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## Our Mission

The mission of the Great Lakes Colleges Association is to take actions that will help strengthen and preserve our colleges; and be a leading force on behalf of education in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences. Rich in tradition, GLCA will continue to enhance our colleges by leading as new areas of opportunity and challenge emerge.

## FEATURE STORIES

### GLCA Welcomes Matthew Derr

Matthew Derr has been appointed as the first Visiting Fellow of the Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA). Derr, in addition to being a GLCA Visiting Fellow, is also pursuing a graduate degree at the University Of Michigan.

Derr is an '89 graduate of Antioch College and served as Interim President for the newly-formed Antioch College after intense months of negotiating with Antioch University on behalf of the alumni to purchase Antioch College. Derr is known for his patience, unwavering optimism and strong leadership, motivated by his love for this college. Derr's responsibilities as interim president included campus master planning and renovations, fund raising, the hiring and organization of administrative staff, and rebuilding of relationships with over 17,000 Antioch alumni and the community of Yellow Springs. In addition to all of these responsibilities, Derr was responsible for articulating a compelling vision that is driving the design of the curriculum and profile of the faculty.

In December 2010, Derr was awarded the CASE V chief Executive Leadership Award for the role he played in negotiating Antioch College's independence and leading the organization in its first year of operation. (See <http://antiochcollege.org/news/archive/1834.html>)

GLCA president Rick Detweiler said "We are delighted that such an accomplished person is joining the GLCA as a Fellow. There are

many ways to exhibit leadership in higher education -- reinventing an institution, addressing critical challenges in creative ways, saving a college from oblivion, reimagining education, developing optimistic and enthusiastic support from faculty and staff, or inspiring unprecedented levels of alumni support -- and Matthew has done them all through his work at Antioch."

Derr served as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at The Boston Conservatory. For several years, he served as acting head and associate head at The Walnut Hill School, an independent arts boarding school. He was responsible for the creation of the Unified Application for Conservatory Admission and for co-founding the Sphinx Performance Academy for African-American and Latino musicians. Additionally, he has been a member of the Antioch College Alumni Board and served on its Executive Committee. His first positions after graduation from Antioch College were as director of admissions and financial aid for the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University; associate director of admission at Connecticut College; and as associate dean of admission at Earlham College.



Matthew Derr

### Call for Submissions

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of *The Beacon* is March 6, 2011. Please send submissions electronically as e-mail text or attachments to Charla White, Editor at [white@glca.org](mailto:white@glca.org). Submissions may be edited for length. Feedback and comments are always welcome.

## NEWS ABOUT GLCA SCHOOLS

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### Albion—Economics & Management Team Reach Finals

A team of Albion College economic and management students reached the final round of the College Fed Challenge at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago held on November 1, 2010. The student team delivered a 20-minute presentation analyzing the economy and financial markets followed with a monetary policy recommendation which the team defended during a 15-minute Q&A. Albion's team competed against 20 other teams from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Albion was the only small college to advance to the final afternoon session joining teams from the University of Notre Dame, Northwestern University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and the University of Iowa.

The coaching staff consisted of assistant professor Kotaro Yoshida and professor Jon Hooks of the economics and management departments and professor emeritus Larry Steinhauer.

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### Denison—Burma Found on Campus



Denison Museum, Burma Collection

Denison College's museum received an unexpected gift from a neighbor, Owen Lee, who discovered a substantial exhibit of art and artifacts from his home country of Burma, now Myanmar. Lee's curiosity regarding a show, entitled "Baptists in Burma" brought him into the museum to be stunned at the quantity and quality of objects he called "priceless in their cultural significance to Burma." Lee shared his findings with his family triggering a major donation from his sister, Selina Large, from her extensive personal collection of Burmese art which is a reflection of her national identity and time spent acquiring objects that she and

her husband loved.

"We haven't received a gift like this, in terms of breadth and depth and quantity, in decades," says the museum's acting director, Anna Cannizzo, who points out that most of Denison's Burmese donations came during the 1960s from families of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Baptist missionaries. "This gift not only augments our already substantial collection, it really reinforces our position as one of the foremost collections of Burmese art in the world, outside of Myanmar, and certainly in the United States."

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### DePauw and Wabash—Mellon Grant

Wabash and DePauw will work collaboratively to establish faculty and curricular development in Asian Studies entitled "Asian Studies and the Liberal Arts."

"At the center of this project is rich and robust faculty development that engages teachers and scholars at several different levels in their knowledge of Asia and empowers them to carry their learning to their students. Furthermore, this project will create the foundation for an unprecedented curricular and co-curricular collaboration with DePauw University," said Wabash President Patrick White.

The grant will support program activities in three broad areas: faculty development of interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship, Chinese language instruction and teaching collaboration, and student co-curricular program

development.

"DePauw and Wabash may be known as rivals, but there is great mutual respect between us," said DePauw President Brian W. Casey. "The grant we're announcing today will enhance teaching and learning at both colleges and allows the institutions to benefit from each other's many strengths and our geographical proximity. I am very pleased about what this project will mean for the faculty, students, and alumni of both Wabash College and DePauw University."

Joint collaboration will allow DePauw's existing Asian Studies to expand and include Wabash students as well as allow for both schools to offer their students a rich, and interdisciplinary understanding of Asia in multiple contexts and sharing of resources.

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## Earlham—Junior Addresses United Nations

Earlham received a substantial grant from the Ford Foundation in 1985 and a Knight Foundation in 1989 to fund student/faculty research projects. The funding was later endowed through a capital campaign in which collaborative research was a major objective.

25 years of Ford/Knight research was celebrated by a convocation on December 1<sup>st</sup> that featured 14 current and past projects. The endowment has provided between \$200,000 - \$250,000 per year funding student/faculty research under the name of Ford/Knight. Since 1986 there have been an estimated 250-300 funded projects.

Alice Shrock, convener of the Ford/Knight Committee says, “This type of collaboration strengthens their critical thinking skills in research and analysis. These projects give students the experience of working in a research team while maintaining individual responsibilities.” Furthermore, all departments and programs are encouraged to apply for funding so

that there is a representation across the board with every department included. Each year faculty present proposals to a five-member committee who in turn discusses the depth and collaborative nature of the research. Once approved, money from the endowment funds travel, library support, books, equipment and release time for the faculty member(s).

Michael White, theatre arts, teamed with Nate Eastman, English, for a two-semester Ford Knight project entitled “*Othello*: From Page to Stage.” This project produced over 300 printed pages of research on a variety of topics covering *Othello* as well as an opportunity to intensely study the play. The first semester focused on studying the play with the second semester focusing on the theatrical aspects. One student reported being surprised about the amount of work involved but noted that having this opportunity to focus intensely on one play was enjoyable and not a common experience in the classroom.

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## Hope—Honored and Wii Fit Study

The IES Abroad Consortium (formerly the Institute of European Studies) accepted Hope College as its second member in 1964 and has honored Hope for its pioneer work in providing study-abroad experiences for students.

Hope College has also received national recognition for exemplary service-learning as one of only 115 colleges and universities across the country name to Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s “2010 Community Engagement Classification.” As a recipient of the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification it is an authentic reflection of the college’s commitment to the service to others,” stated Richard Frost, vice president of student development and dean of students.

On a different note, Maureen Dunn, kinesiology, is seeking Holland area residents with multiple sclerosis who shared her interest in exploring the Nintendo Wii Fit’s potential for enhancing balance and mobility for a year-long study to determine whether or not the Wii Fit can be used as an effective home-based

rehabilitation tool for individuals with MS. The project is being funded by an award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. It is Dunn’s theory that in having a home-based rehabilitation tool for people with MS it will be more convenient and engaging not only for the individual but can also engage their families. This is a collaborative effort involving students interested in kinesiology as well as Kirk Brumels who has used the Wii Fit system in rehabilitation activities for student athletes.

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## Kalamazoo—Graduate Named CNN Hero 2011

Kalamazoo graduate Amy Stokes '88, founder and executive director of Infinite Family has been selected as the first CNN Hero of 2011. Pioneering an innovative approach to mentoring, Stokes has been recognized for her innovative efforts to connect African children affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty with mentors around the world using video technology. The mentors offer their time and themselves. This is the mentor's gift to the children and

allows them an opportunity to change the world a little bit at a time.

To learn more about Stokes and her work go to <http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/cnn.heroes/> and for more on her work with Infinite Family visit <http://www.infinitefamily.org/>. Congratulations to Amy Stokes for her groundbreaking work.

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## Kenyon—Targeted Research

The result of collaborative research recently turned the Brown Family Environmental Center into an unusual launch site for the testing of surface-to-air missiles, circa 300,000 BC. Kenyon-made replicas of Neanderthal spears pierced the air as anthropology student David Hohl '12, and Professor Bruce Hardy, Anthropology, sought to determine if Neanderthals, in pursuit of prey, threw these spears from a distance or simply thrust them into their quarry at close range. "The idea behind the testing was to determine if Neanderthals had long-distance throwing weapons," Hardy said.

The throwing vs. thrusting debate has raged in academic circles since the discovery of the artifacts in Germany in 1999. The reputation of the much-maligned Neanderthals hangs in the balance. Were they savvy big-game hunters or more simple-minded scavengers? "We're trying to see if these spears could have been thrown at a great enough distance to be effective hunting weapons," said Hohl, whose independent study assumed the task. "If that proves to be the case, it demonstrates a pretty complex hunting strategy and gives us more latitude in thinking about the Neanderthal diet and survival skills."

To systematically test the thrown-spear hypoth-

esis, Hohl and Hardy built a ballista (a nearly 10-foot long Roman crossbow) that shot the spears at a target of ballistics gel (to test penetration) draped in cowhide acquired from a local butcher. They built the ballista to cover a flight of 20 to 25 meters, cited in the literature as a suitable distance for long-range hunting. "If the spears are flung with enough force and velocity to puncture the cowhide, it is reasonable to assume the Neanderthals used them for hunting from a distance," Hardy said. "Otherwise, their usefulness was likely limited to thrusting from close range."

Hohl and Hardy spent much of the semester building the ballista and carving three replica spears from sycamore trees. They enlisted Paula Turner, Physics, to record velocity with a high-speed camera. A small band of colleagues and friends braved frigid temperatures recently to watch the experiment in which the cowhide proved impenetrable. In another test, however, the spears easily poked through sheepskin. "We clearly showed that these spears were effective as long-range projectiles for thin-skinned animals, but not for thick-skinned," Hardy said.

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## Oberlin—Peace Corp Volunteers

Oberlin is ranked as number 15 in this year's rankings among small-sized colleges and universities that produce Peace Corps volunteers earning a top place for that distinction for 10 consecutive years.

"Oberlin students are attracted to the college's longstanding tradition of social responsibility and community service," says Debra Cher-

monte, dean of admissions and financial aid. "Our students care deeply about the world around them. That so many of our graduates serve in the Peace Corps reflects how our students incorporate global perspectives into their educational process."

Since the Peace Corps was founded in 1961, more than 500 Oberlin alumni have served in

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**Oberlin—Peace Corp Volunteers *continued***

positions all over the world, working in the areas of education, health, business development and information technology, agriculture, environment, and youth and community development.

“Because of the types of students Oberlin attracts, and the fact that it’s a liberal arts-based college, Oberlin consistently produces excel-

lent candidates,” says Annabel Khouri, a regional recruiter for the Peace Corps.

Entering its 50th anniversary, the Peace Corps follows a competitive application process that can take nine months to a year before a volunteer begins work in the field.

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**Ohio Wesleyan—Learning Through Travel**

Ohio Wesleyan increases its international opportunities beyond standard semesters overseas, and the professors who lead such experiences see both academic and personal growth in most students who make travel a part of in-depth learning.

Barbara MacLeod, Economics, recently led a study trip with several students to examine the business climate in Nicaragua. She observed that travel-learning “benefits students in two significant ways: it challenges their assumptions about their own culture, and it helps them think about issues in more complex ways.”

Mary Howard, Sociology/Anthropology, Sally Waterhouse, Zoology, and Denny Radebaugh, Zoology, guided a multidisciplinary group of students through a study of the intersections of ecology and economics in three areas of Bolivia. Howard agrees and continues, “If [students] haven’t discovered the gray in life by the time they take off, they will return with more questions than answers, with an appreciation of having to tolerate contradictions and with less certainty about their own convictions. Most societies we travel to today are pluralistic and so one learns to stay clear of totalizing generalizations, including assumptions about who the good and bad guys are. Reality is usually not so simple.”

Bob Gitter, Economics and leader of “The Mexican Migration Experience” Sagan Fellows class, which examined migration from a variety of American and Mexican perspectives, adds, “Frankly, there is a large element of serendipity. Students will see something as they go for the morning coffee that might shed new light on something they have been doing

their entire lives. I guarantee they will never see things back home the same way after that.”

Students may indeed become more sophisticated thinkers, but Jed Burt, Zoology, whose students often study off-campus in self-designed research projects, sees another value as well - independence. “It’s true that they see different people and cultures abroad and in other parts of the United States, but in the best programs, they also have to plan and organize a project on their own,” Burt says. Students are faced with functioning in a new culture and foreign language thus forcing them to adapt to situations as they encounter them. Such immersion cannot be replicated in the classroom. “We can teach them about the culture,” Burt continues. “We can teach them about the environment and the science ... but until they are on their own, the students do not have to put it all together and make their own decisions. That is the immense value of study off-campus, especially if not part of a traveling group.”

Beyond the practical, travel-learning helps students develop sensitivity to other peoples and cultures. “Given the migration of people from around the world to the U.S, [these experiences] help our students convey attitudes of openness and interest in international co-workers,” Howard says. “If they acquire positions of power and decision making, then they will be less likely to seek dominion over others or project a sense of superiority. That simply doesn’t work in the rest of the world. Humans need to be respected and honored, and if these sentiments are genuine, they will be returned.”

Immersion in a culture other than one’s own



*OWU students working with children on the streets of Kolkata, India*

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## Ohio Wesleyan—Learning Through Travel *continued*

can be daunting. “Effects of study-travel experiences depend on length of travel, number of cross-cultural experiences, openness and attitude of student, magnitude of the cultural difference, preparation to experience differences, and type of experience,” MacLeod says. “A large cultural difference is not necessarily better ... I have seen people become overwhelmed in these circumstances and revert to

the safety of their home culture—essentially destroying the opportunity to grow and learn from the travel.”

“Travel adds a new dimension to textbook study,” Gitter says, summing up. “As one of my Mexico trip students said, ‘How can I go back to learning in a regular classroom?’”

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## Wabash—Freezing for a Good Cause

Most people would make sure their alarms are off so they could sleep past 6 AM on a Saturday morning, however, not so for three Wabash Men. Not only was getting up at 6 AM a must but they also had to drive north for two hours and then dive into a freezing outdoor pool in the middle of winter. Why? For a good cause!

Three young brothers from Theta Delta Chi showed their dedication to philanthropy at Valparaiso University’s Polar Plunge. The event, and many like it around the state, is designed to raise money for Special Olympics Indiana. Participants are asked to raise a “bare” minimum of \$75 each in sponsorship.

“The campus was great in helping us fundraise,” said organizer John Dykstra ’13. “Besides the fraternity and family members, we received donations from faculty and staff as well as fellow students at Chapel.”

The trio was the highest fundraising squad of any college group at the event after having raised \$410 in only a week. Their success is easy to understand in light of their motivation. “I volunteered at Special Olympics events for 7 years with family members,” Dykstra said. “It was an inspiring thing to be a part of. The individuals and families who take part are so brave. I didn’t think plunging into a cold pool was too scary in comparison.”

Newcomer Mark Stoops thought it was a cool way to give back. “I wanted to be a part of something positive in the community and this was an exciting opportunity to do that.”

Valparaiso coordinators were shocked that the group had come so far for the event. But that wasn’t the last shock the other volunteers would receive from the Wabash Crew. The three Theta Deltis made a second plunge that morning. “We didn’t get a chance for a photo and figured that since everyone had given so much they deserved a good shot for their donations,” explained freshman Josh Jones.

And the group hasn’t had enough just yet. They plan to make another plunge Feb. 26 in Indianapolis. “We are hoping to recruit more Wabash guys for the cause. It would be awesome to have a whole team to take with us.”

No matter the weather, you can be sure that the young men will be “Freezin for a Reason” with Special Olympics Indiana. Questions about Polar Plunge or donations can be directed to John Dykstra, [jhdykstr13@wabash.edu](mailto:jhdykstr13@wabash.edu)



*Dykstra prepares to dive into the cold water with a Wabash flag.*



*John Dykstra '13, Josh Jones '14, and Mark Stoops '14 (l to r)*

## Wooster—Global Social Entrepreneurship Program Recognized

The College of Wooster's Global Social Entrepreneurship (Global SE) program has been cited for excellence by the Institute of International Education (IIE). IIE, which also administers the Fulbright program, will honor Global SE with the Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education — specifically internationalizing the campus through business education — at the Sixth Annual Best Practices in Internationalization Conference in New York City.



Student participants in the Global Social Entrepreneurship Program, Summer 2010

Designed by and for students, alumni, staff, and faculty, Wooster's Global SE program promotes global citizenship and social entrepreneurship. "It provides a life-changing international experience for students who are actively involved in the planning and implementation of the course development and entrepreneurial experience," said Amyaz Moledina, economics, co-architect of the program and co-director of Wooster's Center for Diversity and Global Engagement. Student participants who completed the program have taken what they have learned and used it to develop their own entrepreneurial activities while others designed majors around global international development and social enterprise solutions.

Students enjoy a hands-on approach to learning. Erika Takeo, sophomore, said, "As in any case where you are working for social change, you must engage completely with the issues and people you are trying to help."

One major strength of the program is it is a student-driven initiative. The experience empowers students to take risks, think creatively and take a learning opportunity to contribute tangibly to a programs development.

The program has two primary components: an on-campus seminar in the spring and a six-week experiential-learning association with social enterprises in Bangalore, India, in the summer.

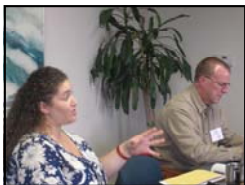
The objective, according to Moledina, is not only to provide experiential learning opportunities to train the next generation of global social entrepreneurs, but also to be of value to client organizations. Built on a business model of collaboration this program is unique as each year a new group of students takes over where the previous group left off.

"Business education is unusual at liberal arts schools," added Moledina. "Even more so, a multidisciplinary approach to problem solving that welcomes students from a range of majors, such as international relations, communications, math, economics, and sociology is equally unique."

IIE President and CEO Allan E. Goodman indicated that this year's Heiskell Award winners represent some of the world's best initiatives in internationalizing higher education. "As institutions continue to innovate, taking their internationalization efforts to new heights and depths, we look forward to continuing our tradition of recognizing their commitment to excellence and meeting the global mandate of our time," he said.

The Institute of International Education awards are designed to promote and honor the most outstanding initiatives in international higher education by IIE Network member universities and colleges.

## GLCA— Some Friends



## GREEN NEWS

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### Allegheny—Committed to Green

Allegheny has committed to attaining LEED Silver certification or better for all new construction projects on campus. That was the level initially expected for North Village II, but careful planning and attention to detail from the project's earliest stages helped lead to Gold certification, said Kelly Boulton, Allegheny's sustainability coordinator.

Beginning in 2008, a team of Allegheny students and staff members worked closely with WTW Architects to set sustainability goals for North Village II and provide feedback on its design. As construction progressed, college staff consulted regularly with the project's general contractor, Massaro Corp., to ensure that specifications and materials remained consistent with LEED standards and Allegheny's sustainability values.

"The design and construction of North Village II required hard work and creativity by many individuals," said Boulton. "We're so appreciative of those efforts and are thrilled with the result: an outstanding residential space for our students that fits beautifully in Allegheny's historic campus and advances our commitment to sustainability."

The building's sustainable strategies and features include Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood; construction materials with high recycled content and produced within 500 miles of the site; open spaces with vegetation to reduce rainwater runoff; an energy-efficient heating and cooling system fed by on-site geothermal wells; the presence of natural light in living spaces; efficient showerheads, faucets and toilets; and energy-saving motors in all mechanical equipment.

Incorporating these features into North Village II also made good economic sense for Allegheny, said Boulton. "This project showed us that sustainable construction isn't significantly more expensive than conventional construction," she explained, "and the college will benefit from reduced energy expenses to operate

the facility. North Village II is an investment that will pay dividends for many years to come."

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Eden Hall Foundation provides support for renovations to create an environmental science education center in Carr Hall.

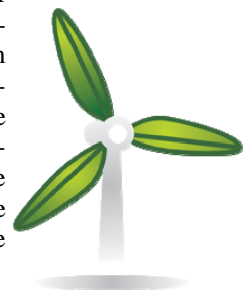
"We are pleased to support Allegheny's efforts to renovate Carr Hall, offering the environmental science department the opportunity to shape its curriculum, research and community outreach efforts in ways that have not been possible in its current space," said Sylvia Fields, Eden Hall's executive director.

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Beginning New Year's Day, 100 percent of Allegheny College's electric power has been supplied by wind energy, a change that immediately eliminates 52 percent of the institution's carbon footprint.

"Our agreement to purchase green e-certified wind energy for all of our power takes us half-way toward fulfilling the promise we made when we signed the President's Climate Commitment in 2007," said David McNally, Allegheny executive vice president and treasurer. "It represents a major step forward for Allegheny and supports our educational mission, operational efficiency and the college's new 10-year strategic plan."

The decision to choose wind energy clearly advances the work of achieving carbon neutrality. But long-term success ultimately depends on the college maintaining its disciplined resolve to make small but measurable changes annually to save energy.





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## Denison—Recognized for Commitment to Sustainability

Denison University's pledge to environmental sustainability was recognized by the Sustainable Endowments Institute (SEI). The SEI released its College Sustainability Report Card for 2011, which examines the sustainable practices of more than 300 colleges across the United States and in eight Canadian provinces.



Denison Campus

For the third year in a row, Denison has raised its grade. This year the grade is a B+, up significantly from last year's B-, and Denison is one of the four highest rated colleges in Ohio.

The report noted areas of most improvement in energy use and transportation. Denison has installed energy management systems in 81 percent of its buildings. And sustainable transportation options for students include the walkable campus plan, free bike rental and no-cost shuttles to Columbus.

Building on a long history of environmental awareness at the college, Denison's recent initiatives to improve sustainability include

establishing a Campus Sustainability Committee; completing the "green" renovation of Cleveland Hall, now the Bryant Arts Center, which has been awarded LEED Gold from the U.S. Green Building Council; creating a functional state-of-the-art composting system; conducting a Campus Environmental Audit; and adding a full-time campus sustainability coordinator position.

The college is currently undertaking extensive renovations of the Mitchell Recreation and Athletics Center and the Ebaugh Chemistry Laboratories, with both projects being built according to LEED standards, a national benchmark for sustainable design and construction.

Denison University will continue its dedication to environmentally aware initiatives on campus and to developing sound strategies for funding and executing them. The college's sustainability efforts not only help to maintain the campus and the local ecosystems, but they also enrich the liberal arts education through hands-on, experiential learning.

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## Ohio Wesleyan—Sustainable Film Series

Ohio Wesleyan University and Sustainable Delaware have joined forces to sponsor the Sustainability Film Series, which includes films and panel discussions that explore sustainable living. This is a first event of its kind created to encourage the public to adopt 'green' practices in daily life. The event will include two films from the "Story of Stuff" series that addresses "green" methods of making, using, and discarding the "stuff" of daily life. Also provided will be valuable information about Delaware's recycling program, and recycling containers will be available for pickup at the event.

The public is invited to this free event, which will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 16 in Room 163 of Ohio Wesleyan's Schimmel/Conrades Science Center, 90 S. Henry St. Free parking is available across the street at Selby Field, 45 S. Henry St.

Ohio Wesleyan faculty member and OWU Sustainability Task Force Chair Laurie Ander-

son, Ph.D., will moderate a panel discussion with:

- Lauren Ashley, professional organizer, An Organized Home
- Tim Browning, public works director, City of Delaware
- Jerry Geist, St. Mary's Green Team and Sustainable Delaware member
- Veronica Malencia, student representative, OWU Sustainability Task Force, and former OWU recycling coordinator
- Tom Wolber, Ph.D., OWU faculty, OWU Sustainability Task Force member, Sustainable Delaware member, and Delaware Shade Tree Commission member

Sustainable Delaware is a group of citizens focused on promoting environmental, social, and economic sustainability for the Delaware community through awareness, advocacy, and action. Ohio Wesleyan faculty and students will partner with Sustainable Delaware on



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## Ohio Wesleyan—Sustainable Film Series *continued*

various projects.

Planning for future events is underway. Topics will include developing community gardens, shopping locally, and using alternative sources

of power (including wind and solar). For more information about future events, visit <http://sustainabledelawareohio.org>

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## Wooster—Receives Two Green Star Awards

The College of Wooster's grounds department has received two 2010 Green Star Awards from the Professional Ground Management Society, one for Andrew Turf Field and one for the landscaping around Gault Manor. The Professional Ground Management Society is a member of the Sustainable Sites initiative as a participating organization. As a member they follow a nationally established set of guidelines and performance benchmarks for sustainable land design, construction and maintenance practices. The merit awards were presented at the organization's annual banquet in Louisville, Kentucky.

Green Star Awards are offered in 15 categories, covering all types of private, public commercial and industrial landscapes. They are presented to recognize grounds maintained

with a high degree of excellence, and the individual efforts that go into maintaining them.

In 2007, the college's grounds department received the society's highest honor, the Green Star Grand Award, for the landscape plan executed in conjunction with the renovation of Kauke Hall.

"We hear from visitors almost every day that The College of Wooster has a beautiful campus, meticulously maintained," said President Grant Cornwell. "This is due entirely to the vision and standards of Beau Mastrine, director of campus grounds, and the care and expertise of the staff who works with him. To a person, they take great personal pride in the campus, in every season."



Award winning landscaping at the College of Wooster

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## GLCA Announces Winners of the 2011 New Writers Award

The Great Lakes Colleges Association is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 GLCA New Writers Award for fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. Now in its 42<sup>nd</sup> year, the New Writers Award confers recognition on promising writers who have published a first volume in one of the three genres. Winning writers receive invitations to visit GLCA member colleges, where they give readings, meet and talk about writing with students and faculty members.

The 2011 winner for fiction is Goldie Goldbloom, *Toads' Museum of Freaks and Wonders*, published by New Issues Poetry and Prose. Our GLCA judges note:

This novel includes stunning descriptions of place; it is interestingly grounded in the historical billeting of Italian soldiers in the Australi-

an outback during the Second World War. Its characters are both quirky and well-grounded, and their many eccentricities make the novel both distinctive and compelling. There is a captivating originality in the voice of Gin Toad, the lead character. She is by turns plaintive, coarse, acute, funny, wounded, furious, and lovesick. She is credible both as a piano player and a woman living a very difficult life on the outback. The author draws the reader in part by her careful attention to language – its lushness in contrast with the harshness of the Western Australia landscape. Goldbloom works well with the gender dynamics of that time and place. The novel gives a unique and relatively unsentimental portrait of a woman who, for a wide range of reasons, does not fit her specific place and time.

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**GLCA Announces Winners of the 2011 New Writers Award** *continued*

The 2011 winner for poetry is Nick Lantz, *We Don't Know We Don't Know*, published by Graywolf Press. Our judges note:

A most ambitious and deserving first collection of poems: Lantz demonstrates wild versatility, great variations of tone, and manages to create a book that is completely *serious* without adopting the usual postures of seriousness. His poems take on the world beyond himself and the speakers of his poems view themselves with oblique suspicion. Wit and language-play begin instantly, with the title, and shimmer throughout the book. The metaphors are masterful, and the scope of the collection is large: art, history, literature, politics and biology are integral elements. This book is both expansive and insistently interested in juxtapositions. Indeed, juxtaposition could be said to be the overall strategy here. He gives us the dangerously ridiculous as well as the wise and ancient sublime. The poet's fruitful combinations of subject matter never seem forced or clever, but somehow necessary. Along with its intellectual appeal, the book is thoroughly human. This volume gets top marks for its originality, variety of techniques, and its humor and ultimate seriousness.

The 2011 winner for creative non-fiction is Randi Davenport, *The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes*, published by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. Our judges note:

*The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes* is a terrifically well-crafted narrative of a mother dealing with an autistic son. It is a gripping and fascinating

account. Davenport offers a carefully detailed story of having been dealt a really painful hand. There's something clear-eyed about the narrative. The story succeeds in making readers look at disability, which the author acknowledges nobody wants to do, and she has kept that in mind. The humor, insight, and use of language keep the narrative on a higher plane of engagement. "A Mother's Story" such as this, about a family coping with a psychotic child, is bound to play on a reader's emotions. What makes Davenport's book transcend the limits of such stories is her ability to weave her own backstory into the narrative.

Judges of the New Writers Awards are faculty members of GLCA's member colleges.

Judges for the 2011 poetry award were:

Pamela Alexander, Oberlin College; Christopher Bakken, Allegheny College; and Ann Townsend, Denison University.

The judges for the 2011 fiction award were:

Jennifer Hayward, The College of Wooster; Andy Mozina, Kalamazoo College; and Eric Freeze, Wabash College.

Judges for the 2011 award in creative non-fiction were:

Lewis Hyde, Kenyon College; Gregory Schwipps, DePauw University; and Heather Sellers, Hope College.

Additional information about the New Writers Award is available on the GLCA web site: [www.glca.org](http://www.glca.org).

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## GLCA Faculty News

**Albion** – Nicolle Zellner, Physics, received grants from national Science Foundation and National Aeronautics and Space Administration to research "impact gasses" from the moon and applying that information to understanding the origin of life on Earth.

Vanessa McCaffrey and Nicolie Zellner, Physics, received joint grant from National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Astrobiology Institute to further their research on shock chemistry.

**DePauw**—Jeanette Pope, working with local students will begin a water quality study of Putnam County, Indiana. Her work is to involve local children in the environmental issue and provide service learning opportunities for DePauw students.

**Hope** – Heather Sellers, English, author of "You Don't Look Like Anyone I know: A True Story of Family, Face Blindness, and Forgiveness" was selected as a 2011 Michigan



## GLCA Faculty News *continued*

Notable Book by the Library of Michigan.

Rodney Boyer, Chemistry, authored "Biochemistry Laboratory: Modern Theory and Techniques" published by Prentice-Hall Publishing.

Jack Mulder Jr., Philosophy, authored "Kierkegaard and the Catholic Tradition" published by Indiana University Press of Bloomington.

Hope College recognized the following faculty for their teaching, service and scholarship: Ernest Cole, English; Tom Smith, Management; Annie Dandavati, Political Science; Chuck Green, Psychology; Susan Cherup, Education; Mary Inman, Psychology, and David Klooster, English.

**Ohio Wesleyan**—Juan Armando Rojas Joo, Modern Foreign Languages, selected for the prestigious "Poets in Residence" program at the University of Coimbra in Portugal.

Wooster—Denise Bostdorff, Communication, received the Bruce E. Gronbeck Political Communication Research Award at the National Communication Association annual meeting in San Francisco.

### *In Memory:*

Irwin Abrams, Antioch College, 1914-2010. Abrams will be remembered for his work with the GLCA International Programs and his works at Antioch and abroad.

### The Great Lakes Colleges Association

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Your feedback, suggestions, and submissions are always appreciated.

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### GLCA Calendar 2010-2011

March 11-12	Oakridge Sciences Meeting	Denison University
March 25-26	International and Off-Campus Education Committee (IOCEC)	Ann Arbor, MI
April 6-7	Deans' Council	Hope College
April 7-8	Board Meeting	Hope College
May 8	Multicultural Admissions Officers (MCA)	Pittsburgh, PA
May 9-10	Planning For College (PFC)	Pittsburgh, PA
May 23-24	Career Services	Maumee Bay, OH