For University of Wisconsin-Madison Alumni and Friends

On Wisconsin

The World At Their Feet

Having global competence is a new expectation for students — but what does it mean?

SUMMER 2009

Revisiting the Boob Tube
Children's television is a potential teacher after all.

Origins of an American Author
Relive the Madison days of Joyce Carol Oates MA'61.

Making a Splash
The "Miracle on the Hudson" copilot speaks out.

Goatherd Guru
Meet the big cheese of chèvre.

Stephen Babcock (center), with his butterfat tester, and colleagues W.A. Henry (left) and T.C. Chamberlin.

Great ideas

THE UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN MADISON

then.

In 1890, University of Wisconsin professor Stephen Babcock invented a device to test the amount of butterfat in milk. His discovery ended the practice of watering down milk and created a cash cow for Wisconsin, putting the state on the map as a leader in dairy production and research.

now.

UW–Madison faculty hold more scientific patents than any other public university in the country. At University Research Park, their ideas become start-up companies, generating jobs and building the state's future.

FORWARD. THINKING. www.wisconsinidea.wisc.edu

Researchers at the Stratatech Corporation hope the skin tissue they developed will help wounds heal with less infection, pain, and scarring.

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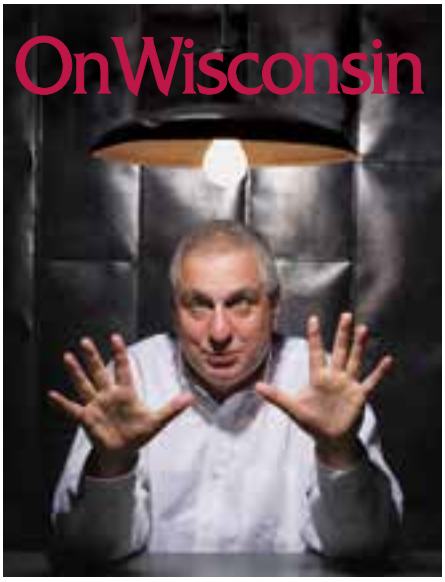
Elizabeth Anderson '07 nabbed first place in an annual Study Abroad Photo Contest for "Dune Walker," an image she captured in Namibia while studying in South Africa in 2006.

letters



Zzzzz …

The article on sleep ["Bedtime Story," Spring 2009 *On Wisconsin*] was most interesting. I have often wondered if the reason we sleep at night might be because it is too dark to hunt or gather food.

Bill Hogoboom '51
Madison

I'm married to a UW grad (Lisa Boom '88), so I happened to see your article "Bedtime Story."

Randy Gardner broke the world record for staying awake in 1964 (the event took place over Christmas vacation 1963–64, not 1976 as noted in the article). I was there. Randy, Bruce McAllister, and I were high school seniors doing the experiment for entry in the 1964 San Diego High School Science Fair. It was called a stunt at the time, and we were almost expelled from school, but it wasn't a stunt! Bruce designed a rigorous suite of mental and physical response tests, which we administered every four to six hours during the entire eleven days.

[Randy] could have stayed awake longer. The experiment was terminated at 264 hours because Randy had definitively broken the existing record, and the attending physicians (and parents!) were strongly urging, "It's time to go to sleep." Bruce and I were pooped, too, as we slept two hours a night (in shifts) while monitoring Randy.

Joe Marciano
Santa Rosa, California

Your excellent article on sleep brought to mind my UW years, when raging sleep deficits, plus a genetic disorder called central nervous system hypersomnia, combined to suck me down into classroom naps. Willpower fought against brain cells that kept saying, "You're getting sle-e-e-py." The cells kept winning.

After my condition was finally diagnosed, I wrote this song, sung to the tune of *My Fair Lady*'s "I Could Have Danced All Night":

I want to sleep all night, I want to sleep all day, and still I'll beg for more.
I want to go to bed, and rest my sleepy head; please tell me if I snore.
I need to know why I am so exhausted, why all at once I can't stay awake.
Is there a pill or three, that you can give to me
So I won't sleep, sleep, sleep all day?

Jan Millar Alkire '63
Seattle, Washington

A Word about Native Languages

I enjoyed "Weight of the Words" [Spring 2009]. I wonder what happened to the Oneida Nation and its outstanding efforts to promote their native tongue in the nation's child care [centers]. I recently observed such a child care center near the Green Bay airport going strong, as little ones happily shouted out in the Oneida language, identifying the differing pictures on a flip chart.

John Davey '45
Kendall, Wisconsin

The fine article on the attempt to maintain the languages of Wisconsin's Indian peoples left the Oneidas off the map on page 33. The Oneidas, with their reservation just southwest of Green Bay, were involved in a WPA project to record and save their language from 1938 to 1940. Then, as now, the University of Wisconsin was involved, as more than a dozen Oneida men and women were paid for eighteen months to record stories and accounts of their lives in their own language and then translate into English, with the assistance of linguistic anthropologists from Madison (Morris Swadesh and Floyd Lounsbury). These texts have been cherished and used by the Oneidas for learning and maintaining the language until today.

Herbert Lewis, Professor Emeritus
UW-Madison Department of Anthropology

I was pleased to read Jason Stein's story of efforts to restore and preserve elements of Menominee indigenous culture. I was born and brought up in Menominee — the one in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The indigenous Menominees left their name to designate three cities, two counties, two rivers, a reservation, and a mountain range in Upper Michigan and Wisconsin. I was born in the city and county of Menominee on the Menominee River state line. There is also another Menominee River in Wisconsin, plus, of course, the Menominee Indian Reservation.

The Menominees, then, were obviously not a quaint, prehistoric scattering. They were a significant indigenous population, and their heritage should be more widely acknowledged than it has been through the twentieth century.

Robert Sollen '48
Carpinteria, California

Notes on News & Notes

When I came to UW-Madison in 1974, I wanted a bona fide "campus" job, so, with a ton of cooking experience at Mr. Steak on my resume, I landed work flipping burgers at the Red Oak Grill at Union South. I was good at it, and it wasn't long before I was promoted to food service manager, which made me student honcho over the Red Oak Grill, the Snack Bar, and the Union's catering business.

That was only a way station, though, as I soon found myself promoted to student building manager (making $2.75 an hour), dating the girl who worked the info desk, and being threatened by possibly inebriated bowlers who had somehow broken their lane's pin changer.

It was with these memories that I read with some sadness about the demise of my former workplace ["A More Perfect Union," News & Notes, Spring 2009]. Sure, it was sterile and underutilized, but where could you get a better steak sandwich and fries than the Red Oak Grill? How about the two bigger-than-the-plate pancakes at the Snack Bar for 65 cents?

A lot of my Madison experience was tied to that place, and, while I'm sure the new building will be fantastic, I hope it will provide for a whole new group of students the memories and life experiences the old one did for me. That's what's cool about a student union.

Mike Gottsacker '76
St. Paul, Minnesota

Regarding the Quick Take from the Spring 2009 issue [News & Notes]: UW climatologists now appear to accept that global warming cannot be solely attributed to modern conveniences such as power plants and automobiles, since the climate changes predate these greenhouse gas sources. It is refreshing to hear that global warming might be a good thing. Still, they persist in the belief, based upon "correlation = causation," that any climate changes must have been caused by man. I suppose this is one way for them to publish legitimate global warming science and yet stay on the right side of the green lobby to preserve their grants and reputations.

Peter Staats '64
Loveland, Ohio

Another "Capitan Courageous" Connection

We received a clipping from the Winter 2008 issue of *On Wisconsin* from my wife's father in La Crosse. The article on Eric Gabriel and the 2007 rescue was unusually relevant for our family, as it had both a connection to our favorite summer vacation spot, Yosemite, and we realized our son was part of the same rescue on El Capitan!

Our county near San Francisco has a team that specializes in mountain rescue and was a part of a separate search-and-rescue effort earlier in the day. As the El Capitan rescue developed and Eric made his decision to go down, not up, members of our team were requested to aid Yosemite's team at the base of the cliff. The combined team lit up the great face of rock from the valley floor to aid Eric as he descended, followed by the carry-out of the injured climber the mile or so through the inclined, rock-strewn forest. Brett Asselstine, just fifteen at the time, was one of the youngest members of a mountain search-and-rescue team in the U.S. and is the grandson of a very proud Dr. Ed Miner '54, MD'57.

Ross Asselstine
San Anselmo, California

Of Badgers and Multiple Degrees

"A Matter of Degrees" [Winter 2008] reminded me of an episode from my days working at the UW Foundation. One of our benefactors — I don't recall the name and probably wouldn't mention it if I did — left us a nice chunk of money with one controlling condition. A grandson collected the income on the fund "as long as he was a student at the university."

It didn't take him long to figure that one out. He took just enough classes each semester to stay in school and got good enough grades to keep from flunking out. Each time he garnered almost enough credits for a degree, he switched his major and started over. I don't recall the final outcome, but I know he had a long and happy tenure as a student.

James Bie '50
La Jolla, California

In regard to "A Matter of Degrees," I am one of ten siblings who graduated from UW-Madison. We have never researched it, but we feel we must have set some kind of UW record. We grew up in a general store located on U.S. 14 halfway between Madison and Oregon. There was not one dollar of student loans, nor could our folks pay our tuition. We all worked and were expected to pay our way. In my freshman year, our country store blew up and we lost everything. I could go on, but the big story is that hardships can be overcome.

Richard Kellor '64
Muscatine, Iowa

"Sure, it was sterile and underutilized, but where could you get a better steak sandwich and fries than the Red Oak Grill?"

More on Medellín

Thank you for the article "Remaking Medellín" by Andres Schipani [Winter 2008]. My wife, Rosa, who is a native of Medellín, Colombia, and I enjoyed the article tremendously. We visited Medellín and its surrounding areas during the recent winter holidays. We showed the article to relatives and friends during our trip. The people of Medellín have very strong positive feelings about [UW alum] Sergio Fajardo and his accomplishments as mayor of Medellín, and they hope he will be the next president of Colombia.

Gene Nelson '70, MS'74
San Diego, California

Kudos

I so enjoyed the [Spring 2009] *On Wisconsin*. In fact, I read everything in it for the first time in years. Congratulations for doing such a good job, and express this message to all who helped. Keep up the good work.

Janet Cover MS'57
Frederick, Maryland

Your publication is excellent and makes me really proud to be a Badger alum. It's great to go back to Madison via your publication, even when my busy schedule and travels don't allow me to visit as often as I'd like to.

Brian Kachinsky '04
Neenah, Wisconsin

Alumni Social Security Numbers

In May 2007, the UW-Madison Office of the Registrar purged all Social Security number (SSN)-based identification numbers for alumni and replaced them with unique, non-SSN numbers. This was done to ensure security for alumni SSNs. If you need to know your new ID number, call the enrollment services help line at (608) 263-6612.

Please Update Your Address

UW-Madison wants to stay in touch with you. To update your contact information, which is maintained by the UW Foundation, please visit www.uwfoundation.wisc.edu/survey. To log in, use the ID number above your name on the magazine mailing label. This information is shared selectively with other campus units and the Wisconsin Alumni Association to ensure that alumni information is consistent and accurate. Thank you!

On Wisconsin **Magazine welcomes letters and reserves the right to edit them for length or clarity. E-mail comments to onwisconsin@uwalumni.com; mail them to On Wisconsin, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706; or fax them to (608) 265-8771. We regret that we don't have room to publish all the letters we receive, but we do appreciate hearing from you.**

Keeping the doors open

Today, three out of five University of Wisconsin-Madison students receive financial aid. For them, the door is open. The UW Foundation wants to make sure it stays open for every talented student who qualifies for admission. When you make a gift to the Great People Scholarship Campaign, you open doors. The UW Foundation will match unrestricted, campus-wide gifts to the campaign for student support dollar for dollar.

For further information, go to www.greatpeoplegreatplace.org, call 608-263-4545 or e-mail uwf@uwfoundation.wisc.edu.

Great People Scholarship Campaign

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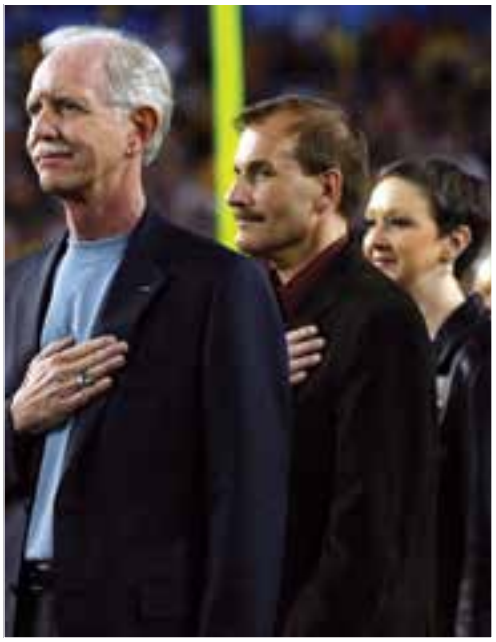


JAMIE SQUIRE/ GETTY IMAGES

Jeff Skiles (center) attended the Super Bowl with other members of Flight 1549's crew, including pilot Chesley Sullenberger (left) and flight attendant Donna Dent.

Magazine, we're used to being the journalistic top dog. After all, we're easily America's most popular UW-themed, non-sports publication. We have a circulation of 320,000 and a readership that numbers well into the dozens. We're way bigger than, for instance, the English department newsletter. So it's always a surprise when we have trouble landing an interview.

Such was the case with Jeff Skiles '84. (See page 32.) Last January, Skiles became the most famous copilot in the world when he helped land US Airways Flight 1549 on the Hudson River. This is just the sort of thing that alumni magazines were created for: reflected glory, the chance to tell Badgers that they went to the same school as someone really, really, really famous. So I set out to interview Skiles for our Spring 2009 issue, due to go to press four weeks after the accident.

It took just a week to get hold of Skiles, but he mentioned that there might be a hiccup. "The investigation is still going on, so I can't really speak about it right now," he told me. "Try again in three weeks."

That meant missing *On Wisconsin*'s deadline and that his story would first go to other media outlets: *60 Minutes,* for example. And ABC News. And *Late Night with David Letterman,* plus appearances at the Super Bowl, the Obama inauguration, and every TV station in the Madison market. Are they really a bigger deal than we are?

Well, obviously.

When I finally pinned Skiles down for that interview, I asked him what it was like to suddenly be so famous, and he admitted it was weird. "But in a few weeks, it'll all go back to normal," he said.

Which is when we got him.

John Allen, Senior Editor

scene

Trippin'
Fear not, gentle hippie — you aren't being stalked by Mr. Potato Head on steroids. You're merely part of University Theatre's production of Hair. Andy Talen '09 (right) plays Claude, and during the song "Walking in Space," other actors (including Camille Lesar x'12, left, and Youn Kim '09, center) donned puppet heads to represent his drug-induced hallucinations. Hair played to sold-out crowds in April and May. Photo by Jeff Miller.

An Investment during 'Tough Times'

Chancellor's undergraduate initiative gains support from board of regents.

As students battled spring fever this year, the campus community was drawn into extensive conversations about the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates. First proposed in March by Chancellor **Biddy Martin PhD'85,** the plan triggered talk in more than 140 campus meetings, Wisconsin Alumni Association-sponsored cookie giveaways, and spirited discussions.

The initiative, which, Martin says, "will ensure that our quality remains at the top and our students' degrees retain their value," won enthusiastic approval by the board of regents in early May. It calls for a supplemental UW-Madison tuition charge that grows by $250 a year for the next four years for in-state students, to an extra $1,000 by 2012–13. For non-residents, it grows by $750 a year, to an extra $3,000. Students who have demonstrated need and whose families earn $80,000 or less will receive grants to offset the additional tuition charge.

Regent **Thomas Loftus MA'72** congratulated Martin on a "magnificent political and public campaign" to explain the need for the initiative. "We're making an investment here — in tough times," he added.

The additional funding will add more teachers in highly sought courses and majors, helping to eliminate course bottlenecks in areas such as economics, chemistry, biology, and Spanish. Funds also have been designated to improve critical student support services, such as career and academic advising, peer mentoring, and first-year interest groups.

Finally, the initiative, which was backed by the student government, will significantly increase need-based financial aid. The university will equal or exceed that revenue through a campaign to increase private support.

"Our commitment to quality and affordability will keep us in the bottom half of the Big Ten in tuition, even after the initiative is fully implemented," Martin says.

Dennis Chaptman '80

The recently approved initiative will help crowded courses such as the introductory biology sequence.

quick takes

If your ears are burning, Badgers, don't be surprised. UW-Madison is one of the most-talked-about American universities, according to a study by the Global Language Monitor. Released in April, the study ranks all American universities by how often their names appear in a broad range of media, including not only print and electronic articles, but also in blogs and on social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace. The UW ranked sixth, behind Harvard, Columbia, the University of Chicago, Michigan, and Stanford.

Postdoctoral researcher J. David Van Sickle is reaching into the realm of geography to plumb the mysteries of asthma. By attaching GPS devices to a group of asthmatics' inhalers, Van Sickle plans to track where and when those inhalers are used. Called the "asthmap," the plan aims to discover previously unknown causes for the lung disease and improve quality of life for those who suffer from it.

The UW has a new partner in an ancient region: Iraq's Tikrit University. In March, Chancellor Biddy Martin PhD'85 signed a memorandum of understanding with Tikrit's president, Maher Saleh Allawi, offering to explore opportunities for educational and scientific cooperation. Brett Bruen '02, public diplomacy officer for the American embassy in Baghdad, helped arrange the deal.

Digital pictures may soon be a little clearer, thanks to the work of Zheniang (Jack) Ma. The assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering led a team that developed a flexible material that reduces the distortion that affects many digital photos. The material could be a boon, especially for inexpensive cameras such as those found in cell phones.

The UW's art department received a new home on campus with the opening of the university's new Art Lofts in May. Formerly a warehouse near the Kohl Center, the lofts house studios and a variety of the department's creative facilities, including the glass lab, metal sculpture foundry, ceramics, and papermaking area. The building brings together art programs that had previously been scattered across campus.

DARE to Be Done

Dictionary of regional dialects nears completion.

JEFF MILLER (3)

Old school: Although UW staff have been working on DARE for four and a half decades, some procedures remain unchanged, such as cataloguing words on note cards. At left, DARE founder Frederic Cassidy pores over his cards; at right, today's editor, Joan Hall, does the same.

Meandering its merry way through new submissions such as *whiffle-minded, whistle punk,* and *williwags,* the *Dictionary of American Regional English* (DARE) project is nearing completion on a mission more than four decades in the making.

DARE, hailed as a pinnacle of American lexicography, received a two-year, $295,000 boost from the National Science Foundation (NSF) this year that will help close the book on its fifth volume — covering Si through Z — and lead the project into a second life as a digital, online resource.

In DARE parlance, you might say the project is "over the dog and will get over the tail, too."

"It's very exciting, but it doesn't feel like the end," says **Joan Hall,** chief editor of DARE, part of the Department of English. Hall notes that a sixth volume of supplementary data is in the offing, and the online version of DARE will provide a platform for continual expansion.

DARE is a reference tool meant to capture not the homogenous whole of English found in conventional dictionaries, but the rich, regional variety spoken across America. One NSF reviewer put it this way: "From its inception, this project took seriously the principle that a language is, in fact, the sum of its parts, and its parts are dialects."

The project began in 1965 as the brainchild of **Frederic Cassidy,** who served as chief editor of DARE until his death in 2000. Cassidy led extensive fieldwork from 1965 to 1970 across the country, capturing through surveys and audio recordings a vast wealth of first-person detail on language variation. Those field findings have always been supported by print materials, but are now hugely supplemented by digital collections.

The dictionary has attracted some high-profile friends over the years, including nationally syndicated columnists William Safire and James J. Kilpatrick. During a financially tough period for the dictionary, Hall recalls that one of Kilpatrick's "Writer's Art" columns about DARE concluded with this: "For any person who loves the English language and revels in its richness of idiom and word origin, [DARE] offers a cause worth supporting. … If you can't send a million, send something."

More astonishing is DARE's use in solving crime. Forensic linguist Roger Shuy, working on the Unabomber case in the 1990s, employed DARE to develop a complete cultural, religious, and educational profile of the suspect, based on his voluminous manifesto. The profile proved to closely resemble the man eventually convicted, Ted Kaczynski.

In another case, Shuy helped solve a kidnapping and extortion case by using DARE. A child was abducted from her home, and a scrawled ransom note was left behind demanding $10,000. The letter read, in part: "Put (the money) in the green trash kan on the devil strip at the corner of 18th and Carlson. Don't bring anybody along. No kops!"

Hall says that Shuy discerned a lot from the note, including

It Means Something to Somebody

Think you know how to speak American? Take this DARE quiz and find out (if you dare). Match the term in the left column to the definition at right.

___**1.** *crimmy*	**a** disgusted with, sated by
___**2.** *election pink*	**b** an orphan lamb, calf, or colt
___**3.** *feest*	**c** cold, chilly
___**4.** *holy poke*	**d** snoopy, inquisitive
___**5.** *iron man*	**e** salt pork
___**6.** *kiss-me-quick*	**f** a salamander
___**7.** *leppy*	**g** a dollar
___**8.** *nebby*	**h** a sudden dip or rise in the road
___**9.** *get one's nose open*	**i** to be infatuated or in love
___**10.** *thunder puppy*	**j** a rhododendron
___**11.** *devil strip*	**k** a ball of bread dough fried in deep fat
___**12.** *white bacon*	**l** the strip of grass and trees between the sidewalk and the curb

ANSWERS: 1-c 2-j 3-a 4-k 5-g 6-h 7-b 8-d 9-i 10-f 11-l 12-e

that the "c" words were deliberately spelled with a "k" to suggest a lack of education. But the real kicker was "devil strip." According to DARE, that phrase describes "the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street," known in Madison as a terrace. Hall says "devil strip" is used almost exclusively in a well-defined triangle in Ohio between Youngstown, Cleveland, and Akron. This piece of evidence helped build a case against one suspect, who later confessed to the crime.

The new NSF grant now represents more than two decades of continuous support from the federal agency. DARE also relies upon core funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, gifts from private foundations, and donations from individuals.

For regional English buffs, here's more on the first three terms in this story. "Whiffle-minded" is a Maine term for vacillating; a "whistle punk" is a Pacific Northwest logging term for a person who controls the whistle on a donkey engine; and "williwags" is a New England term for tangled underbrush.

Brian Mattmiller '86

Weights and Measures

An unprecedented study of childhood seeks answers to health problems.

Babies born during the coming years in certain neighborhoods of Wisconsin's Waukesha County will be part of the biggest ever checkup on the health of the American child.

The National Children's Study began this spring and will follow 100,000 kids — starting before conception and continuing to their twenty-first birthdays — in an effort to pinpoint the origins of a range of health problems. Samples of blood and umbilical cords will be saved at birth, and the children will have regular checkups as they grow.

Waukesha County is one of 105 sites nationwide participating in the study, a collaborative project of the UW's Waisman Center, the School of Medicine and Public Health, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and other agencies.

UW-Madison professor **Maureen Durkin** is co-principal investigator for the Waukesha study, which in time will include 1,250 children and their families. Researchers hope to learn how genes and the environment interact to influence health. One facet, for example, will explore whether dust mites in a mother-to-be's mattress during pregnancy increase the likelihood that her baby will eventually develop asthma.

CORBIS

"Large-scale studies like this have the potential to yield insight into the development of conditions ranging from asthma to autism," Durkin says.

Durkin's university department, population health sciences, has conducted several long-range epidemiological studies. One looked at 253,347 children born during 1994 and found a link between older parents and children who developed autism, a pattern not apparent in smaller studies. Another, the Wisconsin Sleep Cohort, is a nationally renowned project that has followed the sleep patterns of hundreds of volunteers for twenty years; its research recently found that people who have sleep apnea, a condition in which they have breathing pauses during sleep, are dying at a much higher rate than those who don't. The Beaver Dam Eye Study has monitored vision and hearing in generations of Wisconsin families.

This year, as Wisconsin babies come into the world and begin yielding lessons about our health, the department celebrates its own fiftieth birthday.

Susan Lampert Smith '82

Shop 'n' Save

Network designates producers who protect wildlife.

Is a wild shopping spree ever a good thing? For those striving to save the planet through socially conscious consumption, it can be — when the merchandise is certified "wildlife friendly."

The new eco-label was launched last year by eight nonprofit and for-profit conservation groups, known collectively as the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network. Makers of food, clothing, and crafts earn the label by monitoring and protecting endangered animals on their lands. In return, the network helps market their goods.

Five producers have now attained the designation, including rice growers in Cambodia who safeguard the habitat and eggs of the rare giant ibis, and an Andean wool maker who defends alpacas against the imperiled spectacled bear. Several more certifications are pending, and new requests are coming in, says **Adrian Treves,** a UW environmental studies professor, and a co-founder of the network and member of its certifying board.

Treves says the collective is trying to deliver a market incentive to these kinds of producers. Conservationists understand, he explains, that if you want individuals to work toward a societal goal, you must meet their needs, too. Industries like ecotourism share revenue with those who bear the cost of living with wildlife, hoping they'll come to value its conservation.

But proving wildlife is actually being saved is tricky, says Treves. During the next several

years, he'll study ways to confirm that animals are surviving in the places where certified producers claim they are.

"We want consumers to be able to scrutinize the evidence and say, 'Hey, it's true. The people producing this product are actually living with wildlife and protecting it,' " he says.

For more information, visit www.wildlifefriendly.org.

Madeline Fisher PhD'98

Compassionate Critters

Our ability to understand another's feelings may be genetic.

If you have pets or have worked around animals, you know that they can pick up on the emotional states of those around them. A new study of mice has shown that this ability to feel empathy is coded in the genes.

"Mice are capable of a more complex form of empathy than we ever believed possible," says **Garet Lahvis,** now a professor of behavioral neuroscience at Oregon Health and Science University, who conducted the study while at the UW. "We believe there's a genetic contribution to the ability for empathy that has broad implications for autism research and other psychosocial disorders."

Lahvis and then-graduate student **Jules Panksepp PhD'09** found that mice from a highly social strain learned to associate a specific sound and cage with something negative simply by hearing a distress squeak from a mouse in that cage. A less social, genetically different strain failed to learn any connection between the cues and the other mouse's distress.

The differences between the two strains reveal a genetic component to the ability to perceive and act on another's emotional state.

Animal models of complex social behaviors like empathy should help analyze what causes social interaction deficits, such as those seen in human psychosocial disorders including autism, schizophrenia, depression, and addiction, the researchers say.

"The core of empathy is being able to have an emotional experience and share that experience with another," says Panksepp. "A simplified model of it in a mouse may help us get closer to modeling symptoms of human disorders."

Jill Sakai PhD'06

Thump-Thump, Thump-Thump

The latest UW stem-cell breakthrough creates beating heart muscle.

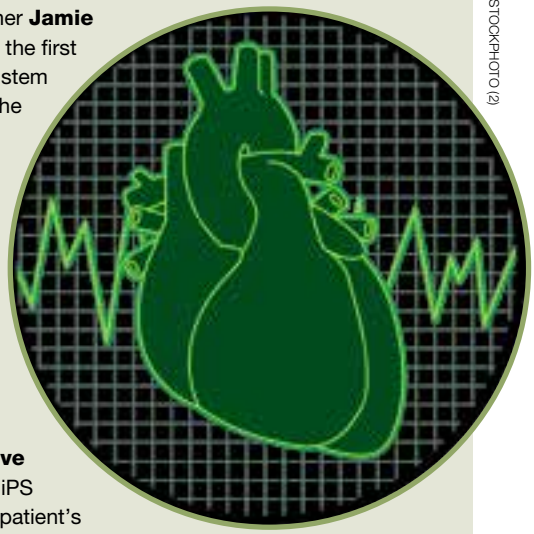
Just in time for Valentine's Day, two Wisconsin scientists produced pulsating proof of an advance in stem-cell research.

Jianhua Zhang and **Tim Kamp,** of the UW-Madison Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center, showed that pluripotent stem cells (iPS), made from skin cells, could be induced to grow into working heart-muscle cells.

The finding helps sidestep the moral debate over using stem cells made from human embryos. These iPS cells begin their scientific odyssey as skin cells, are genetically reprogrammed back to their original state, and then are transformed again into heart cells. The achievement heralds a day when scientists can mend broken hearts by growing repair cells from skin.

Kamp, who treats heart failure patients as a UW Health cardiologist, sees the real-life need firsthand. "If we have a heart-failure patient who is in dire straits — and there are never enough donor hearts for transplantation — we may be able to make heart cells from the patient's skin cells, and use them to repair heart muscle," he says. "That's pretty exciting."

That day isn't quite here, as researchers continue to explore ways to reprogram the cells without using potentially harmful viruses. But the accelerating rate of stem-cell discoveries offers hope. Seventeen years passed from the creation of mouse embryonic stem cells to 1998, when UW researcher **Jamie Thomson** created the first human embryonic stem cells. In contrast, the first mouse iPS stem cells were created in 2006, and Thomson and UW scientist **Junying Yu** announced in November 2007 they had created human iPS stem cells. A year later, UW researcher **Clive Svendsen** turned iPS cells made from a patient's skin into motor neurons. Two months later came the Kamp team's success in turning iPS cells into heart-muscle cells.



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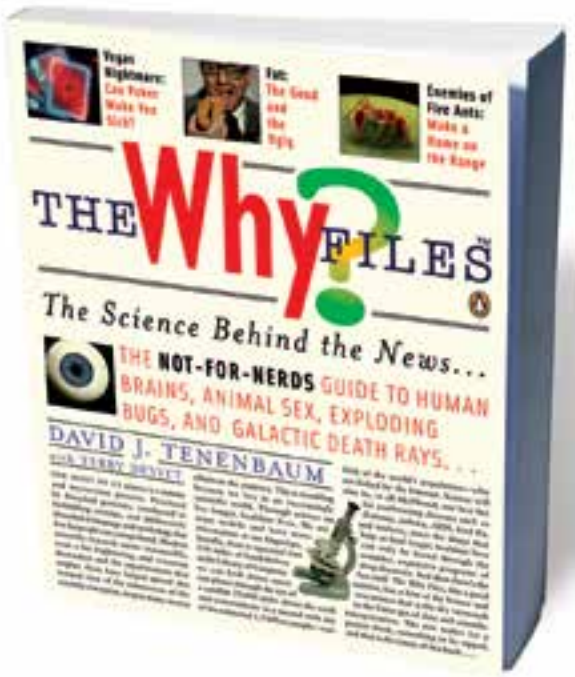
Susan Lampert Smith '82



The Why Files, the witty Web site that brings us the science behind the news, is bucking trends once again by going from online to print. *The Why Files* book, published in April by Penguin for readers who "love accurate science served up with humor," tackles topics ranging from how poker can make you sick to why racehorses have big butts. An online science magazine launched by University Communications in 1996 with support from the National Science Foundation, The Why Files features new stories each week at whyfiles.org.

Catching Cold

Virologists sequence the genome of the common cold.

Working with a team of researchers at the University of Maryland, UW biochemistry professor **Ann Palmenberg** has penetrated one of the most confounding mysteries that plague the human sinus: the common cold.

In February, the scientists announced that they had successfully sequenced the genome for all known varieties of the human rhinovirus (HRV), which causes the upper respiratory infection commonly called a cold.

While common, the cold itself presents something of a mystery. Although the virus was identified decades ago, little progress has been made in understanding its inner workings — which has left doctors in the dark about a disease that affects almost everyone.

"The lack of whole-genome sequence data for the full cohort of HRVs has made it difficult to understand basic molecular and evolutionary characteristics of the viruses and has hampered

ISTOCKPHOTO

The Obama Effect

Even before President Barack Obama took office, the way whites think about African-Americans was changing dramatically. A study conducted by UW psychology professor **Patricia Devine** and a colleague at Florida State University measured racial prejudice during fall 2008, starting after Obama's nomination by the Democratic Party and ending with the November 4 election. Among their findings:

When asked who comes to mind when they think of African-Americans, 22 percent of respondents named Obama — a finding, the researchers noted, that shows he had "permeated many people's consciousness to the point that he was highly accessible."

Will the positive awareness last? That, the researchers say, may depend upon the success of Obama's presidency.

Non-blacks* who demonstrate implicit prejudice (a "knee-jerk" preference for white people)

Prior to fall 2008
80% — prefer whites
20% — no preference or prefer blacks

Fall 2008
51% — prefer whites
49% — no preference or prefer blacks

**Sample: 300 non-black (white, Asian, Hispanic) college students in Wisconsin and Florida*

investigations for the epidemiology of upper respiratory tract infections and asthma epidemics," Palmenberg and her colleagues reported.

The common cold, they argue, is more than an irritant. Americans, they note, spend some $6 billion on cold medication each year. Further, colds cause approximately half of all asthma attacks, and the virus can cause infants to develop asthma.

What makes HRV so difficult to deal with is its variety. There are some ninety-nine known strains of the virus, categorized as falling into two distinct species: seventy-four strains of the species called HRV-A and twenty-five of HRV-B. By sequencing these viruses, the researchers hope that scientists will be able to understand what makes them so pathogenic.

Further, increasing knowledge of HRV-A and HRV-B may help improve understanding of a newly discovered species called HRV-C, a virus that appears to cause far more serious infections deeper in the respiratory tract.

Palmenberg notes that the gene-sequencing project doesn't mean that a cure for the cold will appear anytime soon.

"Nobody cares about curing HRV-A and HRV-B," she says. "They don't cause particularly dangerous disease, and the safety issues involved in even testing a vaccine take that option off the table."

But she notes that the project may lead to antiviral agents or vaccines against HRV-C. "Type C is the real deal," she says. "It produces flulike symptoms that often develop into dangerous viral pneumonia."

John Allen

KIM CW HANSON

Leavin' Lizards?

The future could look bleak for cold-blooded creatures such as this Australian heath monitor, reports UW zoology professor **Warren Porter.** If global temperatures rise as much as many scientists predict, the monitor could be driven from its habitat. Porter has developed a tool he calls the Niche Mapper to determine how various animal species would be affected by changes to their environment. Earlier this year, he published a study with two Australian scientists that looked at how cold-blooded animals — particularly the heath monitor — would deal with a global rise in temperature of three degrees Celsius. Such an increase, they predict, would make much of the lizards' current range uninhabitable. "We wanted to examine the common paradigm that says that cold-blooded animals spend most of their time seeking to keep warm," Porter says. "What we found is just the opposite. Especially in the tropics, where most of the world's biodiversity is, cold-blooded species are more concerned with keeping cool." Rising temperatures could force the heath monitor to spend much of its day in the shade or underground, depriving it of the time it needs to forage for food.

STUDENT WATCH

After a ten-year hiatus, competitive forensics is returning to campus, thanks to the efforts of a solitary Badger — and a few friends, who even dug into their own pockets for funding in 2001.

"From the '80s until about 1991, we were one of the best teams in the country," says Sarah Dowd, team co-captain. "In 2001, Chris Klundt ['05] moved here from Milwaukee and discovered we didn't have a forensics team, so he started ours. For a student to start a successful forensics team is a huge accomplishment and essentially unheard of."

During the past two years, the team has nearly doubled in size to eighteen active members, recruiting by word of mouth and e-mails, and holding weekly meetings. Steady communication is key to finding committed members, Dowd says, noting that the team is still rebuilding, hoping to eventually match college teams that are three times larger.

That said, six members represented the UW at the National Forensics Association tournament held in Springfield, Missouri, this spring. The team placed seventh in Division 2 competition, and Lucas Moench made the semifinals in extemporaneous speaking.

Beyond the thrill of competition, participating in forensics helps students hone their skills at writing papers and giving speeches. "A ten-minute speech is a five-page paper," says Dowd. "My ability to write papers has increased tenfold."

Heather Gjerde '09

John Bechtol

With more student veterans on campus, he helps navigate the path through college.

In just three years, UW-Madison's population of students who are military veterans has almost doubled, reaching more than 650. Whether recently returned from overseas, just called up for active duty, or facing post-traumatic stress disorder, members of this growing group now have a one-stop contact for seeking benefits and services, and connecting to other student veterans on campus.

John Bechtol, the UW's first assistant dean for veterans, wants to stay in touch with student veterans from the time they apply for admission until they graduate. Appointed last September, Bechtol previously directed the university's army ROTC program for four years; last summer, he retired from the military after twenty-one years of service.

Q: Where were you stationed?

A: West Berlin, Germany. I was there when the wall came down; [it was] pretty exciting. … Checkpoint Charlie opened, and it caught everybody by surprise. … I was stationed in West Berlin, then Oklahoma, North Carolina, California, Alaska, Rhode Island, Kansas, and then Wisconsin.

Q: What was the best part of your experience in the military?

A: The people, the soldiers in the army. ... Talk about diversity. You get people from all kinds of backgrounds, but everybody's working for the same purpose, and it's something other than money.

Q: Is there a way to describe the average student veteran at the UW?

A: Our service folks are a little more mature than the average incoming freshman. Some of that's due to age, but some of that's due to experience. They've already been put in a position [of] close quarters, living with people that they don't know … They form bonds with [each other] and they don't see it as a big deal.

Q: Is that an advantage for them coming into the college experience?

A: I think so. … A common theme, too, among student veterans who are coming off of active duty into the freshman classes is that they're serious. They're here to learn. They've sown those wild oats.

Q: On the flip side, what are some of the biggest challenges you think they're facing?

A: A lot of them complain, "I showed up; I didn't know where to go to get student benefits. I'm looking online and there's nothing there." So that's something I'm trying to alleviate as far as the bureaucracy — streamline, make it personable. This is a huge campus. Trying to find the right person can be a challenge.

BRYCE RICHTER (2)

Q: What, if anything, has surprised you the most so far?

A: [Student veterans] want to build a veterans community, and that energy is there, and they really want to do it. … I thought I was going to have to do more shoving. … It's a core group. I think it'll snowball very quickly.

Q: What reactions are they getting from their professors and other students? Is campus a supportive place?

A: I think overall the campus is very supportive. I think this generation of students differentiates between executive decisions and the folks that have to carry [them] out. As long as it's a legal order, they're going to take it up and do their best to carry it out.

Interview conducted, condensed, and edited by Jenny Price '96.

Big Business

Students follow the complex relationship of commerce and government.

"The business of America is business," insisted Calvin Coolidge, and as far as professor **Colleen Dunlavy** is concerned, he wasn't far off. Dunlavy teaches History 247: The History of American Business, and in her view, the *story* of America can't be separated from the story of business.

Although the class has been part of the UW curriculum for more than twenty years, it's particularly relevant to students in spring 2009, as the nation faces what President Barack Obama described as "the most profound economic emergency since the Great Depression." As U.S. leaders look to historical examples to find a way out of the financial crisis, Dunlavy's students do, too.

"Did anyone tune in to the president's press conference last night?" she asked her class at the start of a lecture. "Did you hear him mention the transcontinental railroad? So it seems the president has some historical literacy."

Taught in a traditional lecture-and-discussion format, the class covers the whole of U.S. history, from the colonial period to modern times, tracing the rise of American commerce. Over the course of the semester, students see the progress of the United States through the lens of the pursuit of wealth. But unlike most economic history courses, which rely heavily on mathematical analysis, this class looks instead at the ways in which technology, business, and governmental practices converge to shape society.

"When you look at the development of American capitalism, there are really a couple of themes that emerge," she says. "One is the role of government — how our legal and political structure has shaped the development of American business. The other is the social world that American business created."

In her twice-weekly lectures, Dunlavy gives students the broad narrative of American capitalism, highlighting important companies and personalities. In the weekly discussion sections, T.A. **Ryan Quintana MA'05, PhDx'10** helps smaller groups of students explore issues in greater detail.

In a lecture on the mobilization for World War II, Dunlavy noted that the same economic policies that helped win the war also created the modern military-industrial complex. In the following day's discussion sections, Quintana talked about ways in which today's governmental involvement in finance echoes and differs from the New Deal and wartime policies.

The popular press is also noticing Dunlavy's expertise. When the federal government announced a $700 billion financial bailout, some journalists worried that the plan represented unprecedented interference. Dunlavy responded with a blog pointing out the long history of federal support for financial markets. "I didn't think anyone had read it," she says, "and then it was picked up by [New York's] *Newsday*."

In her class, she emphasizes that the role of the historian is not to say what the country *should* do, but rather to try to understand what has been done. "History cannot be used to predict the future," she notes, "but understanding the historical processes by which we arrived at our current state will help (a bit) in making sense of the changes going on around us today."

John Allen

Students in History 247 focus on how government policies have shaped American business through boom times and depressions — a timely topic for students set to graduate during an economic crisis.

TEAM PLAYER

Laurie Nosbusch

UW sophomore Laurie Nosbusch wasted little time making an impact on the UW women's soccer program. In her 2008 freshman season, she secured a starting spot at forward, led the team in scoring with twenty-one points, and was named to the Great Lakes Region All-Freshman team.

She's also notching her place on another Badger team. Father **Keith '74** and brother **David '08** are both graduates of UW-Madison's electrical engineering department, and mother **Jane '76** and sister **Carolyn '06** earned degrees from the School of Nursing. But Laurie is breaking (slightly) new ground with a tentative pre-med and Spanish double major. "I'm choosing a different major, since they've apparently paired off," she says with a laugh.

Before arriving on campus, the Mequon, Wisconsin, native honed her soccer skills with the highly competitive FC Milwaukee club program and as a member of the U.S. under-eighteen national team, an experience Nosbusch says she will never forget. "As far as proudest achievements," she says, "that would have to be it. Putting on a U.S. jersey was really something special."

Heading into last season, the Badger women had not had a winning record in two years, and Nosbusch knew it would be a rebuilding year. While the Badgers fell just short of a winning record, she helped lead the young team to an improved 9-9-1 overall record and to within one victory of qualifying for the Big Ten tournament, a main goal for the team as it prepares for the 2009 campaign.

"The core from [last] year's team was young," says Nosbusch, who was one of thirteen freshmen on the 2008 team, "but we're on the upswing now. We'll add the incoming freshmen to our moving train soon, and our goals are only getting bigger and bigger from here on out."

Ben Wischnewski '05

BRYCE RICHTER

"Putting on a U.S. jersey was really something special."

Behind the Greens

There's a science to watching the grass grow.

Anyone who has watched a golf course go from crispy to lush knows it takes more than Mother Nature to keep greens green.

With its variable climate, Wisconsin isn't kind to turfgrass. Big swings in spring moisture make life difficult for those who tend turf. "It's not until things are growing that we can fully assess the toll that winter has taken on the course," says **Aron Hogden,** superintendent at University Ridge Golf Course in Madison. "In early spring, we make plans to remedy any winter damage and get the course ready for play."

Hogden oversees a full-time staff of five and a seasonal staff of twenty, including many UW students and retirees who tend to a recently expanded 7,259-yard course, a 33-acre practice facility for Badger golf teams, and a 60-acre cross-country course. "As soon as the seed is sown, we take responsibility for bringing it in," Hogden says. "We create a surface that's worth playing on."

His own route to the job was fairly typical. Hogden started working on a golf course as a young man, loved it, and decided to make it his career. He studied turfgrass science at Ohio State — others enter the field with degrees in soil science, horticulture, agronomy, or plant pathology. "Because of the image of the greenskeeper with a piece of straw sticking out of his mouth and a pair of bib [overalls] on," Hogden says, "there's a real focus on promoting professionalism in this industry."

The University Ridge staff works with an active team of UW-Madison researchers, including **Doug Soldat** from soil science; **John Stier,** horticulture; **Chris Williamson,** entomology; and **Jim Kerns,** plant pathology. "But hopefully not too often," Hogden says, "because there's usually a problem when we're dealing with them." The golf course also has a good relationship with the UW's O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility. Located two miles away, Noer's researchers compare turfgrass varieties, mowing practices, equipment, and strategies for fertilizer, irrigation, and pest management. In acreage, turfgrass is Wisconsin's fifth biggest crop. "We try to provide them with an opportunity to do research on a live golf course," Hogden says.

The course is open from April through October, but the greens-keeping crew works continually to enhance the land and reduce impact and water use. They recently committed to completing a five-year prairie restoration project and are in the process of earning certification from the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

University Ridge's expansion has improved the site's marketability among student athletes and the general public. Wisconsin hosts the women's Big Ten tournament in 2010, and hopes the course will attract other major NCAA and PGA tournaments.

Karen Roach '82

JEFF MILLER

At dawn in spring, Aron Hogden (left) and a member of the greens-keeping staff repair an irrigation line as part of maintenance work at University Ridge Golf Course.

BADGER SPORTS TICKER

The Badger women's hockey team continues to score honors. After the squad won the 2009 national championship — its third in four years — senior goalie Jesse Vetter was named the tournament's most outstanding player and received the Patty Kazmaier Award for the best player in collegiate women's ice hockey. Coach Mark Johnson '94 was named the American Hockey Coaches Association division I collegiate coach of the year.

Junior runner Craig Miller took second place in the mile at the NCAA national indoor track and field meet. His time of 4 minutes, 1.34 seconds was the best-ever finish by a Badger.

Badger football has a new top administrator. Brad Pendergrass is the athletic department's new director of football operations. He joined Badger nation in February and formerly held the same position at Mississippi State University. The director of football operations is responsible for all the team's off-the-field needs, including coordinating travel and planning team meals. Pendergrass succeeds Bill Nayes '94, who now works for the NFL's San Francisco 49ers.

The UW's equestrian team finished ninth at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association national championship in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The team is part of the Union's Hoofers organization.

GLOBAL VIEWS

A new expectation is making the list of must-have abilities for today's students: global competence. But where do you go to get it, and how do you know when you have it?

By Masarah Van Eyck

Jill Spear doesn't think she has it, but says she knows people who do. Natalie Eisner x'09, whose mother is French, thinks she possesses some degree of it, while Catherine Skroch x'09, a child of missionaries, is confident that she's had it most of her life. Claire de Boer x'09 isn't sure how much of it she has, but she's certain that studying abroad in French West Africa will give her more of it than, say, spending a year in France.

***It* is *global competence,* one of the latest buzzwords in higher education. My interest in the concept was piqued last winter when I traveled to a training ground of sorts — Saint-Louis, Senegal, the site of one of the UW's more innovative study-abroad programs. There, several UW students were studying at the Université Gaston Berger, living in dormitories with Senegalese roommates, and in the midst of producing a fifty-page paper based on independent fieldwork.**

For four months they had been immersed in the French and Wolof languages, and in a largely Muslim culture. (It had been equally long since they had taken a hot shower or washed their clothes in a machine.)

After a week of talking with students halfway through this challenging educational experience, I learned that most were pretty sure that they were acquiring global competence — that essential set of skills, attitudes, and knowledge they will need to succeed in today's world. But when I queried one of the directors of the program, Jim Delehanty, about the notion, the story got more complicated.

Delehanty has been to Senegal "twelve or so" times, he estimates. He spent years in the Peace Corps and later conducted research for his doctorate in Niger. He's lived in Kenya and Kyrgyzstan. He speaks French and Hausa well, and knows enough Wolof "to make people smile," he says.

Yet he doesn't consider himself particularly globally competent.

"It's a nice concept," he says during a conversation in his office at UW-Madison, where he serves as associate director of one of the nation's premier African studies centers. "[But] I'm just not sure it exists in practice."

On preceding page: Anna Green '09 placed first in the Urban Landscapes category of the UW's annual Study Abroad Photo Contest coordinated by International Academic Programs. She shot the photo in 2008 while studying in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

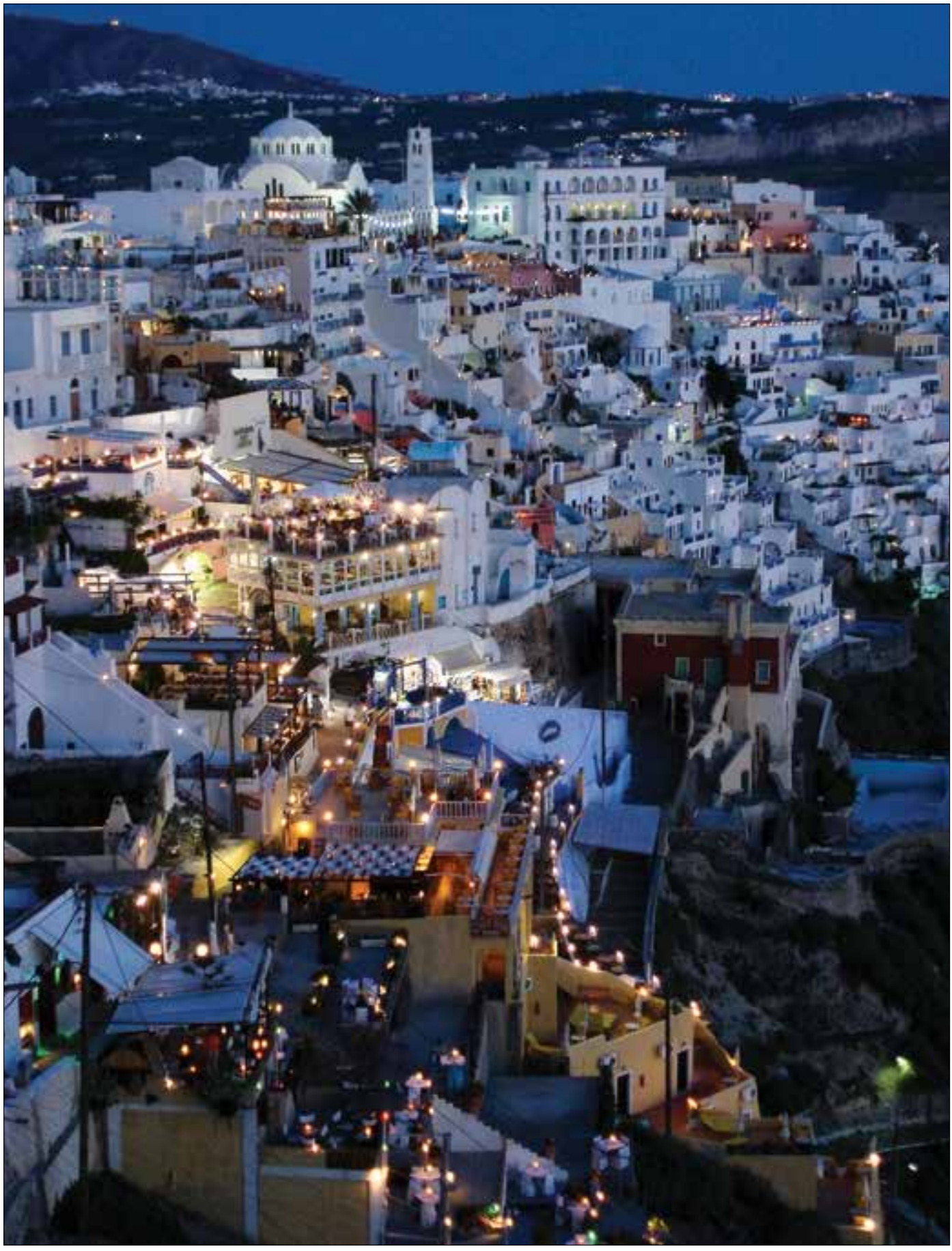
Above: With her photo, "Pottery Market," shot in Cuenca, Ecuador, in 2006, Kathryn Broker-Bullick '06 garnered second place in the People and Culture category of the UW's annual Study Abroad Photo Contest.

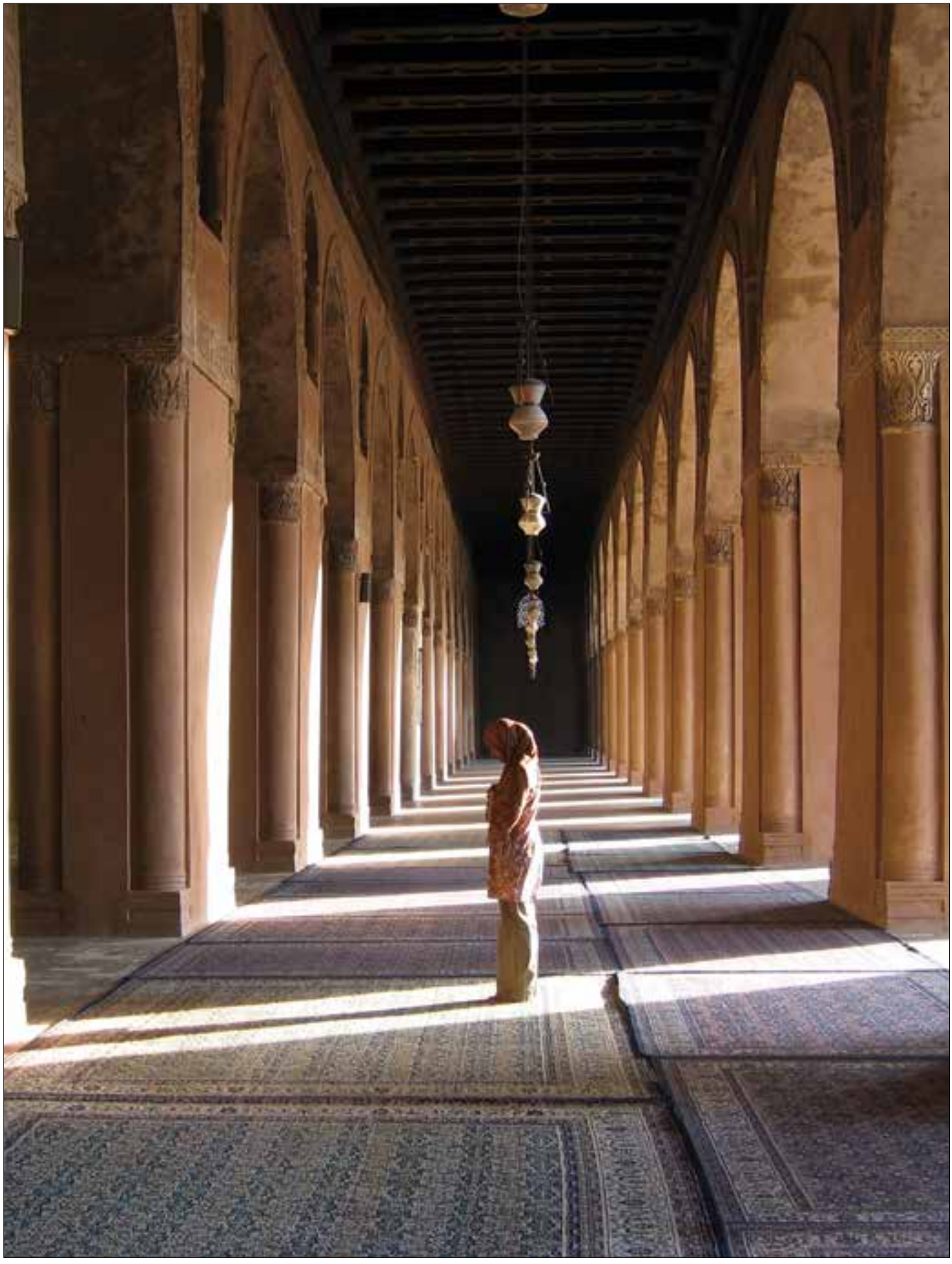
At right: "Fira at Dusk" captured second place in the Urban Landscapes category for John Vanek '08, who shot the photo in 2007 in Santorini, Greece.

Anyone watching the news — and the economy — knows that the world is getting smaller, if not exactly, as author Thomas Friedman puts it, "flatter." Trade, migration, pandemics, global warming, and a radical shift in wealth from the West to the East — all of these factors and more indicate that we're living in a world of global challenges that will require global solutions. Our graduates need a mindset to match the world around them. But how exactly do we teach and assess these skills?

Like many universities, UW-Madison committed itself to "internationalizing" its curriculum a couple of decades ago. No longer the exclusive domain of liberal arts departments, international education is increasingly important in professional schools such as engineering, health sciences, and business. Students in the UW's College of Engineering, for example, can now earn an international certificate by taking sixteen credits of courses that focus on the language, history, or geography of another culture. And programs including Engineers without Borders and the Village Health Project provide students with a chance to participate in community development and public health projects around the world.

Impressively, more than a third of UW-Madison's business undergraduates earn some credits abroad, as do more





Far left: Adam Sitte '08, who studied in Cairo, Egypt, in 2007, earned second place in the People and Culture category of the UW's annual Study Abroad Photo Contest for his photo, "Ibn Tulun Mosque."

At left: Tyler Knowles '05 submitted this photo following his study abroad in England. He shot the image of a musician on the island of San Marco in Venice.

than half of its MBA students. And these students are pursuing the experiences for good reason: the top-ranked Thunderbird School of Global Management, with its patented Global Mindset Inventory used to measure one's capacity to conduct business on a world stage, says that "individuals with a high stock of Global Mindset … know how to manage global supply-chain relationships … and understand global competitors and customers."

But as international outlooks and skills become integral to core curricula, universities increasingly face the challenge of evaluating their students' progress. And this means starting by defining the result: *global competence*.

A team of UW-Madison faculty, staff, and students recently set out to write that definition. Called the Global Competence Task Force, the group released its findings last fall, delineating not only what the term means, but also how UW students might best acquire it.

Randy Dunham, a management professor who directs the business school's Center for Business Education and Research, chaired the initiative. On his desk sits a photo frame that rotates digital images of his own travels through the years: animals spotted on safari, a temple in Asia, and a ruin in the Middle East. (Interestingly, several iPods sit stacked on the table between us as we talk. I later learned that these were prizes for an annual, weeklong competition that drew MBA students from as far away as Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Copenhagen.)

Despite his own global leanings, however, Dunham says the task force took a soft-sell approach in its campus-wide proposal.

"We are not recommending requirements or standards," he explains. "We knew that if we said [global competence] is this many languages or this many area-studies courses, it would have been too contentious to be adopted."

In addition, says Gilles Bousquet, dean of UW-Madison's Division of International Studies, the group knew that there is no one-size-fits-all definition.

"Global competence isn't going to look the same in engineering, the health sciences, or the humanities — and it's also going to mean something different to an educator, an executive, or the head of an NGO [nongovernmental organization]," he says.

Instead, the task force listed the components or "competencies" that make up a global mindset, hoping that each campus unit would adopt the definition. Predictably, perhaps, they include the ability to work and communicate effectively in a variety of cultures and languages, and the capacity to grasp the interdependence of nations in a global economy. Somewhat surprisingly, though, many of the core competencies indicate a kind of stance or attitude — the proclivity to engage in solving critical global issues, for example, and a willingness to see the world from a perspective other than one's own.

What the team doesn't define, however, is what level of competency is sufficient.

"Developing global competency is a lifelong process," says Marianne Bird Bear, assistant dean of the Division of International Studies, who sat on the task force. "The university's role is to make students aware that all disciplines — political science, agriculture, health care — have global, cross-cultural aspects to them. Our job is to provide the training and experiences to develop the global skill set necessary … to address a given problem or understand a certain condition."

Accordingly, the team recommends that campus units require each incoming undergraduate to adopt a "global portfolio" to record the relevant courses and experiences he or she acquires while pursuing a degree. A second part of the portfolio outlines how these activities specifically translate into global abilities that would be attractive to future employers or graduate schools. In developing this portfolio, the team posits, students will

plan their educational paths with an eye toward gaining global competencies.

With a goal of clearly defining expectations, Dunham says, "We asked ourselves, 'What is it going to take to motivate students to see global education as essential?' We want to create the impression as students come in that it's normal, that global education is expected."

While instilling any kind of cross-campus mandate may be slow going, convincing students of the value of international education seems to be a no-brainer. These days, many are well on their way to global-mindedness long before entering college.

Before coming to Senegal, political science and agronomy student Brenda Lazarus x'09 had traveled extensively and studied abroad in high school. She values her friendships with international students on campus for the exposure they give her to perspectives from, say, Mexico or the Philippines. A Minnesota native, Lazarus says that international exposure helps her develop a good knowledge of diverse issues and cultures so that "if [I] go abroad for [my] work or deal with someone from a different culture, everything will go well."

What's more, she says, learning about other cultures has given her the self-possession she'll need for the work she hopes to pursue in an overseas governmental agency or NGO after graduation.

Anyone who has moved to another country can recount that moment when the romance of living in a new culture was tempered by everyday concerns — a visit to the doctor, for example, or the need to decipher a cell-phone plan. These are the moments when we see other parts of the world as equally complex and mundane as our own, and not just as the colorful backdrop for our adventures.

What is more, the challenge of independently producing, say, a fifty-page thesis or meeting the academic standards of a world-renowned university in another language means that students must take seriously the "study" in "study abroad."

"I'm more independent now," Lazarus tells Delehanty and me at the Senegal university's *buvette*, an outdoor snack bar, over instant coffee in cups stamped "Made in China." "I'm more confident that, whatever situation I'm in, I can deal with it."

(Of course, the UW's International Academic Programs office concerns itself, first and foremost, with students' safety, briefing them before departure, establishing onsite points of contact, and maintaining a 24/7 hotline.)

To Dunham, developing confidence is essential. "International exposure challenges the way people see, the way they think, the things they see," he says. "It makes them much more competitive professionally."

Such exposure also prepares students for jobs that are "outside of their comfort zones," he adds. "If you've done a study abroad in India, is it going to be intimidating for you to live in New York City? I don't think so."

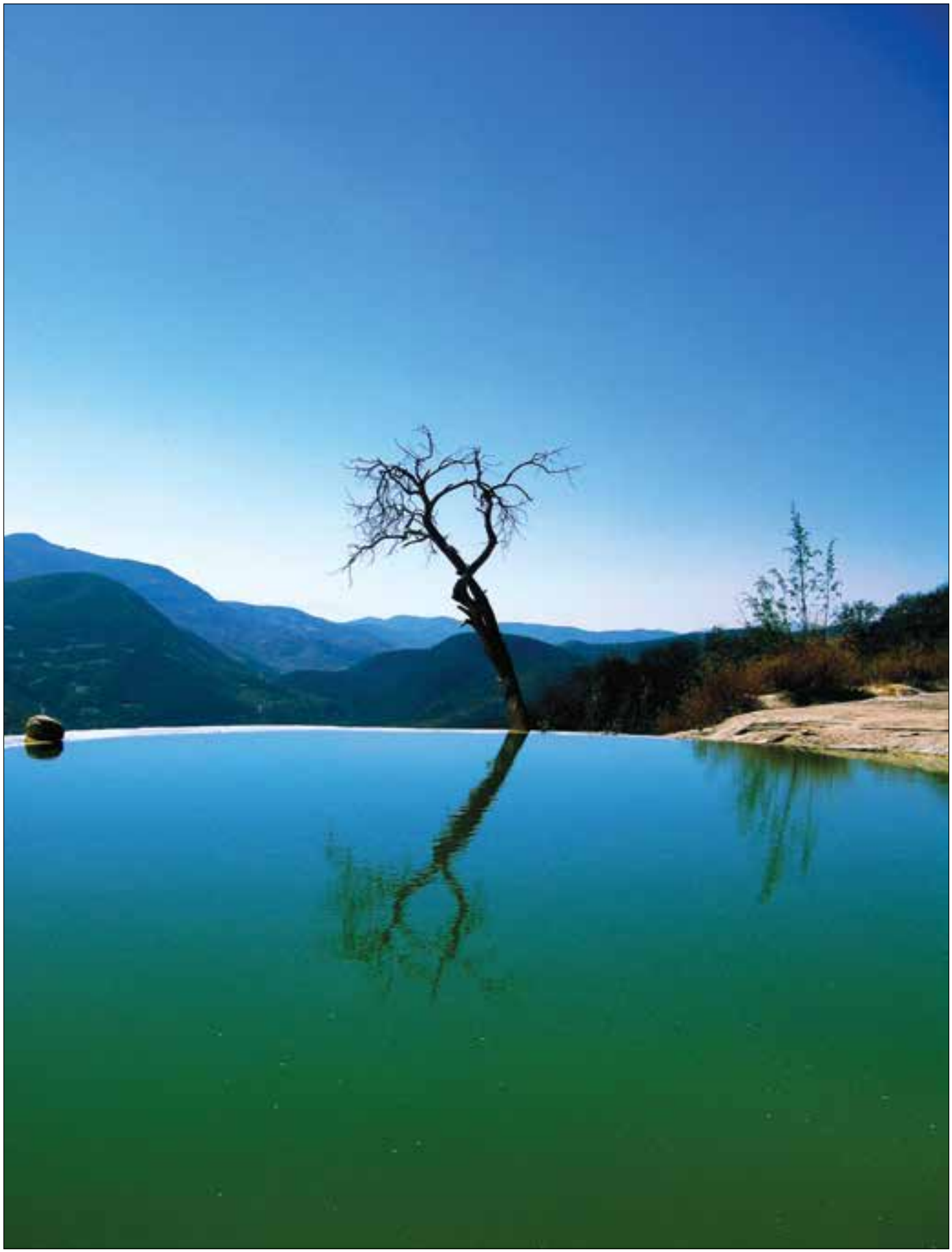
Even those who choose to live and work in Wisconsin will be ill prepared without a global mindset, says Mary Regel '78, director of the Bureau of International Development in Wisconsin's Department of Commerce, who served on the UW's global task force.

"Companies are looking for employees who have a broad view of the world," she says. "They want their workforce to be cognizant and respectful of other cultures. Wisconsin is becoming more diversified, and it's a rare company these days that doesn't have some interaction with other cultures."

Far left: A girl signs "I love you" in this photo, shot in Ngileni, South Africa, in 2007. Libbie Allen '08, who studied in Cape Town, South Africa, earned first place in the People and Culture category of the UW's annual Study Abroad Photo Contest.

Above: Laura Burns '09, who studied in Seville, Spain, in 2008, earned third place in the Natural Landscapes category for this photo, which she shot in Hallstatt, Austria.

Dunham puts it bluntly: "If you only think domestically, you're more limited in your own choices and, ultimately, you limit the vision of the firm or company you work for."



Global by the Numbers

- With 17 percent of its undergraduates studying abroad, UW-Madison places in the top 10 among universities nationwide.
- In 2006-07, 1,900 students in a variety of majors studied abroad.
- UW-Madison offers 223 study-abroad programs in 51 countries.
- Since the university offered its first study-abroad program, to India in 1959, more than 20,000 UW-Madison students have studied abroad.
- Some 15,000 UW-Madison alumni currently live overseas.
- UW-Madison welcomes nearly 4,000 international students from more than 100 countries each year.
- Students can earn one or more of the 18 international certificates offered on campus, including certificates in global health and Middle East studies, and global perspectives in the School of Education.
- The Division of International Studies aims to have 50 percent of its undergraduates study abroad by 2020.

For some students, success in the job market — while a welcome byproduct — isn't the only reason to enhance their global competence.

"Globalization has offered enormous opportunities to the human race," says Bousquet, who founded UW-Madison's pioneering Professional French Master's Program. "But it's also opened many challenges, most pressing among these the need to keep the human condition — to ensure secure and just lives for everyone — at the center of our focus."

Happily, studies reveal that global competence seems to go hand-in-hand with the kinds of qualities, such as open-mindedness and compassion, we'll need to prevent and repair the inequalities that our shrinking planet presents. Recently, a senior scientist at the Gallup Organization released findings from a Global Perspectives Inventory suggesting that those who see themselves as global citizens most often also feel a need to "give back to society" and "work for the rights of others," and demonstrate a willingness to grapple with complex issues that may present more than one solution.

The director of Harvard's International Education Policy Program recently argued in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* that globally minded people would more likely respond to world events with empathy, interest, and understanding. Second only to these qualities are those that speak more to skills than attitude: the ability to communicate in different languages, for example, and a broad and deep knowledge of world histories and cultures.

Global competence, you might say, is a combination of cross-cultural knowledge and the kind of personal and intellectual inner journey that an international experience offers.

At left: Emily Palese x'10, who studied in Oaxaca, Mexico, in 2008, earned second place in the Natural Landscapes category of the UW's annual Study Abroad Photo Contest for her photo, "Hierve del Agua."

To Delehanty, who has overseen the progress of study-abroad students for a decade, and who knows better than most how the world opens eyes, it's the notion of mastery that is troublesome.

"I guess the idea of 'competence' makes me uneasy — the thought that there's a skill set that we all need to master," Delehanty told me on our last day in Senegal. "Isn't it really the opposite? Isn't humility the common denominator of people who function effectively away from home? There are uncountable opportunities in our lives to learn humility. I'm not convinced there is an internationalist version of it."

Still, he concedes, going abroad will surely shake up your certainties if nothing has done so before. And that uncertainty leads to a new kind of insight.

As one UW student in the Senegal program, influenced by her everyday French, concluded, "It's like there is *savoir* and then there is *connaissance*. You can know a lot about the world, but global competence is about understanding it." ■

Masarah Van Eyck, communications director for the UW's Division of International Studies, holds a PhD in French history from McGill University in Montreal and says she would willingly travel almost anywhere. This is her first story for On Wisconsin.

BADGERS ABROAD

The Badgers Abroad Blog, hosted by the Division of International Studies, features the adventures, projects, and achievements that send Badgers around the world. Follow the UW's student correspondents, read about international researchers and alumni, and share your own global experiences at www.badgersabroad.wisc.edu/blog/.

This is Your Copilot Speaking

BRENT NICASTRO

Jeff Skiles '84 catapulted to fame by plummeting out of the sky. As the copilot on US Airways Flight 1549, now popularly known as "the Miracle on the Hudson," he and the flight's captain, Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, safely guided their damaged plane — and its 150 passengers and five crew members — onto the Hudson River. Like most airline pilots, Skiles is well aware of how little attention travelers typically pay to aircrews. All America has heard the outline of events. To show we're listening, we offer you the events of Flight 1549, in Skiles's own words.

The Airbus A320

This was only my second trip on that airplane. I'd been flying a Boeing 737 out of Philadelphia for the last eight years, and I'd just gone through training [on the Airbus A320] in December. You only fly one aircraft at a time, for training purposes, because they have different procedures — a Boeing will have different procedures from an Airbus. I'd flown a trip the previous week with a training captain — that's a kind of flight instructor in the airline business — and this was my first trip without training wheels, so to speak. I'd never flown with anybody [in Flight 1549's crew] until I'd met them that Monday [three days before the accident].

Jeff Skiles poses in front of the engine of an Airbus A320, similar to the plane he copiloted on Flight 1549. This picture was taken at Madison's Dane County Regional Airport, where Skiles flew while he was a UW student.

"Goosed"

I was flying the airplane — hand-flying, meaning the autopilot wasn't on. We just saw the birds very briefly. People ask, 'Why didn't you just fly around them?' Well, when you're going about 250 miles an hour, by the time you see [birds], there just isn't time to do anything about [them]. An airplane just does not maneuver fast enough to fly around them. Anyway, my recollection of it is that I saw them start to go down in the windscreen, and I thought, Oh, good — they're going to go beneath us. And then I heard the birds impact the airplane: *boom-boom-boom-boom.* Then the engines — in an Airbus, the engines make a real whiny sound in climb, and then in cruise, they get real quiet. This time, they had the high whine of the climb power, and then after the impacts, both engines, the right and then the left, went *psssshw*, which is the sound they make when they go back to idle. And then, of course, we're in a glider.

Fear

People have asked me, "Were you scared?" I think people are scared of things they don't know and don't understand. A pilot, in general, is not in this situation. So sure, there was a shock. The engines have failed. But then there's things you have to do, and that helps you get through the shock. [The training procedures are] almost like a choreographed dance. You learn it, and then you do it every [trip], and that actually helps you, because you know you can do your normal duties without even thinking.

In my case, I knew I had to grab what we call the QRH, the quick reference handbook, which is essentially a checklist. Then I've got to find the right page, and there's a three-page-thick list of procedures, and the pages are long. It's really designed for going through at 25,000 or 30,000 feet. I never even got through the first page before we were in the water.

The Hudson

The river was our only option. Everybody seems to think this is horrible, but it's actually a flat, open space. It's not going to be great, but relative to landing in traffic, it's not bad. It's not like I had any oh-my-God-this-is-the-end moment. I just thought: River. Okay, we can do the river. It's not that different from landing on a runway — you just don't put the landing gear down. [But] it worked out far better than I could ever have imagined. I'd recommend ditching [a plane] to anybody.

Passengers

We made the brace-for-impact warning maybe a minute, minute and a half before landing. That's a guess — it's not like I was looking at a clock. Then the flight attendants begin giving instructions, and it's almost like a chant: heads down, stay down, heads down, stay down. They're trying to get the passengers into the braced position, which of course [none of the passengers] know, because they didn't read the [safety briefing] card, because instead they were reading the paper.

After we landed, I had to go back into the cabin to do an evacuation check. It was probably forty-five seconds or a minute after we landed before I could get back there, and by that time, half the passengers were already gone. They were out on the wings or in the rafts. The other half were getting out fast. But none of them had taken any flotation devices with them. Like I said, it's hard to get people to pay attention when they've got the *Wall Street Journal* in front of their faces.

Rescue

It was very fortunate that we came to rest where we did, I found out later, because that was right where the ferries make their crossings. By the time I got to the raft, a nice small boat was coming to pick us up — one that we could just step right into. But some ferry came along, and he decided that he was going to be the one to save our raft. He came barreling in and pushed the other boat out of the way. This thing was like ten feet up to the deck. So now, instead of being able to crawl right into a boat, we've got to scale the side. They threw down a boarding net, and it was like D-Day.

Critical attention

I don't know who decided it, but afterward, somebody said we absolutely had to go to the hospital, even though four of us [all but flight attendant Doreen Welsh, who suffered a lacerated leg] were fine. So they took us to the hospital, and that took a long time. Everything took forever. And what strikes me is that everybody was talking around us — the police were talking amongst each other in little groups; the union guys are talking to each other. Nobody's talking to us. It's almost like we were pariahs.

Aftermath

I talked to a flight attendant — not one of the ones on that trip, but another one. And she said it was really funny: in the week after [the accident], all the passengers on her flights had their cards out and were following along. She'd never seen that in thirty years of flying. ■

Interview edited by John Allen.

reflecting on

Joyce Carol Oates

JEFF SCIORTINO

Fellow alumna and friend

Joanne Creighton '64 is in an ideal position to reflect on the work and life of writer Joyce Carol Oates MA'61. Creighton, who has been president of Mt. Holyoke College since 1996 and is a professor of English, has written two books and numerous articles and reviews about Oates. *On Wisconsin* asked Creighton to open a window on the prolific and stunning body of work that has made Oates one of the most critically acclaimed American authors of modern times.

By Joanne Vanish Creighton '64

Sometimes, "an initial failure may release in us a new and appropriate channel of action; we have the power to redefine ourselves, to heal our wounds, to fight back." So noted Joyce Carol Oates MA'61 — forty years later — about her memorable and pivotal year at the University of Wisconsin in a poignant autobiographical essay, "Nighthawk: Memoir of a Lost Time," published in the *Yale Review* in 2001, and excerpted here on page 36.

She arrived in Madison as a graduate student in fall 1960, the same time I began as an undergraduate. While we did not meet there, we traversed the same terrain — she lived in Barnard Hall, where I was to live the next two years, and made her way up Bascom Hill to study English, as I did. We even had the same formative professor — her MA examiner, G. Thomas Tanselle, was to be my honors adviser. It wasn't until the early seventies, though, when we both were in the Detroit area and I was writing a critical study of her work, that we met.

Part of my fascination with her work, I realize now, must have been rooted in the affinities between my background and experiences and hers — working class, Catholic, rural, backcountry. Her resonant fictional Eden County, drawn from her experience growing up in western New York State, strongly evoked my own northern Wisconsin origins.

Some of Joyce's bright young women, like the author herself, escape their limiting childhood world through their awakening to the life of the mind in school and at the university. Such was Joyce's experience in high school in Lockport, New York, where she was bused in from the countryside, and later as a scholarship student at Syracuse University. There, she blossomed, graduating as valedictorian of her class, even though she was the first

COURTESY MT. HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Joanne Creighton, right, presented Oates with an honorary degree from Mt. Holyoke College in 2006.

in her family to complete high school, let alone college. During her college years she won the first of her many awards, first prize in *Mademoiselle*'s college fiction contest for her story "In the Old World." In a 1972 *Newsweek* story, one of her professors, Donald A. Dike, commented that "about once a term she'd drop a 400-page novel on my desk," adding unequivocally, "She was the most brilliant student we've ever had here."

After such a dazzling undergraduate career, Joyce arrived in Madison eager to begin PhD studies in what she had been told was an outstanding English department, and expecting to continue to do her own writing as well. But quickly she found her imaginative life "smothered" in the service of academic study. She felt disillusioned and stultified by professors who discouraged the study of modern literature or creative writing.

Furthermore, she complained to a friend, "There has never been anything so brutal as the method of getting MAs here at Wisconsin. You have three people on your examining board, who make or ruin your subsequent career. You may be dedicated to the teaching profession — want to teach in college above all — but if someone on the panel decides you aren't quite good enough, down it goes on your record and you are about finished, save at some Mississippi girls' school."

She was right to be concerned. While she did very well in her classes, she was grilled in her MA oral exam, not about poetry, but instead about obscure dates and facts. In the end, although she passed, she was not admitted to the PhD program.

In "Nighthawk," Joyce writes frankly and powerfully about the disjuncture she felt with the approach of many of her professors at Wisconsin and about their dismissive judgment of her. She reflects on "how many times as a naive first-term graduate student, trailing remnants of literary-mystical idealism, I was made to feel, in the entombed confines of venerable Bascomb [sic] Hall, like the humiliated boy-narrator at the conclusion of James Joyce's 'Araby' — 'a creature driven and derided by vanity.' "

If "revenge is living well, without you," a line from one of her poems (in *Love and its Derangements)*, then Joyce's secure place in American letters is her revenge on those censorious examiners. While she never did get a PhD, she — the Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at Princeton University — has been at home in academia both literally and figuratively her entire adult life. Deeply erudite, her work is richly informed by literary and intellectual traditions. While Joyce is at times critical of the academy, its failed teachers, its fears and phobias and petty politics (*The Hungry Ghosts* is a good example of her academic satire), she is also aware of its value: its sanctification of the inner life, its rich heritage of ideas and art. She is a distinguished teacher, a learned critic, a provocative and insightful reviewer and commentator, and co-founder and co-editor with her late husband of *The*

Ontario Review and the Ontario Review Press. Also a prolific writer of some fifty-four novels, thirty-one short story collections, eight collections of plays, twelve collections of essays and nonfiction, eight poetry collections, eight books for children or young adults, and hundreds of uncollected essays, reviews, poems, stories, and miscellany, Joyce has amassed a formidable record of achievement.

While her academic experience at Wisconsin was deeply unsettling, Joyce recalls, in a recent note to me, that other aspects of campus life were "just wonderful — the setting, the atmosphere, the other students, the library." But even more to the point, it was a life-changing time for her, because at a social hour for graduate students she met Raymond Smith MA'58, PhD'61, a PhD candidate in English, about whom she wrote in her journal, "I anticipated from the first that we would be married." And that didn't take long. They met on October 23, 1960, got engaged on November 23, and got married on January 23, 1961. And so began a happy, exceedingly close marriage and partnership that lasted forty-seven years until Ray's sudden death in February 2008, a "shattering" loss, which Joyce feels acutely. "Everything feels quite posthumous," she said in an e-mail.

Joyce and Ray left Madison in the summer of 1961, she with an MA and he with a PhD, and after a year at Ray's first job in Beaumont, Texas, they moved to teaching jobs in the Detroit area, where they were to live for sixteen years. Detroit, Joyce said in the book *(Woman)*

MARION ETTLINGER

An excerpt from Joyce Carol Oates's

NIGHTHAWK: A Memoir of Lost Time

I arrived by air, breathless with anticipation. I arrived alone. I see myself across an abyss now of four decades as a figure of uncertainty like a line drawing by Saul Steinberg. In years I was an adult of twenty-two, in experience I was still an adolescent. I was romantic-minded and vulnerable to hurt as if the outermost layer of my skin had been peeled away. I was the quintessential daughter-student in whose male elders' eyes I was judged "bright" — "brilliant" — "an outstanding student"— a "promising writer." … I'd been valedictorian of my graduating class at Syracuse University, and I'd been named a Knapp Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, where I intended to enroll as a PhD candidate in English. By romantic-minded I mean romantic in terms of books, literature, a practical career of university teaching. My vague, unexamined belief was that my "own" writing, fiction and poetry, would somehow fit into this scheme.

This great adventure! I'd fled the East because I had no wish to marry, and yet, within five swift months, in Madison I would fall in love, and marry; within ten months I would have become profoundly disillusioned with the PhD-scholarly-academic profession, even as I earned the master's degree qualifying me to teach English as it happened I would do, in

Writer, is the place "which made me the person I am, consequently the writer I am — for better or worse." She wrote that much of the writing of her early period, between 1963 and 1976, "has been emotionally inspired by Detroit and its suburbs … the quintessential American city with … a brooding presence, a force, larger and more significant than the sum of its parts." Her Detroit novels encapsulate the migration of poor to the city, such as the Wendalls in *them*; the sterile world of the suburban rich in *Expensive People*; the malaise of the sixties, as in *Wonderland*. Often a male character attempts to free himself from intolerable constraints though violence — a mode of action particularly suited to Detroit, the reigning "murder capital."

It was in Detroit that my husband, Tom, and I met Joyce and Ray socially, introduced by mutual friends. With them, we would occasionally go out to dinner or lunch. At that time, I was a young professor at Wayne State University writing about her work, while Joyce and Ray had moved across the river to teach at the University of Windsor in Ontario. Friendly, curious, wry, and witty, Joyce was a delightful person to be with, but she was habitually modest and evasive about her own work and about her private life and background. Of course, I was a bit intimidated by her; she, in turn, was probably a bit wary of me: such are the inevitable tensions in the complicated relationship of author and critic. Over the years, as we kept in touch intermittently, she became less self-protective,

universities (currently Princeton) for more than four decades; I would, in Madison, cease writing anything except the most conventional or scholarly-critical papers, a development that would have seemed to me until this perilous time tantamount to ceasing to dream, or to breathe.

(Was there was no hope of adroitly mixing the academic and the "imaginative" at Madison, as I'd done at Syracuse? There was none. My graduate-level professors, most of them Harvard educated, were a generation older — or more — than my Syracuse professors and resisted even the analytical New Critical approach to literature; to these conservative elders, with the notable exception of the medievalist Helen C. White, canonical texts were to be approached as sacred-historical documents primarily, to be laden with footnotes as a centipede is fitted out with legs. When, in my initial idealism, I wrote a seminar paper on Edmund Spenser and Franz Kafka, on the ways in which the allegorical and the surreal are akin, my professor, the eminent Merritt Hughes, who knew nothing of Kafka and had no interest in correcting his ignorance, returned the paper to me with an expression of gentlemanly repugnance and suggested that I attempt the Spenser assignment again, from a more "traditional" perspective. My face burned with shame: I was made to feel, in the eyes of the other graduate students as in Professor Hughes's disdainful vision, a barbarian who stood before them naked, utterly exposed.) …

A disquieting odor as of disinfectant, bandages, and cafeteria food pervades my memory of Barnard Hall, the graduate women's residence in which I lived for a brief yet exhausting semester, though of course this is absurd and unfair; Barnard Hall wasn't a hospital, and its occupants, graduate women, so very different in the aggregate from the undergraduate women with whom I'd lived for four years at Syracuse, weren't patients or convalescents; on the contrary, these women, some young and others less so, exuded an air of determined bustle, grim-cheery energy, like novice nuns in a convent who must brave the world outside the convent, run by men, the other. (In fact,

I'd fled the East because I had no wish to marry, and yet, within five swift months, in Madison I would fall in love, and marry …

there were two nuns on my floor, from different orders, living in separate rooms.) My convent-room with its single window looking out onto University Avenue was on the third floor of the residence, and in that room in the first week I was stricken by insomnia as if by a swarm of invisible mosquitoes lying in wait in that space. No matter how exhausted I was from hours of reading, writing, library research, the restless walking-running that has long characterized my life, no matter how I tried to calm my rampaging thoughts. Insomnia! …

Madison, Wisconsin, was in those days an idyllic college town built upon the southern bank of Lake Mendota. The enormous campus inhabited woodland near the lake; the terrain was nearly as hilly as Syracuse, a landscape long ago convulsed

commenting generously on queries and drafts of texts, acknowledging the autobiographical underpinnings of her work.

She is now much more explicit about how much of her writing is an attempt, in part, "to memorialize my parents' vanished world, my parents' lives. Sometimes directly. Sometimes in metaphor," as she admits in "My Father, My Fiction," published in the *New York Times Magazine* in 1989. She is bemused by the "genteel" literary community that misunderstands and criticizes the harsh and violent world of much of her fiction. This world, Joyce insists, is part of her literal and psychic inheritance. There are violent events and family secrets only recently revealed: her maternal grandfather was murdered in a barroom brawl; her mother was "given away" to be reared by her aunt's family, events fictionalized in *Marya: A Life* (1986), a novel which conflates her mother's experiences and her own. When her father was fifteen, her great-grandfather tried unsuccessfully to kill his wife in a fit of rage and then killed himself — events which inspired *The Gravedigger's Daughter* (2007).

Joyce writes in "My Father" that she is in awe of her father and mother's survival and "transcendence" of "a world so harsh and so repetitive in its harshness as to defy evocation, except perhaps in art." She sees her parents' lives, and her own, as emblematically American. Their survival and triumph over hardship — and similarly her own "transmogrification" of their vanished world into art — are

by glaciers and retaining still, even on sunny autumn days, a wintry-windy flavor to the air. In Madison as in all new places before habitude dulls, or masks, strangeness, I realized how precarious our hold upon what we call sanity is. …

In Madison, during these months of intense academic study, when my head was filled with Old English, medieval and Renaissance and eighteenth-century English literature, of course I wrote no fiction or poetry, nothing of my "own" (as I thought it) except desperate fragments in a journal like feeble cries for help. As my imaginative life was smothered in the service of academic study, my intellectual life was heightened, revered, run to exhaustion like a hunting dog whose only food will be the terrified prey he flushes out for his master. (Hunting dog, prey, what's the distinction?) I admonished myself, What did you expect, this is graduate school. You're training to be a scholar. To be a serious adult. This isn't dreamland. To write about my "lost time" in Madison is very difficult even decades later. To violate the taboo of exposing the self, and those innocent individuals intimate with the self, is simply not possible. But mostly I've never written about my Madison sojourn because I have never known how. Emotions are the element in which we live, or fail to live; "events seem to us comparatively detached; yet, in speaking of oneself, emotions are of no more interest than dreams; it's historic event that seems to matter, and one is baffled at how to match event with emotion, emotion with event. Our most profound experiences elude all speech, even spoken speech. What vocabulary to choose to attempt to evoke a flood of sheer, untrammeled emotion? — the common experiences of grief, terror, panic, falling-in-love, desperation-at-losing-love. For me, the vocabulary of loss, despair, frustration, defeat is inappropriate, or inadequate, in writing of my months in Madison, since in fact, much of the time, and nearly always publicly, I was very happy; after I met the man I would marry, I would have defined myself, and would certainly be defined by others, as *very happy*. For one can embody without at all understanding the paradox that one can be both happy and desperately unhappy at the same time; contrary to Aristotle's logic, one can be X and non-X simultaneously. …

To write about my "lost time" in Madison is very difficult even decades later. … mostly, I've never written about my Madison sojourn because I have never known how.

Yet my happiest, my most romantic morning-insomniac adventures were out-of-doors. If it wasn't bitter cold, or raining, or snowing, or oppressively windy, I gave up on Barnard Hall, dressed, and began the day early, in darkness. I'd grown up on a small farm in western New York, and rising early in the dark, in terrible weather, had been routine. Through the winter, the school bus swung by our road at about 7:30 a.m., in darkness. By my logic, to begin a day before 4:30 a.m. was eccentric; after that hour, when the clock's hands were moving

examples of the aspiring and triumphant human spirit. While Joyce Carol Oates was early called the "Dark Lady of American Letters," that label is not right. She has tremendous respect for the dark side of human experience, for the mysterious depths of the conscious, and for the primitive brutality at the core of physical existence. Yet Joyce's vision is not dark. She is in fact optimistic about the possibilities of human resilience and transcendence of a distinctly American variety. Despite the violence and duress that her characters typically endure, Joyce respects their tenacious attempt to, as she wrote in the preface to *Marya*, "forge their own souls by way of the choices they make, large and small, conscious and half-conscious."

Deeply absorbed not only by her family history but also by cultural currents and events, Joyce sometimes fictionally reimagines historic events and people, including infamous ones. *Black Water* (1992), for example, is told from the point of view of a young woman trapped in a submerged car waiting for The Senator who fails to come back to rescue her. *Zombie* (1995) is about a deranged, cannibalistic, serial murderer, like Jeffrey Dahmer. *Blonde* (2000) is a complex blend of fact and fiction drawn from the life of Marilyn Monroe.

Obsessed characters and fatal attractions dominate Joyce's fictional world. My favorite novel, *Because It Is Bitter, and Because It Is My Heart* (1990), depicts the bond that Iris, a white high school girl, feels with her black classmate, Jinx, a

toward 5:00 a.m., beginning a day was normal, a sign of optimism. Who knew what adventures the new day might bring? Outside the claustral residence hall I felt a surge of energy, for energy is hope, and hope is energy, and I would break into a run, as if I had an immediate destination; I ran on University Avenue and on Park Street to the foot of Bascomb [sic] Hill, and up the steep, windy hill itself until I could run no longer. (Hours later, midmorning, I would be among forty or so graduate students seated in a classroom in Bascomb Hall, in a hallucinatory drowse trying to take notes as the eminent Renaissance scholar Mark Eccles lectured on the Elizabethan-Jacobean drama, reading from copious notes in a quiet, uninflected voice like a hypnotist's.) In the gradually lightening dark I would continue past Bascomb Hill, in the direction of the observatory; my ultimate destination was a State Street diner that opened early, but I forestalled going there too soon; in these long-ago years a dense stand of trees, deciduous and evergreen, bordered the hill; beyond was Lake Mendota; I would return, down the long hill, passing by the State Historical Library and the mammoth Memorial Union, not open at this hour; if it wasn't too cold or windy, I'd walk along the lakefront; I'd pause on the terrace, to stare at the lake; here, I was nearly always happy; freed from the confines of my room and from the rampage of my thoughts; I was exhilarated and yet comforted by the lapping waves, and Lake Mendota was often a rough, churning lake; in the twilit early morning it appeared vast as an inland sea, its farther shore too distant to be seen. On misty or foggy mornings, which were common in Madison, the lake's waves emerged out of an opacity of gunmetal gray like a scrim; there was no horizon, and there was no sky, and it would not have surprised me if when I glanced down at my feet I saw that there was no ground. …

Often in my circuitous route to the State Street diner, I would pass the still-darkened university library, which was one of my places of refuge during the day; swiftly I'd walk along Langdon Street, past fraternity houses, impressive façades bearing cryptic Greek symbols emerging out of the gloom, and invariably there were lights burning in these massive houses, who knew why? I was quick to note isolated lights in the windows of apartment buildings and wood-frame rental houses on Langdon, Gorham, Henry, as the early morning shifted toward 6:00 a.m.; still darkness, for this was autumn in a northerly climate, but with a promise of dawn in the eastern sky. The nighthawk takes comfort in noting others, kindred souls, but at a distance: warmly lit city buses on Gorham and University bearing a few passengers; headlights of vehicles; occasional pedestrians; a few among these might have been morning-insomniacs like me, relieved and grateful for the new day, the new chance, but most of them were workers, custodians, cafeteria staff, attendants at the university hospital; for them there was no special romance to the hour, nor probably any malaise; beneath their coats they wore uniforms. …

In January 1961 I was married, and moved from Barnard Hall to live with my husband in a surprisingly spacious, airy five-room apartment on the second floor of a wood-frame house on University Avenue, a mile away from the university residence in which I'd spent so many insomniac hours. In May, one sunny morning, I was examined for my master's degree, in venerable Bascomb Hall for what would be the final

basketball star, after he defends her from an attacker whom he kills in self-defense. Iris's obsession with her "blood bondage" to Jinx, the forbidden "other," is emblematic of the electricity between the races simmering under the surface of America before the civil rights movement.

Another fascinating "other" for Joyce is the male sport of boxing, the subject of her aphoristic book *On Boxing (*1987) and several occasional essays. Joyce even experiments with "other" authorial selves, publishing seven novels under the pseudonym "Rosamond Smith" and, more recently, three under the name "Lauren Kelly." Often slick psychological thrillers about twins, doubles, and doubling, these novels, she says, relieve her temporarily from the burden of being the famous "Joyce Carol Oates."

Joyce does indeed write "all over the aesthetical map," as John Barth admiringly noted in a January 1980 review in the *Atlantic Monthly*. "She certainly tried" is the epitaph she wryly suggests for her tombstone. With over forty-five years of sustained productivity, Joyce is still — at age seventy — vital, engaged, and extraordinarily productive. While she is thoroughly at home in academia, the academy hasn't quite known what to make of her. Earlier in her career, she was categorized and dismissed as a "popular" writer of violence, but that is changing. Her work is finding its way into university courses and critical studies. A biography has been published. An invaluable Web site, Celestial Timepiece, http://jco.usfca.edu/, helps to keep track of her productivity. Syracuse

time. My examiners were all men; two were older professors with whom I'd studied and who had seemed to approve of my work; the third was a younger professor of American literature, very likely an assistant professor, who stared at me, now "Joyce Carol Smith," doubtfully. A married woman? A serious scholar? It did seem suspicious. In this man's unsmiling eyes, I saw my fate.

Two-thirds of the exam went well: I'd followed my husband's advice and memorized sonnets by Shakespeare and Donne that I could analyze and discuss; I could recite the opening of Paradise Lost, and key passages of "Lycidas" and "The Rape of the Lock"; but the youngish professor of American literature was unimpressed, biding his time. He didn't question me about primary works at all. I might have spoken knowledgeably about the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman, but I wasn't given the opportunity; as in a courtroom nightmare, I was asked only questions I couldn't answer with any confidence about dates of poems, publications, editions; for instance, how did the 1867 *Leaves of Grass* differ from the 1855 edition, and what were the circumstances of the 1871 edition? Through a haze of shame I heard myself murmur repeatedly, "I don't know," and, "I'm afraid I don't know." ...

How vulnerable I'd been, that May morning in 1961! How negligible in his eyes, how expendable, a young woman, and married; not a likely candidate for the holy orders of the PhD. And it was so: though my love for literature was undiminished, I'd become profoundly disillusioned with graduate study and couldn't have imagined continuing in Madison for another year, let alone two or three; my subterranean despair would have choked me, and destroyed the happiness of my marriage; it would have destroyed my marriage. The drudgery of scholarly research and the mind-numbing routines of academic English study, above all the anxious need to please, never to displease, one's sensitive elders, weren't for me. My major writing effort of the year was a one-hundred-page seminar paper on Herman Melville tailored to the expectations of a quirky, very senior professor named Harry Hayden Clark, who had a penchant for massive footnotes and "sources"; this document was well received by Professor Clark but so depressed me that I threw away my only copy soon afterward.

The verdict of the examining committee was that "Joyce Carol Smith" be granted a master's degree in English from the University of Wisconsin; but she was not recommended to continue PhD studies there. The verdict was You are not one of us, and how could I reasonably disagree?

When, a quarter-century later, in what might be called the second act of a fairy tale of wavering intentions, I returned to the University of Wisconsin at Madison to be given an "honorary doctorate of humane letters" in an elaborate commencement ceremony, the occasion would seem surreal to me; I couldn't help brooding on the irony of the situation, and perhaps the perversity, hearing my name amid those of other "distinguished alumni"; not that I was an impostor exactly, but if I hadn't been rejected as a PhD candidate in 1961, if, instead, my examiners had urged me to continue with graduate work, I might have succumbed to the tempta-

University houses her voluminous archive. She is the recipient of numerous prizes and awards and has been short-listed for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

But she sprints far ahead of those who would attempt to assess her body of work. I agree with Anne Tyler, who was quoted in a *Washington Post* article (August 18, 1986) as saying: "A hundred years from now people will laugh at us for sort of taking her for granted." This we know: she is one of the most accomplished and significant American writers of our time.

For me personally, pondering and writing about her work have been a great privilege and pleasure, as have been the rare occasions when we have had a chance to reconnect. She was kind to do a reading and give greetings at my presidential inauguration at Mt. Holyoke College in 1996.

Then again, it was a great pleasure for me to bestow upon her an honorary degree at our 2006 commencement. In her commencement address on that occasion, Joyce enumerated a litany of now-famous writers who did poorly in school or were rejected for publication: William Faulkner got a D in English; Cormac McCarthy had to leave the University of Tennessee because his grades were too low; Stephen King had sixty stories and four novels rejected before getting published. What seems like failure may positively strengthen and redirect your energies, she told the graduates. Surely she was thinking about her own transformation of "failure" at the University of Wisconsin into a luminous record of achievement. ■

tion; if I'd been a young man, for instance, of equal talent, I might have made myself into another person, and I certainly wouldn't have been invited back to Wisconsin to be graciously honored. The paradox was not one that might be elevated to a principle for others: to be accepted by my elders in one decade, I'd been required to be repudiated by my elders in an earlier decade.

In Madison, I've been made to feel at last that I do belong. I've arrived at an age when, if someone welcomes you, you don't question the motives.

And now, at an even later date, 27 September 1999, as I compose this memoir in a room at the Edgewater Inn in Madison, Wisconsin, overlooking a rain-lashed Lake Mendota, I'm forced to recall the bittersweet irony of my situation; another time I've been invited back to Madison, to give a public reading in a beautiful art museum built long after my departure, and to be honored at an elaborate dinner with the chancellor, his wife, and a gathering of the university community. Honored at the age of sixty-one as an indirect (and yet irrefutable) consequence of having failed at the age of twenty-two! …

In Madison, I've been made to feel at last that I do belong. I've arrived at an age when, if someone welcomes you, you don't question the motives. You don't question your own motives. Rejoice, and give thanks!

Of our hurts we make monuments of survival. If we survive.

This has been a fragmentary memoir of a lost time; a time for which there was no adequate language; and so the effort turns upon itself like a Mobius strip, shrinking from its primary subject. I am paralyzed by the taboo of violating the privacy of individuals close to me, and by the taboo, which seems a lesser one, of violating the privacy of one's own heart; exposing the very heart, vulnerable and pulsing with life. There are intimacies, secrets, epiphanies and revelations and matters of simple historic fact of which I will never speak, still less write. Yet I'm thinking, in Madison, Wisconsin, in the early morning hours of 28 September 1999, of that Sunday afternoon, 23 October 1960. I'd come to the reception in the Memorial Union overlooking this same lake, these waves, about a mile from where I'm sitting now, composing these words. I'd come to the reception by myself. I knew no one. I was one of three thousand graduate students at the university, and perhaps fifty or sixty had come to this lounge in the student union; I was sitting at a table with some others, their faces now long forgotten, and in the corner of my eye I saw a figure approaching. I have no memory of myself except that I was dreamy-eyed, listening to the conversation at the table without joining in; I wouldn't glance around with a bright, hopeful, welcoming American-girl smile at whoever was coming near. In one of my own works of fiction such a figure, undefined and mysterious, might turn out to be Death — but this wasn't fiction, this was my life.

Still, I didn't glance around. Until, when a man asked if he might join us, and pulled out a chair to sit beside me, I did.

TELE[RE]VISION

Society gives parents plenty of reasons to feel guilty about the time their children spend in front of the television.

Nicknames for the medium — boob tube or idiot box, for example — do little to help alleviate their worries.

For years, researchers have shown the negative effects of TV violence and, more recently, they have found links between childhood obesity and too much viewing. President Obama implored parents to "turn off the TV" during a campaign ad pitching his education policy. Still, the average child in the United States spends nearly four hours watching television each day, even though pediatricians recommend no more than two hours of educational programming for kids two years and older.

TV viewing is a given in the average household, but in many cases, parents have no idea what programs their children are watching or whether they understand them at all.

"What we seldom get — and need — is solid, research-based advice about when to turn the TV on," noted Lisa Guernsey, an author and journalist who covers media effects on children, in a column she wrote for the *Washington Post*.

Researchers, including UW-Madison faculty and an alumnus who is behind some groundbreaking work in the field, are working to fill that void, showing that some TV can actually be good for kids.

Their efforts have improved educational programming for children, pinpointing what engages their developing brains and how they learn as they watch. Now the researchers are exploring whether children are really getting the lessons from programs that adults think they are, and how exposure to television might affect children as young as babies and toddlers.

CORMAC HANLEY/CORBIS

Researchers are taking a new look at TV. Instead of just filling time or acting as a passive babysitter, can the medium be a good teacher?

BY JENNY PRICE '96

Spoonful of Sugar

Well-crafted shows for children can teach them the alphabet, math, and basic science concepts, as well as manners and social skills. But what really makes for good television when it comes to younger viewers? That's a key question Marie-Louise Mares MA'90, PhD'94, a UW-Madison associate professor of communication arts, is trying to answer.

Much of the educational programming aimed at children falls into the category of "prosocial" — meaning that it's intended to teach lessons, such as healthy eating habits, self-esteem, or how to treat others. The classic example of a prosocial program is *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. Mares has shown that a prosocial program's positive influence can be just as strong as a violent program's negative influence.

But good messages can get lost.

"Children's interpretations of what a show is about are very different from what an adult thinks," Mares says. "Some kids take away the completely wrong message."

Mares began studying children's comprehension of prosocial messages after watching the movie *Mary Poppins* with a four-year-old fan. Although the child predicted each scene before it appeared on screen, she had difficulty doing what Mares calls "making sense of the story." The girl did not know why the character Bert, played by Dick Van Dyke, was on the roof dancing or that the "spoonful of sugar" Julie Andrews sings about was a metaphor. As they continued to watch the movie together, Mares learned that what is obvious to an adult doesn't necessarily sink in with children.

She demonstrated that confusion in a study involving a TV episode of *Clifford the Big Red Dog*, in which the cartoon character and friends meet a three-legged dog named K.C. The intent of the program was to teach children to be accepting of those with disabilities. But

throughout much of the episode, Clifford and his friends behave badly toward the dog. At one point, one of the dogs expresses fear of catching three-legged dog disease. Sure enough, in follow-up interviews, one-third of the children thought the dogs could catch the disease, and many of them interpreted the lesson of the episode along the lines of this child's comment: "You should be careful ... not to get sick, not to get germs."

"Showing the fear can actually be more conflicting and more frightening to kids," Mares says.

Her findings are important because much of kids' programming attempts to teach lessons by showing characters behaving badly in some way and then having them learn better behavior. That's confusing for children, Mares says, and could even lead them to focus on the bad behavior.

In the end, 80 percent of the kids in the study said the lesson of the *Clifford* episode was to be nice to dogs with three legs. Although that's a nice sentiment, Mares says, "You don't encounter many [three-legged dogs]."

The producers of prosocial programs also should consider the methods they use to portray the behaviors they're trying to teach kids, Mares says, as well as ensure that the content is relevant and realistic to young viewers. That might be one of the reasons why stories involving dogs or other animal characters don't seem to get the message across to children. One group of youngsters in Mares' study watched a *Clifford* episode that had been edited to remove the dogs showing fear of K.C. — yet the children still interpreted the story as being about dogs, not about inclusiveness and tolerance.

Mares is in new territory; virtually no research has been conducted to identify programming that would effectively foster inclusiveness in children. She has experimented, with mixed results, by embedding some kind of prompt within children's programs that could help young viewers comprehend the intended message, especially since most parents aren't watching along with their kids. Attempts include having the main character start off the show or interrupt mid-lesson to say, "Hey kids, in this story we're going to learn that we shouldn't be afraid of people who are different."

Her findings are important because much of kids' programming attempts to teach lessons by showing characters behaving badly in some way and then having them learn better behavior. That's confusing for children and could even lead them to focus on the bad behavior.

She's still looking for answers on how that practice — which she calls scaffolding — could work effectively. But balance is essential, Mares says, noting that she could create the "ideal" show, but then kids wouldn't want to watch.

Making over *Sesame Street*

The end of the 1960s saw the debut of two landmark educational programs for young people: *Sesame Street* and *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. Not long after, Daniel Anderson '66 began trying to discover what exactly was going on with children while they watched TV.

Anderson, a professor at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst who has advised the producers of children's shows including *Sesame Street* and *Captain Kangaroo*, dispelled one of the central myths on the subject — that when the TV is turned on, children's brains turn off. In fact, parents are more likely than their children to become couch potatoes while watching television, says Anderson, who holds a UW bachelor's degree in psychology.

He observed children watching television and witnessed them turning away from the screen several times during a broadcast to play with toys, fight with siblings, or talk to their parents. After they were done watching, he tested their understanding of what they had just seen. Anderson's findings were the exact opposite of what most people thought.

"It was very clear that children were mentally active, that they were constantly posing questions for themselves, [asking], 'What's going to happen next, why are they doing that … is this real?' " he says. "And it was also clear that when television invited participation, that kids would become very active — pointing at the screen or talking to the characters on the TV."

This finding ushered in a new era of children's programming, with the cable channel Nickelodeon enlisting Anderson's help to develop a new generation of shows in the late 1990s, most notably *Blue's Clues* and *Dora the Explorer*, that were centered on the concept that children would dance, sing, and follow along with programs they enjoyed rather than sit and stare vacantly at the screen.

Blue's Clues features a mix of animated characters — including a cute blue puppy — and backgrounds, with a live host who invites children who are watching to look for and decipher clues to solve a puzzle, such as, "What does Blue want for her birthday?" Along the way, the show focuses on information such as colors or shapes or numbers.

Anderson pushed producers to make the show visually simple, with very little editing or transitions that require viewers to process jumps in time or location — something young children have a hard time doing, his research showed.

While most researchers "focus on the negative contributions of media," experts such as Anderson and Mares have been "at the forefront of recognizing that television that is designed to be educational really can be beneficial for children," says Amy Jordan, who oversees research on children's media policy for The Annenberg Public Policy Center.

In his best-selling book *The Tipping Point*, which examines how ideas and trends spread, author Malcolm Gladwell labeled *Blue's Clues* as one of the "stickiest" — meaning the most irresistible and involving — television shows ever aired, and noted that its creators "borrowed those parts of *Sesame Street* that did work."

In turn, the success of *Blue's Clues* prompted the producers of *Sesame Street* to seek Anderson's help in giving the long-running staple a makeover. With the new millennium approaching, the show needed to catch up with the way kids watch TV. Rather than the repetitive narrative format children delighted in following as they watched *Blue's Clues*, *Sesame Street* featured a series of about forty short segments, ranging in length from ten seconds to four minutes.

"The original conception was that you needed a lot of novelty and change to hold a preschooler's attention. And so they quite explicitly would put things together in unpredictable orders," Anderson says. "A story that was happening on the street with Big Bird and the human characters might be followed by a film about buffalos, which in turn might be followed by a Muppet piece about the letter *H*."

Sesame Street offered children no connection or context among the concepts and segments, and, not surprisingly, it lost viewers when shows like *Blue's Clues* began airing. At Anderson's suggestion, producers made the show more storylike and predictable, reducing the number of characters and sets, and connecting more concepts. Now the typical episode features around ten segments per hour.

"You're dealing with children who don't need complexity," Anderson says. "In a sense, a lot of what they were doing was almost for the adults and not so much for their audience."

Even venerable *Sesame Street,* airing since the late 1960s, has evolved, thanks to research about children's TV. The show's original concept assumed short attention spans, cramming as many as forty short segments into each hour.

Research Gap

The notion of children and television as a research prospect first confronted Anderson when he was a young assistant professor. He had just given an undergraduate lecture on child development, in which he said younger children tend to have more trouble sustaining attention than older children, when one of his students asked, "Well, if those things are true, how come my four-year-old brother can just sit and stare [at *Sesame Street*]?"

"I kind of glibly answered him," Anderson recalls, "that 'Oh, it's because television is just being a distractor. It just looks like your brother's sustaining attention, but the picture is constantly changing and so on.' I just made that up — I had no idea."

Feeling guilty, Anderson sent a graduate student to the library with orders to find out everything he could about children's attention to television.

"He kept coming back and saying he couldn't find anything, and that's what got me started," Anderson says.

Beginning in the 1980s, Anderson and his colleagues followed 570 children from preschool until high school graduation to see what effect watching *Sesame Street* had on their school performance, behavior, and attitudes. They found that children who had watched when they were young earned better grades in high school, read more books, placed more value on achievement, and showed less aggression. Anderson's study included controls for many other factors, including family size, exposure to media in adolescence, and parents' socioeconomic status.

"We think that the effects are really traceable and cumulative all the way, at least, through high school. So television, I think, can be a powerful educator," Anderson says.

"Television that has a clear curriculum in mind — that studiously avoids problematic content like violence — has been shown in dozens of studies to really enhance the way children think, the kinds of things that they know, and even how they get along with one another."

Jordan says those findings hold up in other research. "Television that has a clear curriculum in mind — that studiously avoids problematic content like violence — has been shown in dozens of studies to really enhance the way children think, the kinds of things that they know, and even how they get along with one another," she says.

An Uncontrolled Experiment

So where does that leave guilt-ridden parents looking for answers about television? It seems it comes down to what and how much kids are watching, and at what age.

Anderson, who has been working in the field for decades, thinks that despite educational programming, children are growing up within a vast, uncontrolled experiment. And he draws a sharp distinction about TV's potential value for children over age two.

His recent research focuses on how very young children are affected by simply playing or spending time in a room where adult programming, such as news programs or talk shows, is on the television. Anderson's latest study observed what happened when fifty children ages one to three played in a room for an hour. Half of the time, there was no TV in the room; for the last thirty minutes, the game show *Jeopardy!* — not exactly a toddler favorite — was showing.

The conventional wisdom, based on previous research, was that very young children don't pay attention to programs that they can't understand. But Anderson's study found clear signs that when the television was on, children had trouble concentrating, shortened and decreased the intensity of their play, and cut in half the time they focused on a particular toy.

When the TV was on, the children played about ninety seconds less overall. The concern is whether those effects could add up and harm children's playtime in the long term, impairing their ability to develop sustained attention and other key cognitive skills.

The Annenberg center's Jordan says more studies looking at the effects of TV on younger children are essential, in part because surveys have found that as many as two-thirds of children six years and under live in homes where the TV is on at least half the time, regardless of whether anyone is watching.

"Babies today are spending hours in front of screens … and we don't really understand how it's affecting their development," she says. "We can no longer assume children are first exposed to TV when they're two years old because it's happening at a much younger age." ■

Jenny Price '96 is a writer for On Wisconsin.

What Is Educational Television?

POP QUIZ:
Is the TV show *Hannah Montana* educational? If your answer is no, guess again.

The ubiquitous Disney Channel sitcom featuring pop star Miley Cyrus airs during ABC's Saturday morning block of shows aimed at children. And, believe it or not, it helps the network's affiliates fulfill their obligation under federal law to air educational and informational (E/I) programming for kids.

Congress first passed legislation in 1990 — the Children's Television Act — requiring broadcast stations to increase E/I programming, but what followed were some laughable claims of compliance. For example, *The Jetsons* (shown at right) was labeled educational because it taught children about the future, and stations were sometimes airing educational shows at times when children weren't likely to be awake and watching. So in 1997, lawmakers revisited the act, putting in place what's known as the "three-hour rule," stipulating that the networks air at least three hours of E/I programming for kids per week. Although the rule isn't enforced unless viewers complain, it is used as a guideline when the Federal Communications Commission reviews a station's license for renewal.

So have things gotten better? The FCC has acted on complaints, such as when it fined Univision affiliates $24 million for claiming that serial melodramas known as telenovelas were educational. But even under the three-hour rule, broadcasters maintain shows featuring professional athletes, such as *NBA Inside Stuff* or *NFL Under the Helmet,* count toward the requirement.

Amy Jordan, who oversees research on children's media policy for The Annenberg Public Policy Center and has studied implementation of the three-hour rule, says most commercial network programs are prosocial in nature, aimed at teaching children lessons. *Hannah Montana* falls into that category.

"We actually don't know the take-away value of those kinds of programming," Jordan acknowledges. "And that's an important question, because it speaks to whether or not the broadcasters are living up to the spirit of the Children's Television Act."

A study released last fall by advocacy organization Children Now found that only one in eight shows labeled E/I meets the standard of "highly educational." The majority of the programs studied — a little more than 60 percent — were deemed "moderately educational." The picture looked better at PBS, where the programming for kids was rated significantly higher than E/I shows on commercial stations.

Another issue is that the E/I label is confusing for many parents, with some mistaking programs such as *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* as educational.

"In theory, I think parents believe they have a sense of what their kids are exposed to, but in fact, their knowledge is pretty limited," Jordan says. "So to get parents to direct their children to positive programming … it's an uphill battle for broadcasters."

Part of the misunderstanding, she says, results from broadcasters doing little to promote which shows carry the E/I label, thereby keeping parents and their children in the dark about which shows are intended to be educational.

"They have this concern about the spinach syndrome — if children think [a program is] good for them, they won't watch it," she says.

J.P.

The Godmother of Goat Cheese

When Anne Topham gave up academia to make the perfect chèvre, she had no idea that a herd of other artisans would follow in her footsteps.

By Denise Thornton '82, MA '08

ANDY MANIS (2)

Kidding around: Anne Topham holds a member of the Fantôme Farm herd. The farm is located near Ridgeway in southwestern Wisconsin.

Anne Topham '63, MA'65 did not set out to become the Midwest's godmother of goat cheese, but she has earned the title. Hailed by the *New York Times* as Wisconsin's grande dame of chèvre, a soft goat cheese originating in France, she is acclaimed by foodies far and wide for helping launch the area's artisanal cheese upsurge.

In the beginning, Topham's ambitions lay elsewhere. In the seventies, she was a UW grad student pursuing a doctorate in the history of education. But she took a break from her research to help her father with spring planting in the rolling hills of western Iowa.

"I went from the seventeenth floor of Van Hise to watching cows calve in the pasture and learning how to disc [plow] a field. I never went back," says Topham. "Living this close to the most elemental parts of life keeps things in perspective for me in a way that — as much as I love the stacks — the library didn't."

When her father saw how much she loved rural life, he remarked, "You know, you could get a goat for money, marbles, or chalk," and the prospect struck her as irresistible. Her first dairy goat, Angelica, whom Topham describes with a wry smile as far from angelic, came with a comic three-week-old kid that Topham named after Gilda Radner. Topham sees each addition to the milking herd she now owns as a distinct character and names her accordingly after an appropriate performer, goddess, NPR news broadcaster, or politician. There will likely be a Hillary frolicking among this season's kids.

Topham's father coached her on the finer points of hand milking, and her quest for the best use of the pure, white goat milk was on. Topham wanted to recreate the first goat cheese she had ever tasted, a confection that had been carried from Paris to Madison by the mother of a college friend. "It was a lovely, bloomy-rind round of cheese resting on a bed of straw, and I've never forgotten it," she says.

As Angelica grazed on the rich hay produced by Iowa's deep, loamy soil that summer, a brutal heat blew across the plains, pushing the mercury past one hundred degrees. Although the result was a pleasant-tasting cheese, it looked and chewed like a hockey puck — far from the creamy texture that Topham envisioned. She decided that creating an authentic French-style farmstead cheese

might require grazing her goats on a rustic farmstead in more rugged terrain.

She found just that in 1982 in the Driftless Area in southwestern Wisconsin and took Angie and Gilda to forage on forty-eight acres of its craggy ridges. On the spread they named Fantôme Farm, Topham and her partner, Judy Borree '66, MS'68, built a goat shelter out of boards reclaimed from a barn leveled by a tornado. Topham expanded her herd, added a milk house to the barn, remodeled her simple home's attached garage into a licensed dairy plant, and continued to experiment.

Her breakthrough came when friends in Paris sent a book about making farmstead cheese. "I could read enough French to translate the book, except for the technical terms," says Topham. She took her French text and research techniques to campus, turning to the Steenbock Memorial Library for help with French farming jargon.

Topham calls her method a blend of art and science, and she likens her quest for mouthwatering cheese to original research. "It's about not having the answer to start with and figuring out how to get information. The deeper you get into anything, whether it's history or cheese, the more you realize how complex every topic is," she says. "I never think that I know everything there is to know about cheesemaking. Every day, I've learned something new. "

Twenty-five years ago, Topham was one of only a few people in the United States willing to bet the farm on artisan goat cheese. "It's only when you look back that you can see we were part of a movement," she says. "In the early years, I felt that what I brought to the [Dane County] Farmers' Market might be the first goat cheese that people ever tasted.

"People said, 'What are you going to do when Chicago discovers you?' ... But I just said, 'There is only ever going to be so much of my cheese. I never want to get so big that I lose contact with the goats.' "

If they had a bad experience, not only would they not buy our cheese again, but they would never eat goat cheese again."

Wisconsin now boasts nine farmstead, artisan, and specialty plants dedicated to making goat cheese. "Anne is a trailblazer," says Norm Monsen '80, senior market development specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. "Anne started making these incredible cheeses, and now Wisconsin is changing from being the state that produces the most milk to the state known for great, unique cheeses."

In 2003, Topham was the first Wisconsin cheesemaker sent abroad to study by UW-Madison's Babcock Institute for International Dairy Research and Development. At last she was able to visit France and the goat cheese farmsteads she had imagined for so long. The report she produced from that trip, says Monsen, "really set the bar for future researchers."

Topham continues to set the bar for artisan goat cheese. She keeps her milking herd small, only a dozen goats, and lavishes each with personal care, staying up all night to shepherd a young goat through a difficult labor or indulging her bearded mothers-to-be in their preference for tangy delicacies such as burdock shoots and freshly budded branches that she gathers on her rocky slope.

"People said, 'What are you going to do when Chicago discovers you?' That didn't take very long," Topham remembers. "But I just said, 'There is only ever going to be so much of my cheese. I never want to get so big that I lose contact with the goats.' "

Though Topham's award-winning cheese — with its silky texture and satisfying tartness — is limited, her readiness to share what she has learned with other cheesemakers is not. "Anne has been extremely generous with her time and talent [by] mentoring several of the state's up-and-coming farmstead cheesemakers," says Jeanne Carpenter, executive director of Wisconsin Cheese Originals, an organization that promotes artisan cheesemaking.

"Anne is always open and willing to share both the obstacles and joys of being a cheesemaker and milking goats," agrees Monsen. "In 2006, Anne was one of the first people honored by the Dairy Business Innovation Center [a nonprofit that promotes specialty cheese and dairy businesses] for being a true innovator in the dairy industry. It was a long overdue award for Anne." ■

Denise Thornton '82, MA'08 writes about food, health, and the environment. She is the author of a young-adult nonfiction book.

Renting a canoe is a bargain for a little piece of serenity during a hectic semester or a chance to explore campus during the less stressful summer months.

Memorial Union Canoes

Students who don't know port from starboard might think they have no means to truly experience the waters of Lake Mendota, short of training with the rowing team, learning how to sail, or doing a cannonball off of a Union pier. But there's a decidedly more low-key option available that rivals an afternoon on the Memorial Union Terrace when it comes to unadulterated relaxation and a beautiful view on a warm day in Madison.

For just $8.75 an hour, students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors can float and paddle in a canoe rented from the Memorial Union's outdoor-rentals boathouse. That's a bargain for a little piece of serenity during a hectic semester or a chance to explore campus during the less stressful summer months. Sure, it's harder to pretend that you're studying while manning a canoe — and the brat stand isn't steps away — but the view more than makes up for those sacrifices.

It's more of an adventure for some canoe renters. Most of them have little or no experience, so staff members put the focus on safety before anyone hits the water in one of the two dozen seventeen-foot Grumman aluminum canoes kept by the boathouse. Some first-timers get hooked and go on to join the Hoofers Outing Club, making what might be one of campus's best-kept secrets into a regular pastime.

No statistics are available on the number of capsizes. But the remarkably sturdy canoes — many of which have been rented out for nearly thirty-five years — have held up well over the decades, with only some minor seam and seat damage.

One exception: several years ago, customers who rented a boat and decided to take it down the Wolf River ended up wrapping the canoe around a rock, where it apparently remained for a number of years. This incident resulted in a change in rental policies, to wit: rental canoes are no longer allowed to leave Lake Mendota.

Jenny Price '96

JEFF MILLER

What's your favorite UW tradition?
Tell *On Wisconsin* about it at onwisconsin@uwalumni.com, and we'll find out if it's just a fond memory — or if it's still part of campus life today.

How Does His Garden Grow?

A gardener's passion and private gifts support a beautiful public space.

Take a walk through Allen Centennial Gardens with its director, **Ed Lyon MS'01,** and your head can spin.

The burning bush that reached past the Dean's House porch roof is gone. The twisting knots of barberry hedge also are going. The irises have been torn out and replanted, leaving room for perennials among them. The vines on the pergola are ready for shearing. And the thicket of cut-leaf sumac — while persistent — doesn't stand a chance.

"I'm sure people might have rolled their eyes and wondered what was going on," says Lyon, a tall and lanky man who clearly loves this garden in the heart of UW-Madison. He first worked there during his student days, then returned in July 2008 after stints in Chicago and Janesville.

What makes the difference between mourning old favorites and embracing change is Lyon, who is exuberant when he talks about his plans. "I'm not taking this garden and changing it from a beautiful place," he says. "I'm modifying it to take it into the future."

What makes the bigger impression is how Lyon delivers. After the burning bush was down, he planted an arc of ten *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' to frame the house porch. The bed's four small maples and a variety of shrubs grafted to standards — so their branches begin about three feet above ground, leaving room for plantings below — present new options for smaller yards. Purple and chartreuse heucheras twine with Lady's Mantle in a sinuous knot garden in front of a splash of summer annuals.

An admitted plant addict, Lyon began his working career in dairy science, then returned to school in 1997. "I'm a home gardener," he says. "I came up through the ranks like anyone else and made a lot of mistakes." **Dennis Stimart,** a UW horticulture professor, describes Lyon as an incredible plantsman.

"The thing I thought was a hobby was a really deep passion," Lyon explains. "Every single one of us needs to be in something we feel passionate about."

As Allen Gardens turns twenty, Lyon acknowledges his debt to longtime head gardener **Bill Hoyt,** who initially built the grounds. After two decades, though, any public place needs to take stock. Lyon would like the Allen spot to become a popular stop for Madison visitors. The gardens must reach out to Generations X and Y, who have less connection to the land, he says.

Plans include raising funds for a new home-demonstration garden — featuring compost bins, rain barrels, and organic vegetables — that will address concerns about local, safe food. Mixing more kinds of plants into beds takes advantage of an explosion of new introductions, and experimenting with compost teas this year will start to make the gardens more organic and sustainable. The barberries are giving way to an herb garden, and University Housing Catering will use the gardens' produce beginning this year.

Allen Gardens was first developed as an outdoor classroom for university students, the public, and horticultural professionals. "We have a responsibility to be more than beautiful," Lyon says. Yet, while working at the Chicago Botanic Garden on 9/11, he also recognized an important need for beauty and serenity, as floods of people sought respite from the day's tragedy.

"[Lyon] is trying to stay one step ahead of the public and the industry," Stimart says. "That's what we're all about here. Pushing the envelope."

In addition to his plant knowledge, Lyon is committed to education and outreach, and he understands fundraising. Those skills are needed to raise Allen Gardens's visibility and to raise funds for a program that receives no state or university money.

"These gardens have been built entirely on the generosity of others," Lyon says.

Although Allen Gardens is the smallest garden in which he has worked, Lyon is passionate about its future. "This is the garden I started at," he says. "I love the university. I love this garden. It's like my baby."

Ann Grauvogl

For more information on how you can help UW-Madison, visit the UW Foundation Web site at www.uwfoundation.wisc.edu or call (608) 263-4545.

JEFF MILLER (2)

Allen Centennial Gardens serves as a classroom for students, gardeners and horticultural professionals — and as a serene getaway.

Badger connections

JEFF MILLER

Six Degrees, Then Separation?

A half dozen newly minted grads toss their caps after a spring commencement ceremony at the Kohl Center. The athletic facility has hosted UW-Madison graduations since 1998.

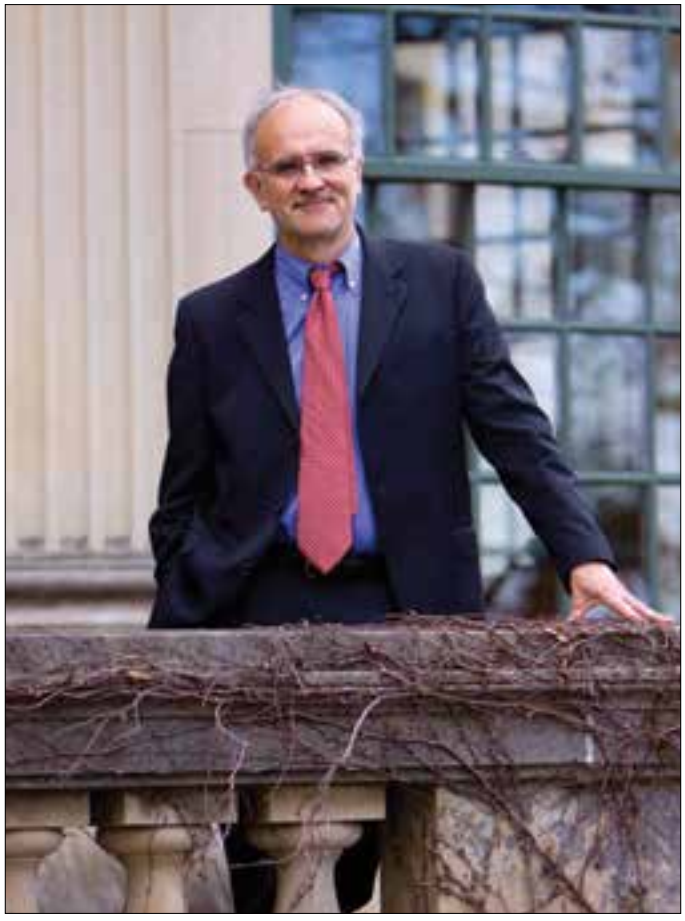
Wisconsin Storytellers

WAA honors outstanding alumni at 73rd annual awards program.

Five UW-Madison alumni were honored in April with the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Awards, the highest honor bestowed by the Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA). "We couldn't be prouder to recognize these outstanding UW alumni," says **Paula Bonner MS'78,** WAA's president and CEO. "Whether through their successful careers or their work in promoting the university, they are all storytellers in their own way."

The award celebrates outstanding UW-Madison graduates whose professional achievements, contributions to society, and support of the university exemplify the Wisconsin Idea.

Walt Bogdanich '75 earned his bachelor of arts degree in political science from UW-Madison, and is now the assistant editor on the investigative desk for the *New York Times*. He has also worked in television journalism for *60 Minutes* and the ABC news magazine *Day One*, where his exposé of the tobacco industry led to congressional hearings and changed the way society looks at cigarettes.



Walt Bogdanich's investigative reports helped expose the dark side of the cigarette industry. Noting that the UW turned him into a journalist, he said in his acceptance remarks, "I can't help but think the tobacco companies wish I'd gone to Michigan."

Bogdanich also sounded the alarm on issues ranging from substandard medical laboratories to toxic drugs imported from China. His hard-hitting journalism has earned him the distinction of being one of only a handful of people to win three Pulitzer Prizes, as well as four George Polk Awards, an IRE Award, and an Overseas Press Club award.

Bogdanich remains connected to campus and recently returned as a writer-in-residence in 2006, which he described as "a great opportunity for me to come back as an adult and see this campus that has meant so much to me."

BRENT NICASTRO (4)

Susan and Peter Straub focused their careers on literature. Susan's Read to Me program encourages parents to read to young children, and Peter's horror stories scare the daylights out of grown-ups.

Peter '65 and **Susan Bitker '66 Straub,** both graduates of the UW-Madison English department, have dedicated their lives to the importance of good literature.

As the author of eighteen novels and eight-time recipient of the Bram Stoker Award for horror fiction, Peter is one of America's leading figures in gothic literature. His titles include *Koko*, *Julia*, *Marriages*, and *Ghost Story*, as well as *The Talisman*, which he co-wrote with Stephen King.

"Stories tell us how the world works," says Peter. "They don't just distract us, they inform and lead us. They help us organize experience. I think they are necessary to human life. Above all, you can always count on stories to tell you the truth."

After earning her master's in clinical social work from New York University, Susan pioneered

her own award-winning program, Read to Me, which encourages parents to spend more time reading with their young children to enhance academic success later in life.

"Our society, starting with individual lives, is improved through stories and art," says Susan. "We need a literate society, people who enjoy books, stories, and art, and it all starts with picture books."

The Straubs are also founding members of the board of visitors for UW-Madison's English department, and they provide support for the department's Peter Straub Distinguished Writer-in-Residence series.

An eyewitness to four decades of U.S. foreign-policy, Jean Wilkowski made some history of her own, as the first woman to head an American diplomatic mission to an African nation.

Soon after graduating from the UW Law School, **Peter Weil '70, JD'74** moved to Los Angeles, where he is a managing partner of Glaser, Weil, Fink, Jacobs & Shapiro, LLP, and a widely recognized expert in real estate law. Most recently, Weil became head of the legal team working on one of the largest environmentally sustainable real estate developments in history, a Las Vegas project known as CityCenter.

A tireless and driven advocate on behalf of the university, Weil and his wife, Julie, host an annual reception in Los Angeles for prospective UW-Madison students. Weil also serves on the University of Wisconsin Foundation board of directors and has lent his support to the departments of political science and history, as well as the UW Law School, the Center for Jewish Studies, the College of Letters and Science, and the American Family Children's Hospital.

"L.A. is an interesting place: it's still a meritocracy, the climate is great, and there are a lot of Midwesterners here — a lot of good people," Weil says. "But my heart is still in Madison."

Los Angeles real estate attorney Peter Weil is a tireless advocate on behalf of the UW, both in Madison and in California.

After earning her master's degree in journalism from UW-Madison, **Jean Wilkowski MA'44** went into a career with the U.S. Foreign Service, where she developed an expertise in commercial affairs and helped negotiate the expansion of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which led to the creation of the World Trade Organization.

From 1972 to 1979, she served as ambassador to Zambia, making her the first woman to serve as a U.S. ambassador to an African nation. There, she helped change U.S. policy in southern Africa. In later years, Wilkowski continued to serve the State Department through an assignment at the United Nations, helping to organize the U.S. policy position for a world conference on science and technology. She has received six honorary degrees and published her autobiography, *Abroad for Her Country*, in April 2008.

"When I speak with students today," Wilkowski says, noting the long path that took her away from classic journalism, "I often tell them: don't expect to do what you've got your heart set on. I was much better prepared for journalism than I was for foreign service. But life gives you things you aren't prepared for, and you must learn along the way."

More information about the 2009 recipients and a video of the awards ceremony are available at uwalumni.com/daa.

Staff

Outstanding Alumni

Know an outstanding UW graduate?

We want to hear about him or her. Nominations for the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Awards and the 2010 Forward under 40 Awards (for alumni under age 40) are currently being accepted.

Visit uwalumni.com/awards for a list of award criteria and to submit nominations.

early years

We sent good birthday thoughts to **Frank Verhoek MS'30, PhD'33** of Granville, Ohio, as he turned one hundred in February. Thought to be the oldest living Rhodes Scholar in the U.S., Verhoek had a forty-year career as a professor of chemistry at Ohio State and worked with many other institutions and companies.

Additional "happy birthday" wishes — albeit more belated — went to **Clarence Alt '34,** the oldest member of the Sarasota-Manatee [Florida] alumni chapter. Alt turned 101 in September, loves to dance and go walking, and wouldn't miss his bacon, French toast, bourbon, or herring.

In 1948, **Elmer Winter '35, LLB'35** co-founded Manpower and built the employment-services company from one rented Milwaukee storefront to a $21 billion enterprise with 4,500 offices in eighty countries and territories. Only Winter and his two CEO successors have led the company for sixty years. They commemorated that anniversary on November 14 by ringing the bell to end the trading session on Wall Street.

When **Russell Peterson '38, PhD'42** has a birthday party, folks show up! About 450 people attended the party/fundraiser for his Delaware Community Foundation in Wilmington when he turned ninety-two in October. Many spoke of Peterson's legacy as the governor of Delaware from 1969 until 1973, and about his passion for environmental and social-justice issues. He received a Distinguished Alumni Award from WAA in 2006.

"This is probably the biggest thing I've done in my life — and I'm eighty-one."
— Leonard Eisert '53

Please send word of your recent accomplishments, transitions, and other significant life events by e-mailing the (brief, please) details to papfelbach@waastaff.com; mailing them to Alumni News, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1476; or faxing them to (608) 265-8771. Our submissions far exceed our publishing space, but we love to hear from you anyway.

Please e-mail death notices and all address, name, telephone, and e-mail updates to alumnichanges@uwalumni.com; mail them to Alumni Changes, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1476; fax them to (608) 262-3332; or call them in to (608) 262-9648 or toll free to (888) 947-2586.

Most obituary listings of WAA members and friends appear in the Badger Insider, *WAA's member publication.*

'40s–'50s

Ervin Johnson LLB'41 is a generous man. Spouse **(Constance) Phyllis Berget Johnson '39** shares that the ninety-two-year-old Darlington, Wisconsin, lawyer (who still goes to his office) gave $1 million to Luther College in 1988; has given another $1 million since the 1970s to help Lafayette County students attend the UW and other schools; and provided $1.25 million to create the town's Johnson Public Library.

In November, former President Bush awarded a 2008 National Humanities Medal — the country's most prestigious award in the humanities — to radio host **Milton Rosenberg MA'48** during a White House ceremony. Known for his erudite guests and scholarly approach, Rosenberg has been the lone host of a talk show about books, *Extension 720 with Milt Rosenberg*, five nights a week since 1973 on Chicago's WGN. He's also a University of Chicago professor emeritus.

R.A. (Roscoe) "Ike" Hastings '50, MS'55 of Freeport, Illinois — who's "age eighty-four and still dancing" — gets our vote for joie de vivre. He builds riverboats, and his forty-eighth creation, the *Pickett Hastings* (which has Motion *W*s affixed to its smoke stacks), won the two biggest summer races on the Ohio River in 2008. "Just wanted everyone to know that I'm a happy UW grad," he says, "and have at least twenty years left."

How would you like to have a scholarly festival named after you? We heard about just such a thing — Simon Fest — taking place at the University of Iowa in October. The event, subtitled Responding to the Source of Stimulation: An Interdisciplinary Conference in Tribute to J. Richard Simon, honored the influential work of University of Iowa industrial-psychology professor emeritus **J. (Jennings) Richard Simon '51, MS'53, PhD'55.**

"This is probably the biggest thing I've done in my life — and I'm eighty-one," writes **Leonard Eisert '53.** He's referring to the Veterans Wall of Honor that he initiated in 2001 in his home town of Bella Vista, Arkansas — a tribute to all who have served since 1776. Eisert and others raised funds, secured a site, designed and built the memorial, and dedicated it in 2004.

The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology has bestowed its Special Recognition Award on **E. (Ewald) Richard Stiehm '54, MD'57,** a distinguished professor of pediatrics at UCLA who focuses on pediatric immune disorders.

Do you remember "the day the music died"? **Bob Hale '57** of Park Ridge, Illinois, certainly does. Early in his broadcasting career, he led weekly record hops for radio station KRIB at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa. Among the Surf's shows was Buddy Holly's last concert on February 2, 1959 — Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson died in a plane crash after that performance.

In November, the *Manila Times*'s Internet edition ran a column about playwright, writer, and set designer **Amelia Lapeña-Bonifacio MA'58** — the founder of the Teatrong Mulat ng Pilipinas theater company. Hailed as the "grande dame of southeast Asian children's theater" and "a national treasure," she spoke this fall on "The Challenging Art of Puppetry in Medicine and Education" at the University of the Philippines' centennial celebration.

"The voice of America's 75 million hikers" — the American Hiking Society — has a new chair of its board: **(Leroy) Robert Rubright MS'58.** The Kirkwood, Missouri, resident has also written two hiking guides and a restaurant guide for the St. Louis, Missouri, area.

"I owe my life to the English department at the University of Wisconsin," says **Mary Dalton Howard '59, MA'61.** A tall statement? Perhaps not: that education has provided the Highland Park, New Jersey,

English teacher with a twenty-eight-year career in public schools, and this summer, she'll teach Chinese students conversational English through Global Volunteers in Kunming, China.

'60s

Dance Teacher magazine has given its 2008 Dance Teacher Award for Higher Education to **Jan Van Dyke '63,** a professor and the chair of dance at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, as well as the founder and director of the North Carolina Dance Festival.

Michael Mann '65: Location, Location, Location

Location matters to **Michael Mann '65.** The famously meticulous filmmaker grounds his movies in detailed settings so vivid they became characters unto themselves. From South Florida's pastel urbanscape featured in TV's iconic *Miami Vice*, to the verdant forests evoking early American wilderness *(The Last of the Mohicans),* Mann makes sure his settings contribute mightily to the storytelling.

PETER MOUNTAIN/UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Mann on location in Columbus, Wisconsin

His new crime drama, *Public Enemies,* continues that legacy. But this time, Mann, a Chicago native, turned his camera toward familiar stomping grounds. Filmed last spring mainly in Wisconsin and the Chicago area, *Public Enemies* opens July 1 and chronicles the real-life pursuit of Depression-era bank robber John Dillinger (played by Johnny Depp) by FBI agent Melvin Purvis (Christian Bale). The manhunt led through a succession of Midwest haunts before culminating in a bloody takedown in front of Chicago's Biograph Theater on July 22, 1934.

"There is no place else in America I can think of where [the] 1930s or '20s or '40s is as vivid as it is in Wisconsin," Mann says. "I'd forgotten how beautiful the state is."

By the time production began in March 2008, the writer-director had settled on a roster of evocative Wisconsin locales, including Beaver Dam, Columbus, Darlington, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Baraboo, and Madison. "We found stunning locations, particularly for a period piece," he says. "In the southwestern corner of the state, not much has changed since the '30s. County squares are still intact, court houses haven't been remodeled, and there aren't tall buildings or Wal-Marts on the edge of town, so that became a really valuable asset for us."

Mann also recreated a historic gunfight sequence at Little Bohemia Lodge in Manitowish Waters. In 1934, the summer resort was riddled with bullets when Dillinger crony Baby Face Nelson (Stephen Graham) killed a federal agent. Mann recalls the thrill of shooting on site: "Johnny Depp spent time on the same bed, in the same bedroom that Dillinger stayed in when the shootout happened, and escaped exactly through the same window Dillinger did. To see the actor put his hand on the same doorknob that John Dillinger turned when he left — that's when physical spaces really begin to speak to you."

Location also plays a central role in Mann's personal life. His return to Madison decades after earning a BA in English brought "a moment of clarity when I walked into the Rathskeller," he says. "I sat down at just about the same place I'd sit at in 1964 when I was figuring out what I wanted to do with my life, looking out the same window where I realized I wanted to make films. It was kind of bizarre, in a really good way."

Though *Public Enemies* takes place seventy-five years ago, the hard economic times that spawned Dillinger and his gang should resonate with contemporary audiences. As Mann points out, "In 1933, the fourth year of the Great Depression, unemployment in Chicago hit 44 percent. A lot of it was blamed on the banks and the seeming incapability of the federal government to alleviate the misery. Banks didn't garner a lot of sympathy, so when you have well-spoken, charismatic John Dillinger holding up banks and outsmarting the Feds, in a funny way, he became this celebrity outlaw who kind of spoke for the mass sentiment in the United States at that time."

Hugh Hart '72

Cora Bagley Marrett MA'65, PhD'68 was named acting deputy director of the National Science Foundation in January, after serving as its assistant director for education and human resources. Marrett, of Arlington, Virginia, is also a UW-Madison professor emerita of sociology and a former UW System senior VP for academic affairs.

IEEE, the world's largest technical professional society, has given its IEEE Control Systems Award to **Mathukumalli Vidyasagar '65, MS'67, PhD'69** of Bangalore, India. He's the executive VP of Tata Consultancy Services, that nation's largest IT-services company. In 2004, *IEEE Spectrum* magazine named Vidyasagar one of its "Forty Tech Gurus."

What would we do without people who are willing to mentor others? **Erwin "Pete" Peters '67, PhD'74** doesn't want to find out, which is why he's the executive director of InnovateVMS, the free, venture-mentoring service of Innovate St. Louis [Missouri].

A winter dispatch from the *JoongAng Daily*, a Korean English-language newspaper, described the complexities of some of South Korea's conglomerates and the families who run them. Among them is energy expert **Dong-soo (Huh) Hur MS'68, PhD'71** of Seoul, the chair and CEO of GS Caltex. He's been nicknamed "Mr. Oil of Korea," but these days Hur focuses on renewable energy.

'70s

Said Abdel-Khalik MS'71, PhD'73 is the new vice chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. The former UW professor is now on the faculty of the Georgia

Institute of Technology in Atlanta. **Michael Corradini** is also a committee member; he's chair of UW-Madison's nuclear engineering and engineering physics program.

Carol Bartz '71 — who grew up on a farm near Alma, Wisconsin — was all over the headlines in January after becoming the CEO of Yahoo. Known for her clear focus and no-nonsense approach, Bartz takes with her a substantial track record as the former CEO and executive chair of design-software firm Autodesk, and from her work at Sun Microsystems, Digital Equipment Corporation, and 3M.

When Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was sworn in on January 21, her childhood friend **Kay (Kathryn) Oberly '71, JD'73** administered the oath of office. Oberly, now an associate judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, had previously served as vice chair and general counsel at Ernst & Young.

An honorary PhD from ETZ Zurich, a science and technology university in Switzerland, has gone to **Nancy Beckage '72.** She's a professor in the Department of Neuroscience, the Department of Entomology and Cell Biology, and the Center for Disease Vector Research at the University of California-Riverside. She's also edited *Insect Immunology* (Academic Press/Elsevier).

Steven Landfried MS'72, PhD'78 of Edgerton, Wisconsin, was looking forward to the adventure of being a "sixty-four-year-old UW alumnus living out a dream at the Milwaukee Brewer Fantasy Camp" in February. He hadn't picked up a ball since his high school and undergrad playing days, so Landfried prepared well: he worked out with former major-league pitcher Brad Woodall.

Tony Dreyfuss '97: The Philosophy of Joe

In the nearly six and a half years it took **Tony Dreyfuss '97** to graduate with a philosophy degree, he'd held just about every possible odd job in Madison: delivering Big Mike's Super Subs and Rozino's pizzas, selling Fudgesicles from an ice-cream truck on campus, driving a Badger cab. In between — and sometimes during — his shifts, he sat in Steep & Brew on State Street nursing a cup of coffee. "I loved the culture," he says. "There were all shades of people there."

DAN DRY

Tony Dreyfuss spills the beans.

In the academic realm, Dreyfuss found French existentialist philosophy "sexy." But when he finally graduated, he had no idea what he wanted to do with his life. So Dreyfuss and his then-girlfriend-now-wife, **Karen Stachura Dreyfuss '99,** moved to Portland, Oregon.

He got a job at a Peet's Coffee as a floor sweeper, and almost immediately found himself obsessed with high-quality joe. Dreyfuss worked his way up to trainer and shift leader before joining the management team. Meanwhile, his father, an Indonesian-language professor at the University of Washington, was similarly smitten with coffee after befriending the master roaster at Seattle's acclaimed Caffé Vita.

Dreyfuss's philosophy background prepared him to deliberate ideas slowly, but impulse took over when he and his father attended the mecca of all things java, Seattle's Coffee Fest, in 2001. With little hesitation, they bought a $40,000 roaster. And not owning a coffee shop where they could put it did not deter them; they decided to build one. After months of scouting locations, Dreyfuss — who had by then moved to Chicago — settled on a spot near Loyola University Chicago's Lake Shore campus in the diverse Edgewater neighborhood.

Dreyfuss and his father named the shop Metropolis Coffee Company, after Tony's interpretation of Plato's writings about the order of the polis in *The Republic*. "I think that the idea of a collection of city-states where everyone lived free from conflict is amazing," he says, noting a definite parallel with the eclectic assemblage at Metropolis, where immigrants from Ethiopia sit alongside those from Pakistan, India, and Korea, and students and professors lounge with cab drivers and accountants.

Since Metropolis opened in 2003, it's garnered publicity in publications ranging from *Saveur* (which named the shop's single-origin San Rafael Lot 1 coffee one of the nine best in the country) to London's *Evening Standard*. The key to Metropolis' success? "We've stayed true to our mission," says Dreyfuss. "All we want to do is ensure that everyone can get a great cup of coffee."

Zak Stambor

Author Jeffrey Scott Holland was so captivated by **Patrick Moore MD'74** — his "highly idiosyncratic" public-access TV show, *Louisville Late Night*; his performances of original songs (mooresongs.com) around the world; and his "daring to promote a 'peace and love' message" — that Moore, of New Albany, Indiana, made it into Holland's *Weird Kentucky: Your Travel Guide to Kentucky's Local Legends and Best-Kept Secrets* (Sterling Publishing). Rock on!

Bruce Ravid '74 has long been a UW supporter in many ways, but one that really makes waves is his annual marathon broadcast on the university's student station, WSUM. He does it, he says, because "college radio changed my life": it paved the way for his A&R (artists and repertoire) job at Capitol Records — the star-maker for The Knack (yup, "My Sharona") and many other bands. He now owns the executive search firm Ravid & Associates in Sherman Oaks, California.

Terry Elsas Colella '75, '76 of Kirkland, Washington, probably didn't plan to found a nonprofit, but she took action when her son, now a UW student, was diagnosed with FSHD, a type of muscular dystrophy. The Friends of FSH Research (fshfriends.org) raises funds to

support research for treatment or a cure. We thank **Mary Lock Albrecht '73, MA'96** of Verona, Wisconsin, for sharing this story about her college friend.

Charles, George, Tom, and **Mark '88 Crave** are doing well indeed as the proprietors of Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese and the Crave Brothers Farm. (The three eldest siblings graduated from the UW's ag short course in 1975, 1977, and 1978, respectively.) Their rapidly expanding operation in Waterloo, Wisconsin, uses the latest in environmental technology, produces award-winning cheeses, and has earned them the Dairymen of the Year award. They'll also host Wisconsin Farm Technology Days in July.

When the Counselors of Real Estate convened in December, **James Curtis III MS'76** was there to receive the Landauer/White Award for his professionalism, leadership, and community service. He's principal of his own San Francisco real estate firm, the Bristol Group, and was a chief supporter of the UW's Graaskamp Center for Real Estate.

Ann Wenzel Gallagher '76 of Gary, Indiana, has been riding across Africa on a bicycle. Her Tour d'Afrique is a four-month, 7,300-mile journey from Cairo, Egypt, to Cape Town, South Africa, that's raising money for the Global Alliance for Africa (globalallianceafrica.org). Gallagher, an "adventure philanthropist," has already led five trips up Mount Kilimanjaro on behalf of the group as well.

Personal experiences with addiction have led **Charles Greene II '77** to to help others who face similar challenges. He's been promoted to executive director of Northwestern Human Services' New Jersey Division of Addictive Diseases in Camden, the largest social-services agency in the nation. Under Greene's direction, it has received a $9.6 million grant to create mobile addiction-treatment services for IV drug users.

'80s

Bill Roach '82 is a Madison-based videographer with the heart of a storyteller who shares his tales as features on ESPN. He's also taken his camera to five continents over eighteen months to capture stories of inspiration and survival. One — called "Still Alive," which revisited the survivors of a 1972 plane crash in the Andes that became the subject of the book *Alive* — earned Roach's ESPN team an Emmy nomination and an Edward R. Murrow Award.

"Upon much soul searching for my calling, I decided to quit corporate America and become a yoga teacher." — Adrienne Hengels Saeger '02

"Phoenix, Arizona — the fifth largest city in the country — has finally gotten a children's museum," writes **Deborah Gilpin '83.** After four years as president and CEO of the Children's Museum of Phoenix, she led the June 2008 opening of the seventy-thousand-square-foot museum in a landmark 1913 elementary school.

Who's the new president and CEO of Travelocity Global in Southlake, Texas? It's **Hugh Jones '85,** who most recently served as COO of Sabre Travel Network and Sabre Airline Solutions. All three companies are part of Sabre Holdings.

Hong Kong Polytechnic University's Department of Mechanical Engineering has appointed associate professor **Tat Leung Chan '86, MS'88** as the program leader of MS degrees in automotive engineering design. He also received a 2007–08 Faculty Merit Award in Research and Scholarly Activities from the school and is a core member of its Research Centre for Combustion and Pollution Control.

Stephen Mally '86 says "G'day" from Down Under. He's recently relocated from Boston to Sydney, Australia, to become the principal consultant for Blackbaud, a provider of software and consulting to charities, nonprofits, and educational institutions. Mally has started a Facebook group called University of Wisconsin Alumni Living in Sydney, so if you *are* one, join in!

As a founder of the Great Wolf Resort water parks, **Marc Vaccaro '86** used to focus on water. But now he's turned his attention to the pongamia pinnata tree — the oil from its seeds has potential as a biofuel. Vaccaro serves on the board of Roshini International Bio-Energy of Hyderabad, India, which planted massive numbers of trees and is helping impoverished farmers.

E-Learn 2008, a conference held in Las Vegas in November, brought co-program chairs **Curt Bonk MS'87, PhD'89** and **Tom Reynolds MS'85, PhD'89** together with one of the event's keynote speakers: **Ellen Deutsch Wagner '73, MS'75.** A managing partner at Sonoma [California] Solutions Group, her topic was "Minding the Gap: Sustaining eLearning Innovation."

Co-developing a two-stage excimer laser used in semiconductor manufacturing has earned **William Partlo '87** second place in the 2008 Berthold Leibinger Innovationspreis. The award, for novel applied-laser technology, is given biennially by the German nonprofit Berthold Leibinger Stiftung. Partlo is the chief technical officer at Cymer in San Diego, California.

The new president and COO of OnMobile Global — headquartered in Bangalore, India — is **Sanjay Uppal MS'87.** He was most recently the VP of application networking for Citrix Systems in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The Paddlesports Industry Association's annual Chairman Award for service and leadership has gone to **Darren Bush '88.** A member of the group's board, he owns the Monona, Wisconsin-based Rutabaga Paddlesports, which hosts Madison's annual Canoecopia exposition.

There's soon to be a PharmD at UD — the first doctor of pharmacy degree available at the University of Dallas, that is. The founding dean and professor is **George MacKinnon III '88, MS'90,** who was previously the vice president of academic affairs at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Faisal Mushtaq '88 is the new senior VP of product development for AllscriptsMisys Healthcare Solutions. The Raleigh, North Carolina, firm provides software and connectivity to healthcare providers.

Known for his innovative approaches to arts management, **Mark Nerenhausen MA'88** has ended his decade-long leadership of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to become CEO of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts. The ten-acre, $354 million, multiple-venue complex will open in October, completing a thirty-year vision for the Dallas Arts District.

Tasha (Natasha) Breines Museles '89 is the new chief development officer at the Jewish Social Service Agency in Rockville, Maryland. She did similar work in her previous post at the Asbury Foundation. The nonsectarian agency has provided support services in the Washington, D.C., area for more than a century.

U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel **Paul Olsen '89** has seen many things since taking command of the 249th Engineer Battalion in July 2007. He and his soldiers have served in Afghanistan, offered Gulf Coast hurricane relief, and provided electrical power to Baghdad, Sadr City, and the army's base camps in Iraq.

'90s

Two Badger veterinarians have been instrumental in developing the Healing Heart Foundation, a nonprofit in northeastern Wisconsin that provides dignified, home-based, end-of-life care for companion animals. **Lisa Converse Peters '91, DVM'95** of Freedom and **Lisa Flood DVM'98** of Neenah serve on the foundation's board and as hospice-care veterinarians with its Healing Heart Pet Hospice.

Hey, New Jersey Nets fans! Did you know there's a Badger in the front office? **Barry Baum '92** is VP of business and entertainment communications for the basketball team, but he also heads PR for the Barclays Center, the Nets' planned home in Brooklyn, New York, beginning with the 2011–12 season.

Not only was **Neil Willenson '92** one of WAA's 2009 Forward under 40 winners, but he's also a winner in the eyes of *GQ*. The magazine named the founder and CEO of the Milwaukee-based nonprofits One Heartland and Camp Heartland its Local Hero of the Year in the December issue. Willenson founded the camp and care program for children whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS while he was a UW student.

A former Wisconsin football player — **Aaron Norvell '93** — met a former UCLA football player — actor Mark Harmon — on the CBS drama *NCIS* this spring. In an episode titled "South by Southwest," Norvell portrayed a police officer in a crime scene with Harmon, who plays Special Agent Leroy Jethro Gibbs. Norvell lives in Hermosa Beach, California.

Geo-archaeologist **Beverly Goodman '95** has been chosen as one of *National Geographic*'s 2009 Emerging Explorers. The program supports inspiring young achievers in diverse fields with $10,000 each for research and further exploration. As a Hebrew University postdoc researcher who specializes in coastlines, Goodman is doing fieldwork in Caesarea, Israel, where Herod the Great built a massive harbor that was destroyed by a tsunami.

Congratulations to **Susan Hildebrandt '95**! The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and *Modern Language Journal* have given her the 2008 Birkmaier Dissertation Award for Foreign Language Education. Hildebrandt is an assistant professor of Spanish and the Graduate Modern Languages Program coordinator at Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia.

When **Yeonhwa Park PhD'96** was a UW grad student, she saw that conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) reduced body fat in lab animals. Now, as an assistant food-science professor at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, she's received a two-year, $407,000 grant from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine to test whether combining CLA with calcium could help to prevent and treat osteoporosis.

Michelle Bartelt Richard '96, MS'98 has been around the world on a shoestring. She and her spouse saved money for five years; planned a ten-month, budget-conscious trip; put their careers on hold (she co-owns an Appleton, Wisconsin, marketing firm called Coalesce); and visited twenty-two countries, each carrying only a small backpack!

As the chief financial officer of the Chicago-based Tribune Company, **Chandler Bigelow MBA'97** is a key player in the effort to save one of the nation's largest media conglomerates while it restructures its debt under Chapter 11. Bigelow's job includes selling New York's *Newsday*, the Cubs baseball team, and Wrigley Field, among other cost-cutting measures.

A Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers — the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on scientists and engineers who are beginning their careers — has gone to **Maura Jenkins Borrego '98,** an assistant professor in the Virginia Tech Department of Engineering Education. The National Science Foundation nominated her for her efforts to better prepare educators and grad students for interdisciplinary research.

Ecological restoration is both the focus of the Golden Hour Restoration Institute and the passion of its founding director, **Lech Naumovich '98.** The Berkeley, California-based nonprofit provides educational opportunities, project management, and collaboration building to help restore wild habitats in the state.

2000s

Adrienne Hengels Saeger '02 began a career in product development and marketing research, but, she says, "Upon much soul searching for my calling, I decided to quit corporate America and become a yoga teacher." Saeger has now established Power of Your Om Yoga Studio in Naperville, Illinois, and this summer she qualified (on her first try!) for the 2009 Ironman World Championships, to be held in Hawaii in October.

Greg Tracy MS'02 and **Dale Beermann '02** have founded Sharendipity, which aims to "empower people to create things." The Madison-based company offers a Web platform that simplifies software creation so that anyone can make and share "casual games": simple puzzle, action, and strategy games that have been very popular on social networks.

The Memory Project, founded in 2004 by Madisonian **Ben Schumaker '03, MSW'06,** is an unusual nonprofit in which high school art students create original portraits for children who have been abandoned, orphaned, or abused. (It was *On Wisconsin*'s Summer 2006 cover story.) In August, Schumaker launched YouMoveMe.org, an initiative that shares essays written by youth worldwide whose challenges have given them much to say about hope and the human experience.

After receiving his PhD from Cal Tech, **Daniel Stark '03** chose from among three eminent postdoc fellowships, opting to continue his research at the University of Cambridge [England] with funding from the Science and Technology Facilities Council. Stark was also the lead author of "The Formation and Assembly of a Typical Star-Forming Galaxy

at Redshift Z ≈ 3" and the subject of the Authors page in the October 9 issue of *Nature*. Thank you to **Bennett Stark PhD'82** of Atlanta for letting us know.

More than one of us at Class Notes HQ would like to be **Sarah Schweich '04,** the 2009 Queen of the Snows. As such, the Minneapolis resident is a yearlong goodwill ambassador for both neighboring St. Paul and its January Winter Carnival — the nation's oldest and largest event of its kind. When not sporting a tiara, Schweich is in sales and marketing with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

StudyBlue, the Madison-based online academic network that began in 2006 as the Class Connection, is the brainchild of **Chris Klündt '05** and **Dave Sargent '06.** Founded to help study groups communicate and provide a way to make flashcards online, it's grown into a nationwide, student-driven network that offers many services. StudyBlue has added **Becky (Rebecca) Delaney Splitt '85** as its CEO, and former UW chancellor **John Wiley MS'65, PhD'68** and Madison entrepreneur **Eric Apfelbach '84** to its board.

Rumba Meets Raga is a new CD by Anjuman: Indian/Afro-Cuban Ensemble, a three-member group in which **Brandon McIntosh MMusic'05** plays sarod, a stringed instrument. Based in Seattle, McIntosh has performed internationally and has lived in Calcutta, studying Indian classical music with his guru.

Sally Armbruster '06 gets to hang out with Michelle Obama! She's putting her background in event planning and design to work as the new staff assistant to the First Lady's social secretary. Armbruster has also founded a personal-assistance and event-management company with a focus on charitable organizations.

Charles Hardes '07 and **Kevin Newton '08** have been commissioned as Marine Corps second lieutenants after completing the rigorous Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia.

Keith Agoada '08 became interested in growing vegetables hydroponically on the rooftops of grocery stores after winning the $10,000 top prize for his concept in the 2008 G. Steven Burrill Business Plan Competition through the UW School of Business. Now the Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, entrepreneur has founded the urban-agriculture firm Sky Vegetables, and organized the Building Integrated Sustainable Agriculture Summit.

Throughout his career — including his current role as a math instructor at Madison's Cherokee Middle School — **Chris Dyer '08** has dedicated himself to helping children succeed and to serving as a male African-American role model. His latest endeavor began as a class project when he was a returning UW adult student; it's an educational board game about geometry called Angleside School Adventure (Learning Resources).

The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps is benefiting from the work of **Andrew Thornton '08** of St. Paul, Minnesota, and **Christa Wittenberg '08** of Sturtevant, Wisconsin. Thornton is in Austin, Texas, assisting the Federal Emergency Management Agency in its disaster-recovery centers, while Wittenberg has served in Boise, Idaho, helping to prepare for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

Class Notes compiler Paula Wagner Apfelbach '83 often wishes that objects in the rear-view mirror were not closer than they appear.

Calendar

Ongoing

Wednesday Nite @ the Lab
Explore the latest work of UW researchers in the life, earth, and social sciences at this free, weekly program on the UW-Madison campus. uwalumni.com/wednitelab

July

Ending July 12 Underground Classics: The Transformation of Comics into Comix, 1963–1990
Explore original art, printed pages, and comic book covers of the comix culture over the last three decades at this Chazen Museum of Art exhibit. chazen.wisc.edu

September

5 Alumni Band Reunion
Alumni Band members are invited back to campus for a weekend of events and the chance to play at the football game versus Northern Illinois. uwalumni.com/band

19 Made in Wisconsin: Focus on Nature
Explore the geology of the Baraboo Hills in Wisconsin through WAA's popular lifelong learning series. uwalumni.com/madeinwi

25 Food for Thought Lecture
Michael Pollan, activist and author of *In Defense of Food*, a publication recently selected for the UW's Go Big Read program, gives a public lecture to kick off the Food for Thought Festival. www.humanities.wisc.edu/pollan

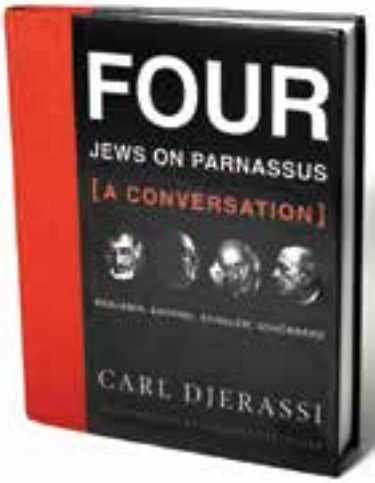
26 Power of Priority Forum
Learn about the current state of the university and advocate for its future at this annual Alumni for Wisconsin forum. uwalumni.com

2009 Badger Student Sendoffs
Share your advice and Wisconsin experiences this summer with incoming first-year students at a local Badger Student Send-Off. Get more details and find an event in your area at uwalumni.com/chapters.

Homecoming 2009
Save the dates for Homecoming 2009, set for October 9–17. Festivities for this year's theme, Bucky's Game Show Challenge, include the annual 5K Charity Run/Walk, Golf Outing, Parade, and All-Alumni Reception. Get details and register for events at uwalumni.com/homecoming.

On Wisconsin! Off to Hawaii!
Say "aloha" to two great Hawaiian vacations featuring the Badger men's basketball team (November 21–27, 2009) and football team (November 29–December 6, 2009). uwalumni.com/hawaii09

For more information: (888) WIS-ALUM or visit uwalumni.com.



Four Jews on Parnassus (A Conversation): Benjamin, Adorno, Scholem, Schönberg (Columbia University Press) is a dramatized interaction among these four men about fraternity, religious identity, legacy — and their wives. Its author is Carl Djerassi PhD'45 of San Francisco: a novelist, playwright, and Stanford University emeritus professor of chemistry who's earned the National Medal of Science for the first synthesis of an oral contraceptive, as well as the National Medal of Technology.

Deaf Lives in Contrast: Two Women's Stories (Gallaudet University Press) contains the collection of stories that Dorothy (Dvora) Becker Shurman '46 tells about life with her deaf parents. She's a professional storyteller, poet, and the founder of an English storytelling center in her home city of Tel Aviv, Israel.

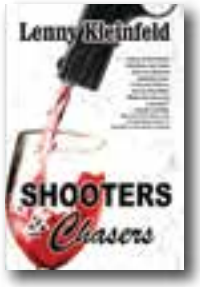
Twelve Stones: Notes on a Miraculous Journey (Regal Books) is "the story of unbelievable miracles in a very believable woman's life — an intensely personal, unorthodox journey to faith." Author Barbara Carole (also known as Barbara Shatzkin Royce Extract '63, MA'65) of Issaquah, Washington, has also ghostwritten books for Jacques Cousteau.

Start 'Em Right ... Keep 'Em Playing: Skills, Drills, and Strategies for Coaching Young Ball Players (iUniverse) has arrived in time for summer. It's written by Michael Schmidt '64, a retired pharmacologist and research director who's spent his leisure time coaching on the softball field. He splits his year between New Smyrna Beach, Florida, and Williamston, Vermont.

With Picks, Shovels, & Hope: The CCC and Its Legacy on the Colorado Plateau (Mountain Press Publishing Company) is co-authored by Elizabeth George Green '67 of Bayfield, Colorado. With all of the recent focus on what can be learned from the Great Depression, this is a timely offering.

Millennial Makeover: MySpace, YouTube, and the Future of American Politics (Rutgers University Press) by co-author Michael Hais MA'67 of Silver Spring, Maryland, was named one of the *New York Times*'s ten favorites for 2008.

Shooters & Chasers (Five Star) is, says its author, Lenny Kleinfeld '69, a "criminal comedy of manners," and *Kirkus Reviews* praises the debut novel for its "appealing heroes and villains, quirky love story, wit, style, and suspense." Kleinfeld lives in L.A. with his spouse, National Public Radio correspondent Ina Jaffe '72.



LeMay: The Life and Wars of General Curtis LeMay (Regnery Publishing) explores the "timely question of proportional response in war," according to author Warren Kozak '73. The work touches on World War II, the Cold War, and the 1968 election.

The Ten Commandments of Baseball: An Affectionate Look at Joe McCarthy's Principles for Success in Baseball (and Life) (Sporting Chance Press), by Milwaukee attorney J.D. (James) Thorne '73, explores the legends surrounding major-league manager Joe McCarthy and offers a foreword by Commissioner Bud (Allan) Selig '56. Thorne is working to reinstate baseball as a UW sport.

Meditations on Hope: Nurses' Stories about Motivation and Inspiration and **A Call to Nursing: Nurses' Stories about Challenge and Commitment** (both Kaplan Publishing) are recent anthologies co-edited by Paula Wettstein Sergi '75 of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She's also contributed to the new *Reflections on Doctors: Nurses' Stories about Physicians and Surgeons* (Kaplan).

The Minnesota Almanac (Trails Books) is a "compendium of year-round wit, wisdom, and practical knowledge" created for those living in, gardening in, or even just visiting our neighbor to the west. Author Candice Gaukel Andrews '77 of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, specializes in nature and travel subjects.

10 Strategies for Reentering the Workforce: Career Advice for Anyone Who Needs a Good (or Better) Job Now (Praeger Publishers) couldn't have come at a better time. Its author is Mary Dyson Ghilani '81, MS'83, director of career services at Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.

The Bill of Rights and **The Declaration of Independence** (both Barron's Educational Series) are the latest in the children's series about American history and government that author Syl Sobel JD'83 originally began writing for his daughters. He lives in North Potomac, Maryland.

Think Outside the Can (Trafford Publishing) blends a passion for environmentalism with a claymation-type bird who teaches kids about recycling. Author Jill Weinberg Pfeiffer '95 is an artist, activist, and the development director of Madison's Lussier Community Education Center.

In **The Teashop Girls** (Simon & Schuster), a debut young-adult novel set in Madison, local author Laura Schaefer '01 empowers three tweens to save the Steeping Leaf teashop before the new coffee chain store across the street devours it.

Bold Gestures

By Vikki Ortiz '97

RICK NASS

It was graduation night in Madison. I wasn't graduating, but my friend Jenni was, and she was determined to mark her foray into adulthood with a bold gesture. So she dragged me and two other girlfriends to the old, rickety, white pier on Lake Mendota just off of Carroll Street.

We were going to go skinny-dipping.

That's the night I first met Shawn. He and his friends happened to be out celebrating, too. It was the night before Shawn's twenty-first birthday.

Within moments, we had struck one of those deals that only make sense when you're young. Girls and guys jump into the lake. Guys climb back onto the pier and lift the girls out. We figured we'd do this crazy thing and never see each other again.

Except that we did.

Shawn and I bumped into each other numerous times that summer of 1996. On State Street, dancing to the guitar of "Jim," the street performer who led sing-alongs for the post-bar crowd. At State Street Brats, where I worked the grill on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

After enough of these run-ins, Shawn said he wished we could see each other more often. I agreed, and we started dating. We went to the Chinese restaurant, China Moon, just off of the Capitol Square. To Ella's Deli on State Street for dessert. To James Madison Park, where, on a picturesque Saturday afternoon, we watched a wedding party pour out of the chapel.

I remember thinking, "Could Shawn be the guy I'm going to end up with?"

But then I quickly dismissed the idea with, "Of course not. We're just kids."

Nonetheless, Shawn and I fell in love in downtown Madison the way I imagine thousands of UW students do every year. The campus and our time there was our common ground, our shared experience, the place where we both belonged, while belonging to each other.

Senior year flew by, and I graduated with plans to see the world. Shawn graduated, too, but he decided to go back to the UW to earn a teaching certificate, which would take another two years. We did our best to keep the relationship going, but after nearly four years of long-distance phone calls, bus tickets, and rented cars, Shawn and I broke up. And, but for a few birthday and Christmas cards at first, we lost touch completely.

Over the next seven years, I did what I said I wanted to do: moved around the country, got jobs at big newspapers, traveled. But to my surprise, the journey taught me that I was happiest in the Midwest. I settled back at the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, writing a column and a blog.

Over the next seven years, Shawn did what he said he wanted to do: stayed in Wisconsin, got jobs teaching social studies and coaching football, traveled. But to his surprise, his journey taught him that he was ready for a bigger city. He moved to Chicago, where he taught high school for four years, got his master's degree in political science, then became the resident scholar at a downtown museum.

It was from his desk at the museum that, early in spring 2007, Shawn reached out to me in an e-mail. We agreed to meet for coffee in downtown Chicago. When I got out of the cab and saw him waiting for me on a bench, I thought my heart was going to pump blood out of my ears. I recognized everything — his tall, lean build; the nod of his head; his voice, which I'd listened to on the phone for years.

But then there were things that I didn't know at all. Where were you during the 9/11 attacks? How did you end up living and working on the Magnificent Mile? So, you drink lattes now?

Two hours that afternoon was not nearly long enough.

We started dating again. We went to sushi restaurants just off of Chicago's Restaurant Row. To the Milwaukee Public Market. Through Central Park in New York City, and then the top of the Empire State Building — where he proposed.

This August, we'll be married in the Chicago suburbs where I grew up, and many of our guests will be friends from the University of Wisconsin.

Shawn is pushing for a Camp Randall-shaped wedding cake.

I suppose we will need to mark our foray into adulthood with a bold gesture ...

Vikki Ortiz is a reporter and columnist for the Chicago Tribune*. Her fiancé, Shawn Healy '97, is the managing director of the McCormick Freedom Museum.*

If you're a UW-Madison alumna or alumnus and you'd like the editors to consider an essay of this length for publication in *On Wisconsin,* please send it to onwisconsin@uwalumni.com.

flashback

UW-MADISON ARCHIVES

Hey, Dummy

We feel as confused as the gentleman in the bow tie looks about what's going on in this photo, shot circa 1950. But judging by the elaborate coat of arms hanging behind him, this is part of a celebration known as Dormsylvania, which occurred annually on campus from 1936 until the 1970s. Its main events were a formal dance and a campaign leading to the election of a Dorm Duke, but over the years, it also included other elements, such as a bicycle race, an egg-throwing contest, a beer bash, a midnight movie, a bed race, and, as shown here, a talent show.

The event was conceived in response to the abdication of Britain's King Edward VIII, who gave up the throne in 1936 to marry the American woman he loved, Wallis Simpson. The residents of the UW's Men's Halls Association, impressed by Edward's romantic gesture (and not, presumably, by his rumored fascist sympathies) decided to offer him a new realm to rule over: the Duchy of Dormsylvania. But Edward and Wallis never responded. Perhaps unaware of the students' offer, they instead accepted the lesser title of Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

Dormsylvania lived on, however, with the Dorm Duke elections growing increasingly satiric. The event reached its peak fame on June 1, 1953, when it was featured in *Life* magazine. It didn't get the cover, though. That was given to the Duke of Windsor's niece Elizabeth, when she accepted the crown he'd given up (the one in England, not the one in Madison).

John Allen

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Helping invent a better world. warf.org

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