

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE
GUILD News
 COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE
 SUMMER 2010

FIRST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

In their third year at Kalamazoo College, the Guilds are deploying some new methods to connect student apprentices with alumni masters. In late February 2010, the Center for Career and Professional Development, together with all four charter Guilds, launched its concept for an on-campus Professional Development Institute. The PDI engages alumni and College friends in helping K students consider and prepare for their life after K. Through résumé reviews, professional networking, Guild gatherings, one-on-one practice interviews, and an etiquette dinner, students learned from career professionals how to hone skills and deepen connections necessary for successful post-graduate pursuits.



In the closing panel of the February PDI, panelists Amanda Stitt '02, Josh Howie '96, Bruce Haight '68 and Kristen Chesak '94 reflect on professional insights they wish they'd had during their time at K.

The concept of the PDI evolved over several years with the collaboration and active input of alumni, faculty and staff, and potential employers. All of these stakeholders recognize the critical importance of empowering K students to understand and articulate, in person and on paper, how K's unique combination of rigorous academics and rich experiences provides outstanding preparation for a broad spectrum of meaningful professions.

On February 24 and 25, the first PDI brought together more than 200 students, faculty and staff, alumni and friends of the College across a wide range of disciplines and professional pursuits. An opening plenary talk by Chris Rolylson '82 accomplished management consultant, marketing executive, and founder of "The Executive's Guide to LinkedIn"—focused on the power of social media to develop and maintain professional connections.

Other PDI highlights: an etiquette dinner cohosted by the Senior Graduation Committee with tables sponsored by K alumni; dozens of networking interviews pairing students with alumni in their chosen field; a Guilds lunch discussion of the evolution of the four charter Guilds; and a panel of K alumni who shared their reflections on how K prepared them for their post-graduate professional pursuits.

The success of this inaugural PDI event inspired the CCPD to schedule twice-yearly opportunities for professionals with ties to Kalamazoo College to contribute to the career preparation of current students. In 2010-11, the CCPD will host a fall PDI on October 14-15, the Thursday and Friday before Homecoming, inviting alumni returning for reunions to begin their campus visits a day early in order to offer their professional expertise to students.

A spring PDI will include a focus on the career development needs of juniors returning from study abroad, and will again seek to invite and engage alumni from a diverse range of professions. To find out more or to get involved, see the CCPD website's PDI page at <http://reason.kzoo.edu/ccd/pdi>.

IN THIS ISSUE

Professional Development Institute 1
 Notes from the Director 2
 Book Discussion on Public Health 3
 Sustainability SIP Symposium 4
 The Business of Publishing 6
 Careers in Sports Business 8
 Law Guild Launched 10
 Justice and Peace Guild Update 11
 Benefits of Guild Membership 12

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Notes **FROM THE DIRECTOR**



As I think about 2010-11 and the work of the Guilds, an architectural metaphor comes to mind. As with any innovative building project, the concept design, financing, and blueprints must be developed long before the ground-breaking and construction can occur. That planning and design phase spanned the launch of the four charter Guilds in January 2008 until the start of the 2010-11 academic year. We'll look back on this past academic year as the one in which a solid and well-planned foundation was poured and allowed to harden.

The cement in this solid foundation for the Guilds is the CCPD staff. Housing the four charter Guilds in the Center for Career and Professional Development has significantly increased clarity, creativity and communication. With new CCPD staff on board just in time for the start of the 2010-11 academic year, each Guild has benefited from administration by a career development professional. Career counselors Jackie Srodes, Rachel Wood, and Amy Auer have assumed administrative roles in the Health, Sustainability, and Business Guilds, respectively. I continue to work with the Justice & Peace Guild and the newly launched Law Guild.

Much like finding the right mixture for a concrete foundation, the Guilds have experimented this year with different combinations of formats for gathering and fostering connections. You'll learn about a variety of networking and relationship-building opportunities in this issue, including drop-in lunches with visiting experts, virtual and face-to-face book discussions, an interdisciplinary SIP symposium, a regional alumni gathering in Detroit, panel discussions (sometimes with a videoconferencing panelist), networking receptions, meals and conference calls and break-out sessions.

One exciting development late in the 2010-11 academic year is the development of executive leadership boards for several Guilds. Now that the institutional foundation is solid, we're ready to frame leadership teams driven by alumni professionals who are uniquely positioned to bring real-world skills and opportunities to the Guilds. So grab your hammer and come build with us!

Joan

BOOK DISCUSSION SETS STAGE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE LECTURE

By Sal LoGrasso '11

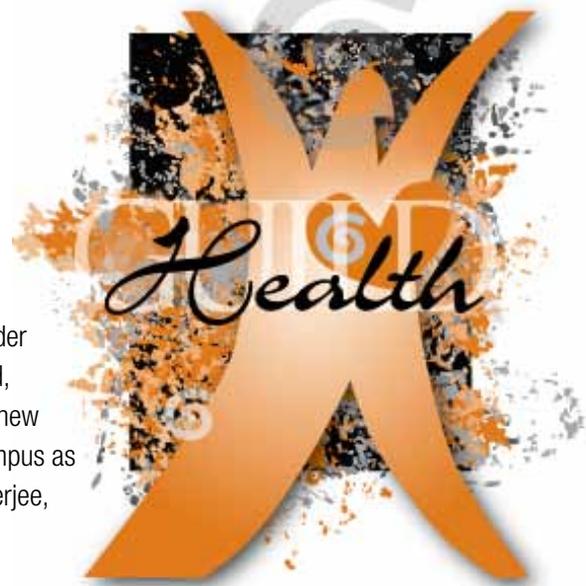
In the bestseller *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tracy Kidder recounts the remarkable experiences of Dr. Paul Farmer as he works to cure the world, one patient at a time, through Partners in Health. The Health Guild partnered with the new Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership (ACSJL) to make the book available on campus as a lead-in to the April 7 book discussion and the April 13 public talk given by Dr. Joia Mukherjee, current medical director of Partners in Health.

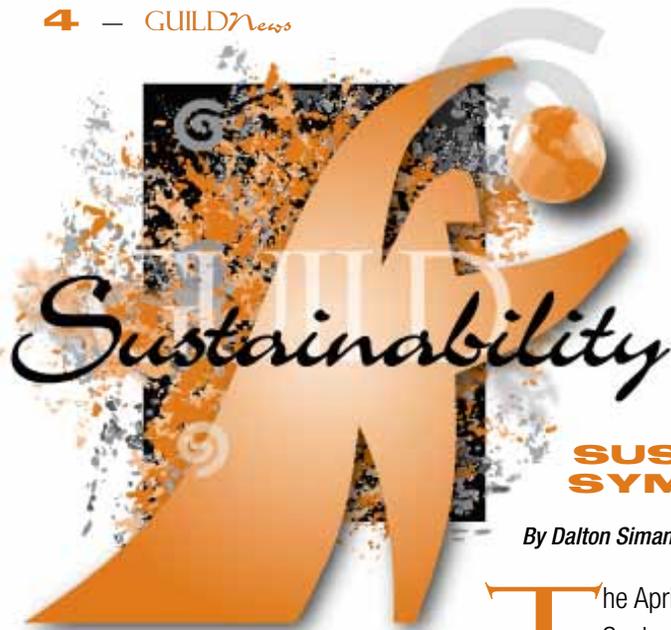
Students, faculty and staff, alumni, and community members came together to discuss the work of Paul Farmer and his associates as described in *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. The book's public health themes included cost-effectiveness in medical treatment, the importance of patient-doctor relationships, and differences in global health care systems. Many discussion participants spoke of the discomfort they felt when they compared their own lives against Farmer's. In the end, most realized that Farmer's lifestyle is part of his mission. Even if we don't strive to follow his lifestyle, we can all, in our own ways, do our part in society.



It was clear why the Health Guild and ACSJL chose to focus on the work of Farmer's Partners in Health. Farmer's life is a concrete example of the impact one person can have on this world. His passion and tireless efforts have heightened awareness and have led to unimaginable shifts in public health practices. We can all be, as Dr. Mukherjee put it, "agents of social change," and Paul Farmer's story will give you the inspiration to do your part.

The College's first annual social justice leadership lecture featured Partners in Health Medical Director Joia Mukherjee, M.D. (second from left). She is flanked by (l-r) Klissa Jarrett '10, Ben Ensroth '12, and President Eileen B. Wilson-Oyelaran. A video of her address can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IXgipAkYKc.





SUSTAINABILITY SIP SYMPOSIUM A SUCCESS

By Dalton Simancek '12

The April 27 Sustainability SIP symposium showcased eleven Senior Individualized Projects. Co-sponsored by the Kalamazoo College Environmental Studies Program and the Sustainability Guild, the interdisciplinary event was designed to promote mutual goals of recognizing environmental problems, identifying sustainable solutions, and offering networking opportunities.

Student presentations covered a wide variety of topics. Sarah Kulijani's SIP focused strictly on green design—the practice of using sustainable materials in building design. Bamboo flooring, photovoltaic shingles, and passive solar heating through solar orientation are some of the methods and materials being implemented in green design.

Daniel Mitler and Zachary Geiger studied environmental indicators in Kalamazoo. By grading a collection of social, environmental, and economic factors, Daniel and Zachary were able to assess what areas of sustainability local officials are working towards and what areas they're not. They concluded that "Kalamazoo is ambitious, but is falling behind."

Students, their family members, and faculty listen to keynote speaker Chris Dragisic '99 at the Sustainability SIP Symposium.



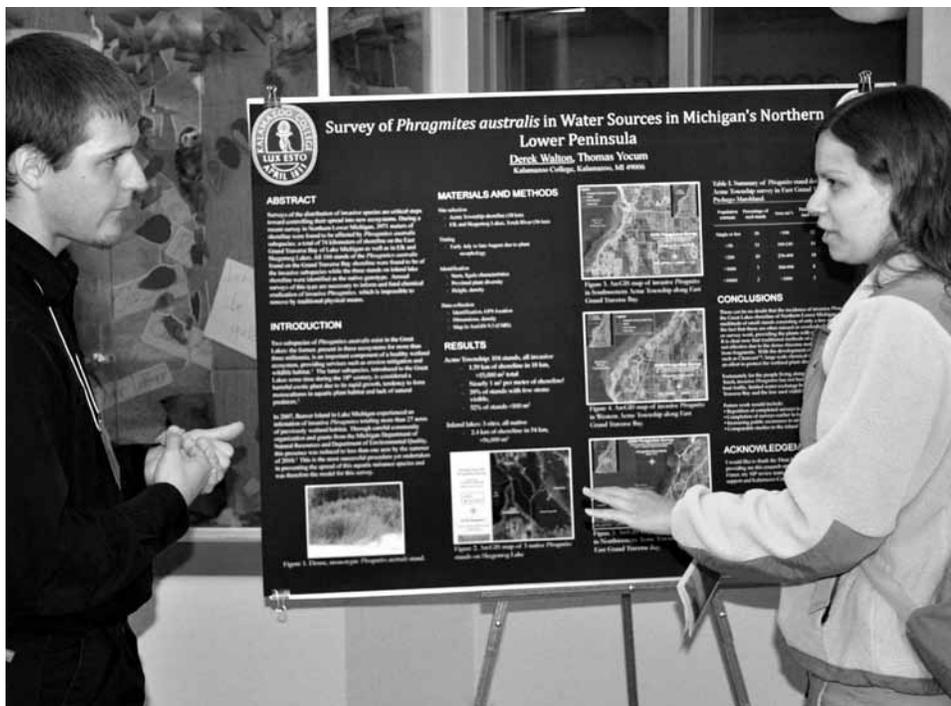
AT HOME IN THE WORLD

By Evan D. Bontrager '11

When the Guilds were launched in January of 2008, I knew as a first-year student that I wanted to be involved. Since then, I have been an active participant in the Business Guild and the Guilds Council. This year, while studying abroad at the London School of Economics and Political Science, I wanted to remain an active member of the Guilds because they have had a substantial impact on me personally and academically. Throughout the year, I have stayed involved through phone conferencing, Skype, and e-mail. I have been able to contribute to and benefit from Guilds Council meetings from across the Atlantic. Utilizing this simple technology allows for students, faculty, staff, and alumni to be a part of a community such as the Guilds, no matter where they are, and it has allowed me to feel at home in the world.

Following the student presentations, guest speaker Chris Dragisic '99 praised the quality of the presentations, saying the quality of information was “on par” with some of best sustainability advocates. Chris, a senior manager in the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business at Conservation International, works with agribusiness and sustainable biofuels. She posed some thought-provoking questions, asking the audience to judge to what extent the efforts of Conservation International are effective in promoting sustainable practices in domestic and international corporations.

The evening ended with a reception in the Dewing Commons, where attendees were able to view more student work. Given the success of the event, sustainability enthusiasts may look forward to future symposiums.



Derek Walton '10 shares his research findings with Anne Weir '10.



THE BUSINESS OF PUBLISHING: NOT ONLY FOR BUSINESS MAJORS

By Rene Perry '12

The idea for a panel on “Careers in Publishing” grew out of an insight that the Business Guild is not only for economics and business majors, but for anyone who might one day work in a business setting. This writer, who is both an English and business major, knew she wanted to become an editor or publisher and realized many other English majors might want the same thing. But what exactly did an editor or publisher do? What other careers existed in the world of publishing and writing? What was the best way to find and create such a career after graduation? The search for answers to these questions led to the convening of a panel from a variety of publishing backgrounds.

On February 10, four professionals came together on campus to share their experiences in the publishing industry. One panelist, Diane Dupuis '80, participated via videoconference from her office in Interlochen. Her presence demonstrated the virtual participation and interaction that is possible with anyone in the world through use of online social media. Diane advised students on characteristics she had sought in potential employees when she was Publisher of Gale Research's Visible Ink Press. She also highlighted resources that all editors and publishers use.

Amy Murphy '99 advocated using great care when choosing a career that melds passion and profession. Jim Van Sweden '73, editor of the College's *LuxEsto* and *BeLight*, told students to not fear mistakes, and he shared two whoppers of his own: two editions of *LuxEsto* with significant typos on the front cover. Dr. Glenn Deutsch, a professor in the English department, spoke of the attitude and mindset an editor needs to have.

After attending Careers in Publishing, some students were motivated to find local opportunities and expand their editing repertoire, including involvement in the writing and editing of this issue of *GUILDNews*. Dalton Simancek spoke with Jim Van Sweden to learn about on-campus editing and writing opportunities.

In the same way that the “Careers in Publishing” panel grew out of one student’s passion, others have used the Guilds’ networks to create learning opportunities around their own burning issues. Whether your dream involves international marketing or social entrepreneurship, sustainable agriculture or the eradication of child malnutrition, the connections offered by the Guilds can help you convene alumni experts to inform and advise you as you build your own path toward a meaningful profession.



Amy (Schaus) Murphy '99 traveled from Grand Rapids to share with students her experiences in publishing during a Business Guild seminar on that subject. Fellow panelist Jim VanSweden '73 is pictured. Not pictured are panelists Glenn Deutsch and Diane Dupuis '80.

PANEL OF EXPERTS ADDRESSES CAREERS IN SPORTS BUSINESS

By Ilya Svintsitski '10

Joint effort of Kalamazoo College's Athletics department, Center for Career and Professional Development (including both the Business and Health Guilds), Office for Advancement, and Economics and Business Department culminated in an April 19 panel presentation titled "Careers in Sports Business." The panel brought together a highly diverse group of professionals who shared their insights and stories about working in the business of athletics with an audience of K students, professors, staff, and members of the community.



Timon Corwin describes his path to coaching tennis as author Kurt David looks on.

The panel of six accomplished sports business professionals featured several Kalamazoo College alumni. Panelists included Timon Corwin '86,

currently the senior director for junior and collegiate competition for U.S. Tennis Association Player Development; Kurt David, a former professional basketball player and now a sports counselor, author, and TV host and producer; Kathy DeBoer, a nationally-known public speaker on the impact of gender on competitive behavior in business and sports settings, and the

Kathy DeBoer and Storm Kirschenbaum enjoy interaction with an engaged audience.

current executive director of the American Volleyball Coaches Association; Storm Kirschenbaum, founder of Metis Sports Management, LLC, and the co-founder of

the Michigan Boxing Hall of Fame; Jeff Pellegrom '88, executive vice president and CFO of Minnesota Sports and Entertainment; and Charles Tucker '58, president and CEO of The Sports Network.

The panelists' presentations and the lively discussion that followed provided an engaging evening for a diverse group of students. Athletes, aspiring entrepreneurs,



and students with a variety of academic backgrounds participated in a constructive dialogue about how to approach and structure a career in the business of sports, and the professional world in general. Students were advised to explore a large array of different career paths and options for professional development. At the end of the evening, students had the opportunity to mingle with the panelists, question them individually, and expand their network of professional contacts.

In post-event evaluations, students expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn from and meet the panelists.

Charles Tucker describes the entrepreneurial philosophy that has contributed to his success.



Jeff Pellegrom visits with students at the reception following the panel discussion.





LAW GUILD LAUNCHED

On March 4, 2010, Kalamazoo College alumni, current students, faculty, and staff gathered in the courtroom of the Ninth District Court in Detroit, where the Honorable Gerald E. Rosen '73 presides. The auspicious setting, Rosen's words of reflective appreciation, the responsiveness of the assembled alumni, and the launching on that day of a new Law Guild were lauded by Associate Professor of Philosophy Chris Latiolais, advisor to the Pre-Law Society. The event, he said, was "significant at this juncture of the College's history."

Seven students with an interest in law school discussed their K-Plans with nearly 40 Detroit-area alumni and peppered them with questions about their varied careers. Professor Emeritus of Political Science Donald Flesche, mentor to many in the room, talked about his decades-

long love affair with Kalamazoo College that has continued past his 1997 retirement. Rosen encouraged students to broaden their academic scope and sharpen their communications skills in preparation for their own law careers.

The launch of the new Law Guild comes after growing recognition that two parallel missions, and two sets of professional networks, have evolved within the Justice & Peace Guild. Many alumni and students enrolled in the Justice & Peace Guild because of their broad interest in justice and law. Now that interest can be channeled directly into the work of a Guild specifically

dedicated to fostering connections between current students and alumni and friends in legal professions.

With a mission to foster connections between current students and alumni and friends in legal professions, the Law Guild works to support the Pre-Law orientation at Kalamazoo College. Alumni who join the

Law Guild have immediate opportunities to serve in a variety of capacities: Law Guild executive board member; coach of a mock trial, moot court, or mediation team; and sponsor of a summer externship or internship for current students. Alumni may also choose to sponsor Pre-Law Society events such as its annual alumni dinner, which gathered more than 50 alumni and students on campus on May 12.

The Justice & Peace Guild will continue as one of the four charter Guilds, with a sharpened mission and renewed focus on issues of peacemaking and peacebuilding, grassroots organizing, human development, public service, and non-violent conflict resolution.



To join the Law Guild, email Joan Hawxhurst (joan.hawxhurst@kzoo.edu) with "Law Guild" in the subject of your message.

Students from the Pre-Law Society mingle with Detroit-area attorneys.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GUILD UPDATE

By Ben Ensroth '12 and Megan Bauer '12

The Justice and Peace Guild has undertaken several new initiatives this year. In the fall, Professor of Mathematics John Fink facilitated a visit by Nicole Finneman '03, public diplomacy officer in the U.S. State Department, to speak about the Six-Party Talks and U.S. foreign relations with North Korea. In the winter, our alumni friends at the Peace House shared opportunities for students to engage with Kalamazoo's East Side residents on a variety



of peace issues. Finally, the Guild has pioneered a series of lunches on campus in which students had the opportunity to talk with professionals working on social justice issues.

One such lunch featured prominent social organizer Shea Howell from Oakland University. Other lunch guests included Stephanie Willette '08 (Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services), Valerie Cochran '02 (attorney), and Carolyn DeChants '09 (Great Lakes PeaceJam).

Nicole Finneman describes life
"inside the Beltway" during her
November 2009 visit to campus.

Justice & Peace





HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Contact the Guilds Director, Joan Hawxhurst, at 269-337-7183 or joan.hawxhurst@kzoo.edu.

Anyone with a connection to Kalamazoo College is invited to join a Guild. You can create a member account and join the on-line discussions of the charter Guilds (Business, Health, Sustainability, and Justice & Peace) at <http://guilds.kzoo.edu>. Join the new Law Guild by emailing joan.hawxhurst@kzoo.edu with "Law Guild" in the subject line.

BENEFITS OF GUILD MEMBERSHIP:

FOR STUDENTS:

- Build relationships with professionals with work experience
- Receive career guidance as you craft your K-Plan
- Develop project management and leadership skills
- Learn from alumni who have turned their passions into professions

FOR ALUMNI:

- Contribute to the success of an innovative program at your alma mater
- Share your professional experiences and networks
- Support current students with mentorship, externships, and internships
- Connect with other professionals who share your passions

FOR ALL MEMBERS:

- Network with passionate students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members
- Learn together about critical 21st-century issues and consider relevant actions
- Be part of a community whose members share ideas, opportunities, networks, and a common affiliation with Kalamazoo College