Mr. Geographic:
Kalamazoo College
Graduate Maynard
Owen Williams ’10
Had a Front Row Seat
to History
The Kalamazoo College Sustainable Development Studies Program at Chiang Mai University (Thailand) was featured in a December 21st Bangkok Post news article titled “Learning Both Ways.” Sources quoted in the story included juniors Amanda Walters and Kaleb Brownlow, two of several Kalamazoo College students on study abroad in Thailand. The five-month program, a collaboration with Chiang Mai’s Faculty of Economics, explores nontraditional notions of education and development. The program combines lectures and seminars on theories of development and the history of Thai politics with off-campus work and discussions with local social activists—the “learning both ways.” Students conclude the program with a one-month internship in a non-governmental organization (NGO) of their choice. In the article, Walters and Brownlow talk about the transformational aspect of their educational experience. “The program has changed my way of looking at things,” Walters is quoted as saying. “I’m glad I made the right choice.”

Pictured are: top photo—Ruth Kleast ’01 and Walters learning to make candles at a temple during a visit with Women Against AIDS, an NGO working with older women; center photo—Brownlow on his way to work in the fields at Mae Taa; bottom photo—Stephanie Moses ’01 at the Duang Prateep school for disadvantaged children in Bangkok. Other Kalamazoo College students who recently finished their study abroad in Thailand are Laura Hayes ’01 and May Saetang, a guest student at the College.

Photos by Amanda Walters
Pueblo

Las piedras son el tiempo
El viento
Siglos de viento
Los árboles son tiempo
Las gentes son piedra
El viento
Vuelve sobre sí mismo y
se entierra
En el día de piedra

No hay agua pero brillan los ojos.
—Octavio Paz

Village

The stones are time
The wind
Centuries of wind
The trees are time
The people are stone
The wind
Turns upon itself and sinks
Into the stone day

There is no water for
all the luster of their eyes.
Dear Readers:

I think of this issue of LuxEsto as a tribute to an ethos that, for me, has always been embodied by National Geographic Magazine. You may understand the reason behind that thinking when you read the features on Rob Dunn, Michael Kane, Monica Sanchez, and Maynard Owen Williams, Classes of 1997, 2000, 1997, and 1910, respectively.

Production of this issue immersed me in the stories of these individuals, and that immersion, in turn, influenced my thoughts about a question I had recently been asked.

The occasion was lunch. I was invited to join several colleagues and a candidate interviewing for a position at the College. The candidate asked us to describe a typical Kalamazoo College student. I could offer no immediate answer and instead listened, with gratitude and interest, to my colleagues opine.

Describing the “typical” of any complex subject is fraught with difficulty, possible danger, and may be impossible. Nevertheless, the question intrigued me, and for my own enlightenment, I began to grope for an answer on my own. Who is the typical Kalamazoo College student?

At first I thought the degree to which any Kalamazoo College student changes from the beginning to the end of his or her undergraduate experience would hopelessly confound any answer to the question. But perhaps the extent of that change was the answer itself.

I began to think the difference between Kalamazoo College and other undergraduate institutions might be the “distance” students travel from matriculation to graduation. And the “typical” Kalamazoo College student is characterized by that journey’s magnitude, which eclipses what he or she is likely to have experienced at a different college.

The fullness of that journey derives from many sources—exposure to excellent teachers, to the K-Plan, to fellow students exposed to the K-Plan. And it’s the measure of that journey that gets many of us “hooked on journey.” Perhaps a better way of phrasing it would be “committed to lifelong learning,” as written in our Academic Catalogue. But I prefer “hooked on journey” because, for me, it puts hand and foot in the mix with mind and book. It adds adventure, maybe even reinvention. I may have just broken the back of that metaphor with the weight I’ve heaped on it. So I’ll try another. Maybe the spirit of Maynard Owen Williams is typical of Kalamazoo College students. Williams experienced Kalamazoo College long before the K-Plan, which suggests to me that the K-Plan is as much an inheritance from every alumna/us who came before its debut as it is from the administrators and faculty who created it in the early 1960s. From inheritance, my imagination, revving now, jumps to genetics. Maybe every Kalamazoo alumna, alumnus, and student shares the K-Plan because the K-Plan isn’t a curriculum so much as it is a restlessness of spirit, a sort of “gene” of the psyche expressed as a sensibility that values journey more than destination.

Maybe not. In this paragraph I’m back to earth, a planet I haven’t traveled very extensively—nothing like Rob and Monica, or Michael, or Maynard Owen Williams. But in my own way, I’m hooked on journey, and I got that way in large part because of Kalamazoo College.

I’ll no doubt continue to enjoy the struggle with the question about the typical Kalamazoo College student, and that’s just fine. “It is not the answer that enlightens, but the question,” wrote Ionesco. And I believe it.

I could not have enjoyed the struggle without the help of Jeff Palmer ’76, who wrote the features on Maynard Owen Williams and Laura Furge, assistant professor of chemistry. These pages also introduce a new writer for LuxEsto, 29-year-old mother of one, poet, and nontraditional junior Christine Horton. She wrote stories on the Lucasse honorees, Bruce Mills, and Addell Austin Anderson, and she will be featured in an upcoming story about nontraditional students at “K”.

Thanks also to Michael Kane. He’ll admit to being haunted by the spirit of Maynard Owen Williams. And thanks as well to Rob Dunn and Monica Sanchez. All shared their photographs, journals, poems, and reflections on the importance of setting forth.

Sincerely,

Jim VanSweden ’73

Be light.
LuxEsto: The largest individual collection of archived items in the Upjohn Library at Kalamazoo College is that of “Mr. Geographic,” Maynard Owen Williams ’10. Assembled by Williams’s family following his death in 1963, the items include field diaries, letters, passports, awards, medals, color slides, and every newspaper and magazine article published by this prolific writer and photographer. The collection also includes a varsity letter that Williams earned playing football at the College, a silver pitcher presented to him by his staff at the National Geographic Magazine upon his retirement in 1953, and a full-size expedition flag which he carried on one of his many adventures.

Features

22 Biologist and Anthropologist Preserve Their Journeys in Poems

At Kalamazoo College, Rob Dunn and Monica Sanchez, both members of the Class of 1997, studied in Ecuador and Costa Rica. Since graduating, they have conducted research in Ghana and Bolivia. Both scientists are accomplished poets and will return to South America this summer to complete work on their PhDs.

26 Mr. Geographic: Maynard Owen Williams ’10 Had a Front Row Seat to History

Considered by many to be the most well-traveled man of his time, this Kalamazoo College graduate met Lawrence of Arabia, witnessed the Russian Revolution first-hand, and followed the route of Marco Polo. His family’s involvement with “K” spanned four generations.

36 Faculty Profile: Chemistry and Context, A Liberal Arts Education is Evident in the Research and Teaching of Laura Furge / Doorways
To the editors:

As members of Maggie Wardle’s family, we appreciate the article “In Memory” in the Winter, 2000, LuxEsto that included an account of our daughter’s murder on the Kalamazoo College campus last October. The expressions of sympathy and condolences that we have received from members of the Kalamazoo College community — students, faculty, alumna, trustees and staff — since Maggie’s death have been overwhelming and gratifying. A memorial service for Maggie held in Stetson Chapel on January 14 was particularly touching. The outpouring of love and affection for Maggie has helped us tremendously to understand that our daughter did touch the lives of so many people on campus and that memories of her will remain forever in all of our hearts.

Since Maggie’s death we have been meeting with staff, students, and alumni at the College to see what we could do together to ensure that what happened to Maggie does not happen again. We believe that Maggie’s death was an act of violence against women. She was not killed as the result of a lover’s quarrel. There was no heated argument in the dorm room that night. Maggie had broken off the relationship several months prior to the killing and she was lured to the room to be shot and killed by someone she should have had no reason to fear.

We believe that the Kalamazoo College community can do much in the area of women’s services, suicide prevention, and campus security to address some of the underlying issues that led to Maggie’s death. We have presented to the College a list of some of our ideas for ways to improve and enhance the campus environment and ensure the safety of all students. We ask that all alumni support in whatever way they can this important work at Kalamazoo College.

—Martha and Rick Omilian, mother and stepfather of Maggie Wardle

To the editors:

May I share a bit of history regarding the “K” motto [Lux esto] and the yearbook of the College?

As a student graduating in 1949 with a bachelors degree in art and receiving a master’s degree in fine arts in 1950, I had the opportunity to be a member of the Boiling Pot yearbook staff during those two years.

The 1949 yearbook broke with the Boiling Pot tradition by using Lux esto as its dominant theme throughout the book, which included the word Luxesto as the title, a torch on its cover, and artwork and poetry related to light in the introductions of each main section.

—Joseph Pizzat ’49

MENTA AND SOLBERG HONORED WITH LUCASSE AWARDS

Professors Ed Menta and Jan Solberg recently received the Lucasse award—the College’s highest honor for teaching and scholarship. Menta, professor of theatre, was recognized with the Lucasse Fellowship for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Work. Menta believes that theatre has a specific interdisciplinary, intellectual, and creative role within the liberal arts college. He views each play as “a research project in three dimensions.”

In order to complete these projects, Menta collaborates with other departments such as history and English. An actor’s understanding of the historical and cultural setting of a play is essential to achieving what Menta sees as the raison d’etre of all theatre: to transport the audience into another world.

Menta experienced that feeling at Andrei Serban’s production of Fragments of a Greek Trilogy, co-directed by Liz Swados. Serban intrigued Menta, and he wrote his dissertation, as well as a book, about the Romanian director. Menta’s book, The Magic Behind the Curtain: Andrei Serban in American Theatre, explores Serban’s imaginative directing work in the United States and was honored by Choice, a magazine which reviews literature for academic libraries, as one of its Outstanding Academic Books for 1996. Serban himself praised the book for its understanding of his work.

Menta continues to be captivated by the work of Serban and is currently writing an article about Serban’s interpretations of Shakespeare.

But Menta’s ongoing passion for theatre is best viewed on stage. He has been involved in the direction of countless plays at Kalamazoo College. Joe Hill, written by Kalamazoo playwright Bryan Zocher, was cited in his nomination for the Lucasse award. The cast of the College’s production of Joe Hill was one of only three in the school’s history to be invited to perform at the American College Theater Festival regional competition. It received achievement awards for music and technical production.


A lover of languages, Solberg has studied French, German, Italian, Latin, and American Sign Language. It is her love of communication, as well as the organizational aspects of teaching, that draws her to the profession. She considers her pedagogy successful if her students learn to apply it themselves, not only in their language courses but in other disciplines as well.

“I want to help students discover that they can learn a second
language and they can experience joy in doing so.” How does Solberg accomplish this feat? Among other things, she remains a committed learner. For example, she is a perennial beginning ballet student. Solberg believes that all teachers should continue to study subjects that are outside their disciplines so they never forget how intimidating it can be to learn a new skill.

In addition to her daily work with students, Solberg often collaborates with other teachers to help them improve their teaching skills. “If we focus only on our subject matter, there’s a fifty-fifty chance it will get across. But if we think about how we teach, we may be able to help our students learn better.” Solberg considers teaching a continuously changing process. Each day is a performance, she says. “What was excellent yesterday might not be good enough today.” Solberg is constantly searching for “a more artistic, efficient, different, and better way” to teach her students. And she always seems to find one. If she couldn’t be a teacher, Solberg says, she’d be an actor.

Solberg and Menta share more than a passion for acting. Both feel honored to be Lucasse winners because of the caliber of previous winners. Established in 1979, the Lucasse awards honor alumna Florence J. Lucasse ’10 for her long and distinguished career as a Latin teacher. Lucasse believed that the role of an educator should be “to broaden our sympathies and to cultivate the ability to see the beauty and the poetry in life.”

Anna and Willi Voelker of Muenster, Germany, have more than 50 “children” in the United States, all of whom are Kalamazoo College alumni. The Voelkers hosted Kalamazoo College students on study abroad from the early 1960s through the late 1980s, even after their own children had grown up and left home. On several occasions the Voelkers have traveled to the United States to visit some of their American children. When Los Angeles resident John Honell ’66 learned that the Voelkers were visiting Holly Witchey ’83 in San Diego, he drove down, and the four enjoyed dinner together. Pictured are (l-r): John Honell, Anna Voelker, Willi Voelker, and Holly Witchey. On this particular trip to the US, the Voelkers saw 14 Kalamazoo College alumni who had lived with them in Germany.

Ralph G. Wellington ’68
Elected to Board of Trustees

The Kalamazoo College Board of Trustees recently re-elected Ralph Wellington ’68 as its newest member. His term begins June 1, 2000, and will run for three years. Wellington also served as a trustee from 1991 to 1996.

Wellington is chairman of the 250-member law firm Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis and resident in its Philadelphia office. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and has lectured and written frequently here and abroad on matters of ethics and trial practice. His principal career emphasis has been in litigation, with extensive experience at both the trial and appellate level in major commercial, antitrust, aviation, and securities cases.

In 1994, Wellington argued before the United States Supreme Court, obtained a reversal of two decisions by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and established new law regarding claims available under the Federal Employers Liability and Jones Acts.

Wellington earned his BA in political science from Kalamazoo College in 1968. He received a JD from the University of Michigan in 1970. He is married and has three children. His other interests include squash, golf, jazz piano, and fiction writing. He’s also coached his sons’ junior high basketball teams, which he found ultimately more rewarding than winning a case before the Supreme Court.

“Arguing a case before the Supreme Court is clearly the lawyers’ equivalent of playing in the Super Bowl, but coaching children at any level is more joyful,” says Wellington. “Plus, on the basketball court, I was in control. In the Supreme Court, not so! If I had to do either one over again, I’d choose coaching kids.”

As a College trustee, Wellington intends to help maintain the College’s high academic standing, increase its financial endowment, and nurture the diversity of student experiences.

“The College has earned a reputation for quality that is equal to the best colleges in the country. I want to help further develop and secure that reputation.”
ARCHIVIST, INVESTMENT EXPERT, AND COLLEGE ‘HISTORIAN’ EARN ALUMNI AWARDS

Two Kalamazoo College alumni and a “keeper” of the College’s recent history have earned special College awards. They were honored during the Distinguished Alumni Awards Reception/Banquet in Welles Hall last March.

Mary K. Woolever ’70 received the Distinguished Service Award; Scott C. Cleland ’82 received the Distinguished Achievement Award; and Marcia Price, a longtime employee in the College’s alumni relations office, received the Weimer K. Hicks award for support of College programs beyond the call of duty.

Mary Woolever’s volunteer work for Kalamazoo College stems in part from her career in the nonprofit sector.

“I know how severely understaffed nonprofit organizations are and how much they need volunteer assistance to get work done,” she says. “Volunteering is a way of giving time, not just money, to help achieve goals that are important.”

Woolever is art and architecture archivist for the Ryerson and Burnham Libraries at the Art Institute of Chicago, where she has worked since 1986. Her responsibilities include the acquisition, organization, research, and exhibition of the architecture and art archives.

“I spend a lot of time with authors, scholars, and homeowners or architects engaged in restoration work,” Woolever says. “I help them find the information they need in our collections.”

Woolever graduated from Kalamazoo College in 1970 with a degree in art history. Her K-Plan included a career development term spent in San Antonio giving tours of an art exhibition on loan from the famous Prado art museum in Madrid. She completed an internship in the ancient art department at the Brooklyn Museum of Art for her senior individualized project. In lieu of studying abroad, Woolever studied at the University of Tennessee.

In 1974, Woolever earned a master’s degree in museum practice from the University of Michigan. A job as curator of visual collections at Northwestern University followed. After she left Northwestern, she joined the Chicago-based architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill as a design librarian and visual resources curator.

Woolever says her career has been spent “moving from one interesting opportunity to another.” Kalamazoo College prepared her for that, she says, in particular the aspect of her “K” education “that I received outside the classroom, learning how to work with people and to adapt to almost any situation.”

Woolever’s service to Kalamazoo College includes a stint on the College’s Board of Trustees as an alumni trustee (1988-94). She’s also represented the College at Chicago-area high school college nights and served as co-chair of the Chicago regional chapter steering committee. During the College’s Funds for the Future Campaign, she helped research prospective donor corporations and foundations in the Chicago area, then arranged meetings with them for College staff.

Woolever and husband Michael ’71 were co-chairs of the Kalamazoo College Fund for two consecutive years. They teamed together in 1992 on an event to celebrate the relationship between Kalamazoo College and University of Erlangen in Germany.

“Michael and I share a lot of common interests,” Woolever says, “not the least of which is our desire to see Kalamazoo College thrive.”

Scott Cleland credits his study abroad experience and the political science curriculum at Kalamazoo College for giving him the confidence and knowledge base he has called upon throughout his career.

“Plus,” he adds, “I will be forever grateful for my experience as student government president. It convinced me to avoid a career in elected office.”

Cleland is a nationally recognized expert on the convergence of investment, regulation, and technology. Frequently interviewed by major print and broadcast news media, he has also testified as an expert witness before committees of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on mergers and legislation. Currently, Cleland is founder and managing director of Legg Mason Precursor Group, which provides cutting-edge strategic investment research for many of the largest institutional investors in the world.

“We help investors anticipate large-scale change in regulation, technology, competition, and global trends that may force industries and companies to change their business models,” says Cleland.

Cleland earned his degree in political science from Kalamazoo College in 1982. His K-Plan included study abroad in Strasbourg, France, and a career development term with the French power company Gaz de France in Clermont-
Ferrand. He earned a master’s degree in public affairs in 1984 from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas (Austin) and conducted his thesis research in Krakow, Poland.

“Study abroad helped me learn how to overcome problems I’d never encountered,” says Cleland. “Political science classes led me to understand that the political process can lead to predictable outcomes. My career has been a succession of new experiences, and Kalamazoo College prepares a person for that type of career very well.”

Cleland’s business career included posts at the management consulting firm Booz, Allen & Hamilton and at Charles Schwab Co. In addition, Cleland has held several positions in U.S. government.

At the Department of State, Cleland served briefly as deputy U.S. coordinator for international communications policy in the Bush administration. He was responsible for promoting U.S. telecommunications trade interests abroad. As a senior policy advisor for Legislative Affairs under then Secretary of State James Baker, he earned a Department of State Superior Honor Award. He helped Secretary Baker promote U.S. foreign policy interests during the period that witnessed the dissolution of the former Soviet Union and the Gulf War.

Earlier, Cleland served at the Department of Treasury as director of legislative affairs and executive assistant to the chief financial officer. Prior to that, he served as a federal budget examiner in the Office of Management and Budget under then OMB Director David Stockman.

Marcia Price watched thousands of Kalamazoo College students become Kalamazoo College alumni. Because she spent her entire career of more than 41 years in alumni relations, it’s a good bet that she took note of each one.

Price graduated from Western Michigan University in June 1953 with a degree in mathematics. She started working at Kalamazoo College the following September and retired in January 1995. In between, she witnessed many changes.

“The College had far fewer buildings, for one thing,” she says. “Plus, chapel was mandatory, and students had to dress for dinner—jackets and ties for men, dresses for women. I don’t suppose students were sorry to see those requirements pass.”

Price saw plenty of change within the alumni relations office, too. In her early career years, she conducted alumni mailings using a clunky addressograph machine. She also ran ditto and mimeograph machines and operated a small offset press.

According to Price, when she joined alumni relations its office was located in the basement of Bowen Hall (current site of the Hicks Center parking lot). From that location, it moved to the basement of Mandelle Hall, to the third floor of Mandelle Hall, to the basement of Hicks, to a house on Monroe Street, and back to several locations in Mandelle before settling into its current home on the third floor.

Price also worked for nine different alumni directors. One was Julie Wywra ’84, who first worked in the alumni office as a student assistant under Price. Wywra and John Honell ’66 nominated Price for the Hicks Award.

Price served for many years as the primary staff liaison to the Emeritus Club. “One of my highlights was working with the older alumni,” she says. “I loved hearing stories about campus life in the early years, such as the reprimands one would receive for not wearing a proper hat and gloves in public. I still keep in touch with quite a few Emeritus Club members.”

Price performed extensive research for the Alumni Association. She is known for her attention to detail and for the care she brought to her position. For example, she sent sympathy cards to alumni when they lost loved ones. She also is known for her knowledge of people, events, and traditions that form the College’s history.

In 1998, when the College was short-staffed during its search for a new director of alumni relations, Price was asked to come back and help. She stayed for nine months.

“I guess they just knew I could track things down and remember how things were done,” she says. “We managed to get through commencement and all the other programs.”

Marcia Price, center
Mary Woolever ’70 and her husband Michael ’71, bottom
David Barclay, History, spent a week in Berlin in early November. He presented a paper at a conference organized to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Berlin Wall. The conference focused on the life and career of Willy Brandt, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his achievements as mayor of West Berlin and Chancellor of West Germany. Barclay’s paper was derived from his most recent book, a biography of Berlin mayor Ernst Reuter (1889-1953), which will be published in winter quarter in South Africa and West Germany. Barclay’s paper was presented at a conference in transmissible spongiform encephalopathies” at the 12th annual Chicago Signal Transduction Symposium held in Chicago, Illinois. At this same nationally-recognized conference, four members of the Class of 1999 presented their honors biology senior individualized projects. They were Melissa Cook, Ethan Graf, Christine Stehman, and Andrew Terranela.

In October, DebBurman presented an invited seminar in the Department of Biology at Western Michigan University titled “Diseased Protein Shapes: Combating them with molecular chaperones.” In early November, he was invited to participate in an annual teaching career workshop at Northwestern University (Chicago, IL) titled “Bio-Opportunities.” His talk was titled “Teaching and Research in a Small Liberal Arts College: Is this for you?” The forum was intended for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the life sciences who might consider a teaching career in a small college.

Professor of Religion Gary Dorrien’s recent publications include one book, two book chapters, two articles, and two reviews. His book is The Barthian Revolt in Modern Theology: Theology Without Weapons; the book chapters are “The Golden Years of Welfare Capitalism: The Twilight of the Giants,” in The Twentieth Century: A Theological Overview; and “Making Sense of Ultimacy: Truths of Experience in Langdon Gilkey’s Theological Development,” in The Theology of Langdon Gilkey. His articles and reviews are published in current and recent issues of The Christian Century, Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Religious Socialism, and Democratic Left. His current scholarly projects include a three-volume history of American theological liberalism and chapter contributions to several books. The Barthian Revolt in Modern Theology has been acclaimed by several prominent theologians as a major contribution to modern academic theology.

In October, Amy Elman, Political Science, was a discussant for an international seminar concerning European monetary integration. The seminar took place at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. In November, she gave two lectures as a guest of the department of sociology at the University of Pittsburgh. The first lecture, “A Reconsideration of Reform: Violence Against Women in Sweden,” focused on her work on violence against women. The second lecture, “The Domestication of Equality in the European Union,” was delivered to the University’s Center for Western European Studies and the European Union Center.

Nelda K. Balch (below, at right), chair emeritus of theatre arts at Kalamazoo College, was honored at a Hodge House gathering celebrating the opening of her play Return Engagement: Dorothy U. Dalton in Kalamazoo. She is pictured with Zach York, professor emeritus from Western Michigan University. The play chronicles the influence of Dorothy (Upjohn) Dalton on theatre arts in the Kalamazoo community. Its world debut occurred on July 16, 1999 in Dalton Theatre. That and a second performance following day played to a sold-out auditorium.

Matthew Filner, Political Science, presented a paper titled “Success Through Innovation? Participatory Democracy and Minneapolis’s Neighborhood Revitalization Program” at the American Political Science Association’s annual meeting.

Laura Furge, Chemistry, presented a paper titled “Inhibition of human cytochrome P-450 by potential chemoprotective agents” at the American Association for Cancer Research.

Lisbeth Gant-Britton, English, presented a paper titled “Bronze Blondes, Black Blondes, and Designer Bodies” at the
Modern Language Association Conference.

Jeanne Hess, Physical Education, and the Kalamazoo College 1998 volleyball team received the 1998-99 American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award.

Ahmed Hussien, Economics, taught a course in advanced microeconomics in the MBA program at the Africa University in Zimbabwe. While in Zimbabwe he also investigated the effects of commercialization and international trade on critical African environmental assets such as forests, fisheries, and wildlife habitat.

Michele Intermont, Mathematics, and John Fink, Mathematics, noted that Mark Schaller ’02, Erik Snyder ’02, and Langdon Martin ’03 placed second in the Michigan Autumn Take Home Challenge, a mathematics exam given last fall throughout Michigan. A team from Lawrence Technical University secured first place with a score of 57. Kalamazoo College scored 52. The third place team came in with 39.

Richard Koenig, Art, attended an Artist Residency in Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, Vermont, in September. In November at the University of Toledo, he gave a lecture on his work during a show on surrealist photography called “Dinner with Dali.”

Alfred M. Butzbaugh, Michigan State Bar President, has appointed Deborah Luyster, English, to the Michigan State Bar Journal Advisory Board. The board is responsible for the production of the monthly magazine sent to all members of the Michigan State Bar.

Luyster presented a paper and participated in a law and literature panel discussion at the American Legal Studies Association meeting in Pittsburgh. Her paper was titled “Law and Suspended Disbelief in C. S. Lewis’s Space Trilogy: Making Connections.”


Rosie Onwuneme ’01 (below, at left) won the Kalamazoo College annual Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest for the second consecutive year. Her essay was titled “Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium: Live the Dream.” Onwuneme is an English major who plans to pursue a career in teaching or law.


Tom Rice, Art, participated in an exhibition of figurative artists at the Paint Creek Art Center in Rochester, Michigan. The show, “Body and Soul,” featured his painting, “Channel Surfing.” Rice had two pieces accepted in the juried exhibition “Our Town,” which took place in Birmingham, Michigan.

Greg Slough, Chemistry, has been awarded a 2-year $30,000 grant from the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund. He will study saccharin transfer from Copper (I) saccharin complexes.

Jan Solberg, Romance Languages and Literature, presented a paper titled “Foreign Language Students as Cultural Anthropologists” at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Gina Soter, Classical Studies, presented a paper titled “Translating Helen” at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South.


Tobochnik was elected to Fellowship in the American Physical Society, an honor limited to less than one half of one percent of APS membership. Election to APS fellowship is recognition by peers for outstanding contributions to physics. The nomination and election processes emphasize significant contributions to physics research or education. Tobochnik’s significant contribution is his book Introduction to Computer Simulation Methods written with Harvey Gould of Clark University. The book, often referred to as “Gould and Tobochnik,” has become one of the two standard books in that particular field and has been translated into Russian and Japanese. Since most physicists read English to a reasonable degree, translation is less common than it would be in other fields. In the field of physics, translation is reserved for books considered indispensable, and therefore is a significant honor for authors. Tobochnik has made other contributions to the field, including writing and editing for the journal Computers in Physics and reviewing research publications. He and Gould were selected to organize an invitation-only Gordon Conference, sponsored by the Gordon Research Foundation and AAAS. Awarding an APS fellowship to faculty at an institution that does not confer PhDs is very rare, according to Tom Askew, Physics. “Just for comparison, I looked up the three GLCA/ACM physics departments (all more than twice our current size) that we compete with—Carleton, Grinnell, and Oberlin,” said Askew. “Not a single fellow on the physics faculties. There is a good chance that Jan is the only single fellow on the physics faculties. There is a good chance that Jan is the only small-college physicist to make fellow in the entire nation this year. My guess is that the number of fellows in non-PhD-conferring departments is very small nationwide, maybe a dozen or two out of some 42,000 APS members.”
Mount Rainier (Inset) and John Carroll at the summit of Rainier.
During the school year, John Carroll, director of admission, wears a suit and tie and carries a pen. Last summer he donned down jacket and crampons and carried an ice ax.

Climbing Mount Rainier in Washington was not part of John Carroll’s job at the College, but he did bring something of that experience back to Kalamazoo.

Carroll, an avid mountain climber, biker, runner, and kayaker, learned that it’s the journey itself, and not just reaching the summit, that makes the climb worthwhile. And he often shares this wisdom with prospective and current students.

On a 1992 vacation in Washington, Carroll saw the solitary rise of Rainier’s volcanic peak, and it began to distract him. “I started thinking about what it would be like to be on top of that peak.”

Carroll had already climbed the two highest peaks in Colorado, Mount Elbert and Mount Massive, but climbing Mount Rainier would be a greater challenge. Although not as high as the other two, Carroll considered Mount Rainier the toughest climb in the lower 48 states because it is a glaciated peak.

Last August Carroll let his distraction become his focus and joined 21 others from all over the country and the world in an expedition to the top of Rainier.

He learned how to climb with spikes, called crampons, on his feet; how to conserve energy with each step; how to use an ice axe to prevent mountainside slides; and how to work independently and as a team member.

The group left the base of Mount Rainier at 10 a.m. on August 20th. After seven hours of climbing with 40-pound packs, the group reached Camp Muir, a shelter 10,000 feet above sea level, for an abbreviated night’s rest.

At 10 p.m. Carroll rolled out of his sleeping bag and discovered one of the most spectacular views in the history of his mountain-climbing avocation: a half-moon’s light stippled the faces of surrounding glaciers, and innumerable stars glittered in the night sky.

In order to summit by early morning and avoid the likelihood of storms, the climbers left Camp Muir at 2 a.m. for the second, and most difficult, half of the climb, the last 4,400 feet.

The risks were greater. Each climber was equipped with a transceiver that would enable rescue teams to find him in the event of an avalanche. It was not a very comforting idea, says Carroll, but it brought a new reality to the climb.

Carroll and the others climbed for hours in the dark wearing headlamps, with visibility restricted to the snow around their feet and the climber directly in front. Occasionally, they had to jump across ice crevasses hundreds of feet deep.

At 5:30 a.m. the group reached Disappointment Cleaver, a landmark just past the hardest part of the climb. Several climbers turned back, including one who had tried to climb the peak twice before. “It’s not always possible to make it to the top,” acknowledges Carroll. “And the climb was a lot tougher than I had imagined. It was kind of humbling.”

Sunrise revealed a crystal-clear blue sky and beautiful scenery. At 8:30 a.m. they reached the top—14,411 feet above sea level. The climbers were allowed only 20 minutes on the summit because of the threats of hypothermia and altitude sickness.

Carroll had just enough time to call his father and have his picture taken, but he remembers the moment well. His team’s guide, who stood on the top of Mount Rainier for the 294th time in his life, shook each of the climber’s hands. “It was a great feeling to look out in the distance and see nothing but mountains. You see what you accomplished, and you know only a certain number of people have been there.”

The best part of the journey for Carroll has been sharing it. When prospective students ask him what options there are after college, Carroll has first-hand experience. And Carroll knows it’s the journey that is the accomplishment. “It’s not realistic to make reaching the top your only goal,” says Carroll. “The experiences you have on the way up, the people you meet, and the stories you hear are richer than being on top of a mountain. The college experience is similar in that it’s much more than the undergraduate degree.”

Bruce Mills Receives Award

Dr. Bruce Mills, associate professor of English at Kalamazoo College, recently received the Dr. Winthrop S. and Lois A. Hudson Award, established in 1998 to honor faculty members for outstanding achievement in the areas of scholarship, teaching, and college community service. Dr. Mills has published two books on Lydia Maria Child and many papers on sundry subjects. He is currently at work on his next book, an exploration of the influence of the pseudo-science of animal magnetism/mesmerism on the work of Edgar Allan Poe and Margaret Fuller. His nomination for the award cites his “active role in the restructuring of the English department” and his countless hours of “individualized instruction and mentorship” of students.
First-Year Program Earns National Recognition

Kalamazoo College’s first-year experience program has been recognized for excellence in the field of student character development by the John Templeton Foundation. The foundation profiled Kalamazoo College in *The Templeton Guide: Colleges that Encourage Character Development*, a guidebook released nationwide. “Kalamazoo College’s strong commitment to character development and the strength of its program make it a model for colleges and universities nationwide,” said Arthur J. Schwartz, EdD, director of character development programs at the foundation. “The Templeton Guide identifies colleges that encourage students to understand the importance of personal and civic responsibility, which will help them succeed in college and beyond. Kalamazoo’s work in this area is most impressive,” he added. Zaide Pixley directs the College’s first-year program.

Gallery Showing Features Senior’s Oil Paintings

Paula Sarut ’00 stands with her parents, Joanne and Gary, at the gallery showing of her senior individualized project, *Metanoia*. The project included 10 oil paintings Paula created during a span of five months under the advisement of Tom Rice, associate professor of art.

“My paintings are about questions and answers,” wrote Sarut in her artist’s statement. “In the beginning, the answers seemed to be the most important thing about them. Where were the paintings going to take me? What would be the end result? But in retrospect, I see that everything in between question and answer is the answer.”

When *LuxEsto* interviewed Sarut about Kalamazoo College and her SIP, she stated that one of the greatest opportunities of an education here is the growing realization that one has the ability to surprise oneself. “It seems like the past few months have been a period of great discovery and clarity for me,” said Sarut. “I can’t get enough of it.”
For three weeks last fall, phonathon student ambassadors spoke about the value of the Kalamazoo College educational experience with alumni, friends, and parents of former and current students. The student ambassadors helped raise $155,000 ($5,000 more than the goal) to fund scholarships, faculty development, technology enhancements, new classroom materials, and campus improvements. The phonathon achieves another important objective as well: it informs the Kalamazoo College community about current campus activities. Fall phonathon student ambassadors included (l-r): left photo—April Smoke ’02; Andrew Farkas ’02; Michelle Slayton ’03; Devan Popat ’03; Carl Roose ’00; right photo—Eileen Miller ’00; Coreen Lubke, associate director of the Kalamazoo College Fund; Eileen Hart ’03; Jonathan Tamm ’03; Corinna Verdugo ’03; and Abbe Will ’03. Not pictured are Kim Leehaug, Malea Stenzel, Emily Besley, Emily Johnston, Laurie Goldstein, Emily Miller, Jeanette Cooper, and Pamela Price. Those pictured represent majors or intended majors in art, political science, economics, psychology, music, history, philosophy, Spanish, and French. Study abroad destinations and/or experiences included Germany, France, Japan, Australia, China, Italy, Ireland, Greece, and Spain.
KRESGE CHALLENGE GRANT
FAST APPROACHES ITS BELL LAP

A little more than two months remain to meet the Kresge Challenge Grant. According to Jan Block, director of capital and special projects, alumni response has been good, but greater participation is required to reach the goal.

The College sought volunteer and financial assistance primarily from science major graduates of the 1970s and 1980s, but all alumni are welcome to participate.

If Kalamazoo College alumni and friends can raise $500,000 to upgrade the College’s science teaching and research equipment, then the Kresge Foundation Science Initiatives Project will give the College a grant of $250,000.

“Our gifts will continue to give,” says Block. “The $500,000 we raise and $125,000 of the Kresge grant will constitute the principal of an enduring endowment fund. Every year, income from that endowment will be used to maintain and replace science teaching and research equipment in the College’s math, biology, chemistry, physics, and computer science departments.” The other half of the Kresge grant will be used to purchase new science equipment immediately.

Additional information and a pledge card can be found at www.kzoo.edu/develop/kresge.

Senior physics major Aaron Podolner interviewed several Kalamazoo College alumni regarding their participation in the Challenge. Excerpts of those interviews appear below. Like many of the people with whom he spoke, Podolner sees value for science majors in the breadth of the Kalamazoo College liberal arts experience. He participated in the Land/Sea program, and he founded the College’s Frelon Dance Troupe when he was freshman. He studied abroad in Madrid, Spain, and he is currently student teaching in physics and mathematics at Kalamazoo Central High School.

Jan Simek ’70 is a professor of organic chemistry at California Polytechnic State University. His primary interest is teaching undergraduates, and he and his students do research in organic synthesis with applications ranging from pharmaceuticals to polymers.

“I believe in the liberal arts experience,” says Simek. “The science training offered me a career, but the liberal arts portion enriched my life. The devotion and dedication of my professors inspired me to become the best teacher I could be. Kurt Kaufman, Larry Wilson, and Ralph Deal served as models for my career as a college professor.

“I’m contributing to the Kresge Challenge to give back to the Kalamazoo College community, of which I consider myself a part. As a science teacher, I see the need every day for modern instrumentation. Students learn better with equipment that’s up-to-date and functioning properly.”

Keith Crandall ’87 is a professor and researcher in the department of zoology at Brigham Young University. Crandall is widely published, and his work has appeared in Science and Nature. Kalamazoo College undergraduates have worked in his laboratory during the last two summers.

“By providing broadly-based conceptual majors and additional liberal arts courses (I was very fond of philosophy courses), the Kalamazoo experience empowers one for a lifetime of critical thinking across disciplinary boundaries,” says Crandall.

“Today’s research arena requires cross-disciplinary interaction for major advances.

“I owe much of my success as a researcher to my educational foundation received from Kalamazoo College. This foundation was provided by excellent professors who have influenced and continue to influence my life, professors such as Paul Olexia, Paul Sotherland, Carolyn Newton, John Fink, George Neilsen, Stan Rajnak, and David Evans.

“Setting up a permanent endowment is a fantastic idea. It ensures long-lasting support for scientific research for Kalamazoo’s faculty and students.”

Judy Hehs ’85 is a former high school chemistry and physics teacher who is now dean of students and varsity tennis coach at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Detroit.

“As a woman educating young women, I mentor my students in the areas of science and technology,” says Hehs. “In order to remain current in technological trends and uses, Kalamazoo College must upgrade its equipment and technology.

“Alumni support of this effort will help drive corporate and foundation gifts. The Kresge Challenge is a perfect example of this, and I support it.”

(Above) Judy Hehs ’85, former high school chemistry and physics teacher whose passion for science and women in science has never wavered, with members of the Academy of the Sacred Heart varsity girls’ tennis team. Hehs has coached that team to consecutive sixth-place state finishes.

(Left) Jan Simek ’70 with several of his undergraduate research students.
Addell Austin Anderson

**Alumna Presents Lecture on Persistence of Negative Imagery**

Addell Austin Anderson '78 entered Kalamazoo College as the result of a happy accident. As a high school senior undecided about her college choice, Anderson applied to Kalamazoo College because her best friend had applied. The best friend didn’t get in, but Anderson was accepted, and, for no reason that she can remember, she decided to attend.

“It opened up the world for me,” she recalls. “The foreign study, the career study, and the professors really pushed you,” says Anderson. “Kalamazoo College expanded my knowledge of other cultures and my intellectual curiosity, which is something I carry with me today.” While at Kalamazoo College, Anderson studied in Spain and worked with a law firm in Philadelphia specializing in employment discrimination.

On campus, she especially enjoyed the lecture series, which informed her on a variety of political, social, and cultural issues.

But her memories of Kalamazoo College are mixed and complex. Anderson remembers one occasion when she and other minority students were denied the opportunity to audition for major parts in a campus production, an experience that discouraged her from auditioning again until her senior year. She was one of 12 black students to matriculate in 1974. Only four of those individuals graduated from Kalamazoo College in 1978. “I recall feeling an invisible pressure to represent all black people,” says Anderson. “In separate dorms, African-American males and females were given rooms on the same floor under the assumption, prevalent at the time and probably well-meaning, that we would be more comfortable, you know, with other blacks,” she adds.

“That may have been true for some people, but the effects of that ‘round-up’ image was a sense of being de-individualized. And de-individualization on the basis of a single characteristic, whether it be skin color, religion, sexual orientation, or national identity, is the root of racism. Activities with the Black Student Organization helped make on-campus life more tolerable.”

Anderson has devoted her scholarly and artistic career to exploring the interaction of imagery, de-individualization, and racism.

After receiving a master’s degree in public policy from the University of Michigan, Anderson worked as a public policy analyst for the State of Michigan for two years. During that period, she decided to change fields to accommodate more tolerable. “If you do that, it changes the way you see the world. I’ve had students say to me, ‘Dr. Anderson, you ruined such-and-such a show for me,’ or ‘If we look at it that way, we can’t watch TV at all,’ and I say, ‘I know. You’re probably right. I can’t really enjoy most TV shows or even films since they present a distorted and limited vision of African Americans.’”

According to Anderson, stereotypical images such as “the Coon,” or “the Tom, or “the Mammy” persist in most representations of black people today. “It’s harmful to us because it doesn’t show the individual diversity that exists among black people,” she says.

Anderson hopes the new millennium will lead us away from stereotypes and toward a more diverse, more realistic portrayal of blacks in our culture. “It is important that we recognize and cultivate these images because they influence our concept of who we are and what we want to be in the future.”
How Poor a Thing Is Man

Nací en la Calle Pobreza esquina con Injusticia
mis padres fueron Dignidad y Mañana Tal Vez
siempre a la puerta del palacio de la señora Rectitud
desde muy joven aprendí a comer aire
y a apreciar lo Invisible en la escuela de la Privación.
—Homero Aridjis
“Traces of a Place: Time in Southern Mexico” is the final destination of one journey for Kalamazoo College Spanish literature major Michael Kane ’00.

This one began only a year before Kane left for a study abroad in Oaxaca, Mexico, when he took his first photography class from Richard Koenig, assistant professor of art. A passion was kindled, and Kane borrowed all the photographic equipment his mother would lend him. By the time he left for Oaxaca, Kane knew his senior individualized project would be based on photography.

But that’s about all he knew. “I had no idea what I was getting into in Mexico,” he says. Kane set out to capture a “definition” of life and culture in Oaxaca, but he found nothing so neatly packaged.

Kane sat long hours in rain-soaked and sun-drenched plazas waiting for the perfect shot. He began countless conversations with people he wished to photograph. About half the time, potential subjects refused to let him take their picture. In the cases of those who did grant permission, each photograph represents a dialogue and exchange—Kane giving something of himself in return for something of the subject.

“What I was learning seemed in no way definable,” he says. The more time Kane spent looking for a definition of Oaxacan life and culture, the more it eluded him.

“By the end of my time in Mexico, I knew I had failed to realize my original aspiration,” says Kane. “But I learned something important—I know far less than I could have ever imagined about pretty much everything.”

Perhaps such a discovery may seem an unworthy outcome of two quarters spent in a foreign country. But this lesson reflects the true value of the “K” experience. As students create their own journeys at Kalamazoo College, they learn that there is always more to learn.

Kane gave up on his search for a simple definition, but he still required a way to approach such an enormous subject. So he turned to poetry by Mexican writers. He spent hours in libraries sifting through anthologies looking for poems to pair with his photographs as a way of getting a more accurate representation of Mexico.

At times, Kane felt he was an outsider in two ways—as a foreigner and as a photographer. Poetry served as a passport through these barriers and helped focus what Kane sought to capture—Mexican self-identity.

Many themes resonate in Kane’s SIP—the acceptance of death, the passage of time, cultural pride, humility, and poverty. According to Kane, the photographs and poems represent the outward manifestation of his inward experience. In a similar way, his Kalamazoo College journey represents only a portion of those that lie ahead.
En la piedra
Tu sonrisa
Triste curva.

—Cosme Almada

In rock
Your smile
Sad curve.

—Translation by Michael Kane
How Poor a Thing is Man

I was born on the corner of Poverty Street and Injustice
my parents were Dignity and Maybe Tomorrow
always at the palace door of Mrs. Righteousness
while very young I learned to eat air
and to appreciate the Invisible at the school of Deprivation.

—Translation by Michael Kane

Untitled

Nuestro pueblo esta habitado por noches que no terminan.
Vestimos de negro; vivimos hincados ante la propia tumba.

—Cosme Almada

Our village is inhabited by nights that don’t end.
We dress in black; we live kneeled before our very graves.

—Translation by Michael Kane
Soy hombre: duro poco
y es enorme la noche.
Pero miro hacia arriba:
las estrellas escriben.
Sin entender comprendo:
también soy escritura
y en este mismo instante
alguien me deletrea.

—Octavio Paz

Brotherhood

I am a man: little do I last
and the night is enormous.
But I look up:
the stars write.
Without understanding I comprehend:
I too am written,
and at this very moment
someone is spelling me out.
Letter from Mexico

Through these alleys invisible ancestors walk with us

Noises from cars gazes from children and the bodies of young women all go through them

Impalpable and wandering in front of doors that are no more and empty bridges we cross through them

While with the sun on our faces we too are headed for transparency.

—Translation by Michael Kane

Carta de México

Por estas callejuelas ancestros invisibles caminan con nosotros

Ruidos de coches miradas de niños y cuerpos de muchachas los traspasan

Impalpables y vagos frente a puertas que ya no son y puentes que son vacíos Los atravesamos

Mientras con el sol en la cara nosotros vamos también Hacia la transparencia.

—Homero Aridjis

Photography by Michael Kane '00
A young boy, Kojo, pedals a bicycle, his dusty shadow rising and falling with each shrill and turn of the crooked wheel. Behind him are miles of fields and, somewhere further down the road, Nana, the chief and fetish priest who wrote the message Kojo carries like a jewel in his small hand.

“Mimamoajoo,” Kojo calls as he approaches, letting the “o” trail off like the voice of some bush-bird.

He hands us the small note:

“My friends, two of my children have died. Please come quickly! P.S. Bring your camera. —Nana”

The “children,” two black-and-white colobus monkeys, sacred to the town of Fiema, descendants of the gods, and children of the fetish priest, had been hit by the driver of a battered old taxi rushing a family to market. There is to be a funeral at the edge of town and we are to come as honored guests, a title conferred in part because we are the only ones with a camera.

—the Ghana Journal of Rob Dunn and Monica Sanchez

“My friends, two of my children have died. Please come quickly! P.S. Bring your camera.

—Nana”

For Rob Dunn ’97, Kalamazoo College confirmed the possibility of a “National Geographic-like” childhood dream. The College brought him and Monica Sanchez ’97 together for a six-year synergistic adventure (personal and scientific) that spans three continents, continues today at the University of Connecticut, and will carry on this summer in the cloud forests and savannas of Bolivia and the lowlands of Peru. Finally, the College played a significant role (through the courses of Conrad Hilberry) in shaping the poetry of these two scientists.

Sanchez and Dunn are native Michiganders, Dunn from Howell, Sanchez from Pontiac. In high school, each visited several colleges but decided on Kalamazoo because it “felt right.”

“When I was a kid our basement was a menagerie of turtles, snakes, insects, crows, opossums, and various plants,” said Dunn, who acknowledges the boundless patience of his parents. “And I dreamed of a life right out of the pages of National Geographic, lots of travel and exploration,” he added. “But at the same time, I sensed the improbability of such a career. Who would pay me to do something like

Monica Sanchez in the Ecuadorian cloud forest where Rob Dunn conducted his SIP research. The couple’s research trips to equatorial locales carries some inconvenience. After their most recent work in Bolivia, Monica returned to Connecticut with a case of cutaneous leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease transmitted by the sandfly. The disease is seldom seen or treated in the US. Finding a Connecticut doctor who could accurately diagnose the disease took two months, and the cure another unpleasant month of daily antimony intravenous treatments.
that? So in high school I resigned myself to thoughts of something more ‘realistic.’

“In a sense, Kalamazoo reawakened the possibility of our childhood dreams. Today Monica and I are paid to study forests and cultures around the world.”

Sanchez came to Kalamazoo College leaning toward a major in English. A strong creative writer and graduate of the Interlochen School of Arts, she had studied under several noted professional writers, including poet/novelist Jim Harrison, who remains one of her favorite authors.

“Monica and I started dating shortly after Existentialism,” said Dunn, referring to the philosophy course in which the two met in the spring of their freshman year. “And I started to write poetry soon after I met Monica.”

In the spring of their sophomore year, Dunn and Sanchez interned in Costa Rica. She taught English to 3rd and 4th grade children in San Jose. He worked on a project at the LaSelva biological station, studying Nasutitermes, a type of termite common to Western Hemisphere tropics.

When we left Michigan we had mosquito nets, hiking boots, pans, a camp stove, and backpacks, but we did not have much of a plan. Our goal was to find somewhere to do our research and to "get to know Ghana." We have traveled with this lack of itinerary before. For us, this approach is often the best in countries near the Equator, where things move more slowly through the ether of heat. However, this indefiniteness is sometimes likely to leave you in a village where no bus has come for days, or where no one can remember the last time a bus did come.

—the Ghana Journal

According to Dunn, traveling together has had a synergistic effect on the value of the experience for himself and Sanchez.

“Together, we're more inclined to simply set off on a new adventure, and we experience each other’s scientific work in different disciplines.”

They also exchange their poems and critique them, a sharing that deepens their reflection upon their experience in other countries.

The two studied abroad in Ecuador in their junior year. As part of his experience at Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Dunn participated in the environmental studies program. Sanchez joined a non-governmental organization working on behalf of indigenous people's rights with respect to land development.

She also lived with an indigenous family in a remote village, studying the way villagers managed to maintain an irrigation system through cooperative effort. She worked long days on the system herself, took notes on how the work was portioned out, and what occurred when individuals neglected the work assigned to them. She later wrote an article on her findings.

Back at Kalamazoo College and between adventures abroad, Dunn and Sanchez shared the experience of Conrad Hilberry’s poetry courses. Writing and poetry became a thread to weave together their on- and off-campus experiences.

Together they enrolled in Hilberry's Intermediate Poetry and Advanced Poetry courses as well as his independent study program in poetry.

In 1996, the two returned to Ecuador for their senior individualized projects. Sanchez studied the effect of emerging markets on traditional forms of labor in villages and wrote “Mingas, Markets, and Modernization: An Examination of the Effects of Market Orientation on the Traditional Labor Form in an Andean Village.”

Dunn’s work took him to the treetops. In the canopy of a cloud forest (a high-elevation rain forest so named for the mist and clouds that linger near its highest branches, particularly in the mornings and in the rainy season), he studied bromeliad communities. These urn-like plants grow in the forest canopy and pool enough water to support considerable animal life, including frogs and crabs.

“A type of mini-aquarium exists in the forest’s crown,” said Dunn. “I studied the rate of recovery of bromeliad communities following deforestation and new growth.”

We were living with the Brong people, in a place where sacred monkeys danced through the canopy of crowns. Exotic flowers blossomed from improbably named trees—Odum, Onyina, Nim. Women moved down the seemingly infinite footpaths, carrying everything on their heads, their brilliant cloth wraps breathing in the wind like wings.

The people in the village had agreed to “live happily with us,” and so it was. We set out to begin our work. Our first step was to learn Twi, the language spoken by all Akan people, including the Brong. Akan names are given based upon the day of the week a person is born. There are seven names for girls, seven for boys, and one additional name, “Adda,” bestowed on all twins. People’s...
responses ranged from surprise to horror that neither of us knew the weekday of our birth. One woman even hit Rob with a large stick and told him he was wicked for lying (from that day forth she called Rob “wicked child”). Not eager to be hit with sticks, we both chose a day. I chose the name Efia, Friday-born, Rob chose Kwaku, Wednesday-born. As Kwaku and Efia, we began our research projects.

We rented a room in a small guesthouse. At night we would eat dinner and listen to the sound of hyraxes calling in the distance and drums singing their rhythm, all beneath an infinite sky, in darkness lit only by stars and the green light of glow worms in the wet grass around the well.

It was idyllic, a world full of flowers and fruit. But alongside these tropical scenes whispered another story—of malaria, hunger, meningitis, and a history of slavery and colonization. Sometimes this darker side disappeared when you looked for it, but it shaped the landscape, the distribution of wealth, the crops planted, even the daily bread, its sustenance rising marbled with the red grains of history. In the next four months we were greeted by the complexity of this landscape, greeted by children shouting “foreigner how are you?” We smile and answer “fine,” too tired to say hot and miserable, too fortunate for it to be true.

Spring 1997 marked the pair’s graduation from Kalamazoo College. Sanchez earned her degree in anthropology; Dunn completed his in biology. They moved to Woods Hole, Mass. Supported by a post-undergraduate fellowship, he conducted research in marine biology. She worked various odd jobs, and they pooled their incomes for their next great adventure.

“We had long dreamed of going to Africa and doing research there,” said Dunn. Although inchoate at the beginning of this journey, Dunn’s research plan in Ghana began to focus on the effectiveness of traditional conservation practices and Western conservation practices. In Ghana were planted the seeds of what would later (and in another country) become the focus of his doctoral dissertation—those variables that affect the biodiversity of land subject to a variety of human uses.

“Many countries in the world target about the 10 percent of their forest lands for preservation,” said Dunn. “That’s the goal, and the remaining 90 percent will be developed for urban or agricultural purposes.” Much of 10 percent is and will be preserved as fragmented islands. According to Dunn, the land between these “islands” is often considered very poor in terms of biodiversity and therefore is neglected as a target for conservation efforts.

“In fact,” he said, “there can be significant biodiversity in agricultural lands, and within the past five years ecologists have only begun to study the factors that influence the biodiversity of the land between preserved ‘islands’ . Among these factors are farming methods and the ‘islands’ themselves.”

In Ghana, Sanchez’s research interests began to shift as well, focusing on medical anthropology, a passion that would become the subject of her doctoral dissertation and work waiting an ocean away.

We often think of conservation as a Western ideal, but Western ideas have often injured rather than protected the forest. Traditional conservation programs have preserved many species that would have otherwise become extinct. This is not to say these conservation paradigms are a panacea. West African forests, particularly Ghana’s, face significant problems caused by a configuration of complex reasons, many homegrown. Nonetheless, Ghanaians have lived and survived in
the land that is now Ghana for more than 30,000 years. They have learned much about how to manage the forests.

Communities have long set aside and restricted access to certain areas of forest for local deities—a place for ceremonies, cemetery grounds, a living space for ancestors. In many regions, these sacred forests stand up like islands of flowering hope in landscapes stripped bare. The semi-deciduous forests of one such sacred grove encircle the villages of Boabeng and Fiema. From the villages a network of paths fan out through the trees to sacred places, to the best spots to gather firewood and medicinal plants.

The forest and its mona monkeys and black-and-white colobus monkeys are sacred to the people in both villages. The fetish priests are considered caretakers of the monkeys. The fetish priest of Fiema refers to the monkeys as his children. When the monkeys die they are buried in the forest next to the dead fetish priests. The forest is the place of worship, where no trees can be cut and no monkeys can be killed.

People restrict their use of these sacred groves because of social pressures to do so and because of beliefs and stories associated with the forests. Village chiefs are charged with punishing individuals who violate traditions regarding the sacred grove. The monkey taboo has resulted in the preservation of the monkeys and much of the biodiversity of the original forest. —the Ghana Journal

After a four-month stay, Dunn and Sanchez left Ghana and returned to the United States. Partly as a result of Dunn’s research, Ghanaians have begun to study the ecological potential and economic viability of preserving forest corridors that would connect the sacred groves.

Dunn and Sanchez enrolled in graduate programs at the University of Connecticut. And those programs put the peripatetic pair on the road again, much to their satisfaction.

That road led last summer to Riberalta, Bolivia, where the couple began the preliminary fieldwork for their dissertations. Sanchez lived and worked with indigenous people to study the prevalence of diseases among them, their concepts of disease, the choices they make between Western and traditional medicine, and the factors that influence those choices.

Dunn studied variables, particularly the habits of ants and termites, that effect the reforestation and biodiversity of land that people have cycled through periods of use and preservation. This summer Dunn and Sanchez will return to the lowland forests of Riberalta to complete their fieldwork. Dunn is excited about what he calls the element of “historical ecology” in his research. The Bolivian savanna and forest islands supported more than half a million people in the pre-Columbian era compared to 150,000 people today. He will study the enduring effect of pre-Columbian agricultural systems on today’s ecosystem. Dunn’s explorations will include his first ever collaboration with archeologists.

The upcoming South American trip may include a stay in Peru as well. Sanchez is considering an offer to direct a project exploring the factors that influence the incidence of malaria and its treatment in that country’s lowland areas.

And will the couple continue globetrotting after they earn their PhDs? “We don’t know,” said Dunn. “We often talk about teaching in a small liberal arts college like Kalamazoo, and living in a house near campus like the Hilberry’s.”

By the time we arrived at the funeral for the monkeys, a hole had been dug and allowed to fill with light. The old women were wailing near the hole, but the young people were hanging back, between the hole and road that led away, between ancestry and Christianity. A small boy held a bird that he could let fly either way. As a shot was fired and the chief poured libation, the other monkeys looked down on us from above, a precarious existence, suspended between worlds. —the Ghana Journal

Dusk
(by Rob Dunn)

Distant drumbeats blend into the sounds of crickets and the washing of pans. Lightless, the village moves toward sleep.

Everyone gets ready to blow out the candle.

Goats and children run untethered between mud houses and fields. Monkeys pick the last remnants of day from shadows.

A bird, locked on the branch by its ringed feet, ruffles its feathers and lets night, cool and dark, pour in through its slightly open beak, like water filling a hole.
MAYNARD OWEN WILLIAMS HAD A FRONT-ROW SEAT TO HISTORY

Thirteen-year-old Maynard Owens Williams set out alone from his home in Montour Falls, New York, bound for Buffalo, some 110 miles west. He had his mother’s blessing and a keen desire to see the 1901 Pan-American Exposition. After his return a week later, he penned a story about his adventures that won a $20 prize in a writing contest — four dollars more, he often remarked, than the cost of the trip.

Williams, a 1910 Kalamazoo College graduate, never stopped traveling or writing. He enjoyed a long career as a teacher, journalist, photographer, and lecturer, including many years traversing the globe for National Geographic Magazine. At his retirement in 1953, more than 2,250 pages of his text and photos had appeared in that magazine alone. He estimated that he had traveled more than 625,000 miles, in an era before super-highways and jets, in lands often rugged and war torn.

He had a front-row seat to the Russian revolution and the opening of King Tut’s tomb, took the first color photographs north of the arctic circle, and was the lone American in the first group to retrace — by motorized vehicle — Marco Polo’s route to the East. He befriended Lawrence of Arabia, several kings, and countless common folk who populated his articles and photos.

Setting off on another trip in later years, Williams said to his brother-in-law and biographer Lawrence Conrad that he

Maynard Owen Williams wrote 58 articles appearing in the Christian Herald from 1916 to 1918. Many were in excess of 5,000 words and were accompanied by his own photography. They touched on all aspects of life from the serene temples of Japan to war-ravaged Russia, the state of Christian education in China, and the plight of homeless refugees in Armenia. Here’s a sampling of titles from those articles.

* Japan’s Premier Discuss America (Dec. 13, 1916)
* Life under the Sun Flag (Dec. 20)
* Six Thousand Feet Valleys (Dec. 27)
* Japan’s Need for Expansion (Jan 17, 1917)
* A Christian University for Japan (March 21)
* The Templar Shrines of Nikko (April 4)
* Mountaineering in the Philippines (May 16)
* Door of Hope for Chinese Girls (Aug 29)
* Hunger, the New Czar of Russia (Sept. 19)
* How Petrograd Reviews the War (Oct. 3)
* Why Russia Will Not Fight (Dec. 5)
* The Heart of Babuska (Nov. 21)
* The Russian Peasant and the Land (Feb. 6, 1918)
* Bible Lands In Hunger’s Grasp (Feb. 27)
* Across Turkestan in War Time (April 17)
* Circling Around Mount Ararat (May 19)
* Saving Life in Christian Armenia (May 29)
* A Czech Army to Fight in France (July 9)
always wanted “to see the best show on earth — the earth itself; with the best cast — the people we live with.”

Born in 1888, Maynard Owen Williams moved with his family to Kalamazoo in 1902 when his father became professor of Greek studies at Kalamazoo College. It was the beginning of a long relationship between the College and the Williams family (see sidebar, page 28). Williams played football, wrote articles for the student newspaper, The College Index, sang in the Glee Club, and earned a bachelor’s of philosophy degree in 1910. After earning a second degree at University of Chicago, he embarked on a teaching career that took him from the public schools in Battle Creek, Michigan, to Syrian Protestant College (now American University in Beirut, Lebanon). Three years later, he moved to Wayland Academy, a missionary school in Hangchow, China, where he taught English, coached athletics, and met fellow teacher Martha Daisy Woods. They married in 1918.

“During his years in Beirut, my father traveled extensively, particularly throughout Palestine,” said son George Williams ’41, “most of it by simple means of transportation or on foot.” Williams took photos using a fold-up Kodak and wrote extensively about the people and places he encountered, first in long letters to his parents, then in freelance articles for the Kalamazoo Gazette and other newspapers.

On one of his forays through the eastern Mediterranean, Williams encountered two young English archeologists excavating relics at a site in Carchemish, near the Turkish-Syrian border on the Euphrates River. His article and photos about their exploits appeared in the New York Sun on September 21, 1913, under the headline “Unearthing Greatest Hittite Inscription World Has Seen for 3,000 Years: How Woolley and Lawrence, Young Archeologists, Are Directing the Excavating.” T.E. Lawrence later gained fame by leading Arabs against Turks during World War I and became more widely known as “Lawrence of Arabia.” Williams returned to the site frequently over the next year to talk with and photograph Lawrence and Woolley at work.

Beginning in 1915, Williams also freelanced for the Christian Herald, a U.S.-based news weekly then
gaining wide readership. His cover photos and articles gave many Americans their first glimpses of Middle Eastern peoples and lands, and allowed him to delve into religious and historical themes that he explored throughout his life.

In articles such as “Will the War End in Palestine?” (Christian Herald Dec. 29, 1915), he showed his deepening knowledge of the geopolitics of the region. “Once again the attention of the world is being turned to the land of Syria. The battlefields of antiquity may be the battlefields of tomorrow. Geography has laid its impress on the land, and history repeats itself along geographical lines.”

After earning a bachelor’s degree in literature from the new Pulitzer School of Journalism at Columbia University, Williams joined the Christian Herald in the fall of 1916 as a full-time reporter.

The relationship between Kalamazoo College and the family of Maynard Owens Williams began in 1902 when Maynard’s father, George Abner Williams, PhD, accepted the position of professor of Greek language and literature. He served in this post until his death in 1918.

Maynard’s sister Roberta (Williams) Conrad graduated from the College in 1913, as did the elder of her two sons, Lawrence Conrad, Jr. ’42. Roberta also earned a master’s from the College in 1914.

Four of Maynard’s five children attended Kalamazoo College. George and Owen earned degrees in 1941 and 1948, respectively. Mary served as a resident nurse at the College while taking courses for two years in the 1940s. Charles spent one year at the College before enlisting in the Marines and later earning a degree at Stanford University. George’s wife, Mary (Hosford) Williams ’43, and George’s sister Mary’s husband, William Danielson, Jr., ’48, are also College alumni. Danielson also earned a master’s from the College in 1950.

Fourth generation Kalamazoo College graduates from the Williams family are Karen (Moore) Glatt ’63, Janet (Williams) Ferrell ’70, and Janice (Williams) Kies ’72. Glatt is a niece of Martha (Wood) Williams, Maynard Owen Williams’ wife. Ferrell and Kies are their granddaughters. Ferrell and Glatt met their husbands, John ’69 and Charles ’62, respectively, at Kalamazoo College. Marlene (Williams) Lopez, another granddaughter, attended the College for two years in the 1970s.

Maynard Owen Williams and his wife, Martha, on the lecture circuit after his retirement from National Geographic (below). His father, George, in his classroom at Kalamazoo College (right) and his sister, Roberta (right inset), a graduate of the Class of 1913.
covering Russia and East Asia. “The traveler-author is a talented American who will let new light in on the great problems to which the East is just awakening,” wrote the Herald editor in an Oct. 16, 1916, introduction of Williams to readers. “National ambitions, economics, the mission field, industry, class conditions, morals, wealth, and poverty — all will be dealt with by his vigorous pen [and] unfailing good humor.”

Williams delivered on his editor’s promise, crisscrossing Asia and Russia for two years, sending back lengthy articles with datelines from Japan, China, the Philippines, Manchuria, Siberia, Moscow, Turkestan, Armenia, and Tibet. He witnessed the Russian Revolution in Petrograd and the Caucasus, paused for three months to head up humanitarian relief efforts in remote Armenia, and crossed Siberia with the Czechoslovak Legionaries led by Jan Masaryk, the “George Washington of Czechoslovakia.”

By the time he emerged from his assignment in late 1918, Williams had sent his editor hundreds of photographs and dozens of articles, all by mail or diplomatic courier. And he had established himself as “a veteran reporter of living history,” according to Conrad. His articles were “authentic and authoritative,” wrote Conrad in a brief biography of Williams. “Many of them were about whole nations, or whole peoples, with the right things said and right pictures shown, to give the reader insight into a whole population at a given stage in the world’s history.” Williams also had an ear for languages, according to Conrad, and picked up enough German, Russian, Arabic, and other languages “to supply his wants.”
Toward the end of World War I, Williams enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving as a first lieutenant in military intelligence in Peking. In 1919, the National Geographic Society, based in Washington, D.C., hired him to be the first full-time foreign correspondent for its monthly *National Geographic* Magazine. Both the magazine and Williams were 31 years old. It was the beginning of a partnership that “benefited both journalist and journal” for 34 years, wrote a *Geographic* editor many years later.

In 1922, Williams was picked to help usher the magazine into the era of color photography. From a base in France (and with a family that now included three children), he studied and mastered color photography while pursuing writing assignments throughout Europe and Asia. Over the next three years, his articles or photos appeared in nearly every issue of the *Geographic*. His travels took him to Greece, Crete, Turkey, Cyprus, Liechtenstein, Jerusalem, Poland, Russia, Syria, Czechoslovakia, and beyond.

In “Carnival Days on the Riviera” and “Summer Holidays on the Bosphorus” Williams reintroduced readers to an awakening post-war Europe, while in ones such as “Between Massacres in Van” and “Land of the Stalking Death” he reminded them that the echoes of war still resonated. “Through the Heart of Hindustan” and “The Empire of Romance” traced his steps from the Khyber Pass to Calcutta, while “East of Suez to the Mount of the Decalogue” followed the trail over which Moses led the Israelites from

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At the Tomb of Tutankhamen,” published in February 1923, was Williams’s account of the public opening of the burial chamber of the Egyptian king who reigned from 1361 to 1352 B.C. “A find without parallel in Egyptology,” he wrote. His published words told of the drama behind the much anticipated unveiling. “The correspondents spoke in whispers, as though the secrets of the spot would be violated by loud talk. Mystery hung as heavy on the place as mystery ever can in the full light of day.”

As the wait in the desert sun stretched from days to weeks, however, a hint of weariness surfaced in the private letters that Williams cabled to his editor. “It is costing much money here, a thing I regret. But you will get your money’s worth. My legs curse you. But my heart says ‘Thank you.’”
In the end, journalists were not allowed to enter the inner tomb containing the mummified remains of King Tut, forcing Williams to summon all his skills of observation and wordcraft in order to flesh out both an article and an explanation acceptable to his editor. [Note: At the time LuxEsto went to press, Williams’s photos, dispatches, and letters from King Tut’s tomb could be viewed at www.nationalgeographic.com/egypt.]

More articles followed from Corsica, Luxembourg, the Pyrenees, Latvia, and elsewhere. In 1925, Williams was the magazine’s sole representative on an expedition to the Arctic with Commander Donald Macmillan and Richard Byrd. His 3,000 photographs were the first color photographs taken north of the Arctic Circle. They chronicled the natural wonders and striking inhabitants of a region rarely seen by people living south of 66.5 degrees northern latitude.

Williams moved his base of operations (and a family that soon numbered five children) three times over the next five years, first to Beirut, then to Syria and Istanbul. Wherever he went, he immersed himself in his culture and his subjects, first reviewing the previous literature to become familiar with local customs, taboos, and “the temper of the people,” wrote Conrad. Then he would “acquaint himself with scenes, persons of influence, and mere passers-by until his impressions had formed.” Only after he had accumulated scores of photos and had “written half a book in manuscript,” would he produce an article, often in excess of 6,000 words.

In 1930, Williams was named chief of National Geographic Magazine’s foreign staff and moved with his family to Washington, D.C. That same year, Kalamazoo College awarded him an honorary Doctor of Literature degree. Not long after, he was elected to the College’s Board of Trustees. Despite his travels, Williams retained close ties to the College. He extensively corresponded with numerous College staff and sometimes showed up at alumni gatherings fresh from some far-flung adventure.

In 1931, at the age of 43, Williams embarked on what he called “the greatest adventure of my life.” He was chosen to be the only American among the French twelve-man Citroen-Haardt Trans-Asia Expedition to retrace, with motor vehicles, the 7,370-mile route Marco Polo took from Beirut to Peking. Car manufacturer André Citroen built specially designed half-track vehicles for the trek across hundreds of miles that no motorized vehicles had ever traversed. Georges-Marie Haardt, who had earlier made the first successful crossing of Africa from north to south, led the group.

“The objective was to follow Marco Polo’s route as closely as possible,” said Williams’s son George. “But the Soviet Union denied the group permission to cross any of its territory, so they had to choose alternate routes. That made the trip even more difficult, because instead of bypassing certain mountain ranges, they had to tackle them head on.”

The group often had to build their own roads and bridges. Sometimes they were forced to dismantle the vehicles, carry them over otherwise impassable terrain, then put them back together. “In the heart of Asia, the vehicles had to be abandoned,” said George Williams, “and the expedition became a camel caravan.”

China was in great turmoil at that time, said the younger Williams. Feuding warlords controlled some of the territory through which the expedition passed, and at one point part of the group was taken hostage. “My father never fired a gun in anger in his whole life, but they had to fire their machine guns harmlessly but pointedly into the air to let the warlords know that they were armed and to keep their distance.”
Alexandria
Maynard Owen Williams’s photos and articles from the eleven-month ordeal appeared in newspapers around the world and led to his election as both a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society in England and a Chevalier of the Legion d’Honneur in France.

Other adventures ensued. In 1935, he joined the famous Salmon River Survey in Idaho, one of the few assignments in his career that focused on the United States. In 1937, he accompanied the Smithsonian East Indies Expedition to gather animals for the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

South America, the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, China, Russia, Europe, the Middle East, and occasionally the United States became his beat throughout the 1930s and 1940s. His byline could be found under articles with sensuous titles like “Time’s Footprints in Tunisian Sands,” “Singapore: Far East Gibraltar in the Malay Jungle,” “Buddhist Calm Survives Along China’s Great Wall,” and “Buenos Aires: Queen of the River of Silver.”

The sounds and sights of World War II appeared in articles such as “Sicily Again in the Path of War” and “Ancient Temples and Modern Guns in Thailand.” Just as he had done during World War I, Williams assisted U.S. Army military intelligence, this time as a civilian. “The National Geographic Society had one largest collections of photos in the United States, many taken by him,” said George Williams. “He helped the Army identify and match these with films, maps, and photos taken by U.S. pilots and other sources.” In the late 1940s, just as he had some 25 years earlier, Williams found himself writing about a world emerging from war in articles such as “Paris Lives Again,” “Belgium Comes Back,” and “War-torn Greece Looks Ahead.”

Throughout his career, Williams’s most massive and intense coverage focused on the eastern Mediterranean. According to son-in-law Conrad, it was here that Williams felt most knowledgeable “exploring the drama and the religious conflicts out of which present-day Western civilization has evolved.” Fittingly, his final article prior to his 1953 retirement from National Geographic Magazine was titled “Crete: Cradle of Western Civilization.”

After growing restless in retirement, “trying to write books sitting down,” as he told his son, Williams found his way back to the region he loved. Accompanied by his wife, he became a professional lecturer for the American Export Lines, a large steamship line with cruise ships plying the Mediterranean. Illustrating each talk with a selection from his own slides, he informed and entertained cruise ship passengers with stories about the cities and peoples that they would visit.
On June 26, 1963, while conducting some research for an upcoming cruise, Williams set out with a camera and notebook near the city of Antalya on the southeast coast of Turkey “to explore some Greco-Roman ruins and climb ancient outdoor theaters,” said George Williams. At the end of the day, the 74-year-old Williams sat down on a park bench, collapsed and died, the victim of a heart attack or cerebral hemorrhage. Several days later, he was buried in Ferikoy Protestant Cemetery in Istanbul.

After his death, Kalamazoo College and the Williams family established the Maynard Owen Williams Memorial Award, which provides a cash award each year to the Kalamazoo College student who submits the best essay, poetry, painting, sketches, photographs, or film derived from study abroad.

“My father had a sense of wonder about the world,” said his son George. “At one point he was perhaps the most traveled man of his generation. People called him “Mr. Geographic.” Armed with only a camera and smile, he saw things few people have, and wherever he set off to, he made friends among people of all races and creeds.”
When she’s not teaching or in lab, Assistant Professor of Chemistry Laura Furge, Ph.D., might be found fishing, mountain biking, or hiking with her husband Kyle, a fellow biochemist working at the Van Andel Cancer Research Institute in Grand Rapids. She’s also a quilter and hopes to get back to the violin she played for twelve years growing up.

It’s 12:30 on a Thursday afternoon in January, and Laura Furge is watching for moments. The 21 students in Organic Chemistry 2A have gathered in Dow 232 to hand in a worksheet on nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Furge knows one problem in particular will pose a challenge to them. Sure enough, almost all come in with questions about it.

Furge systematically takes her students—mostly health science and biology majors—through the steps they must follow to solve the problem. “Did you integrate the peak? Did you count the multiplicity? Have you made sure that each step in the process is done before tackling the more complex issue?”

“Alone or in clusters, the moments start to come. “Oh, I get it!” “Yes, I see.” “NOW I understand.” Twenty-one students having 21 moments of learning, enjoying, and gaining new insights that they’ve never had before.

“This was all about learning that science is a process,” says Furge. “Many had actually solved the problem, but weren’t sure whether or why they’d gotten it right. But as we talked it through, they began to see the logic of the process.”

“It’s my job to draw out those moments.”

Furge (“pronounced ‘urge’ with an ‘f’ on the front of it,” she explains) arrived at Kalamazoo College in September 1999 as a new assistant professor of chemistry. Since then, she has quietly built a reputation with students and faculty as a quality instructor.

“She’s a great teacher,” says biology major Chris Wrobel ’00. “She knows the material, she’s confident, and she understands how students learn. She can teach different parts of the material at different speeds, depending on how she senses we’re picking it up. I overheard another professor speak highly of her, too. Plus, she’s been published a lot. I think it’s impressive to see someone who’s done a lot of great work in her own field and is teaching at such a young age. It shows that she’s ambitious, intelligent, and disciplined, but also that she’s in touch with her students.”

Furge graduated from Oberlin College in 1993 with a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry. She spent parts of two terms there in research labs picking up career work experience. One project took her to Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, the other to Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Both were in connection with PEW Charitable Trust programs. The Université de Haute Bretagne, in Rennes, France, was home for six months during Furge’s junior year. And she spent the summer before senior year at the University of Arkansas, in Fayetteville, as a National Science Foundation Summer Research Scholar working on an independent research project.

From Oberlin, Furge headed to Nashville and the department of biochemistry at Vanderbilt University. A Ph.D. (1998) in biochemistry followed, as did a post-doctoral fellowship under 1986 Nobel Laureate for Medicine, Stanley Cohen, Ph.D.

Kalamazoo College is Furge’s first teaching post, but she arrived with considerable experience, particularly in the research realm. The refereed journal *Biochemistry* has published five articles which she has co-authored. Four of her abstracts have appeared in the *Proceedings of the American Association of Cancer Research* (AACR). She’s been asked to give oral presentations of her abstracts at the last two AACR annual meetings.
Another abstract has been accepted for this year’s meeting, based on collaborative work she has done with colleagues at Vanderbilt and the Université de Rennes (France). Her study looks at the structure and mechanism of action of olitipraz, a compound that’s been used in China for the prevention of liver cancer.

Furge says she hopes to continue this type of work in Kalamazoo and to link real world issues such as disease and medicine to students’ classroom and laboratory experiences.

“It’s important that students learn, for example, how to measure the effect of a drug on an enzyme in a test tube. To know at a microscopic level what is happening, how it’s working. But talking about metabolic pathways, amino acids, and fatty acid oxidation and synthesis is more meaningful within larger contexts. So, we’ll discuss how these pathways are clinically relevant to cancer treatment. This makes students much more interested.”

Most of Furge’s students have never read papers from refereed scientific journals but find themselves doing so in her class. “This can be difficult reading for college students. But it works well and I get a lot of good feedback. It’s fun for me too because I get to take the information a step further.”

Sometimes, the information takes the discussion beyond the world of science altogether. Her class recently read a paper about a new pre-natal test for Huntington’s disease. Questions arose about whether a doctor should tell prospective parents that their unborn child carries the gene for a particular disease, even though there may not be a known cure or treatment. Exploring such questions and developing approaches to them from the overlap of traditional disciplines is the essence of liberal arts education.

“Students are split on the question of pre-natal testing and notification, as is society. But these students, as future scientists and members of society, are the ones who should be leading that discussion when they leave college.”

To prepare them for that role, Furge helps her students understand that there are times when issues are guided by fear or a misunderstanding of basic statistics. She recently used safety issues surrounding power lines and asbestos as examples of how this happens in the world outside academia.

“There is no hard evidence that living under power lines causes leukemia. But the suggestion is enough to keep people from living under power lines,” says Furge. “Millions of dollars are spent removing asbestos from schools. Yet, removal of unexposed asbestos might cause more health hazards than leaving it in place. And in school districts, for example, removal costs might necessitate cancellation of the band program or art classes.”

Furge believes that her students need and want to be educated on larger issues involving chemistry and science and that discussing the issues makes them better members of society, especially if they can follow the scientific process toward a solution.

“Science and chemistry are all about solving problems. Even if we don’t solve a problem, we know how to address it, assess the relative risks, reach the logic behind it, and work our way toward a solution. I enjoy guiding students through this process and helping them say ‘I can figure this out.’”

**Doorways**

Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Laura Furge, PhD, grew up just outside Little Rock, Arkansas. “My parents did not stress science when I was growing up,” she says. “They encouraged me, but didn’t pressure me to go in a particular direction. I had several teachers who inspired me: a science teacher who talked more about literature than chemistry and physics, and music and history teachers who were amateur physicists. They would give me books to read like A Brief History of Time and In Search of Schrödinger’s Cat.”

Furge would recommend either of those books, along with the three below:

*Virus Hunting: AIDS, Cancer, and the Human Retrovirus: A Story of Scientific Discovery,* by Robert Gallo. “Gallo is the co-discoverer of the AIDS virus and a somewhat controversial figure. Here he describes the biochemistry of the virus that causes AIDS and defends his contribution to its discovery. His competitive nature and eccentric personality, obvious to the reader, strained freedom of scientific exchange and also strained U.S. and French relations.”

*Phantom Risk: Scientific Inference and the Law,* edited by Kenneth R. Foster, David E. Bernstein, and Peter W. Huber. Expert scientists, including Bruce Ames and Arlene Weiss, describe the intersection of science and the legal system in America by discussing topics such as MCS (multiple chemical sensitivities), asbestos, and dioxin. “The book provides a balanced discussion on serious risks and perceived risks generated by fear and misinformation,” says Furge.

*Guns, Germs, and Steel: Fates of Human Societies,* by Jared Diamond. Diamond is a noted evolutionary biologist. This book is his thoughtful discussion of the evolution of societies and his search for an answer to the questions “why are WE so rich and why are THEY so poor?” “The book explores possible answers to this question in terms of institutions, technology, and culture,” says Furge. “For individuals interested in the ‘big questions,’ this is required reading.”
SPRING SPORTS COMBINE OLD AND NEW FOR PROMISING SEASON

Men’s Tennis

The men’s tennis team returns a talented and experienced squad this spring. The Hornets advanced to the national championship last year and have equal expectations this season.

“The team wasn’t satisfied with how they performed in the last match of the year,” head coach Timon Corwin said. “Finishing second will be a motivator for all of us. One of our goals is getting back to the championship and playing better there.”

Kalamazoo College will host the MIAA championships May 4-5, and the NCAA Division III championships May 19-24, so the Hornets will have ample opportunity to showcase their talents at home. The Hornets are seeking their 62nd consecutive MIAA title and eighth national title.

The Hornets have two of the best doubles teams in the country. Ryan Shockley ’00 and Ryan Cummings ’00 advanced to the finals in the NCAA championships last year. Brothers Dan ‘00 and Kyle Harding ‘02 combine to form a dangerous duo. Dan and Kyle are also expected to compete at number one and number two singles.

This year’s captains, Ryan Cummings, Dan Harding, and Ryan Shockley, have all been in the lineup since their sophomore year and continue to improve.

“Captains lead by the way they compete,” Corwin said. “Ours have a wealth of match experience and a pretty good understanding of what it takes to be the best in May.”

Women’s Tennis

The women’s tennis team enters its first full season under coach Tom Walker, who joined the Hornet staff just prior to 1999 match play. The 2000 campaign is a rebuilding year, as Walker begins to build the team into a formidable program.

The Hornets will look for leadership from top returners Paige Foley ’01, Maureen Coyle ’00, and Whitney Mernitz ’00. Foley teamed with Julia Clay ’99 last year to earn a 4-2 record in doubles competition. Coyle was 3-5 in the MIAA in singles, competing primarily at number three. Mernitz competed at number five and was 5-2 in the league.

Jennifer Paul ’02 is healthier and should help in the middle. Jodi Kite ’01 and Tina Borlaza ’00 are expected to complete the lineup.

The team traveled to Hilton Head, South Carolina, during spring break to prepare for the MIAA season.

Softball

The Kalamazoo College softball team finished last season by winning three of their last four games. The Hornets hope to continue that success into the 2000 campaign.

The Hornets are young, but they have experience. No seniors return this year, but every returning fielder started last season.

Leading the way is junior catcher and captain Dawn Todd. An excellent contact hitter, Todd led the Hornets with a .384 batting average and led most offensive categories last season. She is the number four hitter and has improved at calling the game from behind the plate.

Controlling the outfield is sophomore Erin Rumery. The centerfielder has great speed and is an excellent slap-hitter. Rumery batted .298 last year and will serve as the team’s leadoff hitter. Alicia Dicks ’02 also returns as a starter in the outfield.

A solid infield returns as well. The left side is led by Angela Lanter ’01 at third base and Teri Fox ’02 at shortstop. Lanter is a vocal leader and knows positioning well. Fox is improving in strength and range at short.

Meredith Dodson ’02 is the cornerstone of the offensive lineup. The number three hitter, Dodson is the team’s best contact and all-around hitter.

There will be new faces on the mound this year. Talented freshmen pitchers include Emery Engers of Ann Arbor Pioneer and Shauna Sage of Portage Central.

Baseball

Experience and a deeper pitching staff bode well for the Hornet baseball fortunes in 2000.

The Hornets return their top two offensive players in David Adamjit and Jeff Dillingham. Both seniors,
along with pitcher Matt Rix, will serve as captains.

All-MIAA second baseman Jeff Dillingham led Kalamazoo with a .346 batting average last season and ranked third in the MIAA with a .400 average. He also led the team in several offensive categories including hits (35), doubles (7), and runs scored (22).

Adamji was an MIAA honorable mention selection at third base after batting .337 overall. Also the starting goalkeeper on the Hornets’ soccer team, Adamji will bring his experience and knowledge to the catcher position this season.

The outfield is more experienced and has exceptional speed. Todd Wilson ’01 and Ross Gladding ’02 will cover left and center, respectively. Both earned Hornet Hustle awards as freshmen.

The pitching staff has more depth and experience and should keep the Hornets in close ball games.

Matt Rix returns for his senior year after leading Kalamazoo with a 5.37 earned run average last year. Rix won two and lost three in 13 appearances.

Rick Sharp stepped in as a freshman and led the team to three wins while throwing six complete games. Several talented freshmen and sophomores are competing for the third spot in the rotation.

The Hornets will have to execute to be competitive. Look for the Hornets to bunt, steal, and hit-and-run more in an effort to manufacture runs and win games.
A principal feature of a liberal arts education is the opportunity to explore new and different subjects in addition to one’s major focus of undergraduate study. The K-Plan has allowed senior Jen Richman to accomplish this goal. Along the way to that goal, she set school records in the one-meter diving events.

Her career development internship involved her in research examining the memory of infants and children. As a result of that experience, Jen realized that she did not want to pursue research in psychology. As she worked with the children who were the research subjects, she decided that she would rather seek a career in elementary education. She plans to take her first education class this spring quarter.

In addition to Kalamazoo’s liberal arts curriculum, Jen counts small class size as another crucial element in excellent education. “The best aspect of Kalamazoo College is the students’ ability to communicate with their professors on a daily basis,” Jen said. “Additionally, in a small setting you get to know other students more intimately, making it much easier to find a study partner or study group.”

The Jen Richman K-Plan
Major: Psychology. Career Internship: Institute of Child Development Center at the University of Minnesota. Study Abroad: Did not elect this option. Senior Individualized Project: Student teaching. College Athletic Career Diving (4 years). Hidden Value of Kalamazoo Athletics: “Because Kalamazoo College is a small institution athletes have more opportunities to participate in athletics, therefore affording students the possibility to develop leadership skills at a very competitive level.”
Post Graduation: Obtain a master’s degree in elementary education.

The Dan Harding K-Plan
Major: Economics/Business. Career Internship: Handled title and real estate insurance at Evergreen Title Corporation in Milwaukee, Wis. Study Abroad: Bonn, Germany. Senior Individualized Project: Researched the effect of interest rates on title and real estate insurance. College Athletic Career: Tennis (4 years). Hidden Value of Kalamazoo Athletics: “The equal opportunity for everyone to play competitive athletics while engaging in a difficult academic curriculum.”
Post Graduation: Attend business graduate school or obtain a position in the financial field.

Kalamazoo College will hold its annual golf outing June 19 at Indian Run Golf Course in Vicksburg, just south of Kalamazoo.
Golfers will play 18 holes and enjoy dinner afterwards. Participants will also have the opportunity to win prizes and meet and mingle with friends from the Kalamazoo College community.

For more information or to sign up, contact Kristi Ransbottom in the athletics office at (616) 337-7082, or e-mail krans@kzoo.edu.
WINTER SPORTS RECAP

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

The women’s basketball program reached a new level this season. The Hornets finished 18-8 overall and had their best finish ever in the MIAA (3rd) with a 10-6 mark. The team set school records for wins in a season (18), best winning percentage (.692), and longest winning streak (8). Kalamazoo hosted an MIAA tournament game for the first time in school history and played in the tournament semifinals for only the second time ever.

Sixth-year head coach Michelle Fortier became the winningest coach in school history. Junior MaryJane Valade scored 25 points in the final game to surpass the 1,000 point mark (1,007).

Valade, a first-team All-MIAA selection, led the team with 11.0 points and 4.7 rebounds per game. Freshman Amanda Weishuhn stepped in at center and competed with the best post players in the league. She averaged 9.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. Lindsay Drury ’01 averaged 7.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. Senior Beth Reuter graduates as one of the league’s best shot blockers after averaging 6.7 points and 6.3 rebounds per game. Other top scorers included sophomores Amanda Combe (6.4 ppg) and Kelley Nyquist (6.0 ppg). Freshmen Vanessa Larkin and Jasmin MacAlpine stepped in to play important roles at point guard.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

The 1999-2000 men’s basketball team won its first three games and six of its first nine games. The Hornets won the MicroVane Holiday Classic with a 62-54 victory over nationally-ranked College of Wooster (Ohio), and became one of only two teams to defeat Wabash in seven years. The team then went 10-5 (4-1 MIAA) in conference play, finishing second in the league. The team set school records for wins in a season (18), best winning percentage (.692), and longest winning streak (8). Kalamazoo hosted an MIAA tournament game for the first time in school history and played in the tournament semifinals for only the second time ever.

Brad Phillips, a first-team All-MIAA selection, averaged 16.3 points per game and ranked fourth in the league in scoring. He became the points per game. Captain Steve Thwaites averaged 10.5 points per game and led the team in rebounding. Sixth-year head coach Michelle Fortier became the winningest coach in school history. Junior MaryJane Valade scored 25 points in the final game to surpass the 1,000 point mark (1,007).

Valade, a first-team All-MIAA selection, led the team with 11.0 points and 4.7 rebounds per game. Freshman Amanda Weishuhn stepped in at center and competed with the best post players in the league. She averaged 9.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. Lindsay Drury ’01 averaged 7.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. Senior Beth Reuter graduates as one of the league’s best shot blockers after averaging 6.7 points and 6.3 rebounds per game. Other top scorers included sophomores Amanda Combe (6.4 ppg) and Kelley Nyquist (6.0 ppg). Freshmen Vanessa Larkin and Jasmin MacAlpine stepped in to play important roles at point guard.

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

The men’s swimming and diving team captured their fifth consecutive MIAA championship after swimming to a perfect 7-0 (5-0 MIAA) dual meet record.

Kalamazoo dominated the All-MIAA Swimming/Diving Team, placing 11 of the 18 members. Jeff Gorton ’00 was co-most valuable swimmer/diver.

Gorton shattered record books as he sought his fourth consecutive national diving championship. He set school, league, and pool (Notre Dame) records at the MIAA championships with scores of 594.60 in the one-meter and 669.05 in the three-meter.

Sophomore Nicholas Duda took first place at the MIAA championships in the 200-yard butterfly (1:54.19), 200-yard individual medley (1:54.21), and the 400-yard individual medley (4:03.75). Duda set school and league records in the 400-yard event.

Freshman Judsen Schneider finished first at the MIAA championships in the 200-yard freestyle (1:42.38) and 500-yard freestyle (4:40.98). He set a league record in the preliminaries of the 500-yard event with a 4:37.42. He also finished first and set a league record in the 1,650 freestyle (16:13.00).

Other first-place finishers at the league championship meet included Sean Smith ’00 in the 100-yard butterfly (.52.59) and Steve Domin ’02 in the 50-yard freestyle (.21.58). The 200-yard medley relay team (Casey Lanser ’03, Markus Boos ’00, Smith, Domin) finished first with a 1:36.00. The 800-yard freestyle relay team (Domin, Jeff Kamai ’00, Evan Whitbeck ’02, Schneider) also took first place with a 6:57.57.

The team and several individuals competed at the NCAA Division III National Championships at Emory University. Results were not available at the time LuxEsto went to press, but can be found on www.kzoo.edu/sports or www.k-swimming.org.

WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

The women’s swimming and diving team finished third in the MIAA, posting a 5-3 (4-2 MIAA) dual meet record. Rebecca Domzal ’02 and Kelly Raczniak ’00 were named to the All-MIAA Swimming/Diving Team.

Domzal set a school record and took first place at the league championship meet with a 2:10.50 in the 200-yard backstroke. Her second-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke set a school record (1:01.25).

Raczniak finished first and set a school record in the 400-yard individual medley at the MIAA championships. Her time was 4:46.35.

Domzal and Raczniak teamed with freshmen Lisa Williams and Liz Kiechle to finish third at the MIAA championships in the 800-yard freestyle relay. The team’s time of 8:08.62 set a school record.

Tracy Buetow ’01 also set a school record in the three-meter dive with a score of 448.25.

The team and several individuals competed at the NCAA Division III National Championships at Emory University. Results were not available at the time LuxEsto went to press, but can be found on www.kzoo.edu/sports or www.k-swimming.org.
**2000 REGIONAL ALUMNI GATHERINGS**

Twenty-two in 2000. That’s the number of regional alumni events Alumni Relations will host throughout the United States this year. Each one will bring a part of your College to your home.

The information on these events, provided below, was as current as possible at press time for LuxEsto. Additional details will be finalized or may change, so please visit our web page at www.kzoo.edu/aluminfo, look for your personal invitation in the mail to events in your area, or call the Alumni Relations office at 616-337-7283. We look forward to seeing you!

**May**

3 Wednesday, Kalamazoo, Mich., Gilmore Keyboard Festival chamber music performance at Stetson Chapel, featuring pianist Ralf Gothoni, 1994 Gilmore Artist, and violinist Elina Vahala, and reception in the Stone Room

11 Thursday, South Bend, Indiana, reception at the Knollwood Country Club

26 Friday, presentation by Don Flesche, professor emeritus of political science, San Francisco, Calif.

27 Saturday, presentation by Don Flesche, professor emeritus of political science, Portland, Ore.

28 Sunday, presentation by Don Flesche, professor emeritus of political science, Seattle, Wash.

**June**

24 Saturday, Ann Arbor, Mich., featuring Jeff Wilson ’91, Visiting Assistant Professor/Assistant Curator, Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan. A reception will follow at the Arbor Brewing Company, owned by Matthew Greff ’89 and Rene Greff ’88

**July**

Date to be determined, Traverse City, Mich.

Date to be determined, Detroit, Mich.

**August**

12 Saturday, Kalamazoo, Mich., USTA Boy’s 16 and 18 Tennis Tournament

Date to be determined, Chicago, Ill.

Date to be determined, Madison, Wis.

**September**

6 Wednesday, New York, N.Y., U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Gathering

**2000 CAMPUS ALUMNI EVENTS**

Commencement/Emeritus Weekend 2000
Friday, June 9, Baccalaureate, Stetson Chapel

Class Reunions

- Class of 1940 - 60th Reunion
- Class of 1945 - 55th Reunion
- Class of 1950 - 50th Reunion

Saturday, June 10, Emeritus Club Annual Breakfast Meeting and the Kalamazoo College Commencement Ceremony

Homecoming Weekend 2000
Friday, October 13

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner - Saturday, October 14

Homecoming and Class Reunions

- Class of 1955 - 45th Reunion
- Class of 1960 - 40th Reunion
- Class of 1965 - 35th Reunion
- Class of 1970 - 30th Reunion
- Class of 1975 - 25th Reunion
- Class of 1980 - 20th Reunion
- Class of 1985 - 15th Reunion
- Class of 1990 - 10th Reunion
- Class of 1995 - 5th Reunion

Mark your calendars and plan to come home
Our seniors might benefit from your advice. As they start life after graduation, many seek information about effectively connecting the value of their Kalamazoo College learning experience to the world of work. Or perhaps you remember the uncertainty and anxiety associated with this transition. Perhaps you would listen to and answer some of these seniors' questions, sharing what you have learned from your experiences. Or perhaps you are aware of career opportunities these talented young people could pursue. Please consider the powerful impact you can have by serving as a sounding board to young people. Recent graduates often tell us that the advice and support of alumni were important influences on their early career decisions.

If you would like to contact any of the seniors we have profiled below, or if you would like to learn of other ways to become involved in the Kalamazoo Alumni Career Network, contact the Career Development Office at:

Kalama Zoo College Career Development
1200 Academy Street • Kalamazoo, MI 49006-3295
(616) 337-7183 • career@kzoo.edu

KEY:
M/C: Major field(s) of study / Minor(s) / Concentration(s)
CD: Career development internship(s)
SA: Study abroad location(s)
SIP: Senior individualized project
SEEKS: Type of position sought and/or field of interest

Lana Armstrong
M/C: Human Development and Social Relations (Interdisciplinary: psychology and sociology)
CD: Gryphon Place, volunteer crisis worker
SA: Quito, Ecuador
SIP: Interviewed art therapists about their field
SEEKS: Entry level counseling position

Aneesha Balchandani
M/C: Psychology/Health Science
CD: National Institutes of Health
SA: London, England
SIP: Ford Motor Company, education training and development center
SEEKS: Organizational psychology, human resources, or marketing

Elizabeth Bennett
M/C: Psychology/Mathematics
SA: Madrid, Spain
SIP: "Investigating Career and Leadership Aspirations in College Students"
SEEKS: Government social work, juvenile casework, or computer programming using math background

Amanda M. Brookins
M/C: International Area Studies, East Asia and Japan/Japanese/Music
CD: MSU Japan Center for Michigan Universities and Office for International Students and Scholars
SA: Nagoya, Japan
SIP: "Interest of American Students in Studying Abroad in Japan: The Trade Imbalance"
SEEKS: Internship or entry level position at study abroad organization

Kathleen M. Brown
M/C: Art/Art History
CD: Detroit Institute of Arts, department of education
SA: Strasbourg, France
SIP: Education studio of Detroit Institute of Arts, research on sculptors Eva Hesse and Magdalena Abakanowicz, and a creative painting project
SEEKS: Teaching art classes in an art museum education department, assisting in a curatorial department, or working at commercial or non-profit art gallery

Amy S. Burgardt
M/C: Spanish/Social Sciences/Secondary Education
SA: Caceres, Spain
SIP: Student teaching
SEEKS: International business/sales representative, high school Spanish teacher

Jozef Chrzanowski
M/C: Physics/Math/Computer Science
CD: Computer programming at the Johnson Corporation
SIP: Scientific computing in the pulp and paper industry
SEEKS: Engineering

Tish Conway-Cranos
M/C: Biology/French
CD: Field research assistant monitoring loggerhead sea turtle nests for thermal emergence cues
SA: Copenhagen, Denmark
SEEKS: Research or technical assistant in field of biology or ecology

Mara K. Cramer
M/C: Human Development and Social Relations/English
CD: Data processing at construction management firm, student intern at The Dryeker Center
SA: Lancaster, England
SIP: Creative writing - a collection of personal essays, poetry, and photos about connections to family, home, and land
SEEKS: Publications, writing/editorial work or data processing/administrative assistant in construction management or related field
Stacey Freeman Falls
M/C: Chemistry
CD: Fund for Public Interest: research, fundraising, and campaigning for environment
SA: Beijing, China
SIP: Designed and implemented a water testing project with 8th grade students at East Middle School in Ypsilanti, Mich.
SEEKS: Work with non-profit environmental group or work in a lab testing water and air quality to examine the health affects of environmental contamination

Robert Feigal-Stickles
M/C: Biology/Environmental Studies
CD: WOW Wilderness Tours, Walpole, Western Australia; conservation/energy teacher for Australia Trust for Conservation Volunteers; Land/SFA expedition leader
SIP: “Into the Woods: The Effects of Wilderness-Based Camp Programs on Adolescents and Small Group Development”
SEEKS: Environmental biology teacher, secondary school wilderness instructor/naturalist

Eric Gerwin
M/C: Economics/History
CD: McCann Erikson Advertising in Detroit, Mich.
SA: Bonn, Germany
SIP: “Advertising as a Barrier to Entry into Competitive Markets”
SEEKS: Business field in sales or marketing with some travel

Courtney Goike
M/C: Spanish/Economics
CD: Grants administration at The Stryker Center
SA: Quito, Ecuador
SIP: Marketing Department of GM Ecuador; “Effects of Economic and Cultural Variance on the Multinational Firm”
SEEKS: Position in non-profit organization that combines economics, knowledge of Latin America, and Spanish

Andrea Graves
M/C: Art History/German
SA: Erlangen, Germany
SIP: “Defining the Person, Art, and Life of Kläre Kollwitz (1867-1945)”
SEEKS: Teaching or translating German language

Vanessa Greene
M/C: Spanish/IAS/Western Europe
CD: Wait staff at O’Conor Don Pub in London, England
SA: Caceres, Spain
SIP: Spanish Thesis: “La represion y el espacio en los personajes femeninos de Entre”
SEEKS: International business, consulting, or international educational exchange

Jeanie Youngmee Han
M/C: Political Science
CD: Law Intern at Oppenheimer, Wolff & Donnelly
SA: Oaxaca, Mexico
SIP: Political socialization examining the differences and similarities between adolescents in Oaxaca and West Bloomfield, Mich.
SEEKS: Law firm, social work, or position using Spanish skills

Danica M. Harmon
M/C: Biology/Physiology/English
CD: Laboratory animal care at Pharmacia & Upjohn
SA: Perth, Australia
SIP: “A Background Study to Phytothiy Analysis of Herbivorous Dinosaur Teeth: A Floral Reconstruction of Seven Excavation Sites in Western North America”
SEEKS: Primatological research, animal care, or journalism

Jennifer Hawkner
M/C: Computer Science/Mathematics
CD: Brighton, England
SIP: Website design for Kalamazoo business; research focusing on good web design balancing business needs with user needs
SEEKS: Web design, graphic design, Internet related positions, or computer science

Melissa Hawley
M/C: Health Sciences/Sociology/Secondary Education
CD: WNBAs Detroit Shock
SA: Madrid, Spain
SIP: Student teacher at Hillside Middle School, Kalamazoo; “Effects of Success of Middle School Students”
SEEKS: Community youth recreation director or similar position

Robert Hilliard
M/C: Chemistry/Biology
SA: Madrid, Spain
SIP: Pharmaceutical development research at Pharmacia and Upjohn
SEEKS: Research or chemical assays at pharmaceutical company in US, eventually to pursue anesthesiology

Andrea S. Hummell
M/C: German
SA: Erlangen, Germany
SIP: Translation of the book “Eine Woche Voller Sanfte” from German to English
SEEKS: Translation or teaching (preferably overseas)

Kelly Kearney
M/C: Chemistry/Mathematics
CD: Postfinance in Livonia, Mich.; personal care assistant at group home
SA: Madrid, Spain
SIP: Kalamazoo College chemistry department, inorganic research
SEEKS: Chemical research, biostatistics, medical field/medically related research, or mathematics applications

Katherine S. Kolon
M/C: Sociology/Antropology/Art/Women’s Studies
CD: Conviving the Community (Kalamazoo) research project, volunteer at a Guatamala environmental organization
SA: Quito, Ecuador
SIP: A biography of my grandmother
SEEKS: Social work with various women’s organizations, outdoor education, or teaching art and/or social studies

Catherine Lancaster
M/C: English/Psychology
CD: Pool supervisor for Flint Community Schools Recreation Department
SA: Bonn, Germany
SIP: “Round Island and the River of Timelessness”
SEEKS: Writing, publishing, or working with children

Jennifer Langpher
M/C: Economics/Business/Math
SA: Bonn, Germany
SIP: “Educational Reform in the United States and Their Economic Consequences”
SEEKS: Entry-level marketing research in Midwest metro area

Ira Lewis
M/C: Physics/expects to complete degree in aerospace from the University of Colorado in May 2002
CD: Lockheed Martin Tactical Aircraft Systems
SIP: “Everything’s Engineering”
SEEKS: Engineering processes, airframe design

Ed Manno
M/C: Mathematics/Economics
CD: Merrill Lynch Private Client Group, LaMesa, Calif.
SA: Clermont-Ferrand, France
SEEKS: Opportunities abroad, international relations, or environmental protection

Patricia Marcoux
M/C: Computer Science/Economics
SA: Caen, France
SIP: Document representation in today’s Internet browsers
SEEKS: Computer science in Metro Detroit/Ann Arbor

Jeff Marinucci
M/C: Economics/Business/Math/International Commerce
CD: EDG, Detroit, Mich.; Nippon Motorola, Ltd. Tokyo, Japan
JSR Business Division
SA: Clermont-Ferrand, France
SIP: “Companies Crossing Cultures at Motorola Japan, Ltd. Tokyo”
SEEKS: Cross-cultural, organizational behavior and development, internationally oriented (Japan and Western Europe), human resources, or marketing

Jennifer A. Mazur
M/C: Political Science/Spanish
CD: CI/GNA Corporation, Employment Law Group, Philadelphia, Penn.; WWMT Channel 3 News Dept.
SA: Caceres, Spain
SIP: “Learning How to Play the Game: Political Socialization and the Role of the Media”
SEEKS: News television/broadcast journalism, reporting and producing

Christian C. McKay
M/C: Political Science
CD: Green Party in Germany
SA: Erlangen, Germany
SEEKS: Political activism and organization volunteer coordinator strategist, low-level campaigner

Benjamin McMakin
M/C: Biology/Economics/Marketing
CD: Sales and marketing with Pharmacia & Upjohn market company in Japan (conversationally fluent in Japanese)
SEEKS: Business process consulting, pharmaceutical sales and marketing, or banking analyst

Ellen Miller
M/C: French/Spanish
CD: Hispanic elderly day care volunteer, summer camp teacher at a French international school, radio station intern
SA: Clermont-Ferrand, France
SIP: Re-writing of Mexican history as portrayed in three contemporary novels
SEEKS: Teaching French to adult students, non-profit administration, or financial planning

Michellia (Lia) Marie Moore
M/C: Theatre Arts/Music
CD: The Paddy Summer Theatre Summer in Detroit, Mich.
SA: Bonn, Germany
SIP: Individual collaborated performance: “Madame Jekel and Ms Hyde” performance
SEEKS: Theatre performance/acting, costume design/fabrication, scene painting/ lighting, or cultural learning in dance and art

Kate Nichols
M/C: International Area Studies/French
CD: Kalamazoo County Sheriff’s Department
SA: Clermont-Ferrand, France
SIP: Volunteer firefighter with Clermont-Ferrand fire department
SEEKS: Criminal justice on the international level

Erin Marie O’Leary
M/C: Sociology/French
CD: Intensive international travelling
SA: Caen, France
SIP: Student teaching
SEEKS: Teaching sociology/French; federal criminal investigations

Sarah M. Ovink
M/C: Sociology/Theatre Arts/Communication
CD: AFS USA in NYC
SA: Caceres, Spain
SIP: “Feminism and Popular Culture: How Feminist Theory Has Affected 1990s Television and Film”
SEEKS: Education with emphasis on resolving inequalities due to class and gender, theatre education; (seeking career mentor; employed with Teach for America through June 2002)
Call it the “Pleasure Palace Promise.” Thirty-one years ago five members of the Class of 1969—Cynthia Turner, Dave Weed, Bill Sevald, Alan Kirk, and Steve Elkington—shared an off-campus house (dubbed by some the “Pleasure Palace”) during their senior SIP quarter. They vowed to meet again every five years. Their most recent reunion occurred New Year’s Eve 1999 in Gulfport, Miss., and included all five classmates, spouses, kids, and Kalamazoo College classmate Sandy Glendenning. They shared stories, great meals, and good times, and forwarded this picture as a Happy New Year wish to all their Kalamazoo College colleagues. Pictured are (l-r): back row—Sandy Glendenning, Sarah Weed, Bill Sevald, Steve Elkington, Jonathan Weed, Deborah Elkinton, Glenn Miller, Cynthia Turner Miller; front row—Alan Kirk, Sarah Elkinton, Veronica Elkinton, Ann Schauber Kirk, Michael Kirk, Rebecca Kirk, and Alice Bostic. Not pictured is Dave Weed, who took the photograph.
Profiles

Kerry Peterson
M/C: Biology
CD: Habitat use of sage grouse in NW Colorado, foraging behavior of Black Rhinos in Kenya, the effect of pollution on birds along Kalamazoo River
SA: Kenya
SIP: Foraging and vigilance behavior of rock Hyraxes on a kopje in Tsaro West National Park of Kenya
SEEKS: Wildlife field biology, preferably behavioral studies; wildlife rehabilitation/veterinary medicine

Sandi Poniatowski
M/C: Physics/Math/Computer Science
SA: Germany
SIP: Researched computer modeled ionization of the helium atom at Calvin College
SEEKS: Combination of physics and business

Annie Robertson
M/C: Sociology/Anthropology/English
CD: Reporter for the Grandville (Ohio) Sentinel newspaper
SA: Lancaster, England
SIP: "Cochlea Spirals," creative writing collection, awarded honors
SEEKS: Magazine/book publications, community development/social work/counseling, or public relations (Chicago area preferable)

Patrick Joseph Rorai
M/C: Political Science
SA: Madrid, Spain
SIP: "Reducing Gun Violence in America: The Second Amendment, Gun Control, and Developing a National Strategy"
SEEKS: Public policy law, political campaigning

Leslie Ross
M/C: Political Science/Sociology
CD: Legal setting assisting attorneys in research and trial preparation, educational youth development, or women's issues

Ian Schmidt
M/C: Economics/Philosophy
CD: Communications consultant for Working Capital International, business consulting at The Dryer Center, researcher to urban developer at Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, English teacher to Chinese professionals in Beijing
SA: Beijing, China
SIP: Creative writing
SEEKS: Opportunities in Southeast Asia and/or community organizing, think tank, or urban development

Amanda C. Solem
M/C: Biology/French
CD: Biochemical limnology at Kent State University looking at alkaline phosphatase activity
SA: Dakar, Senegal
SIP: Intercellular Adhesion Molecule-2 (ICAM-2) in expression in the mouse eye, Wayne State University
SEEKS: Biology tech, museums or nature centers

Steve Song
M/C: Economics/Business
CD: Michigan Department of Attorney General, Merrill Lynch Institutional Group
SA: Seoul, South Korea
SIP: Research on the valuation of Internet companies
SEEKS: Commercial banking credit analyst, equity research analyst, or investment banking analyst

Brandon G. Sprague
M/C: Political Science
CD: Information system integration in a regional homebuilder
SA: Aix-en-Provence, France
SIP: Urban sprawl
SEEKS: Environmental law, human rights advocacy, international environmental law, or U.S./France relations

Rachel Lia Toomey
M/C: Psychology/Political Science
SA: Bonn, Germany
SIP: Research on gender gap theory at Northwestern University
SEEKS: Forensic or counseling psychology or other areas of psychology

Angela M. Ward
M/C: Economics/Spanish/Public Policy (Secondary Teaching Certificate)
CD: School administration, classroom observations
SA: Caceres, Spain
SIP: Spanish/economics teaching
SEEKS: Education: small private school teaching

Christopher Wrobel
M/C: English/Anti History
SA: Lancaster, England
SIP: "Moments Within the Spaces: Three Months on East Amatuli." Photographic exhibit from experiences as a field biologist on an uninhabited Alaskan island.
SEEKS: Environmental consulting, outdoor education facilitator, photographic assistant

Ashley Young
M/C: English/Ant History
SA: Lancaster, England
SIP: Creative writing—poetry
SEEKS: Editorial/publishing

The career development internship is vital to the value of the Kalamazoo College learning experience, and we need your help to identify excellent internship opportunities. For Kalamazoo College undergraduates, the internship affects career direction and preparation. Our interns offer employers the opportunity to teach and mentor an enthusiastic learner.

The academic calendar change requires that we identify more internships available during the summer months. If you are aware of summer employment programs or opportunities within your organization or elsewhere, please contact Career Development at (616)337-7183 or career@kzoo.edu.
In October, six Kalamazoo College alumni joined hundreds of people from the United States, Canada, and Latin America in the March of the Americas. The marchers walked the 400 miles from the White House to the United Nations building in New York City to deliver accounts of human rights violations to the High Commissioner on Human Rights at the UN. The alumni, all members of the Class of 1997 and, during their years at Kalamazoo, the Nonviolent Student Organization, included (l-r): Stacy Fratenger, Jen Kipka, Mike DeWaele, Jamie Pfluecke, Joe Strife, and Kristin Betts. Each played an essential part in organizing the event. Stacy helped work out advance logistical and route details. Mike registered all marchers (more than 900 people). Jamie handled media relations and helped document the march online. Kristin coordinated the medical team. Jen joined the march from St. Francis Farm, a Christian community in northern New York that provides impoverished neighbors with the food it farms. The March was part of the Economic Human Rights Campaign. After the March, Mike, Joe, Stacy, and Jamie returned to Philadelphia to work for the Kensington Welfare Rights Union, an organization that works on behalf of the poor. Kristin returned to Baltimore to work for Jonah House, a Christian community engaged in charity. And Jen returned to St. James Farm. None of these alumni receive pay for the work they do in their respective communities and organizations. “We work far more than 40 hours a week because we believe in what we are doing,” wrote Kristin. “We learned these values in part through our education at Kalamazoo College.”
The Kalamazoo College Alumni Association Executive Board (AAEB) meets three times a year to manage Alumni Association business. AAEB includes three officers (president, vice president, and secretary), eight members-at-large, six alumni trustees, the immediate past president of AAEB, a representative of the “K” Hornet Club, the president of the Emeritus Club, and representatives of other recognized Alumni groups that request a seat. All Kalamazoo College alumni are members of the Alumni Association; AAEB members are elected or request a seat. All Kalamazoo College trustee nominees and the members-at-large elect a portion of the alumni other recognized Alumni groups that large in even-numbered years. Two terms, respectively. Under the calendar of member-at-large positions are appointed by AAEB.

Officers serve two-year terms. Members-at-large and alumni trustees serve four-year and three-year staggered terms, respectively. Under the calendar of staggered terms, Alumni Association members elect a portion of the alumni trustee nominees and the members-at-large in even-numbered years. Two member-at-large positions are appointed by AAEB.

The nominating committee of AAEB publishes a request for nominations for officers, members-at-large, and alumni trustees in LuxEsto. The committee reviews the nominations it receives, and AAEB approves a slate of unopposed candidates reflective of the national distribution, cultural diversity, and volunteer involvement of our alumni.

Once elected by the Alumni Association, the alumni trustees serve as Alumni Association representatives on the College’s Board of Trustees. They attend regular meetings and enjoy all the rights and privileges of regularly appointed trustees.

As currently written, the constitution of the Alumni Association requires general election of officers, members-at-large, and alumni trustee nominees. In the past, these positions have occasionally, though not often, been contested.

At its general meeting scheduled for June 10, 2000, Alumni Association members will consider, among other business, proposing an amendment to the constitution regarding the process for electing these positions.

Your mark on the ballot (see insert) indicates endorsement of the nominating committee’s candidates. All alumni may vote. Two alumni members of a household may cast votes on the same ballot. To be valid, a ballot must be original, signed, and postmarked by June 1, 2000.

L. West Nelson II ’81 (candidate for president) is a senior training instructor in information technology for Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services and a senior partner at Rosetta Consultants. He is a class agent for the Class of 1981, a member of the Greater New York City Regional Alumni Chapter, and an active volunteer on behalf of the College’s admission department.

Bonnie Wachter Swenby ’69 (candidate for vice president) is a dentist and partner at Oxboro Dental Care, Inc. in Bloomington, Minnesota. She has been a tireless volunteer for admission recruitment efforts in Minn. She has served as class agent for the Class of 1969 and has been an AAEB at-large member since 1996.

Samantha Whitney-Ulane ’87 (candidate for secretary) is a consultant with LEXIS-NEXIS, an international legal and business online database service. Previously, she worked as a research librarian for the Chicago law offices of Kirkland & Ellis and Jenner & Block. She volunteers for the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago. Samantha chairs (since 1992) the steering committee of the College’s Chicago Regional Alumni Chapter and has been an active volunteer on behalf of the College’s admission department.

Amy S. Courter ’83 (candidate for alumni trustee nominee) is vice president of management information services at Valassis Communications, Inc. She was recently named the first female wing commander of the Air Patrol, responsible for all Air Patrol operations in the state of Michigan. She serves as a “K” Alumni Career Network member and is a “K” Hornet Club member and supporter. She is completing her two-year term as president of AAEB.

William Barrett ’66 (candidate for alumni trustee nominee) is president publisher of Suburban World Incorporated, which produces seven weekly newspapers in the southwestern suburbs of Boston, Mass. He is married to Ingrid Barrett, pastor of North Congregational Church in Woburn, Mass. His professional experience includes several positions in education, including vice provost at Grinnell College and admission counselor at Kalamazoo College.

William P. Weiner ’69 (candidate for member-at-large) is a professor of law at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Mich. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Ingham County Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the American Society of International Law. He serves on the board of directors of the Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the museum advisory committee of the Kresge Art Museum, and the long range planning committee of the Boarshead Theater.

Julie Powell Wyrwa ’84 (candidate for member-at-large) is assistant to the chief executive officer at LakeView Community Hospital Authority. She has held several positions at Kalamazoo College, including director of alumni relations (1993-97), cooperative education and internship coordinator (1986-89), and admissions intern (1984-85). She has served as a “K” Alumni Career Network volunteer and is a “K” Hornet Club supporter.

Lila (Orbach) Lazarus ’84 (candidate for member-at-large) is a health reporter and anchor at WDIV in Detroit, Mich. She holds two master’s degrees (political science and journalism), speaks four languages, and is a Fulbright Scholar. She has reported from Germany and Nicaragua, and she covered Nelson Mandela’s inauguration in South Africa. Lila won the 1998 Clarion Award for health reporting and has been honored by the Detroit Press Club, the UPI, and the Associated Press.
Some very special members of the Kalamazoo College community have created a scholarship to support the learning experience of future Kalamazoo College students. Members of the Venema family will endow the Venema Scholarship through multiple gift arrangements with the College. The scholarship honors the memory of Amy Venema, who died in 1997. Amy was the wife of Charles J. (Chuck) Venema ’33 and the mother of Bill Venema ’59.

Chuck was a scholar-athlete during his student years and enjoyed a successful career in the insurance business before retiring in 1975. A recipient of the College’s Distinguished Service Award, Chuck has served the College in a variety of roles, including chairman of the Kalamazoo College Fund, president of the alumni association and the emeritus club, and class agent.

Bill is a pediatrician in Kalamazoo. His wife Carrie is a member of the Women’s Council of Kalamazoo College. Chuck, Bill, and Carrie are members of The Stetson Society as a result of their involvement with current and deferred gift annuities, bequests, and life insurance gifts. The Venemas worked closely with John Heerspink, director of gift planning, to make their gift and scholarship arrangements. Pictured are (l-r) Chuck Venema, Bill Venema, and Carrie Venema. In the background is a portrait of Amy Venema.

Photo by Keith Mumma
The Kalamazoo College learning experience “down under” will be the focus of a feature in the next issue of LuxEsto. Pictured are Patrick Hurford ’00 (left) and Andrew McTavish ’00 with a group of Aboriginal children, one of whom holds a joey (a baby kangaroo). Not pictured is Brian Untch ’00, who is taking the photo. The three studied abroad at Curtin University in Perth. During breaks and several weekends they worked for an organization called Curtin Volunteers. This picture dates from a weekend the three worked on a community development project in Laverton, an Aboriginal community on the edge of the Great Victorian Desert, one-and-a-half hours by plane from Perth. Untch conducted his Independent Cultural Research Project in Australia after his study abroad experience. He researched and developed (with local community leaders) at type-II diabetes awareness and education project for Aboriginal communities. Type-II diabetes has become a major health problem among Aboriginal people as their diet shifted from traditional fare to Western foods. More, next issue.

Photo by Brian Untch