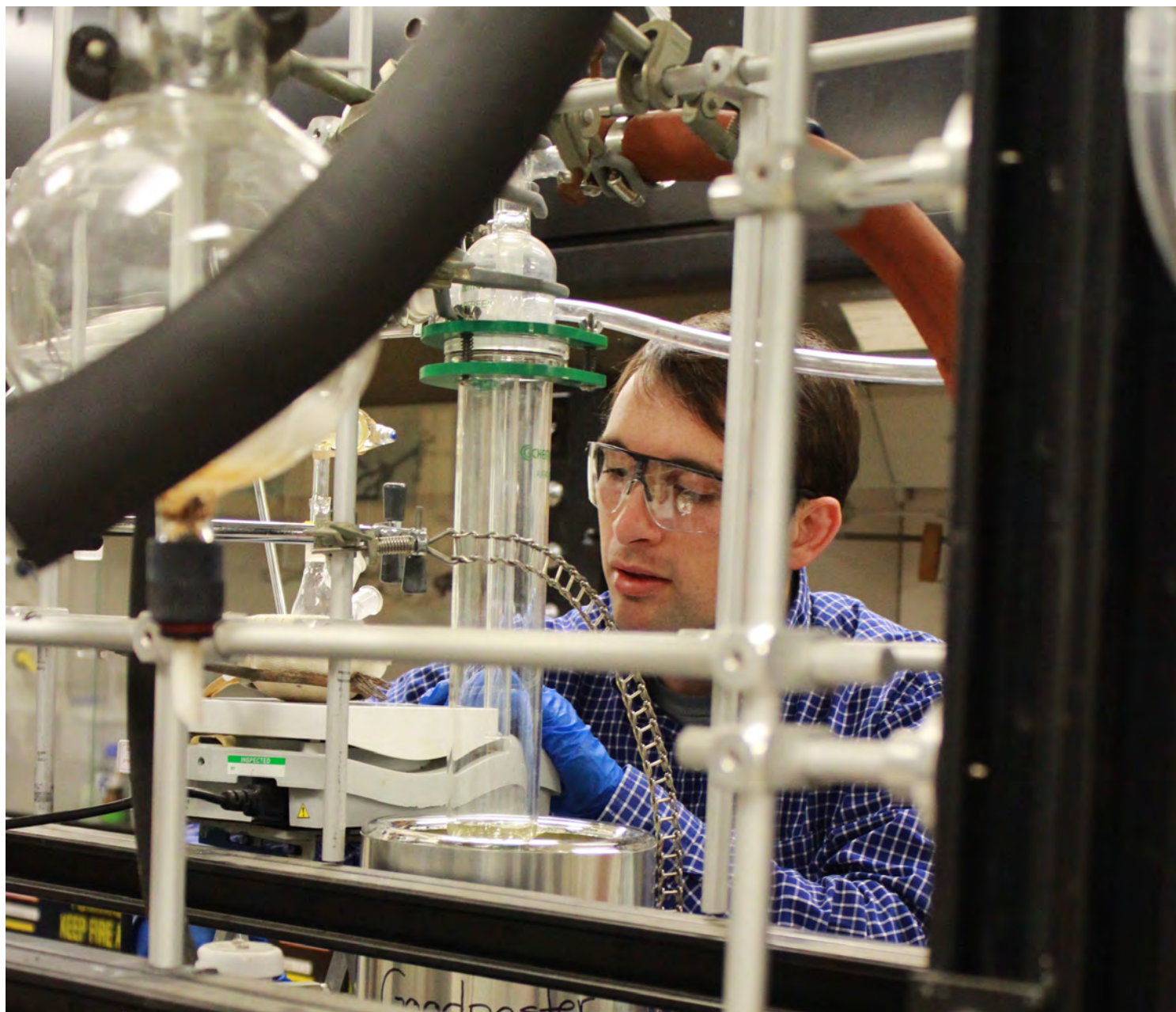
In his final year at the University of California, Townsend presented his findings on renewable energy at a conference in Boston and soon after was contacted by the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. At NRL, scientists were conducting research on the development of solar cells that could be sprayed onto surfaces. Townsend applied as a postdoctoral candidate at NRL and began to research flexible alternatives to using glass as a substrate for solar cells so that these devices could be sprayed onto any surface and generate electricity. Over the course of two years,

Townsend and his adviser Ed Foos developed the world’s first spray-on solar cell that could be applied to a non-glass surface and cheaply generate power with minimal equipment. This was a breakthrough for solar in that it offered the prospect of versatility and sustainability.

For Townsend, this was a vindicating experience. “Science is hard, unforgiving and riddled with daily failures. Once in a while, however, with an eye for patterns in the results, we can discover a trend and be successful,” he says. “This was true for my research at St. Mary’s, UC Davis and at NRL. When we first demonstrated a working device, we pulled from months of research and by that time, we knew it would work because of all of the effort we’d invested along the way. In the end, it felt great to have completed the task.”

After two years at NRL, Townsend was offered the opportunity to continue his research for the Navy, but he turned down the position, deciding instead to teach. “I’d always wanted to be a professor,” he says. “I decided I needed to communicate what I’d learned.”

This decision brought Townsend full circle when he took a position in the St. Mary’s College Chemistry Department as a visiting professor in 2014. “I feel like I have a purpose here. St. Mary’s fits what I want to be doing,” he says. “Teaching has let me continue my research and share what I’ve learned with others.” Townsend’s courses are naturally focused



on the relationship between environmental conservation and technology. His foundational chemistry course focuses on global energy capacity and consumption. In the spring, he will teach the College's first class that focuses specifically on the development of nanotechnology. "Both of these classroom topics are new to St. Mary's and offer students the chance to invest time and thought into these growing fields," he says. "One of the reasons I chose to return to St. Mary's is that I could now offer opportunities I wished I had as a student."

Townsend is also mentoring several independent research projects that allow students to explore their interests in renewable energy

and environmental preservation. Dario Durastanti '16 is working in conjunction with the nearby Patuxent River Naval Air Station to develop an anti-corrosion spray-on nanocoating for aircraft. Keene Kelderman '15 is working with Townsend to develop a non-toxic spray-on solar cell for his St. Mary's Project. Townsend's hope, and that of the students working with him in the lab, is to apply their research in a practical fashion, by bringing solar energy to the St. Mary's campus. His group is working with the College business office and local photovoltaic companies in a grass-roots effort to integrate renewable energy into the College's power portfolio.

Townsend at work in the chemistry labs of Goodpaster Hall.

For Townsend, his return to St. Mary's has served as a capstone for his liberal arts experience. "Coming back to St. Mary's has let me see how my passion has evolved from what I starting looking for here," he says. My studies have allowed me to pursue my passion for the environment and to take a goal and turn it into something real. In order to be successful in the world, you have to be able to draw from strengths in every discipline. I think that the liberal arts exposes students to many disciplines and in doing so allows them to work on a multitude of levels," he says. "I know that's what it did for me." ❖

ALUMNI CONNECTION

CLASS NOTES

1930s

Eleanor Quirk Abbey '34HS [1], still spry at 97, attended the October 2014 inauguration of St. Mary's College's president, Dr. Tuajuanda Jordan. Eleanor has fond memories of her time at St. Mary's Female Seminary. Back then, the waterfront consisted of a dock and a couple of rowboats. Girls who smoked could either take out a rowboat and smoke on the St. Mary's River or just hang out of their Calvert Hall dorm room windows.



Abbey with Katelyn Kean '16

Eleanor and her roommate, **Jean Tenney Gray '34JC**, ran a hairstyling business out of their dorm room. Eleanor would wash hair for a nickel and Jean would set it for a dime. Eleanor received her bachelor's degree in 1938 from the University of Maryland College Park. An avid reader of history, historical novels and biographies, in 2012, she established the Eleanor Quirk Abbey Fund at St. Mary's College for the purpose of making annual \$1,000 scholarship awards to students with demonstrated financial need who are studying history, anthropology, archaeology or museum studies. Eleanor is

shown here with the current scholarship recipient, **Katelyn Kean '16** of Newtown, Conn.

1950s

Mary Lib Roseberry Saleh '51JC, elected in 1993 as the first female mayor of Eules, Texas, retired in May 2014 after many years of service to her community. During her retirement ceremony, the local library was renamed the Mary Lib Saleh Eules Public Library in her honor. The city of Eules, Texas produced a video in tribute to her and her legacy, which can be viewed at <http://www.eulesstx.gov/news/Tribute-ToMayorSaleh.htm>.

1960s

Holly Buckner Salisbury '65JC retired in 2005 after 26 years of service as the first director of the Singletary Center for the Arts at the University of Kentucky. After graduating from St. Mary's Seminary Junior College, she spent a year in Florence, Italy studying at the La Accademia de Belle Arte. She received a bachelor's degree in art from George Washington University and taught art for three years in the Charles County, Md. public schools before moving to central Kentucky where she was born. Holly volunteered in many arts related programs while raising her two children. She has many happy memories of her time at St. Mary's and never dreamed that years later she would be scheduling the likes of Ella Fitzgerald and the London Symphony to perform at the Singletary Center. Holly now gives private art lessons to 20 students ages 6 to 17. She lives in Lexington, Ky.

1970s

J. Howard Hixson III '73 has retired from the Morgan State University-Patuxent Environmental & Aquatic Research Center on the Patuxent River in St. Leonard, Md. after 42 years as a fisheries/shellfish biologist. He held his retirement party Nov. 1, 2014 on campus at the Daugherty-Palmer Commons. He and his wife, **Sandra Hills Hixson '72**, live in Cobb Island, Md.

Bob "Crunch" Thornton '73 has retired from State Auto Insurance Company after 30 years as a senior claims representative, claims supervisor and workers comp/liability specialist. A biology major turned art major, he first worked as an editorial artist at the now defunct Baltimore News American newspaper before changing career fields to insurance. After working nearly five years as a multi-line claims adjuster for Kemper Insurance Company, he moved to State Auto. Recently, he's added substitute teacher to his resume, teaching for the Carroll County, Md. public schools. He reports that while eighth graders are somewhat challenging, he's enjoying his new adventure so far. Bob and wife Carol live in Manchester, Md.

Terri Semmens Morgan '76 retired in May 2013 after 37 years of federal service. A math major, her first job was at the Social Security Administration as a management analyst specializing in work measurement/industrial engineering. After a temporary assignment to automate the agency's administrative functions, she changed career fields to computer specialist and worked for the Defense

Contract Audit Agency, first in Philadelphia and then in Chicago. Terri went on to work as a computer specialist for the U.S. Army at the Fort Sheridan Army Base and the Military Entrance Processing Command at Great Lakes, Ill. and the Department of Energy as a chief information officer (CIO) at Argonne National Lab, where she received her CIO certification from Carnegie Mellon University. Her final assignment, as CIO and executive committee member of the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, was a senior executive service position with responsibility for the agency's daily operations. Terri lives in Glenview, Ill. with her children, Michael and Mackenzie.

1980s

Karl Lewis '84 is chief executive officer of AllTrust Networks, the leading business solutions provider providing check cashing and alternative financial services to their customers. Throughout his career, Karl has focused on launching businesses that leverage new technology to change an industry and has held leadership positions at MCI, Proxicom, Cigital, GridPoint and Treater. He lives with his family in Great Falls, Va.

Dawn Locke '84, founder and owner of Allegro Music Service in California, Md., was profiled in a July 2014 issue of the St. Mary's County Times newspaper. After graduation, she left St. Mary's County. When she returned in 2000, she couldn't find employment, so she started Allegro Music Service, a "business dedicated to making sure musicians get whatever they need to stay musicians" including a "full service band repair facility." Dawn has a master's of music

degree in trumpet performance from Northwestern University and a K-12 teaching certification from Duquesne University. She lives in Hollywood, Md.

Gabrielle Leenas Lucke '84 is a senior consultant for training and development in the Office of Human Resources at Dartmouth College. She says classic political theory learned at St. Mary's has served her well throughout her multi-faceted career in higher education because she's always worked in very political environments, whether doing clinical work, being in front of the classroom, as an administrator, board of education member or fund raiser for local non-profits. The other benefits of a St. Mary's liberal arts education are her love for art, her ability to identify a flying buttress and know its architectural significance and the ability to hold her own when conversations turn to phenomenology. Gabrielle, husband **George Lucke '86**, and their children, Matthew and Andrew, live in Hartford, Vt.

Chris Holt '86 was elected in 2014 as treasurer and finance committee chairman for the Maryland Council on Economic Education, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving economic and financial literacy in grades K-12 in Maryland's public schools. A banking veteran with over 25 years of experience, he has been the chief credit officer of Susquehanna Bancshares, Inc. since January 2014. A graduate of Leadership Maryland's Class of 2011, he holds a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University in real estate finance and is a member of St. Mary's College's Alumni Council. He lives in

Finksburg, Md. with wife, **Teresa Borgerding Holt '83**, and their children, Alexandra and Chris. Daughter **Courtney Holt '12** is a project specialist at CyberPoint International and lives in Baltimore, Md.

Eric Holcomb '89 is the new executive director of the Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. A preservation planner for the commission since 1994, he was selected after an extensive nationwide search. He also serves as chief for the historical and architectural preservation division of the Baltimore City department of planning. Eric lives in Baltimore, Md. with his wife Tracy and their two sons, Eliot and Emerson.

1990s

Jackie Green Abell '92 lives on the Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Wash. with her husband, David, recently promoted to Chief Master Sergeant in the Air Force, and their two children, Justin and Jenna. She has two master's degrees: one in counseling from Capella University and one in school counseling from University of Phoenix, and is looking for a school counseling job in the Spokane area.

Jason Slaughter '92 has joined Fitzgerald Financial Group as a residential lending officer specializing in renovation and construction financing. He also is a board member for MakingChange, a non-profit which provides access to financial education and resources necessary to help people become self-sufficient. Jason and his wife **Wendy Beverungen Slaughter**

'92 live in Columbia, Md. with their twins, Nathan and Abigail.

John Starmer '92, owner and founder of Starmer Systems, received his doctorate in zoology from the University of Florida in 2014 and also holds a master's degree in marine chemical ecology from the University of Guam. He has spent over 20 years working in the marine ecology field with a particular focus on studying and conserving island biodiversity in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

Michele Sames Happel '94 has worked for the Howard County, Md. library system for 20 years. A psychology major who was not ready for graduate school, she found a job at her local library, loved it and never looked back. Starting out in customer service, she worked her way up, presenting children's story time classes before transitioning to adult classes and working at various research desks. Today, she's a supervisor at the Miller Branch Library, the county's newest and largest branch, and also in charge of



PHOTO: STEVEN E. PURCELL 2



3

adult programming. Michele, husband **Christopher Happel '99** and their children, Noah and Samuel, live in Ellicott City, Md.

Elizabeth Pickard '94, director of interpretive programs for the Missouri History Museum, is shown here with high school senior Amesha Payne [2], accepting the 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from First Lady Michelle Obama. This award, the nation's highest honor for after-school arts and humanities programs, was given to 12 organizations, including the Missouri History Museum, for its "Teens Make History" program, which Elizabeth founded in 2007. "Teens Make History" is a work-based learning program which encourages high school students to develop key professional skills, build self-confidence, and explore the complexities of history. One of the unexpected effects of the program has been the rise in grade point averages for 60% of the participating teens. Elizabeth and her family live in University City, Mo.

Heather Whittington Stang '94, a certified Phoenix Rising yoga therapist since 2003 and author of the book "Mindfulness & Grief," opened the Frederick Meditation Center in Frederick, Md. in April 2014. She holds a master's degree in thanatology (death,

Newly Elected Public Officials

Congratulations to **Mike Hewitt '76**, **Gabrielle Leenas Lucke '84**, **David Fraser-Hidalgo '93**, and **Jessica Fitzwater '05** on their election to public office on Nov. 4, 2014. Mike, who owns Hewitt's Service Center in Hollywood, Md., was elected to the St. Mary's County, Md. Board of Commissioners. Gabrielle, 30 years after graduating as a social science major with a political science concentration, was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives. David, who had been appointed in October 2013 by Maryland Governor O'Malley to fill a vacancy in the Maryland House of Delegates, was re-elected to his delegate seat. Jessica, a music teacher who was named in 2012 as one of Frederick's "13 Young Professionals Under 30," was elected to the Frederick County, Md. Council.

dying & bereavement) from Hood College and is a member of the Association of Death Educators and Counselors. Heather and her husband, Craig, live in Frederick, Md.

Gregory Coan '96, after a long career in higher education information technology and teaching photography, is teaching digital art at Concord-Carlisle High School in Concord, Mass. He has a master of fine arts degree in photography from Washington University. Gregory moved to Massachusetts in 2012 and was a desktop services specialist at Boston University and a systems administrator for the Wellesley Public Schools before accepting his current teaching position. He lives in Waltham, Mass.

Jeff La Noue '96 has a website called Comeback City (www.comebackcity.us). An economics major with a master's degree in community planning from the University of Maryland, College Park, he has worked at the University of Baltimore since June 2009 as a project and sustainability planner. Comeback City is his forum for urban insights gained through research, reviewing best practices and direct observation and it's not limited to Baltimore or the U.S. Recent posts have included the future of Baltimore beach volleyball at Rash Field and transportation infrastructure in Strasbourg, France. Jeff lives in Baltimore's

Jones Fall Valley.

Misty Uhfelder Troll '97 and seven other 1997 alums [3] are still great friends who love the chance to get together and reminisce about their glory days at St. Mary's, including having some good laughs looking at old yearbooks. The next Seahawk generation also enjoys getting to know each other. Pictured from left to right are: **Rob O'Haver** with Chuck Orifici's son, Luca, **Lawrence Lanahan** holding a photo of his son, Emil, **Kevin Corbin**, **Chuck Orifici** with daughter, Vita, **Mike Kopec** with daughter, Abigail and son, Nicholas, **Damien Ossi** with son, Jude, **Troy Mann** with Misty's son, Emery, and Misty with daughter, Amelia.

Christian O'Brien '99 gives dance lessons and teaches history in Austin, Texas. Feel free to reach out to him if you want a twirl, spin or a dip.





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5

ILLUSTRATOR: ELIZABETH ZUNON



6

PHOTO: MEGAN KELLY '09

2000s

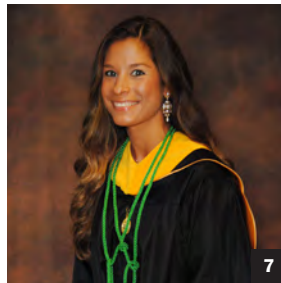
Laurel Dietz '00 is co-director of the new Southern Maryland Youth Choir for elementary and middle school students from Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties. In addition to directing the youth choir and her full-time job as supervisor of instruction for fine arts for St. Mary's County Public Schools, Laurel also is an original member and current director of Patuxent Voices, a women's a cappella singing ensemble. She lives in California, Md.

Ryan Grim '00 is the Washington, D.C. bureau chief for The Huffington Post, an MSNBC contributor, author of the book "This Is Your Country on Drugs," and now the author of the periodic newsletter "Bad News," (www.tinyletter.com/RyanGrim) which covers breaking news and investigations mostly about money and politics, the drug war and other political goings-on. He's also an award-winning journalist, starting in 2007 when he won the Alt-Weekly Award for best long-form news story for "The Painmaker," followed by a 2010

Sidney Hillman Award for "The Poorhouse," and a 2011 Maggie Award for "Behind the Assault on Planned Parenthood." Ryan lives in Washington, D.C with his wife Elizan and their children, Iris and twins Sidney and Virginia.

Billy DeLorbe '02 is the Baltimore Ravens cross training specialist. He began his fitness career while earning his master's degree in applied industrial mathematics from Towson University. He worked ten years as a master personal trainer at the Maryland Athletic Club, leading structured group training exercises and providing high-intensity workout sessions for several athletes. Billy, wife Megan and son Will live in Lutherville, Md.

Chad Marcantonio '03 is a second year ophthalmology resident at Georgetown University Hospital. A psychology major, he joined the Peace Corps after graduation and worked as a translator for medical doctors in East Timor in Maritime Southeast Asia. His Peace Corps experiences led him to decide



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to become a medical doctor. He completed his pre-med courses at Georgetown University before starting Georgetown medical school. After graduating in 2012, Chad did a one-year internal medicine internship at Georgetown University Hospital followed by a year at Louisiana State University, New Orleans for his ophthalmology residency in eye surgery and then back to Georgetown University for his remaining two years of residency. Chad and his wife, Arthi, live in Washington, D.C.

Jessica Wolfley '03 [4], director of digital strategy for Discovery Channel, won a 2014 Emmy for outstanding creative achievement in interactive media - multiplatform storytelling for the June 2013 Discovery Channel's program, "Skywire

Alumni Spotlight

Mike Boynton '00 is a tenure-track assistant professor of acting and directing in the drama department at Jacksonville State University. The path to his current job and his love of theater started in high school when he was "forced" to listen to the "Les Miserable" soundtrack. He got so into the recording that he sat at his kitchen table "crying my eyes out because it was so awesome." A science geek in high school and unsure of his direction at St. Mary's, he took both chemistry and theater classes, which led to him graduating with an independent, student-designed major, or, as he jokingly calls it, "a degree in everything." After graduation, as he was faced with choosing "between science and stability, or the chaos of life in theater," a Virginian Shakespeare company offered him the role of Rosencrantz in its production of "Hamlet." From there, he went to graduate school at New York University, was "found" by a Broadway producer who gave him an internship, which led to him working with the creative team converting John Waters' "Hairspray" from film to Broadway musical. When Mike realized that the "Broadway lifestyle" destroyed more lives than it helped, he took a job back at St. Mary's as an English adjunct professor and fell in love with teaching. From there he went to Wayne State University for another master's degree, this time in acting. Along the way, Mike found time to be a guest/artist instructor at The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. and a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Maryland College Park (where he is currently a PhD candidate) before moving to Northern Alabama in 2013 and his current job. It's clear he's found the proper career path when he says, "If I can make good theater with excited students for good people, I'm a happy camper."

Live with Nik Wallenda," which followed him live as he became the first person to cross the Grand Canyon on a high wire with no net. Jess, husband **Earl Eutsler '02**, who is the deputy associate director for the urban forestry administration in the Washington, D.C. Department of Transportation, and their children, Noah and Kaelyn, enjoy sailing—something Jess learned to do at St. Mary's. The family lives in Washington, D.C.

Katie Daly '04 is the health psychologist for the University of Central Florida's Medical School. She previously worked at St. Mary's College as a visiting psychology professor and assistant director of counseling and psychological services. Katie lives in Orlando, Fl.

Miranda Williams Paul '04 [5] intended to be a marine biologist but graduated as an English major with a secondary teaching certificate, in large measure because of writing courses she took from Lucille Clifton among others. She credits the experiences from her semester in the Gambia for "mapping out her life's direction." Miranda and her husband, Baptiste Paul, fundraise for Books for Africa, Inc.'s "One Million Books for Gambia" initiative and she also serves as an Executive Vice President for We Need Diverse Books, a grassroots organization dedicated to diversification in children's literature (www.diversebooks.org). Her debut picture book, "One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia," has been named a Junior Library

Guild selection. Her second book, "Water is Water," will be published by Macmillan in May 2015. She also has two titles forthcoming from imprints of Lerner and Random House in 2016. Miranda, Baptiste and their children, Soleil and Amani, live in Green Bay, Wis.

Julio Zarate '04 is lead senior II coach working with the 15-18 age group at SwimMAC Carolina. This Charlotte, N.C. based non-profit, in existence since 1977, was designated a swimming "center of excellence" in 2007 and has produced numerous national champions and Olympians. Julio had been an integral part of the Seahawk swim program for 14 years as both a swimmer and a coach and remains one of its most decorated male swimmers in school history.

Libby Davis '05 received her doctorate in environmental chemistry in May 2013 from Duke University and teaches chemistry at Butler University. She lives in Indianapolis, Ind.

Jim Mitchell '06 is an assistant coach and defensive coordinator for Rutgers University's men's lacrosse. This is his fifth coaching job since playing Seahawk lacrosse where, as a midfielder and team captain, he led his team in 2006 to its highest national ranking in school history.

Freddie Rohner '06 was a finalist in the 2014 Toast of the Resume Industry (TORI) resume writing competition sponsored by Career Directors International. Nominated in the category of best accounting and finance resume, he has worked for iHire, a company which offers a network of job boards dedicated to specific professions,

since 2010. Freddie is a certified advanced resume writer and certified resume specialist in the fields of accounting and finance and training and human resources. He lives in Knoxville, Md. with his wife, **Chelsea Ebmeier Rohner '06**.

Chris Kalman '07 [6] chose philosophy as his major because he knew it would force him to take a more creative path in life, and it has. An experienced rock climber for over 16 years, his first job after graduation was as a member of the Rocky Mountain National Park's trail crew, which led to two summers at Mount Rainier National Park as a climbing ranger. For the past four years, Chris has travelled to Southern Chile to establish groundbreaking first ascents on unclimbed walls in Cochamo—"the Yosemite of South America." In September 2014, he launched his own content website called "Fringe's Folly" (www.fringesfolly.com) for "purists, dirtbags, and salty old-timers who live climbing." Chris was back on campus in November 2014 to do a slide show about Cochamo. When not climbing and traveling the world, he lives in Annapolis, Md.

Keith Buzby '08 graduated from the College of William & Mary Law School in May 2014 and passed the Virginia Bar exam in October. He is a special assistant commonwealth's attorney for the city of Richmond, Va. and also lives in Richmond.

Larisa Diffley '09 [7] has graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina with a master's of science degree in physician assistant studies. She passed her board exams in September 2014 and was licensed in October 2014 to

practice as a physician assistant in South Carolina.

Peter Krech '09 finished his first season as head coach for the Seahawk women's soccer team with a 9-6-3 record and a first round appearance in the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) tournament. Designing his own major in sports coaching and management, he started coaching at both the club and college level after graduation. He spent three years as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the Seahawk men's soccer team, followed by two seasons with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) women's soccer team, which, in 2013, went from worst to first in the American East Conference and won its first ever NCAA tournament berth. Peter also has won state championships at the club level with his Maryland United U18 and U12 girls' teams. He lives in California, Md.

Drew Solyst '09 earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Emory University in June 2014 and works at the University of Arizona as a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral trainee. His research focuses on how the brain detects eye contact and how a potential treatment for autism called oxytocin alters this system to promote social interaction. Drew lives in Tucson, Ariz.

2010s

Caitlin Nichols '10 graduated in 2013 from Philadelphia University with a master's of science degree in physician assistant studies. Now a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the U.S. Navy, she's stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, where she is the sole medical provider for a Marine unit. She and her unit

CAC Silver Anniversary Teams

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC), one of the strongest conferences in NCAA Division III, is celebrating its 25th season by naming a silver anniversary team featuring 25 former or current standout players for each of its championship sports. The following Seahawks have been named to seven silver anniversary teams. The remaining anniversary teams with Seahawks will appear in the Spring 2015 Mulberry Tree.

MEN'S SOCCER

Ryan Olsen '02
(Athletic Hall of Fame '08)
Alun Oliver '04
(Athletic Hall of Fame '10)
Brian Wolcott '05
(Athletic Hall of Fame '12)

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Kathy Holmes Sulkowski '02
(Athletic Hall of Fame '08)
Brooke Barcheski '03
Katie Klotz '09
Sophie Esparza '10
Yvonne Latour '14

MEN'S SWIMMING

Pat McGarrity '99
(Athletic Hall of Fame '06)
Cameron Hedquist '13

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Paula Goodwin Lehman '95
Kim Crance Colby '99
(Athletic Hall of Fame '04)
Brie McDowell Porter '09
Rachel Hotchko '10
Kelly Heyde '13

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sheldon Taylor '01
(Athletic Hall of Fame '06)
Tyson Lesesne '08
Alex Franz '11

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Erica Pearson Grover '99
(Athletic Hall of Fame '02)

VOLLEYBALL

Claire Kodan '11

recently returned from a Western Pacific deployment. Caitlin lives in San Diego, Calif.

Chris Shanklin '10 is a customer service manager for Cowan Systems, a major trucking company. His first job at Lexus of Towson as a service lane manager gave him experience and laid the groundwork for his current job. An economics major, he says his current career path is not where he thought his degree would lead him, but his major has helped him feel prepared everywhere he's been since St. Mary's. Chris lives in Lutherville Timonium, Md.

Sara Kidd '11 received her master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland, Baltimore in May 2014. She studied macro/clinical social work with a specialization in the field of aging. After working five months as a social services assistant at FutureCare Canton Harbor, Sara now is a geriatric social worker for Charlestown, an Erickson Living Continuing Care Retirement Community in Catonsville, Md. She lives in Baltimore, Md.

Kathleen Overman '11 describes herself as a "college student turned foodie turned extreme foodie and local business advocate." While at St. Mary's, she was introduced to truly fresh foods and began cooking family meals for friends and neighbors. In 2013, she combined the lessons of support local and be sustainable with her love of food and cooking to start her company, Sweet Leenie. Kathleen helps small food related businesses and entrepreneurs grow and get the attention they deserve via grassroots marketing. Her website (www.sweetleenie.com) allows her to blog about food and the local companies she loves, share recipes, and alert her followers to what's new in the world of locally sourced food. Kathleen lives in Severna Park, Md.

Brandon Bimber '12, in August 2014, completed two years in the Peace Corps, teaching math to fifth and sixth graders in Entsikeni, a large rural village in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa. He's most proud of the school library he was able

to start. Brandon says he'll miss his students and South Africa with its 11 national languages, many different cultures and biological and geographical diversity. He lives in Russell, Pa.

Aviva Brown '12 received her master's degree in community/urban planning in May 2014 from the University of Maryland, College Park. An associate consultant for Vantage Point Economic and Transportation Development Strategies, LLC, she focuses on transportation, economic analysis and real estate market analysis throughout the United States. Aviva also chairs the Emerging Planners Group for the American Planning Association's Maryland Executive Committee. She lives in Pasadena, Md.

Justin Foreman '12 is the digital media specialist in the College's library. He previously did freelance work in videography and photography. Justin lives in Leonardtown, Md.

Cassey Elder '13 is an account executive at RMR & Associates, a public relations and marketing communications firm in Rockville, Md. Although she majored in psychology with a minor in educational studies, the public relations/communications field is where she plans to stay. Cassey lives in Montgomery Village, Md.

Lukas Iraola '13 and **Alex Cole '13**, both economics majors, have been biking through Southeast Asia to raise money and awareness for Splash, a non-governmental organization whose mission is to give children in Southeast Asia and Africa access to clean, safe drinking water. Their trip started in mid-December 2014 in Chengdu,

China and is scheduled to end in mid-February 2015 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Check out their progress on their website, www.thewatercycle.bike. Learn more about Splash at www.splash.org.

Bobby Rudd '13 had a busy 2014 summer interning for two professional baseball teams, the Washington Nationals in its ticket operations office and the Baltimore Orioles in its stadium operations office. After seven busy months, he has a new found respect for all the work that goes into the planning and execution of daily events. Now in graduate school at Mount St. Mary's University, Bobby also works as a graduate assistant with Athletic Development, the school's primary athletic fundraising arm, coordinating pre-game hospitality for Mount Club supporters and donor outreach initiatives. He intends to pursue a career in athletics after he graduates with an MBA in spring 2015.

Shannon Hammerlund '14, a survey statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau, works in the business investment branch of the company statistics division, where her analysis reveals trends in capital expenditures useful for product development, business planning and identifying business opportunities. Shannon lives in Washington, D.C.

Lisa Williams '14 was unable to study abroad while at St. Mary's, so she decided to go overseas for graduate school. Now studying veterinary medicine at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, she expects to graduate in 2019. Lisa says Scotland is as beautiful and green as the pictures depict, but a bit rainier than St. Mary's.

MARRIAGES & UNIONS

Dave Sushinsky '02 and **Katie Siguenza '09, MAT '10 [1]** were married Aug. 16, 2014 at Holy Face Church in Great Mills, Md. and held their reception at the St. Mary's College riverfront. Members of the wedding party included **Kathy Orellana '09, Claire Tolbert Abramoff '09, Harold Lee '96**, honorary alum **Richard Edgar '13, Michael Carver '05**, and **Darren Frank '05**. The couple is planning their honeymoon for Costa Rica in spring 2015. Dave is the director of alumni relations at St. Mary's College; Katie teaches social studies at Spring Ridge Middle School in Lexington Park, Md. and teaches educational studies at St. Mary's College. They live in Drayden, Md.

Chad Marcantonio '03 and **Arthi Venkat [2]**, shown here in one of their favorite engagement photos, were married Oct. 4, 2014 in Washington, D.C. Wedding attendees included fellow 2003 alums **Mike Daumbach, Kelly Mills, John Gaginis, Leslie Fields**, and **Matt Pembleton** as well as **Shannon Heaton Pembleton '04**. The couple honeymooned in Big Sur, Calif. Chad and Arthi are both ophthalmology residents, Chad at Georgetown University and Arthi at George Washington University. The couple lives in Washington, D.C.

Megan Brown '07 and **Dino Vilson '09 [3]** were married July 5, 2014 at the Billingsley House Museum in Upper Marlboro, Md. **Kharin Sears**



LAURA ELIZABETH PHOTOGRAPHY

'06 was a bridesmaid; **Calvin Wise '09, Chase Lynn '09** and **Dakim Gaines '09** were groomsmen. Megan is a program manager for Paralyzed Veterans of America; Dino is a medical student at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. The couple lives in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Katy Caperna '07 and **Lawrence Trundle [4]** were married July 12, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay in Cambridge, Md. **Rachael Carter Reilly '07** was in the bridal party. The couple honeymooned in the Bahamas. Katy is a public health research analyst for Westat; Lawrence is a U.S. Navy lieutenant stationed at the Pentagon. They live in Vienna, Va.

Clare McLean '07, MAT '08 and **Tommy Woo [5]** were married April 13, 2014 at The Barns at Wolf Trap in Vienna, Va. The bridal party included **Laura Wallace '07, Emily Nelson '07, Stephanie Reiner Marsich '07, David Marsich '05**, and **Alyssa Hobbs-Nayyar '08**. **Meghan Sullivan Neumeier '08** played the violin

at the wedding ceremony. Also in attendance were **Daniel Blair '08, John Henry Adams '07**, and **Brenna Higgins Tan '07**. The couple honeymooned on the Hawaiian island of Maui in August 2014. Clare teaches outdoor science for Arlington County, Va. public schools at the Phoebe Hall Knipling Outdoor Lab. Tommy is a self-employed computer programmer with Three Screen Studios, LLC. They live in Falls Church, Va.

Emily Nelson '07 and **Carl Alexander Ringholm [6]** were married July 17, 2014 at Arlanda Airport near Stockholm, Sweden. Emily's "bridesmaids in spirit" were **Laura Wallace '07, Clare McLean '07, Stephanie Reiner Marsich '07**, and **Brenna Higgins Tan '07**. The couple honeymooned in the European cities of London, Paris and Barcelona. Emily is pursuing a two-year vocational training program to become a certified medical secretary in Sweden; Alex is a study and career adviser, specializing in teacher certification, at Stockholm University. They live in Huddinge, a borough of Stockholm, Sweden.



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SPLENDIDPHOTOBOOTH



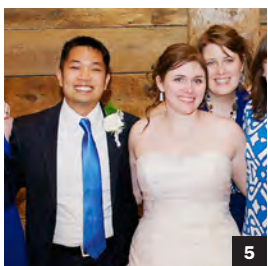
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STORY & RHYTHM



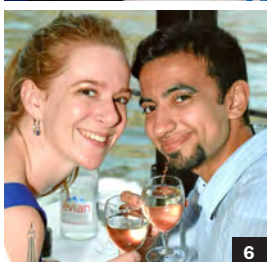
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HAMILTON PHOTOGRAPHY



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TELECHRONICLES



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Troy Townsend '07 and **Emily Bzdyk '08 [7]** were married June 23, 2012 at Silverbrook Farm in Purcellville, Va. **Mark McKaye '13** was a groomsman; **Corey Ahearn '07**, **MAT '09** was the best man; and **Justine Hoewing Ahearn '08**, **MAT '10** and **Amelia Hinnebusch Smith '08**, **MAT '09** were bridesmaids. The couple honeymooned in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. Troy is a visiting chemistry professor at St. Mary's College. The couple lives in St. Mary's City, Md.

Sonja Kubik '09 and **Brent Charpentier [8]** were married Oct. 11, 2014 at the New England Carousel Museum in Bristol, Conn. The couple took a honeymoon cruise to the Caribbean in December. Sonja is a math teacher at Lyme-Old Lyme High School in Old Lyme, Conn.; Brent is a social studies teacher at Elisabeth C. Adams Middle School in Guilford, Conn. The couple lives in Middlefield, Conn.

Brie McDowell '09 and **Tommy Porter '09 [9]** were married Sept. 21, 2013 at the Porter family farm in Perryville, Md. The wedding party included bridesmaids **Eleanor Koerner '09**, **Natalie Schaefer '09**, **Megan McDonough '09**, **Taylor Cervenka '09** and **Rachel Burnside '11**, **MAT '12**; groomsmen **Jordan Grant '09** and **Alex Boulden '10**; and **Ron Saul '08**, who officiated. The couple took a quick honeymoon to the family beach house in South Jersey, N.J. Brie and Tommy work for the Cecil County, Md. public schools; Brie is a high school biology teacher and Tommy teaches eighth-grade English. The couple lives in Colora, Md.

Kathryn Miller '09 and **Adam Curtis '09 [10]** were married Oct. 4, 2014 at the State House in Historic St. Mary's City, Md. **Laura Hamilton '09**, **Judy Sellner '09**, **Phil Varady '10**, and **Eric Horwitz '11** were in the wedding party; **Megan Bomio '09**, **Michele Hoffmann '09**, and **Ian Prince '10** were guests. The couple honeymooned in the Adirondacks. Kathryn is a senior editorial assistant and is completing a master's degree in archives, information and records management; Adam is a high school history and theatre teacher. They live in Silver Spring, Md.

Niki Novak '09 and **Seth LaShier '09 [11]** were married Sep. 6, 2014 at Historic St. Mary's City, Md. **Kathy Orellana '09**, **Katie Conlon '09** and **Paul Morris '10** were members of the wedding party with many other St. Mary's College alums in attendance. The couple honeymooned on the Caribbean island of Jamaica. Niki is the director of training and quality improvement at Pathways to Housing DC; Seth is a doctoral candidate in American history at George

Washington University. They live in Washington, D.C.

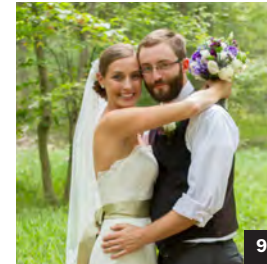
Lindsey Anne Goldsmith '10 and **Frank Joseph Corasaniti III [12]** were married Oct. 4, 2014 at the Kitty Knight House in Georgetown, Md. The couple honeymooned on the Hawaiian island of Maui. Lindsey is the administrator for the Roberto Clemente Health Clinic in Nicaragua; Joey is a nurse in the University of Maryland's Intensive Care Unit. They live in Reisterstown, Md.

Marshall Betz '12 and **Aimhirghin Gilligan '14 [13]** were married June 22, 2014 in the Garden of Remembrance at St. Mary's College. The ceremony was officiated by Andrew Keiper, a former member of the college staff with numerous alumni, staff and faculty in attendance. The couple honeymooned at Disneyland. Aimhirghin is pursuing a master's degree in advanced theatre practice at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama; Marshall was a dance instructor specializing in modern ballet before the couple relocated to London, Great Britain.



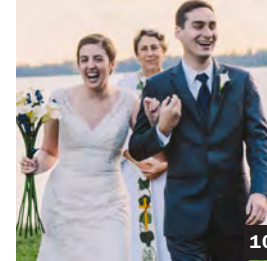
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JACEK MIKOLACZYK



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ALISHA SULLIVAN PHOTOGRAPHY



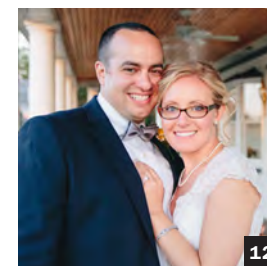
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DAWN VICTORIA PHOTOGRAPHY



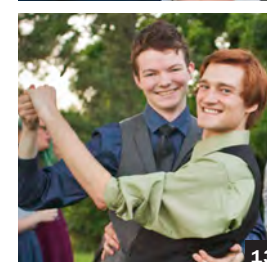
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JOHN HEREDIA PHOTOGRAPHY



12

BRYAN LEE PHOTOGRAPHY



13

ALEXANDER R. STILLSON

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

To **Gia Trionfo Hooper '99** and Eric Hooper, a son, Jackson Maurice [1], born Jan. 6, 2014. Gia is a yoga teacher, owner of BMore Yoga, LLC and founding partner of Karmic Consulting, a staffing company. Eric teaches environmental science at Parkview High School in Loudon County, Va. The family lives in Reston, Va.

To **Josh Alexander '02** and Diana Alexander, a daughter, Emma Marie [2], born May 4, 2014. Josh owns Regional Food & Drink (RFD), a Washington, D.C. bar and restaurant; Diana is a stay at home mother. The family lives in Annapolis, Md.

To **Erin Taylor '03** and Fernando Hoces de la Guardia, a son, Benjamin Hoces de la Guardia [3], born Oct. 10, 2014. Erin, who received her doctorate in health economics from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, is an associate health policy researcher at the RAND Corporation. Fernando is pursuing his doctorate in public policy at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. The family lives in Santa Monica, CA.

To **Jennifer Wong Cernak '04** and Brent Cernak, a daughter, Lana Wai [4], born May 12, 2014. Lana's four-legged older brothers, Boomer and Ralphie, are finally warming up to their adorable life intrusion. Jennifer is a teacher and directs her school's enrichment programs; Brent does information technology work for a government contractor. The family lives in Chester, Md.

To **Jessica Kemp Sohn '04** and **Andrew Sohn '06**, a son, Luke Leonard [5], born May 16, 2014. He joins proud big sister Grace, age 2. Jessica teaches in the St. Mary's County, Md. public school system; Andrew is a cost analyst at Naval Air Station Patuxent River. The family lives in Saint Inigoes, Md.

To **Erica Mundle Pickett '06** and Daniel Pickett, a son, Levi Weston [6], born Feb. 9, 2014. Erica teaches fourth grade at Norrisville Elementary School in Harford County, Md.; Dan is a financial analyst for T. Rowe Price. The family lives in Jacobus, Pa.

To **Troy Townsend '07** and **Emily Bzdyk '08**, a daughter, Lucy Bzdyk Townsend [7], born Feb. 19, 2014. Troy received his doctorate in 2012 from the University of California, Davis and did a post-doctoral fellowship at the Naval Research Laboratory before joining St. Mary's College's faculty in August 2014 as a visiting chemistry professor. Emily received her master's of science in entomology in 2012 from the University of California, Davis and, for now, is a stay at home mom. The family lives in St. Mary's City, Md.

To **Laura Wigginton Moore '09** and Nicholas Moore, a son, Peter Benjamin [8], born June 17, 2014. Laura is a self-employed wedding and lifestyle photographer; Nicholas works in sales for Fastenal in Hollywood, Md. The family lives in Valley Lee, Md.



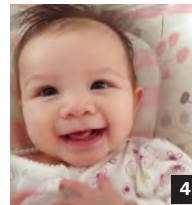
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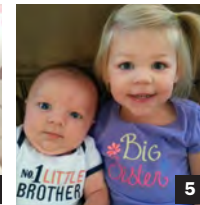
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IN MEMORIAM

Lydie Peach Price '36HS, of Annapolis, Md., died Sep. 25, 2014 at age 95. She is survived by her children William Heim, **Nan Heim Shetterly '68JC**, Caroline Heim Millett, John Heim, Richard Heim, Ben Price, Sally Price Boardman, and Stephen Price; ten grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Her sister, **Betty Peach Caldwell '30HS**, pre-deceased her. Memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's College of Maryland Foundation, 18952 E. Fisher Rd., St. Mary's City, Md. 20686.

Ann Gruber Rambo '43JC, of Murrells Inlet, S.C., died Sept. 7, 2014 at age 91. A native of Hagerstown, Md., she worked as a secretary during World War II and later was a stay-at-home mother. Ann is survived by her daughters, Elizabeth Rambo Temple and Nancy Rambo Bachtell, one grandchild and two great-grandchildren.

Patricia Murray Chester '55HS, of Berlin, Md., died Oct. 4, 2014 at age 77. A native of Worcester County, Md., she co-owned Cropper Oil Company and Hadder Farms and was a member of the Farm Bureau, International Goat Association and Chincoteague and Paint Horse Association. Pat is survived by her children, Thomas Cropper, Jane Cropper Warren and Robert "Craig" Cropper; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and her brothers, Harry and John Murray.

Frances “Franny” Shaw Hoyt ’56HS, of New Milford, Conn., died April 9, 2014 at age 77. Franny grew up in Bel Air, Md. and was a long-time volunteer at the New Milford Hospital and the local chapter of the American Cancer Society. She is survived by her husband, Tony; children, Sidney Barteau, Susie Barteau Cammett and Julie Barteau Gemmell; stepchildren Cara Hoyt O’Connell and Charlie Hoyt; 13 grandchildren; and her siblings, Maggie Shaw Melville, Sarah Shaw Bouscaren, Betsy Shaw Smith and Al Shaw.

Sarah “Sally” Mason Day ’60JC, of Fort Worth, Texas, died July 18, 2014 at age 74. Sally grew up in Rising Sun, Md. on her family’s Woodbine Farm. After graduating from Lamar University in 1982 with a bachelor’s degree in nursing, she worked as a home health cancer nurse; started Family Services Hospice in 1986; and, in 1992, became the executive director for Family Hospice of Fort Worth, Texas and later its director of education for 20 field offices. In 1998 she was recognized for her excellence in hospice nursing with the Heart of Hospice award and also chosen as one of the “Great 100” nurses in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Sally is survived by her husband of 53 years, Douglas; daughters Laura Day Park, Gail Day-Russell and Rebecca Day Dennis; 10 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; and her siblings, Henry, David and Richard Mason, Florence Mason Bannister, and Eleanor Mason Cline.

Robert Collins ’71, of Ventura, Calif., died May 1, 2014 at age 64. Born in Germany, he grew up in Severna Park, Md. A history major, he earned his MBA in 1987 from California Lutheran University and was a partner in a property management business until his 2012 retirement. Bob is survived by his wife, Aleda; daughter, Elizabeth Collins Matthews; son, Robert; and three grandchildren.

Dennis Nial ’75, of Montgomery Village, Md., died Oct. 26, 2014 at age 62. He was a supervisory juvenile justice case management specialist for Montgomery County, Md. and enjoyed playing on his office’s softball team. Dennis is survived by his beloved companion, Jen Smith; his mother, Irene; and his siblings, Jack, Jim, Gary, Kevin and Mary.

John W. Beach III ’76, of Lewes, Del., died July 13, 2014 at age 59. A native of Dover, Del., he last worked in maintenance at Cadbury at Lewes, a continuing care retirement community, where he put his gift for repairing anything to good use. John is survived by his wife of 22 years, Ursula; and his siblings, Linda, David and Jay.

Paul Dilorio ’12, of Holtsville, N.Y., died Nov. 3, 2014 at age 24. A chemistry major, he also was an orientation leader and member of the Multicultural Achievement Peer Program and the rugby team. Paul is survived by his parents, Paul and Jeanette, and his brother, Daniel.

FACULTY AND FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE



Andrew “Andy” Kozak, of California, Md., died Oct. 16, 2014 at age 63. Described by a colleague as someone who was great at making people see the best in themselves, he was a beloved friend and mentor to generations of St. Mary’s College students.

Andy received his doctorate in economics from the University of Notre Dame in 1983 and joined the St. Mary’s College faculty in 1984, where he quickly established himself as one of the College’s best teachers, receiving the Homer L. Dodge Excellence in Teaching award in 1988. He directed the Honors Program/Paul Nitze Scholars Program from 1998-2003 and chaired the Department of Economics from 2004-2009 and 2011-2012. A member of the Board of Maryland Collegiate Honors Council from 1994-1997, he served as council president from 1996-1997. Actively involved in student activities and a supporter of Seahawk sports and the Economics Club, he received the Student Government Faculty Service award in 1987 and 1997. Professor Don Stabile created the Andy Kozak Faculty Contribution to Student Life award in his honor to recognize faculty who dedicate themselves to students through active community engagement.

Andy also served St. Mary’s County, Md. as a board member of the county’s community development corporation from 1985-1992 and as a housing authority commissioner from 2003-2012. Andy is survived by his wife, Rebecca; step-son, Aaron Boyles; and his sisters, Barbara Kozak Coady and Ginger Kozak Bohar. Contributions to a scholarship in his honor may be sent to the St. Mary’s College of Maryland Foundation, 18952 E. Fisher Road, St. Mary’s City, Md. 20686.



Benjamin C. Bradlee, of Washington, D.C., died Oct. 21, 2014 at age 93. Bradlee was a member of the St. Mary’s College of Maryland Board of Trustees from 2003 – 2011 and chaired the Historic St. Mary’s City Commission from 1991 – 2003. Bradlee was executive editor of The Washington Post from 1968 to 1991, becoming well-known for his editorial role in The Post’s uncovering of the Watergate scandal, the story that thrust The Post into national prominence.

As head of the Historic St. Mary’s City Commission and simultaneously its ambassador to the College’s Board of Trustees, Bradlee strengthened the mission of Historic St. Mary’s City and ensured a productive affiliation between it and the College, effectively planning for the two institutions to have separate governance but equal partnership.

During his tenure, the active affiliation between the City and the College led, among other things, to a landmark \$65 million Maryland Heritage Project.

He played an important role with the College’s Center for the Study of Democracy, a joint effort between Historic St. Mary’s City and the College, serving on its advisory board from its beginning. Bradlee established in 2004 an endowed lecture series in journalism. The series brought journalists to campus for public lectures, among them David Broder, Gwen Ifill, Tom Brokaw and David Ignatius.

The father of four children, Bradlee was married to journalist and author Sally Quinn. His family maintains residences in Washington, D.C., and in Porto Bello, a historic house across the river from St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

Valentine “Val” Ojo, of Tall Timbers, Md., died Aug. 23, 2014 at age 66. Born in Ondo, Nigeria, he was a professor of German and Italian at the University of Ife, Nigeria before relocating to the United States. He taught at St. Mary’s College (1996-2002), Lincoln University and Prince George’s County, Md. public schools. Val is survived by his wife, Agathachristy; four children, Mayowa, Omolayo, Mayokun and Omotayo; and his siblings, Vitalis Ojo, Lucrentia Abdullahi and Crescentia Adelabu.

DIVINE DISCOURSE

A St. Mary's Internship on Public Radio

By Lawrence P. MacCurtain '11

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU put a Catholic nun in a broadcast booth with polemicist Christopher Hitchens, actor Rainn Wilson, or therapist “Dr. Ruth” Westheimer? Throw in a rabbi for good measure and the answer may seem like the punch line of a bad joke. In reality, the preceding lineup is a guest list for the most popular religious program on public radio, WAMU’s “Interfaith Voices.” The program is broadcast from American University across the country by more than 80 NPR and independent public radio stations, has a diverse weekly audience of over 150,000 listeners, and, during this past summer, a St. Mary’s student as an intern.

While Patrick may have been a longtime listener to the program, until this past summer, he would never have guessed that he would be intimately involved with the production of “Interfaith Voices” as an intern.

Patrick describes the initial process of interning with “Interfaith Voices” as very different from the typical university arranged experience. He notes, “One day I was listening to the program, and at the end I noticed that there was no name given on behalf of the production intern. I figured they must not have one, and that maybe I could give it a try.” Curious and determined, Patrick emailed Sister Fiedler about joining the program. “I had

He was primarily responsible for building and maintaining the show’s expansive guest list, researching potential guests and drafting interview questions in preparation for the screening process. Elaborating on this practice, Patrick states, “After finding people that might work as guests, I had to schedule a ‘pre-interview.’ This is an unaired conversation done by the producers to gauge a visitor’s speaking ability and area of expertise.” Following a successful pre-interview, Patrick would then create talking points and program questions that were edited and used by Sister Fiedler during the primary interview. The final stage for Patrick before broadcast was



From left to right: Patrick Montague, Catherine Roberts (assoc. producer), Sister Fiedler, Laura Kwerel (senior producer).

“I think I brought a unique perspective to the program as a physics and religious studies major. There are qualities of both areas of study that allowed me to thrive as an intern. Specifically, I think I brought to the table both an analytical thought process and an open, objective mindset by way of my religious studies background. This was especially helpful when interviewing and interacting with the program’s diverse guest list.”

—Patrick Montague '15

Since 2002, “Interfaith Voices” has served as a compelling platform for the free exchange of ideas related to all manner of creeds and customs. In this way, Sister Fiedler’s program is a strong parallel to the type of open discourse that is a hallmark of the liberal arts experience at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. Given the program’s devotion to social justice, world events and ethics, it’s not surprising that “Interfaith Voices” caught the attention and listenership of St. Mary’s student Patrick Montague '15. Patrick says he first tuned in to the program during his early college years, and enjoyed the broad scope of topics discussed.

no idea what to expect, and nothing to lose,” says Patrick. When he heard that he was being taken on as the show’s new intern, Patrick did not realize how integral his role would be in the production of the program. Far from fetching coffee or dry cleaning, Patrick was an important part of a four-person team.

Describing his first day at the studio, Patrick notes, “Initially, I was a little surprised by Sister Fiedler.” She was hardly the image of the cloistered, habit-wearing nun of decades past. Patrick was also surprised by the extent to which Sister Fiedler involved him in the day-to-day management of the radio program.

helping the senior producer, Laura Kwerel, with the audio editing of the day’s materials in preparation for broadcast.

Patrick believes the most challenging and rewarding aspect of his work was the research leading up to a pre-interview. Crediting organizational and analytical skills honed at St. Mary’s as a physics and religious studies double major, Patrick says he had a great deal of fun talking to a diverse array of spiritual and philosophical authorities. He remarks that he dealt with various topics and experts, entailing “everything from Japanese Zen masters to Mormon missionaries in Germany; I

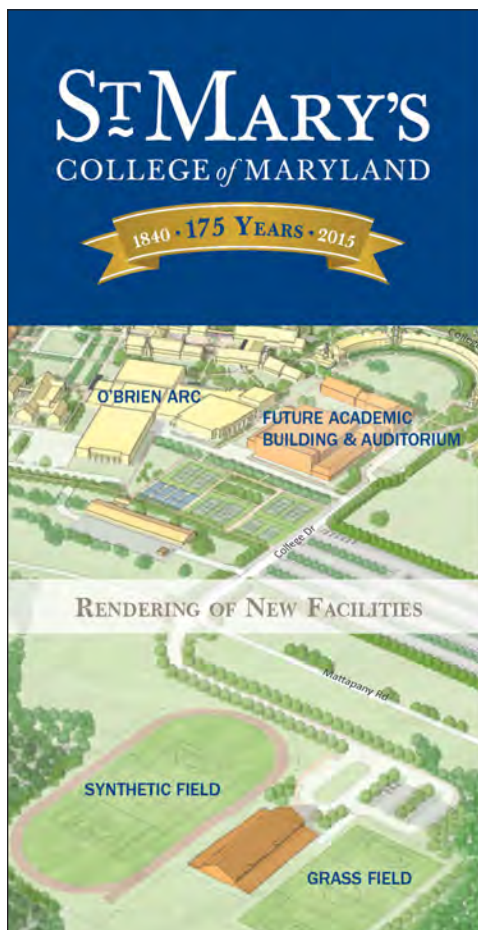
cannot emphasize how much I learned.” More broadly, Patrick also recognizes his St. Mary’s liberal arts background as an integral foundation and tool in facilitating his work with “Interfaith Voices.” “It was fantastic to have a wealth of knowledge to draw from,” he says. “In preparing for a program about Buddhism, I drew upon Professor Daniel Meckel’s ‘Religions and Cultures of India’ class. For an interview on the Sunni-Shia divide and its manifestations in Iraq, I referred to my days in Professor Betül Başaran’s ‘Islam in the Modern World’ course.”

Patrick identifies the relationships and contacts he made through “Interfaith Voices” as among the most valuable aspects of his internship. He notes that he routinely had the opportunity to work and interact with an impressive

collection of individuals, including Rajiv Shah, executive administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); Ravi Shankar, an Indian spiritual guru, who has a following of millions; and Robert Jones, CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute. Patrick admits that working with famous guests, “although terrifying at first,” taught him to interact with a broad spectrum of people with professionalism and confidence. More broadly, Patrick summarizes his contributions as an intern by saying “I think I brought a unique perspective to the program as a physics and religious studies major. There are qualities of both areas of study that allowed me to thrive as an intern. Specifically, I think I brought to the table both an analytical thought process and an open, objective mindset by way

of my religious studies background. This was especially helpful when interviewing and interacting with the program’s diverse guest list.”

Sister Fiedler says that Patrick was a great intern and a valuable asset to the program. She remarks that Patrick approached the internship with “uncommon energy and passion.” Furthermore, Sister Fiedler notes that Patrick’s strong background in St. Mary’s liberal arts tradition made for an intern that possessed a dynamic and nuanced appreciation for complex global issues. Patrick sums up his internship simply by saying, “My time with ‘Interfaith Voices’ and Sister Fiedler provided an excellent surrogate of a liberal arts experience in the professional world.” ❖



175TH ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE:

Strengthening Our Foundations

We have a tremendous opportunity to secure \$70 million in state of Maryland funding for a new academic building with auditorium and a new athletic stadium complex. The state's capital investment is dependent upon our raising \$2.5 million in private funds.

Consider that for every \$1 raised, the state will contribute \$28.

When completed, the entire capital project will transform the campus – increasing educational, cultural and athletic opportunities that will enrich the St. Mary's education, experience and public presence.

The challenge before us will take a collective effort; we are counting on you to help make it happen.

To participate, visit www.smcm.edu/give.

A SENSE OF HISTORY

The Archives Partners with Local Author to Preserve and Provide Access to Oral Histories

By Kent Randell, College archivist and assistant librarian

Upon the January, 2014 passing of St. Mary's County's own Judge John Hanson Briscoe (who was also a former speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates), Rep. Steny Hoyer said, "He had a very decisive vision for Southern Maryland and the state that went far beyond local parochial politics. We'll miss his humor. We'll miss his wisdom. We'll miss his sense of history."

In keeping with Judge Briscoe's sense of history, the judge's son-in-law, Samuel Baldwin of Baldwin and Briscoe, P.C., is continuing to honor the judge's legacy by writing a book about his late father-in-law. The book will also cover other aspects of St. Mary's County history and life.

In the interest of providing to the public easy access to materials, Baldwin is publishing the book in a groundbreaking way. He has removed the "middle man" from the publication process and is making the book available for free online. The first chapter, "Johnny Briscoe, a Great Life," is already available online.* The website also includes multimedia features, such as video and audio. Chapter Two will be about the lawyers practicing in St. Mary's County during the 1940s, 50s, and 60s, and will be published online in January. Chapter Three will be about Sotterley Plantation.

In the process of writing his book, Baldwin has conducted oral histories of dozens of St. Mary's County citizens. He has also arranged for these interviews to be transcribed. With the completion of every chapter of his book project, the oral histories used in each chapter are then transferred to the archive of St. Mary's College of Maryland, which will house the paperwork and digital files in a climate controlled storage area equipped with fire suppression. The text of the oral history transcripts are then made available to the public on the SlackWater Oral History Collection website.

You can view the 18 transcripts from the Chapter One interviews here: <http://tinyurl.com/pzph3bpr>

*"Johnny Briscoe, a Great Life," is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/kgou982>

Photos: From the Collection of John Hanson Briscoe



From left to right:
Steny Hoyer, Governor
Marvin Mandel,
John Hanson Briscoe.



At Historic St. Mary's City
State House, seated from left
to right: Jeannie Blackistone
Dorsey Mandel, General
Robert E. Hogaboom, Steny
Hoyer, Governor Marvin
Mandel, John Hanson Briscoe
(standing), Louis Goldstein.



J. Frank Raley, Jr. and
John Hanson Briscoe
in 2011

Calendar of Events

VOICES Reading Series

8:15 pm in Daugherty-Palmer Commons

January 29: Kate Milliken
(*short fiction*)

February 19: Paul Hanstedt
(*memoir*)

March 12: Francisco Aragón (*poet*)

April 2: Mike Branch (*humorist*)

April 23: “Books That Cook”
reading by Jennifer Cognard-Black and Melissa A. Goldthwaite with Tenaya Darlington, Howard Dinin, Caroline M. Grant, April Lindner, and special guest Michael S. Glaser

Environmental Citizenship Speaker Series

This is a new speaker series: look for upcoming speakers/dates on the web calendar or email environmentalstudies@smcm.edu.

How does nature fit into our conceptions of citizenship? In what ways do communities cultivate attitudes and aptitudes aimed at moving society toward a more environmentally, socially, and economically just path?

“Exquisite Corpse”
conceived and directed by Jess Lustig

February 25–28 at 8 pm

March 1–2 at 2 pm

Bruce Davis Theater in Montgomery Hall

46th Annual All Student Art Exhibition

March 3–27, Boyden Gallery

16th Annual WGSX Colloquium: “Gender Goes to Jail”

March 25 at 4:45 and 8:15 pm

March 26 at 4:15 and 8:15 pm

Cole Cinema in the Campus Center

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar

Judith Resnik, Arthur Liman
Professor of Law, Yale University

March 31 at 7 pm

Auerbach Auditorium of St. Mary’s Hall

Object Theater Workshop and Exhibition

with visiting artist Megan Murtha
April 6–10, Boyden Gallery

St. Mary’s Project Art Exhibition

April 13–May 5, Boyden Gallery

“Slasher (A Horrifying Comedy)”

by Allison Moore and directed by Mark A. Rhoda

April 22–25 at 8 pm

April 26 at 2 pm

Bruce Davis Theater in Montgomery Hall

Awards Convocation

April 24 at 3 pm

Michael P. O’Brien Athletics & Recreation Center Arena

The Ninth Annual Twain Lecture

Aasif Mandvi

April 24 at 7:30 pm

Michael P. O’Brien Athletics & Recreation Center Arena

Young at Art: An Exhibition of Art from St. Mary’s County Schools

May 11–31, Boyden Gallery

Commencement

May 16 at 10 am

Townhouse Green

Alumni Weekend

June 11–14

Golden & Beyond Reunion Weekend

(for classes celebrating 50th, 55th, 60th anniversaries)

July 17–19

Chesapeake Writers’ Conference

August 2–8

www.smcm.edu/summer/writing

Check for event updates and additions:
www.smcm.edu/calendar/index.php

Photo: Ashley Stopera



PHOTOS: BILL WOOD

Bamboo Boat Race

The 2014 Great Bamboo Boat Race at Family Weekend on September 27 brought out faculty, staff, students and alumni for a friendly, frenzied and wet competition. These photos show the importance of design for boat stability! The faculty grabbed first prize, with “We Grade You” captained by Professor

David Kung; second place went to “To Pay Our Debts” captained by Michael Reinitz '15; third to “Fast as Molasses” captained by Patric McMann '17; fourth to “Panda Paddlers” captained by Rebecca Partan '15; fifth to “And Plenty II” captained by Elian Imlay-Maire '17.