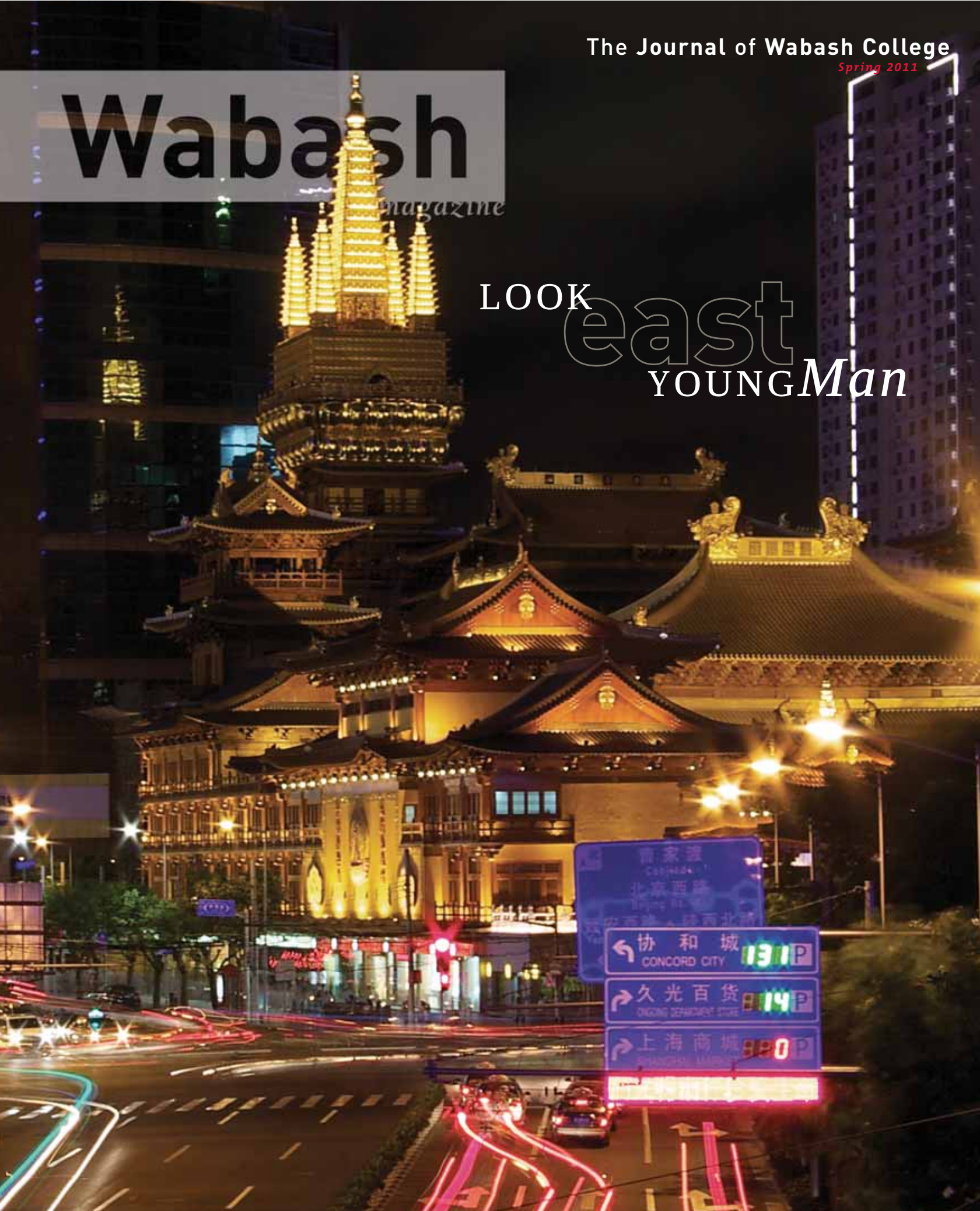


Wabash

magazine

LOOK
east
YOUNG Man





Zhong Qui Jie on the Mall

International Student Association President Ian Low '13 and more than 40 students from eight countries made good on their promise to immerse the Wabash community in the customs and cuisine of Southeast Asia and China during last academic year's Zhong Qui Jie (Mid-Autumn Festival) and Lunar New Year celebrations.

"They worked hard in so many ways to pull this together," Coordinator of International Students David Clapp said of the Mid-Autumn event. "The evening was a great example of international cooperation."

In February, nearly 100 students, faculty, friends, and host family members joined the ISA to celebrate the Lunar New Year. ISA Secretary Anh "Tommy" Le '13 invited guests "to participate in this humble celebration of ours and help us re-create the feeling of happiness, cheerfulness, and contentment we experience while celebrating it back home."

Happy New Year! — (left) Long Pham '14 donned a homemade mask to depict the monster Nian at the opening skit of this year's Lunar New Year celebration. According to legend, the ancient monster was scared off through a cooperative effort of villagers who made loud noises, lit rockets, and ultimately defeated him. Since then, people have kept the tradition by beating drums and gongs and lighting fireworks.

So You Think You Can Dance? — As the sun set on last year's Mid-Autumn Festival, Hoan Nguyen '13 demonstrated the proper form of the traditional bamboo dance from his home country of Vietnam, then invited faculty, staff, students, and children to try it themselves.

See more photos from the event at WM Online.

—photos by Steve Charles



That Championship Season

When Little Giant John Holm '12 celebrated his 21st birthday by crushing a home run—the first hit in the new Wabash Ballpark—fans had the feeling this might be a good year for the junior slugger and Wabash baseball.

It was that and more. The Little Giants won their first North Coast Athletic Conference title with stunning victories in the NCAC tournament. Holm was named NCAC Player of the Year, and he and Montana Timmons '13 earned All-America honors. The team became the first in the College's 145-year baseball history to play in the NCAA tournament.

—photos by Nancy Coggins

Luke Zinsmaster '12 and **Chris Widup '13** celebrate the Little Giants' win over Ohio Wesleyan for the North Coast Athletic Conference Championship. Zinsmaster got the save and Widup earned the win for Wabash. (right) Juniors **John Holm**, **Jeff Soller**, **John Pennington**, and **Chris Deig** join their teammates and Coach Corey Stevens for the "dogpile."

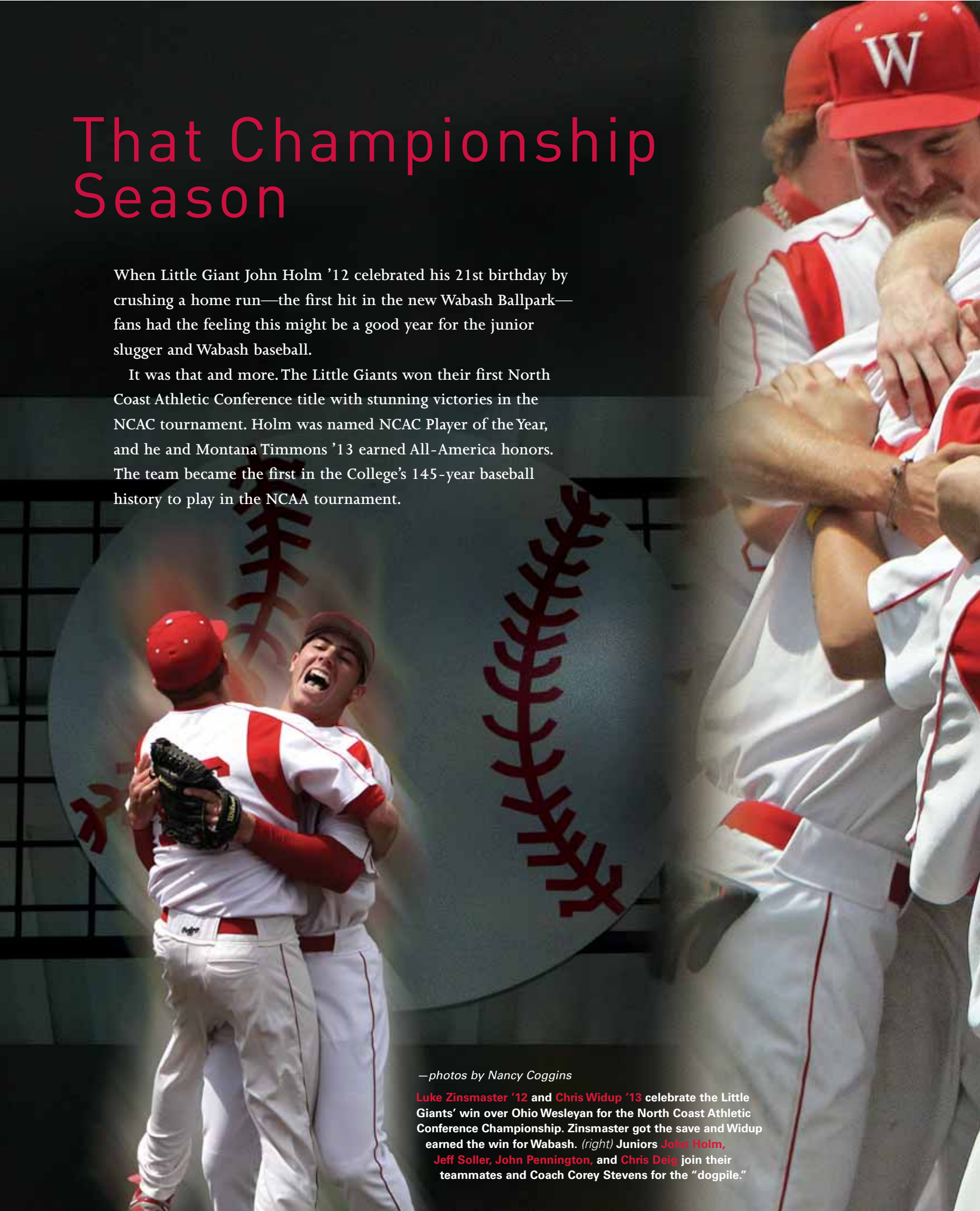




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Historic buildings blend with the rush and lights of 21st-century Shanghai in this photograph by Assistant Professor of Philosophy Mark Brouwer, taken during his six-week teaching stint in the city during the Summer of 2010. Brouwer and his Wabash colleague, Assistant Professor of Political Science Ethan Hollander, share images from the city and reflect upon their experiences there in "Eat, Teach, Learn," page 46.

—photo by Mark Brouwer

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photo by Steve Charles

Read the stories behind the
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Wabash

magazine

Wabash College educates men to think critically,
act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.

华佰士培养男性思想批判, 行动负责, 领导有效, 生活仁爱

The Journal of Wabash College

Spring 2011

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WABASH
COLLEGE



Contributors

We usually publish essays as our A Man's Life feature, but when former Washington State Poet Laureate **Samuel Green** read from his work here in February, we just had to make an exception. No writer in recent memory has captured in so few words the essence of what we'd intended—"a conversation about what it means to be a man." The poet, bookbinder, and publisher graciously allowed us to choose several works from his book, *The Grace of Necessity*. The experiment begins on page 17.

The Wabash connection to China begins with Robert Winter and comes full circle in Rujie Wang '83. Professor Emeritus of English **Bert Stern**'s life intersects both. Rujie was the first student from the People's Republic of China to attend the College, and his friendship stirred Bert to go to China. Winter is the man he interviewed and wrote about while teaching there. That was 27 years ago. We asked him to reflect not only on Winter, but on his own time getting to know this complex man in a country that was only beginning to open its doors to Americans.

A member of *WM*'s editorial board, **Melissa Butler** always guides us to interesting stories. But this time the professor of political science inspired an entire issue. "You might want to think about a 'China' theme next spring," she wrote, weeks before returning from teaching in Shanghai last summer. She suggested several of this edition's articles, expecting the magazine might follow up on the announcement of the College's new Asian Studies program. Perfect timing; thanks, Melissa.

Professor Butler and her colleague in economics, **Kay Widdows**, walk the walk when it comes to travel learning. Together they've led students halfway around the globe. They've practically done it again in this issue, as Professor Widdows picked up where Melissa left off, directing us toward alumni and students to interview. She says, "Going to Asia opened the world to me." The consummate teacher, she's determined that, one way or the other, it will do the same for her students—maybe even our readers.

We knew the work of Civil War scholar **Daniel Crofts '63** from his recent essays in *The New York Times* and his book that solved "the most gigantic problem of uncertain authorship in American historical writing." Then Wabash Archivist Beth Swift brought to our attention *Upstream Odyssey*, in which the College of New Jersey professor of history retraces his missionary grandfather's steps in China. Asked to recount some of the adventures of writing that book, Professor Crofts suggested we also contact "the most respected scholar of Chinese history" among Wabash alumni. So Beth Swift led us to Professor Crofts who led us to...

...**Jerry Dennerline '64**, Olin Professor of Asian Studies at Amherst College and author of the definitive biography on Qian Mu, one of the greatest historians and philosophers of 20th century China. Although he was preparing to leave for Malaysia, Professor Dennerline found time to write "The Hope of Friendly Learning," which traces his own interest in Asia and reaffirms that the teaching of Chinese and Chinese history and religion at Wabash is hardly a 21st-century phenomenon.

When we heard that **Mark Brouwer** would be teaching at East China Normal University (ECNU) during the summer of 2010, we asked if he had a camera. He intimated that he did, that he had planned to "take a few pictures." You'll get a sense of the philosophy professor's gift for understatement in "Eat, Teach, Learn," which blends his work and reflections with those of his friend and fellow teacher at ECNU's summer program, Assistant Professor of Political Science **Ethan Hollander**. The two men allowed us to record their comments as we looked over the photographs, transcribing excerpts into the lively text accompanying those "few pictures."

From the Editor

 THIS EDITION INTRODUCES THE COLLEGE'S NEW Asian Studies and the Liberal Arts program, but its genesis was a conversation with Xiangchong "Merlin" Liu '10.

In 2009, Professor Scott Feller suggested I interview Liu, a rising star among Scott's chemistry majors, not long after the Chengdu, China native had returned from a Spring Break mission trip to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"My partners and I were working on a small house located at the north side of the Mississippi River, and our task was to clean it up, replace its doors, stabilize the framework, and repair the roof," Merlin had written during the trip. "My job was to replace broken shingles.

"Standing on top of the roof I could see only a few houses still standing, and most of those were empty. The scene recalled the ruins of my own hometown after the earthquake of 2008."

Merlin had been at Wabash when that 7.9 quake struck Sichuan province.

"I could not help my home, other than with money, and money was nothing at that moment," Merlin told me. "People need food, care, labor. And I was here and I could not do anything for them. But I could do something here, so I was glad to help. It's the same work. And people share the same humanity, no matter what disaster they suffer, where they are from, or what their religious beliefs may be."

The trip to New Orleans had been organized by a Crawfordsville church, and the group began each day standing in a circle and saying a prayer. I asked Merlin, a Buddhist, if that had been difficult for him—if he had considered not participating.

"I did it not only out of respect for others' religious beliefs, but because standing together in a circle, holding hands, is powerful, like a magnet," Merlin said. "It is a good way to start the morning."

He told me about returning home briefly the previous summer to assist with the care of pandas injured in the quake. Without thinking, I asked Merlin if he had much contact with the pandas themselves. He sat up in his chair.

"Oh, no," he said, wide eyed. "They are *bears*!"

Somehow we started talking about trees and I discovered that my favorite, the ginkgo, was the city tree of his home. I asked if he minded the malodorous fruit the female of that species drops in the fall. He laughed and listed the many beneficial, even tasty things the Chinese traditionally make from pieces of this tree I routinely disposed of in the landfill, from ginkgo extract for pharmaceuticals to ginkgo nuts for a dish called *congee*.

He showed me photographs he had taken in his free time during an internship at the University of Minnesota. I was startled by his original way of finding beauty in places most Minneapolis citizens would have thought mundane. I was also reminded how a visitor can open our eyes to our own country, just as travel opens up the world to us.

It was a wonderful exchange, a nascent form of the "friendly learning" Jerry Dennerline '64 writes of in his essay in this issue. Subsequent conversations with sinophile Filip Lempa '11 and artist/pianist Tian Tian '11 built momentum for this theme, as did my ongoing email correspondence with Ray Jovanovich '84, a fund manager who has lived in Asia for more than 25 years with a front seat to the greatest economic expansion in history.

"People share the same humanity, no matter what disaster they suffer, where they are from, or what their religious beliefs may be."—Xiangchong "Merlin" Liu

Then WM Advisory Board member and Professor of Political Science Melissa Butler H'84 suggested an issue to announce the College's new Asian Studies program, and here we are.

GATHERING STORIES FOR this one has been a journey of surprise.

I knew about Bert Stern's scholarship on Robert Winter, Wabash Class of 1909 and a student of Ezra Pound who taught in China from 1923 until his death at age 100. I didn't know that Winter had risked his life defending Chinese students during the civil war there, or that he'd helped establish the first English language and literature program in the country.

Or that he'd referred the first student from the People's Republic of China to attend the College: Rujie Wang '83, who describes his own path from a state-owned farm to professor at Wooster College—and who credits Dean Norman Moore for providing the means for him "to fall in love with this country."

Or that John Merle Coulter, one of the College's most accomplished professors of the 19th century, was born in China.

Or that Dennerline, the most respected modern Chinese history scholar the College has produced, first studied Chinese at Wabash in the early 1960s under Wendell Caulkins and alongside enthusiastic

fellow learners and professors Stern, Hall Peebles, and Dick Strawn.

Or that College of New Jersey Professor Daniel Crofts '63, best known recently for his pieces in the *New York Times* about the Civil War, had also written a well-received book about his grandfather's life and missionary work in China during the 1800s.

Or that Eric Roth '84 had been invited to help start a "liberal arts type" college in Vietnam and had written an innovative ESL text being used across Asia.

Or that Hao Liu '11 had co-founded a summer school program for high school and college students in which several Wabash faculty taught and which this year received multimillion-dollar venture capital funding.

Or that Qian Zhu Pullen, the College's new Chinese history and language professor, was interviewed for that position only weeks after giving birth to her first child. Her father, a retired officer in the Chinese navy, came with her, and when he saw the College motto, "Wabash Always Fights," he told his daughter, "This is the place you should teach!"

FOR ME IT ALL COMES BACK to that conversation with Merlin—a casual version of the one-on-one, open-minded "friendly learning" pursued by students, faculty, and alumni of the Wabash community and soon to be applied in the College's liberal arts approach to China and Asian Studies.

As Professor of Economics Kay Widdows notes, "Asia is incredibly important historically, economically, culturally, politically—and to not have Asia, and China in particular, in the program makes our curriculum weaker."

So Wabash is about to get stronger. And as you read this edition, you, too, may be surprised to find that our connections to the people and history of this part of the world run deeper and for longer than you realized. ■

Thank you for reading.

Steve Charles | Editor
charless@wabash.edu

(ironically, westbound on the Amtrak Southwest Chief, 5.23.11)

A Different Perspective

It was with great interest that I read Kim Johnson's article about her trip to Italy ["Ciao, Bella," WM Winter 2011]. My wife and I took a trip to Venice, Siena, Florence, San Gimignano, and Milan in 2000. My

wife is a trained artist and, when she was in college, had drawn many of the sculptures we saw, including Michelangelo's "David." In Siena we felt as Kim did, walking the "uneven bricks," thinking about the history that unfolded in these streets.

Enclosed is a photograph of the Siena



Synagogue that we had the pleasure of visiting. It was built in 1740 and survived the War. The same cannot be said for its members. The deacon gave us a tour and it was a moving experience. There is a small Jewish community that still holds services there.

I am sending this photograph to underline the different historical aspects of Siena.

—Harvey Share '49, Rockford, IL

Remembering Bob Cooley, Honoring the Doemels

I enjoyed the latest WM [Winter 2011], even though some of the news was bittersweet. It brought back lovely memories of some of my firsts at Wabash back in 1985.

The first picnic I attended at Wabash was the math department picnic (mainly because the food was free and that was all we could afford). I was rescued by [Professor] Bob Cooley from being in charge of making the burgers. (I was vegetarian at the time and had no clue what a burger was but was too scared to fess up.) He nearly managed to convince me to become a math major, and the fact that I took Abstract Algebra with Bob and enjoyed every minute is testament to who Bob was as a person, teacher, and mentor.

My first Thanksgiving was at Nancy and Bill Doemel's house (along with three other foreign students—Raman Ahuja '88, Kumi Frimpong '89, and Gang Su). For a foreigner fresh off the boat, nothing could have been more amazing than the warmth extended by them and the fabulous spread. To this day, every time

From Center Hall



The Wabash Way to Asia

The College's look to the East is grounded not in expedience or temporary trends, but in the deepest impulses of the liberal arts.

THIS MONTH I WILL HAVE THE HONOR of ringing in one of our largest classes in recent memory. In the Class of 2015 are men from all over the world who will come to Wabash to live and study, to learn and play, and to grow into Wabash men. They will be transformed so that they might think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively and live humanely, so that they might now and in the future make a difference in the world.

Make a difference in the world: What a bold promise for a small college in a small town in the heartland of America. But like many bold dreams, Wabash delivers. The students, faculty, staff, and alumni of this great College learn here to expand their vision and their understanding of the world so that they can become actors in a larger world than they have known before.

As this issue of the magazine shows, Wabash is mounting new initiatives in Asian Studies and fostering through the global initiatives of our Challenge of Excellence increased student study-abroad opportunities and new immersion learning experiences.

Colleges and universities all over the United States and Europe are looking east to Asia. Like American businesses, American colleges recognize the growing economic and political clout of China, India, Singapore, and Vietnam, who join more established powers like Japan and Korea on the horizon of American students. Practically every alumni magazine you read these days is touting new initiatives or bragging about recruiting efforts in Asia, replete with pictures of students at the Great Wall or at the Imperial Palace, travelers who exemplify the outward glance of American education.

What do we make of this new and widespread interest? Is it analogous to the rush to study Russian and science that gripped American universities and high schools after the launch of Sputnik in 1958, or the smaller but emphatic splash of Arabic language study or courses in Islam that followed the 9/11 attacks almost 10 years ago? These impulses and many others over the last 60 years are not mere fads: They show the agility of American education, the way in which seemingly stolid and unchanging institutions can react to changes in the world.

From Our Readers

► from P9

Thanksgiving comes around, I remember their generosity in opening their house to us. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best and tell them that this Indian (from Asia, though) appreciates that small gesture made to the foreign students who were pretty far from home.

—Arun Muralidhar '88, Great Falls, VA

"We Will Manage to Overcome"

Tomoaki Ishii graduated from Wabash in 1982, returned to Japan, and was living in Tokyo when the March 11 earthquake struck the city earlier this year.

"I am okay, as is my family," he wrote in response to Wabash Alumni Affairs Director Tom Runge's email the day after the quake and following one of a series of aftershocks. "City Hall went down yesterday and most foods have disappeared from supermarkets and convenient

stores nearby. We are currently under strict restriction in using electric powers due to nuclear plants accidents. There was another explosion yesterday.

"What's going on is still a nightmare to all of us, but we will manage to overcome, so don't worry!"

Read about Ishii's Wabash friendship with Rujie Wang '83 on page 40.

YET NOT ALL RESPONSES to the new are created equal. Some colleges and universities may simply be responding to a new market or to the interest of donors and business. As the articles in this magazine reveal, Wabash's look to the East is grounded not in expedience nor temporary trends, but in the deepest impulses of the liberal arts—our commitment to help our students know themselves and the world around them so that they might live lives of engagement in the world. Wabash men travel, study, and learn in Asia for the same reason that Thoreau went to Walden Pond—to learn to live deliberately.

There are many ways to study a culture. A quick workshop can prepare business people with the rudiments of a culture so that they might travel and conduct business with minimal embarrassment. But the embrace of another culture from a liberal arts perspective demands an awareness of philosophy, art, literature, music, politics, and economics that is different and new.

Of course, as Wabash men who have lived in Asia tell us, this is the task of a lifetime. And although a liberal arts perspective may not require mastery—an impossible task, as there are many cultures within a culture—the Wabash way demands attention, an awakesness to complexity and beauty. Anthropologists call it a “thick” reading of culture: In diving deep into one aspect of a new world or trying to achieve a broad understanding, one recognizes the many layers of meaning that make up a new world. Simplification is not the solution; understanding and appreciation of nuance, complexity, and richness are the goals.

Even as a 19th-century Terre Haute editor was penning the injunction, “Go West Young Man,” which Horace Greeley echoed famously later, the best minds of America were becoming attentive to the East.

Wabash looks to the East guided by the pioneer impulse that founded this College on the edge of the frontier. We welcome students from around the world and invite the best and the brightest young men of Asia to study at Wabash not because we need to swell our admission numbers. And we look to the East not only because of the new economic power of China, India, and Southeast Asia, but because the variety of complex cultures enriches our understanding of the world and who we are.

In doing so, Wabash men travel in a grand tradition of American thought and culture. For even as a 19th-century Terre Haute editor was penning the injunction, “Go West Young Man,” which Horace Greeley echoed famously later, the best minds of America were becoming attentive to the East. Emerson studied the classics of Chinese literature and was influenced by Chinese philosophy. Thoreau incorporated Indian thought into his understanding of the world and tracked in his imagination the actual journey of ice from Walden Pond to drinks in India. Whitman imagined in “Passage to India” the American imagination reaching Cali-

fornia and finding another place to look beyond the Pacific for the adventure of the mind. The *Pequod*, the three-masted ship of Melville's *Moby Dick*, was a small but multicultural society, a mixer of peoples from Europe, Africa, Asia, and South and Central America. And in the 20th century one-time Wabash professor Ezra Pound turned American writers to Chinese models and rewrote our understanding of what poetry could mean and be.

Remember the full phrase of the Greeley command: “Go West Young Man” was followed by “and grow up with the country.” At the heart of Wabash is an experience in education where young men learn to take themselves seriously, to embolden their courage for a life of change and growth, and to live an expansive life with energy and action amid constant change. In this, Wabash men remain the pioneers that our founders were, and Wabash must remain both grounded in our highest understanding of the liberal arts and awake to new possibilities of learning and experience.

MANY YEARS AGO AS A HIGH SCHOOL RUNNER in Dixon, Illinois, I set myself the task to run 500 miles one summer before cross country season. I did this in basketball shoes, Converse All Stars, and along country roads and rural highways. One frequent loop sent me north of Dixon to a tiny village five miles away. As I turned around at the village sign, I spoke the village's name—Woosung. It was an odd and strange sound in the Illinois countryside, but a name whose story I knew even then. Woosung was founded in the 1850s by three clipper ship captains who made a small

fortune in the China trade and settled here because the area reminded them of a favorite part of China on the Yangtze River, the town of Wusung.

The resonances are everywhere if we are prepared to dive deep and understand our connections. As in every aspect of a Wabash education, our new initiatives in Asian Studies embody the richness of a liberal arts perspective. We say, “Go west young man, look east young man, find your world and be awake to the very old and the very new. Understand that you are growing into a world thick with promise and possibility. You cannot know everything, but you can know much and learn more. And as you grow, you will be an engine of the growth and development of your community, of your country, and of the world.”

This has long been the way of Wabash men. ■



Contact President White at whitep@wabash.edu



Joe and Leslie Day

Master Teachers,

The Caleb Mills House was built by and is named for the College's first faculty member, the father of Indiana's public school system. It's a fitting place to celebrate Wabash teachers, and five of the

Students know Leslie as a master teacher; they may not have realized that they were working with someone who was rewriting our understanding of Greek archaeology.

Joe believes in Greek and Latin literature as an important formative, and potentially transformative, influence on our students and on society at large, and this credo can be sensed in the lives of many Wabash men over the years.

Leslie and Joe's retirement will leave a huge hole in Classics and Division II, for they have accomplished much more in their joint position than one person ever could. They have been one of the greatest bargains in the College's history.

—Associate Professor of Classics Jeremy Hartnett '96, former student of the Days and this year's McLain-McTurnan-Arnold Research Scholar.



Jeremy Hartnett

Deborah brought with her a commitment to excellence, a dogged work ethic, and a vision for the future that enabled her to lift the Education Program up from the brink of closure to the highly respected, academically rigorous program it is today. For 15 years, as director, chair, and the sole faculty member, Deborah was the College's Education Program.

—Associate Professor of Teacher Education Michele Pittard, who succeeds Deborah Butler as chair of the department.



Deborah Butler

Tom Campbell came to Wabash in the fall of 1976 and quickly made his mark within the department, developing our offerings in linguistics, introducing courses in science-fiction, and redesigning classes in medieval literature. Since his arrival on campus, the free-spirited, California-surfing, Corvette-driving, Rocky Mountain-high aspects of his personality have barely diminished. But the other Tom, the one we see every day, is a very hard worker, a committed teacher, and a scholar, giving praise freely and making his colleagues in the department feel appreciated. All of us at the College will miss Tom's enthusiasm, his thoughtfulness, and his efforts to make us better at what we do.

—Professor of English Warren Rosenberg, Campbell's colleague for 31 years.



Tom Campbell and Warren Rosenberg



Dan Rogers and Steve Morillo

**THOSE WERE THE DAYS, MY FRIEND;
WE THOUGHT THEY'D NEVER END.**

—Professors Steve Morillo and Dan Rogers' parody of a 1970s pop song was a highlight of the reception for Joe and Leslie Day.

Friends, and Legends

nine professors retiring this year were honored there last spring. The fact that those paying tribute were colleagues they had mentored—or even taught as students at Wabash—made for intimate occasions and light-hearted moments.



Caleb Mills House



Mac Petty and Antoine Carpenter

After being a student-athlete and assistant coach under Coach Mac Petty, it is an honor and privilege to continue the tradition he has established.

—Antoine Carpenter '00, named Wabash Head Basketball Coach after the retirement of Mac Petty H'82, who said: "Having Antoine as an assistant for the past four seasons proved to me what I already knew about him as a player and as a person. He has a very high basketball IQ and has a love and passion for the game and for Wabash College. Antoine has and will continue to be an outstanding recruiter. I am really very proud of him."

And the Tradition Continues...



Bobby Horton receives the College's top teaching award from Dean Gary Phillips

Bobby takes care to mentor students in a powerful way that leads them to discover for themselves their desires and destiny. His faculty colleagues describe him as respectful, an effective administrator able to defuse charged settings, one who asks tough questions, a man who combines rigor with concern, and, in one colleagues' words, "the kind of adult role model that Wabash students need."

—Dean of the College Gary Phillips, announcing Associate Professor of Psychology Bobby Horton as the winner of the 2011 McLain-McTurnan-Arnold Excellence in Teaching Award.

Read more about all of this year's retiring faculty and staff in upcoming issues of WM.



P.J. Tyson and President Pat White



Tom Bambrey



John Holm '12



President White and catcher P.J. Tyson '11 shake hands before the first game at Wabash Ballpark on March 19. Director of Athletics Tom Bambrey '68, who retired this year, was one of three VIPs to throw out a first pitch at the first game. John Holm's teammates congratulate him after he hit the first home run in Wabash Ballpark.

Wabash Ballpark by the Numbers

\$6.0

cost in millions spent to upgrade all of the College's outdoor athletics facilities over the past two years, including new turf for Little Giant Stadium, new scoreboards, Wabash Ballpark, soccer stadium, and practice fields

400
330
245

distance in feet to center field wall at Wabash Ballpark

distance in feet down right and left field lines

number of seats in the new stadium behind home plate (not counting viewing mounds)

1

number of innings it took for John Holm '12 to hit his first home run during a game in the new park



BANKING ON STUDENTS

Alumni from the Chicago area (including Willis Bank Analyst Chris Wojciechowski '09) took time to mentor students during a networking event in the city on February 27.

Chris Wojciechowski



James McBride

To Lead a Good Life

If you really want to lead a good life, the best thing you can learn to do is to understand others. If you really want to be a success in school, you ought to start to watch TV (news) and read the newspaper; you should pay attention...Words can change the world in a positive way.

—Author, musician, and screenwriter James McBride, speaking to students about his bestselling book, *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*.

Because we come from so many different places, backgrounds, and attitudes, something has to happen to connect us, and the one place to start is the language.

—Former presidential candidate and five-term congressman from Colorado Tom Tancredo, speaking to faculty and students in April.



Tom Tancredo



Where are the most valuable resources in the world right now? They're in the Midwest.

—Monmouth College President **Mauri Ditzler '75**, keynote speaker at this year's alumni symposium, *Wally Bon Vivant: A Spicy Symposium on Food and the Liberal Arts*. "When bright students come to our colleges we need to talk about all of the issues important to growing food and building a community."

(left) Bon Appetit Head Chef **Jordan Hall** presented the *Pièce de résistance* of the symposium, an evening meal prepared with 90 percent local products.

Read more about *Wally Bon Vivant* at WM Online.



Fletcher Boyd '72



All events are free except dinner (\$25)
Contact Michèle Tatar (tatar@m-wabash.edu) for More Information



Christopher Short



Bassam Tariq

30 Mosques/30 Days

Filmmaker Bassam Tariq (at left) and comedian Aman Ali spent the afternoon of February 24 with students and told the Wabash community stories from their visit to 30 mosques in 30 states over the 30 days of the holy month of Ramadan.

"America is an incredibly accepting country," Tariq said. "I think that sometimes we forget that. Sometimes we don't give credit to America. Of course, every group has had to

struggle for their rights. But the person who is going to win out is the one who has the brightest definition of acceptance for America. That has to be—otherwise we're not America."

AFTER PAYING OFF SOME DEBT, MY WIFE AND I ARE HOPING TO TAKE A TRIP TO SPAIN OR INDIA. WE ALSO NEED TO ADD ON TO THE HOUSE. IT WILL BE KNOWN AS THE TREBEK WING.

—Christopher Short '00, after winning seven games and accumulating \$96,752 on the TV show Jeopardy, hosted by Alex Trebek. "Not bad for a couple of days worth of work."



A Lie of the Mind

Luke Robbins '11 and Abby Gillan (above) and Raynor Mendoza '13 and Kate Ayers starred in the Wabash Theater Department's production of Sam Shepard's *A Lie of the Mind*, directed by Professor of Theater Mike Abbott '83.

Post-Mortem

It amazes me that such an important aspect of our government as medical legal death investigation doesn't have to have accreditation. Everything else is accredited. Hospitals are accredited. Barbers are accredited. You would think that a medical legal death investigation system would have to go through a periodic inspection and accreditation.

—Dr. Ross Zumwalt '65, New Mexico Chief Medical Investigator, on PBS Frontline's *Death Investigation in America*



Ross Zumwalt



Patrick Madden

Almost any work in cutting edge physics is invisible. I wanted something more tangible. I didn't want to go after one interest. I thought if I could write essays I could study what most interested me at the time. I love to think without restraint.

—Patrick Madden, author of *Quotidiana*, explaining to the audience at his reading in February why he chose to become a writer.



Keith Nelson and Joe O'Rourke



Kim King and Keith Veal

MXI Co-Founder Keith Nelson '71 talks with Professor Emeritus Joe O'Rourke. Kim King '99 and Keith Veal '92 catch up at the kickoff dinner.

ELEVATING OUR HUMANITY “I hope above all for an MXI that galvanizes this community to keep the promise of its own liberal arts mission, that prepares all of us for a life lived in recognition that we are united by more than tradition and language and gender and nationality and color, that we are responsible to one another—as Malcolm preached, Jesus taught, and Abraham led—that elevates our humanity and encourages us to make lives for one another.

—Dean of the College Gary Phillips, speaking at the kickoff dinner looking forward to the 40th anniversary of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies.

I believe to create justice, to protect freedom, you have to be willing to create identity. You have to be willing to say something when threats emerge. You sometimes have to say things when everyone else is quiet.

—Bryan Stevenson, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative and this year's recipient of the Peck Senior Medal from the Wabash Pre-Law Society. Stevenson has reduced or overturned death sentences in more than 65 cases where poor people or people of color were unconstitutionally convicted or sentenced.

President Pat White congratulates Bryan Stevenson at this year's Peck Banquet. Pre-Law Society President Riley Floyd presents the Richard O. Ristine Law Award to David Kendall '66, who told students who plan to become lawyers: “Always have time for pro bono work. You're likely to value those cases and remember them more than all the others.”



Bryan Stevenson and Pat White



Riley Floyd '13 and David Kendall

An ongoing conversation about what it means to be a man in the 21st century

GATHERING THE ONE GREAT SONG

—poems by Samuel Green



 SAM GREEN WAS LIVING in the Seattle area in 1978 and struggling to find his writing voice when poet Carolyn Forché asked him to consider this: “If you want to write a certain kind of poem, maybe you should consider living the sort of life from which such poems might come.”

“It was an amazingly astute statement that would not go away,” Green, the former poet laureate from Washington, told a Wabash audience in February. “It forced me to ask myself, ‘What kinds of poems do I really want to write, and what sort of life might bring them into being?’”

The answers Green found led him and his wife, Sally, to remote Waldron Island in the San Juan chain north of Puget Sound. There he found not only his

poetic voice, but also a life among others and, as he writes, stories that “gather as tiny birds/add themselves one & one to the flock, their small throats gathering the One/Great Song that is more than themselves alone.”

“In a small community, what happens to people matters to you in very immediate ways,” says Green, whose home on the island is a log house he and Sally built with their own hands. “You learn to live with people you don’t like, you learn that not liking someone is not an excuse for not being with them.

“I had to live with people as they are, not the way I wanted them to be, which was a great gift for me: I had to change myself because I couldn’t change other people.”

Some poems from this man's life as a son,
a husband, and a father:

On Board the *Sea Lassie*, Summer, 1944

I can bring back the boat, a purse seiner
built in the 20s, white paint flaking
from her rails. She has made her set
& swings like a clapper against
the enormous bell of Alaskan sky.

I can bring back the gulls floating
like flakes of dirty snow sternward,
the smell of leaked diesel, the sound
of the hull scraped with the weight
of tarred cotton & fish.

I can bring back the crew, & I do,
a small group of mostly older men with the ghosts
of their lives in their mouths, the tall Swede
still sweating out last night's whiskey. They smell
of tobacco smoked or chewed, the sour stench
of unbathed bodies, coffee, and too much grease
in their food.

My father is easy: there are pictures of him then
at seventeen, handsome, high boots & rubber
apron, black-billed hat tipped back, bare arms
as yet without tattoos. Because he is who he is
he is watching the coastline for bears
on the beach. Because he is already
who he will become, he is also doing his job
braced against spray & pitch,
though not neatly enough for his father.

Having brought them here, there is still
nothing I can do about my grandfather's hands,
those knuckles hard as barnacles slamming
into my father's face, knocking him down
& onto the hatch cover, again
& again, because he keeps getting up,
too young & strong & full of pride
to simply stay hunched on the deck.

I bring my father back because I want
to tell that boy he will not beat
his own two sons, & they will not
beat theirs, to tell him though he'll mourn
the fact he cannot mourn his father's death,
I know I'll weep for his. But the boy can't hear me.
He has become an old man in whom pain
has lived like a flapping salmon in his ruined back
his whole life long. I could tell *him*, & try
whenever I visit. But that's not the same thing, is it?

At the Pond's Edge

I come to her the way I'd come
to a pond's edge in October dusk
so as not to frighten the wood ducks.

My hands move on her flank like a drake
drifting across a pond's surface
or the slow caress of mist at dawn

hanging now on, now above the still water.
Dusk or dawn, a man can be gentle,
always & all ways gentle,

& still be a man, her slow teaching
over long years, the classroom her body,
nearly a quarter of a century now,

no longer the body's daily insistence,
the hard urgings that caused me once to
fear my own desire. We have slid

into middle age with sweet understanding,
the pleasure of the long familiar,
a tenderness that still

explodes into sudden wings on the water,
catching us both by surprise.



Children, Waking

—for Laura Walker

In the long night, when our sons wake
& their cries come
through our thin sleep so we rise then
from our love's side
& we move off through the held breath
of the still house
where we lift them from their wet beds
just to hold them
through the strained dark with their warm weight
in our curled arms,
if we walk them, or we rock them,
through our mouths come
all the soft songs from our own past,
whether sleep songs
or the sweet hums that propel them
toward our best hopes,
though the truth is that we can't take
either sickness
or their grief-hurts into our selves,
though we wish to
& we try to, all we can do
is to soothe them
through the worst time, for it's our flesh
held in our flesh
& it won't stop when they leave us
though they can't know
that we still sing through the house walls
when the stars call
till our fears still & the heart sleeps
in the long will that the night keeps.

These poems are from The Grace of Necessity, Carnegie-Mellon University Press, (2008), winner of the 2008 Washington State Book Award for Poetry. Reprinted with permission.

THE GRACE OF NECESSITY

In 2001, Sam Green began writing a poem a day—pieces that had to be short enough to fit on a postcard and which were then mailed to a friend. He continued this for a year.

The following poem was written two days before the tragedies of September 11.

Sept. 9

A nuthatch slams into the bay window. The ledge catches her, keeps her from the cat's mouth, but she stays there, stunned, caught by the betrayal of air turned suddenly solid. How could she ever move past this moment without the grace of necessity? How could any of us?



At last year's Mid-Autumn Festival on the Mall, Ye "Jack" Yuan '14 showed Catalog Librarian Brian McCafferty, Will Weber '11, Steve Kleitsch '11, and Professor Melissa Butler how Chinese "letters" are written and offered them the chance to try their own.

photo by Steve Charles

Funded by a \$700,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and driven by student interest and faculty development, the College's liberal arts approach to Asian Studies has been more than 15 years in the making.

□ "YOU CAN'T PUT THIS IN THE ARTICLE," Kay Widdows says just a few minutes into our conversation about the College's new Asian Studies program. "But I know any number of places in Asia where I could take students and I know they'd be bitten by the 'Asia bug.'"

The John H. Schroeder Interdisciplinary Chair in Economics, Widdows winces at the thought of how such a statement might look in print. But she is a true believer in what Asia has to offer Wabash students. Working in Malaysia in 1993 and subsequent studies in Japan, Taiwan, and China changed her life.

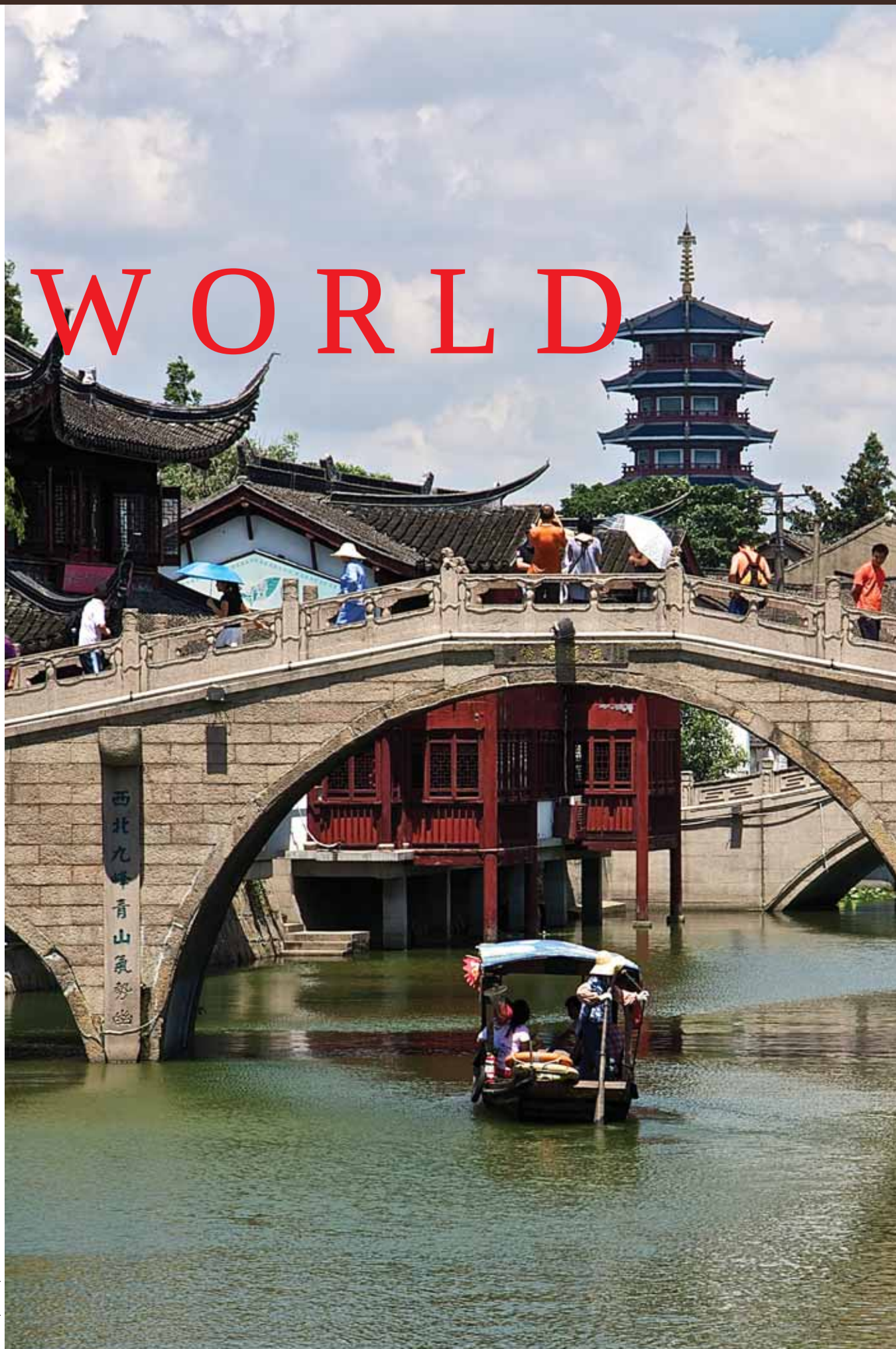
"Going to Asia opened the world to me," Widdows

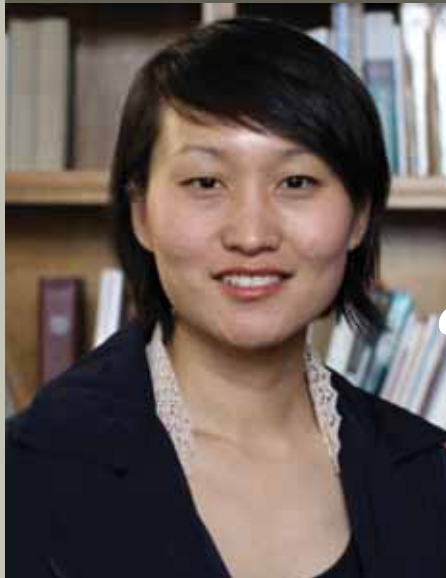
says. "I've been to Europe and Latin America and they're wonderful. And this is not to say the U.S. isn't wonderful and diverse. But the cultural and religious traditions of Kuala Lumpur were so different from anything I'd ever experienced. I lived right next to the Blue Mosque, the call of prayer wafting on the evening air. I could not have imagined the kind of diversity I was a part of every day. It not only opens your eyes to that different place, but it makes you look differently at your own country."

So, where would she take students to give them "the bug?"

"In Japan, to the temples in Kyoto," Widdows says. ► P23

THE WORLD





“This Is Where You Should Teach”

Qian Zhu Pullen

Ph.D. in History, *New York University*
M.A. in History, *Shandong University*

QIAN ZHU PULLEN gave birth to her first child only three weeks before her interview for the College's new Asian Studies position. In fact, Waylyn Pullen, born more than a month premature, was still in the hospital with his father, Randolph, overseeing his care, when the teacher of modern Chinese history and Mandarin first set foot on the Wabash campus in January.

At her side was her father, a member of the Chinese Navy special forces for 30 years, who had raised his daughter to believe “that there is nothing a man can do that you can’t.

“He trained me in the military way since I was five years old,” Pullen told *WM* during a return visit last spring. “In fact, he pushed me to do the job interview. He said, ‘You need to go because you are my daughter. You have to be tough.’

“I said, ‘OK. I will go,’ even though it was difficult to leave Waylyn, even for a day. My dad came here with me. And the first sign he saw was the one that says ‘Wabash Always Fights.’ He knows zero English, so he asked me, ‘What’s that?’ I translated it to him. He said, ‘This is the place you should teach.’”

Pullen laughed as she finished the story, yet acknowledged the College’s “always fights” attitude has great appeal to her.

“I was raised not to believe that women are weak or can’t do certain things. You can do whatever you want to do. That’s part of my family education from my dad, and I think this is part of the Wabash spirit.”

That spirit and her father’s influence infuse her pedagogical approach.

“When I was seven years old to the time I was ten, my father would ask me to read Confucian classics and write a short review. Then we would debate what I had read. From those debates I began to think critically, to be conscious of the fact that everyone thinks differently, that we can all read the same book yet come up with different conclusions. I teach my students to understand and explore that, too.”

Pullen will teach both Mandarin and her academic specialty, modern Chinese history. The College’s Chinese students are among those most eager to register for the latter.

“This will be something very different from the history class they took in China. It will be as eye-opening for them—perhaps even more so—as it will be for American students,” Pullen said.

“I’ve talked with several of the Chinese students interested in taking Asian and Chinese history this fall and have come to realize through those conversations that many had learned their history from TV dramas! When I told one student that TV drama is not history, he said, ‘Really?!’ So that will be my starting point.”

Pullen acknowledged the difficulty of learning the Chinese language, but seems undaunted. Walking out of Rogge Lounge after our conversation, she encountered a Wabash student who had taken Chinese the previous semester from Professor Pullen’s predecessor, Professor Ssu-Yu Chou.

“It’s the toughest class I’ve ever taken—I think it may have been a mistake,” the student admitted.

Pullen shook her head. “Don’t give up,” she said, wishing the student luck on his final exam. She understands students may doubt their ability to learn the language.

“But I’m going to stimulate their interest, because the best way to learn a language is to use it to communicate things that inter-

est you. And they will find out quickly that they can, in fact, learn to write in Chinese. They can learn to understand more than they think, and not understanding everything doesn’t have to get in the way of their learning to communicate.”

She returned to the lessons of her father.

“When I was writing those reports about Confucian classics for my father, I’d often encounter words I couldn’t write—whose characters I did not yet know. For those, I’d just draw a circle, and then I’d tell my father what I was trying to say, and he’d teach me how to write those characters.

“I’m going to teach my students in language class that way, too. If you cannot write that Chinese character, just draw a circle and tell me what you’re trying to express, and I will tell you how to write that. They will learn to speak and write what they want to say, and when they can finally fill in those characters in their journals, they’ll have the satisfaction of writing not in broken Chinese, but complete Chinese. They will realize that if they try, there is nothing they cannot do.”

AS THE ASIAN history and Chinese language expert on the faculty, Pullen welcomes the opportunity to work with fellow professors as the Asian studies program evolves.

“I look forward to helping them see how Asia might connect with their own research and teaching, because the vision of this program is not just to focus on language and history, but to bring different disciplines into the program as faculty and students are interested.

“We are taking a liberal arts approach to Asian studies, and I want to help my colleagues understand how it is possible, how exciting it could be to incorporate some aspect of Asian studies into their own work.” ■

"In China, to the Volkswagen factory in Shanghai. I would take them to Tiananmen Square. I would love to take them to Kuala Lumpur.

"I would take them to Ho Chi Minh City, where, when you come into port and need to get to the city there are no cabs. Instead, men on motorcycles are lined up, and you pay 50 cents to sit on the back, going to town and passing by all these small shops, little 'factories' with four or five people working in them, making all sorts of things. Talk about a vision of entrepreneurship!"

Widdows admits that such a sweeping immersion trip will likely remain the stuff of dreams, but it's a fitting metaphor for the interdisciplinary liberal arts approach the College is taking to its new Asian Studies program. And the vision, passion, and realization that the College needs to give students the opportunity to study the region are here and now.

WIDDOWS, AN ECONOMIST, is one of six Wabash faculty—including Professor of Religion David Blix '70, Professors of History Stephen Morillo and Rick Warner, Professor of Modern Languages Dan Rogers, and Dean of the College Gary Phillips—who together with five DePauw professors comprise the steering committee charged with implementing the grant in their respective institutions.

And this summer the first of four groups of Wabash faculty members will begin their own studies at the East-West Center in Hawaii, each exploring Asia through their own disciplinary lenses, identifying new areas of research to pursue in subsequent years, and looking to either create courses or add components to existing courses. (*See a timeline for the grant's implementation at WM Online.*)

"We have been talking about Asian Studies for 15 years," Widdows explains. "We formed an Asian Studies interest group more than 10 years ago to consider an area of concentration. We started to assess what faculty resources and interests we had.

"Professor Blix has been a powerhouse in meeting the interests of students in Chinese religion, and more and more students and faculty started coming to us with an interest in China, so we started to seriously look that direction.

"This is being driven by student interest, as well as faculty interest in developing new areas of research. I've already had three or four students come to my office who want to put together an area of concentration in Asian Studies, and we don't even have these courses yet!"

The most immediate effect of the grant has been the hiring of Professor Qian Zhu Pullen (*see sidebar*), a specialist in modern Chinese history who will also teach Mandarin.

"The language is the key piece, but that's not the only thing," Widdows explains. "It's not as though we expect to turn out many Chinese majors. What we're interested in is Asian Studies, and the language is a window on that

—language is going to open up possibilities for understanding.

"Professor Pullen will anchor the program. An expert not only in the language, but in history and politics, she will be critical in helping us structure the area of concentration. But our other strength will be our interdisciplinary approach: We'll have experts in disciplines

"We are offering an opportunity that many will find beyond their imaginations."

throughout the College who will be looking at Asia. China and Asian Studies are not separate things, but a means for us to apply the tools of our disciplines. And courses in Asian Studies won't be compartmentalized in a single department, as you might find at a large university, but they will be peppered throughout the curriculum."

Widdows adds that the new program is not a major.

"All students with an area of concentration [once approved] in Asian Studies will have majors in other disciplines," she explains, noting that a similar model exists in the College's Latin American Studies area of concentration. "We're just opening up more of the world to our students—a part of the world that's incredibly important historically, economically, culturally, and politically. If we don't provide our students with a window into that, we do them a disservice. And in providing it, we are offering an opportunity that I know many will find beyond their imaginations." ■



With the help of Tian Tian '11, Professor Widdows tried her hand at Chinese characters during last year's Mid-Autumn Festival.

ASIAN STUDIES AND THE LIBERAL ARTS: A WABASH/ DEPAUW COLLABORATION

□ “The wants of a 21st-century nation call for a Wabash liberal arts education that prepares young men to excel in a global context. The ascendancy of Asia challenges Wabash to educate students for responsible humane citizenship in a rapidly changing interconnected world.”

—from the grant proposal

WHAT THE MELLON GRANT MEANS FOR WABASH:

- 1 A permanent interdisciplinary tenure track faculty position and permanent Asian Studies staff position
- 2 An area of concentration in Asian Studies
- 3 Teaching, scholarship, and travel opportunities for as many as 16 different Wabash faculty
- 4 The development of numerous new and revised courses with focus on Chinese and Japanese literatures and cultures
- 5 Interdisciplinary teaching, travel, and scholarship collaborations between Wabash and DePauw
- 6 The establishment of a network of Wabash and DePauw alumni currently working in Asia to encourage the Asian Studies program efforts and provide teaching and learning opportunities for faculty and students
- 7 Opportunities to develop a variety of collaborative models between DePauw and Wabash ■

Learn more about the grant and the timeline for its implementation at WM Online.



The Jewels of anagama

□ THE INFLUENCE OF EASTERN THOUGHT on artist Nick Roudebush's work began at Wabash.

“It comes from my experience in [Professor David] Blix's religion classes,” the second-year Notre Dame M.F.A. candidate says. “I wasn't interested in them so much as religions as much as lifestyles. And that's how I saw them—ways of living in the world.”

“Unlike many Western-inspired concepts of beauty, the Zen Buddhist understanding of *wabi sabi* has nothing to do with grandeur or symmetry, but encourages the



keen observation of details and imperfections, and the realization that the most profound teachings can be discovered in the simple, quiet, and humble facets of life.”

For Roudebush, the wood kiln-fired *koge* bottle shown at right embodies this way of seeing.

“Wood firing in the anagama kiln goes back more than 3,000 years in Korea and Japan, so I was interested in what they found to be the jewels of the process,” Roudebush says. “In researching this I found the term *koge*, which is the build-up of this ash on a piece.”

The element of surprise is one of the attractions of these *koge* pieces—this bottle was covered by ash during the firing.

“I was digging around in the fire box and practically stepped on it. It was all kind of a random act of nature.”

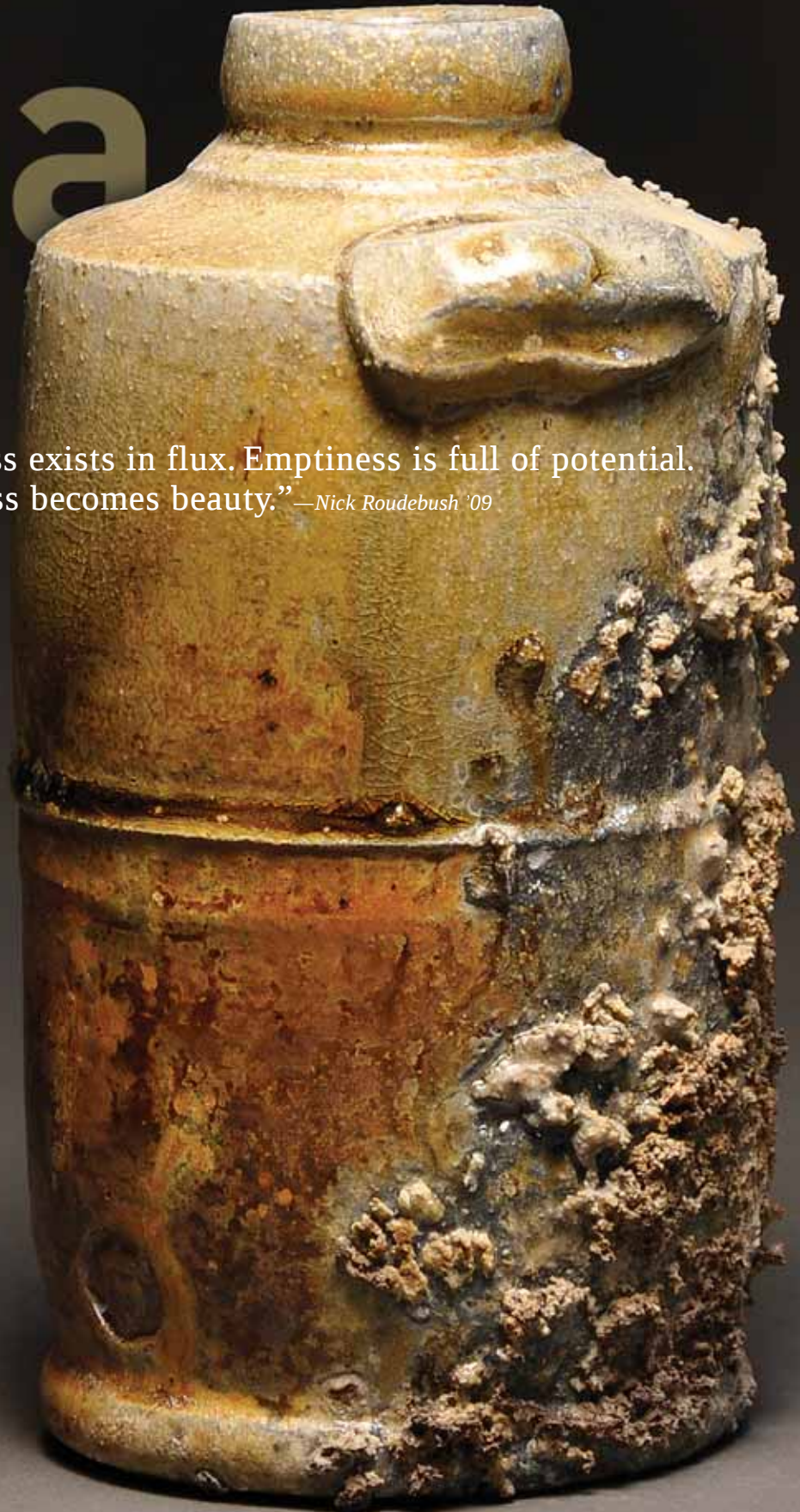
“I realize that it may be repulsive to some people—it almost looks like a mistake. But to the Japanese it was a jewel; you only get a few of these *koge* pots, really crusty and beautiful.

“Thinking about these imperfections this way has great potential for our own lifestyles. To be aware of these cracks and imperfections is to acknowledge what life is all about.” ■

Visit Roudebush's gallery at www.roudebushpottery.com

f
ama

“Stillness exists in flux. Emptiness is full of potential.
Ugliness becomes beauty.” —Nick Roudebush '09



(inset)

Flask set, soda fired,
2011

Koge flask, stoneware
near firebox, 2010

Look East Young Man

IN
THE

plex

Wabash Men Living and Working in Asia

—by Kim Johnson

WM asked six alumni whose careers have taken them to Asia to offer their perspectives on working there.

Some excerpts:

CHRIS INGS '96 >

Finance, Procter & Gamble
Guangzhou, China, since
August 2010

[HOMETOWN] Indianapolis, IN
[MAJOR] Economics

 CHRIS INGS MOVED his family to Guangzhou last August.

"Raising a family in China is an interesting experience," he says. "The opportunities to travel both within China and to other parts of Asia are amazing—truly something we could never have imagined."

"The pace of change in China is so rapid. Strategies always need to be reworked to ensure they capture this change. Another key difference is the fragmentation of the market. When I was in the U.S., if you made your top 15 customers happy, you had taken care of 80 percent of your business. In China, if you do well with your top 15 customers, you have taken care of 35 percent of the business."

"It's most interesting to watch a country grow economically at such a fast pace as it tries to balance that with traditions and cultures that have been around for generations. **There are times that it feels like a place that is very conflicted.**"



SETH DITCHCREEK '04 >

English Teacher, Language Center
Manager, Shanghai;
Japan 2004-2004; China 2006—
present

[HOMETOWN] Valparaiso, IN
[MAJOR] Economics

"AT WABASH I took Professor [David] Blix's classes on Asian religions and another on Taoism," Seth Ditchcreek recalls. "That began my underlying interest in China."

"One cultural difference I find striking is that most Chinese I know have no idea what is happening in the outside world, let alone another part of China. They tend to only care about what is happening in their lives and how things will directly impact them."

"I have tried to talk with my students about current events or other cultures, but this doesn't go well."

People here are too focused on their lives and their families to really care what the government is doing, and **many people say they can't change things, so why try.**"

photo by Mark Brouwer

TWR* and the PRC

The rules for social drinking can be tricky for Americans doing business in China.

"If you get drunk and say something stupid, that's not good," entrepreneur Hao Liu '12 says. "But you also have to drink to a level where everyone is happy."

Professor of Philosophy Mark Brouwer heard a variation on this ritual during a business dinner in Shanghai with his wife, Ann, and one of her Chinese business clients. An older man with decades of experience, the client put it simply: "In China, when you do business with people, you have to sit down and get drunk with them."

The man said that with a new client you might drink late into the night.

Why?

"He said that when people get drunk, you can see their true selves—you'll find out if you can trust them," Brouwer says. "He said that only people willing to let all their inhibitions go in front of a client are the sort of people with whom you want to do business."

Brouwer recalls a Wabash alumnus who told him that when his company is hiring employees to work in China, they will tell the prospective upfront: 'If you don't drink, you can't do business in China.'

"Drinking together is seen as a test of character, a sort of initiation."

Though hardly recommending this approach, Brouwer sees "something very compelling to this model of character evaluation."

Peter Kennedy, who opened the first Bank of America in Hong Kong in 1978, offers this advice on character and business in China:

"There are no flashes in the pan, no boy wonders, nothing the Chinese haven't seen before. They can smell commitment and sincerity. So the most important qualities that a Wabash man needs to remember are those very qualities that cause them to excel at the College: commitment, sincerity, and not giving up." ■

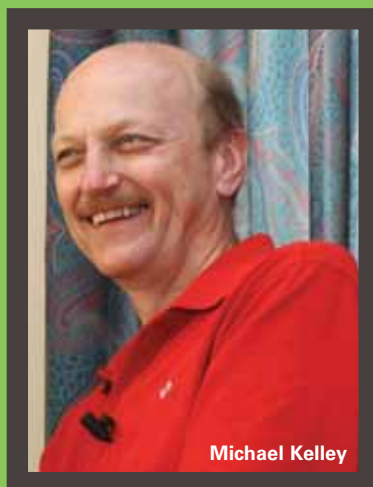
**typical Wabash refreshment*

MICHAEL KELLEY '70 >

Metals trader and consultant
Traveling throughout East Asia
since 1968

[HOMETOWN] Gary, IN

[MAJOR] History



MIKE KELLEY TOOK CHINESE AT WABASH in the late 60s and between his junior and senior years spent a few months in Taiwan studying Chinese at the Taipei Language Institute. He took Japanese in graduate school after serving in the Navy and spent a semester in Japan earning his master's in international management. He then lived in Tokyo for three years, starting up and running a subsidiary of a large U.S. corporation.

"I traveled Asia extensively during these years, but China was still only a barely

awake giant, with very few business opportunities," Kelley recalls. "When I first went to Taiwan, I was a 20-year-old kid from Gary, IN—a white kid from a predominantly black high school—who had never even seen an ocean before, much less flown across the Pacific. I had almost no preconceived notions, which was good—I just absorbed and assimilated. And I already knew how to be a minority, another unanticipated advantage."

Now traveling to China a few times a year for business, Kelley knows building good relationships is critical to success in China.

"There is no established rule of law, no UCC for business to be based on. It is not a place for Boy Scouts—the rule of the jungle can prevail. What rules there are continue to change as the government makes it up as they go along. **Your business partner can walk away from a contract without a worry of any legal consequence. This puts the emphasis on personal relationship building**—using your experience and your gut to judge who you can trust, and who should be avoided.

"There are good people to do business with, but you always need to keep your antennae twitching for what might be changing in the environment around you."

KAI CHIN '71 >

Banking and finance for the
past 30 years in South Korea,
Taiwan, Indonesia, Hong Kong,
Singapore, Philippines, and
China

[HOMETOWN] Tai Shan, China

[MAJOR] History

KAI CHIN WAS BORN IN CHINA and lived with his mother and grandparents there until he was five years old, when he and his mother rejoined his father in the U.S. He grew up on the lower eastside of New York City.

After 30 years working throughout East

Asia, Chin believes that language barriers are among the easiest blocks to overcome. Non-verbal communication can be more difficult to navigate.

"You can't really use a broad brush across Asia as a whole. Each country has its own unique culture and behavior. For example, in Indonesia you don't raise your voice and you don't speak to people directly. If you are unhappy with what's going on, you find someone who has a relationship with that person, and he relays the message."

The method is not necessarily efficient or reliable, "but it allows the person to save face. Face-saving is very important in Asia.

PETER KENNEDY '68 >

Established Corporate Banking Office for Bank of America in Hong Kong 1980-82, currently president of Eighteen Seventy Corp.

[HOMETOWN] Boston, MA

[MAJOR] History

PETER KENNEDY'S FIRST interest in China was the result of a geopolitics class at Wabash taught by Dr. George Lipsky.

"The course was fascinating. Dr. Lipsky was a brilliant man," Kennedy says, "Students loved him."

A decade later, working at Bank of America in New York, he was asked to start a new office in Hong Kong. He spent almost three years living there and now returns to Hong Kong and China for business a few times each year.

"At that time the important Hong Kong Chinese were disciples of Confucius. That is they were polite yet they were careful about giving away information. It took many polite meetings to gain a level of trust where important information could be shared.

"When dealing with the Chinese it is easier to learn with one's mouth closed. **Americans like to talk about themselves, whereas the Chinese rarely talk about themselves. So you have to learn to be quiet.** You have to learn to tolerate periods of silence in a business meeting and not be edgy, because silence might persist."

"Everything is an effort to work in a form of harmony."

Chin believes sincerity is the best way to overcome any language and cultural barriers one encounters.

"Others can read your sincerity and tone of voice, facial expression, your patience in getting your point across.

Civility toward one another—a willingness to make an extra effort to communicate—is the common language. Everything is based on relationships."

KHURRAM TAHIR '01 >

Director, Greater China Strategy and Business Development, Motorola

In China from 2008-2010

[HOMETOWN] Lahore, Pakistan

[MAJOR] Political Science

"WHILE I WAS WORKING for Motorola in Libertyville, my boss approached me about a potential position in China," Khurram Tahir recalls. "I had a great one-hour conversation with our president in China, after which he basically said, 'If we need you to move in a month, can you do it?' I said 'yes.' A month later I was there.

"China is the nexus of so many of things going on today from a socioeconomic and business perspective that any chance to live and experience that while getting paid is very hard to resist."

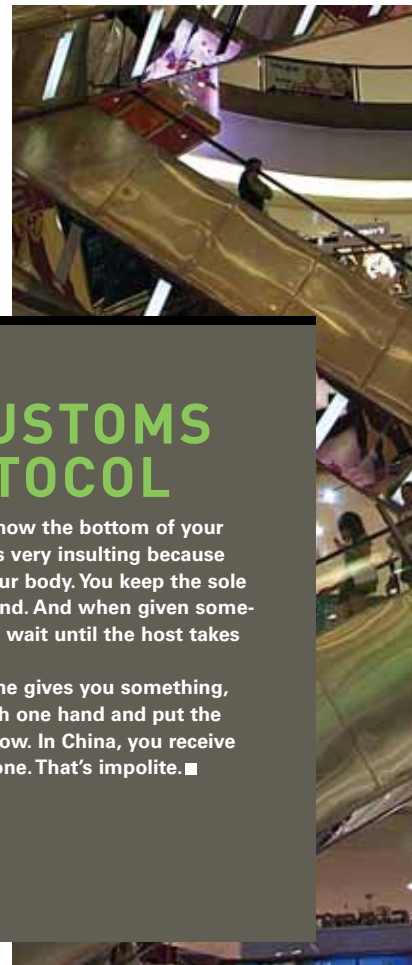


Tahir learned early the importance of personal interaction.

"I spent a lot of time upfront building relationships with our leadership team in China. It paid dividends throughout my stay there when it came down to trying to get things done.

"Understanding the cultural norms is critical to your business success. For example, executives in China try to not actively disagree in meetings. **You could be in a meeting where everyone is nodding their heads, but that does not mean they agree with you.** You leave the meeting thinking that everyone is going to go do certain things that were agreed upon. Then you find out that wasn't the case—that they were never done. Getting people to verbally commit to doing things is very important." ■

Read more from these alumni at WM Online.



MORE CUSTOMS and PROTOCOL

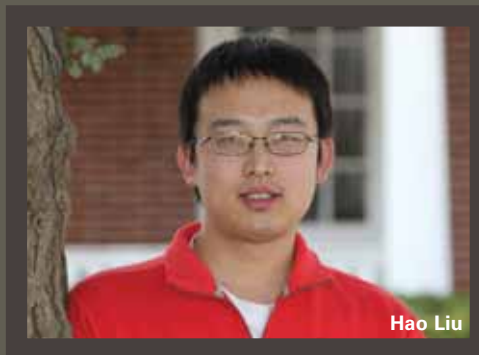
In Indonesia you never show the bottom of your feet to your guest—that's very insulting because it's the dirtiest part of your body. You keep the sole of your shoe on the ground. And when given something to eat or drink, you wait until the host takes the first sip.

In Korea when someone gives you something, you always receive it with one hand and put the other hand under the elbow. In China, you receive with two hands—never one. That's impolite. ■

—Kai Chin '71

LESSONS LEARNED out of SCHOOL

Hao Liu '11 took two years between high school in Cangzhou, China and Wabash to explore the business culture of his country, an education that's already paid off with a successful startup and millions of dollars in venture capital!



 HE RUSHES UP THE KANE HOUSE stairs for our interview at a pace and with a focus unusual for even the most driven Wabash student. Director of International Students David Clapp says that's typical Hao Liu—on the phone, texting between classes, reachable 24/7, just like the successful entrepreneurs he sought to emulate when he came to Wabash. Like the successful entrepreneur he has become.

At age 23, Liu is the co-founder of the SIE International Summer School Program, the first Chinese-run study-abroad program in his country.

"We saw the growing need for a more comprehensive and affordable study-abroad program in China, so I co-founded the company with my friend Yilin Xu from Harvard Law School in October of 2009," Lui says. "We hired 13 professors from American universities and colleges [including Wabash] to offer students around 30 courses. Two hundred thirty-four students from ten different countries and 72 different universities around the world attended the program. Most of them were Chinese students who were enrolled in universities and colleges in North America."

Encouraged by the success of the 2010 program, the company expanded for 2011. Then late last year, Liu's company received a multi-million dollar venture capital investment from a well-known firm in China.

"We are ready to expand to semester-long study-abroad programs as well as other international education fields," Liu explained just weeks before his graduation from Wabash.

The philosophy major, mathematics minor credits the College for much of his success, but admits that the quick takeoff of SIE owes more to the two years off he took between high school and Wabash.

"My father wanted me to learn firsthand about the business world, which proved very important," Liu says. "There are certain approaches you need to learn about the way we do business in China, and I learned those during these two years."

WM asked Liu: What did you learn about doing business in China?

Liu: If you want success in a field, research not only the company, but also the people you'll be dealing with. Before you approach a potential business partner, you attempt to establish private connections first. Before you meet, you need to know something about him. You have to show respect for him and his business, and you have to show great interest. You want to know his hobbies or other interests so you can have these very nice conversations. Then you have a chance of establishing a very good business relationship with him.

There are certain Chinese manners you must learn in order to do business. We always show respect for elders. At dinner, we drink. And you have to manage not to become drunk—you are meeting to get things done—but you also want to drink to a level where everyone is happy. (Read TWR and the PRC, page 28.)

You've done business in both China and the U.S. Any other major differences?

Liu: In the U.S. when we talk about business, we're talking about business—we usually tell someone precisely what we're really thinking. In China, we may say, "Oh, your idea is great" or "I'll think about it," but actually that means "no" in China.

Have you noticed differences between the work ethic of American and Chinese students?

Liu: Hardworking is a common characteristic of Chinese students. We're here, we appreciate this opportunity, and many of us are also on financial aid and we don't want to waste our money.

I've heard some people call the Americans who grew up in the 1960s "a lost generation"—their living conditions were very, very good. But in China our living conditions are not yet good enough, and we know we are not good enough, and because my parents grew up in the great Cultural Revolution and experienced that, they know we have to catch up with the rest of the world. ■

IN 1984, a Wabash professor traveled to Beijing to interview the College's oldest living alumnus, a man born in Crawfordsville, taught by Ezra Pound, and whose years of influence in China spanned the decades of that country's greatest upheaval—a man the Chinese called...

“ONE of US”

—by Bert Stern



THE BEGINNING WAS OUT OF THE BLUE.

In 1979, the Wabash Admissions Office received a note from a mysterious man in China. He announced himself to have graduated in 1909 and staked claims to being the oldest living alumnus. But the real purpose of his letter was to recommend a young man named Rujie Wang, whom he had helped educate.

Rujie proved every bit as good as the letter promised. He was challenging—always hungry for just a little more than I gave him in the several classes where we met, and more than ready for graduate school. We soon became friends and met often in my office and home.

We talked about literature, but we also talked about China. He spoke with intensity about his experiences in the Red Guard, Mao Zedong's band of fanatical young people who were the vanguard of his attack on traditional Chinese culture. Rujie's parents, both professors of English at Peking University, were bright emblems of that culture, and the stories Rujie told about confronting them as enemies were deeply disturbing. He told the stories like a man who wanted to get them off his chest, and he told them with agonizing remorse.

Rujie also talked to me about Robert Winter, the man who had recommended him, and I was fascinated with his tales of a Crawfordsvillean who went to China in the 1920s, just two years after the founding of the Chinese Communist Party, and remained there almost without interruption until the time of his death in 1987 when he was 100 years old.

Robert Winter, Wabash Class of 1909,
at home in Beijing in 1984.

—photo courtesy of the Robert T. Ramsay,
Jr. Archival Center

“Pound told me that I must go out and seek my teachers.”

At a certain point in my listening I knew in the way one knows only once or twice in a lifetime that I, too, must go to China. That is how, in the early fall of 1984, I found myself with my wife and five-year-old daughter—all of us jet-lagged—wandering around the campus of Peking University, with its tiled pagoda-style buildings, carved lion guardians, lakes, and copses. On the edge of one such grove we saw maybe a dozen people practicing tai chi, moving like beautiful ghosts in the half-light. We knew we were a long way from home.

“To Be Rich Is Glorious”

WHEN WE ARRIVED IN PEKING, China was in its infancy as the industrial giant it would become. Chairman Deng Xiaoping had succeeded Mao as Party Chairman and his goal was shockingly different from Mao’s. The slogan now posted on signboards and mouthed daily in the papers was: “To be rich is glorious.” No goal could be more brash. China was still recovering from the havoc Mao had made of Chinese industry and of the economy. Here and there in the university area, tiny computer shops were opening and buildings, including tourist hotels, were going up. One hotel even had a revolving restaurant, though the mechanism didn’t work.

The old neighborhoods of densely populated houses on streets too narrow for cars and rich with vegetable and flower gardens were being displaced by hideously inhuman concrete towers, housing tiny apartments whose ceiling and floor and walls were also raw concrete.

Faculty housing at Peking University, “the Harvard of China,” was no better. But our own apartment in a “foreign experts” compound on the campus was comfortable enough, and even included a television set. We didn’t understand Chinese, so we rarely watched, except for our favorite program, which aired daily just before supper. It featured a live camera on Tiananmen Square that would zoom in on unsuspecting female tourists for examples of what not to wear. The show was ahead of its time—back then the nearly universal dress for men and women was still the dark blue Mao suit.

OUR DAILY LIVES SOON FELL into a pleasant routine. I taught three classes but had no other obligations at the university except for an occasional banquet. So my life, like my family’s, was simple in a most un-American way. I especially remember the absence of noise and paper pollution. There was no traffic on campus, except for the occasional maintenance truck or horse cart. And there was very little paper. You didn’t see scraps of it anywhere—not newspapers, not flyers, nothing. Paper was a precious commodity, used and endlessly recycled.

As for noise, in the morning and evening, a very harsh woman’s voice beat out cadences during the compulsory exercises for students and faculty in the courtyards. Early on clear mornings a single bird song might ring with remarkable clarity.

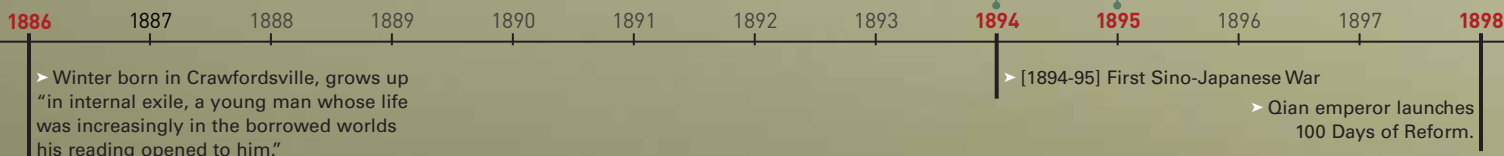
Our pace slowed dramatically. Riding downtown in a mass of fellow bikers, we for once felt part of the crowd. In the evening, sometimes we’d see rare displays of simple public affection—young lovers riding hand-in-hand down a dimly lit avenue.

“Red Stars” in My Eyes

I TAUGHT ONE WRITING class and two literature classes. Except for the graduate students, most were interested in polishing their English rather than mastering the treasures of English literature. There were brilliant exceptions, including a young man who went on to become one of China’s leading poets.

My writing students were fascinating in a special way. With them the teaching was reciprocal. I taught them how to write—and also how to think, because thinking was more of a liability than an asset during the Mao years, and was still a bit dicey even in this calmer time. They taught me China.

In a student essay I’ll never forget, a shy girl described how, when she was five or six, her parents spent the whole night guarding their pigs from a marauding tiger, leaving her alone in the house. She said nothing about her terror, nor in any way presented the experience with bitterness. She just described it. It was years before I really understood her story. I simply couldn’t negotiate

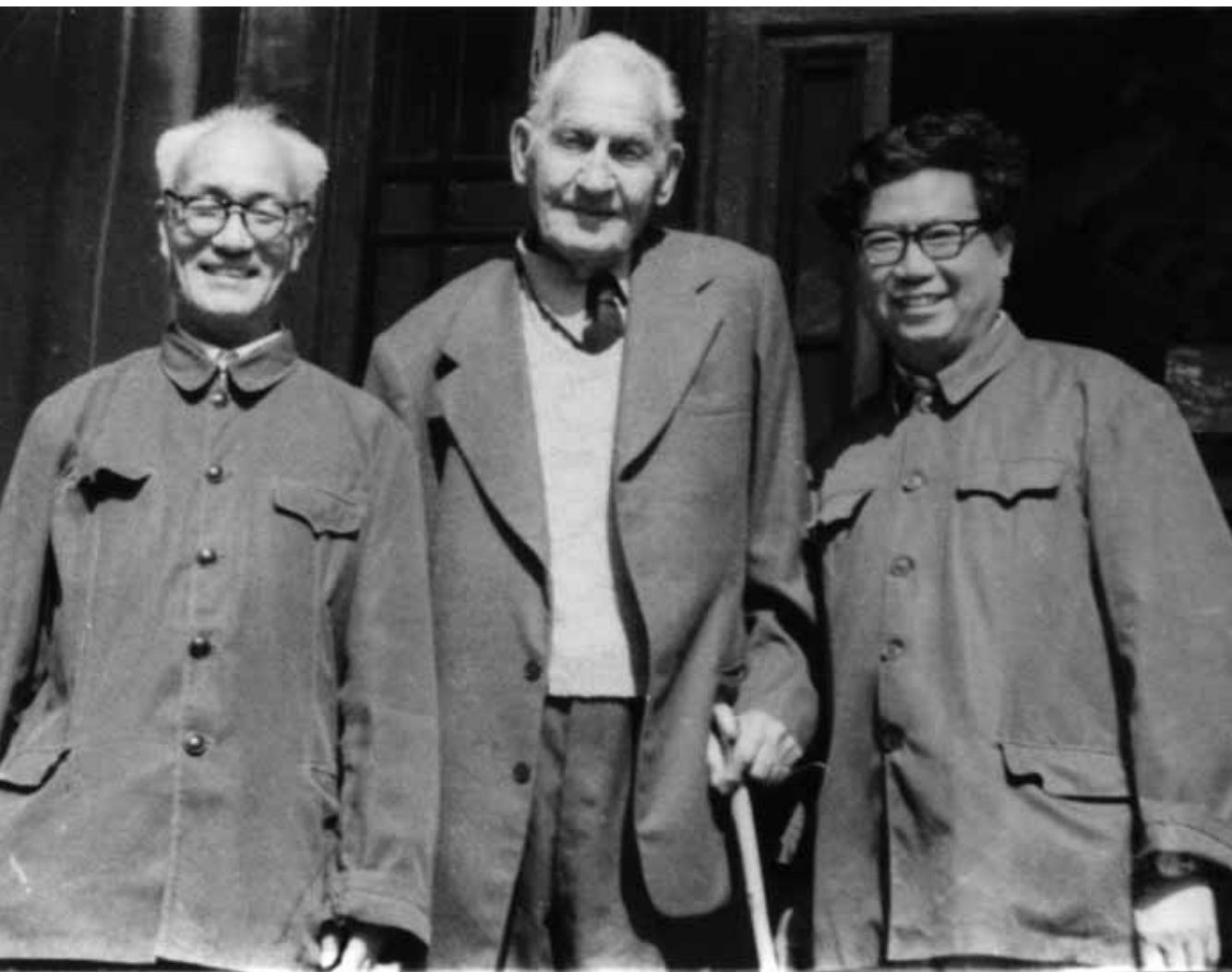


the cultural abyss and the bald fact that the pigs were more valuable than the girl, as was true generally, and probably still is, in Chinese agricultural areas.

For several months I was taken in by my hosts' skill at putting China's best foot forward. We were taken on field trips—to operas, museums, and to People's Liberation Army camps, where we were shown the many ways

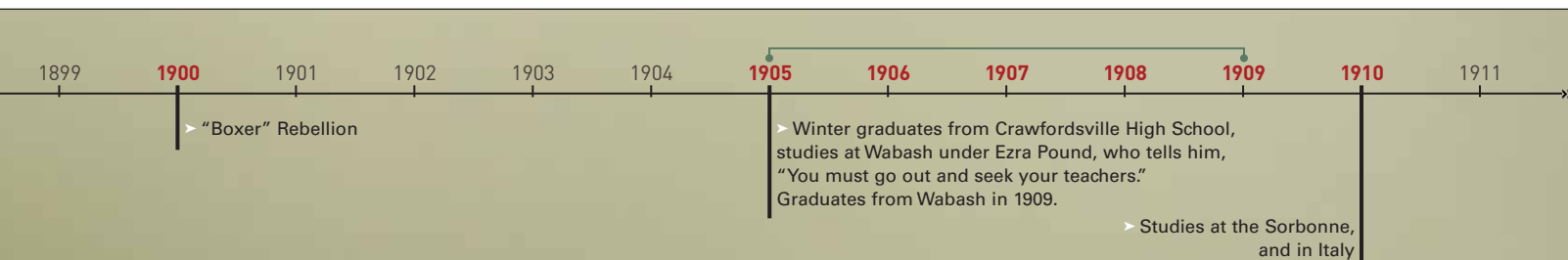
that the army befriended the rural environs around them. We ate up these visits, utterly convinced that the society we were visiting was compassionate and in love with its own culture.

It's painful for me to admit that I went to China with "Red Stars" in my eyes. I wanted badly to find a utopia in China of the kind that Mao sometimes saw himself as



With Communist Party members, circa 1970.

—photo courtesy of the Robert T. Ramsay, Jr. Archival Center



creating. I honestly regret the loss of such political innocence. It was a kind of innocence that kept alive my hope for the human species. But I should have known better. Rujie's stories of the brutalities of the Cultural Revolution should have been enough. And there were other clues around me. But hadn't I found in the writings of the illustrious Harvard historian John Fairbank glowing pictures of Mao's China, pictures consistent with my own dreams? It took me awhile to see through such delusions.

"Can You Get Me Out of Here?"

IN THIS STATE OF IGNORANCE I began to visit Robert Winter. I had been in China for three weeks, and he had lived in China almost steadily since 1923. I was ready for a kind of discipleship. It didn't turn out as simple as that.

During and after the Cultural Revolution, the Party officially ostracized Winter. That left the 97-year-old man high and dry in a single room of his small house on the edge of the campus. Around it were scattered ruins of his once-magnificent garden, but the man himself was confined to a rumpled cot. Though I didn't know it at the time, he was often drugged to calm the rage and other passions that otherwise could overwhelm him.

His regular companions in the house were vaguely sinister. These were Liang, a kind of male nurse who sometimes gave Winter massages and who remained a shadowy figure to me, and Wang, Winter's cook and housekeeper, a former prostitute who started to work for Winter after he rescued her from a crowd intent on beating her.

On my first visit the housekeeper let me into a space that was cramped and almost squalid. It smelled of a sick room. But fabulous objects were scattered around as relics of a livelier past. A classic carved teak cabinet covered one wall. (How Winter managed to pre-



serve it through the wars and exiles he endured, I can't imagine.) Other vestiges of Winter's earlier lives hung on the walls. A Qing Dynasty painting depicted a mustachioed man in a red cloak leading a camel through snowy



Sometimes this gaunt man with a bad chest would gather himself and let me see him as he once was.

"The Fisherman,"
painting by
Robert Winter.

mountains. Both the man and the camel are staring with a kind of sublime haughtiness at the clear mountain sky. It is a traveler's picture, and it celebrates solitude and fearless quest. A self-portrait in oil depicted Winter himself as he was perhaps 50 years earlier: big, boldly mustachioed like the horseman, and very handsome in an imperious, British kind of way. Another painting by Winter, which I now own, showed a young fisherman looking directly at us, holding a small sea horse in his right hand. It is unmistakably erotic, even if we don't know that the sea horse is an erotic emblem in China. Finally, over Winter's bed hung a Wabash pennant and certificate of merit in recognition of the College's discovery of him as its oldest alumnus. In the midst of all this, prone on a narrow bed, a gaunt man lay immobile, except when he coughed.

One of the first things the old man said to me after he'd roused himself was, "Can't you think of some way to get me out of here?" It was a terrible question. "Here" was not simply this house. It included the dead end in which a man who defined himself by his activity had now arrived in this house, with its slightly shady attendants, this terrible state of mind and body. He was like a great fish washed up on the shore, breathing out his last. I could not think of any way to get him out of there except to record his life, moving with him from his dead present to his vital past.

EARLY ON I IMAGINED that we would reconstruct his life together and that, in the realized form of what he had been, he would find freedom from remorse. He had a great measure of that. He told me that he had wanted "to blot himself out." He never had personal ambitions, he said. He had "wanted to be nothing." Why did people—that is, me—come to see him now? He really wanted to know. He felt himself to be a man disgraced. The most heroic of his efforts on China's behalf during World War II were turned to dirt by the humiliating brainwash sessions he had been subjected to by Party officials. Now, he wanted to be told—by me, by anyone—whether his life had meant anything. "What do the Chinese think of

me?" he wanted to know. Would I ask his servant Wang?

I can't ask, I tell him—I don't speak Chinese.

"Let that man translate," he says, pointing to Liang, one of his attendants. Liang speaks to him quietly, holding his hand, rubbing his back softly with the other hand, and telling the old man what he wants to hear, thus giving him the only steady love that he can expect. But old Liang with the milky cataract in his right eye doesn't speak English.

"You're the only one who can translate," I tell Winter. "Shall I call in Wang?"

She comes in. In Chinese, as if he is conducting an interview, Winter asks Wang his constant question: "What do the people of China think of me?"

She answers, and he translates to me, almost disinterestedly. We seem to be actors in an absurdist drama of most perplexing vectors. "Fu Yi, Wen I-to, Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai—they all say you are a good man," Winter says.

Then Liang begins to speak carefully, formally. And the old man translates, in a scene that might have been written by Beckett:

"I am a true friend of China. I did very important things for China. The Chinese like me very much. China was very different because I was here. Both students and teachers..."

"Lin Chou [a well-known geographer who had once been Winter's neighbor], Chen Deison [under Mao, China's leading economist], Chou Peiyuan [who was President of Peking University in the 70s]..." Wang says.

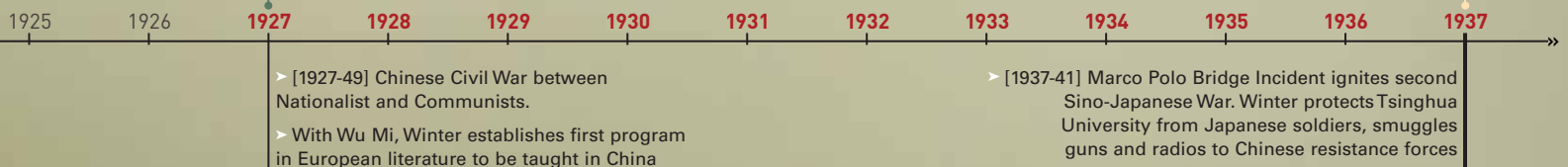
"Those are just names," Winter remarks to me.

"People who admire you," I say, "real friends." He smiles, for the moment appeased.

So these surreal interviews went. Yet sometimes this gaunt man with a bad chest would gather himself, and the full, commanding timbre of his voice let me see him as he once was. Moments of his past life and stature would flash into brilliant relief.

Still, when I later described my project to the translator Gladys Yang, she shook her head ruefully.

"You're dealing with clouds," she said.





Born to Internal Exile

WITH THE HELP of many of those who had worked with him in his prime, I supplemented what Winter told me and gradually found the story line of his life.

He'd grown up in Crawfordsville at the turn of the 20th century, born to internal exile. His family was disorderly, and he acknowledged nothing positive about his life at home. He

knew early that he was gay. As if that weren't bad enough, he was also bookish, a young man whose real life was increasingly in the borrowed worlds that his reading opened to him.

Then, as a freshman at Wabash College, he met the young poet Ezra Pound, who taught briefly at the College and, like Winter, was straining to leave almost as soon as he arrived. Pound was the very embodiment of the culture Winter hungered for. Not only did he open Winter more deeply to the powers of poetry, but he also handed him the magical formula for Winter's escape.

"Pound told me," Winter said, "that I must go out and seek my teachers."

Winter's journey to those teachers and to freedom came in fits and starts. He studied for a while in France and Italy, then returned to teach at Evanston High School, where he was already deeply interested in things Chinese. Later he got a minor post as a French teacher at the University of Chicago, where a second chance meeting sealed his fate.

Wen I-to, already one of China's leading poets, was in Chicago in the early 1920s to study painting at Chicago's Art Institute. That's where he and Winter met, standing in front of a picture. They began to discuss the painting. They were quickly dazzled by each other. For Winter, Wen was the embodiment of the culture Winter was already absorbing from a distance. And to Wen, Winter was the most extraordinary American he'd met,

because of his depth of knowledge and passion he had for all things Chinese.

On his first visit to Winter's apartment Wen saw a remarkable painting Winter had made from an ancient drawing of the Taoist Lao Zi. Nearly all Winter's furnishings and objects were Asian, from China and India. Winter even burned oriental incense when Wen dropped in. And they talked endlessly about Chinese poetry.

Then something dramatic happened. Winter had to get out of town, fast, perhaps because of a homosexual indiscretion of the kind that haunted him almost to the end of his life. Wen wrote letters, and in 1923 Winter sailed to China to take up a post at Nanking University. Before long he was able to move to Peking, where he got teaching posts—first at Tsinghua University and, after World War II, at Peking University.

Winter was a fabled teacher at both these posts, and his first 10 years in China must have been perfect bliss for him. Not only students but also Western and Chinese peers gathered around him, not only for his famous stories but because his home was a cultural center—a place where intellectuals, traditional and modern, gathered often for performances by famous musicians. Winter also had an extensive collection of classical music by German composers, and he would offer weekly concerts for which he provided programs, and would talk knowledgeably about the composer and the piece to be played.

For much of his life in China, Winter was the only embodiment of Western culture.

During this period, Winter also came as close as a Westerner could to becoming a Chinese Mandarin, master of traditional arts and crafts as well as a fluent speaker. It was as if he'd died and found himself in a heaven of culture, where he often stood in the central role that he enjoyed. He loved to be fascinating, and had great gifts for it. His companions were people who embodied the 5,000-year tradition of Chinese culture—its history, its manners, its morality, its high aesthetic.



Yet even during this terrible time, he continued to teach, as if keeping a flame alive.

Robert Winter and
"friend," circa 1940.

—photo courtesy of
the Robert T. Ramsay,
Jr. Archival Center



Keeping a Flame Alive

EVERYTHING CHANGED FOR WINTER when in 1937 the Japanese occupied Peking, as they had already occupied much of mainland China. The rest of the faculty fled, but he stayed behind as guardian of Tsinghua University. With great courage and tenacity, he did what he could to prevent the Japanese from looting laboratory equipment and working other havoc on university property. Standing toe to toe with angry Japanese military officials, he won a few battles.

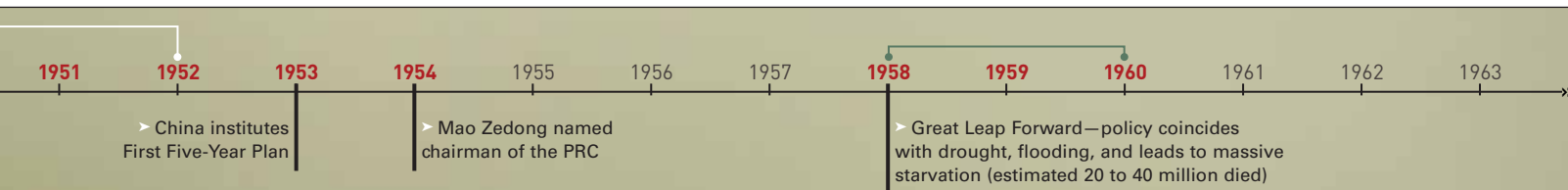
But eventually, for all his indefatigable energy as caretaker, Winter was forced to follow his colleagues to Kunming, where bombings, hunger, sickness, and horrifying sights of the dead and dying became his daily fare. Scurrying for shelter against Japanese air raids, Winter learned what it was to strip away pride and reach the condition of Lear's "poor, naked, unaccommodated man." And I think that it was this that a former colleague of his meant when he described Winter to me as "one of us."

Yet even during this terrible time, he continued to teach, as if keeping a flame alive. His Shakespeare class was legendary. He could recite great swaths of the plays from memory, and, a natural-born actor, performed them by adapting his voice to each of the characters, and even, when the text required, burst into song. Students crowded into his classroom, and outside, too, to hear Winter through open windows.

More an Afterlife Than a Life

THE DEFEAT OF JAPAN IN 1945 and the triumph of Mao and the Communists in 1949 could have marked Winter's restoration to his former position as a charismatic teacher of Western culture. He had performed heroic services against the Japanese during the war. Once, at great risk, he smuggled a radio across dangerous lines for the use of resistance forces. Another time he carried important papers through Japanese lines by taping them to his penis and wrapping that with iodine-wrapped gauze to suggest a festering disease!

But despite Winter's many acts of heroic resistance,



He had traveled far to find the perfect refuge, but in the end that refuge vanished in smoke, and he was left just as alone as he began—an outsider in Beijing just as he had been in Crawfordsville.

the postwar brought him little good. In Maoist China anti-imperialist feeling ran high, and Winter's association with the Rockefeller Foundation, who had sponsored the Basic English project he'd helped to organize, led the Chinese to suspect him as an American agent. Although he was allowed to keep a symbolic post at the university, his role was now the humble one of writing English language exercises. His old friends feared to talk with him, so he lived for decades in a different sort of internal exile—he who had cut so brilliant a figure in the eyes of his American and Chinese friends and co-workers.

Although that final stage was more of an afterlife than a life, as long as he could walk, Winter's observation and love of nature served to replace the broader cultural world of which he'd been so vivid a part. His house was surrounded by lovely lotus ponds that gave Winter peace and strength against his troubles. Now, in his last days, he'd lost even that simple pleasure.

A Fearless Man of Action

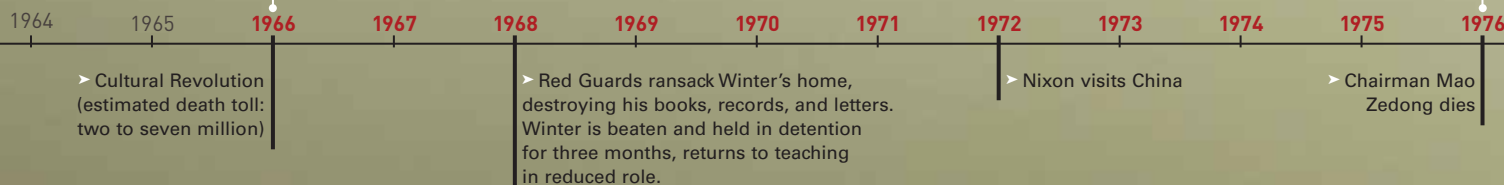
THE OLD MAN I CAME TO KNOW—though lucid only in fits and turns and deeply demoralized by cold interrogators who treated him as an enemy of the people—was a great man not only in my eyes, but also in the eyes of people far closer to him than I. What they loved in him, beyond his ability to entertain and captivate, was his personal modesty. He never aspired to be a great man, nor ever thought of himself so. And he took as much interest in the simplest peasant as he did in his refined associates.

He was a teacher, a clear thinker, a fearless man of action. That was his nature. He had traveled far to find the perfect refuge, but in the end, that refuge vanished



Winter at home.
—photo courtesy of
the Robert T. Ramsay,
Jr. Archival Center

in smoke, and he was left just as alone as he began—an outsider in Beijing as once he'd been an outsider in Crawfordsville.



Yet there's something that prevails in the man that I can best point to with a story. In 1945, back at Peking University, Winter returned to his house one afternoon to find it crowded with students. They had come to hear a Mozart concert Winter had selected from his many albums. Just as the concert ended, word arrived that full-blown civil war had broken out between Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalist and Mao's Communist troops—this on the very day, indeed, at the very moment, when Japanese troops were formally surrendering at Yiohk'ou.

The students who had been cheered by the music now hung their heads. All hope that the years of fighting would end with the Japanese surrender was lost. The students apologized to Winter for their country. Dejected, they were about to leave when he called them back and prompted a discussion about the power of art to console at such moments. He quoted Rebecca West's daunting question: "Art covers not even a corner of life, only a knot or two here and there, far apart and without relation to the pattern. How could we hope that it would ever bring order and beauty to the whole of that vast and intractable fabric, that sail flapping in the contrary winds of the universe?"

Yet after throwing out that terrible challenge, Winter maintained that when you feel at the end of your tether, "music can act as a kind of starch which freshens up a soiled and shabby mind and makes it presentable again for a while." Then he reminded the students of the old man who had lived across the street from him and who had captivated and inspired war-weary audiences for years with his performances of songs about mythical emperors who had supposedly lived more than 4,000 years ago.

The old singer "was a living skeleton and his arms and legs showed like broomsticks through his rags," Winter said. "He had made a sort of drum by tying a piece of leather over the end of a length of bamboo, and he used the drum to accompany his song. When a crowd had collected round him he would march solemnly in a circle three times, stopping after each circuit and striking three majestic notes on his drum to

underline the grand passages.

"It was astonishing to watch the faces in the crowd and to see the solemn interest that they took in the deeds of men whom we now think never lived at all."

The story needed no commentary. It spoke to something that prevails, if only in song and in memory. Mozart himself died a ragged figure. Winter did, too. But their lives and works, as different as they were, are songs that people will always keep singing. ■

Robert Winter's chance encounter with the poet and scholar Wen I-to in front of a painting at the Art Institute of Chicago led to a life-long friendship. Wen suggested and arranged for Winter's move to China. When the poet was assassinated by Chinese Nationalists in 1946, Winter blamed himself for not doing a better job protecting his friend.

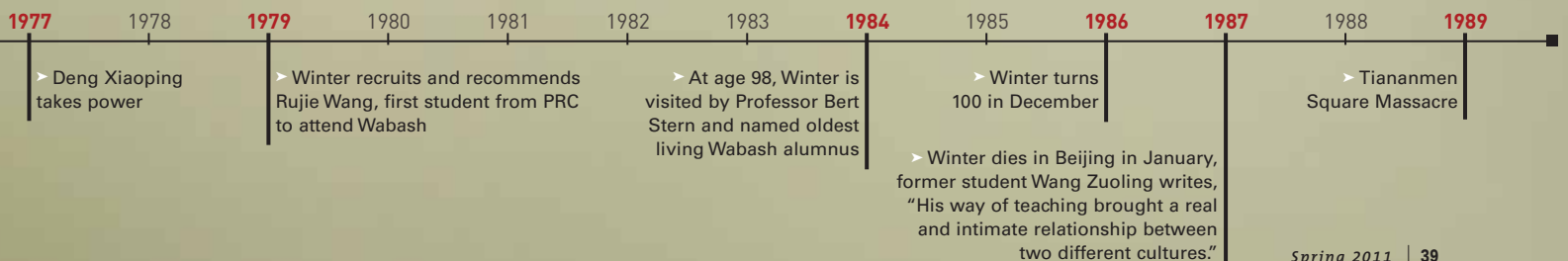
An example in English of Wen's poetry:

THE SOUND OF THE CLOCK

—by Wen I-to

The clock ticks so urgently—
The tide level marker in the sea of time
Is it recording a rising or a subsiding tide?
The waxing of the past?
Or the waning of the future?

Translated by Catherine Yi-yu Cho Woo



In 1981, Wabash warmly welcomed its first student from the People's Republic of China—hospitality that proved an invitation not only to a College, but to a nation.

—by Steve Charles



Seeing the Country

 RUJIE WANG '83 expected to spend the summer of 1982 working in the College's Lilly Library to help pay his tuition. Then Dean of Students Norman Moore called the Wabash junior—and the College's first student from the People's Republic of China—into his office.

"He asked what I was planning to do for the summer," recalls Wang, now a professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature at The College of Wooster. "When I told him, he said, 'You need to get out and see America,' and he took out \$500. He asked, 'Is that enough to travel a bit and see the rest of the country?' I didn't know what to say."

A few months later, Wang, Art Howe '82, and two friends drove to the Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, and Rocky Mountain National Park.

"We all met in Crawfordsville, rented a car, and Art drove us to these parks. It was the first time I saw the rest of America; that trip was when I fell in love with this country. I will never forget Dean Moore."

THE POLITICAL EVENT THAT FREED Rujie Wang to come to America was Deng Xiaoping's ascendancy as paramount leader of the PRC soon after Mao Zedong's death in 1976. From 1971 to 1978, Wang had worked on a state-owned farm in the suburbs of Beijing. As a member of the Red Guard, he'd been forced to denounce his father, a university professor who had attended Yale in the 1940s and had taught Chinese at Harvard to U.S. military personnel.

"The Red Guards came to our family to tell my father to confess to his so-called crimes. They kicked him and

beat him up, but he insisted he had committed no crimes.

"My father told the Red Guard, 'You need to know that America and China were allies in World War II,' but they wouldn't listen, because anything associated with the U.S. at that time was considered evil."

Wang's parents taught at Peking University, where Robert Winter, Wabash Class of 1909, was professor of English literature. As a boy, Rujie had often visited "the friendly old man who had the ability to sleep while floating in the water." As a young man, Wang and his schoolmates would stop by Winter's home to get a better understanding of America beyond his country's propaganda.

"Even during the Cultural Revolution, my father had been a light for me when everyone else had been taught to hate America; I had my father to rely on, and he would say America wasn't as bad as Mao said it was.

"Robert Winter did the same for me. I would take my classmates to visit him and he would tell us so many things about America that we wanted to know.

Peking Normal University for three years. Then a student in his class left to attend college in America.

"We were shocked that this was possible. Our goal was to study so that we could eventually become high school English teachers—that's what Peking University was all about. But by the time I left China half of my class was already in the U.S. I asked my parents if they had friends or relatives in the States, like those who had already left, but they didn't."

But they had Robert Winter. He wrote an impassioned letter to the Wabash Board of Trustees, including these lines describing Rujie:

"Wang is probably the best Chinese student of English that I have ever known. Since he was a child I have spoken English naturally with him and have lent him English books. In spite of his many accomplishments, his most extraordinary quality is his modesty and his quiet determination to learn."

Wang was admitted in 1981 as a junior. When he applied for his visa at the U.S.

"Dean Moore said, 'You need to get out and see America,' and he took out \$500. He asked, 'Is that enough to travel a bit and see the rest of the country?' I didn't know what to say."

By the late 1970s and 80s we all had so much yearning to come to the States."

IN 1978 DENG REVERSED MAO'S POLICY regarding higher education, and Wang and his generation were allowed to take the college entrance exam. Wang attended

Embassy in Beijing, his interviewing officer was Steve Fox '69. Director of Admissions Paul Garman picked him up at the Indianapolis airport.

From Beijing's millions to Crawfordsville's fewer than 15,000 residents should have induced culture shock,



but the young English major found the transition relatively easy.

"I had grown up on college campuses, and I liked the Wabash campus. It seemed like a medieval monastery—people reading, writing, the study carrels in the library. I was impressed by the size of the rooms in Wolcott; I was not used to that much space and luxury. And I was drawn to the way people studied independently."

There was one other Asian student on campus—Tomoaki Ishi '82, now

a political science professor in Japan.

"When we were homesick, Tomoaki would come to my dorm and we would cook ourselves a pot of rice and buy some tomatoes and eggs and eat Asian food," Wang recalls. "But our American friends who drove would take us to Chinese restaurants. Coming to America was the first time I saw a buffet. That defined communism for me right there—to pay one price for everything. But I was shocked at how affluent this country was."

Wang was most influenced by the conversations he had with faculty and fellow students outside of class.

"Tim Haffner '82 and I had great debates in Wolcott about the political systems in our respective countries, and I enjoyed those conversations immensely. At times I would have these conversations with other students, or watch students debate everything from the Academy Awards to nudity in films. For the first time I became deeply appreciative of this culture—that there could be

THE FIRST STUDENT FROM CHINA

While Rujie Wang '83 was the College's first student from the People's Republic of China, he wasn't the first from the Chinese mainland. That honor belonged to Tsing Nguh Woo, Class of 1907. Woo was a student when Robert Winter was growing up in Crawfordsville, though the archives has no record of the two having met.

"For the first time I became deeply appreciative of this culture—that there could be so many perspectives, so many ways to look at a particular issue. That was the liberal arts at work, and it affected me deeply."

so many perspectives, so many ways to look at a particular issue. That was the liberal arts at work, and it affected me deeply in just my two years there."

Wang kept up an ongoing correspondence with Winter.

"Once he wrote something I think seems almost prophetic now," Wang recalls. "He said that China and the U.S. are so opposite to one another in their values, but there will be a day when the two countries will be friends."

Wang remembers Professors John Swan and David Hadley counseling him when he received a "Dear John" letter from his girlfriend in China, and he has great respect for the Wabash faculty. Professor of English Bert Stern was more than a teacher.

"Bert cared about students beyond the academic, and that's what I hope I'm doing for my students here at Wooster," Wang says. "Bert was also interested in what China was like; he invited me to his house, and I told him about my life, working at the state-owned farm, about my parents, about Robert Winter. And he listened. There was already a space in his imagination and mind created for China."

"He was my professor, and a very good friend. I may have forgotten some of the texts he taught, but I'll never forget the way he approached life. And Bert's own passion for literature and poetry stayed with me, so I brought the

same passion, care, and patience when I did my graduate work."

WANG IS NOW A NATURALIZED citizen of the United States.

"You are talking to an American," he says with some pride as we wrap up our conversation. His mother lives with him in Wooster. "By now, I have spent more years in America than in China. It's really a global community for me, the way I travel back and forth, bringing students to China."

"Home is where you have friends—I have friends there, and I have plenty of friends in the States. But I'm always traveling between languages and traditions and religions and worlds, and I feel at home with that."

"I remember Robert Winter and realize that, without his example, I would not have been able to imagine myself living in America to stay. He lived so much of his life in a country so far away, a culture so alien, yet he stayed and contributed a

lot to the English department at Peking University and is still respected there. And teaching Chinese studies in America, I did the flip-side of what Robert Winter did."

Wang still speaks fondly of his fellow students at Wabash. Their welcome was not only a college's invitation, but a country's.

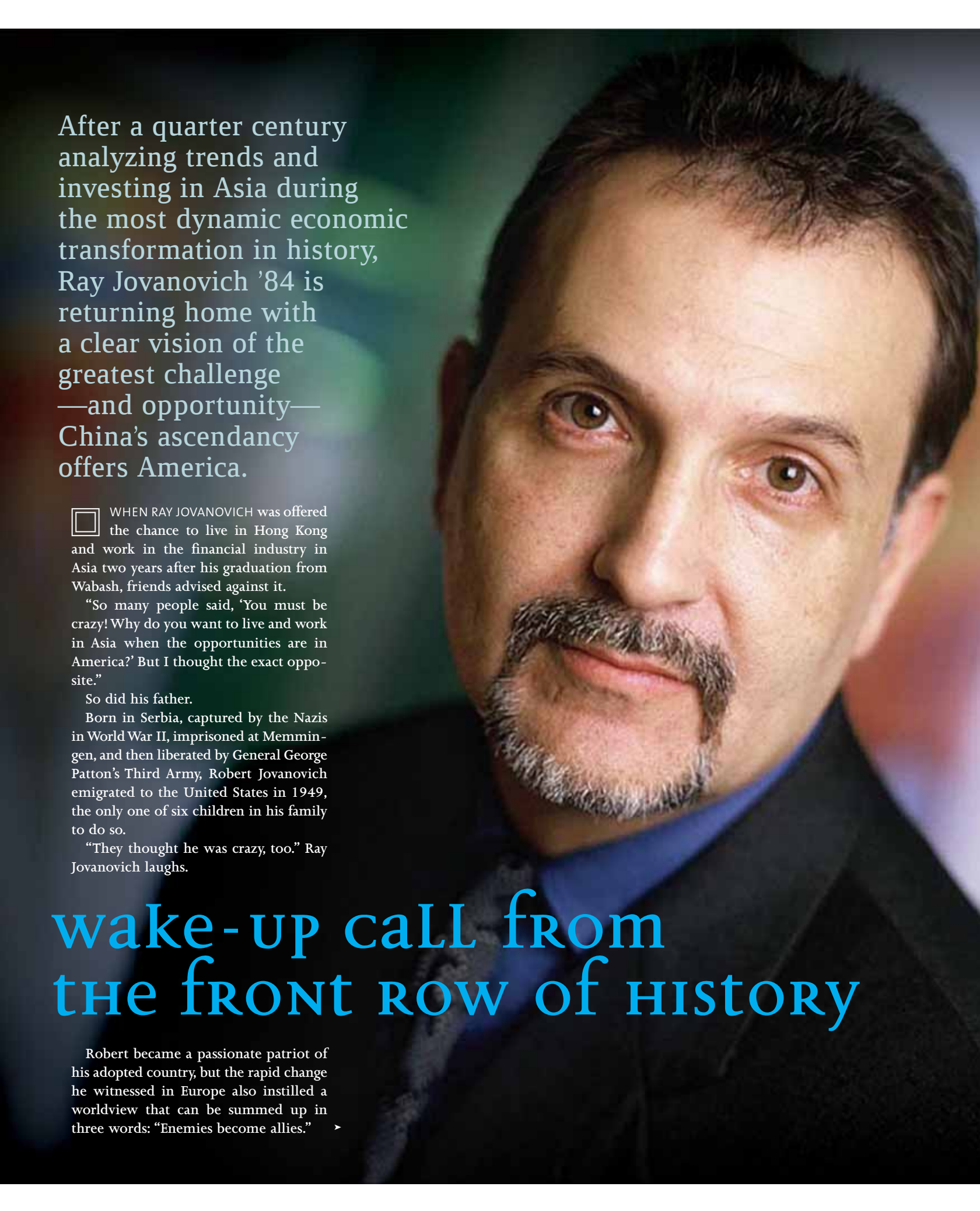
"Greg Britton '84 took me home to visit his family, and his father took me to his steel plant in Gary, [IN]. And John Van Nuys '83 and his family were such loving and caring people to me. His mom once cut me a check for \$120 just so I'd have money to buy clothes, and she and John's aunt went to visit my mom in China and in Canada when she was there. All these classmates took me to their homes, into their families."

"I don't know how I can ever repay these debts." ■

Contact Professor Wang at rwang@wooster.edu



Rujie Wang with Robert Winter, circa 1980.

A close-up portrait of Ray Jovanovich, a man with dark hair and a goatee, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a blue shirt.

After a quarter century analyzing trends and investing in Asia during the most dynamic economic transformation in history, Ray Jovanovich '84 is returning home with a clear vision of the greatest challenge—and opportunity—China's ascendancy offers America.

 WHEN RAY JOVANOVIĆH was offered the chance to live in Hong Kong and work in the financial industry in Asia two years after his graduation from Wabash, friends advised against it.

"So many people said, 'You must be crazy! Why do you want to live and work in Asia when the opportunities are in America?' But I thought the exact opposite."

So did his father.

Born in Serbia, captured by the Nazis in World War II, imprisoned at Memmingen, and then liberated by General George Patton's Third Army, Robert Jovanovich emigrated to the United States in 1949, the only one of six children in his family to do so.

"They thought he was crazy, too," Ray Jovanovich laughs.

wake-up call from the front row of history

Robert became a passionate patriot of his adopted country, but the rapid change he witnessed in Europe also instilled a worldview that can be summed up in three words: "Enemies become allies." ➤

“The greatest security threat to the U.S. remains the crumbling state of the public education system.”

➤ “That’s the dynamic of this world,” Jovanovich says. “My father never begrudged the German people themselves. In fact, he went back to visit, and his friends became my friends.

“When I told him that I wanted to take this opportunity to work in Asia, he said, ‘Go. Do this. It is important for you.’ He also said, ‘I suspect you’re going to be there the rest of your life. Once you go, you’ll never really return to America.’”

Twenty-five years later, Ray Jovanovich’s decision seems prescient. He has built fortunes for others and a life for himself and his wife, Belinda, that his parents could only have imagined. He has been a player in the most dynamic economic transformation in world history, has been the top fund manager in Asia, was featured in publications from *Barron’s* to *The Wall Street Journal*, correctly predicted Hong Kong’s success after it was returned to China in 1997, and is a trusted advisor to investors and government leaders.

Robert Jovanovich lived long enough to see his son’s success and his own advice proved sound, but he was wrong about one thing—Ray Jovanovich will return to America. At age 49 he is retiring from his position as chief investment officer at Amundi Asia and returning home. He plans to spend six months in the U.S. and six months in Asia.

And once again, others are questioning his decision to move, particularly as China is prospering.

“People are saying, ‘Are you crazy? You’re in an enviable position with all this experience and all these connections. You can do whatever you want.’”

Right now what Jovanovich wants is to spend more time with his family and to find a new way to contribute to the country of his birth.

“I made a promise to my father and to my wife that I would spend more time with the people who matter to me,” Jovanovich says. His father’s death in 2007 and Belinda’s battle with cancer in 2008 brought those promises home.

“I will never reengage in this industry

again,” Jovanovich says of the work that has been his life practically 24/7 since he arrived in Asia. “There’s just not much more for me to do here.”

That doesn’t mean there’s nothing left to do elsewhere. In fact, Belinda—who before her marriage to Jovanovich successfully raised her three sons as a single mother and entrepreneur through very difficult times in the Philippines—is his inspiration for finding new ways to support the empowerment of women worldwide.

And 25 years in Asia have given him a clear vision of the greatest challenge and opportunity afforded the U.S. by China’s rise to power.

“My abiding passion is education,” he says. “And I think America has some serious needs there.”

The Greatest Security Threat

The value Jovanovich places on teaching and learning as an economic engine stems from his own life as well as his early days in Asia as a research analyst. He believes that the statistical evidence has become even stronger over the years.

“The wisest decisions Deng Xiaoping made in China coincided with his emphasis on education,” says Jovanovich, who has watched that focus play a huge role in transforming the nation. Speaking to *Wabash Magazine* after celebrating the Chinese New Year with a professor friend and alumnus of Peking University, he recalls the man’s description of that school’s incoming class.

“The strength of these students’ scores and accomplishments was just incredible,” Jovanovich says. “I’m glad I’m in my 40s and the bulk of my professional life is in the rearview mirror, because I have seen the future. The competition from the likes of students we encounter from China and India is just overwhelming.

“I don’t believe that we recognize this in the West, particularly in the United States. We need to be preparing our children for this challenge.”

While others point to China’s economic rise as the top challenge to America’s stand-

ing in the world, Jovanovich says, “The greatest security threat to the U.S. remains the crumbling state of the public education system.

“We are condemning an entire generation of our youth. We are not preparing them properly, and they are not reflecting the new dynamic and the evolving competition.”

While not a fan of most of President Barack Obama’s policies, he applauds his emphasis on education.

“If I were President, I would start every Monday morning at a local public school somewhere in the country. I’d be challenging the teachers, I’d be challenging the students, and most of all, I’d be challenging the parents. The absence of parents is damaging the ability of students to achieve.”

Jovanovich says the involvement of parents in their children’s education is one of the most striking aspects of most Asian cultures.

“There’s overwhelming interest in children’s education here, not only in Hong Kong, but practically everywhere I’ve been in Asia. I see it in my wife’s family, the way in which the kids are pushed. Even in large families with four or five kids, the emphasis is on grasping the educational opportunity, even on supplemental educational. It’s universal, from Korea to India.

“Another difference is the role the teacher plays in Asia as a paragon of virtue, to be admired. To be a teacher is an end result, a vocation, and gives you great standing in society. That’s often not the case in America today.”

Jovanovich says there’s plenty of blame to go around for this—he’s more interested in solving the problem at hand.

“We’ve become preoccupied with other issues that have suppressed the recognition that education is our greatest security threat,” he says. “We need to experiment—there’s no one-size-fits-all program—and we need to empower. We must come to a recognition that we’re failing too many of our kids.”

He believes that too many students of the next generation may not get the chance to make the sorts of “crazy” decisions he made in order to succeed.

“I can remember the names of all my primary and elementary teachers, and at Wabash I had such enduring relationships with professors whom I adored. I was fortunate, but I was also a product of the public schools of America, and those teachers’ work prepared me; it stays with me still.

“There will always be the elites who can go to a private elementary and high school, then attend Columbia or Dartmouth. But what about the other 90 percent?”

Jovanovich points out that this current economic competition with Asia is actually an indicator of American success.

“Part of U.S. policy since the end of World War II has been to empower and improve the living standards of our partners across the globe—to create, in essence, American surrogates across the globe that would embrace all the values we hold dear. That effort should be given a great deal of credit for this global structural transformation. America played a significant role in Asia’s rise to prominence, and we shouldn’t be afraid of it. But that rise also serves as a great wake up call for us to step up our game.

“The future is ours, and we have to be prepared for it. We have to recognize that in places like India and China they understand that opportunity is fleeting—this is why families and students understand the necessity of education from an early age.”

While the U.S. can relearn from Asia this emphasis on education, Jovanovich says China may be learning from the U.S. the value of the liberal arts.

“Of course, I am an absolute disciple of the liberal arts approach, and I don’t miss the opportunity—whether I’m talking with investors, government officials, or students—to proclaim its merits. I think that a decade ago there was very little interest or appetite for that here; they felt the liberal arts wasn’t focused, and the China of the past was more about having

a focus to your education. But I think a gradual recognition is setting in—a realization that a liberal arts approach prepares a student far better for the realities of the global dynamic.

“In China and Hong Kong the system is starting to shift—there’s a recognition that the curriculum has to adjust, that there has to be a more well-rounded program, and that’s a good thing.”

JOVANOVICH “RETIRES” to the U.S. with two seemingly divergent goals: to spend more time with family, and to use what he’s learned to give back to the society that nurtured him. As he ponders his next move his thoughts return to his father and a conversation they had on Parents’ Day his freshman year at Wabash.

“My dad said, ‘This is an opportunity you need to embrace.’ He knew there was something special about Wabash before I did. There’s no doubt in my mind that the confidence provided by my Wabash education made it easier to make my next decision when the opportunity arose to live and work and study in Asia. That gave me a front row seat to this remarkable transformation.

“But Dad also stressed to me that the greatest measure of a man is his legacy: What have you improved in life for others? What have you done for those other than yourself? That still resonates with me; I expect it always will. I just want to reorganize my priorities, to make a contribution in a different way.” ■

“TRUST IS CRITICAL”

In a 1997 interview with WM, Jovanovich said, “Relationships are what matters in Asia. Building them takes years, but once you’ve built it, it’s done for life.”

In March, we asked him to reflect on the state of the U.S./China relationship:

“Building relationships is even more important now than when we spoke in 1997. I think this importance is something that has taken awhile for the American public to grasp.

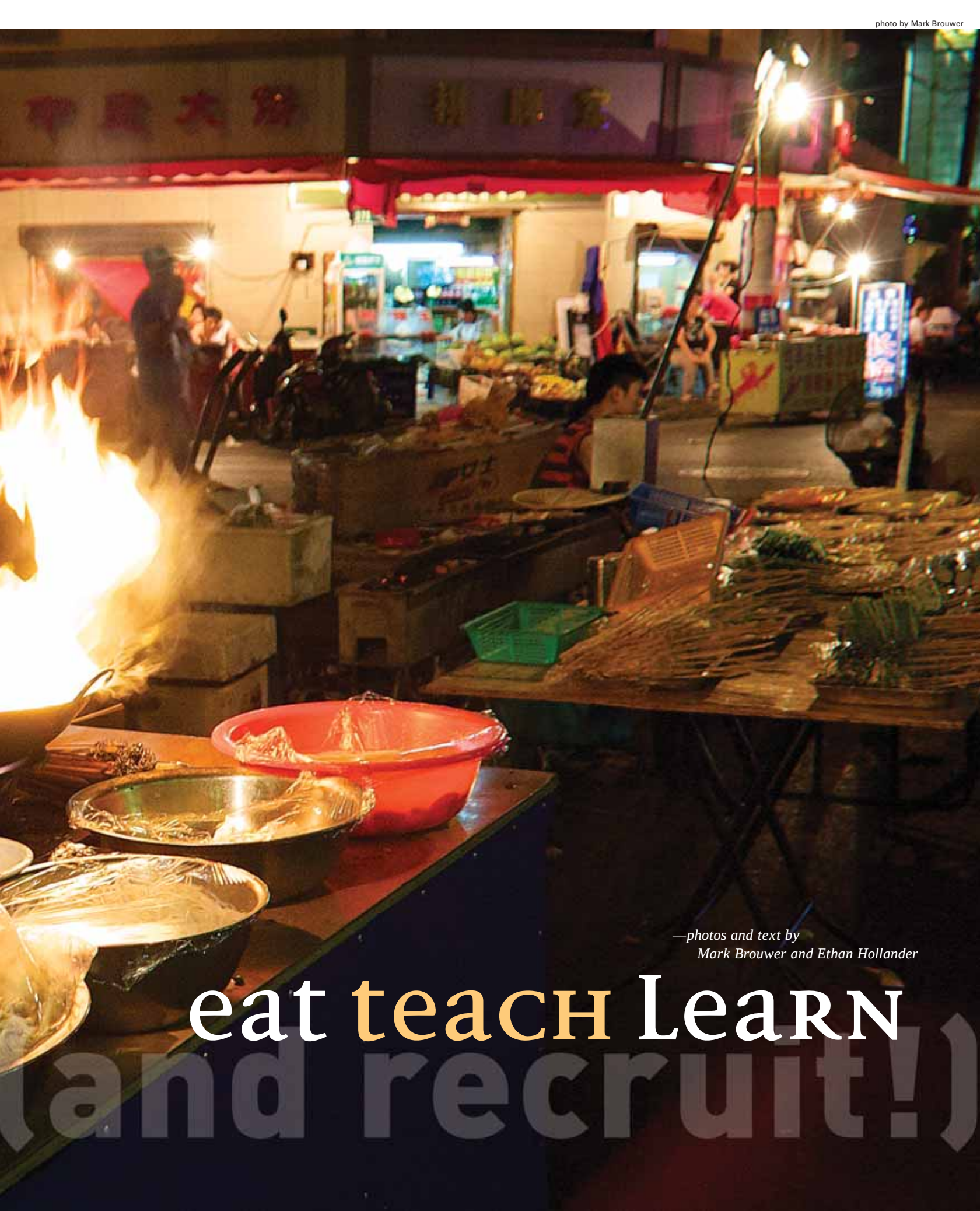
“The U.S./China relationship is complex. As with many partners, we agree in many areas, we disagree in others. Dialogue, communicating your position clearly, developing mutual understanding, even in areas of disagreement, and more interaction all help engender trust, and trust is critical.

“Building this trust and confidence is an absolute priority.”

—Ray Jovanovich

Read our 1997 interview with Jovanovich and more at WM Online.





—photos and text by
Mark Brouwer and Ethan Hollander

eat teach Learn
(and recruit!)



photo by Ethan Hollander



street food at the *meichi jie* (food street)

Wujiang Lu is one of the best-known food streets—walkways lined with food vendors—in Shanghai.

Hollander: You see huge woks cooking up all kinds of noodles, meats, and vegetables (see previous page). You fill up your basket with what you want, hand it to the cook, he cooks it and hands it back—basically stir fry on a stick.

Brouwer: It's delicious, but not a main meal—a lot of processed pork cubes, cubed duck. It doesn't look very industrial, but this food comes from factory farms far away—it's not garden-grown, and rarely "fresh" in a way we would think of it.

Hollander: I think we actually had Ming-era sausage. ■



► In Summer 2010, Professors Melissa Butler, Mark Brouwer, and Ethan Hollander taught their respective disciplines to Chinese students in Shanghai for six weeks as faculty in a program at East China Normal University organized by Hao Liu '11.

WM sat down with Brouwer and Hollander to see and listen to their visual reflections from their experience in Shanghai.

Some excerpts from our conversation:

the proof is in the bone

Brouwer: One of our class discussions started with me whining about the “damned bones” in the food. My students couldn’t understand why I was complaining. *Of course meat has bones in it. Who would eat meat without bones*, my students wondered. That’s where all the flavor is—you suck on the bones after you eat.

In fact, you can buy a sack of duck necks and just snack on the bones. The bones taste delicious. Many Chinese would find the notion of a boneless steak disgusting!

My original assumption was, *These Chinese cooks don’t know how to cut meat*. But they know exactly how to cut meat—to make sure every piece has a bone in it.

Hollander: Because the bone is the way you know it’s real meat—that it’s not salami or a hot dog. The proof is the bone. ■



photo by Ethan Hollander

teaching DESCARTES IN CHINA

Brouwer: One of the most striking experiences for me was teaching Rene Descartes in Shanghai. Descartes has an argument for the immortality of the soul.

I'm used to non-believing students in the U.S. thinking that Descartes is in the throes of western Christianity. But these students found it utterly absurd that there would be such a thing as an immaterial soul. They'd say, "What an archaic superstition—who in the world would believe in such a thing?"

It wasn't that they didn't believe it; they couldn't understand how anyone else could! When I said that I believe in souls, they thought I was crazy. They insisted that we are nothing more than our bodies.

There is something like religiosity in China, but it's in the form of traditional relationships with one's family and one's community. It wasn't hard for them to understand the concept of a church or religious practices. What they didn't have was a deep sense of transcendence—a sense that there is something beyond the physical. Their sense of religious practice seemed very centered in the concrete. ■



photo by Mark Brouwer



photo by Ethan Hollander

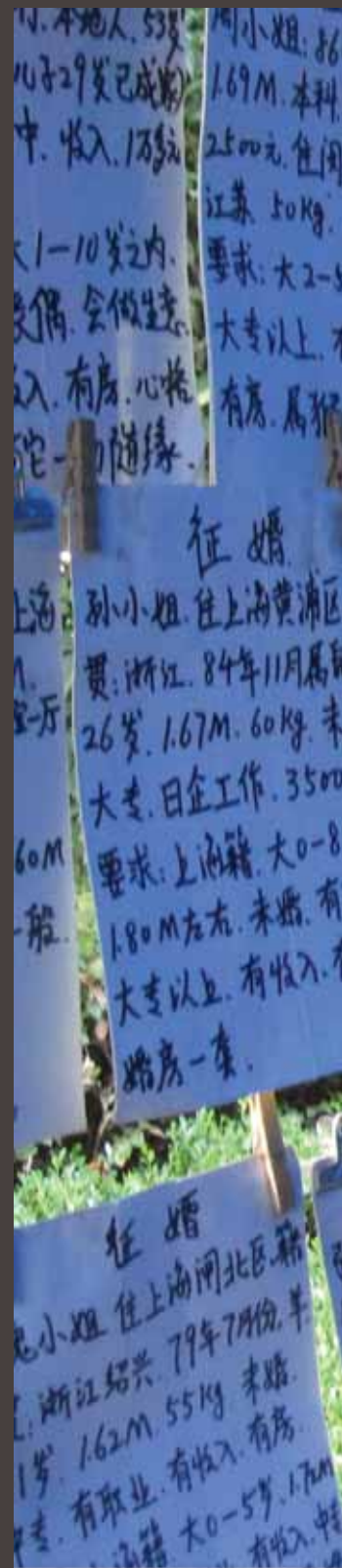




photo by Ethan Hollander

wives wanted

Hollander: China has a shortage of women; often men from the countryside can't find wives. So their parents may go to Shanghai and hang up these notes describing their sons—name, job, anything that a woman might find appealing—to try to get a woman for them. Then they'll sit around and wait to see who might be interested. ■



“WONDERFULLY anARCHIC”

Hollander: I took one of my classes to lunch several times. Relaxing over a meal made it easier for them to talk about the articles they’d read.

Brouwer: I love the Chinese way of eating. It’s wonderfully anarchic. You’re in a big group of people with a Lazy Susan in the center. As you begin the meal, everyone is sitting properly and putting a little food on their plate, eating very slowly. But as you drink and the evening wears on, the whole thing degenerates and there are plates everywhere, people are talking louder and louder, food is spilled all over, and people are just using their chopsticks right off the main plates.

It’s beautiful in the way it degenerates!

We would sit for an hour after we’d finished eating, just talking and having a drink. It’s a wonderful way to eat—a combination of food and conviviality that’s not at all American. ■



photo by Mark Brouwer

(left) **Professor Brouwer** with his philosophy class in Shanghai.

(below) **Professor Hollander** enjoys a meal in Shanghai with a student.



PROMOTING THE LIBERAL ARTS

Professor Hollander first traveled to China in 2009 as part of the Sino-American Liberal Arts Exchange—a tour to promote the liberal arts in China and to interest Chinese students in attending American liberal arts colleges.

“That first trip we recruited three students who came to Wabash,” Hollander says.

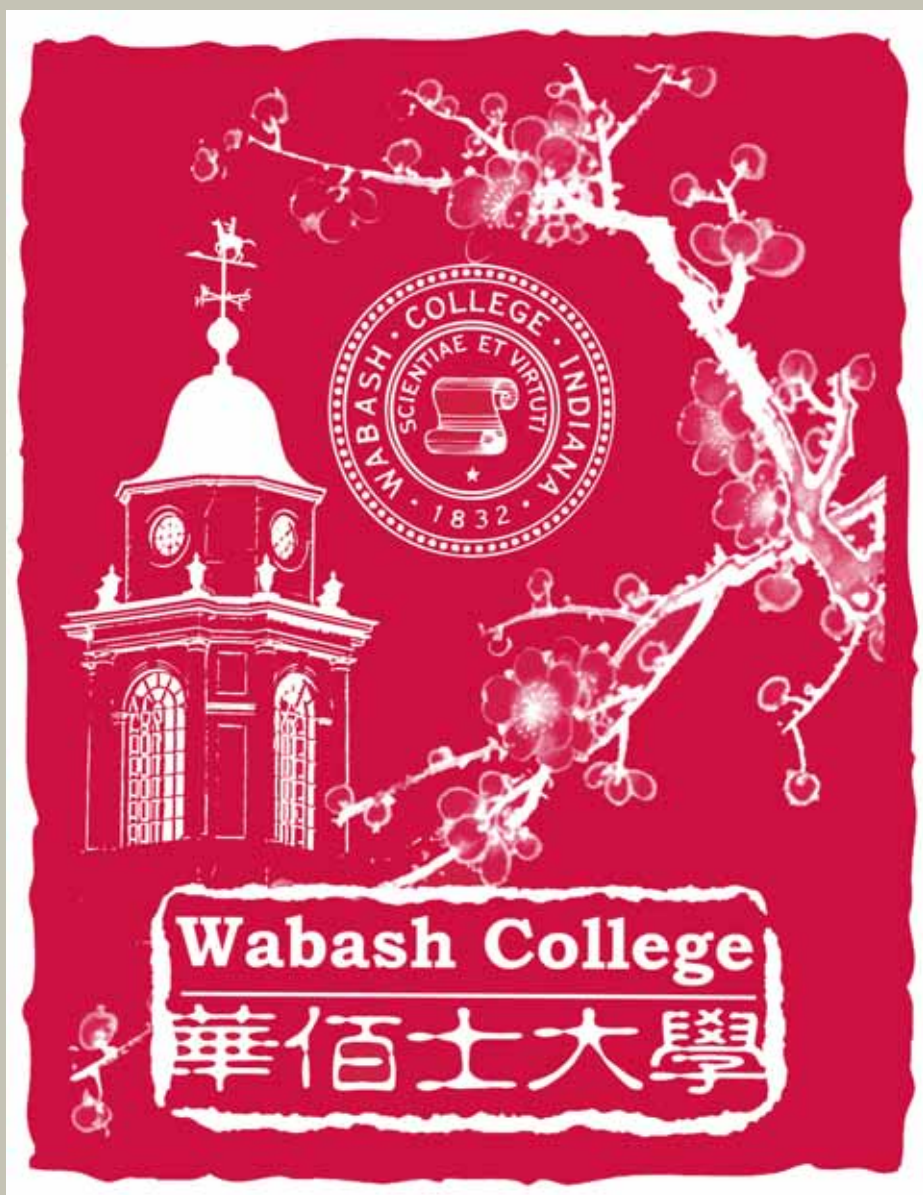
Last year as he recruited, Hollander turned to the Wabash Admissions Office for help. They quickly prepared a handout which they are considering revising this year with the help of art major Tian Tian ’11.

Below is a prototype of the cover Tian created and prefers for the new brochure. At left are two versions Tian believes lack appeal for the Chinese market. His comments on why the College’s seal is so important to marketing Wabash offer an insight into the particular challenges of recruiting in China.

Tian: The purpose of this brochure is to attract Chinese students and their parents, and the seal of a college, in the eye of a Chinese, is the symbol of authenticity and dignity of academia.

As a die-hard Wabash man myself, I understand that the Chapel is the spiritual symbol of Wabash; however, the prospective students don’t understand that yet. So the image of the Chapel itself is not convincing enough for this specific design. That’s why it is important to include both Chapel and the seal.

As an abstract artist, I also understand the rule that less is more (sometimes). But in this preferred cover the content is all treated as a negative area that “surfaced” from the scarlet background—it is an historical Chinese art form called “paper clipping art.” And in this type of art, the rule is actually “more is more.” ■



Tian Tian: Lumiere #4

“Every place I have traveled around the world has possessed a unique tone of light, and that light has made an impact on the most memorable experiences of my life. Therefore, I dedicate this series of paintings to capturing and realizing these emotional nuances inspired by light.”

— *Tian Tian '11*, from his artist's statement at this year's Senior Art Majors Exhibition



THE LANGUAGE of Opportunity

Eric Roth '84

Reflecting on his first attempt to establish a free-thinking university in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Eric Roth '84 realized that a book, not a school, may be his world-changer.

 ASK ERIC ROTH TO RECALL A MOMENT that sums up his effort to establish a “free-thinking” college at American Pacific University in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) in 2009 and he brings up a problem with the plumbing.

“On the third floor of the building where we were teaching there was a bathroom that didn’t work—the toilet seat was gone. I reported it 11 days after I arrived, and four months later, it still wasn’t fixed.

“It would have cost \$3.50 to replace, but it was cheaper to pay off the inspectors than fix it. And they didn’t want to put any money into the building because it was going to be torn down at some point. Their philosophy was, ‘Don’t just replace a part; replace the whole thing.’ Then they’d do nothing.

“This notion—if you can’t do everything, don’t do anything—is a mistake. When you’re trying to build something, you do what you can where you are with what you have. But over and over, we’d see how the perfect would become the enemy of the good.”

Roth transformed such obstacles into teachable moments, assigning students in his English class to interview one another about controversial issues at the school. He even passed out a questionnaire for students to weigh in on their own English course.

“Why not fix the toilet?” one student responded.

“Actually, it was encouraging that someone asked a question,” Roth says. Students are reluctant to question anything—just one of many obstacles facing anyone trying to establish an American-style college in a society

that has been “open and closed a few times.”

“People learn there are consequences for being on the wrong side,” Roth says. “Yet if students are going to be prepared to work for international companies in the global economy, they’ll need to ask questions, develop critical thinking. The trick is to disagree without being disagreeable, but it’s something you have to experience—as I did at Wabash—to realize it’s even possible.”

“The country is growing rapidly—new skyscrapers are being built, new roads and sidewalks, and everyone feels like tomorrow will be better than today. Projects that are economically unimaginable in the U.S. right now are doable in Vietnam.”

“But the gap between what the country is able to do technologically and what it is able to assimilate culturally is considerable. It’s like trying to use a thimble to get a drink of water out of a fire hydrant.”

“I went in pretty naive,” Roth admits. “I believed they might be ready to move forward right then.”

The proof was in the plumbing.

STOPPING BY WABASH AFTER SPEAKING at an Indiana Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (INTESOL) conference in Indianapolis, Roth seems buoyed, not battered by his experience in Vietnam. He is confident that the American-style college will one day be established in the country.

But what he saw in Ho Chi Minh City—including blatant censorship of everything from the news to history books—convinced him that a project he began years ago is an even more immediate way to bring critical thinking to relatively still closed countries like Vietnam.

In addition to teaching at the University of Southern California, the former congressional aide and journalist is co-author of *Compelling Conversations: Questions and*

Quotations on Timeless Topics. The book is an alternative text for teaching conversational English as a second language (ESL). It is recommended by a leading trade journal of English teaching professionals.

And in case you haven’t noticed, English is well on its way to becoming the world’s dominant language.

“This is the first time in world history we actually have a language spoken genuinely globally by every country of the world,” writes David Crystal in *English as a Global Language*. As of 2005, almost a quarter of the world’s population spoke English as a native or second language. It is the *de facto* language of commerce and diplomacy. More than 80 percent of information stored on the Internet is in English. And while there are more speakers of Chinese, Spanish, and Hindi, they speak English when they talk across cultures, and it is English they teach their children in order to give them a chance in the world economy.

More than 20,000 ESL teaching jobs are posted monthly; no longer a fallback, teaching ESL is becoming a lucrative first or second career. Some experts predict that by 2030 more than half the world’s population will speak English.

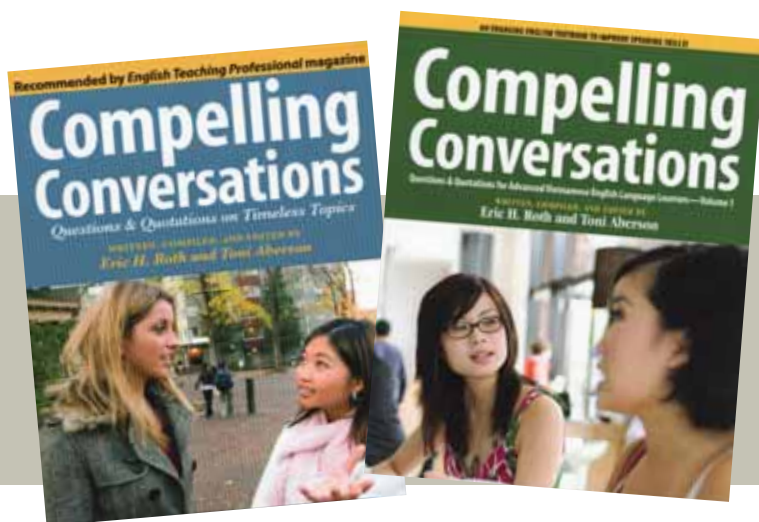
In *The World Is Flat*, Thomas Friedman writes that “the current wave of globalization is characterized by the newfound power for individuals to collaborate and compete globally.” The language of that collaboration is English.

Roth witnessed this firsthand. In 1998, following the death of his father, he took a year off work and toured the globe with his wife.

“We saw the world had really changed,” Roth says. “We found out how lucky we were to be from the U.S.—wherever we went we saw English was the international language.”

Roth had already been teaching ESL for several years. In 1996 he had written the grant that established the Community Enhancement Services Adult Education Center in Los Angeles, providing ESL and citizenship classes for immigrants.

“That was one of my most satisfying educational experiences. I got to hire five teachers who had been profes-



COMPELLING CONVERSATIONS

Some quotes and questions from a different way of teaching English

sionals in their own countries, and we helped almost 5,000 people—mostly immigrants from the former Soviet Union—become naturalized citizens. “

But traveling the world cast a new light on his work.

“I had been teaching ESL to immigrants, and I knew English was essential to their lives in the U.S., but on this trip we saw English as a truly global language. It is the gateway to a modern world, and to 21st century lives. And in countries like Vietnam and other developing nations, English is sometimes the only accessible means to advance yourself.”

After his travels Roth returned to the classroom part-time—today he teaches ESL to undergraduate and graduate science students at USC—but the seed for *Compelling Conversations* had been planted.

Combining his teaching experience and his liberal arts background, Roth collaborated with his mother, Toni Aberson—an English teacher for 35 years—to self-publish the first edition of the book. Dedicated to his father, Dani Roth—who spoke six languages and “could talk with almost anyone”—the book provides an alternative to “presentation-practice-production” approach to language learning, instead using quotations, questions, and proverbs to prompt conversation.

“Some [quotes and questions] will have students roaring with laughter, while others require careful introspection,” wrote a reviewer for the ESL journal *English Teaching Professional*. “They are highly effective for promoting student discussion.”

“In the classroom and in the book we try to create a space that’s tolerant and rigorous at the same time,” Roth says. “The focus is on learning by doing, and we want to give people room to make good mistakes—errors that help us learn. When people expect themselves to be perfect, they go silent.”

Most of the book’s prompts ask for recollections or personal opinions.

“Whatever perspective you bring to the book, I want you to find validation in some great thinker, that it’s okay to see things that way. That gives us all the freedom to be ourselves and less of who we think we should be, or who we’ve been programmed or conditioned to be.”

Roth believes that the English language itself can be liberating.

“Learning English can allow some to escape the prison of their national background. In many languages, the words are either masculine or feminine. English doesn’t do this. Much has been written about why English-speaking countries were the first of women’s rights; the language doesn’t discriminate against women structurally.”

THOUSANDS OF COPIES OF *Compelling Conversations* have sold worldwide, and new editions are being tailored for specific countries. Roth’s longtime friend and former U.S. Assistant Federal Defender Steve Riggs ’81 worked with him in Ho Chi Minh City as he tried to establish the university and edited the book for students in Vietnam.

“At first I’d planned to bring *Compelling Conversations* into my classroom, but I was reminded that might not be a good idea,” Roth explains. “One of the first quotes is, ‘Free speech is a rare and precious right.’ But free speech is not a right in Vietnam.”

So he asked Riggs to “tailor the book in a way that acknowledges the tremendous influence of national culture.”

“You take out some parts authorities might object to, but at the same time you’re giving the people language skills to find the truth on their own,” Riggs says. Riggs and Roth initially edited a version of *Compelling Conversations* for APU International schools, then worked together to create a thinner, more culturally rich edition, which APU has adopted.

“Establishing a university in an authoritarian culture is not a summer project, but a generational project,” Riggs says. “Yet as people learn English, they are empowered to live their own lives. There are tremendous opportunities to change the lives of hundreds of thousands of people—I wouldn’t have believed it if I hadn’t gone there and seen it.

“You can empower people to learn, and that is the key. The most radical thing possible may be teaching English. This is an historic opportunity, and Eric is right at the center of it.” ■

Here are five “controversial” quotations that were cut from the Vietnamese edition.

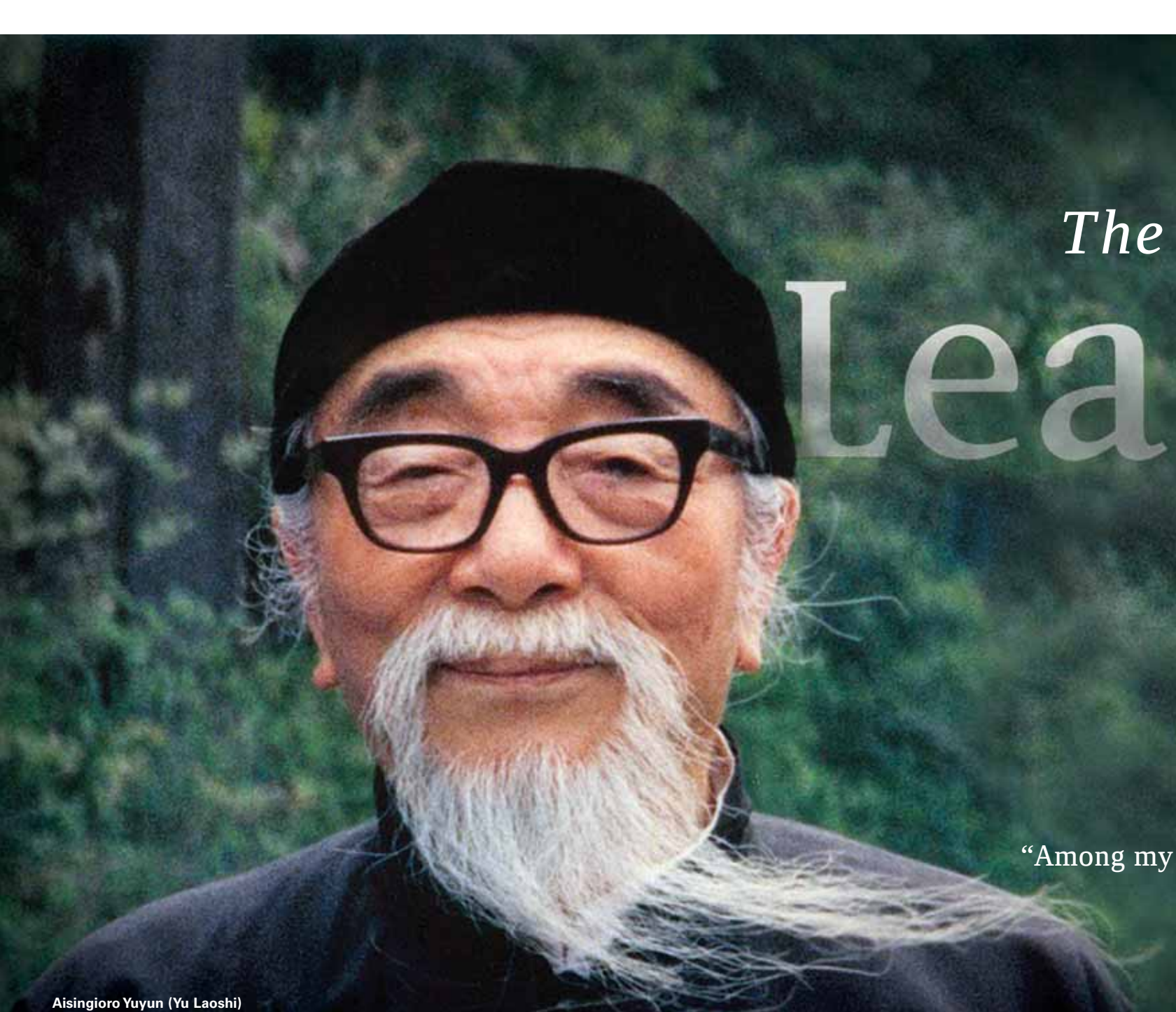
1 “I speak two languages, Body and English.”
—Mae West, American actor

2 “The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.”—Saint Augustine, Italian theologian

3 “Where they burn books, they will end in burning human beings.”—Heinrich Heine, German poet

4 “My movies were the kind they show in prisons and airplanes, because nobody can leave.”—Burt Reynolds, American actor

5 “Nothing is constant except change.”
—Heraclitus (ca. 513 B.C.E.), Greek philosopher



Aisingioro Yuyun (Yu Laoshi)

 AS A TEACHER OF CHINESE HISTORY at Amherst College for the past 30 years, I have been privileged to meet many Chinese students who have taken the time to explore a bit of their country's past with me. Often they have wondered aloud how I began my own exploration—why I decided to immerse myself in classical Chinese texts and late imperial history, how this could have led me into the small towns and villages of the lower Yangzi region during the exciting early years of the post-Mao reforms.

I try to answer, but then follow up with questions for them. How did you get here?

Where do you want to go after this? Why this little detour into the Chinese past on your way there?

Invariably, the answers are both personal and philosophical. Together we learn something new about our families, the cultures we live within and between, and something about how the recent and distant past matters in our lives.

AMONG MY OWN TEACHERS are many amazing souls. One of them, known to his students as Yu Laoshi, died last month at the age of 105 in Taiwan, where I studied Chinese classics with him 40 years ago.

Just last year colleagues more loyal and more thoughtful than I had presented him with a collage of photos and mementos collected from the rest of us. The photo of him seated regally in his straight-backed chair at that time brought on a rush of memories of those conversations about the deeper meanings of the texts, about his own youthful studies with some of China's greatest scholars, and about his own life as a prince in the Manchu royal family through war, revolution, and years of exile in Taiwan. I shared the photo with my Amherst students who were just becoming aware of Yu Laoshi's 17th-century ancestor,

HOPE of FRIENDLY RNING

How did a Hoosier boy with no Asian connections and whose parents never attended college become one of the world's most respected explorers of China's past?

—by Jerry Dennerline '64

own teachers are many amazing souls.”

I have grown increasingly certain that those of us who are eager to learn find our teachers, as Confucius said we would, whenever we are with two or more friends.

the great emperor Kangxi, who applied pragmatically the lessons he had learned from his teachers while memorizing those same Chinese classics.

I WAS A GRADUATE STUDENT in Taiwan in 1969, working in the palace museum library, when I first laid eyes on Qian Mu, the historian of Chinese thought and cul-

ture who was called “the nation’s teacher” by his admirers on the Nationalist side of the 1949 divide. Some 10 years later I was surprised to learn from one of his best-known students, then teaching at Yale, that the famous historian had begun his schooling as a poor widow’s son at the turn of the last century in a small town in Wuxi. The school was run by a lineage

charitable estate that I happened to be studying at the time. At the age of 80, Qian Mu had begun writing his *Memories of Teachers and Friends*, starting with a moving reminiscence on his parents and the oral traditions of his own lineage in the village known as Qifangqiao, the place I called “Seven Mansions.” As I read it, he became my teacher as well, leading me on

Jerry Dennerline with Nanjing University Professor **Lü Zuoxie** in 2001: “He introduced me to the newer and older generations of local Communist Party secretaries and their advisors, asked them the critical questions that revealed many secrets...”





Hua “Bill” Zhonghou, great-grandson of the founder of Qian Mu’s primary school, with Jin Shisheng at the dedication of the restored Hua lineage shrine in Wuxi in 2006.

(below) Jerry Dennerline with his wife, Margaret Sarkissian, and Sim Mow Yu, 93-year-old founder of the Seng Cheong Night School and leader of the Malaysian Teachers Union, at his home in Melaka in 2006.

a new path of archival and oral history research back to his old home among the canals and rice paddies some 70 miles northwest of Shanghai. Twice, on my way there and back, I was privileged to meet him in Taiwan, where I asked him to tell me more about his own past. He asked me what I was learning in my explorations. We talked about China’s future, a conversation I continued to have in Shanghai with his nephew Qian Weichang, a renowned physicist who had gone the other way in 1949.

THE PATH THESE AMAZING TEACHERS had set me on led deep into the world of toil and trouble from which they had emerged. In Wuxi’s small towns and villages my guide was a true product and free-thinking survivor of the revolution, a professor of history at Nanjing University whom I had met on my first trip to the People’s Republic in 1980. Lü Zuoxie taught me how to listen to old peasants and shopkeepers, country schoolteachers and specialists in funeral rites, poor tenant farmers and their learned but illiterate wives. He introduced me to the newer and older generations of local Communist Party secretaries and their advisors, asked them the critical questions that revealed many secrets and many statistics about rural development and educational reform. I tried to capture their voices and reproduce them as I retold the history of the place where Qian Mu was born and raised. I was then 20 years out of Wabash and newly tenured at Amherst, still feeling like a kindergartner in the larger school of life.

At Amherst I soon met Lan Hua, who was to become my good friend and a teacher of another sort. He came to

Amherst College as a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts, struggling with student visa problems as he worked to build our Chinese language program from scratch. A survivor of the Cultural Revolution who loved Russian and English literature and had taught at a prestigious language institute

in Beijing, he was a seeker of truth and an admirer of beauty who landed in New England and dedicated himself to teaching beginners how to speak, read, and write Chinese. He arrived in time to watch the events of spring 1989 [the Tianamen Square protests and government crack-down] from abroad. My own research plans were in ruins as a team of brilliant young scholars from Beijing, with whom a number of us were collaborating, scattered about the globe. Lan Hua and I spent the summer translating a group of Chinese journalists’ hastily assembled account of the Beijing Spring for one of the many collections that appeared the following year.

From Lan Hua I learned humility as well as the meaning of loyalty and friendship across unimaginably broad cultural,

political, and geographic divides, and I learned more about the joys and agonies of translating texts and cultures than I had known in my “kindergarten” years.

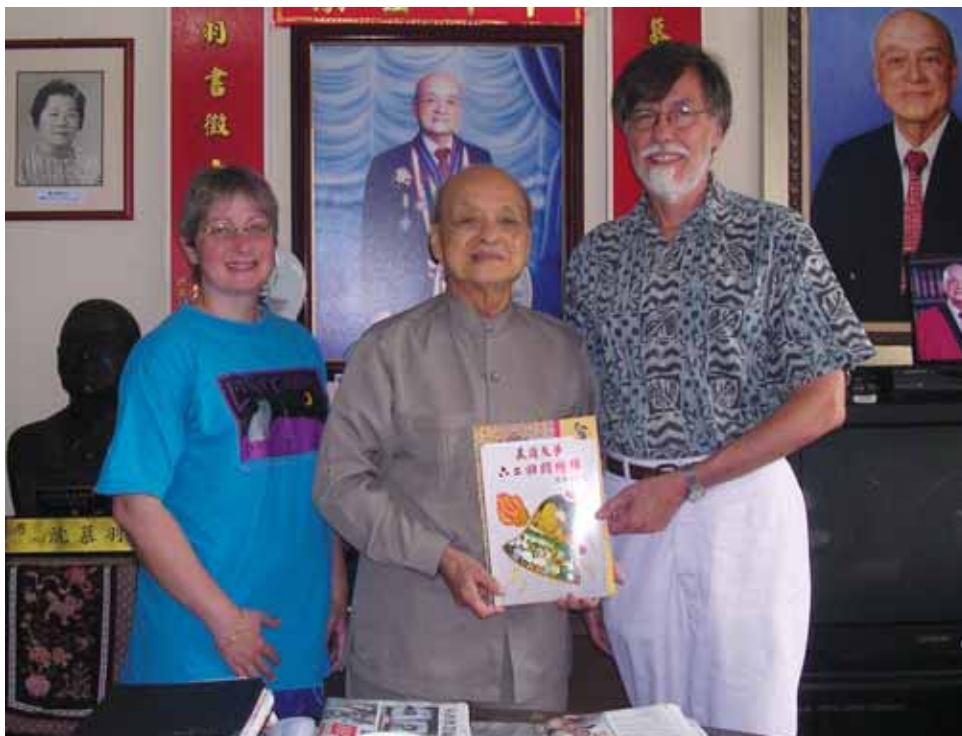
OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES a new generation of teachers and friends has emerged as I continue to follow the paths they open for me. The paths have led to Shanghai, Xiamen, Singapore, Malacca, and even to the University of Illinois and back to Indianapolis. But my students still wonder how I ever started this seemingly endless wandering through Chinese time and global space.

I could say it started with Arthur and Mary Wright, eminent professors of Chinese history at Yale, survivors of Japanese POW camps in China and of the McCarthy hearings in the U.S. But how, after all, did I find them or they find me?

As it turns out, I had the chance to read them as a student at Wabash.

Who were my teachers back then?

When I arrived at Wabash in 1960 Wendell Calkins H’59 had just taken a year’s break from English institutional history to study Chinese language and East Asian History at the University of Michigan. He introduced me to Chinese history



There I was along with two fellow students and three faculty members—Bert Stern, Richard Strawn, and Hall Peebles—eagerly exploring a new world of sound and meaning.

and let me write a senior research paper in it. Perseverance, discipline, and accepting the limits of one's skills and one's sources, I learned, were essential parts of honest scholarship. Professor and American historian Steve Kurtz generously allowed me to pursue my growing interest in China, interest in his seminar on Jacksonian and Wilsonian democracy, and then taught me to beware the pitfalls of tunnel vision while burrowing in the archives.

Then Jim Barnes came along and opened my eyes to the German psyche in the 1930s while transcending his own blindness as a teacher and a scholar, shaming those of us blessed with sight who ever entertained the thought of giving up a hard challenge.

But none of my Wabash teachers was more influential in setting me on this path than the gentle and unassuming Wendell Calkins. He felt it was his responsibility to share what he had learned of the Chinese language during that year at Michigan. So he offered to introduce it to anyone willing to show up two evenings a week to sit around a table and go through the text with him. There I was along with two fellow students and three faculty members—Bert Stern, Richard Strawn, and Hall Peebles H'63—eagerly exploring a new world of sound and meaning. Studying a language like Chinese denies the tenses, the numbers, and even the gender in which you think—it challenges virtually everything you take for granted.

After that twice-a-week experience, Wabash arranged a course in Chinese especially for two of us and taught by an experienced tutor of grad students—Helen Yin, wife of Wabash Professor of Economics Richard Yin.

I WRITE THIS AS COMMENCEMENT approaches, after which I will leave for Malaysia and Singapore, where my research now focuses on teachers at Malacca's Chinese vernacular schools in the 1920s and 1930s, many of whom were passing through on their way from somewhere in China to somewhere yet

unknown to them. So long as we are eager to learn we will find our teachers, as Confucius said we would, whenever we are with two or more friends, our fellow learners. When they come "from afar," they have that much more to teach us.

When I return to Amherst, I will reflect again on how I went to Wabash because it seemed challenging but not so scary and foreign as a small college in New England seemed to me at the time. I found some great teachers there who had no more idea than I did where I was going after that. Having been somewhere else now, I am delighted to hear that the challenge remains, and the hope of friendly learning is alive. ■

Jerry Dennerline is professor of Chinese history at Amherst College and is the author of Qian Mu and the World of Seven Mansions, the biography of one of the greatest historians and philosophers of 20th-century China, published by Yale University Press.

An artisan carves the image of the ancient sage Wu Taibo during the restoration of a temple near the home of Qian Mu in 1985.

—all photos courtesy of Jerry Dennerline

Qian Mu and the World of Seven Mansions



Jerry Dennerline



Lempa studies Mandarin in Detchon with Ssu-Yu Chou, instructor of Chinese.



While he credits Wabash professors for his preparation, Filip Lempa '11 believes study-abroad and friendships with Wabash alumni have placed him on the cusp of a career in the country whose language and culture fascinate him.

His Eyes on China

THE WABASH COMMUNITY has provided the inspiration, background, and opportunity to make Filip Lempa's dream of a career in China reality.

The Bytom, Poland, native came to the United States as a high school foreign exchange student, attending high school in Mitchell, IN. He ended up at Wabash because of a high school friendship back home with Michael Opieczonek '09. After a spring visit, then a semester attending college at home in Poland, he returned to the U.S. to study at Wabash.

Lempa '11 has a full-time job in Indianapolis now, but his eye is on China in the not-too-distant future.

"I want to experience Chinese culture more," the personable Lempa says. "Throughout the last two decades we've been reading about the rapid economic development in China. I first thought it would be interesting; second, I thought it would be a good asset."

Lempa made the most of a study-abroad semester in 2010 by going to China two months early and staying an extra month after his program ended. He believes the opportunity became reality because of his Wabash involvement.

He was a Wabash residential assistant (R.A.) as a freshman and every year afterward. He earned political science department financial support for a summer

internship at the British Consulate in Poland after his freshman year. The following summer he worked with his native Silesian alternative movement organization in marketing, and finally he worked for a large insurance and finance group in Poland.

Along the way Lempa took advantage of Wabash networking opportunities.

"It was a challenge to be in leadership positions," he recalls of his early Wabash years. "I was an R.A. and forming and running my own club [the Case Study Club] as a person from an outside culture. I thought it was challenging to be leading Americans. I was never in leadership roles back home because there wasn't a whole lot of opportunity.

"I wanted to test myself because I thought having the skills to manage people would be an asset after college."

He found Wabash networking his greatest advantage. His Chinese study-abroad program didn't start until March and he was torn between going home to Poland and staying in Crawfordsville. But in his heart and head he wanted to go China early to work on his language skills.

Then he remembered meeting Khurram Tahir '01 (see page 29) at a Wabash networking event and that Tahir was headed to China on a job assignment with Motorola. He sent an e-mail to Tahir seeking

—by Howard Hewitt

advice. It wasn't 20 minutes before Tahir responded, insisting Lempa find a language program and come stay with him in Beijing until his program started in Shanghai.

Lempa, with sincere incredulity, says Tahir was more than generous. He had to leave the country for 10 days when Lempa was due to arrive, so he just left keys for the Wabash student.

"He wouldn't take any money from me for staying there. He introduced me to colleagues. He did everything he could to help me. He's an awesome guy."

That jumpstart allowed Lempa to test out of introductory Mandarin once he got to Shanghai and start with a 200-level course. At the end of his formal study-abroad program, he got a teacher's assistant position with Wabash Professors Ethan Hollander and Melissa Butler, who were in Shanghai for the summer as visiting professors.

THE SEVEN MONTHS IN CHINA studying the language, going to school, and living in the diverse culture convinced him he wanted to return. Still, the thoughtful and pragmatic young man knew his Chinese was not fluent and, frankly, neither was his English.



photo by Alex Moseman '11

peting with Chinese graduates for the best jobs.”

Instead he’s working at Brightpoint in Indianapolis and continuing to study Chinese, an effort the company supports financially.

EVEN AS A WABASH GRADUATE and having started a new job earlier this summer, Lempa can’t get China off his mind.

“It’s just the fact that the Chinese language is so interesting,” he says. “I had no idea it would thrill me so much to learn Chinese. It’s so challenging and brings so much satisfaction when you get things right.

“It’s most fascinating when you’re in China. People will tell you that you’ll get along if you speak English in China, and you definitely can. But when you speak Chinese it opens a whole different world.”

Lempa is thankful for the world Wabash opened to him. While he credits the mentoring and advice of Professor Butler, it’s friendships with alums like Tahir, Sava Kobilarov ’01, and Bastian Wonschik ’00 that advanced his education and maturation.

“When I first got here I was shocked at how approachable professors were for me. That’s unthinkable back home. You see it between students and faculty, students and

“People will tell you that you’ll get along if you speak English in China, and you definitely can. But when you speak Chinese it opens a whole different world.”

alumni. It’s very different than Europe, where there is no or very little connection.”

It’s those connections he values most.

“I think the opportunity to actually do things here is as significant as the study. That weighs more than the actual academic development. You need to have certain skills and knowledge, but I’ve been reminded in the last three years that very often it’s the networking. I think managing and forming relationships has taught me a lot.” ■

He decided the best road back to China would be a job in the U.S. where he would learn valuable skills and gain experience that he could take to a job in China. He was hired by Brightpoint to join a management training program, with an eye toward working in that company’s Asian market in the near future.

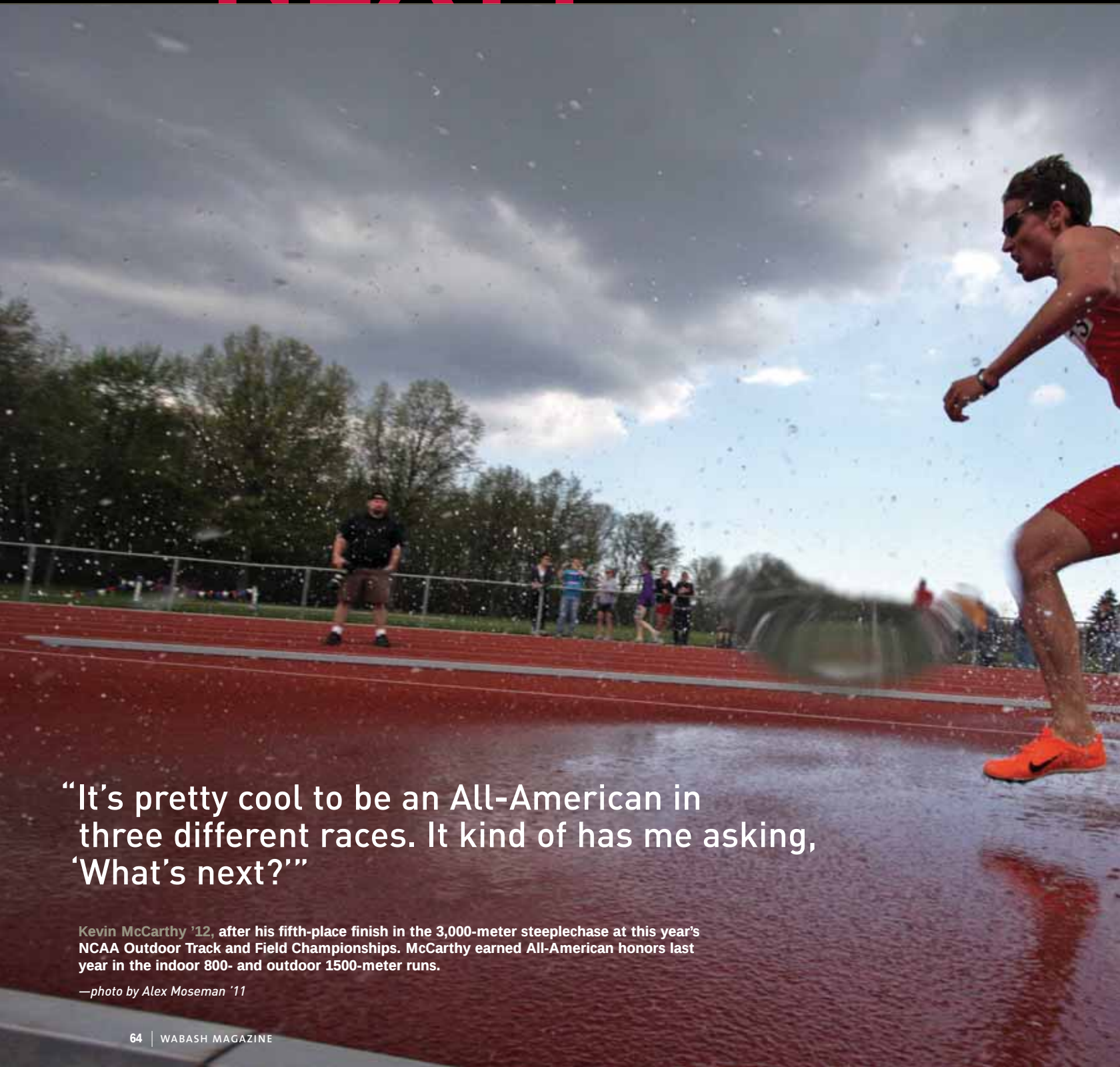
“That summer in China completely

changed my plans for the future,” he says. “After studying abroad, I realized there is so much to see in the world and so much more to see of China. There’s so much more Chinese for me to learn.

“I have decided not to go back home immediately. Going back home is something you always have. I was thinking of going directly to China, but I’d be com-

—by Brent Harris
Sports Information Director

What's NEXT?



“It’s pretty cool to be an All-American in three different races. It kind of has me asking, ‘What’s next?’”

Kevin McCarthy '12, after his fifth-place finish in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at this year's NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. McCarthy earned All-American honors last year in the indoor 800- and outdoor 1500-meter runs.

—photo by Alex Moseman '11



photo by Jim Amidon

WABASH ALL-AMERICANS, WINTER/SPRING 2011

Seth Einterz '11, track and field

Kevin McCarthy '12, track and field
(2011 Men's Great Lakes Region Outdoor Track Athlete of the Year)

Jake Waterman '13, track and field
(2011 Men's Great Lakes Region Indoor Track Athlete of the Year)

Greg Rhoads '12, wrestling

Wes Smith '11, basketball
(also named NCAC Player of the Year)

John Holm '12, baseball
(also named NCAC Player of the Year)

**“WHAT DID
I JUST DO?”**

Seth Einterz '12, after finishing third in the 5,000-meter run to earn All-America honors at the 2011 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Einterz had felt his chances in the race so slim that he had to be urged by coaches to even enter the qualifying race. “A lot of those guys in the field have gone a lot faster,” Einterz said of his All-American run. “I just ran smarter and got into an All-American spot.”

**“I’M JUST
COUNTING MY
BLESSINGS.”**

Wes Chamblee '11, after finishing the qualifying race for the 400-meter hurdles at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. It was Chamblee's third race since undergoing reconstructive knee surgery seven months earlier.



photos by Brent Harris

**“Our track
and field
team is built
on character.
I was proud
to have
these four
young men
represent
us as a
college.”**

Wabash Coach Clyde Morgan, the 2011 Great Lakes Region Men's Coach of the Year, talking about Einterz, Chamblee, McCarthy, and Waterman

Class Notes

40 Guy Kinman continues his work as an activist for GLBT rights in the Richmond, VA, area. Recently Guy was featured in a report done by Bill Lohmann of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

48 James Gronseth has enlisted in the Peace Corps at the age of 84. He left for Botswana on March 30 and will spend his 27 months of service as part of the HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Project.

50 Our condolences to **Pierce Green** on the death of his wife, Billie, on May 4 in Crawfordsville. Billie had been a member of the College staff, working in the business office for several years.

53 Hughes Cox received a left ventricular assist device (LVAD heart pump) this winter. Hughes was one of the first FDA-approved patients in the Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas area to receive the Heart Mate II as a permanent device. He is now able to get out and resume some normal activities.

60 The Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina honored **John Bachmann** during its 2011 Business Leadership Dinner and Awards Program in May. Bachmann is a senior partner at Edward Jones in St. Louis and a trustee emeritus at the College.

66 Mel Machuca has written a book, *An Inning at a Time*, about his 1977 American Legion National champion baseball team. Machuca received the Jack Williams Leadership Award for his role as manager of the team and has coached American Legion Baseball for 23 years in four states. ■ **Roger Lump** was named board chair of Mather Lifeways, a non-denominational not-for-profit dedicated to creating ways to age well. The organization was founded in 1941 and strives to further its innovative practices and successes in the areas of research, senior-living residences, and community outreach.

68 John Greves represented Wabash at the inauguration of President Barry Glassner at Lewis & Clark College in April.

69 John Livengood and **Mark Miles '76** were named to *Indianapolis Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Hospitality." John is partner for LMV Consulting and Mark is chairman of the board for the 2012 Super Bowl Host Committee.

■ **David Pancost** represented Wabash at the inauguration of President Joseph Uργο at St. Mary's College of Maryland in March.

70 Tom Hiatt was named to *Indianapolis Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Banking and Finance." Hiatt is the founding partner of Centerfield Capital. ■ **David Shane** and his company, LDI, were recipients of one of the awards presented by the United Way of Central Indiana for its 2011 Spirit United Award event held in March. Read more about his award on the Wabash Web site.

71 Steve Blau has joined the Newmark Knight Frank Smith Mack professional brokerage team in Philadelphia as senior director. ■ **Kurt Unterschuetz** and his wife, Caryn, are distributors for Vemma, a nutrition company headquartered in Scottsdale, AZ.

72 Tom McShane writes, "I retired from the Army JAG Corps five years ago and took a job as a civilian professor teaching mid-level Army officers for the Army Command and General Staff College campus in Augusta, GA. Very similar to what I was doing before I retired, when I taught at the Army War College in Pennsylvania, except my students now are majors instead of lieutenant colonels and colonels." ■ **Rod Kenley** was named president of Aethlon Medical Inc., a company pioneering in the development of therapeutic filtration devices. As reported in the company's PR release, "Rod has been instrumental in commercializing some of the most important advances in the dialysis industry." ■ **Kim Ebert** finished his first year as the managing shareholder of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. He writes, "In the last year we have added over 100 attorneys and opened five offices. We are the third largest labor and employment firm in the U.S. and the 90th largest firm in the country. Also, both of my daughters have gotten married in the last eight months, and I am hoping soon to have some grandkids."

73 The *Indianapolis Business Journal* has named David Worrell, a partner with Baker and Daniels LLP, to "Who's Who in Banking and Finance."

75 Dale Petrie recently celebrated 35 years with Sommer Metalcraft in Crawfordsville. He was named project manager in 2005. Dale's wife, Linda, works at the Wabash College library, and they have two children, **Daniel '07** and Erin. ■ **William Deschner's** medical group has joined Lutheran Medical Group in Fort Wayne. Deschner specializes in thoracic cardiovascular surgery.

76 Mac McNaught was honored in March at the NAIOP Commercial Real Estate Development Association dinner.

77 Robert Einterz was inducted into North Central High School Alumni Hall of Fame ceremonies held in May. Einterz has worked as a physician volunteer in rural Haiti, is associate dean for global health at Indiana University School of Medicine, director for Indiana University Center for Global Health, and co-founder of AMPATH, one of the first large-scale HIV treatment and control programs in Africa.

78 Gene King was following the Butler Bulldogs basketball team this winter. His wife's nephew, Ronald Norad, is a member of the team that made the NCAA Basketball Championship game for the second season in a row.

79 Marc Overhage was named chief medical informatics officer of the health services business unit at Siemens.

80 Paul Deffenbaugh was part of a two-member panel on the Killer Construction Content webcast on May 16, providing his own editor's perspective on how construction marketers can more effectively develop a content plan and strategy. Deffenbaugh is chief content officer of Deep Brook Media. He has appeared on *CNBC*, *Wall Street Reports*, and *CBS This Morning* and is a three-time winner and five-time finalist of the Jesse H. Neal Award for Editorial Excellence.

Send your latest news to:

Class Notes Editor Karen Handley 765-361-6367 handleyk@wabash.edu

HOMECOMING 1969 AND ?

These two photos from the Robert T. Ramsay, Jr. Archival Center show Homecoming parades from different years. The second was led by Wabash President Thad Seymour and Wabash First Lady Polly Seymour in 1969. Do you know the date of the first and the Wabash men pictured?

Send your answers to charless@wabash.edu



■ **David** and Michele **Dessauer** have opened a new restaurant in the Broad Ripple (IN) area. Fire by the Monon is "a grilling experience with a heart-healthy American cuisine." Visit their Web site at www.firebythemonon.com

83 Richard Ice was appointed academic dean of the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University in July.



84 Gregory Britton was appointed editorial director at Johns Hopkins University Press.

■ **George Patton** was named to the Washington, DC, Super Lawyers list for 2011, marking the fifth year in a row Patton has achieved this distinction. Patton is with the law firm of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP.

■ **Tom Broecker** was interviewed by ready-made.com about his costume designing on *30 Rock* and *Saturday Night Live*.

85 C. Davies Reed was installed as the new minister at St. Francis In-The-Fields in Zionsville, IN, in May.

86 Eric Rowland was named to the executive board of the American Institute of Architects, Indianapolis.

87 Jo Throckmorton and Blue Ace Media were recipients of a Telly Award for the TV commercial campaign, "Sound Sleep Is Just a Night Away." This is the company's sixth Telly Award in the past five years.

88 Arun Muralidhar has written *A SMART Approach to Portfolio Management*. Arun is chairman and founder of Mcube Investment Technologies LLC and chairman and CIO of AlphaEngine Global Investment Solutions.

91 Our condolences to **Rich Calacci** and his family on the death of his mother, Katherine Calacci, on February 22. She is survived by her husband, **Ben Calacci '51**, sons, John and Rich; and five daughters, Clare, Helen, Margaret, Maureen, and Anne; and 14 grandchildren.



92 Indiana Congressman André Carson has named **Chris Worden** his district director.

94 Kane Dawson has been named to *Philadelphia Business Journal's* "40 Under 40" list. Kane is chief operating officer of Cancer Treatment Centers of America's Eastern Regional Medical Center.

95 Roy Sexton has been named vice president of marketing for Trott & Trott, a legal and financial services firm in Farmington Hills, MI. You can email Roy at salinesexton@gmail.com

■ **Ryan Poor** was a guest columnist for "Perspectives" at *Inside Indiana Business*. Ryan is a partner at Ice Miller LLP in Indianapolis.

97 D. J. McCallister has opened the Black Swan Pub in Plainfield, IN. His chef is **Nick Carter '95**. Follow the Black Swan Pub on Facebook or at Twitter. ■ **Clay Robinson's** Sun King Brewing Company is expanding again to include two more beer tanks at its Indianapolis operation. In addition, Sun King is joining with another Hoosier brewery, Three Floyds Brewing Company in Munster, to lobby for a change in Indiana's brewery laws. Sun King also created a special beer to celebrate the opening of the Indiana Landmarks Center on April 16.

■ **James Spurlock** was named an overall champion and best oralist in the annual University of Arkansas-Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law Ben J. Alzheimer Moot Court Tournament last November. This spring at the New York Law School 35th Annual Robert F. Wagner Labor and Employment Law Competition in New York City, Spurlock placed fourth overall in individual standings out of more than 100 participants.

98 Jason Bennett reports, "My wife, Elena, and I welcomed our second child, Veronica Sophia, on February 25, 59 minutes too late to share a birthday with me. So far, her older brother, Darin, has been a little gentleman to her, as befits a future Wabash man." The Bennetts reside in Lafayette, IN. ■ **Peter Prengaman** reports, "Lucas Santiago Prengaman came into the world May 6 and weighed 4 lbs., 10 ounces and is 18 inches long. Although he is about seven weeks premature and will be calling the hospital home for several more weeks, he is a tough little guy. When they put a ventilator in for about 24 hours after he was born, he repeatedly tried to rip it out of his mouth. Eventually they just took it out." ■ **Jake Gilbert** has been named head football coach at Westfield High School.

99 Alex Radnovich is an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at Indiana University School of Medicine. ■ **Jared Hall** and his wife, Nikki,

welcomed their first child, Peter Everett Hall, on December 18, 2010. Fellow Wabash classmate **Fr. Vince Druding '99** baptized Pete on March 20, 2011, alongside godfather **Matt Rose '99**. Pete is the grandson of Jared's father, **Bob Hall '74**, and stepfather, **Chip Olson '76**.

00 Jonathan Bryant is a trial attorney with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Indianapolis. ■ Brothers **Tom and Terry Hollowell** share a love of running barefoot. Tom has co-authored a book about running without shoes, *A Complete Idiot's Guide to Barefoot Running*. Tom started his publicity tour in New York City and the Boston Marathon. He had a book signing at the Indy 500 Expo in May. The book is also available at all major in-store and online bookstores.

02 Randy Widener and his wife, Colleen, welcomed their second son, Oliver James Widener, born March 13. Randy is assistant principal at Rock Ridge Elementary School and Lucama Elementary School in Lucama, NC.

■ **Brooks Cannon** reports that he was in Hilton Head recently for a wedding and a little vacation. He stopped off at Fat Baby's Pizza and Subs for a quick bite and while sitting at his table he looked up and there was a Wabash banner on the wall.

03 Ryan Short and Lauren Benavides were married April 15. Lauren is a legal assistant at Thrasher, Buschmann and Vcelkel, P.C., in Indianapolis. Ryan is a special-education teacher, freshman baseball coach, and assistant freshman football coach at Plainfield High School. ■ **John Bramfeld** and his wife, Kristin, welcomed the arrival of their first-born son, John Martin Bramfeld, last fall. He writes, "He enjoys eating, sleeping, and growing out of Wabash outfits. Kristin is at home with Johnny: I'm still working for Alcatel-Lucent, and we continue to make our home in Algonquin, IL."

■ **Seamus Boyce** was featured in the April edition of *Indiana Lawyer* as an "up and coming lawyer" in the "Leadership in Law" edition. Boyce is an associate with Church Church Hittle and Antrim in Noblesville, IN.

04 Jacob Brown reports, "I finished up my fellowship at Syracuse University and began working as a research specialist for the University of Illinois at Chicago. I'm traveling to different cities every week to gather survey data about the effect of the built environment on human health. It's part of a large childhood obesity study called 'Bridging the Gap.' My girlfriend, Carrie, and I are living near Wrigleyville and loving Chicago. We'll only be here until August, then heading to Korea to teach English for a year before starting a Ph.D. program. ■ **Ben Scanlon** writes, "My wife, Nancy Lo, and I got married privately with

"In Charge of Everything Else"

 **MICHAEL BRICKER '04** was production designer for *Natural Selection*, the indie film that garnered critical praise, took the South by Southwest Film Festival by storm, and opened new opportunities for the architect/artist/entrepreneur who spent last semester teaching architecture at Wabash.

After congratulating Michael, *WM* just had to ask: *So what does a production designer do, anyway?*

Bricker: I'm in charge of the visual landscape of the film.

What I do varies on the scale and budget of the movie [Bricker's previous effort in production design was the Muncie-based *My Name is Jerry*.] Essentially, I'm the head of the art department.

One way it's been explained to me is that the director, cinematographer, and production designer are this creative triangle. The director is primarily in charge of performances, the cinematographer is in charge of the cameras and lighting, and the production designer is pretty much in charge of everything else. That includes location, sets, costumes (at least there's a conversation there with the costumer), props, set dressing, and decorating.

Of course, if you ask a director or cinematographer, they'll probably have their own "in charge of everything else" sort of answer for their role!

Natural Selection is an independent film—a lower budget film—and the smaller the budget, the more hats different people wear.

What did you do at Wabash that prepared you for this?

Bricker: I did set design for theater, which is sort of the equivalent of production design.

You were known for your collaborative efforts here.

Bricker: That collaboration is my favorite part of production design, too. There are not many fields where the creative power shifts so quickly from person to person. You're working with experts, and you have to wait and let them be experts. There's a constant change of who has the creativity and the power, and that goes on throughout the film.

It's equal parts design and execution. Say, at the end of a scene, the director wants a space to feel slightly more open than at the beginning, the production designer may open the curtain, the cinematographer may warm the scene with lighting, then the editor can do his part.

Send your latest news to:

Class Notes Editor Karen Handley 765-361-6367 handleyk@wabash.edu

BACK ON Campus



(below) Scenes from *Natural Selection*, photos courtesy of Best Medicine Productions.

And there are so many places it can go wrong. You improvise with what you've got.

A good example is the house you see in the film, where Raymond is living. We found that house in Smithville, TX, and no one had lived there for a while. We had to pay to have the power turned on to shoot. And it was kind of caving in, it was as bad as it looks.

Can you give us an example of how this “visual landscape” moves the story forward in this particular film?

Bricker: You'll notice a theme of dead flowers and lifeless plants throughout the film. In the house where the couple lives, the wallpaper is denim blue with dying flowers; we put dried flowers in the bathroom. There are bare bed sheets, dead grass—sterility, division depicted visually.

Some production designers are more interested in big sets or period pieces, but I'm much more interested in production design that is more real, that enhances the reality of the story. I want to do those big-budget films some day, sure, but there are lots of stories that don't need that. *Natural Selection* was one of them. ■



Watch the film's trailer at [WM Online](#).

just a few family members last summer and are looking forward to celebrating with our friends and families.” ■ **David Jancha** is a criminal defense attorney in Orlando at NeJame, LaFay, Jancha, Ahmed, Barker, & Joshi, P.A. ■ **Brian** and Jennifer **MacLaughlin** were married on February 5, 2011. They are residing in Indian-

apolis. ■ **Justin Bauserman** is an adjunct faculty member in the English department at Ivy Tech University in Indiana and working on his Ph.D. from Ball State. ■ **Trevor Hall** recently received the Gold Key Award from St. Mary’s University School of Law. The Gold Key is the highest award given to ABA Law

Student Division Board members for exceptional service to the Division.

05 Parker and Edita **Sawyers** live and work in London—just a few blocks from Buckingham Palace. During the Royal Wedding of William and Kate, they were featured in a story done

Joe Warfel ’04

□ “I CHOSE TO PURSUE LOGISTICS in graduate school because I saw such inefficiency in the school district where I taught for Teach for America. There were a lot of problems due to poor resource allocation, things that could be prevented if organized properly. So I decided that, rather than the pure math I did when I was at Wabash, I would study logistics.”

Ron Rychlak ’80

“EVERYONE DURING THE LIFE TIME OF POPE PIUS XII and at the time of his death recognized him as a strong supporter of the Jews and the strong opponent of the Nazis. Yet one play reshaped Pius XII’s reputation so that it is now an axiom of popular culture that he was, at the very least, guilty of criminal cowardice and insensitivity in the face of the Holocaust.

“It was not well documented at all, but it was enough to raise the issue and start the debate. Amazing that a fictional play changed people’s perceptions—that was the power of fictionalizing it.”

Ashraf Haidari ’01

“ISLAM IS AT THE HEART OF AFGHAN IDENTITY; it’s written into our constitution. But this is not the extremist, radical, or fundamentalist interpretation; moderate, traditional Islam is what is practiced.

“The western media reinforces Islam-phobia but does not dig deep into the actual causes of extremism. What you are seeing today in Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia is not politicized Islam, but simply frustration on the part of people because of the oppression of long-serving dictators.

“While I think people understand that democracy is good and there is great promise in democracy, it is a luxury that comes with pre-conditions. You can’t just have elections and say ‘that’s it.’ You have to build up the institutions of democracy—government, education, rule of law, and human security needs.” ■

BACK ON Campus



Ron Rychlak '80, speaking to students and faculty in March about new discoveries (including a Soviet plot to smear Pope Pius) revealed in the updated version of his book *Hitler, War, and the Pope*.



by Indianapolis TV channel WTHR. The couple had hoped to watch the wedding, but they were scheduled to work. ■ **Carlos Carillo** was featured in the April edition of *Indiana Lawyer* as an "up and coming lawyer" in the Leadership in Law edition. Carillo is an associate with Ball Eggleston in Lafayette, IN. ■ **Andrew**

Cartwright is a Peace Corps volunteer serving in Ukraine in the TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) program. He writes, "I live in Rivne and work at Rivne State Humanities University. I will be here until at least the end of 2012 when my service is scheduled to end. In addition to classroom, I'm also involved in

several working groups dedicated to making life better for the people here. I've chosen to join a group that is focused on the issue of HIV/AIDS in Ukraine. I have been accepted as a counselor at two HIV/AIDS summer camps this summer. Both of the camps are focused on HIV/AIDS, which is a near epidemic problem in Ukraine."



Joe Warfel '04, returning for a mathematics colloquium in Goodrich Hall from his graduate studies at Northwestern University, where he is currently working on methods food banks can use for collection and distribution.

As students walked in to the room with pizza provided for the event, Joe quipped: "I'm especially excited about presenting at this colloquium, because as a student these events were very important to me as a source of nutrition."



Ashraf Haidari '01, charge d'affaires for the Afghan embassy in Washington DC, speaking to political science and religion classes at Wabash in March. Ashraf will soon return to Kabul, where he will be reassigned in the ministry of foreign affairs.

06 Joe D. Moore and Juleen Rodakowski were married June 18 at Field of Flowers in Lake Leelanau, MI. The couple met during Joe's Wabash study abroad semester in France. The bride is a graduate of University of Minnesota and received her doctorate from the University of Illinois. She is a traveling occupational therapist in Sudbury, MA. Joe taught in the Teach for America program in Chicago for three years. In the fall of 2011, he will begin graduate studies in civil engineering with a focus in water studies at Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh. ■ **Ian McGriff** is head personal trainer and director of a 40,000-square-foot fitness center at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club. He was recently awarded the Columbus Young Professionals Top 20 Under 40 Award. Ian has been published in both local and national magazine as a contributing writer on the topics of fitness and mindset.

■ **Joe Alerding** reports, "I was married in 2010 to Caitlin McGonigal and am currently employed as a commercial real estate appraiser with Mitchell Appraisals, Inc. I am coming up on my fifth year as an assistant basketball coach at Bishop Chatard High School." The couple lives in Fishers, IN. ■ **Patrick Banks** is an alumnus of the Teach for America organization and received his master's in public service degree from the Clinton School of Public Service.

■ **Steve Bollinger** writes, "I was engaged to Nicole Manes in December 2010. We haven't set a date yet but are planning to get married in October 2012. I graduated from IU dental school on May 14 and will become the newest dentist at Ellettsville Dental Center in Ellettsville, IN."

■ **Marty Brown** writes, "I graduated from Wharton's MBA program in May and moved to New York City to work for Zynga as a product manager. ■ **Tim Flowers** reports, "I am moving back to Memphis to do a federal clerkship with the Honorable Samuel Mays, Jr. on the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. After that, I hope to work as an Assistant United States Attorney with the Department of Justice." ■ **Kimmer Graham** married Emily Petrack and moved to Pittsburgh, where Kimmer accepted a position at Thermo-Fisher Scientific. Emily is entering her second year of pharmacy school this fall, and the couple is currently looking for a house in the Lawrenceville neighborhood near downtown Pittsburgh. He writes, "Though heckled regularly, I have no plans to cheer for the Steelers. Go Horse!" ■ **Ross McKee** writes, "Life after Wabash has been fast-paced. I spent

the bulk of my years with the U.S. Army and am currently a first lieutenant at Camp Atterbury in Indiana, training units deploying overseas. I have deployed to Iraq for a year and am currently transitioning from my current assignment to becoming an ROTC instructor at IUPUI. Within the past year, I have married, and we are looking forward to the arrival of our first child, David Michael Grant McKee. I have personally competed in numerous triathlons, half marathons, and look forward to completing my first full marathon by the end of the summer. I recently purchased a house on the northeast side of Indianapolis and look forward to seeing all my fellow classmates." ■ **Ethan Paul** has been invited to try out for the Alaska Fire Service North Star Crew. He writes, "I will spend my summer in Alaska fighting wildfires or staying on as an alternate. I am hoping to make it back to the lower 48 in time for the Bell game, so I look forward to seeing many of you there."

■ **Matt Ripley** graduated from Western Kentucky University in 2009 with an MA in folklore and ethnomusicology. He now works at Epic in Madison, WI, in quality assurance for the admission, discharges, and transfers team. ■ **Brandon Roop** brings us up to date: "I married my beautiful wife, Leah, in August of 2009. We have sold two houses and bought two houses in the past 1.5 years, moved twice; both of us have quit our jobs and started new ones. I graduated from the Kelley MBA program and resigned as an Energy Trader in Carmel when I received the opportunity to move back to Paradise, IN, to become an investment advisor for Donaldson Capital Management. Leah recently accepted the position of athletic director at my alma mater, Castle High School. We have been involved in a local ministry, Young Life. Leah is a mentor to the college-aged leaders, and I am working to create an alumni association for past Young Lifer's. Also, I started a men's ministry and am working to get it ramped up. We just launched a Web site at www.themenonfire.com." ■ **Travis Ross** will complete his master's in American history at the University of Nevada, Reno this year. He has accepted the Dean May Fellowship for the study of the American West from the department of history at the University of Utah. He will begin work on his Ph.D. this fall.

07 Daniel Petrie took the bar last summer and is working at Henthorn, Harris & Weliever in Crawfordsville. ■ **Matt Feipel** is getting married September 24, 2011, to Marissa Scheumann. ■ **Don Juan Brown** reports, "I came back home to Houston immediately after graduation and accepted a position with an oil and gas company to do land work. I took my first assignment in June of 2007, working in the deepwater business unit at the company's Gulf of Mexico development programs. In my deepwater land representative role, I bid

on federal oil and gas leases and helped a technical team manage the company's lease portfolio. In the first quarter of 2008 I was rotated to an onshore assignment to support gas well drilling and completion operations in the Northwest Rockies of Colorado. I am currently serving in this role and can't get enough of the time I am able to spend out in the field. On May 8, 2010, I was married to Sherrie Brown. We had a small ceremony in Houston. My daughter, Caedence, is now four years old. Upon marrying my wife, I inherited a son, Isaiah, who is eight. My wife is due April 16 with our first (hopefully only) child together."

■ **Brandon Ehrie** is working as an associate attorney at Lewis Wagner LLP, where he practices in general civil litigation matters.

■ **Kevin Greaves** and Heather Bowman were married June 4 at Gateway Island in Murfreesboro, TN. The bride graduated in with a doctorate in pharmacy from Gatton College of Pharmacy. Kevin graduated with a doctorate in pharmacy from the University of Tennessee. The couple became engaged underwater in Bermuda while helmet diving.

■ **Ben Tritle** reports, "Hard to believe medical school is coming to a close. I've learned an astonishing amount, found the love of my life, and am again reassured I made the right decision entering medicine. Sophia and I were married May 7 and both graduated the following week. I've been fortunate enough to earn Alpha Omega Alpha academic honors and to graduate near the top of the class. Next year, Sophia and I will take on internships at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis. After that we're on to Cleveland, OH, where I'll be undertaking a residency in radiology at the Cleveland Clinic and Sophia will enter her residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Case Western Reserve."

■ **Charlie Hoogland** is engaged to Aasha Anderson, whom he met in graduate school at Wake Forest. They graduated in May from Wake Forest, and Charlie will continue his studies at a Ph.D. level at the University of Kentucky this fall. ■ **John Meara** reports, "I had the opportunity to work with Rhode Island's Superior Court judge and Supreme Court justice. My moot court team won the best brief in the nation award at the American College of Trial Lawyers/New York City Bar Association National Moot Court Competition. On a personal level, I completed a lifelong personal goal of running a marathon. I ran the Walt Disney World Marathon in January with a time of 3:49:25. Additionally, I managed to spend 22 days abroad visiting Honduras, Iceland, and the Benelux region. For the short term, my girlfriend and I are staying in New England, but we are looking at moving to a place with a more agreeable cost of living and a better climate." ■ **Dan Fox** writes, "I am currently working for the Office of the Attorney General of Florida in the economic crimes

division. I hope this will turn into a full-time position after law school. I recently got engaged to my girlfriend, Allison Kaylor, a fellow law student." ■ **Josh Jones** is currently a full-time drummer with the band "My Wooden Leg," based out of Fort Worth, TX. The three-piece band is a year old and just released an extended-play CD and a single. Check out the band on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MyWoodenLeg ■ **Robert Van Kirk** left Eli Lilly and Co. for Astellas Pharmaceuticals in June 2010. He writes, "This opportunity allowed me to finally move into the home I've owned for three years. Jamie and I are expecting a baby girl in May. She will be appropriately named Reagan." ■ **Josh Owens** was accepted to the London School of Economics and will start his program in September. He writes, "If you happen to be over there next year, look me up."

■ **Scott Hamilton** brings us up to date: "I have been working as an energy trader at ACES Power Marketing. I have dabbled in coaching baseball and have even assisted the Little Giants. I was married in 2008 and soon after the wedding, Jessica and I decided to build a house in Noblesville. We had our first child, Farrah, on June 15, 2010, and she has been making us laugh ever since. We are expecting our second child in August of 2011 and are very excited. I am secretly hoping that this one can follow in my footsteps and attend Wabash."

■ **Seth** and Jennifer **Nunan** are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Lynn, born December 27, 2010. ■ **Josh Coons** reports, "Tracey and I had a baby girl in September and named her Alexis. Tracey will finish up law school this May and take the bar in July. I am still with Correl Co. as the assistant manager of daily valuation services." ■ **Nathan Bates** started classes in the doctor of physical therapy program at the University of Miami in May. ■ **Ryan Stephens** is engaged to Kate Schipp, sister of **Gregg Schipp '12**. Ryan completed his MBA at the Kelley School of Business and recently accepted a job at Roche Diagnostics.

09 Royce Gregerson writes, "After a great year during which I received my bachelor's degree in philosophy and finished the pre-theology program, my time at the Josephinum then drawing to a close. It's tough to leave behind a place I've come to love and the good friends that I've made. However, I'm excited about moving on to Rome. I found out over Holy Week that I'll be at The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Santa Croce), run by Opus Dei. This is a very good school, known for its orthodoxy and rigor, and I'm excited to be going there. This summer I've been assigned to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Ft. Wayne."

10 Willie Matis reports, "I finished out my corporate sponsorship internship at the 500 Festival and went to work at my new full-time

job as development/marketing coordinator at HealthNet Inc. My duty is to supervise our social media campaign, corral donations, and update our online presence. I started a blog at <http://indyadvocate.wordpress.com> that tracks what I am learning. Along with working at HealthNet, I am coaching JV baseball at Roncalli High School and tending bar at a local Irish pub." ■ **Brandon McKinney** writes, "I teach second grade at Dorie Miller Elementary on the east side of San Antonio. It's definitely the hardest thing I've ever done. I love getting up each day and knowing that I'm helping students develop the necessary skills to graduate from college in a community where that isn't common." ■ **Josh Lopez** writes, "I just finished four months in Taiwan learning some organic and sustainable agricultural practices from a Taiwanese farmer and a former Dutch rocker/entrepreneur. I am in El Salvador taking courses for a master's degree in *Desarollo Local* (Local Development) at University of Central America. I'm also starting an agribusiness with my parents. They've had a nice piece of land here that hasn't been used and in a couple of weeks there should be a fully functional commercial greenhouse alongside a nice healthy crop of organic beans and corn." ■ **Colin Ridenour** writes, "After graduation I moved to Indianapolis to start the master's degree program in physiology at IU Medical School. I started research in May, took a break and got married to Brooke in July, traveled to Aruba for our honeymoon, went back to research and then started graduate classes in August. I am currently finishing up classes and writing my master's thesis while preparing to move to Avon, IN, where Brooke and I just bought a home."

In Memory

40 John R. Henson, 94, died April 28, 2011, in Cincinnati, OH.

While attending Wabash, Henson was a member of the football and tennis teams and was an independent.

Henson worked for NuTone for 35 years before retiring as vice president of personnel. He received degrees from the University of Wisconsin and the Indiana University and taught at the Chase Law School in Cincinnati.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Marjorie Henson, 6483 Honeysuckle Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45230; daughter, Christine Hill; sons, Clay and Guy Henson; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Benchmarks

THERE'S A LOT OF HISTORY UNDER ALL THAT PAINT ON THE SENIOR BENCH.



The third in a series of biographical sketches of the men of the first family of Wabash whose names are inscribed on the Thomson Memorial Seat—known by most today as the Senior Bench.

Samuel S. Thomson, D.D., professor of Latin, 1846-85

□ SAMUEL STEELE THOMSON, the youngest of the five Thomson brothers, was one of the original 12 Wabash students called to class by Caleb Mills' bell on December 3, 1833. He received his A.B. degree in 1839, one of four members of the College's second graduating class.

For the next year he substituted for Professor Hovey, who was away on a fund-raising tour. Thomson then attended Lane Seminary in Cincinnati and, following his graduation in 1843, preached in Delphi, Indiana for three years.

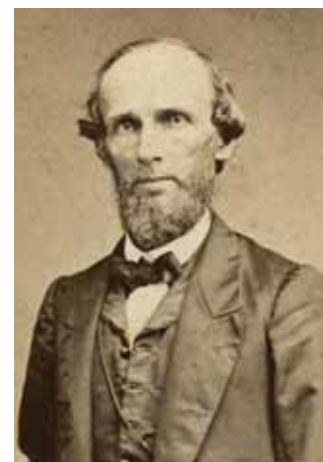
In 1846 Thomson was appointed Professor of Latin at Wabash, a position he was to fill with distinction for 39 years. He was also appointed Williams Professor of the Latin Language and Literature, the first named professorship in the history of the College. Thomson also served as librarian from 1865 to 1874 and from 1879 to 1885.

Following his death on May 18, 1885, his friends and former students endowed the Thomson Professorship of the Latin Language and Literature, a chair occupied most recently by Professor **Ted Bedrick H'52**.

The four Thomson brothers had two additional siblings—**William McClure Thomson** and **Mary Ann Thomson**—whose names are not inscribed on the bench. William Thomson spent 40 years as a missionary in Syria, was one of the founders of Syrian Presbyterian College (now American University in Beirut), and wrote *The Land and the Book*, an authoritative 19th-century work on the Holy Land. His only connection with Wabash College was the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree he was awarded in 1858.

Mary Ann Thomson is another story. Born in Crawfordsville in 1814, in 1840 she married **Edwin J. Peck**, future president of the Indianapolis and Terre Haute Railroad. Peck served on the Wabash Board of Trustees from 1855 until his death in 1877 and was one of the College's two major benefactors during its first half-century of existence. Peck's will provided funds to build and equip Peck Hall of Science, the College's first science building, and to endow professorships in chemistry and physics. Following Peck's death, Mary Thomson Peck contributed funds to help establish the Hovey Museum, home of the biology department from 1883 through 1899. Without his connection to the Thomson family, it seems unlikely that Peck, a resident of Indianapolis, would have been so intimately involved in the affairs of the College. ■

—David Phillips, professor emeritus of chemistry



Alumni Connection

Want to refer a student?

> www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer

Changing careers or on a job search?

> www.wabash.edu/careers/alumni/services

Connect with Wabash Alumni Affairs at

> www.wabash.edu/alumni/

NEW TO AN AREA?

Find the Wabash alumni association nearest to you at: www.wabash.edu/alumni/ra/list

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42 Howard John Baumgartel, Jr., 90, died February 12, 2011, at the Montebello Assisted Living Facility in Albuquerque, NM. He died on the 202nd anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, whose picture hung on his wall his entire adult life.

Born November 6, 1920, he was the son of Naomi and John Baumgartel. While attending Wabash, he was a member of the baseball team and Beta Theta Pi.

Baumgartel joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served in the Pacific aboard the *USS Ringgold* as a gunnery officer. He participated in many battles, most notably at Tarawa. While on leave in 1945, Baumgartel married Nancy Taggart. They honeymooned in Chicago at the same hotel where Lauren Bacall and Humphrey Bogart were spending their honeymoon. After serving in the Navy, Baumgartel earned an MBA at Harvard University. He worked in investment banking and then taught at the University of Kansas for three years before attending graduate school at the University of Michigan, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1955. Baumgartel returned to the University of Kansas and worked in the psychology department and School of Business, and also served as assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences before retiring in 1988. Baumgartel developed the human relations program at the University of Kansas. His professional life took him to India six times, twice as a Fulbright Scholar. Each time he worked toward the economic development of the nation, especially at the Xavier Labor Relations Institute in Jamshedpur. The Howard Baumgartel Peace and Justice Award at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas is named in his honor.

Baumgartel married Marguerite Kerfoot in 1964 in Calcutta. She died in October of 2009. Baumgartel is survived by six children, Mona Baumgartel, John Baumgartel, Tom Baumgartel, Bill Kerfoot, Charles Kerfoot, and John Kerfoot; ten grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Stuart U. "Stu" Rich, 90, died April 2, 2011, in Eugene, OR.

Born September 15, 1920, in Torrington, CT, he was the son of Evelyn and Harold Rich. While attending Wabash, he was a member of the French Club, track and cross country teams, and Kappa Sigma.

He earned a doctorate in business administration from Harvard University.

Rich served in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1946 and participated in five invasions. He taught at the University of Oregon Business School until his retirement.

His wife, Joan, preceded him in death. Rich is survived by his sons, Jim and John Rich; daughter, Amy Rich; and two grandchildren.

44 John Howard Crowder, 88, died April 2, 2011, in Crawfordsville.

Born February 5, 1923, in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Bessie and **Grover Crowder '14**. He was a graduate of Hillsboro High School. While attending Wabash, he was a member

of the Concert Band and was an independent. Crowder was retired from his work as a maintenance supervisor at Americana Nursing Home. He also farmed for 45 years and had owned a flower shop in Hillsboro.

He delivered Meals on Wheels and volunteered at the Wesley Thrift Shop and was past president of the Fountain County 4-H Council and a member of First United Methodist Church.

His first wife, Edith Dooley, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Alma Crowder, 905 West Market Street, Crawfordsville, IN 47933; son, John Crowder; stepsons, Richard and Rod Morgan; daughter, Amy Allen; step-daughter, Shirley Hester; sisters, Dorothy Scott and Mary Niskala; four grandchildren, including **J. Michael Crowder '91**; six step-grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and six step-great-grandchildren.

46 George McComas Wolverton, 85, died March 1, 2011, in Clarksville, IN.

Born August 22, 1925, in Indianapolis, Wolverton attended Wabash for five semesters as part of V-12 program and was a member of Kappa Sigma. He earned his M.D. from the Indiana University School of Medicine. Wolverton served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and as captain in the U.S. Air Force in Japan during the Korean War. Following his service, he came to Clarksville and set up a medical practice, which he continued for 57 years.

He was a pioneer in the field of preventive and integrative medicine, attracting patients from many states who benefitted uniquely from his "Wolverton Wellness Program."

Wolverton was the football and basketball team physician at Clarksville High School for many years.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Betty McMahon; wife, Barbara Sidway; son, Dr. George Wolverton, Jr.; granddaughter, Kate Torp; brothers, Ken and Phillip Wolverton; and sister, Selma Smart.

He is survived by sons Steve, Greg, Jeff, Doug, and Dan Wolverton; daughters Anne Waters, Cynthia Torp Jones, and Pam Edwards; two stepchildren, Hunt Sidway and Steva Austill; 12 grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and three step-great-grandchildren.

48 Themio "Pete" Plakos, 86, died March 18, 2011, in Gold Canyon, AZ.

Born February 19, 1925, in Christopher, IL, Plakos attended Wabash in the V-12 program and was a member of the football and basketball teams and Lambda Chi Alpha.

Plakos served in the U.S. Navy and retired in 1997 as vice president of Imperial Clevite, Inc. After retirement he enjoyed traveling in his motor home with his dog, Zoni. Plakos enjoyed singing, playing the piano and violin, and was a member of the Silver Strings Orchestra.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Plakos, 5643 South Juniper Hills Drive, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118; sons, Andrew and David Plakos,

Howard Baumgartel, Jr. '42 died on the 202nd anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, whose picture hung on his wall his entire adult life.

daughters, Rebecca Hill and Rachel Stoddard; 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

51 Arthur Allen "Al" Brinklow, 82, died March 29, 2011, in La Porte, IN.

Born July 18, 1928, in Goshen, IN, he was the son of Catharine and Reginald Brinklow. While attending Wabash he was a member of the Glee Club, Concert Band, and Beta Theta Pi and wrote for *The Bachelor*.

He received his M.S. from Indiana University. After graduation, he began a career in business only to discover that his true calling was teaching. He then took classes at Goshen College to obtain his teaching license. He taught social studies at Central Junior High from 1957-59 and then moved to High School (now Boston Middle School) where he taught world history and international relations until his retirement in 1989. He also served as head of the social studies department from 1967-88.

Brinklow served on the Board of Trustees of the La Porte Community School Corporation, La Porte County Tourism Board, Lilly Foundation Scholarship Committee, La Porte Educational Foundation, and La Porte City Police Merit Commission. He was a volunteer tutor for READ La Porte County and served as a mentor at Handley Elementary School. He was very active in the La Porte County Democrats. Brinklow was a member of the Presbyterian Church where he served as Deacon and Elder.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Brinklow, 432 Kennedy Drive, LaPorte, IN 46350; sons, Edwin Brinklow and David Cota; brother, Robert Brinklow, Traverse City, MI.

52 James Wendell Swope, 81, died April 5, 2011, in Indianapolis.

Born March 28, 1930, in Indianapolis, he was the son of Esther and Willis Swope.

He graduated from Broad Ripple High School in 1948 and was an All-City halfback for Broad Ripple in 1947. While attending Wabash he lettered three years in football. He was also a member of Phi Delta Theta.

After college, Swope served four years in the U.S. Air Force as a special agent in the Office of Special Investigations.

Swope was employed by Eli Lilly and Co. for 32 years, where he held various administrative positions before retiring in 1988.

After retirement, he and his wife, Beverly, spent summers in Colorado in their log cabin in Eldora. He was an avid golfer and early in his retirement had been a frequent traveler.

Swope loved history, especially the Civil War period. His grandfather, John Miller, had served

with the Fifth Ohio Calvary and participated in the major battles of Shiloh, Vicksburg, Atlanta, and Sherman's march.

Swope was preceded in death by his brother, Barton Swope.

Swope is survived by his wife, Beverly Swope, 9040 Kinlock Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46256; son, **J. Geoffrey Swope '82**; daughters, Karen Campbell and Kathleen Jensen; and seven grandchildren.

55 James A. Sabens, 77, died May 3, 2011, after a battle with cancer.

Born July 20, 1933, in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Louise and Frank Sabens. While attending Wabash he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

After Wabash he graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine with postgraduate training at the Mayo Clinic.

He practiced family medicine from 1959 to 1998 in Scottsburg, IN, then Indianapolis, and was a company surgeon during the Vietnam War.

He was a member of AMA, Indiana State Medical Association, Marion County Medical Society, charter member of the American Academy of Family Practice, and was on the staffs of Methodist, St. Vincent's, and Community Hospitals, serving as president of the Family Practice staff.

He was member and past president of the Meridian Street Foundation and served on the Meridian Street Preservation Commission. He was also a member of the Indianapolis Literary Club, the Contemporary Club, Wawasee Yacht Club, Riviera Club, and Meridian Street United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy Sabens, 5354 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208; sons, David, Gregory, and John Sabens; and two grandchildren.

56 Jere G. Weliver, 76, died March 27, 2011, in Ingleside, IL.

Born January 7, 1935 in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Lois and **Howard Weliver '26**. While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Concert Band, Sphinx Club, and Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1956-59. He retired after 36 years of service with ComEd, where he served as director of personnel services.

Weliver served on the board of directors of the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management and past president of Family Care Services of Metropolitan Chicago, serving on its board of directors for 17 years.

He was a member of the First Congregational Church and served on multiple boards. He volunteered for the United Way, Northern Illinois Medical Center Emergency Room, and volunteered and taught with Junior Achievement.

Weliver was preceded in death by his daughter, Megan.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jean Weliver, 35419 Everett Avenue, Ingleside, IL 60041; children, Jere G., Jr., Amy, Nancy, and **Adam Weliver '93**; nine grandchildren; and brothers, Edward, David, and **Howard Weliver '64**.

58 William Eugene "Bill" Oatess, 66, died December 13, 2010, in Indianapolis.

Born September 18, 1936, he attended Wabash for eight semesters and was an independent.

He was a graduate of Butler University and was an Indiana National Guard veteran. Oatess was a chemist and an industrial hygienist 17 years for Scientific Edge retiring in 2002.

Oatess is survived by his wife, Mary E. Oatess, 1304 North Banner Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46214; daughter, Pamela Hotle; brother, Donald Oatess; and two grandchildren.

63 Raymond N. "Ray" Regan died March 21, 2011, in Valparaiso, IN.

Regan was a 1956 graduate of Morgan Park Military Academy and was the recipient of the Academy's "Hall of Fame" honor in 2006. He attended Wabash for eight semesters and was a wrestler. He took graduate courses at Indiana University.

Regan was a retired chemist from U.S. Steel after 40 years of service and was financial secretary for 24 years.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Sandra Regan, 281 S. 100 W, Valparaiso, IN 46385; a daughter, Michelle Wirsing, a son, Vincent Regan; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

68 Robert Paul Evans, 64, died February 24, 2011, in Beech Grove, IN.

Born December 1, 1946, in Indianapolis, he was the son of Dorothy and Jack Evans. Evans graduated from Shortridge High School in 1964 and was the recipient of Shortridge's "Class of '29" award. While attending Wabash he was a member of the Concert Band and was an independent.

Evans taught school for seven years with the Indianapolis Public Schools. He earned four master's degrees before obtaining his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1989. He then worked as school psychologist for the New York Public School system.

Evans is survived by his father, Jack Evans; and sisters, Peggy Daily and Julie Evans.

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78 Steven Michael Millns, 52, died July 27, 2008, in Durand, MI.

Born July 9, 1956, he was a member of Sphinx Club and Phi Gamma Delta while attending Wabash.

Millns had worked for the Henry Ford Hospital system for many years, specializing in family practice with an emphasis on serving those with diabetes, which Millns had all his life as well.

He is survived by his son, Justin; mother, Frances; sister, Brenda; and brother, Barry Millns.

Richard P. Traina

Richard "Dick" P. Traina, of Worcester, MA, died on Tuesday March 8, 2011, at the Overlook LifeCare Community in Charlton, Mass. He was 73.

Born on June 3, 1937, in San Francisco, Traina was the only son of Frank and Isabelle Thomas Traina.

A specialist in American diplomatic history, Traina earned both his master's and doctoral degrees in history from the University of California at Berkeley after receiving his Bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University. He began his career at Wabash College (1963-74), and spent his last five years here as Dean of the College. Subsequently, he served as the chief academic officer at Franklin and Marshall College.

From 1984 to 2000, Traina served as the seventh president of Clark University, guiding the university through a period of remarkable growth. He put particular emphasis on faculty and educational program support, the construction and renovation of physical facilities, international programs, and community and neighborhood development. During his tenure, the university's endowment grew from \$20 million to \$150 million. Most importantly, through Traina's example and under his directive, Clark began working with its neighbors to establish the University Park Partnership (UPP)—a partnership which has brought renewed vitality to the Main South neighborhood. UPP has since become a national model for university/community partnerships for urban revitalization. Under his leadership, Clark helped establish the Main South Community Development Corporation, a vehicle organized to stimulate affordable housing and small-business development in Clark's surrounding neighborhood.

Shortly after his retirement in 2000, the University renovated the site of the former Downing Street School and renamed it in honor of Traina and his wife. The facility improved and expanded the University's arts facilities with more centralized, better-equipped spaces for study, creation, performance and presentation of work. Today it serves as the artistic hub of the campus.

In the spring of 2005, Traina published *Changing the World: Clark University's Pioneering People, 1887-2000*, a catalog of biographical essays and photographs of the giants of the University's history. He is also the author of *American Diplomacy and the Spanish Civil War*.

From 2001 to 2006, he was a trustee of the George L. Alden Trust. He chaired the boards of the Colleges of Worcester Consortium, the Worcester Area Chamber of Commerce and the Alliance for Education. He served on the boards of the Worcester Municipal Research Bureau and the American Antiquarian Society, and was a member of the Non-Profit Support Center of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. He was an active supporter of the Worcester Center for Crafts, and a member of St. Joseph's Parish in Charlton Center.

Traina's daughter, Michelle Traina Riecke, died in 2003.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Warner (Polly) Traina, and three children, Cristina Traina Hutchison, Matthew Warner Traina and Michael Derek Traina; and 13 grandchildren. View a tribute to Traina <http://clarkvoices.clarku.edu/2011/03/09/dicktraina/>

JOHN H. SCHROEDER



John H. Schroeder, 90, died April 4, 2011, in Evansville, IN. Born September 26, 1920, in Evansville, IN, he was the son of Clara and J. Henry Schroeder.

He graduated from Bosse High School in 1938. While attending Wabash, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta

and graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors. He received his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School with distinction in 1948.

Schroeder served in the U.S. Army for four years during World War II in Great Britain and was discharged with the rank of Captain. Schroeder was a pioneer in the plastics industry. He was instrumental in its rapid growth, starting one of the first plastic extrusion companies in the U.S., Crescent Plastics Inc. From this business followed the Evansville-based companies Cresline Plastic Pipe Co. Inc., Wabash Plastics Inc., Cresline-West, Inc., and Cresline-Northwest, LLC, in which he served as chairman.

Schroeder served as president of many boards, including United Way of Southwestern Indiana, Vanderburgh County Tuberculosis

Association, Vanderburgh County Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Goodwill Industries, and the Rotary Club. He also served on the boards of the Evansville Chamber of Commerce, Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences, Welborn Baptist Hospital, Old National Bancorp, Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Co., and the Society of Plastics Industry. Indiana Governor Robert Orr named him to the Indiana Secondary Market for Educational Loans.

Schroeder also served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Evansville, three years as Chairman, and the Wabash College Board of Trustees. He was awarded honorary doctorates from Wabash College and the University of Evansville.

Schroeder also received numerous honorary awards, including The Distinguished Citizens Award from the Buffalo Trace Council, the Rotary Club of Evansville Paul Harris Fellow Award, the Rotary Civic Award, the Wabash College Outstanding Alumni of Merit Award, and from the University of Evansville, the Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity Businessman of the Year Award and the University Medal of Honor. He was also a member of the Indiana Academy. John H. and Ginny Schroeder received the Governor's Arts Award for continuing support of the Arts in Indiana. He and Ginny were also recognized by the Evansville Philharmonic, the Evansville Arts Council and the Evansville YWCA.

The Easter Seals awarded Schroeder the National Edgar Allen Founders Society Award. He was elected to the Evansville Business Hall

of Fame, recognizing his many years of service not only to these organizations which he supported in the Evansville area, but also his leadership in his family of companies.

The University of Evansville acknowledged his support by naming first a dormitory after him, and later naming their business school the Schroeder Family School of Business. Wabash College named its Career Center after Schroeder in recognition of his support for his alma mater. Recently Wabash established the John H. Schroeder Chair in Economics, his major at Wabash.

The Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences also recognized his support, as well as the support of his wife, Ginny. Among the many projects was the gallery, named the Crescent Gallery in recognitions of his contributions.

Schroeder was awarded membership in the inaugural class of the EVSC Foundation Hall of Fame, which recognizes distinguished graduates of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation.

His first wife, Jeanne, passed away in 1982. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Virginia Schroeder, 920 Colony Road, Evansville, IN 47714; sons, **John C. '69** and Richard Schroeder; sister, Ruth Broom; five grandchildren, including, **Scott Schroeder '99**; and three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his stepchildren, Robert Graves, Catherine Turner, Sarah Cobb, Melissa Mattingly, and six step-grandchildren.

A Remembrance

John H. Schroeder was a proud son of Wabash, and he was one of the great leaders of a great College, which he loved and nurtured for more than 73 years.

They called him “Hank” when he was a young pledge at Phi Gamma Delta, where he was quickly seen as a leader and rising star. John later served as president of his fraternity, as well as the history club and the journalism society. During John’s senior year at Wabash, Psi Chapter won the Cheney Cup for the outstanding Phi Gam chapter in the nation.

Graduating Phi Beta Kappa, John went on to serve as a captain in the Army Air Corps in England during World War II.

Then he carried the name of Wabash on to Harvard, where he earned his MBA with distinction before returning home to Evansville.

For decades John recruited Evansville men to Wabash College, including his son, John, and grandson, Scott.

As a trustee of Wabash, John was one of the early leaders and advocates for the College’s first major capital campaign. A successful businessman, he valued both the liberal arts and the need for career preparation; and his generosity led him to found and support the Schroeder Center for Career Development at Wabash, one of the best career centers in the country.

Always the innovative thinker and leader, John constantly encouraged creativity in all those around him. It is a fitting honor that his family created and endowed the innovative John H. Schroeder Interdisciplinary Chair in Economics, an appropriate tribute to John’s ability to make connections across disparate worlds.

However, it is best to remember and honor John not just because of what he did for Wabash, but because what he will always mean to Wabash and to all of us. In John H. Schroeder’s life, Wabash sees the highest ambitions of the College fulfilled. He was a paragon of the liberally educated man who learned to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.

Henry David Thoreau described going to live by himself at Walden Pond in 1845 in this way: “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.”

It is appropriate praise for John that he knew how to live deliberately, but his path was far different from Thoreau’s. He did not turn away from the world but embraced it and moved in the world with drive, passion, compassion, and ambition. When he decided to go to business school, he chose Harvard. He didn’t decide to start one business; he created five (among them, the oldest plastic pipe company in the country). When it came time to take a leadership role at a college or university, John chose to serve two. In the hurly-burly world of civic engagement, John Schroeder served numerous boards and

was elected president of almost every board he served.

He was a great and good man honored over and over again—with honorary degrees from Wabash and the University of Evansville, by induction into the Indiana Academy, and by numerous awards and citations. He did the work for Wabash and other civic organizations because that’s who he was, not for the awards that followed. Such accolades may be important markers of a life, but in John’s case they matter more as signs of the virtues that drove him.

John possessed old-fashioned virtues of wit, humor, hard work, discipline, and most of all, magnanimity, or greatness of soul. He possessed the ability to be centered and anchored in his deliberate life while looking at the world clearly and with patience, love, and two qualities at the heart of the liberal arts—attention and appreciation.

It is significant that two of John’s great passions were stamp collecting and coin collecting, activities that demand not only attention to the smallest details but an appreciation of the nuance and beauty in the small and seemingly insignificant. His passion and pleasure in detail could be found in his attention to the smallest matters in his business and in the simplest activities of his family—especially his grandchildren. John loved spending time with his grandchildren and taking them to movies, playing with them, kidding them, and reading to them. They called him “Pop,” and when they were with him, they felt they were important, that they mattered.

What a great gift that is. John was curious about their lives in every detail, their work, their interests, their friends, and loves. He was always ready with a playful mind and a witty view, and they all remember the twinkling in his eyes when he would turn attention to them, with a joke, a comment, with his love.

John H. Schroeder made for himself a long and fulfilling life. He deemed himself one of the luckiest of men and all of us are the better for him. He like Thoreau and all the greatest of humans “fronted the essential facts of life and learned what it had to teach.” While we are saddened by his passing, we will never lose his presence, for he lives on in every good and wise thought, every act of attention and appreciation we can muster as we carry the goodness of this great and good man with us for the rest of our lives.

—Pat White, President, Wabash College



DAVID M. PARRY '57

David M. Parry, 76, died May 16 from unexpected complications following back surgery.

Born April 14, 1935, in Lowell, IN, he was the son of Setta and David Parry. While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Speakers Bureau, Sphinx Club, Phi Delta Theta, and the football, basketball, cross-country, and track teams. He was inducted into Wabash Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998.

Parry was an on-field college football official for 20 years and worked in the NFL from 1975-1990. He was assigned to 14 NFL playoff games, including four conference championship games, and was the side judge for the 1983 Super Bowl. He became coordinator of football officials for the Big Ten in 1990 and helped the league become the first in college football to use instant replay.

Parry left the Big Ten to become the first national coordinator of officials in 2008. He resigned that position in February.

“Dave’s many contributions to college football and specifically officiating were significant,” Dennis Poppe, NCAA vice president of Division I football and baseball, said. “The sport of college football has lost a great man.”

Earlier in his career, Parry also officiated college basketball games in the Big Ten and Mid-American Conferences.

Parry is survived by his wife, Pat Parry, North 1881 Ridge View Road, Michigan City, IN 46260; sons, John Parry and **David Parry '84**; daughters, Ann, Barbara, and Linda Parry; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A Remembrance

The tributes began even as the shock of Dave Parry’s death was still in the air.

“The sport of college football has lost a great man,” said NCAA Vice President Dennis Poppe. “Dave was a leader in the game of football and had the unique ability and temperament to move seamlessly between officials and coaches both at the professional and collegiate levels, earning the respect of all,” Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany said. “Dave was an educator at his core, and we will miss him terribly.”

In a tribute published in January, *South Bend Tribune* writer Al Lesar had called Parry “one of college football’s innovators, one of the primary pioneers of instant replay.”

"He's the guy who coaxed officiating from the 'dark ages.' He cultivated a positive environment within the Big 10 Conference, then later, on a national scope."

Big 10 Official John Roggerman put it this way: "It's difficult to overestimate the influence that Dave Parry had on college football."

But long before he became, as Veteran Big 10 Official Rick Nelson called him, "the most respected guy in officiating," Dave Parry played football at Wabash and officiated intramural games for "pizza money." Recalling those games years later, he said it felt good when a classmate would see him at the Scarlet Inn or across the mall and say, "You called a good game today, Dave."

His mentor, Dean and Professor Emeritus **Vic Powell '55**, remembers Parry as "a good student and a person you could count on, even then." Powell and Parry kept in touch over the years. "I followed his career with interest, and I had the sense that he carried into that job the same integrity I had known of him as a student." He carried that same integrity through Indiana high school basketball games in the 1960s, Big Ten games for 20 years, and the NFL for 15 years, the 1983 Super Bowl, and in his life off the field.

In a 1997 interview with *Wabash Magazine*, Parry said: "You can't live to please people. When the smoke clears and they're away from the emotions of the game and they look at the tapes, then the coaches and athletic directors will say, 'You know, the official was right. That's a good man. We had the right guy on the game.'"

We sure did.

—Brent Harris, Director of Sports Information

DAVID GORDON GRAHAM '87



David Gordon Graham, 45, died May 11 surrounded by family at his home in Carmel, IN. Born June 1, 1965, in New York, he was the son of Patricia and Robert Graham.

He graduated from Carmel High School in 1983 and played varsity soccer in high school. While attend-

ing Wabash, he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta.

Graham worked in the Indianapolis area for several medical device companies. He was a project manager and sales coordinator for Data Chem, a district sales manager for Nova Biomedical, and then a senior sales representative for Aesculap Inc. Even as Graham was battling cancer, he ended his final sales year at 113% of goal.

Graham coached sports for several youth teams at his church.

He is survived by his wife, Paige Graham, 122 Brunswick Court, Carmel, IN 46033; daughters, Caroline and Mary, son, Robert; parents, Robert and Patricia Graham; and brothers, Scott Graham and Michael Graham.

A Remembrance

David loved sharing life's stories, blending old and new friends, and spending time with his family. That's what he did when four Wabash men visited him for the last time days before he died.

Ken Ogorek '87, Ben Beringer '87, Scott Himsel '85 and I all knew it might be the last time we'd see our Phi Delta Theta fraternity brother. We were there to say our goodbyes. David was happy we stopped by to say hello.

While weak from a long fight with cancer, David was his typical self: He was witty, funny, quietly emotive, and thoughtful. We shared memories of our college days and at the "old" White Elephant fraternity. We talked about our classmates, professors, and of the fun we had on campus and off-campus.

We talked about a lot of things, but most were centered on family and friendships.

Ken talked about when they shared a house off-campus when they were seniors and of some antics during Spring Break. David said he enjoyed their recent talks and the homemade dinners Ken's family had been dropping off. Scott, who is teaching at Wabash, updated us on the recent comings and goings at the College and recalled some of the professors David was fond of.

Ben remembered a prank David pulled on him at a wedding of a fraternity brother. As Ben was sleeping in the van, driver David told everyone to hang on, and slammed the brakes, causing Ben to fall to the floor and the whole van to erupt in laughter.

And David remembered better than I that we met in 1978, as classmates at Clay Junior High in Carmel. We played soccer together growing up and at Carmel High School and were friends through the years. We pledged together. Studied together and graduated together. David played varsity soccer as goalie and was instrumental in making a game-saving stop when we defeated DePauw in 1984. I was honored to stand up in his wedding to Paige Prescott in 1997.

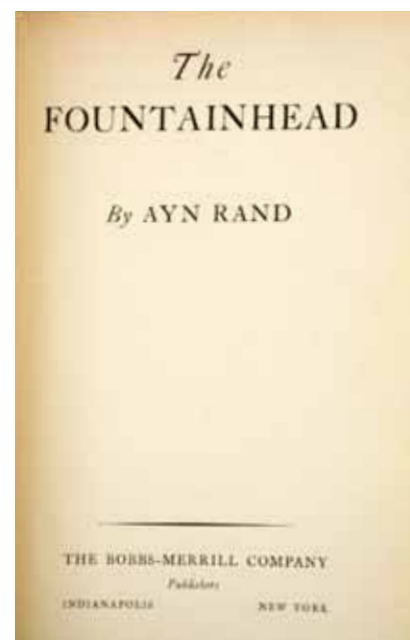
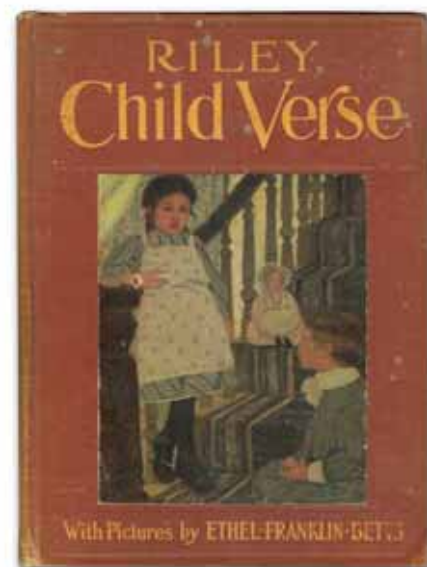
In our many chats over the years, David always talked fondly and was most proud of his three children, Caroline, Robert, and Mary Grace. He and Paige raised their family in Carmel, where he was active in the community through the Carmel Dads Club, and as a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church and its CYO programs.

A fitting and beautiful Funeral Mass was held May 16 at that church. Ogorek offered a eulogy. Himsel sang "Ave Maria." Beringer, **J.T.**

Whitehead '87, and I served as pallbearers.

But in our times with David over the years there were many more laughs than tears. And that's as David wanted it, I think. It's how he lived his life: More laughs than tears. ■

—Ron Recinto '87



“A Deep Wish to Serve”

—by Jon Factor '71

The publisher of James Whitcomb Riley and L. Frank Baum, Samuel Merrill served as U.S. Consul General to India during the Benjamin Harrison Administration.

 IRONICALLY, LITTLE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN about the Wabash man who created one of the most prominent book publishing businesses in the country.

Samuel Merrill, Wabash Class of 1851, took over his father's business and grew it into Bobbs-Merrill & Co, which published the works of James Whitcomb Riley, Ayn Rand, and perhaps most famously, the early works of L. Frank Baum, including *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Merrill fought alongside William Tecumseh Sherman in the Civil War and served in the foreign service. Yet, little more is known about him.

Merrill's father, a prominent Hoosier who was state treasurer when the capital was moved from Corydon to Indianapolis in 1824, founded the family book business. Merrill and his family, along with others, formed a caravan of wagons and pedestrians to haul the possessions of the state to their new city. He later became a bank president, and with E.H. Hood, he opened a bookstore in Indianapolis.

“He had been both soldier and citizen in the best sense, a man of character and ideals, with a deep wish to serve the public interest.”

Young Samuel graduated from Wabash in 1851 and received a master's degree from Wabash the next year. In 1859 he married the daughter of the first President White, the second president of the College. Merrill's bride was the great-great grand niece of Rev. Jonathan Edwards.

Merrill was managing the family business when the Civil War erupted. He enlisted, was commissioned a lieutenant colonel, and commanded the 70th Indiana Volunteer Infantry under Col. Benjamin Harrison, leading his regiment alongside Sherman in the historic “march to the sea.” In 1900, Merrill recounted his experiences in his book *The Seventieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry in the War of the Rebellion*.

After the war, Merrill rebuilt the family book business into a chain of retail bookstores and a publishing house. The company's fortunes skyrocketed when it began to publish the poems of James Whitcomb Riley in 1888. The company gained national prominence by innovative advertising, and even more respect from the publishing community with the publication of *The Wizard of Oz*.



Harrison was elected president in 1888 and nominated Merrill to be United States Consul General at Calcutta, India, where he served under Ambassador Robert Lincoln. After Harrison left office, Merrill returned to the United States but relocated to California, where he had an orange and lemon ranch on the slopes of the Sierra Madre Mountains.

The first books that Merrill's father had published were reprints of the case decisions of the early Indiana Supreme Court. The publication of law books continued as a staple for more than 100 years. The name “Bobbs Merrill” faded out of use after its acquisition by MacMillan toward the end of the 20th century.

Merrill died on September 2, 1924, at the age of 93. *The Indianapolis Star* posted the news on the front page. A few days later, *The Indianapolis News* ran a laudatory editorial: “He had been both soldier and citizen in the best sense, a man of character and ideals, with a deep wish to serve the public interest.” ■



Stanley Coulter



John Merle Coulter

Two of the College's most celebrated scientists were born in China

 WHEN I HEARD THAT THIS ISSUE was to have an Asian focus, my first thoughts were of the Coulter brothers, John Merle and Stanley. The first was a revered member of our historic faculty and the second an alumnus of the prep school, and both were born in China, the children of missionaries.

John and Stanley's maternal grandfather was John Finley Crowe, a Presbyterian minister, founder of Hanover College, and an ardent abolitionist. There are many old ties between Hanover and Wabash—in fact, the man who donated the land for our first campus was also a member of the Hanover board of trustees.

Caroline Crowe Coulter was the 10th of 12 children and she was raised on the campus of Hanover. Moses Coulter was from western Virginia and quite poor. He came to Hanover in 1844 and worked his way through college as a barrel maker. After graduation in 1848, Moses married Caroline, and a year later the young couple was off to Ningbo, China, on missionary work. When Moses died suddenly, Caroline found herself a single mother in a foreign land and pregnant with her second son. Undaunted, she continued the mission work for another two years before heading home by sea with her sons, a Chinese nurse, and a goat to provide on-board milk for the boys.

Caroline secured a teaching position at a prep school in Waveland, Indiana, and her brother was the minister of the First Presbyterian

Church here in Crawfordsville. When he decided to open a day school at the church, Caroline was hired as a teacher. Both of her boys worked as janitors for the church, and while the family lived in Crawfordsville, Stanley attended Wabash Preparatory while John went off to Hanover. A biography of Stanley, written by John's son, notes that Stanley's favorite thing to do at school was ice skate on Caleb Mills' pond.

Caroline Coulter continued the mission work for another two years before heading home by sea with her sons, a Chinese nurse, and a goat to provide on-board milk for the boys.

JOHN MERLE COULTER trained as a geologist, but his adventures as a member of the Hayden Expeditions to Yellowstone and the Rockies led him to a love of botany. He traveled to the East Coast to work on the botanical samples he had collected. This work led to a connection with Asa Grey of Harvard, pre-eminent among botanists in America.



Skating on Caleb Mills' Pond

—by Beth Swift

In 1879 John came to Wabash. He brought an advanced view of the sciences to the College, including a strong belief in evolution. He immediately lobbied for better storage for the collections of the science department—a herbarium and many geological specimens. Through his determined efforts the old gymnasium was renovated and transformed into the Hovey Museum. In addition to his heavy teaching load, John Merle Coulter founded the *Botanical Gazette* as a way to spread and share information on botany in a timely and scholarly fashion across the nation.

Professor Coulter was immensely popular on campus. The College magazines of the day are full of students' praise for his good work as a professor. Many hoped that he might become the next president after Tuttle retired.

It was not to be; instead, Wabash stuck to its tradition of hiring ministers to lead the College.

So in 1891 John moved to Bloomington to become president of Indiana University. He found the life of a large state university too busy to pursue his first love, botanical research. He left Indiana for the presidency of Lake Forest College in Chicago, which proved to be much the same situation—constant fundraising with little or no time to follow his passion for botany. Three years later, John went to the University of Chicago as chair of the Department of Botany. John retired from Chicago in 1925 and died in 1928, a well-known and major contributor to the field of botany in America.

STANLEY GRADUATED from Hanover, and his first posting was in Logansport, IN, where he was the principal of the local high school. It was here that he met and married Lucy Post (daughter of Wabash founder Martin M. Post). In 1885 Stanley was called to the presidency of Coates College in Terre Haute. Two years later he came to Purdue, where his career was of such substance that the first building at Purdue to bear the name of any person was Stanley Coulter Hall.

In addition to building Purdue into a science powerhouse, Stanley was a founding member of the Indiana Academy of Science and was instrumental in establishing Turkey Run as our second state park.

The Coulter brothers' story is so much bigger than can be captured in this small piece, but their lives are so closely entwined with Wabash that I felt I should not miss this chance to share a bit about these boys, their strong mother, and their ties to China—the country on which the College is refocusing through its Asian Studies and The Liberal Arts program. ■

—Beth Swift, Archivist

Robert T. Ramsay Jr. Archival Center

The Biography of Objects



STUDENTS OF PROFESSOR OF ART **Doug Calisch** say that you can't understand the man or his work until you've seen the studio he built near Pine Hills Nature Preserve. Scores of objects he has scavenged line the walls. A stuffed hawk, plaster faces, a silver-plated fish watch from their perches. A road-kill deer's head boils over the wood stove. And on two huge tables where a live black cat perches, more objects await their turn to add their own stories to the work. Part studio, part woodshop, it's a place that practically begs one to create.

A midwinter visit found the sculptor/photographer creating new pieces for his show at Indianapolis's 924 Gallery and senior art minor Drew Palmer (left) making a video to be included in the gallery's promotion of the opening. Some scenes of the artists at work:

"I FIND MATERIALS, then construct and put together pieces based on those found and altered materials. I find cool things that other people have discarded and discover ways to use them in my work.

"I used to make everything from scratch. Then I realized that there's a neater history in the objects I find. For example, I found an old level that someone had used for decades in his tool shop. I had no idea where this thing came from originally, but, man, it's got so much rich history..."

1 "I'M BOILING A SKULL from a road kill. I think they're beautiful, and rather than let a vulture get it..." Calisch smiles. "I guess I'm a human vulture."

2 THE WEEK PRIOR to our photo shoot at Split Cedar Studio, Calisch's wife, Laura, was out of the state on vacation. "I rarely went into the house except to eat and sleep a little," he says. Free to do exactly as he pleased, he spent almost all of his time in the studio/shop, making things.

3 "Each object BRINGS ITS OWN HISTORY to the work. I found these keys in an old piano in an abandoned house." ■

See Drew's video, the interview, Calisch's completed works, and photos from the show at WM Online.



1



2



3

"I promised myself that I'd use this exhibit to push myself to make some new stuff, and my inclination was to pick up where I left off three years ago. But that didn't work. I'm not the same person I was three years ago—my life is at a different place."



**"SOMETIMES
YOU FIND**

a single piece and
you know that you
have to build a whole
sculpture around it.
I found this green girl,
a shaving brush,
I think. I started
with her."



THE WAY I WORK — "I start with piles. The piles are pretty non-descript at first. Anything on this table is an active player.

"This one is just getting started. The other two on this table have become sculptures. One is almost done, the other I'm struggling with now, not sure what to do next. And this one has nothing attached—I'm still shuffling things around, looking at relationships."

Making It Real

CHRISTIE BYUN HAS TURNED ONE of the challenges of teaching environmental economics into an advantage for her students.

"In one way, environmental issues are perfect for economics," the Byron K. Trippet Assistant Professor of Economics says. "It's this nexus of a scarce allocation problem—you are trying to distribute scarce resources. At the same time, it's often difficult to measure, and you often have to figure out the value of a natural resource when there is no direct market price for it."

This concept of "contingent valuation" at the core of environmental economics can be tough for students to grasp. But with the help of Wabash alumni, Byun introduces it to students up close and personal.

The first year she taught the course at Wabash, Byun teamed with Friends of Sugar Creek Project Coordinator Nate Mullendore '07. He took the class to hillsides and stream banks eroded by the creek's frequent flooding (itself a result of development and farmers' aggressive drainage practices). Then he guided the group on a float down the creek and held a meeting with vendors whose livelihoods depend on its recreational use.

"The erosion was so bad that one house had to be demolished; otherwise, it would have eventually collapsed into the creek," Byun recalls. "The owners had to take a loss, and it adversely affected real estate values in the area. If you want a concrete example of why environmental economics matters, that was it. Seeing these sites and the damage in person helped students realize both the necessity and difficulty of formulating public policy to deal with these issues."

The third year she taught the course, Byun turned to manufacturing consultant Greg Estell '85 for a very different lesson. Last spring Estell arranged for a daylong visit to ATI Casting Service, a La Porte, IN, iron foundry whose products include diesel locomotive engine blocks, machine tool frames, and printing presses. ATI is also a producer of parts for wind turbines.

"They also use reclaimed metals and deal with all these green energy technologies, so it was an ideal place to study for many reasons," Byun says.

The plant manager gave students a tour through the molten casting process from beginning to end. The manager and ATI vice president then answered student questions and alerted them to career opportunities.

"Students were very interested in all of it—the engineering, the environmental practices, the industrial organization, data-gathering practices. And we had just driven through a wind farm to get there, so getting a detailed presentation about how they're put together,

how they're used, the industrial organization of the plant that makes them was an ideal learning experience for the students.

"And for me, too," Byun adds. "[Wabash junior] Trevor Councillor's father owns a plant that manufactures a very different product, so this sort of augmented his knowledge, and his questions were helpful to all of us. And during the drive there I learned that one of my students, Evan McFarland '13, is interested in environmental lobbying. We're working to find an internship for him."

Estell had first suggested the trip to ATI during a reception for faculty sponsored by the Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men.

"I can't thank Greg enough for arranging this," Byun says. "It's a gift to us to have alumni so committed to undergraduate education, and it's an honor to work with them, and to hear about their lives, the work they do."

"I think alums want to know what we do, and we certainly want to know what they do. That there can be such cooperation is very rewarding. These are the sorts of experiences that can make difficult-to-understand concepts very real for the students." ■



Christie Byun

Hot off the PRESS



Eric Freeze

With his first collection of stories, *Dominant Traits*, slated for publication by Oberon Press this fall, Assistant Professor of English **Eric Freeze** had three additional stories published this summer: "Pictogram" in *North Dakota Quarterly*, "The Virgins" in *Western Humanities Review*, and "Carnecopia" in *Flyway: A Journal of the Environment*.

Professor Freeze also received a grant from the Canada Council of the Arts to research a multi-generational novel in New Brunswick, work that he completed during the summer.

To Live Humanely

Collaboration Questions Genetic Testing in the Classroom

ARTICLES WRITTEN BY AND DESCRIBING a classroom collaboration between Pre-Health Advisor **Jill Rogers** and Haines Professor in Biochemistry **Ann Taylor** have been published in two academic journals and are a catalyst for discussion in the national Society of Genetic Counselors.

“Teaching About Genetic Testing Issues in the Undergraduate Classroom: A Case Study” was published in the *Journal of Genetic Counseling* in June, and “The

Ethical Implications of Genetic Testing in the Classroom” was published in *Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Education* in July. Both describe a class Taylor taught with input and assistance from Rogers.

“My background is in clinical genetics and genetic counseling, and Ann is interested in innovative pedagogy and engaging students through real-life scenarios in the lab,” Rogers explains. “My professional community is very sensitive to the idea of doing any medical testing outside of a medical setting; we feel very strongly about informed consent. We want those we’re testing to thoroughly understand the implications of any test we’re doing.”

Taylor had found several case studies in which students at other colleges had examined their own DNA for irregularities

associated with an increased risk for developing disease, including cancer.

“Ann and I got into a discussion about where the line might be between an interesting inquiry in the lab and

a medical test, not to mention the fact that no ethical guidelines seemed to be in place for these situations.

“We thought it would be interesting to allow students to learn and do some basic DNA manipulations in the lab using their own DNA so they could understand how that is done.”

“We’re all going to have access to information that we may not be ready to have.”

Then, at the point at which students were about to analyze a particular gene, Rogers intervened.

“I came in and said, ‘Before we actually analyze the gene, let’s talk about what this means. Let’s talk about what sort of ethical obligations we need to fulfill before you get this information.’”

“We discussed the core bioethics principles that genetic counselors talk about—informed consent, autonomy, and beneficence. We asked, ‘What if we found out from this analysis that you might be at increased risk for cancer or heart disease? How are you going to handle this information?’”

The students concluded that the class did not meet the ethical standards necessary to do the testing.

“So rather than doing the last step and analyzing the gene, they wrote papers about why they felt they shouldn’t. It was a great approach—it gave them the skills of doing the laboratory technique, sure, but these students are scientists, many are going on to medical school, and they’ll be in positions of ordering this testing or interpreting it. This was a great way to give them some initial exposure to the implications of this sort of information.

“But this is a worthwhile study even for people who aren’t scientists. We live in an age of direct-to-consumer testing, where you will soon be able to walk into a drug store and pick up a kit and test your saliva and find out, ‘Gee, I’m at increased risk for Alzheimer’s.’ We’re all going to have access to information that we may not be ready to have, and we may receive it when we don’t have the emotional support to handle it.”

Rogers is presently on a task force of the Society of Genetic Counselors looking into the issues raised by this sort of classroom testing.

“We’re still in the early stages of discussing this,” Rogers explains. “Our next step would be to develop ethical guidelines for teaching genetics in the classroom.” ■



Jill Rogers



Ann Taylor



Ethan Hollander

Assistant Professor of Political Science **Ethan Hollander’s** “The Bystander in Holocaust History and Education” was published in *Forum 21: The European Journal on Child and Youth Research*. The journal is producing a special edition on teaching about the Holocaust, and Hollander’s submission focuses on Holocaust education at the college level.

Quilting Memories, Sowing Dreams

The College's first grant writer leaves behind a multi-million dollar legacy of connecting the aspirations of students and faculty to corporations and foundations ready to nurture them.

 IN 31 YEARS WORKING FOR THE COLLEGE, Nancy Doemel raised more than \$30 million for every-

thing from pianos in the Fine Arts Center to faculty/student research labs to McGregor lectures to summer science and retention programs to the renovation of Lilly Library.

She was director of the GLCA Scotland Program and worked with scores of students.

But our interview looking back on her Wabash career begins with a quilt.

"I brought this because it tells a story," she says as we spread the fabric on the wall of the media center TV studio. It's a cacophony of color, with every square populated by cartoonish frogs peeping out at us from a smattering of ladybugs and dragonflies. Nancy sewed it as a lighthearted tribute to the antics of her husband, former Wabash Professor of Biology Bill Doemel.

"Students in Bill's biology course had to dissect a frog, and on the last day of the semester Bill would come to class wearing a frog head I'd made for our son. Bill added green scuba flippers and these ungodly green pajamas!"

Another quilt she created reminds her of her mother.

"The border is sewn from the fabric of a dress she made for me. Often I make quilts as a way to remember."

It's a way she came to late in life, the result of a job review in 1999 with then Dean for College Advancement Paul Pribbenow.

"He said, 'You work too much and I'm worried about your private life—that you don't seem to have other things going on that would take you away from work,'" Nancy recalls. "After a couple of days I realized he was probably right—I really should have some other things in my life besides my husband, my son, and my job."

She had long admired the quilting work of Wabash Costume Designer Laura Connors, Dana Fischer, and Mary Lou Mielke.

"So I went off to learn, and I especially enjoy that part of it—you never stop learning."

We spread out several more quilts, each wildly different from the next.

"People think quilters are crazy. We cut up fabric and then sew the pieces together again. It's a collaboration between those who made the fabric and the one who collects and puts them all together."

"I still take quilting classes—let's just say it did not come easily," Nancy says. Which is surprising to hear from a woman so skilled at weaving together disparate people and organizations to make something good and lasting for others.

SHE HAD PLANNED TO BECOME A TEACHER.

"I had incredibly good English teachers in high school, and my very best was Gene Foster."

One class session she says she'll never forget: "During my junior year a young man in the senior class committed suicide. Mr. Foster walked into class and read a poem called 'Richard Cory,' which includes these lines: '...and Richard Cory glittered while he walked...And one calm summer night went home and put a bullet through his head.' He read that poem and then he stopped and was very quiet. Then he asked, 'Now, what do you get from that poem?' It was a powerful moment for me—the first time I understood that poetry and literature are not just something that you read and study, but that speak to your everyday life."

"So I wanted to be an English teacher as good as Gene Foster."

Years later, such deep respect for teaching and learning would serve Nancy and her Wabash faculty colleagues well.

GROWING UP IN TIFFIN, OH, Nancy and Bill dated when she was a high school sophomore and he was a junior. They were married soon after Nancy graduated from Wittenberg College, and she worked as an English teacher in Bloomington while he finished his Ph.D. at Indiana University. Then came Bill's job offers, including one from Wabash.

"Crawfordsville seemed to us most like the town we grew up in. As the wife, I looked at the town and said, 'This is cool.'"

Not so cool was the dearth of English teaching positions open in the area.

"I spent the first six months figuring out what it meant to be a stay-at-home housewife. I was climbing the walls by the end of December!"

So she started her master's at Purdue, found out a few months in that she was pregnant, and finished her degree over four years while she and Bill shared the work of raising their son, Chris. She knew she wanted to work, in addition to being a mother.

"I needed my brain to be more challenged than the diaper brigade allowed it to be."

Invited by Lucy Brooks to a League of Women Voters



meeting, she eventually became the local chapter's president.

Ironically, it was Bill's first sabbatical in Bloomington that led her to working at Wabash. The professor he worked with needed a coordinator of graduate students.

"The professor and I started doing research for a book in values and ethics in science, and to keep his research going, he was getting a lot of National Science Foundation grants."

So Nancy learned to write them.

"At first he gave me one-on-one lessons in grantsmanship, then I took a course. Over time we got virtually every grant that we worked on.

"So here we are in Bloomington—Chris is going to kindergarten, Bill is learning what he wants to learn, and I'm running off to Utah to interview people for this research. It was wonderful networking. I learned about collaboration and working with groups, and then how to write the grant and how to design the action steps."

FOLLOWING THE SABBATICAL, logistics proved too difficult for Nancy to continue the work. So she approached then-President Lew Salter with a proposal.

"I said to Lew, 'Why don't you hire me for 10 hours per week? After a year, if I can't bring in some money, you won't have lost very much.'"

President Salter had a counteroffer. Professor Bill Placher '70 needed an administrative assistant for the GLCA Scotland Program, newly headquartered at Wabash. Would Nancy be interested?

"I had studied in Finland the summer between my junior and senior year in high school, and it was a terrific experience," Nancy says. "So I thought, *I know what this is all about. I could do this with one hand tied behind my back.*"

She started her career at Wabash in July 1979.

"Bill became a mentor and, over time, one of my best friends," she says of Placher.

She names the late Dick Ristine '41—for whom she worked after she moved to Advancement full-time—as the person who most influenced her.

"As a role model you couldn't find a person with more integrity or love for this institution—and what an incredible memory," she says. A \$750,000 grant she wrote for and received from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute while Ristine was director of development is one she finds especially meaningful. She worked with

her husband and Professor David Polley on the project.

"It sent our faculty off to connect what they were doing with the biomedical community. It was the beginning of what is today the major we offer in biochemistry."

"There are many people doing the work I do who will tell you they submitted a whole lot more proposals than I have," she says. "But I've always thought what's more important is that you spend the time to find the right funding source. You come to know what they want, and they have confidence in you as an institution.

"I've always sought fewer grants but better quality relationships."

She believes strong relationships are also the lifeblood of Wabash College.

"What is most essential at Wabash has less to do with which classes people take and more to do with the relationships students have with the faculty members who teach. It's not so much the content of the coursework as it is the relationships that lead students to want to continue to learn throughout their lives."

IN THE FINAL MONTHS of her career at Wabash, Nancy smiles as she recalls coming across old notes from those she has worked with on the many grants she has written.

"These people have been such wonderful collaborators. Together we've made it possible for students to experience this College in ways that somehow changed their lives.

"I came in early and stayed late because it seemed to me not just my work, but my reason for being. And that's what a calling is—the feeling that what I do makes a difference for somebody else, and that I do that for a purpose rather than the paycheck at the end of the month."

PROFESSOR BILL DOEMEL STEPS INTO the media center studio for his own retirement interview a few minutes after Nancy leaves. We gather up her quilts and place them on a table for him to carry home afterward. Just for fun, we leave up the frog quilt Nancy made celebrating Bill's biology class antics. It makes a colorful backdrop for the camera and a reminder that some of his most memorable moments—and the College's—would not have happened without her. ■



Nancy Doemel



Jeremy Hartnett

In addition to being named the McLain-McTurnan-Arnold Research Scholar, Associate Professor of Classics **Jeremy Hartnett '96** received a summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support his work on his book, *Society on Stage: Streets and Urban Life in Pompeii and Herculaneum*, and New Directions Initiative award from the Great Lakes Colleges Association to continue his research.

Faculty Notes

The U.S. citizenship ceremony had a surprisingly profound impact on me.

I am still skeptical whenever I hear anyone proclaiming the supremacy of their nation's ideals. I grew up in a country where you could end up in jail or a morgue just because you tried to speak out against the government.

But I do have a tremendous respect for your country—my country!—and the freedom of speech and assembly granted to all U.S. citizens.

—Assistant Professor of English **Agata Szczeszak-Brewer**, during a celebration of her American citizenship (sworn in on February 17) and recently published book, *Empire and Pilgrimage* in Conrad and Joyce. Professor Szczeszak-Brewer was recently elected a trustee of the Joseph Conrad Society of America.



Professor **Warren Rosenberg** reads praise for Agata's book and congratulates her on her U.S. citizenship: "We wish you a long and happy life here with us."

Poetic Moments

"To be mindful is not easy, yet necessary..."

April was Poetry Month, and Professor of English **Marc Hudson** led his students to a Poetry Day celebration and workshop at Crawfordsville's Carnegie Museum. Then, at the dedication of the College's Community Garden commemorating Earth Day, he read a poem he had written for the occasion. An excerpt:

*It's not so visionary to do this:
to widen our compassion
not simply as stewards,
after a fashion,
of this planet, but as real
gardeners
of this real Earth, laboring
as partners
with its processes, teaching
a practice of care
to our children. We don't
make it out of thin air
but out of soil and rough
hands grown tender:
We kneel on the earth and
plant. Now. Here.*



Mark Hudson

"A SENSE OF PRIDE" I feel a sense of pride in having my work associated with one of the giants of the Wabash science tradition, and I am struck immediately by the honor of becoming the third member of a group that includes Roy Miller and Rich Dallinger.

—Professor Scott Feller, after being named the Lloyd B. Howell Chair in Chemistry—the third since the position was endowed by his former students in 1987. Feller added, "Doc Howell is certainly a legend in our department, admired both for his teaching and for the significant accomplishments of his many students. His students' establishment of this endowed chair is a great testament to the impact he had on them, and reminds us how transformative our work as faculty can be when carried out at the highest level of excellence."

Associate Dean and Professor of Philosophy **Cheryl Hughes** received the Horace Turner Leadership Award from Wes Chamblee '11 at the kickoff dinner for the 40th anniversary of the Malcolm X Institute. The students also presented her with a bouquet in appreciation for her work with them and her shaping and leading the group's advisory board.



Cheryl Hughes

The Old Ball Game

At the 23rd Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture in Cooperstown, NY, in June, Associate Professor of Rhetoric **Todd McDorman** presented "Once More with Feeling: Pete Rose's Renewed Image Repair Discourse on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Breaking Ty Cobb's Hit Record."



Scott Feller

The discovery of long-lost family letters led a Civil War historian to Guizhou province to understand his grandfather's vocation and the people he served, and to encounter his surprising legacy.

—by Daniel Crofts '63

“Forever Keep True”

IN MAY 1993, my two daughters and I stepped down from the train at Zhenyuan (JUN-you-en, literally “far-away town or outpost”), which clings to a riverside beneath steep cliffs. Anita, who speaks Chinese, masterminded this trip. Sarah and I were fortunate to have her as a guide. We walked across the 500-year-old Zhusheng bridge and gawked at the captivating scenery. Then we encountered Zhenyuan’s small Christian community, a group whose existence we had never suspected.

Several days later a rickety bus carried us to Qianxi (chee-EN-she), a more remote town. We found many more Christians and sat through the longest religious service of our lives, packed into a small room. Several elderly members of the Qianxi church remembered the tall, slender missionary who had lived there when they were young. He was the Westerner who had introduced tomatoes.

That was proof positive—I had read about it already in his letters. He was my grandfather, Daniel Webster Crofts.

Daniel had arrived in China in 1895 and spent 40 years—from 1904 to 1944—in the remote southwestern province of Guizhou (gway-joe, “noble region”), principally in the two towns we visited

Daniel thought the people of China would draw the world’s attention if they ever got the opportunity to develop their talents.

in 1993. Much of Guizhou province’s terrain consists of eroded limestone hills, a delight for traditional Chinese painters but too steep for agriculture, which is confined to narrow valleys and creeps



Anita, Sarah, and Dan Crofts, in front of a Christian church in Zhenyuan, May 1993.

up the hillsides on terraces. When Daniel lived there the province could barely feed its people in good crop years. In bad years, hunger and starvation stalked the land.

ALTHOUGH I WAS NAMED for my grandfather, I never really made his acquaintance. He lived his last years in Florida while I grew up in Chicago. We saw each other occasionally but were not close. The gulf between a provincial American adolescent and the seemingly gruff old man who often appeared absorbed by his own thoughts was too wide for either of us to bridge. Daniel’s death in June 1960, just after my freshman year at Wabash, made little impact on me.

At that time, China was tightly closed. The Bamboo Curtain had slammed shut during the Korean War in the early 1950s. The outside world knew hardly anything about the ferocious Maoist revolution, or about the hardships it inflicted on the Chinese people. Though waged in their name (“The People’s Republic”), the revolution had run off the tracks entirely, we now realize, and had caused the most catastrophic man-made famine in world history. It would be decades before new leadership started to end China’s isolation and transform its shattered economy.

For me China was out of sight and out of mind. My interests had been piqued by a striking spectacle closer to home, in the American South. The Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s raised puzzling questions: Why were black Americans still on the outside looking in? Why had the promise of equality—supposedly encompassed in three landmark Constitutional amendments adopted between 1865 and 1870—been nullified for most of a century?

My first faltering efforts to answer these questions took place at Wabash under the direction of Professor Steve Kurtz. He made the study of history come alive for me, and I shall be forever grateful. Eventually I became a specialist on the North-South sectional crisis that led to the Civil War. ►

(from left to right) **The Crofts Family**, Zhenyuan, Summer 1909: John, Verna H., Verna I., Saima, Daniel, and Alfred; **Daniel W. Crofts**, 1945; China Inland Mission missionaries traveling up the Yuan River to Guizhou, circa 1910; Dragon Boat Races, Zhenyuan, circa 1910

(below right) Zhusheng Bridge, Zhenyuan, May 1993



BUT IN THE LATE 1980s AS A NEW CHINA started to emerge and as my own scholarly career took shape, the basement of my childhood home in Chicago—carefully emptied by my brother Tom—yielded the historian’s ultimate treasure.

We had thought that our grandfather’s China letters had been lost. Instead, many hundreds survived. A majority were written to our father, John, who had left China for the United States at the age of 17 and never returned.

Even more surprising was the variety of the collection. It included Daniel’s poignant recollections of Verna Hammarén Crofts, his first wife and our grandmother. She had died young in 1909 just after escorting our father and his brother and sister down from their home in Zhenyuan to a boarding school in faraway Shandong.

Several yellowed clippings from the *North-China Herald* revealed that Daniel wrote occasional columns for that English-language newspaper published in Shanghai, and further research on microfilm revealed many additional items.

Until our visit to Guizhou in 1993, I hadn’t known what to do with these materials. Only then did I realize that they demanded a book. I was the one in the family who wrote about history, so this was a book that I would have to write. Doing it would honor the memory of my father, who spent his difficult formative years in China. It also would enable me to thank my daughter, Anita, who had studied intensive Chinese at Haverford College and then reestablished our family’s connection to China.

Most of all, writing the book would allow me to know better my austere and forbidding grandfather, and tell the tale of a life lived on the cultural frontier.

I immersed myself in books about Chinese history. It was one thing to get outside my comfort zone and learn about the 19th-century American South. The learning curve was steeper for China. Happily, my wife Betsy and I were able to arrange a sabbatical year in 1995–96 teaching at the Foreign Affairs College in Beijing. We befriended many gifted young Chinese students, born near the end of the Maoist era and eager for greater opportunities than their parents had known. They taught us much about the country that had become Daniel’s home.

Between 2001 and 2005 I completed a first draft of the biography. Then Doug Merwin, who has gotten many books on Chinese topics into print, supplied the finishing touches.

Upstream Odyssey: An American in China, 1895–1944 hasn’t become a

best seller, but it has earned respectful assessments from scholars who know far more about China than I do. Students in my family history course at The College of New Jersey also have found it useful to read as I challenge them to write about someone in their own family tree.

Daniel’s life offers important perspective on the Protestant missionary movement at the pinnacle of its influence. The Ohio farm boy who had worked his way through Muskingum College turned his back on the conventional life of a clergyman. Instead, he and Verna and thousands of other idealistic young Europeans and North Americans departed for distant lands at the end of the 19th century to bring about “the evangelization of the world in this generation.”

IT WAS THE AGE OF EMPIRE, but they made unlikely imperialists.

No place so attracted Western missionaries as China, the earth’s most deeply rooted civilization. Daniel and Verna were members of the China Inland Mission (CIM), the brainchild of J. Hudson Taylor, its charismatic founder and leader. CIM missionaries shared a special élan. They attempted to carry the Christian Gospel beyond the treaty ports into China’s vast interior. And so it was that Daniel and Verna

Daniel’s respect for China had sharp limits, however. He had come not to celebrate China but to change it.

first encountered each other in Laohekou, far up the Han River, more than 1,000 miles from the coast.

Both by conscious design and through long unconscious acclimation, Daniel adopted the ways of China. Following CIM custom, he dressed in Chinese fashion, with a long flowing gown, sandals, and—until the fall of the Qing Dynasty in 1911—a shaved forehead and a braided queue. Of course, Chinese attire could not enable him to appear more than superficially Chinese. His projecting Western nose, his hairy nostrils and hands, his severe-seeming rectitude, and above all his piercing blue eyes made him unmistakably exotic to Chinese observers.

Many missionaries struggled to acquire adequate Chinese, but Daniel learned to speak flawlessly and to gain full command of the written language. He was known in China as Yong Bao Zhen (literally



“Forever Keep True”). He recognized in China a sophisticated culture that had many attractive aspects. He realized, as many other missionaries did not, that China had stood strong before the crisis of the late Qing.

Daniel’s respect for China had sharp limits, however. He had come not to celebrate China but to change it. A conviction that China needed to be changed was far more than a Western notion or a missionary conceit. As most capable Chinese observers themselves recognized, traditional imperial governance no longer worked. Over-

population and insufficient food sapped China’s strength and left it vulnerable to external pressures.

The 19th century had brought the West more progress and improvement than in the previous millennium. But it had brought China one calamity after another. China proved unable to arrest its economic tailspin or to maintain itself in the face of rapidly advancing Western and Japanese military power. The missionaries believed the Christian Gospel would awaken China from its torpor. They did their best to alleviate the manifold human hardships entailed by an intensifying whirlwind of revolution and war. They witnessed the arduous and painful birth of a modern nation—a process that would be protracted across the entire 20th century.



IN DECEMBER 1995, exactly 100 years after Daniel first arrived in China, Betsy and I were teaching at Beijing’s Foreign Affairs College. Anita and Sarah joined us for Christmas. A steady stream of friends paraded through our festive apartment. It was decorated with a potted evergreen tree, temporarily borrowed from the college gardens and lugged upstairs by four husky young students.

How might Daniel have reacted to all of this?

Without a doubt, he would have been bewildered by modern Beijing. A century before he had considered Shanghai hopelessly commercialized and ill-suited to receive the Christian message. China’s breakneck development since 1995 would have left him even more disoriented.

On the other hand, he surely would have applauded China’s vastly improved food supplies, living standards, life expectancies, and literacy rates. He thought the people of China would draw the world’s attention if they ever got the opportunity to develop their talents.

Daniel would have been especially gratified to find that the belief system so central to his own outlook has attracted many more Chinese followers than in his lifetime. Christians—flying under the disapproving radar of the Chinese state—have made the church their own. For them as for him, material well-being cannot fill the emptiness in the human heart. ■

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