

MCLA

BEACONS & SEEDS

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

FALL 2011

PRESS

letterPRESS as a Public Art Project

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LIVING OUR VALUES



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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and President Mary K. Grant celebrate the groundbreaking for the new Center for Science and Innovation.

Dear Alumni,

The fall semester has been busy, exciting, and productive. We welcomed a great new group of first year students to the MCLA community, along with a large group of transfer students. As they attend classes and lectures, build friendships and connections, and participate in clubs and activities, they define their unique MCLA experiences.

Academic excellence and vibrant community are part of what led to MCLA's recognition as a Top Ten Public Liberal Arts College by U.S. News & World Report. We are in good company on this list, along with several of our peer institutions within the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC).

This energy and excitement was on display during Reunion and Fall Family Weekend, October 21-23. This sense of community is evident in the lifelong connections that alumni, donors, and friends of MCLA enjoy, and fuels their commitment to and support of the College.


Our connection to the community, and our role as an educational and economic resource for the city of North Adams, Berkshire County, and the Commonwealth was on powerful display on October 14, when we broke ground on the Center for Science and Innovation. It was very exciting to celebrate this milestone alongside so many good friends and supporters. It was especially gratifying to welcome Governor Deval Patrick, Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray, and other state and local officials to MCLA to be part of this celebration.

When it is complete, the Center for Science and Innovation will be a resource for students, faculty, and the community. This brand of public purpose and engagement is at the heart of many of our programs on and off campus, including creative economy programs through the Berkshire Cultural Resource Center, global education and training through MCLA's Professional MBA program, industry partnerships with companies like Pittsfield-based Nuclea Biotechnologies, and campus visit programs through the Berkshire Compact for Education.

Service to the community and to the common good is intrinsic to our educational mission. It is a cornerstone of our role as the Commonwealth's public liberal arts college, and a hallmark of our relationship to our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the many friends who are part of our community.

I am so honored to call you friends of this remarkable institution, and I look forward to welcoming you to campus to see our community, and our commitment, in action.

Sincerely,



Mary K. Grant, Ph.D.
President



Above: MCLA welcomed journalist Laura Ling as the fall 2010 Hardman lecturer. This lecture series is generously funded by the Hardman Family Foundation.



Above: Jeremy Smith provides a science demonstration to third graders during Berkshire Compact Berkshire County Goes to College campus visit.



Above: MCLA Foundation Director and Berkshire Compact Chair Andy Mick '09 reads to school children during the first annual Wee Read Berkshire County held in April, 2011.



Left: Environmentalist and Sydney Peace Prize recipient Vandana Shiva presented the fall 2010 Public Policy Lecture. This lecture series is generously funded by the Ruth Proud Charitable Trust.



MCLA Gallery 51 (above) is home to the Berkshire Cultural Resource Center, which oversees DownStreet Art. MCLA Professor of Art Melanie Mowinski and her gallery manager Jason Peabody '12 (at right) made and exhibited letter-press prints in PRESS, a DownStreet Art gallery.



Above: Area school children learn step moves from Andre Sheffield '13 during a campus visit. Left: Dan Bosley '76 and former student trustee Jameek Clovie '11



Left: Community service is an important part of the MCLA experience. Many student-initiated projects are coordinated through The Center for Service and Citizenship, including this playground clean-up program.



LIVING OUR VALUES

As the Commonwealth's public liberal arts college, it is not enough for MCLA to educate students and to prepare them for careers; the College is also a civic leader in the community. In fact, MCLA embraces public purpose and engagement as one of its strategic goals. From President Mary K. Grant, to administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni, becoming involved in the community is a shared responsibility and a true privilege.

It's one thing to talk about engagement as an abstraction. It's quite another to demonstrate that commitment through action. Spend any time on the MCLA campus and you will come away believing that this is a place where abstraction becomes reality. Whether it's faculty, administrators, or the students themselves, intentional acts of community consideration and kindness take place here on a daily basis.

"At MCLA, it's not just about teaching, it's about giving back," says Monica Joslin, the College's dean of academic affairs. Joslin points out that every faculty applicant is made aware of the College's commitment to its community. Facilitating public involvement is as much a part of the job requirement as grading papers. "Community engagement enriches everything that we do," says Joslin simply.

Clearly, this was the case with MCLA art professor Melanie

Mowinski's North Adams community printmaking project: *PRESS: LetterPRESS as a Public Art Project*, a DownStreet Art gallery, which is a program of MCLA's Berkshire Cultural Resource Center (BCRC). (Read more about BCRC on page 4.) As part of this exhibition, Mowinski used a 1969 Vandercook Universal III letterpress to teach visitors about the printmaking process.

Mowinski and her associate gallery manager, Jason Peabody '12, an MCLA arts management major and one of eight paid gallery managers this summer, did not just welcome visitors to the gallery, they taught them how to make prints. "I wanted my gallery staff to interact with the visitors. I trained them to go up to the patrons and tell them about the process and the prints on the wall. After they learned about the project, then they could enjoy the gallery on their own," says Mowinski.

According to Peabody, "The experience of bringing art to the people, to the public, and showing them why all of this is not only important, but essential, is one of the most powerful feelings I have ever experienced...I feel like I'm doing more than just a job when visitors walk through the doors of *PRESS* and start asking questions about everything they see."

Not only were visitors encouraged to learn about printmaking, they were able to print their own projects at *PRESS*, with submis-

Connecting Community Through the Arts

The College's Berkshire Cultural Resource Center (BCRC) has made major contributions to the growth of the region's creative economy by educating the next generation of arts administrators. By connecting cultural institutions throughout Berkshire County as never before, and attracting tens of thousands to art gallery openings, musical and artistic performances downtown, the BCRC helped make North Adams a leading arts destination.

The BCRC operates a number of programs. They include DownStreet Art, designed to revitalize downtown North Adams by transforming vacant and open spaces into arts destinations that attract tourists and community members alike; the MCLA Presents! performance series; Tricks of the Trade professional development series; Berkshire ArtStart, a comprehensive directory of Berkshire artists and cultural organizations, opportunities, resources, and events; and the Berkshire Hills Internship Program (B-HIP), which matches students with internships in major arts organizations.

Through B-HIP in particular, "We

have provided a vehicle for discussion between cultural institutions that doesn't normally exist," says Jonathan Secor, BCRC director.

MCLA is at the forefront of efforts to train and support an emerging population of cultural leaders and arts administrators – not only through its arts management major, but with the hands-on training B-HIP provides to budding arts professionals. Every day, MCLA students, faculty, and alumni make real and profound contributions to this critical part of Berkshire County's cultural economy.

Because of the College's proven reputation for training skilled arts professionals, "People know that a B-HIP intern is a qualified person to hire, whether that's MASS MoCA (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art) or Shakespeare and Company. And, it puts small institutions on the radar in a way that might not otherwise happen, creating a conduit for people to see, hear about, and meet new colleagues," Secor explains.

The performances that the College brings to the community via DownStreet Art and MCLA Presents! pro-

vide area residents with outlets to fully immerse themselves in art and culture.

"They also provide an opportunity for our local artists – both performing and visual – to perform and showcase their work. Local musicians, including our own music students, can see renowned musicians perform. DownStreet Art and MCLA Presents! bring the best of the world to North Adams, and give North Adams a chance to showcase some of its own," Secor says.

For DownStreet Art, the BCRC joined forces with the City of North Adams and arts organizations from throughout the county, including MASS MoCA and the North Adams Artists Co-operative Gallery in North Adams, Williams College Museum of Art in Williamstown, and the Ferrin Gallery in Pittsfield.

Approximately 75 percent of DownStreet Art's sponsors are businesses in downtown North Adams. Greylock Federal Credit Union has been the lead sponsor for the past three years. "They get it. They know it's all about getting people downtown," Secor says.



sions guidelines available at the gallery or on the *DownStreet Art* website, www.downstreetart.org. These prints were then displayed at the gallery's final August show, *This One Goes to ELEVEN* and were made available for purchase. The exhibit was a great success and over 450 visitors participated.

Cindy Brown, vice president of academic affairs, explains that the College's ongoing mission to be active in the community is

coded into MCLA's institutional DNA. "People talk about it spontaneously," says Brown. The College is active in the community, and the community in turn views MCLA as "active, well-integrated, as a resource."

There certainly is a lot to talk about: the approximately sixty percent of MCLA's student body who participate in some sort of community service activity, including internships for course credit and

service learning projects through the Center for Service and Citizenship; the new Center for Science and Innovation, which broke ground this October, that will welcome and encourage students and local residents to use and enjoy its facilities (see sidebar); participation in Berkshire County Goes to College campus visit days for some 1,400 elementary Berkshire school children annually; ongoing lectures such as the Hardman Lecture, made possible by the Hardman Family Endowment, and the Public Policy Lecture Series, generously supported by the Ruth Proud Charitable Trust, that students and the public are able to enjoy at no cost each year; the hosting of the statewide high school science fairs; a thriving main street art gallery in downtown North Adams that supports student work as well as that of local artists (see sidebar); and the Berkshire Compact for Education that takes as its central goal the commitment to encourage all Berkshire residents to complete at least sixteen years of education.

MCLA's goal of public purpose and engagement is a commitment shared by campus staff and faculty, but it is also a reflection of the vision of MCLA President Mary K. Grant. "It is an important mission for me personally" says Grant, who is herself a graduate of the College. "As a public university we are responsible and responsive to our community. It is about assessing and meeting the needs of our students, the dedicated faculty and staff, our region, and the Commonwealth. We have the privilege to work at this caring and special institution and the commitment to leave things better than we found them."

"IT'S IMPORTANT ON A PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEVEL TO LEARN THAT WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND THAT IT CAN HAPPEN IN SMALL AND BIG WAYS."

MCLA PRESIDENT MARY K. GRANT

Denise Richardello '77, M.Ed. '81, vice president of external relations and enrollment, shares Grant's sense of mission. Richardello, a native of North Adams, speaks with enthusiasm and pride about the work of the Berkshire Compact. "Our goals are realistic and achievable," she says. "In fact, while we continue to make progress and look at new programs and outreach strategies, we accomplished many of our original goals of building civic engagement, strengthening connections with local businesses, and providing access to college to younger residents in the region to raise their aspirations toward higher education. Access is at the heart of who we are and what we do." Indeed, whereas most private colleges boast of exclusive low acceptance rates, MCLA takes it as a point of pride – and part of its mission – to be as inclusive and accessible as possible.

"We work very hard around scholarship development," Grant emphasizes. "We do our part to insure the future for students who

come from working families, and for families who want small classes, great professors, and terrific opportunities that won't saddle students with a lifetime of debt."

"It's a really big part of who we are—being there for those kids whose families are struggling, but who want to move forward," agrees physics professor Adrienne Wootters. "We are here for them." One example of MCLA's dedication to making higher education affordable and accessible is Fast-Track, the College's program designed for busy adult learners balancing life and work demands who want to earn an undergraduate degree.

"Gone are the days of growing up here and walking from high school into a good, lifetime job with GE (General Electric) or Sprague," says Brown, referring to the loss of manufacturing work in the state and the emergence of a diversified, knowledge-based economy. In addition to offering undergraduate degree programs, MCLA recently launched a Professional Master of Business Administration (PMBA) program to support the needs of working professionals who have undergraduate degrees and professional experience. The program combines in-class and online course delivery to provide flexibility for the participants.

But, civic engagement is about more than career preparation. "There's a reason why MCLA considers it an important part of a young person's education to be active in the community," says Grant. "It's important on a personal and professional level to learn that we can all make a difference and that it can happen in small and big ways. In addition, meaningful service not only strengthens Berkshire County, but prepares our students for a lifetime of responsible citizenship as they go forward to make a difference in their own communities."

In 2010 and again in 2011, MCLA was recognized by the Corporation for National and Community Service when the College was named to the President's Honor Roll for Service. The institutions of higher education in this national group were acknowledged for their support of volunteerism, service-learning, and civic engagement throughout their communities. MCLA has long been involved with community service, including its annual Community Day of Service, which started in 1992. Students continue to be active with many service learning projects, internships, and student-initiated efforts through the Center for Service and Citizenship. "Both students and the community gain from these interactions," says Spencer Moser, coordinator of MCLA's Center for Service and Citizenship. "Students enrich their academic learning; learn hands-on; develop critical, professional skills; all the while making a positive difference in their community."

Whether MCLA seems to attract students committed to service, or the desire to give back is cultivated on campus (or more likely some combination of the two), there's no doubt that MCLA produces people who *want* to go out into the world and make a difference.

Oscar R. Lanza-Galindo '01 credits the knowledge he gained and the skills he developed as a dual major in English and philosophy at MCLA with preparing him for a career in service. As assistant di-

rector of student leadership at Amherst College, he works to match students with internship opportunities.

Oscar Lanza-Galindo '01, assistant manager of internship programs at Amherst College



“My liberal arts education gave me a whole array of tools that I use in the public interest,” says Lanza-Galindo with great passion and sincerity. “There is so much amazing work that needs to be done and can be done with the right skills. I use my philosophy degree to dissect and think logically about what works or doesn’t in community development. My English major strengthened my

communication skills and my ability to get out a message in a clear, concise way, and to address it effectively to a variety of audiences. The connection between learning, work, and service cannot be underestimated.”

Like Lanza-Galindo, Justin Kratz '99, M.Ed '03, demonstrates the power of public commitment. Now serving as assistant principal at McCann Technical School in North Adams – Kratz recalls that at a very young age he knew he wanted to be involved with at-risk youth. “So many people I knew growing up (in Greenfield, Mass.) were not taking the right roads. I noticed that they didn’t have the same supports that I had – a lot of people looking after me, making sure I didn’t make bad mistakes. My friends didn’t always have those same people looking after them, and I thought this would be a way for me to pay back what I was given by helping some of those kids out.” Kratz also serves as coach of the McCann boys’ basketball team.

Where Lanza-Galindo, Kratz, and countless other MCLA gradu-

Build it and they will come

By fall 2013, construction on the MCLA Center for Science and Innovation is expected to be complete, and the building should be ready for occupancy. The Center, which will be located on Blackinton Street next to the MCLA Office of Admission, represents the first new construction on campus since the Flagg Townhouses were completed in the 1970s.

The Center will be a state of the art teaching, learning, and research facility for MCLA students and faculty, and will also be a resource and gathering space for local K-12 educators, students, and other community members who want to learn more about science and technology. Recently, physics department chair Adrienne Wootters, who is part of the Center for Science and Innovation’s advisory board, sat down and talked about what the new building will mean to MCLA and how the Center’s community outreach initiatives align with MCLA’s strategic goal of public purpose and engagement.

Question: How will the MCLA Center for Science and Innovation serve the community?

Answer: What is near and dear to my heart is what the science building is going to do for the surrounding schools and for the sciences. One of the things I’m most excited about for this building is that we are going to have dedicated space for area students to come in and practice science. In 2004, we received a grant from the state STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Pipeline Fund. With MCLA as the lead partner, area K-12 educators, higher education part-



Dr. Adrienne Wootters, physics department chair

ates would be today without access to or the ability to afford higher education is anyone's guess. It's fair to speculate, however, that given all the good work these graduates are doing, they've made a positive impact on the many lives they've touched. The College provides a wonderful educational experience; just as important, MCLA helps students develop their capacities for citizenship, service, and success.

"We completely focus on student life," notes Wootters. "What students do outside the classroom is as important as what they do in it. And everyone here gets that. Our job is to inspire and teach whole, happy people who go on to have whole, happy lives where they inspire and teach others in turn."

"You wouldn't necessarily see others take on what we take on because it's not part of their mission," says Richardello. "It's very important to support the community we reside in. It's important to provide access to students of any age who want to attend college and to support and recognize K-12 teachers and the local schools.



Justin Kratz '99, M.Ed. '03,
assistant principal at
McCann Technical School

It's important to make books available to early childhood education centers to inspire a love of reading and a thirst for knowledge in young children. It's important to work with businesses to provide internship experiences for students and ways for faculty to demonstrate their expertise. It's important to raise the aspirations of all our residents to obtain a college degree or to get a better job. It's everything, and everything connects together." ■

Groundbreaking ceremony
for the new Center for
Science and Innovation

ners including Williams College and Berkshire Community College, local businesses, and nonprofits have joined together through the Berkshire STEM Pipeline Network with the goal of providing STEM-related professional development opportunities to teachers, and providing resources intended to support STEM interest and learning among students. We know that learning opportunities like participation in science fairs engage students in the study of science and may encourage them to major in STEM fields in college and aspire to careers in STEM areas.

Q: When will the new science center be built?

A: We expect an opening for the building in the fall of 2013 and for classes to be held in the building by spring semester 2014.

Q: How much of the new space will be allotted for the public?

A: There will be a seminar room for potential public use on the first floor, incubator space for a public-private partnership for science research on the third floor, and a 72-seat auditorium that will also be used for public lectures. The Center for Science and Innovation will house MCLA's lending library of science equipment, the Regional Science Resource Center, that is available to Berkshire County Educators. In addition, we provide lesson plans and other materials. Summer camps, such as the annual robotics camp for middle school students, will use space in the building. The College will also host summer course offerings for teachers in the Center. The possibilities are endless.



Q: What does this mean for the College itself?

A: We have needed a building for a long time. It took a real push from President Grant, and this is just part of a longer, grander plan to retool the campus and provide facilities that a college that's giving its best needs to provide its students. That's real democracy: creating a space so that we can give our absolute best to our students so they can go out there and rock and roll.



PROFESSOR LAURA STANDLEY BRINGS **THEATER DISCOVERY** TO FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

Since she arrived at MCLA last fall, Laura Standley, the College's new assistant professor of theater, has wasted no time in bringing her vision to campus. Already, she's joined forces with the music department to find students to compose original songs to accompany most theater productions. This year, she will produce a musical, give students more stage time by adding more plays to the season, increase students' faculty-mentored theater opportunities, offer special shows to area high school students, and begin to introduce the world of theater to non-theater majors, as well as to the local community.

For last fall's production of "As You Like It," Standley began a collaborative relationship with the music department. Music professor Michael Dilthey recommended a student who ultimately composed the play's five songs, along with its opening and closing numbers.

Laura Standley plans to add more productions to the academic year by adding shorter shows to its production list. This spring, Standley will offer a "Theatrical Laboratory" class, which will lead to a student-produced show, Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler." Standley's ul-

timate goal for this workshop is to create a travel course that would bring the production to audiences overseas. For now, students will take the show around the Berkshires to provide outreach to local high schools.

Standley says an important part of her role is to introduce theater to the rest of the campus and to the local community. Matinees for high school students will be held on Friday mornings. She aims to bring them to MCLA on field trips each semester.

In the past, theater students have taken a directing class during their senior year. Standley will encourage them to enroll earlier. "If they discover that they really want to be a director, then I can give them a mentored, laboratory theater production of a full-length play."

Her first year at MCLA has been a "wonderful" experience, Standley says. "MCLA students are incredibly dedicated, and I love their energy," she adds. "It's really hard to have a new professor come in, especially for the juniors and seniors. They've been so open and wonderful about really getting to know me and learning."

PMBA STUDENT TO USE DEGREE TO PURSUE OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA

In January, the first cohort of graduate students officially entered the College's Professional Master of Business Administration (PMBA) program.

An accelerated, part-time program, the PMBA offers courses that meet in a combination of online and face-to-face instruction. Its intensive format of delivery, which includes hybrid weekend courses, allows working professionals to fit their studies in amid work and family obligations.

Among the first group of PMBA students is Aziz Adjao-Affissou '04 of Pittsfield, Mass., who graduated from MCLA with a bachelor's degree in computer science. Originally from Ivory Coast, Adjao-Affissou came to the Berkshires 17 years ago.

"The United States was a good opportunity for me, so I seized the moment to get my education," he says. "I love the Berkshires. I've been here for a long time, and the time was now for getting my PMBA. The program fit with my schedule, and it was close by, so I jumped into it."

Adjao-Affissou, who works as a computer technician at the Berkshire Medical Center, is enjoying the courses, including his summer class, Competing in the Business World. "It's really, really interesting," he says. "And, it fits into my schedule because I'm working full time and I have so many other things that I'm doing."

The completion of the PMBA will allow him to return to his homeland to follow a longtime dream: He wants to use his education to benefit the people of Africa. According to Adjao-Affissou, that continent needs businesses.

"There are a lot of opportunities in Africa and I really want to make a difference," Adjao-Affissou explains. "I think the difference



The second cohort of PMBA students began this September.

is what I can learn from here and teach over there. I want to give them the chance to know what I know. I want to share my experience with others in a school or a business setting."

Successful applicants to the PMBA program must meet strict admission criteria: a four-year bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and at least five years of business or professional experience. Students can expect to complete the degree in 24 months.

The PMBA program joins the Master of Education (M.Ed.) program. MCLA also offers a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS). To learn more about MCLA's graduate programs, course listings, and how you can apply, go to www.mcla.edu/graduate or contact Josh Mendel at j.mendel@mcla.edu.

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Scan for PMBA information





Women's Basketball Coach Holly McGovern (left) and pictured with Jen Wehner '12



Coach Jamie Morrison with Jon Greenberg '11



Bilal Shabazz '13

BACK ON ATTACK: SUCCESS ON THE COURT

Alumni throughout the region can look forward to some great basketball this season, as both the men's and women's teams continue to succeed on the courts. Last season, both teams qualified for the Eastern Collegiate Athletics Conference (ECAC) New England championships. As a result, they will play a stronger schedule this season, competing against increasingly formidable teams.

"It's a level that our women need to play at. Every year we try to improve. We want to play the best teams that we can play," says Holly McGovern, women's head basketball coach.

Men's head basketball coach Jamie Morrison agrees. "We're playing a lot tougher teams so the win total may not be what it was during the regular season this year. But, as a team, I think we can be just as strong, if not stronger."

"We've had back-to-back, very successful seasons," McGovern says of the women's team. "It's our third winning season in a row. The program continues to move forward. We want it all."

Last season, the women tied for second in the conference and ended up as the third seed in the conference tournament.

"We beat Framingham in the quarter-final round and then went down to Bridgewater in the semi-finals. That knocked us out of the tournament, but fortunately, we were able to earn an ECAC bid," says McGovern.

The women have a solid core group of players returning this fall. They include the MASCAC Player of the Year, Jen Wehner '12; the team's second-leading scorer, Allison Dobrovolic '12, a First Team All-Conference Player; and Lucy Tremblay '13.

Morrison will welcome back Chris Harris '12, an all-conference player for the last two seasons, Ramon Viches '14, and Jamal Brown '12, all of whom played instrumental roles on the team last season.

Over the last few years, the men's team laid a foundation they hoped would pay off. This season's results exceeded their expectations when they scored the most wins since 1999.

Although the season came to a bittersweet ending after Jon Greenberg '11 suffered an injury that took him out shortly before the playoffs, the men ended up finishing second in the regular season.

"We didn't get to finish what we'd started and had to go on without him," Morrison says. "He was one of the best players in the league. When we lost him, it took a bit of wind out of our sails."

But even without Greenberg, the men beat league title holder Anna Maria College in the ECAC tournament. "That was good because most of the guys that played them are all coming back. I think that proved to them that we can be a good team this coming season," Morrison says.

"We have a talented group," he continues. "We play a style that's entertaining to watch. If alumni come to a game, they'll definitely be entertained. The guys play hard, so it's a style they can respect. It should be an exciting season."

To read more about MCLA's athletic teams, look at scores, or find game schedules, go to www.mcla.edu/athletics.

DEAR ALUMNI,

What a busy year it has been for the Alumni Board! Working with the Alumni Office, we have been involved in a number of projects looking to build bridges between alumni and students.

For the second year, we hosted an alumni career networking event, which was a tremendous success with 30 students turning out for the event. I encourage all alumni who are interested in working with our students to become involved as career mentors. It is a perfect opportunity to share today your experiences and expertise with tomorrow's leaders. One way to start is to join the MCLA/NASC LinkedIn group where students and alumni can look for mentors in their fields.

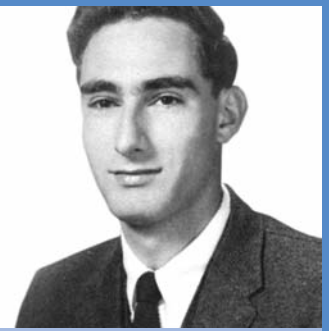
If you haven't done so already, check us out on Facebook. Alumni Relations Coordinator Brandon Pender '07 has made the MCLA Alumni Association page a vibrant site for conversation, campus updates, and news about upcoming events. If you missed out on attending an event, you can go to the photo album to see who was there. Social media has become an important means for communication and community building and Brandon is doing a great job keeping us connected with one another. If you are feeling nostalgic for campus or want to check in with former classmates, check out the site.

This fall the Alumni Board is pleased to be a part of the enthusiasm surrounding the new Center for Science and Innovation. Thank you all for supporting the current students, the staff, and faculty of the College during this exciting time.

For more information about how you can get involved, go to www.mcla.edu/alumni or contact Jocelyn Merrick, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at J.Merrick@mcla.edu or (413) 662-5193.

Sincerely,

Buffy Lord '98

**ALUMNI PROFILE**
PAUL EGAN '67

Over the years, Paul Egan '67 has exemplified what it means to give back to the College. For Egan, visits to his alma mater to support and promote MCLA were more than a duty. MCLA was like Egan's second home.

"Even though he lived in Ipswich, Mass., Paul came to every single event at the College," says Janice Messer, former executive director of alumni relations and development. "It was never too much trouble for him to come. He loved the College, and he never missed anything. He always found the time."

Egan brought his loyalty and affection for MCLA to others too, often recruiting additional alumni to become involved. As a class agent, he returned to campus each year. The annual letter he wrote to his classmates kept them up-to-date and encouraged them to support the College financially.

Even in years when money was tight, Egan made sure to donate to the College. But perhaps his biggest gift was his quiet and steadfast enthusiasm as he encouraged others to give – of their time and of their means – to advance MCLA.

As a result, Egan was instrumental in bringing thousands of dollars to campus, Messer says. "He made every effort to get people involved. He knew how to bring people together to support the College."

According to Charlotte Miczek '70, Egan's affection for the College was rooted in part in the foundation it provided him for his career. "He earned the reputation for being knowledgeable and honest. He always said that it was North Adams State that gave him the basis for being able to run his company."

Egan began his career as a teacher and served as president of the Rockport Teachers Association. He went on to become president of the Scott Group Inc. a consulting firm responsible for quality control of large construction projects.

In October 2002, while serving as president of the MCLA Alumni Board of Directors, he was honored with the Award for Outstanding Service to MCLA.

Egan, who passed away earlier this year, credited his successes to his undergraduate experience, which set the precedent for his efforts as an alumnus. As a student, he was a double major in science and math, served as president of his graduating class, was on student government boards, and participated in intramurals. Egan's compassion, dedication, and love of the College will be missed. He was truly an inspiration for the work of the Alumni Association.

ALUMNI RECONNECT

IN MERRIMACK VALLEY

On March 31, over 60 alumni gathered at Nashoba Valley Ski Area for an alumni event. Alumni from the classes of 1966 to 2007 came out to hear more about the College and to reconnect with old friends. Thanks to Alumni Board members Pamela Kinney Connolly '82, Tony Dolan '84, Laura-Jean Griffin Hickey '99, and Alison McGonagle '05 for all their outreach encouraging alumni to attend. And a special thank you to Steve Green, professor emeritus and former vice president for academic affairs, for attending the event.



Jodi Onos O'Neil '86, Carol Kenney Swartz '84, Brian Barthelmes '85, Julie Onos Spang '84.



Bill Hickey '00 and Alumni Board member LJ Griffin Hickey '99.



Jodi Onos O'Neil '86, H. Laurie Tucker Degnan '85 and husband Paul Degnan '87, Terri Anne McGettrick-Arpin '86.



Ryan Bergeron and wife Christine Robichaud Bergeron '07, Alumni Relations Coordinator Brandon Pender '07.



Patty McParland Flowers '86, Keith Sampson '87



Anne Wyllie Ammendolia '73 and Janice Howard Leahy '73



Bob Thomas '85 and Alumni Board Vice President Tony Dolan '84

MAKING THE JUMP

FROM COLLEGE STUDENT TO WORKING PROFESSIONAL

This spring, the Alumni Association and Career Services hosted the second annual career networking lunch. This event brought MCLA students and alumni together for career mentoring. With graduation right around the corner, many students were starting their job searches. The networking lunch provided an opportunity for alumni to help students to succeed by offering advice and sharing their personal experiences.

The event included a presentation on social media by Dave Ortendahl '05, assistant director, employer relations and career development at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. At the lunch, students met with alumni working in a variety of fields including the arts, business, communications, counseling, higher education, law, public relations, and marketing. Alumni shared advice about dressing for career fairs and interviews, organizing resumes, and finding resources for job searching.

By sharing their personal stories, alumni reassured students who were uncertain of their future career paths. Chiara Morrison '10, box office manager at MASS MoCA, encouraged students to always keep their long-term career goals in sight while accepting a paid position outside of their chosen fields.

Alumni can serve as great resources for students embarking on their career paths. Networking plays an important role in today's



Ashton Darrett '11 confers with Alumni Board member Marjorie Belizaire '04, senior administrative assistant in Curry College's academic dean's office, about resume and interview tips.

job market, and current students appreciate advice from alumni who understand the transition to life after college.

A special thanks to all our alumni who participated in the event: Christina Barrett '03, Director of Marketing & Public Relations, Berkshire Community College; Majorie Belizaire '07, Senior Administrative Assistant, Curry College; Cheryl Boillat '79, M.Ed.'79, Teacher, North Adams Public Schools; Bill Caprari '75, Retired Athletic Administrator, MCLA; Tony Dolan '84, President of Resound, Inc.; Bill Hickey '00, Attorney, Law Office of William J. Hickey; Laura-Jean Hickey '99, Assistant Administrator, IUOE Local 4 Benefit

Funds; Cynthia Kuliga '63, Retired Teacher and Speech Pathologist, Quaboag Regional School District; Chiara Morrison '10, Box Office Manager, Mass MoCA; David Ortendahl '05, Assistant Director, Employer Relations—Career Development Center, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Michael Reopell '84, Director of Advancement Information Systems, Williams College; Christine Robare '94, Development Officer, Alumni Fund, Williams College; and Laini Spobert '94, Health Educator, Williams College.

Interested in serving as a resource for students or participating in future networking events? Contact Director of Alumni Relations Jocelyn Merrick at J.Merrick@mcla.edu.



Dave Ortendahl '05, assistant director, employer relations - career development at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, provided this year's keynote presentation about using social networking sites to forward your career search. Here he talks to a table of business majors about the field of business.

Alumni Association Vice President Tony Dolan '84 (right) President of Resound, Inc. talks to students including Michael Obasohan '11 about what to include on their resumes.



CLASS NOTES

Interested in becoming a class agent? Please contact Jocelyn Merrick at J.Merrick@mcla.edu about getting involved in our volunteer program.

1936

Ida Maino Trabold
212 Franklin St
North Adams, MA 01247-2713

1937

Alma Benedetti
54 Bradford St
North Adams, MA 01247-4239

Alma Benedetti, long-time tree commissioner, was honored by the city of North Adams this May with the planting of a lilac tree at the entrance to Windsor Lake. For 35 years, Alma served on the North Adams Tree Commission and the Garden Club. She planted over 200 trees and helped install the garden on Union Street at the entrance to the city. Mayor Richard Alcombright read a proclamation at the event thanking Alma for her service, "You set a true example of volunteerism and what is really meaningful in our community. It's really what makes a community like ours succeed."



President Mary Grant and Cecelia Balakier '39 joined alumni for a tailgating event prior to the Red Sox game against the Mets on St. Patrick's Day in City of Palms Park, Fort Myers, Fla.

COMMENCEMENT '11

More than 300 graduates received bachelor's and master's degrees and Certificates of Advanced Graduate Study at the commencement service held on May 21, 2011. City Year Social Justice Entrepreneur in Residence and 2010 Purpose Prize recipient Hubert E. "Hubie" Jones delivered the keynote address to the members of the class of 2011. Jones was awarded an honorary degree along with John DeRosa, local attorney and trustee of the Ruth Proud Charitable Trust, which funds the Public Policy Lecture Series, Pittsfield Mayor James M. Ruberto, and Sister Eunice Tassone '77, director of development at the Catholic Outreach to Youth Center in North Adams. Sister Tassone started the Haiti Plunge program nearly 30 years ago. The program brings teams of youth and adults from Northern Berkshire and the Northeast to Haiti to work with a cooperative of nine villages about 50 miles north of the capital of Port-Au-Prince. In recognition of their awards, the honorary degree recipients also had books placed in MCLA's Freely Library in their names.



Angela Crowley '42 and MCLA trustee Jane Allen '61 attend the inaugural Berkshire County Educators' Award presentation held on campus in Smith House. The two retired teachers congratulated Cindy Roper-Patenaude '04 on receiving the award.



Kathy Carridi Mogavero '52 celebrated the commencement of her granddaughter Jackie Candelet '11 and grandson Michael Candelet '11. Pictured here are Kathy, President Mary K. Grant and Michael.

1941

Margaret Benedetti Davenport
1 Lyman St Apt 117
Westborough, MA 01581-1438

Wells Public Library in Wells, Maine after 17 years of service. Pat has served as chair of the board of trustees since 2005 and has provided ongoing yearly assistance in writing and defending the library's operating and salary budgets. Best of luck to you in retirement, Pat!

1950

Joseph Joseph
PO Box 508
North Bennington, VT 05257-0508

the graduation of her granddaughter Jackie Candelet '11 and grandson Michael Candelet '11. Their brother is enrolling this fall.

1953

Graham Andrews
6835 Post Oak Dr
West Bloomfield, MI 48322-3835
GAndPat@aol.com

1956

Joan Kunstler Sampson
10 Grays Beach Rd
Kingston, MA 02364-1722

1957

Mary Richards
740 Feura Bush Rd
Delmar, NY 12054-9789
real14mr@verizon.net

1951

William Grady
7924 Woodsbluff Run
Fogelsville, PA 18051-1537

1952

Katherine Cariddi Mogavero
150 Sherwood Dr
Pittsfield, MA 01201-5914
kikiphil@mymailstation.com

1954

Harriet Peck Hunt
25 Rubin Dr
Pittsfield, MA 01201-9111
wjhmhunt@cs.com

1958

Nancy Alsing Stewart
614 E Rose Ave
Santa Maria, CA 93454-3158
NancyCars@aol.com

Pat Prendergast recently retired from her position with the

Kathy Mogavero joined us in May for MCLA's commencement ceremony to celebrate



Alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more are invited to attend the commencement ceremony. This year's guests are pictured left to right: Judy Holt Martinoli '61, Ann Koopman Dunn '61, Bernie Dunn '61, Danny Foster '61, Waldo Goodermote '61, Kathy Cariddi Mogavero '52, and Alma Benedetti '37.

1960

Paula Bousquet Dobeck
7 Saddle Ct
Schwenksville, PA 19473-1884
richardnavyd@yahoo.com

Suzanna Wilbur
93 Pines Edge Dr
Northampton, MA 01060-1563
suzwilbur1@hotmail.com

1961

Daniel Foster
78 Gates Rd
Eagle Bridge, NY 12057-2020

Diane Gallese Parsons
56 Highland Ave
North Adams, MA 01247-4049
dmparsons33@msn.com

Danny Foster continues to support the College's basketball team by attending home games. He was one of many alumni to cheer the team on to their first ever Eastern College Athletic Conference New England regional championship bid.



Mary Lou Rapoza Humphries '62 and her husband Herbert joined President Mary Grant in supporting the baseball team during their spring training trip to Davenport, Fla. The Humphries enjoy traveling across the country in their RV and were delighted to visit the team during their stay in Florida.

1962

Carolyn Doran Cheesbro
23 Marion Ave
North Adams, MA 01247-3711

Jean Kent Swift
42 Olds St
North Adams, MA 01247-3233
jeanmaryswift@verizon.net

1963

David Hathaway
27 Beverly St
Pittsfield, MA 01201-7303
xkeracer61@aol.com

Martha Bornak Hathaway
27 Beverly St
Pittsfield, MA 01201-7303
mcbh1@aol.com

Cynthia Barrow Kuliga
156 North St
Ware, MA 01082-1029
speakezcabk@verizon.net

1964

Dorothy Giusti Ransford
620 Daniels Rd
North Adams, MA 01247-2904
dotransford@roadrunner.com

Ruth Lambert Zicko
671 Tremont St
Duxbury, MA 02332-4410
rjzicko@yahoo.com

1965

Ronald Alpert
509 Calle Libertad
Granada, Nicaragua
ronalpert@hotmail.com

Dennis Zicko
671 Tremont St
Duxbury, MA 02332-4410
dpzicko43@verizon.net

1966

Kenna Andrews Hoellerich
827 Main Rd
Savoy, MA 01256-9203
rwhoell@verizon.net

Ronald Pollone
187 Main St
North Andover, MA 01845-2508
rpollone@comcast.net



Gail Kennedy '67 and Ken Lowe '61 pose in the City of Palms Park, Fort Myers, Fla. where they both work during the Red Sox Spring Training season. They did not realize they shared roots at MCLA until the alumni spring break trip brought them together!

1967

Jeanne Slaney Peterson
21 1/2 Inman St.
Cambridge, MA 02139-2406
jpeterso@bu.edu

CAMPUS UPDATE

MCLA Paves the Way to Success at Harvard



Brendan Gaesser '07, a doctoral student in cognitive neuroscience at Harvard, told students at the annual MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference that attending a small state school with strong student-faculty relationships and ample research opportunities helped prepare him for demanding graduate research work.

Gaesser was the keynote speaker at the April conference, a daylong event showcasing student academic research. Gaesser said MCLA allowed him to design his own course of study in psychology. He was also able to cultivate close relationships with faculty members and to count on his professors to write strong letters of reference when he was applying to highly competitive graduate schools.

"I got a great education at MCLA; and when I got to graduate school, I was just as competitive as people from other places," Gaesser says.

Gaesser received a full scholarship to Harvard, where he is studying the difference between "true and false memories." His work includes identifying how processes of memory and imagination operate in healthy adults and in degenerative brain patients.

"Without the research opportunities at MCLA, I wouldn't have been able to get my foot in the door at Harvard," Gaesser says.

1968

Peter Andrew
73 Falmouth Rd
West Springfield, MA 01089-2168
WSAndrew@comcast.net

1970

Charlotte Miczek
1874 Commonwealth Ave Apt 15
Brighton, MA 02135-6018

Diane Johnson Skorupski
7810 N Rasmussen Ave
Tucson, AZ 85741-1448
dskorupski@comcast.net

1972

Timothy Foley
Fairview Ave
Newbury, MA 01951-1203
track68@hotmail.com

Linda Publicover O'Neill
39 Fox Run Rd
Bellingham, MA 02019-2906
jandloneill@comcast.net

Jeanne Belfield Roy
68 Greylock Estates Rd.
Lanesboro, MA 01237-1554
jeannemroy@aol.com

1973

John O'Neill
39 Fox Run Rd
Bellingham, MA 02019-2906
jandloneill@comcast.net

Bob Chaput is president of Data Mountain LLC, a data security, online data backup and recovery, disaster recovery, and data protection services firm. You can reach him at bob.chaput@datamountain.com.

We would like to congratulate **Patricia Stevens** on her retirement from her position as superintendent of Granby schools.

1974

Stephen Bailow
311 Joy Ln
West Chester, PA 19380-5109
sjb99@verizon.net

Susan Reiker Carney
46 Charles St
Natick, MA 01760-2828

James Gibson
7 Tulsa Ave
Metuchen, NJ 08840-2729
rsvpus@optonline.net

Priscilla Prest Foley recently wrote to us about the Louise Rossetti 5K for Women held in Beverly, MA on June 15, which is run in memory of classmate Suzanne Rosetti '76. Suzanne's mother Louise began running as a way to cope with the loss of her daughter, and she continues to shine in races at the age of 88. The race honors both Suzanne's memory and Louise who inspires us all.

1975

Kathleen Sullivan
528 Kaanini St
Hilo, HI 96720-2751

Steve Amadon is living in Culpeper, Va., with his wife, Mike (Mickey). His brother, **Dan Amadon**, graduated from the College in 1982 and his sister-in-law **Jayne Outwater** graduated in 1979.

Karen Johnson Quiet works as inside sales manager for PowerSum Technologies in New Hampshire. She has been in the cabling solutions industry for over 20 years.

1976

Carol Cushenette Corrigan
31 Highland Ave
Adams, MA 01220-1811
cactjc@yahoo.com

Daniel Bosley was recently appointed president of the North Adams Steeple Cats. Dan is also the owner of Daniel Bosley Consulting Services. Congratulations, Dan!

We would like to congratulate **Marta Nichols** on her appointment as director of Springfield's CitiStat department, which gathers and analyzes municipal data related to city and government services.

Al Sokaitis recently took over Post University's men's basketball team. Al's extensive basketball history includes coaching the Anchorage-based minor league basketball team Alaska Dream, spending a month in China coaching a team in the country's national games, and even conducting a basketball clinic in Lebanon. Al also served on the Special Olympics board of directors. Keep up the good work, Al!

1977

Mary Beth Allen
352 Manning Blvd
Albany, NY 12206-1814
mba2x@aol.com

Bruce Hoynoski is chief research officer, media at the Nielsen Company. Bruce received an M.A. from Stanford University in applied statistics.

Mary O'Connell has been named mortgage originator at Williamstown Savings Bank in Bennington, Vermont. Mary



Sister Eunice Tassone '77 received an honorary Doctorate of Humanities at the 2011 Commencement exercises. Pictured here are Linda Tassone, Sister Eunice Tassone '77, and Sister Natalie Cain at MCLA trustee Dick Lamb's house the night before the degree was presented.

will be responsible for expanding the bank's mortgage lending efforts and assisting customers with online mortgage applications. Congratulations, Mary!

We read that St. Mary's Credit Union recently announced **Barbara A. Schrader's** promotion to assistant vice president-finance manager in Marlborough. Best of luck to you, Barbara!

1978

Ann Keough Fragomeni
5 Grant Rd
Enfield, CT 06082-5707
annknj@aol.com

Douglas Frazier
35 Weston St
Carver, MA 02330-1253
dugan35@comcast.net

Michael Abbott is manager of Enabling Technologies at Bull HN Information Systems Inc.

Anna Carabba Chinappi is on the board of directors of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Boston chapter.

We learned that **Peter Hopkins** is an authority on the history of the Crane Paper



Alumni gathered at Lake Winnepesaukee. From left to right: John MacDonald '79, Susan Gilligan MacDonald '79, Maureen McDermott Olsen '78, William Olsen '79, Blair Roberge '78, Jean Bouchard Roberge '78, Peter Young, and Kasia Szyluk Young '78.

Company. He recently spoke about Crane's history at the Pownal, Vt., historical society. When not serving as a media-relations consultant and historian for this world-renowned company, Peter makes pulp, paper, and says, "I marvel at what the creative spirit can accomplish with such humble materials." Peter is also the editor of the Crane Insider.

The Boy Scouts of America organization has asked **John W.**

Kennedy to serve as its national Venturing advisor, which is the highest volunteer position available. John has been involved in the Boy Scouts for more than 45 years. Congratulations, John!

Debra Martucci is the chief information officer (CIO) and vice president of information technology (IT) at Synopsys. Debra has been with Synopsys for over 17 years and has contributed to the success of many mergers and acquisitions. Prior

to her time at Synopsys, Debra worked in software simulation including positions within NASA in the space shuttle training division. In addition to her Bachelor of Science degree in physics from MCLA, Debra completed a master's in physics at the University of Houston in Texas.

Mark C. Sullivan is president of MarketOne International LLP in Maynard, Mass. MarketOne is a recognized leader in outsourced demand generation and lead management. After graduating from MCLA, Mark studied management development at the University of South Carolina.

1979

Michael Rooney
11 Josiah Dr
Upton, MA 01568-1452

Michael Miller is founder and president of Image Media Network, a company representing independent out-of-home

media companies throughout the United States. They have offices in New York, New Jersey, and Los Angeles, representing clients for out-of-home media needs and specializing in media placement, corporate sponsorships, print production and sales consulting. Mike's daughter, Emily, is an illustrator at Image Media.

1980

Kathy Carlino Deignan is vice president of national accounts sales at Sabert Corporation. Sabert Corporation is a global leader and innovator in the food packaging industry in Maryland.

Ken Held is president of the Pownal, Vt., historical society.

Suzanne Rieter is the owner of Castanea Desktop, a graphic design company in Chester, N.H.

Mary Connolly Robinson is an associate scientist at Esoterix Inc. in the greater Denver, Colo.,

CAMPUS UPDATE

Students Provide Positive Impact to Hoosic River Environment



Last semester, environmental studies students in Professor Elena Traister's "Green Living" seminar improved the environment of the Hoosic River by planting native trees along areas of its banks in need of more vegetation.

As they grow, the trees – located near the local Walmart and McCann Technical School in North Adams – will stabilize the soil, filter pollutants, and provide shade and habitat for stream organisms. Traister says it is especially important that the waterway has enough shade because several species of trout, which live in the region, require cool, oxygenated water.

"This project has been extremely rewarding," says Phil Santangelo '14 from Lindenhurst, N.Y. "There is still much more that can – and will – be done to improve the quality of this river."

"It has been great to do hands-on work so early in my education," says Morgan Nankivell '13 of Shirley, Mass. "I'm so excited that we, as students, have the opportunity to independently make a difference in the Berkshire community. The class and the project have provided a great way to further discover what I want to do with my education, and have provided me with many networking opportunities."

area. Mary earned a Ph.D. in molecular biology at Colorado State University in 2003.

1981

Charlene Kilgour Houghton
35 Revere Cir
Greenfield, MA 01301-9748

Lisa Carbone earned an M.D. at Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, Mass. Lisa practices psychiatry in the Boston/Newton area. Lisa is married to Robert Lakomski. They live in Newtonville.

Jim Kent has been appointed chief executive officer at Worksoft in the greater Boston area. Jim holds an M.B.A. from Southern New Hampshire University. Congratulations, Jim!

1982

Pamela Kenny Connolly
PO Box 1557
3 Weetamoo Way
Westford, MA 01886-4996
pkcbuca@comcast.net

Colette Anderson Lepkowski
14 Willey St
Rochester, NH 03867-1025
colette.lepkowski@gmail.com

Ruth Glick Asher has a new position as human resources consultant at Plymouth Rock Assurance in the greater Boston area. Ruth is also a human resources consultant at Contract Assignments. Best of luck to you, Ruth!

Dennis T. Ducharme has been elected president of Wiggins & Nourie, PA. As president, Dennis will work closely with the firm's shareholders to execute the firm's long-range strategic plan. "I am excited to take over

from [former president] Jonathon Ross at a time when the firm is so focused on expanding our quality of service to the individuals and small to medium business clients who have always been the core of our client base. It is an honor to be asked to lead such a talented and committed group." Congratulations, Dennis!

Dr. Javier E. Hasbun is a professor of physics at the University of Georgia. He holds a master's degree (1984) and a Ph.D. (1987) from the University of New York at Albany. His specialty is theoretical solid state physics, and he conducts research in semiconducting alloy systems.

Anna Kelly has been named director of financial aid for New England Institute of Technology. Best of luck to you, Anna!

Stethoscope.com, a full line distributor of diagnostic medical devices, was founded in 1995 by **Paul S. Paresky** and is registered in the town of Wayland, Mass. Paul is president of the company.

1983

Ellen Kennedy
485 Oblong Rd
Williamstown, MA 01267-3099
ellen.kennedy@roadrunner.com

Josh (Joseph) Arnold is currently a broadcaster at Moore Stuff Online Web Radio. This is a new position for Josh, who is also an advocate for children with special needs at Associated Advocacy Center-Visions for the Future Inc. Josh continues to serve as president of Arnold Career Services.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation recently announced that **Ellen Kennedy** has joined its board of directors. Ellen, dean of administration and CEO at Berkshire Community College, will serve with 18 other community residents. Congratulations, Ellen!

John P. Lawton has been appointed to the position of Executive Vice President of Sales, Marketing, and Operations at EBI Consulting. John P. Lawton joined after a 21 year career in various senior management positions at Clean Harbors Environmental Services. He has spent his entire career managing sales and marketing functions and most recently led the vertical sales team at Clean Harbors as Senior Vice President. Congratulations John!

Pam Rosasco has joined the staff of real estate professionals at Steepleview Realty. She resides in Williamstown and serves as a manager and liaison to the town for Chopsticks Restaurant. She is also on a scholarship committee to raise funds for the Northern Berkshire YMCA's "Up With Youth" program. Keep up the good work, Pam!

1984

Janice Colter
318 High St
Ipswich, MA 01938-1251
janislei54@yahoo.com

John Killam
43 Wilson Pond Rd
Rowley, MA 01969-2336
jkillam@ghs.com

Kathleen Boudo Killam
43 Wilson Pond Rd
Rowley, MA 01969-2336
KathyKillam@aol.com

Anita Palmeri Overgaard
10 Windmill Rd
Ellington, CT 06029-2120
Anitaover@aol.com

Jeffrey Williams
43 Jackson St
North Adams, MA 01247-2740
willfam@gjs.net

Laura Ebener Williams
43 Jackson St
North Adams, MA 01247-2740
williams9079@roadrunner.com

Tom Buonomo is now director of information services and technologies with the Vermont Department of Taxes. Congratulations, Tom!

John Killam is the regional manager of Green Hills Software in the Boston area. John is married to **Kathleen Boudo Killam**.

Rob Rossi has a new position. He is the strategic account manager at Applied Biosystems in New Jersey.

Christopher Scannell is the vice president of business development at Singulex, in the greater Boston area.

1985

Edward Ready
6 Browning Dr
Dover, NH 03820-4103
td_ready@yahoo.com

Artemis Malos Cosentino is a lifeguard/swim instructor/preparedness instructor/paraprofessional at Elim Christian Services in the greater Chicago

area. She is also CEO of Chicagoland Swimming.

Christine Keville is president and CEO of Keville Enterprises Inc., a national construction management firm she founded 20 years ago. Over the past decade, KEI has expanded operations and currently has ten offices in eight states throughout the country, including Texas and Pennsylvania. Christine is married to Martin McCormack.

Bob Sapienza is director of sales North America at Seagull in the Indianapolis, In., area. In Bob's words, "I am happy to say I really like being back in 'sales' and selling versus managing reports."

Karol Zielonko is a software engineer at GTE Corporation. He and his wife, Mary, and their son, Matty, live in Needham,

Mass. Karol is pursuing a master's degree at Brandeis's Rabb School.

1986

Monica Murphy Coakley
7 Burns Ln
Charlton, MA 01507-1463
emmyjack3@charter.net

Debra Iannaccone Julin
135 Raleigh Tavern Ln
North Andover, MA 01845-5627

Jennifer Sydow Whalley
57 Page Rd
Bow, NH 03304-4504
jjwhalley@comcast.net

Kristen Demeo has written another book! Her self-published book on the history of Mt. Greylock explores the natural and anthropological history of the beloved Berkshire site. *The Legend of Mt. Greylock: A History of a Mountain* features an historical

section as well as a fictionalized story of a young Chief Grey Locke, the leader of the Abenaki people. The book is available for purchase locally in the Berkshires and on Amazon.com. Kristen has also donated a copy to MCLA's Freel Library.

1987

Jean Harnden Burt
3302 Mead Hill Rd
Newmarket, NH 03857-2318

Dana Biscotti Myskowski keeps herself quite busy. In addition to being a board member at the New Hampshire Film Commission, Dana is director of the Screenplay Competition at the New Hampshire Film Festival. She is also a producer and writer for Smoky Quartz Productions, adjunct professor at the University of New Hampshire, and a consultant (former

director) for ScriptBiz Screenwriting Seminar at the Rhode Island International Film Festival. Best to you, Dana.

1988

Paula Randazza
420 S Main St
Nashua, NH 03060-5042
prandazza@rivier.edu

Stephen F. Valley, a sergeant major in the U.S. Army Reserve, was stationed in Japan during the earthquake and tsunami. He handled media calls, which included answering phones, setting up opportunities for media to embed and preparing situation reports.

1989

Robert P. Ziomek has been named director of major and planned gifts at Western New

CAMPUS UPDATE

Top Scholars Gather for Summer Institute on Local African-American History

Dr. Francis Jones-Sneed is pictured at the far right with attendees of the "The Role of Place in African-American Biography." Twenty-five college and university professors attended the four-week program.



National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) award winner and MCLA history professor Frances Jones-Sneed, Ph.D., led a four-week summer institute entitled "The Role of Place in African-American Biography."

Twenty-five scholars from across the country delved into local African-American history with Jones-Sneed, who received her third major NEH research grant last year. Jones-Sneed used the grant money to host the summer institute, which brought together leading historians, literary scholars, political scientists, and sociologists, including a Pulitzer Prize winner, a Guggenheim fellow, and the director of the National Center for History in Schools.

Institute participants studied Samuel Harris, a prominent Civil

War soldier; W.E.B. DuBois, a noted civil rights activist; Elizabeth "Mum Bett" Freeman, who legally obtained her freedom from slavery, and Agrippa Hull, a patriot of the American Revolutionary War, among other important Berkshire African-American figures. After attending the institute, participants returned to their own communities with the goal of identifying historic local figures to incorporate into their course curricula.

Jones-Sneed has taught and researched local history for over 25 years. She is the co-director of the Upper Housatonic Valley African American Heritage Trail, and a board member of MassHumanities and the Samuel Harrison Society. She has directed two other NEH grants in 2006 and 2008.



Mark Draper, Jackie Westall Draper, Nicole Westall '92, and Dan Trombley '90 joined the gathering at MCLA trustee Dick Lamb's house to celebrate the College's 2011 honorary degree recipients.

England College. Previously he served as executive director of the Westfield State Foundation and assistant vice president of advancement and college relations at Westfield State. He also volunteers with several community organizations, including the Cancer House of Hope and the South Hadley Recreation Department.

1990

Maureen O'Donnell Johnson
71 Buck Knoll Rd
Raynham, MA 02767-5325
FOURINRAYNHAM@aol.com

Sahag Johnson
71 Buck Knoll Rd
Raynham, MA 02767-5325
srjohnson@statestreet.com

Paul Cousaine is director of Prudential Financial in Hartford, Conn.

Janus Capital Group Inc. hired **Edward DeMarino** as vice president and director of Financial Institutions.

1991

Peter M. Marchetti will be the first openly gay candidate to run for mayor of Pittsfield. Best of luck to you, Peter!

1992

Dawn Fraser Wanner
7841 Ridge Ave Apt A-212
Philadelphia, PA 19128
ttsDawn@aol.com

1994

Rosemary O'Sullivan
rosemaryosullivan@hotmail.com

Christine Robare
315 Main Rd
Stamford, VT 05352-9726
christine.a.robare@williams.edu

1995

Bill Kracunas is now New England consulting leader at McGladrey Consultants in the greater Boston area. RSM McGladrey is the fifth largest accounting, tax, and business

consulting organization nationwide.

Susannah Sapir Locketti is now a food writer at GateHouse Media in the greater Boston area. She is also the Momlogic.com food expert at Warner Brothers. Congratulations, Susannah!

Congratulations to **Beverly Milenski** on receiving the REMAX Hall of Fame Award! This award is given to successful agents who have earned more than \$1 million in commission during their time with the company. Beverly has been working in real estate for more than 13 years and has earned several real estate distinctions. She also serves on the boards of Goodwill of the Berkshires, Berkshire Professional Women, Pittsfield Community Television, and National Alliance on Mental Illness. Keep up the good work, Beverly!

1996

Mara Woolley
8 Melrose St
Adams, MA 01220-1625
woolleym@acrsd.net

Jason Adams has been appointed a business development staff member at Pioneer Cold of Chicopee, Mass. Congratulations, Jason!

Marcie DosReis has been named business development coordinator at Essex Builders Corp. Marcie brings over 10 years experience in construction marketing and business development to the position. Congratulations, Marcie!

Jeff Londraville has published a book, *The Filter*, available from Raider Publishing. This book explores the idea that a healthy mind can filter out negativity and learn from life experiences to retain positivity.

Glen Roberts has been named server systems engineer at Nighthawk Radiology, an information and technology services company. Glen lives in the Phoenix, Ariz., area with his family.

1997

Colleen Bulman Dunn
7 Edith Ave
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532-3032

1998

Michael Kilfeather
26 Kent Rd
Springfield, MA 01129-1226

Eva Coutermarsh Kunze has recently been appointed vice president, investment management recruiting at Merrill

Lynch in the Houston, Texas, area. Congratulations, Eva!

Sue Frederick Winkfield writes, “We just had our second baby on March 14th! Her name is Lillian Suzanne Winkfield, 8lbs., 10 oz. She is doing great! We also have a son, Matthew, who is 22 months and is excited to have a little sister around!” Congratulations, Sue!



Sue Frederick Winkfield '98, along with husband Lorne and son Matthew, welcomed Lillian Suzanne into her family on March 14th.

1999

Laura-Jean Griffin Hickey
66 Spruce St
Acton, MA 01720-2434
ljgriff7@yahoo.com

Beth Howard Sombronsky
115 Gotham Hill Dr
Marshfield, MA 02050-5514
bethhoward@mpsd.org

Smith & Jones has promoted **Derek Beahn** to partner and business strategist. Congratulations, Derek!

We are happy to announce the engagement of **Karen Greb** to James Murphy. Karen is an editorial production manager at M/C Communications LLC in Boston. James is an outside plant technician for Verizon. A wedding is planned for September 2011. Best of luck to Karen and James!

Jim Quinlan is financial consultant and vice president at Rockland Trust Financial Services in the greater Boston area.

2000

Kelly Taylor Kanelos
5 Barber Ter
South Burlington, VT 05403-6435
Teachthird@hotmail.com

Jennifer MacMillin
184 W Main St Apt A3
Ayer, MA 01432-1234
jenniema9@hotmail.com

Abbey Scott
1 Arnold St
Arlington, MA 02476-5601
ascott717@yahoo.com

Kyle Alder is a realtor with Coldwell Banker Classic Realty in the greater Boston area.

Carl Ameen has published a book on bullying entitled *Smelly Button*. He and the cover artist Danielle Ameen held a book signing on March 11, 2011. All of the proceeds from sales of the book benefited a new playground for Allendale Elementary School. Good job, Carl!

Jamie Arsenault is married to **Oscar Lanza-Galindo '01**. Their baby girl, Chel Paz Lanza-Arsenault, is nearly two years old. Congratulations!

Hillcrest Educational Centers has appointed **Gina M. Coleman** to serve a three-year term on its volunteer board of directors. Congratulations, Gina!

The North Adams Public Library featured work by **Jennifer Huberdeau**. “Fairy Tales and Far Off Places” is a collection of

CAMPUS UPDATE

MCLA Partners with Biotech Firm to Improve Computing Systems and Advance Research



Biomarker pioneer Nuclea Biotechnologies Inc. has partnered with MCLA and two other regional colleges to significantly expand computing power at the three schools and allow for complex analysis of mathematical, biological, and chemical information.

The new high-performance computing cluster is expected to improve scientific research in Western and Central Massachusetts, linking Nuclea with MCLA, Berkshire Community College (BCC), and Clark University in Worcester.

The three schools will use the improved computational capacity for educational research, while Nuclea will use it for commercial research. The new computing cluster agreement will benefit bioinformatics and educational research and help solidify the emergence of BCC, Clark, and MCLA as leaders in the growing biotechnology field. Pittsfield-based Nuclea Biotechnologies is a health care company dedicated to the development of clinical diagnostic assays identifying gene and protein expression profiles that are characteristics of an individual's tumor or disease. Its work involves the discovery of clinical test platforms that can help predict a cancer patient's responsiveness to oncology therapeutics and the likelihood of disease recurrence.

“This venture opens the door to new opportunities and possibilities in our region,” says President Mary K. Grant. “In addition to continuing our strong collaboration with BCC, the cluster will enable us to partner with the truly innovative work Nuclea is doing in the life sciences. MCLA's link to BCC and Clark University also creates new collaboration and research possibilities for our faculty and opportunities for our students that will set them apart as they embark upon their careers or prepare for graduate school.”

oil, mixed media, and water-color paintings.

Courtney Turner and Christopher Hill have announced their engagement. Courtney is currently employed with Professional Staffing Group in Boston. A June 11, 2011, wedding is planned. Best of luck, Courtney and Christopher!

2001

Melissa Shartrand Dalessio
4405 Gallatree Ln
Raleigh, NC 27616-0733
Lumablue2@hotmail.com

Amanda Gerhart DiCesare
8515 Panglemont Dr
Charlotte, NC 28269-2300
manda3279@hotmail.com

Kristin Lamontagne
65 Strathmore Rd Apt 7
Boston, MA 02135-7740
Kristinl8779@aol.com

Sarah Shinkwin
33 Mohegan Ave
Springfield, MA 01151-1822
sshinkwin@comcast.net

We recently learned that **Deborah Francome** has been appointed program director for Riverbrook Residence, New England's oldest residential community for women with developmental disabilities. Deborah will be responsible for supervising daily operations including programs, staffing, and compliance. Congratulations, Deborah!

Oscar Lanza-Galindo works at Amherst College. He is married to **Jamie Arsenault '00**. Their baby girl, Chel Paz Lanza-Arsenault, is nearly two years old. Congratulations!

2002

Martha Andrews
PO Box 734
North Dighton, MA 02764-0734

Autumn May
102 Grand Ave
Falmouth, MA 02540-3723

Rachel Bancroft Montoya
18 Woodside Ter
Lynn, MA 01905-1239
rasuba702@yahoo.com

Diane Thompson
73 Bunkerhill Parkway
West Boylston, MA 01583-2022
diane_m_thompson@hotmail.com

Brian Keller has been named a gold winner in the national USDA True Sport Awards for promoting honesty, respect, teamwork, and healthy choices among students at Mount Anthony Union Middle School. Congratulations, Brian!

Elizabeth (Liz) Frederick LaMonica is now working in direct marketing at Philips Lifeline in the Boston area. Lifeline is the #1 medical alert service trusted by hospitals, doctors, and professional caregivers.

Did you know that the photography of **Rachel Montoya** and her husband Jesus was highlighted in the Gilbertville Public Library's artist of the month series last November? Congratulations, Rachel and Jesus!

2003

Christina Barrett
33 Hazelwood Ter
Pittsfield, MA 01201-7217

Lauren Mauriello Burn
807 E Broadway Apt 3
South Boston, MA 02127-2389
lburn@maaps.org



Kristin Janschewitz '04 and Professor Tim Jay (right) pose with Stephen Fry after filming an interview for the BBC series on language.

William David Halbert
247 Everett St # 3
East Boston, MA 02128-2270
greenscout@aol.com

Peter-Greg Sison
263 Forest St
North Andover, MA 01845-3207
pgasison@hotmail.com

Dave Halbert has been appointed director of government and community affairs at Trans Metro Media Inc. TMM is a Boston-based alternative mass transit-oriented marketing company focused on the branding, re-branding, and licensing of public transportation. Congratulations, Dave!

We are happy to announce the engagement of **Jennifer LaPine** and Mark LaBlanc. Jennifer currently works as the human resources manager for Golub Corporation in Middletown, N.Y. Mark works as a team setup supervisor for Golub Corporation in Schenectady, N.Y. A March 29th wedding is planned. Congratulations to you both!



Cindy Roper-Patenaude '04 and Scott Patenaude '04 at the reception for the inaugural Berkshire County Educators' Award. Cindy was the first recipient of this annual award. In addition to the commitment she has shown to her class, she has helped to train future teachers by inviting student teachers from MCLA to join her classroom at McCann Technical High School.

Kathryn Shugrue and Jamie Hatcher were married on September 18, 2010. Kathryn works as a registered nurse at Riverbend in Concord, N.H. Jamie works as an engineer at Texas Instruments in Manchester, N.H. The couple honeymooned in Europe and now live in Hooksett, N.H. Congratulations to you both!

2004

Robert Black
1911 Avalon Dr
Hull, MA 02045-3433
axp135@yahoo.com

Lynn Brennan
5024 State Rd 36
Canisteo, NY 14823
lynnbrennanphotography@yahoo.com

Amanda Hayden
amanda_bunny@yahoo.com

Holly Grant Herring
21 Village Rock Ln Apt 4
Natick, MA 01760-5714
hllygrant@yahoo.com

Jacob McKim
7 Wood Hawk Way
Litchfield, NH 03052-2446

Kristin Janschewitz and Kevin Seeley '11 co-authored two posters with psychology professor Timothy Jay. The posters were presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C.

Cynthia Roper-Patenaude received the inaugural Berkshire County Educator Recognition Award. The award honors a local educator who has provided exemplary service to the profession and community. Congratulations, Cynthia!

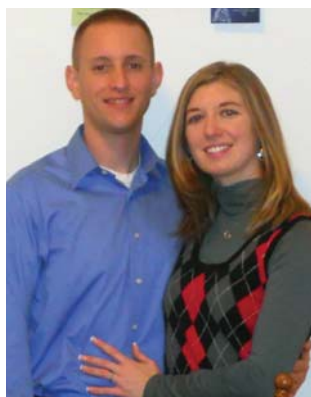
Andrea Salisbury is the new editor of the *Norwood Transcript*. Congratulations, Andrea!

2005

Erin Fielding Baffuto
64 Sophia Dr
Worcester, MA 01607-1815
meep02@gmail.com

Nicole Losavio
68 Sayles St
Southbridge, MA 01550-1710
Nicole.Losavio@gmail.com

Jason Robert Ducharme announces his engagement to Karen Anne Rapp. Jason is currently an accountant with the Children's Study Home in Springfield, MA and Karen is an eighth-grade science teacher at Kelly School in Holyoke. A wed-



Maura Mills '05 is engaged to be married to Matthew Armstrong. They are in the initial stages of planning a 2012 wedding.

ding is planned for July 31. Best of luck, Jason and Karen!

Maura Mills is engaged to be married to Matthew Armstrong. The couple met in Kansas in 2010 and are currently living on Long Island, in New York. They are in the initial stages of planning a 2012 wedding.

We learned that **Catherine Saad** is engaged to Glenn Kelloway. Catherine works in software sales for Wolter Kluwer Financial Services in Waltham.

Glenn works as a computer programmer at Comcast in Chelmsford, Mass. A wedding is planned for October. Best of luck to you, Catherine!

2006

Danielle Barboza
435 1/2 Murray St
San Francisco, CA 94110-5929
dbarboza@mcla.edu

Jennifer Bell
6621 W 86th Pl Apt 204
Los Angeles, CA 90045-3764

Amanda Boudreault
12148 Jollyville Rd Apt 1006
Austin, TX 78759-2240

Erin Good
erinmgood@gmail.com

Kristen Hurley
1009 Hawk Dr
New Paltz, NY 12561-2455
kh0187@mcla.edu

Anne Kirkpatrick
364 Kemp Ave Apt 1
North Adams, MA 01247-4332
ak0266@mcla.edu

CAMPUS UPDATE

**President Grant
Receives ACE Award**

Dr. Mary K. Grant received the American Council of Education's (ACE) Massachusetts National Network of Women Leaders Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented to Grant at ACE's annual President's Dinner, held at Simmons College in Boston in June.

According to Donna M. Qualters, Ph.D., chair of the Mass ACE Awards Committee, the Lifetime Achievement award recognizes women in leadership positions who have made substantial contributions to supporting, mentoring and promoting women in higher education.

"President Grant has consistently developed and supported programs to identify and promote women as leaders from students to senior colleagues at MCLA as well as in her previous positions," Qualters said.

The award is presented to a woman leader in higher education who, throughout her career, has demonstrated significant leadership and promotion of women in the field. The recipient exemplifies the principles of the ACE National Network: IDEALS – which stands for Identify, Develop, Encourage, Advance, Link and Support.



Amanda Goulet '08 and Joshua Tefft '08 are married in September of this year. Josh is an admissions counselor at MCLA.

We recently learned that **James J. Wilusz** was named director of the Lee-based Tri Town Health Department. Best of luck to you, James!

2007

Sarah Carroll
14 Kluge St
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442-2010
sweeterthanrain@yahoo.com

Sarah Flint
20 Robinson St
Plymouth, MA 02360-3428
sflint@mpsd.org

Mike Driscoll has recently been appointed records clerk for the city of Burlington, Vt. Congratulations, Mike!

Shirley Edgerton was appointed to the MCLA Board of Trustees last spring. She works as the director of residential programs for the Department of Developmental Services of Berkshire County. She also serves on the board of the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts, and is the founder of the Women of Color Giving Circle of the Berkshires

and Youth Alive step dance program.

Ben Lamb is keeping busy. Last spring he was a campus life graduate intern at Williams College and a student development and leadership intern at MCLA. He is also a directorate member of ACPA Commission on Career Development and is the owner / photographer of Blamb Photoz Photography. After graduating from St. Rose College, he began working full time as director of campus centers at Williams College. Good luck, Ben!

Jen Thomas is working as a national reporter for Abu Dhabi Media Company in the United Arab Emirates for three months. This is a government agency in the media production industry. Jen has been working there since October of 2010. Best of luck to you, Jen!

Christina Zepka is engaged to marry Karl Engwer in October. Chirstina is also currently pursuing a Master of Education in Early Childhood at MCLA. Congratulations!

2008

Matthew Berger has opened a music shop on Eagle Street in North Adams. The store, appropriately named Eagle Street Music, offers a variety of accessories that musicians need, including strings, straps, and cables, and offers private music lessons as well. Congratulations, Matthew!

Bradley Martin and Rebecca Knights have announced their engagement. Rebecca is the office manager of Berkshire Photovoltaic Services in Adams, and Bradley teaches private guitar lessons. Best of luck, Bradley and Rebecca!

Congratulations to **Sondra Murphy** on her new position as children's librarian at Oak Bluffs Public Library.

Amy Stanfield has been working for the *Auburn News* as a reporter since February 2011. Congratulations, Amy!

Simon Zelazo is staff accountant at C&S Wholesale Grocers in the Springfield, MA area. Simon is a student at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Isenberg School of Management. Good luck, Simon!

2009

Brinn Kingseley co-directed "Godspell" at St. Michael's Church on February 4 and 5 of 2011. She currently resides in Methuen.



Softball coach Mike Ameen '09 and his daughter Hadley '12 traveled with the softball team to Florida in March.

2010

Rory Allan
358A Mountain Road
Princeton, MA 01541-1109

George E. Bianci married Kristina Marie Kelleher on August 14, 2010. The couple both work as teachers and honeymooned in Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

We are excited to announce the engagement of **Jennifer DePatie** and Matthew Foley. Jen-



MCLA alumni teaching at Hebei University in China. From top left: George Charest '09, John-Michael Forrest '09, Dayne Wahl '09, and Henry Stebbins. From bottom left: Emily Silver '09 and Kim Harris '08.

nifer is a teacher at Taconic High School in Pittsfield. Matthew is a chef at Skyline Country Club in Lanesboro. A May wedding is planned. Best of luck, Jennifer and Matthew!

Brian Hubert is currently a graduate student at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y. For Brian the transition was easy as he notes, "Like at MCLA there are small classes and a close relationship with faculty." Additionally, skills Brian learned interning in the Advancement Office transferred: "For my journalism class I had to do an alumni profile. The experience I got at the office really helped me with this one." Good luck in your studies, Brian!

2011

Katie Bodnar is set to teach conversational English to students at the University of Hebei in Baodin, China, where she will join six MCLA alumni. Best of luck, Katie!



Pat Moran '10 and Jocelyn Merrick, director of alumni relations, met for lunch at the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney Resorts in Orlando, Fla., where Pat works. What a view from the office!

Anita Parker was honored at the annual "29 Who Shine"

event at the Boston Statehouse. The event celebrated one gradu-

ate from each of the state's community colleges and universities. Congratulations, Anita!

Julie Navom and Nathan Pichette are engaged to be married in July 2011. Best of luck to you!

Kevin Seeley and Kristin Janschewtitz '04 co-authored two posters with psychology professor Timothy Jay. The posters were presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C.



Men's soccer alumni reunite for the annual intramural indoor soccer tournament. The event is hosted by coach Adam Hildabrand '99.

In Memoriam

Eileen P. Abare 1980
 Janis Marchand Beauregard
 Maribeth Borsari 1977
 Donald Bullett 1951
 Jean Gaston Chapman 1946
 Carmella Cioffi 1958
 Charles W. Doran 1972
 Glenn Drohan
 Paul Egan 1967
 Gail Pallatino Falzone 1976
 Sarah Goodrich
 Una M. Kalisz 1973
 Susan G. Lepage
 John Lilly 1950

July 21, 2011
 November 9, 2010
 June 12, 2011
 January 20, 2011
 April 8, 2011
 June 30, 2011
 February 19, 2011
 May 26, 2011
 May 11, 2011
 April 21, 2011
 December 18, 2010
 April 16, 2011
 February 27, 2011
 July 22, 2011

Charles A. Little 1966
 Paul Manzi 1982
 Susan Urquhart Martel 1974
 Christina Melville 1987
 John A. Murphy Jr. 1958
 Joyce Bainton Peck 1970
 Dorothy S. Stead Politis 1940
 James Rivers 1957
 Ruth Scarbeau 1974
 Richard G. Selvitella
 David P. Wall 1972
 Marie E. Bettcher Waste 1941
 Ray Wilson 1948

March 11, 2011
 October 26, 2010
 April 28, 2011
 June 1, 2011
 August 9, 2011
 February 5, 2011
 April 6, 2011
 July 6, 2011
 March 14, 2011
 April 25, 2011
 November 6, 2010
 December 12, 2010
 April 24, 2011



HOW FINANCIAL AID HELPED ONE ALUMNUS TO **GIVE BACK**

As an undergraduate, Xavier Jackman '00 had to rely on scholarships, grants, loans, and the income he earned working three jobs to pay for his college education. Now an attorney based in Tampa, Fla., Jackman recently became a Taconic Society donor with a gift of \$1,000 to the Annual Fund, which directly supports financial aid.

"Because I couldn't afford college, I received a variety of financial assistance. I felt it was my duty to pay it back, in a way," Jackman says of his decision to donate at the Taconic level. "In life, you shouldn't just take; you need to give, as well. It's a good thing to do. It's a good cause. It's a good school."

Growing up in a single-parent household in Turner's Falls, Mass., Jackman aspired to a liberal arts education. He saw MCLA as an opportunity.

"Typically, when you see liberal arts degrees offered, you're looking at \$40,000 a year. That just wasn't a viable option, due to my economic circumstances," he explains. "MCLA was different than traditional public schools. So, I took the opportunity and I was very happy that I did."

"There was no easy road," he continues. "MCLA provided me the opportunity to get the type of education I wanted to get and not be straddled with \$200,000 in student loans. This further enables me to give back to the College."

After MCLA, he attended the University of Florida's Levin School of Law, where he received the Vaka, Larson, Johnson,

P.L. book award for excellence in trial practice. After graduating in 2004 with his Juris Doctorate, Xavier was admitted to the Florida bar, as well as the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

"I was more than adequately equipped to compete with my classmates in law school. They came from Princeton, Brown, Duke – you name the fancy school. They were all there. And, it cost me a lot less to get to that seat than it did them," Jackman says.

While at the MCLA, Jackman was selected to receive the College's Ruth P. and Nicholas Boraski Scholarship in 1997. He also served as general manager of WJJW, the College radio station, and was an executive vice president of the Student Government Association, as well as a student trustee. In addition, he served as president of Beta Chi Gamma.

In 2010, Jackman delivered the convocation address at MCLA. And in March of this past year Jackman and his wife hosted the MCLA tailgating event at the Boston Red Sox spring training game in Fort Myers, Fla.

Today, Jackman practices law with Luks, Santaniello, Petrillo, Gold, and Jones. He and his wife, Dr. Suzanne Jackman, have a daughter Erin and a son William born this September.

Interested in becoming a Taconic Society donor? Contact Director of Donor Engagement and Stewardship Christine Naughton '99 at C.Naughton@mcla.edu.



Tournament net division winners were Al Cece, Bernie Pinsonnault, Fred Pietras, and Clark Boisvert.

MCLA FALL CLASSIC

We honored Bernie Pinsonnault '73 at the 15th annual MCLA Golf Classic on September 19, 2011. The event was held at Berkshire Hills Country Club under sunny skies and attracted 128 golfers for the tournament followed by a banquet dinner. The tournament raised over \$20,000 for the athletics department. The MCLA Athletics department would like to thank all of our sponsors, players, and guests for making the 2011 MCLA Golf Classic a great day for all involved.



Above left: MCLA Athletic Director Scott Nichols shared stories with former athletic director and previous golf classic honoree Joe Zavattaro '61, M.Ed. '63.

Above right: The large sponsorship contingent was highlighted by the 2011 President's Club Title Sponsor, Conserve Thru Control, Inc (CTC). Pictured here are President Mary Grant, CTC owner Matt Pitoniak, Chief Advancement Officer Marianne Drake, and CTC owner Tina Schaffrick Pitoniak '91, M.Ed. '01.

Right: Carol Rand, Tracy McConnell, Kate Dubendorf, Sara DeSanty Gaffey '02 and Hoosac Bank President Don Keagan participated in the event.



We are pleased to announce the launch of MCLA's first Alumni Online Community!

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Harris Connect have teamed up to bring you the College's first online alumni community!

Search and stay connected with classmates. Keep your information up to date. Participate in interest groups and share stories.

Registering is easy! Visit www.mcla.edu/alumni and click on "Alumni Online Community."



See you soon!





SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

November 1	Public Policy Lecture: Dr. Robert M. Gates, Jr.
November 15	MCLA Presents! <i>Water is Rising</i>
November 16-19	FPA Main Stage Production <i>Urinetown</i>
January 25	MCLA Presents! C. Ryder Cooley
February 3-4	MCLA Blues and Funk Festival
March 11-17	Spring Break
April 19	Undergraduate Research Conference
May 18	Baccalaureate
May 19	Commencement