

THE FRANKLIN

gazette

THE
MAGAZINE
OF
FRANKLIN COLLEGE
SWITZERLAND

WINTER 2005/2006

Prague and Budapest: Yesterday and Today

*Passions, Pairings and Professional Pursuits
An Alumna's Story*

*Elusive Peace in the Middle East,
a New Book by Ahron Bregman*

*Internships and Preparing Graduates
for Life after Franklin*

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Cover photo: Czech Republic, Prague, city rooftops and spires at night. The twin towers in the center belong to the Gothic Tyn Church (Church of Our Lady before Tyn).

Winter 2005/2006

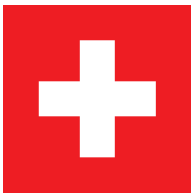
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From the editor

Dear Alumni and Friends,



We have a wide variety of articles in this Winter issue, ranging from the Dean's Honors Roundtable and Professor Clarice Zdanski's summer art history course to College theatrical productions and student internships, with many other interesting topics in between.

Dr. Melvin Schlein, Professor of Political Science and History, has been taking students to Prague and Budapest since the 1980's. In our Academic Travel feature, Dr. Schlein discusses the evolution of this travel experience from its beginnings to most recently in spring 2005.

We are also pleased to feature contributions from visiting professors and alumni. Professor Ahron Bregman, who has been teaching summer courses over the last four years, writes about his recently published book titled *Elusive Peace: How the Holy Land Defeated America*.

In our Alumni Feature you can read about the background and work of **Deirdre Kinney-Brennan '81**, alumna and Trustee, who is a professional set decorator and documentary filmmaker. Her most recent work involves a film about an almost extinct seabird's struggle for survival in outposts off the mainland on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean, *Sceillig and Bermuda: A Last Refuge*.

You will also find photos of the many alumni events that took place last fall. Alumni have reconnected with each other in cities such as Santa Monica, London, Tokyo, Istanbul, New York, as well as in Lugano, and in some cases they had the chance to meet with students and professors taking part in Academic Travel to those cities.

We welcome suggestions for future articles and contributions to our publication.

I hope you enjoy this issue and look forward to hearing from you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diana Tedoldi".

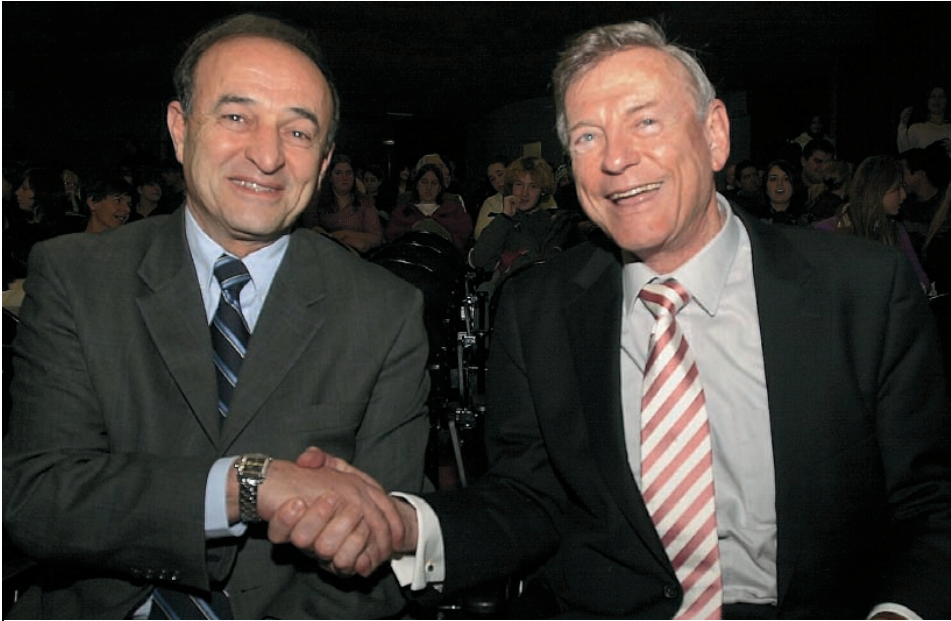
Diana Tedoldi
Editor

Franklin College welcomes reader comments. Send them to Franklin College, Office of Alumni Relations, via Ponte Tresa 29, 6924 Sorenago (Lugano), Switzerland or email comments to: dtedoldi@fc.edu

Peacebuilding through Public Opinion: One Initiative, One Possibility

By Rebecca Self

On the evening of December 5th, the Dean of the College, Armando Zaneccchia, hosted an Honors Roundtable entitled “The Geneva Initiative: The Necessity and Feasibility of a Two-State Solution for Palestine and Israel.” The event was generously supported by the Robert Stein family. Featured speakers were Dr. Samih El Abed, Palestinian Deputy Minister of Planning and member of the Palestinian negotiating team, and Dr. Avi Primor, Director of the Center for European Studies in Herzliya, Israel, and former Israeli ambassador to the European Union and to Germany. Their remarks were directed to a packed auditorium audience of Franklin students, faculty, staff, and invited guests.



Dr. Samih El Abed and Dr. Avi Primor, key speakers at the Honors Roundtable, “The Geneva Initiative: The Necessity and Feasibility of a Two-State Solution for Palestine and Israel.”

Dr. Morris Mottale, a Franklin College professor, sat between the Palestinian and Israeli negotiators, but not because the meeting was contentious. In fact, Drs. Samih El Abed and Avi Primor seemed to agree on most everything, much to the dismay of the audience. In response to the question, “Is there anything on which you don’t agree?” the two chuckled, consulted, and quickly proceeded to the next question.

In a region racked with discord and violence, El Abed and Primor belong to an innovative coalition devoted to teaching and keeping peace. The Geneva Initiative is a joint Israeli-Palestinian effort that through two years of meetings crafted a mutually agreed-upon, detailed model to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The group is committed to the possibility of peace in the region and sees as one of its primary missions communicating that possibility to the public.

The two gentlemen spent most of their evening at Franklin College explaining the timeline of negotiations in the region, highlighting key stumbling blocks and overarching issues.

Primor shared in his remarks that all lasting and meaningful peace initiatives in the region have arisen from the public, not as top-down decrees from governmental negotiations or international involvement. One of the overarching issues, therefore, is educating the public in specific ways. El Abed said, “All we ever hear about Palestinians is that they’re terrorists.” He called for more thorough and accurate news coverage that would highlight a wider array of activities and initiatives on the part of Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Primor noted that the Geneva Initiative arose out of an environment in which Israelis and Palestinians weren’t necessarily motivated

or eager to work together, but recognized that they could no longer go on the same way. Something had to change. He argued that if media sustained and supported a sense of possibility and peace movement in the region, negotiations could go much more smoothly. Public opinion, he argued, is both key and stumbling block to lasting peace in the region.

Both the concrete, consensus-oriented plans outlined in the Geneva Initiative and these two men’s visions of the future constitute and call for good news—news that features good works, deeds, and intentions, and news that does its job comprehensively and responsibly.

At the end of the evening, El Abed shared a story that had received little news coverage. “An Israeli soldier,” he said, “shot and killed a small Palestinian boy.” It’s a regrettably familiar narrative in news today. The story, however, did not end there. What didn’t get as much coverage was what happened next: the boy’s father donated all of his organs to Israelis.

These two men, the Geneva Initiative, and the story of that small boy all hold out hope for a region marked by grief, turmoil, and violence.

For more information on the Geneva Initiative, please see the organization’s Web site at: <http://www.geneva-accord.org>

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Dean’s Honors Roundtables are a means of engaging Franklin College Honors Students, Franklin College Scholars, and distinguished Franklin faculty in discussions of important contemporary issues in an informal learning environment. Honors Roundtables also serve to enhance the spirit of community on campus and to encourage intellectual participation in life outside the classroom.

By Diana Tedoldi '90

Franklin Welcomes Five New Full-Time Faculty Members



Professor Read Mercer Schuchardt, Professor Rebecca Self, Professor Sara Steinert-Borella, Professor Caroline Wiedmer, and Professor Pamela Adams.

International Communications welcomes **Dr. Read Mercer Schuchardt**, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College and a Master of Arts and Ph.D. from New York University, as Assistant Professor. He comes to us from New York, where he has taught courses in communication history and theory, interpersonal communications, film and film history, and media politics at Marymount Manhattan College of New York City and in expository writing at New York University. Professor Schuchardt's publications have appeared in academic journals as well as in *The Chicago Tribune*, the *Utne Reader*, and *Mirror on America: Short Essays and Images from Popular Culture* (St. Martin's Press). His corporate marketing and advertising experience derives from, among others, Walt Disney Online, Sony Electronics, McDonald's, and pharmaceutical copywriting. He publishes and lectures widely on a variety of topics revolving around the themes of media history, technology, and spiritual identity, and he is the founder and publisher of the award-winning website *Metaphilm.com*.

He will be leading an Academic Travel group to Scotland in the spring. Professor Schuchardt, who is the faculty advisor to

various student clubs including the Adventure Club, the Skee-ball Club, the Film Society, Yearbook, and Christian Fellowship, is here with his wife and six children. They host a once-a-month party at their home across the street from Panera for students and/or faculty.

Dr. Rebecca Self has also joined the **International Communications** department as Assistant Professor. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampshire College and a Master of Arts and Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. Professor Self has taught courses in media law and ethics, public relations, media history, public opinion, and mass communications research at the University of Idaho and the University of Colorado.

Her primary research interests include the global deregulation of media industries and families' uses and interpretations of mass media. Professor Self is currently working on a book manuscript, *One Nation Under Mouse*, an exploration of the influence of the Walt Disney Corporation on American culture. Her experience in the private sector includes employment by the Gronstedt Group, an international public relations and communications consulting

firm; her past clients include Volvo, Ericsson, Sprint, and TD Waterhouse. She is a freelance writer for professional publications and television and was the producer of a political talk show for KNSD-TV in San Diego, California.

This spring she will lead an Academic Travel to the southern states of the USA.

Dr. Pamela Adams, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Arts and Ph.D. from Yale University, is the Associate Professor for **International Marketing**. She was a member of the faculty of the Marketing Department and Director of the MBA Program at the Business School of Milan's Bocconi University, has taught undergraduate courses in international marketing and international strategy, and has managed several international executive programs.

Her scholarly articles and case studies in the general areas of international marketing and industrial policy have appeared in American and Italian journals and textbooks. She also co-authored a book entitled *Global Marketing*. She has private sector experience at Banca Intesa (Milan) and has been Member of the Board of Illycaffè,

Executive VP for Marketing of Volendo SpA (Milan) and OmniTicket (Paris), and Senior Consultant for Ambrosetti SpA (Milan).

She will lead an Academic Travel to Sydney and Brisbane, Australia, during this current Spring semester. Professor Adams is also organizing a series of evening seminars entitled "Professionals in Management and Communication," which will provide an opportunity for students to meet members of many different professions in an informal way and to learn about what they do and the skills and talents they have found useful in their careers.

Dr. Sara Steinert-Borella, who joins the College as Professor of **Modern Languages and Literature**, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bates College, Maine, and a Ph.D. from Brandeis University, Massachusetts. She chaired the Department of World Languages and Literatures at Pacific University of Oregon and has taught courses in French language, composition, and literature, including courses in gender, culture, and society; twentieth-century French theatre; and literary geographies of Switzerland and Francophone Africa. An active scholar with articles and translations in academic journals and encyclopedias, she recently published a book on the travel narratives of Ella Maillart, renowned twentieth-century Swiss explorer, ethnologist, writer, and photographer, entitled *The Travel Narratives of Ella Maillart: (En) Gendering the Quest*, published by Peter Lang Publishing, Inc. Professor Steinert-Borella is the past president of the Oregon Association of Teachers of French and the recipient of research fellowships and awards for excellence in teaching, including one from the Pacific Northwest Conference for Languages.

She is the faculty advisor to the French Club and is working with Andrew Starcher, Assistant Dean of the College, on implementing the Honors program.

Dr. Caroline Wiedmer, Assistant Professor of **Modern Languages and Literature**, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master of Arts and Ph.D. from Princeton University. She has taught at Princeton, the University of Washington, and the University of Zurich. Widely published, Professor Wiedmer is the author and editor of a number of books, including *The Claims of Memory: Representations of the Holocaust in Contemporary Germany and France* (Cornell University Press), *Inventing the Past* (Schwabe Verlag, Basel), and *Motherhood and Space: Configurations of the Maternal in Politics, Art and the Every-day* (Palgrave Macmillan).

She has received research fellowships from the University of London, the Center for Gender Studies of the University of Basel, Princeton University, Stanford University, the Collegium Helveticum at the ETH in Zurich, and the Center for Advanced German and European Studies of the Freie Universität of Berlin. She is co-founder and board member of the Swiss Cultural Studies Association. Her research interests include memory studies, gender, film, spatiality, and the workings of narrative and discourse in multiple domains of cultural and intellectual life. She is currently at work on two book manuscripts, one comparing notions and implementations of gender equality in higher education in the US and Europe, the other exploring the significance of street newspapers for public constructions of homeless shelters.

Professor Wiedmer will be leading an Academic Travel to Berlin and Vienna this Spring semester and is looking forward to starting a German Club.

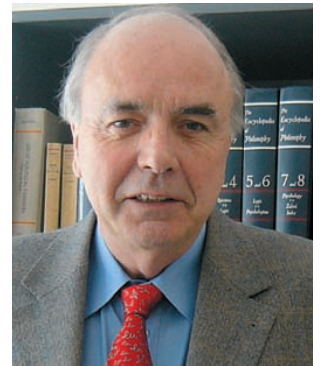
Franklin Welcomes Visiting Professors

The College is pleased to welcome Professor Ola Feurst as Visiting Associate Professor of **International Management**. Dr. Feurst is currently Associate Professor and Senior Researcher at the Market Academy at Stockholm University's School of Business. He is also a member of the boards of a number of Swedish businesses, including Techne Konsult AB and Business Art Technology AB of Stockholm. He has served as an executive management consultant for Scandinavian Airlines, Siemens Elema, Ericsson, KPA Life Insurance, and the Swedish government.



Dr. Feurst's degrees include a B.S. in Economics and a Ph.D. in Business Administration from Stockholm University. Past visiting academic appointments include positions at the Academia de Stiui Economice Universitar of Romania; Lynn University (Florida) and Florida Atlantic University; and Lingnan College of Sun Yat-Sen University, China. He is the author of four books on marketing, including *Kost och Hälsa i marknadsföringen* (Nutrition in Marketing), 1991; *Praktisk marknadsföring* (Marketing in Practice), 1993; *Engelsk/svensk ordlista i marknadsföring* (English/Swedish Dictionary on Marketing), 1995; and *One-to-One Marketing filosofi och metod* (which was chosen marketing book of the year 2000). Dr. Feurst is teaching Global Strategic Management and Business Systems.

We are also pleased to welcome His Excellency Mr. Wilfried Geens to Franklin College as Diplomat in Residence for the Spring 2006 semester. No stranger to Franklin, Ambassador Geens was the first Academic Dean of the College. In 1975, Ambassador Geens left Franklin to commence a career as a distinguished member of the Belgian Foreign Service that took him to posts in Australia, Spain, and Moscow. He also served as Ambassador to Pakistan during the 50-year conflict between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir; as Ambassador to Israel during the so-called "Second Intifada"; and most recently, as Belgian Ambassador to Ireland during the lingering Northern Ireland conflict.



In his 2005 Franklin commencement address, Ambassador Geens counseled the graduates to strive to be peace-makers and bridge-builders for tolerance and dialogue; to be good travelers and not superficial tourists; to remain always on the right bank of the river of truth and honesty; and to be driven by a lively curiosity to explore beyond the horizon. He is teaching a course in International Organization.

Ready for the “Real” World

By Christina Bell

Students’ Summer Employment Experiences Suggest Franklin Has Prepared the Class of 2006 for Life after Graduation

They were born between 1982 and 1985 and are Franklin’s next generation. They have lived in Lugano for three or four years. This place that was once so foreign is a kind of home now. Graduation is within reach. Their future success, their parents’ peace of mind, and Franklin’s reputation depend on whether or not they have been well prepared to perform in work and life. To find out if they are, in fact, prepared, I decided to interview a handful of students who bravely stepped out of courses like English 265 and Business 300 and into summer employment and internships. The verdict is decidedly positive.

Thrown into the Deep End

Franklin students are good at landing internships with a lot of responsibility. No one I interviewed brought anybody any coffee. At MCI’s D.C. headquarters, International Communications major senior **Ashlie Butler** spent the summer re-launching the company’s internship program and promoting its diversity programs. “I managed 106 interns throughout the country plus educational and promotional events for them. Time management was key,” said Butler. Meanwhile, at the Hugo Boss headquarters in Metzingen, Germany, native Californian and International Communications major Steve Wright organized a high-profile client event at the Formula One race track in Hockenheim, Germany. “We invited important German clients to spend the day driving Maseratis and Porsches with two professional racecar drivers. Last year they planned this event well in advance; this year they gave me a month and a half. It was intense, but the day went so well.”



Ashlie Butler

Prepared through Coursework

Several students said that they used knowledge and skills gained in Franklin courses to fulfill their responsibilities. Senior International Banking and Finance major **Fadi Ramadan** found a summer position at Blom Bank, one of the top three banks in the Middle East. “I used what I learned in Professor Dudukovic’s Quantative Methods class to make forecasting models for the company. I found that in the Middle East they often look to past data and don’t do as much forecasting as they could.” At Hugo Boss, Steve Wright used what he learned in his Public Relations class. “The professor gave us practical tips on how to deal with people and how to schedule every aspect of a day,” said Wright. Working in a law firm, **Ban Al-Turk** found it

wasn’t just what she learned but also how she learned that helped her. “I frequently worked with two other people and made presentations to the lawyers. Before I came to Franklin, I had never done group projects or presentations. This past summer I was glad for that experience,” said Al-Turk.

Prepared by Writing

Writing and researching experience at Franklin paid off in “the real world,” too. Senior International Relations major **Angela Evans** spent the summer writing grant proposals for Opportunity International, a non-profit organization providing micro-loans to individuals in developing nations. “I was writing for a more targeted audience than I ever had before. At first I did feel overwhelmed, but I have written a lot for my major. When I turned in my proposals, my supervisor was impressed,” said Evans. At IB Law, **Ban Al-Turk**, too, found she was called upon to write, edit, and translate. “I am not a person who likes writing, but I could do my job very well. The lawyers and even the owner of the firm asked me to edit, proofread, and translate their writing. I was the local English expert and I enjoyed this role.” **Marcel Ricou**, who worked for senior United States Senator Carl Levin, also felt prepared to do the research and writing expected of him on the Hill. “I researched the way Michigan-based programs would benefit if certain bills such as the ‘Education begins at Home Act’ were passed. It was interesting. I also drafted letters to constituents explaining the Senator’s position on issues like forest management and logging,” said Ricou.



Angela Evans



Marcel Ricou

Prepared by Living and Traveling in a Foreign Culture

Four years at Franklin is decidedly different from simply studying abroad. Our students found they gained life skills at Franklin that served them well in their work. They spoke a lot about the confidence they had acquired through traveling on their own, mastering grocery shopping in



Stephanie Lamb

Lugano, and forging friendships in an international community. International Communications major senior **Stephanie Lamb** worked for the communications department at Planned Parenthood for the month of May and spent the rest of the summer supervising 15 young people between the ages of 9 and 12 on educational outings around Seattle, Washington. "After Franklin, I know I can handle any situation that comes my way. I have been lost. I have missed a train. I know life is not always

simple, and it is not always going to go your way. By traveling and living in a foreign country, you learn to be flexible and to solve problems." Hired to help co-ordinate a visit from the Dalai Lama, International Communications major senior **Maïke Friedrich** spent her summer in Frankfurt working for the office of the governor of the Hessen state. "It was really the independence I have found at Franklin that helped me during my internship. I know how to set my own priorities. This is a thinking process that has evolved over time for me at Franklin," says Friedrich.

Prepared by Studying and Living in an International Community

Students said their international experience gave them an advantage not only in what they could do but also in how they were viewed. "In my grant proposals, I wrote about people's needs in various countries like Russia and the Philippines. I think I definitely had an advantage over other interns. I had a practical and theoretical basis for understanding each country I wrote about." At IB Law, where Ban Al-Turk developed the law firm's first newsletter, she felt her international experience made a positive difference. "I worked directly with the owner of the firm and with lawyers in every department," said Al-Turk. "The firm was pleased that I spoke three languages and trusted me to interact with their international clients. The lawyers gave me respect because of this, too."



Ban Al-Turk

Life After Franklin

So are they prepared? Stephanie Lamb's prediction of her classmates' and her own destiny is an example of the judicious maturity and hard-earned confidence that make us so proud of our grads: "You're never 100% prepared for anything," she said. "We have really done a lot for being 21 and 22 years old. We have learned how to think. We have good skills. I know we will find a place for ourselves...or create one."

Other Senior Internships 2005-2006

Below is a partial listing of other internships served this past year by Franklin seniors.

NAME: *Tatiana Aldyukhova, Moscow, Russia*
MAJOR: *International Management*
COMPANY: *Unitoys, Moscow, Russia*

NAME: *Rachel Hill, Arizona, USA*
MAJOR: *International Communications*
COMPANY: *Franklin College Switzerland*

NAME: *Ivan Burickson, Switzerland / USA*
MAJOR: *International Relations*
COMPANY: *B.V. vins S.A.R.L., Lausanne, Switzerland*

NAME: *Marley Beasley, Fort Worth, Texas, USA*
MAJOR: *International Management / Art History*
COMPANY: *Congressman Pete Sessions, Washington, DC*

NAME: *Martin Capousek, Czech Republic*
MAJOR: *International Management*
COMPANY: *Verga Tour, Wietkongo Records, Czech Republic*

NAME: *Tabitha Grinnen-Anderson, Colorado, USA*
MAJOR: *International Communication*
COMPANY: *Lockhead Martin, Colorado, USA*

NAME: *Emil Naoumor, Sofia, Bulgaria*
MAJOR: *International Communications*
COMPANY: *Transimpex, Vega Star, D.Z.I., Sophia, Bulgaria*

NAME: *Chris Tung, Hong Kong, China*
MAJOR: *Business/History*
COMPANY: *Swire Resources, a distributor for Puma, Shanghai, China*

NAME: *Maria Shadrina, Russia*
MAJOR: *International Management*
COMPANY: *Bilbao Tourism, Bilbao, Spain*

NAME: *Elena Usan, Italy*
MAJOR: *International Communications*
COMPANY: *J. Walter Thompson Agency, Milan, Italy*

NAME: *Christine Nitescu, Arizona, USA*
MAJOR: *International Communications*
COMPANY: *Prometeo (investments), Lugano, Switzerland*

NAME: *Tighe Flanagan, USA*
MAJOR: *Visual and Communications*
COMPANY: *The Advance Colorado Center, USA*

NAME: *Karen Cooper, USA and Switzerland*
MAJOR: *International Relations*
COMPANY: *Key Partners Marketing Services, Switzerland*

NAME: *Anna Balenko, Russia*
MAJOR: *International Relations*
COMPANY: *Triton-Inter, Moscow, Russia*

NAME: *Moske Najib, Delhi, India*
MAJOR: *International Communications*
COMPANY: *Hardnews: The Political Magazine of India, Delhi, India*

Franklin Gains Accreditation by the Swiss

By Armando Zanecchia

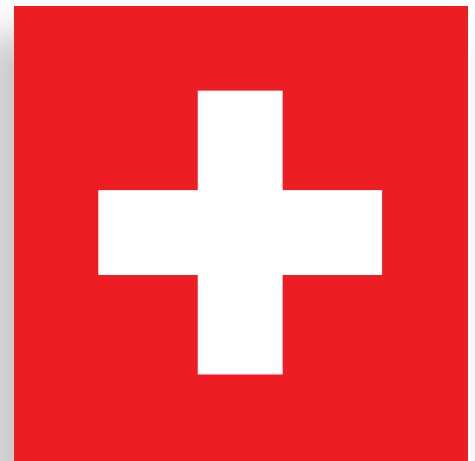
On July 11 Franklin College received official confirmation from the Swiss University Conference (CUS) that Franklin's application for Swiss accreditation of its programs of study had been approved. This accreditation, effective July 11, 2005, includes a certification that all of the College's Bachelor degree programs meet the quality assurance standards of Swiss universities.

This accreditation follows the College's submission in January, 2004, of a lengthy self-evaluation report to the OAQ Center of Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Swiss Universities (*Organ für Akkreditierung und Qualitätssicherung der Schweizerischen Hochschulen*) and an Expert Team Visit to Franklin on February 19 and 20, 2004, that included Ossi V. Lindqvist, Chair of the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council and team leader; Sandra E. Elman, CEO of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities; Francesco Lurati, Associate Professor, University of Lugano, and Director of the Executive Master's of Science in Communications Management; and Pierre de Senarclens, Professor of

International Political Studies at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. The joint recommendation of OAQ and the Expert Team to the Swiss University Conference (CUS) noted that Franklin's degree programs meet Swiss university quality standards. This recommendation was considered by the Swiss University Conference, a body of cantonal directors of education, at their meeting held on July 1, 2005, in Berne. Franklin's Swiss accreditation is valid until 2008 and subject to renewal pending a review in 2008 by OAQ. Further information will be forthcoming on the OAQ and CUS websites as well as on the Franklin website.

This decision comes as very good news and speaks to the quality of Franklin College as an academic institution of higher learning. It will allow Franklin's students to transfer into Swiss universities more easily, particularly at the graduate level. It will also encourage students within Switzerland as well as those from countries that require host country recognition of an American degree abroad to apply to Franklin. Although

Franklin graduates will not receive a Swiss university diploma, the Franklin diploma will now carry added weight throughout the European Union and elsewhere that will surely be in the career interests of Franklin's graduates. For further information, please contact either the office of the Dean of the College or the Office of Admissions.



Franklin Announces a New Vice President of Institutional Advancement



Alesia M. Davenport, MA, CFP, joined Franklin College in October as the new Vice President of Institutional Advancement. She is responsible for development, contact with alumni, public relations, and internal and external communications. Warm and gracious, perhaps as a result of her Southern background, Davenport has gotten off to an excellent start in this sensitive and vital job.

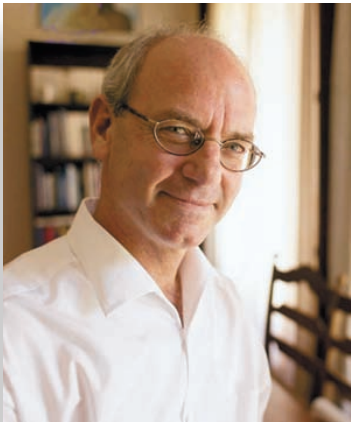
Before joining the College, Davenport served in various positions with institutions including the Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center at Vanderbilt University, the American Heart Association, and Auburn University. She earned a Master's degree in Philanthropy and Development from St. Mary's University, Minnesota, a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and the Certified Financial Planner designation.

Davenport is enthusiastic about her new appointment, saying, "It is an honor to be a part of such a unique, dynamic, and exciting team. With the opening of the new campus, the addition of new faculty members, and increasing enrollments, Franklin College is poised to grow from its solid liberal arts roots into an academic institution further strengthened by research, scholarship, and creative activities. I look forward to embracing the future advances of the College while protecting the traditions of the past."

Elusive Peace in the Middle East

By *Ahron Bregman*

The other day I visited a bookshop in London. It is always a great pleasure to visit a bookshop after one's book is published. Writing a book is hard work—seeing it displayed on tables and shelves is a rewarding moment.



My fifth book, *Elusive Peace: How the Holy Land Defeated America*, was published last week by Penguin Press. It tells the story of the Middle East peace process from 1999 to 2005. The book is in many ways as much the work of my colleagues at Brook Lapping, the production company in London responsible for the BBC / PBS TV series *Elusive Peace: Israel and the Arabs*, of which my book is the companion. We spent eleven months together on and off aeroplanes and flat sharing in Jerusalem. Between us we interviewed nearly 100 top decision makers and officials, often off the record and on film. Then we each took our piles of transcripts home, they to edit a series of documentaries, I to write this book.

In fact—and here how Franklin College comes into the picture—parts of this book were written at Franklin College in Lugano, where for each of the last four years I have spent a few relaxing weeks teaching summer courses and catching up with unfinished projects. The peaceful atmosphere of this beautiful spot in the foothills of the Swiss Alps and the warm welcome I always receive there provided me with the peace of mind I needed to meet the often maddening deadlines and in the case of *Elusive Peace* to decide what I wanted to say.

There was so much new, never-before-published material unearthed by us in the

Middle East that we were at a loss as to which of the stories we tell in the programmes and book would eventually catch the headlines. It turned out to be—as many of us now know—the story about George W. Bush and God. In a meeting with Palestinian leaders—as they told us and as I tell in the book—Bush said to them:

“I’m driven with a mission from God. God would tell me, ‘George, go fight those terrorists in Afghanistan’ and I did, and I was able to vanquish them, to end terrorism. And then God would tell me, ‘George, go and end the tyranny in Iraq.’ And I did. And now again I feel God’s words coming to me, ‘Go get the Palestinians their state, and the Israelis their security, and get peace in the Middle East.’ And by God, I’m gonna do it.”

The BBC subtitled our series *Israel and the Arabs*, but I felt it was not bold enough and went on to subtitle the companion book as *How the Holy Land Defeated America*—and for good reason:

Under President Clinton, from 1999 to 2001, Washington tried to lend a hand to Israelis and Arabs in brokering peace, but failed disastrously. Then it simply gave up. When George W. Bush came to power, America stood back, intervening only when faced with no other option. From this point of view, as I argue in the book, the Holy Land has indeed defeated America. And that—to be sure—is sad, for without a bold American intervention there will never be peace in the Holy Land. America, the only remaining superpower, is the only country with enough clout to bang heads together and move things along in the Middle East.

Just before finishing the project, I travelled to the US with the production team to interview Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who happened to be in New York to attend an important UN session. We usually interview participants in their own language and as my mother tongue is Hebrew it was I who interviewed Sharon. It was a nerve-wracking experience. I had a long list of questions to ask the Prime

Minister for both the documentaries and book and was given only 25 minutes to do so; a typical interview for our documentaries would last from two to five hours. To make things even worse, I had all of Sharon’s aides around me, tapping their feet nervously, concerned that I would take the liberty of asking the Prime Minister sensitive questions. After all, in their eyes, I was the (“anti-Israeli”) BBC.

After the interview, when I was standing with the Prime Minister for a photo op., I said to him, “That was a bold withdrawal.” I referred, of course, to the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip which Sharon had carried out a few days before in the face of fierce opposition at home. “It was tough,” he replied. I asked: “Should we expect more withdrawals?” referring to the possibility that he might pull out army and settlements from the West Bank as well. He answered with a smirk which I thought meant neither yes nor no.

And that, of course, is what we—the so-called “experts”—keep asking ourselves. Would the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip be the first step to further withdrawals, particularly from the West Bank? Would the Gaza withdrawal be the beginning of the end of the 57-year-war between Israelis and Palestinians? We do not know. “For now,” as I put it in the concluding sentence of *Elusive Peace*, “peace in the Middle East seems as elusive as ever.”



Dr. Ahron Bregman is a Professor in the Department of War Studies at King's College, London. Bregman served in the Israeli army for six years. He took part in the 1982 Lebanon War and reached the rank of Major. He left the army after the war to work at the Knesset as a parliamentary assistant. Bregman studied in Jerusalem and London, completing a doctorate in War Studies at the Department of War Studies in 1994. Besides being author and expert on the Middle East, he worked as a consultant / associate producer on two major BBC TV documentaries: The Fifty Years War: Israel and the Arabs (1998) and Elusive Peace: Israel and the Arabs (2005).



Academic Travel at Franklin is not only a long standing tradition, but also an interesting indicator of how the institution is developing and of the changes that have taken place over time. To be sure, in some cases particular trips can tell us a lot about how the world is changing around us; the Academic Travel program to Prague and Budapest is a good example. This trip evolved from two former Academic Travel programs that Franklin offered from its earliest years, the trip to Munich and Prague that was run by Theo Brenner back in the 1970's and the trip to Vienna and Budapest that was run by Gerta Holman until her untimely death in 1985. I picked up the former trip in the early 1980's and then combined the Prague part with a visit to Budapest from 1986. Looking back over the 30 years in which this trip has been available to Franklin students, it is impossible not to be struck by the enormous transitions that have taken place in these cities and in their respective nations. Old timers will recall the atmosphere of tension when our groups entered into the Eastern bloc territory, the long waits at the Czech border and then again at the Hungarian border as suspicious border guards checked and rechecked passports, visas, and luggage, taking as much as one to two hours to get us behind the Iron Curtain (and even between allied Communist states such as Czechoslovakia and Hungary).

**academic
travel to
prague and
budapest
yesterday
and today**

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The Prague-Budapest trip ran again in the spring semester, 2005, but the experience of the students was radically different from what past students had seen and felt. If I were to have to choose the most important differences from the old days, I would say that the change in atmosphere has certainly been the greatest. In the past our visits had a certain dramatic element to them. When we met with the students of the Prague gymnasium, we knew that they were being watched and listened to by informers, and when we went out to visit the castle of Karlstein we purposefully tried to keep those of the Czech students who were informers busy so that the others could talk relatively freely with our students. Close friendships were struck up on these occasions that even led to several of our students actually marrying Czech students they had met on the trip (sometimes marriages of convenience just to help them to get to the West, sometimes the real thing). At that time we were the only link these people had to the West and



we were very important to them. Students in the Czech Republic and Hungary today can move freely and travel often to the West and the East, and they can express themselves freely as well. Not only that, but the end of the Cold War has also meant a huge influx of tourists into Prague and Budapest, so that the streets are full of people speaking Italian, English, German, etc. One can get the impression that there isn't a high school in all of Italy, or for that matter Germany or Switzerland, that hasn't organized a class trip for all of its classes, especially to Prague. The result for us is an end to the dramatic nature of our visits and a new normalcy with a very relaxed atmosphere. Old timers among our former students may remember the furtive operations of what we jokingly called the "people's bank" on the bus in Prague, changing money at black market rates. Well,

of course, that's gone too. Travelers can exchange money at many exchange offices and both Czech and Hungarian currencies fluctuate according to supply and demand. The old habit of looking over your shoulder to make sure you are not being observed would now be considered evidence of paranoia rather than reasonable caution.

Besides the change in atmosphere, of course, there are the changes in the substance of the program. Our speakers in the past used to present views of Czech history that culminated in the necessity of the Cold War alliance system with the Soviet Union as the only guarantee of world peace and an economy that was the best way to produce and develop for any modern state. Often one had to admire the imagination they demonstrated in interpreting the real world around them in a way so that no one could distinguish between wishful thinking and reality. But no one showed that much fantasy as to be able to imagine that only 16 years after the end of the Cold War we would have economists talking to our students in Prague and Budapest, discussing when (not whether) the Czech and Hungarian currencies would be ready to enter into the Euro zone (and they were talking about two to three years, not decades) after already having become full members of the European Union last year. Czech and Hungarian historians talked to the students this spring about how joining the E.U. and N.A.T.O. was the natural outcome of Central Europe's returning to the European fold, where it had been for centuries before being artificially separated from Western Europe as a result of the Second World War, and anyone who had witnessed the tragic unfolding of post-W.W. II history could not but share in their strong feelings about what is necessary to provide real security to these countries and their hope to share in the prosperity that has come to be taken for granted in the West. The students who participated in these trips in the old days would have a hard time recognizing the changes in working conditions in the factories as well. We used to visit the lathe factory of TOS in Celakovice outside of Prague and the Ikarus bus factory in Budapest. It's hard to forget the images of factory workers standing around chatting with one another and drinking beer or the complete lack of safety precautions with molten steel squirting around, etc. When we visited the Skoda works outside of Prague in March, the factory, now completely owned by Volkswagen, showed all the markings of completely modern, technologically advanced industries, full of robots and clearly delimited safety zones, etc., and the workers were all busy on the assembly line. Unfortunately the old TOS works had succumbed to the competition in the new market economy

and the Ikarus plant had had to reduce its production to a fraction of its former output, since they both no longer had guaranteed markets in Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union. They are struggling to survive.

A third noticeable difference between past and present strikes the eye at once. The sad conditions of maintenance of the buildings and the grey and decaying appearance of so many house and store fronts so typical of the ancien régime (in spite of the attempts of the old regime to restore and paint some buildings in the areas where tourists would inevitably gather) have also changed. Freshly restored and painted buildings tend to dominate and not only in the tourist attraction areas. That depressing appearance used to lead to students applauding when they saw the colorful and cheerful roadside advertising prevalent once we left the Eastern bloc and entered neutral—but Western—Austria on the way back to Switzerland. Today there isn't much left of these differences in physical appearance. Many street names have been changed as well, especially in Budapest, as the list of available politically correct heroes to honor has been fundamentally revised. Needless to say, traffic, which used to be rather thin and mostly trucks on the Eastern side, has now become much heavier and in both directions. We can look forward to the complete opening of the borders under the Schengen Agreement in the near future as well. Unfortunately, prices have also changed significantly since the good old days, when one could enjoy bountiful meals in the best restaurants for a pittance. Even the price of beer has been climbing steadily towards Western European levels.

Naturally, not everything has changed. The beautiful architectural achievements and historical landmarks have remained more or less the same, and the charm and fascination they exude are as much there today as in the past. New technology has been introduced even in the traditional Pilsner Urquell brewery in Pilsen, which we continue to visit, but the quality of the beer is guaranteed to meet the same level as in the past. In fact, some beer is still produced in the traditional way in order to be able to compare the quality of the new end product with that of the old. Our student tasters continue to verify the success of the endeavor by trying out both old and new.

Some of the speakers that meet with the group have also remained. For example, Janos Bethlen, the young and outspoken critic of the old regime in Budapest who dared to tell our students what he really thought in the days of the Communist regime (after making sure that there was no one else in the room but our group, to be sure) and who became head of news reporting on Hungarian national television after the political changes of 1989 - 90 (a job he subsequently lost when the new government learned that he was also critical of them) has kept his own TV program of political analysis and commentary and still talks candidly to Franklin students about Hungary's problems.

Finally, the people we meet have changed as well, and today the young Czechs and Hungarians are as ambitious and desirous of taking advantage of the new opportunities that have opened up for them as their Western counterparts. What lessons can we derive from these changes in the experience of Academic Travel to Prague and Budapest? Well, on the one hand, perhaps we can perceive that in our world of continuous dynamic transition, even those aspects of life which seem fixed and unchangeable may just be a side-product of



historical developments and may hold important surprises in store for us as the situation changes, and on the other hand, that those things that are universally valid for their contribution to mankind's achievements and values, such as the creations of great artists and writers, are of permanent merit even in the face of apparently overwhelming social, economic, and political upheaval. For this reason, perhaps, even after having run this trip many times over the past 30 years, I still find it challenging, enriching, and pleasurable.

Images pages 10 and 11, clockwise from top: Students looking at astrological clock, Town Hall, Prague; Prague bridges over Vltava River; Jan Hus monument and Kinsky Palace, Prague; Cobble street, "Golden Lane" and birthplace of Franz Kafka, Old Town, Prague, Czech Republic.

Images pages 12 and 13, clockwise from top left: Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, and Vltava river, Prague, Czech Republic; Statue of Saint Stephen, Budapest, Hungary; Gellert Baths, Gellert Hill, Budapest, Hungary; Musician in national dress, Fisherman's Bastion, Budapest, Hungary.



By Rebecca Self

Deirdre Kinney-Brennan's '81 experience illustrates the value of a Franklin College liberal arts education. She was looking to attend college abroad and was introduced to Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76 by Ursula's sister Dee Dee Gentile, a fellow classmate at Bronxville High School. Through Ursula she learned about Franklin and the value of studying in Switzerland coupled with traveling with excellent professors for a truly international experience.

Deirdre studied art history, European literature, political science, and languages at both Franklin and Sarah Lawrence College. Through academic travel and art history classes with Professor Brian Stanford she developed a strong visual sense.

It's that visual sense that Kinney-Brennan credits for her success today. She is an Emmy-nominated set decorator who has worked both on Broadway and for films (including *The Imposters* and *You've Got Mail*) and is currently employed by the longest-running daytime drama in American media, *Guiding Light*. A favorite set was a period design from 1945 when one of the characters traveled back in time. "I created an artist's garret in war-torn Paris. Historical elements throughout the set were important and travels to European cities and museums while at Franklin provided a valuable reference."

This past Christmas day at 8:30 in the evening viewers in Ireland watched Kinney-Brennan's documentary, *Sceillig and Bermuda: A Last Refuge*. It's a story of two islands on opposite sides of the Atlantic, the seabirds that inhabit them, and two extraordinary men working to ensure their survival. "The recovery of the Bermuda Petrel is one of the great conservation success stories of our time. It is a wonderful symbol of hope," she says, explaining the airing of the film on Christmas.

"I was always interested in both the arts, theater, and film on one hand and wildlife and the natural world on the other. I could have taken either path for a career." Kinney-Brennan, like so many Franklin College students and alumni, is an explorer. She's even a member of the Explorer's Club in New York – a renowned organization founded by scientists and adventurers like Admiral Perry. The Club's members have been responsible for an illustrious series of firsts: to the North Pole, the South Pole, the summit of Mount Everest, the deepest point in the ocean, the surface of the moon.

Kinney-Brennan says Franklin College nurtured that sense of exploration. She's kept up Franklin's international mission and the travel she so loved. Her explorations have led her to stories she thought were important for people to know. "I kept informed about the developments in the field of wildlife and conservation as I was pursuing a career in set design. I am a member of the Audubon Society and the Wildlife Conservation Society. I learned about the dedicated work of some amazing individuals and realized that few people knew about them!"

One of those people was David Wingate. In 1951, at the age of 15, Wingate was present when a Bermuda Petrel or Cahow, a bird thought to have been extinct for over 300 years, was discovered nesting in a rock crevice. He has since devoted his life to creating a safe haven for the

species on Nonsuch Island, an outer island of Bermuda. To ensure the Cahow's success, Wingate removed all introduced flora and fauna. Using shipwrecked sailors' journals dating from the 1600s, he was able to recreate the pre-colonial habitat through planting only native and endemic flora. Nonsuch Island is now a Living Museum.

Kinney-Brennan decided to call him. "I happened to read a small article. I was in Bermuda and thought it was fascinating that somebody had devoted his whole life to saving this bird and recreating a pre-colonial island. The story is so important; it should be told." Wingate took Kinney-Brennan on a tour of Nonsuch the very next day.

She returned to New York and took classes at NYU in film production. She wrote the proposal, attended film festivals, and met professionals in the field. She partnered with renowned Irish wildlife filmmaker Éamon de Buitléar to tell the story of Wingate and the Cahow. The film traces the 40-year journey of this modern-day Robinson Crusoe, through to the passing of the baton to a successor and a triumphant return of the Cahow to Nonsuch Island.

The Cahow is one of the rarest seabirds in the world and this is the first time ever it has been filmed.

As filming progressed in Bermuda, Kinney-Brennan and de Buitléar began to see a parallel story in Ireland's Blasket Islands, off western County Kerry's jagged coastline. In the 1950s the last of the inhabitants left the Blaskets. With the exit of people, the Manx Shearwater and Storm Petrels returned to the island. Another man, Oscar Merne, oversaw that return. The filmmakers decided to tell both success stories simultaneously. *Sceillig and Bermuda: A Last Refuge* tells stories of seabirds' struggles for survival in outposts off the mainland on both sides of the Atlantic. It's filled with marvelous visual footage of the islands and the parallel lives of two committed men, unknown to each other, who've led lives dedicated to their native islands and their birds. Irish Public Broadcasting (RTE) and the Bermuda Audubon Society have generously supported the production of the film.

Pursuing her passions, creating rewarding partnerships, and producing powerful stories has led Deirdre Kinney-Brennan places she may have never expected in those formative years at Franklin College Switzerland. Next she's out to tell of Irish artists, a little known group overshadowed by stories of great Irish authors. Her sense of exploration and liberal arts background, both cultivated at Franklin, have led to a clearly converging career path. "Ultimately what has happened is that I have ended up combining both interests into a career," she says. "It has all come together."

Kinney-Brennan's story is the best we can hope for: a strong liberal arts background coupled with a sense of exploration and an international focus. Kinney-Brennan will be the first to tell you that Franklin College has lived up to its mission with her.



Images above: Deirdre Kinney-Brennan. Facing page clockwise from top: Deirdre Kinney-Brennan and Jeremy Madeiros, Bermuda Conservation Officer, translocating a Cahow chick to Nonsuch Island. Film crew and Kinney-Brennan in Bermuda. Deirdre Kinney-Brennan and Éamon de Buitléar while filming last summer at the top of Skellig Michael off the coast of Ireland. Drawing of a Cahow.

Pairings: Passions, Partnerships, and Professional Pursuits

One Franklin alumna's use of a liberal arts education



By Cindy Korfmann

BEHIND

In Franklin's darkened auditorium Sherry Granville is a lone—and highly attentive—spectator as the mysterious sequences and quick repartee of *Clue, the Play*, the College's eighth student theatrical production under her skillful direction, unfold on stage. It is the month of October and rehearsals involving a cast of 14 thespians and a crew of 12 will continue to take place three hours a day four days a week for eight weeks in preparation for performances on November 18 and 19. This requires a great deal of commitment and deft time management on the part of all the participants.

Student drama at Franklin began in 1996 when Christopher Matthews, resident Irish poet and Assistant Professor of English Literature, decided to involve students in acting in order to enhance the appeal of the plays he was teaching in class. Over a period of several years he directed Becket's *Waiting for Godot*, Shepard's *Curse of the Starving Class*, Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound*, and Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, performances that attracted Franklin students and also many people from the Lugano area. *The Real*



SCENES



Inspector Hound was especially successful, and Godot also “went down a storm,” in Matthews’ words. To enable the students to have enough time for rehearsals Matthews’ wife prepared baskets of food to make up for missed suppers. Master gardener and builder Domenico La Gamba, Director of Franklin’s Physical Plant, was extremely helpful with stage sets, always a problem in the auditorium, which was created with lectures rather than theater in mind. He built a runway and stalls for the play within a play required by Stoppard and also the façade of a building, elements of which Matthews still encounters in various reincarnations around campus.

Student interest evolved into a Drama Society and in 1999, with the help of Wendy Heidrich, wife of Franklin’s registrar at that time, theatrical production continued. Under her guidance several dramatizations and a dinner-mystery play were presented. Heidrich had a theatrical background as an actress which included appearances in television shows like *Empty Nest* and *Seinfeld* as well as experience in other aspects

of theatrical production. When the Heidrichs left Lugano, interest in the Drama Society waned, and the club disappeared. Theater at Franklin came to a standstill.

President Nielsen, however, felt strongly that student theater productions were a definite benefit for the College and should be continued. In 2001 the banner was taken up again, this time by Granville. Like Heidrich, she also has a background in theater, having participated in Junior Civic Theater in Indianapolis, where she also read the morning news and provided the voices of various puppets on television. Granville received her B.A. in Speech and Theater at Indiana University and went on to earn a Master's degree in Counseling and Guidance. After two years of teaching high school and directing plays and musicals, she and her husband Michael came to Europe and finally to Lugano.

The rebirth of drama at Franklin was slow. It was difficult to find students who were interested or who had time; in addition, no academic credit is given for taking part. **Kate Wilkenfield '04** cajoled unwary friends to participate in the first production, and Granville herself recalls saying to a student that he looked exactly like a character she needed and recruiting him on the spot. Hoping to ease into introducing students to acting while at the same time not requiring overwhelming hours of rehearsals, Granville began with *A Variety of Scenes* in spring 2002 which included excerpts that she collected not only from Neil Simon plays and *Who's on First?* but also from Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*. This format avoided the need for long hours of practice with many actors working together, and drama at Franklin began to gather momentum again. In the autumn of 2002 Granville directed a short play by well-known comedian Steve Martin, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, presented along



Sherry Granville.

with burlesque sketches. As more students became interested, Granville was able to propose Neil Simon's *Rumors*, David Ives' *All in the Timing*, Alan Ayckbourn's *Role Play*, Jerry Myer's *Killjoy*, and Andrew Bergman's *Social Security*. All the plays have been attended by large and enthusiastic audiences drawn both from students of the College and people from many parts of Canton Ticino; this contributes in an important way to Franklin's involvement in the life of the local community.

Professor Matthews, the original instigator of theater at Franklin, is unstinting in his praise for the professional level of Granville's productions and for her choice of subject matter. Certainly not averse to more classical plays, Granville has however chosen to remain with masters of light comedy, broadening her

potential pool of bilingual student actors and her international audience, who might not be as comfortable with Old English terminology as they are with modern witticisms.

Clue, the Play, this past autumn's presentation, is the most ambitious yet. Thirty-three students showed up to try out for the largest cast ever sought, a major change from the days when students had to be persuaded to participate. Eight of the 14 actors involved are onstage most of the time, and they in particular must come to every rehearsal. In the past Granville has encouraged a certain amount of improvisation from the actors, but the lines are too clever in this play for interference, so every speech must be learned perfectly. Prospective actors who haven't received parts in a particular play are always included in the production if they desire, working on set and program design, lighting, sound, prompting, and so on. At the end of each production, Granville and her husband invite everyone involved to a celebratory feast at their home.



There are many positive aspects of the theatrical experience at Franklin. One of the major benefits to student actors is their acquisition of a feeling of ease when speaking in public. Granville has seen reserved and quiet young people become confident and articulate. In addition, the students develop a spirit of teamwork and overcome cultural and linguistic boundaries. A major value of Franklin's theatrical endeavors is the camaraderie created among the participants. In the words of one student, "Sherry makes us feel like we are part of one big family, a feeling that really comes to a head at the cast party at her house on the Sunday after the last performance. Strong friendships, along with pride, form among all of us. In a foreign country, with many different nationalities involved, this is something priceless."

CURTAINS UP!

Clue, the Play was a resounding success, with the members of the audience sitting on the edges of their seats, laughter, curiosity, and horror (faint) mixing together as the play arrived at its denouement, which ingeniously provided two different endings—both evenings—comprising a total of four different resolutions/solutions! The actors worked together in perfect harmony, and the many action scenes resembled choreography.

As mentioned earlier, the Franklin Auditorium was not designed for the theater with its requirements of scenery, backdrops, lighting, sound effects, and so on. Granville dealt cleverly with the lack of theatrical amenities in this production. She needed six rooms including the famous library, conservatory, kitchen, and living room (known to all players of *Clue*), more scenery changes than ever attempted in the past. She resolved the problem by using several four-sided columns (thanks again to *La Gamba*). Each side represented a different room, and to change the locale, the columns simply had to be turned to display the décor for the room being used. The curtain never went down, and under dim lights the actors themselves turned the columns and shifted the furniture with such agility and alacrity they looked like shadowy dancers as they delivered further extemporaneous dialogue, adding an irresistible and comic touch to the evening.

Because of the renewed interest in theater, the success of the lecture series, the increasing size of the student body, and the presence of guest institutions in the summer months Franklin's auditorium has become a major focal point of the College. Unfortunately the audio-visual and lighting equipment that would be so useful for many events at the school are not at the top of Franklin's list of urgent investments. Granville has investigated in detail myriad options for upgrading the present system which would offer so many more possibilities, including teleconferencing for lectures and special sound and light effects for future productions. She hopes that one day the auditorium—as yet unnamed—will find a benefactor.

Although delighted by the success of *Clue*, Granville wasn't at all surprised. As she says, "I have been working with such enthusiastic, energetic, and intelligent young adults that I felt sure we would come up with something special."

Photo on opposite page, cast members of Clue, the Play including from left: (Colonel Mustard)—Alex Marston, (Mrs. Peacock)—Tabitha Grinner-Anderson, (Mrs. White)—Emily Boynton, (Wadsworth)—Rob Curren, (Yvette)—Amanda Yachechak and (Miss Scarlett)—Petra Orent.

STUDENT-INSPIRED THEATER

Grassroots interest in dancing, music, and acting has been growing recently among Franklin students. **John Doyle '06**, a senior who is currently participating in Semester at Sea, has been a major catalyst in this movement. In 2002 he founded Franklin's Improv Club, which pokes fun at faculty and students in hilarious and memorable skits while also involving the audience's participation in clever games at annual performances in Franklin's auditorium.

In the spring of 2004 **Karen Cooper '07** came up with the idea of starting the first-ever Franklin hip-hop club and began collecting music and ideas. Doyle had also been thinking along similar lines, tempted by the idea of a group of Franklin students unexpectedly breaking into a choreographed dance in the Piazza Riforma. Their collaboration led to the creation of a new club at Franklin, Lugano Street Dance, with Cooper as president and **Ashlie Butler, Anna Ranck**, and Doyle as choreographers.

Everything came together under the auspices of Improv Night in April, 2005, with the presentation of *Yo! Daddy Rich*, a "Robopsicle" written and directed by Doyle. Growing up in California, Doyle was always fascinated by the performing arts. He and a high school friend, bored by traditional theater, invented this new genre which, Doyle explains, is a "'post-modern' blend of music and action/adventure or comedy, but not at all like a musical." The plot of the play, which is enhanced by music, rap, and dancing, including performances by the Lugano Street Dancers, concerns Daddy Rich, who lives in a poor Bronx neighborhood. He decides to begin a "street" broadcast of the news which, in Doyle's words, "will inform the people about the events of the world while teaching them how to read. (Their news is delivered as rap.)" The play follows Daddy's rise to riches through the venal world of the media. The presentation, which required hours of work from the 30 students directly involved, was a splendid success, and the auditorium was packed. Both Matthews and Granville were impressed by the high quality of this all-student production, an event which is another sign of the importance that the performing arts at Franklin are acquiring.

By Cindy Korfmann

Art in Ticino, Lombardy, and Piedmont Professor Clarice Zdanski, granddaughter of Polish and Ukrainian immigrants to America and wanderer on her own behalf back to Europe, teaches a tantalizing Summer Session course at Franklin entitled *Art in Ticino, Lombardy, and Piedmont*.

In 1998, the first year the course was offered, Zdanski was working on another degree in languages and literature in Italy and writing a thesis about Samuel Butler, the nineteenth-century English author of *The Way of All Flesh* and *Erewhon*. Surprisingly, Butler, who was also an artist and avid art historian, was fascinated by Canton Ticino and Northern Italy, where he travelled extensively. He had unusual attitudes toward art which struck a chord with Zdanski, and she decided to teach a course incorporating many of his ideas.

Zdanski, an artist herself who majored in Painting and Printmaking at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and earned her doctorate in Art History at the University of Chicago, was attracted by several of Butler's "hobby horses." As she explains:



The Chiesa di San Biagio, Ravecchia

chalet in a mountain town south of the rocky, barren Gotthard Pass only to discover that it is one of the first wooden constructions south of the Alps (1582) and is decorated with Renaissance bas-reliefs depicting the Epiphany—the Casa del Gottardo in Faido. Or, in a tiny church which is almost always unlocked and unattended, St. Ambrogio in the village of Ponte Capriasca, the only quasi-contemporary copy of Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper—the fresco that famously began to disintegrate drastically soon after it was completed due to experimental paint used by the master. The copy is so faithfully, albeit not so skillfully, rendered that it has served as a major historical “document” in the restoration of the original in Milan. Or in a simple cobbled cul-de-sac in the sleepy lakeside town Riva San Vitale, the Romanesque Baptistery—the most ancient ecclesiastical building in Switzerland, built in the year 500. These jewels represent only a small part of Zdanski's course. Naturally there are also visits to Milan and the original Last Supper, Turin and its world-famous Egyptian Museum, and the national park of Brescia, one of the most

DEVELOPING A DISCERNING EYE

1) Art doesn't exist only in famous art centers such as Rome or Paris, but can also be found off the beaten track. As a French translator of Butler's works put it, “art and life are on the same map.”

2) Much of art history has been founded on bias and the personal tastes of a few individuals; it is important to form one's own ideas and not be bullied into accepting academe's opinions uncritically.

3) The most vital part of appreciating art is actually seeing artistic creations in person and not just through books or virtual tours.

This concentrated semester course, which lasts only five weeks, sometimes begins in a small museum at the top of the desolate St. Gotthard Pass because, in Zdanski's words, “for centuries, from there travellers passed through Lombardy and the Canton Ticino on the ‘Grand Tour’ as they made their way further southwards to more famous places like Venice, Florence, Rome, etc. . . . As a consequence, Lombardy and the Canton Ticino were considered outposts or mere stops along the way to something more important. . . . However, these places possess a wealth of monuments and museums as well as their own cultural and artistic traditions . . . , and this course is an attempt to look at ‘the rest of art history,’ or at least some of it.”

Zdanski really follows through, driving the small Franklin bus herself with her class of nine or ten students, generally to hidden treasures scattered abundantly throughout Ticino and Lombardy. Imagine coming upon a typical Swiss

important repositories of prehistoric “rock art” (neolithic incisions and designs carved on stone), just to mention a few of her many destinations and ideas for future trips.



San Nicolao, Giornico

In general the course calendar foresees a review of the structure of art history, a day in the library learning how to investigate the literature of art history, a day in the computer lab for the same purpose, and then many days out in the “field,” acquiring experience and accustoming the eye to the many different epochs and patterns available within a small radius of Lugano.

A developing new addition to the course is a student project, the creation of a web site in English which lists, explains, and provides photographs of the often unknown artistic gems so accessible to Franklin College. Although the project is still rudimentary and going through growing pains, it can be visited at <http://www.aht300.tk>.

Professor Zdanski hopes that by the end of each course her students will “begin to think about art in a more profound way, not so much as a series of masterpieces. . . . The main goal is to get out of the classroom and look at art. University courses usually inculcate a kind of knowledge that is often all too abstract, especially when it comes to art, which must be looked at—a long time—and loved.” Her surprise at the number of students who balked at the idea of visiting museums and churches led her “to set a course that will let students look at things and thus spur them on to further research rather than just spend time poring over tomes.” And that perhaps will lead to their ability to recognize and appreciate hidden treasures which might be undiscernible to the more “educated” eye.



Santa Maria degli Angeli, Monte Tamaro

Photography, courtesy of the Office of Ticino Tourism

By Daniel Eng '01, Alumni Trustee

With the enthusiastic support of the Board of Trustees, alumni, parents, friends, and family, Franklin College Switzerland celebrated its 35th anniversary in Lugano, Switzerland. As always, it was a pleasure to see many new and familiar faces from all over the world. (Pictures from the Gala can be viewed on the Franklin website: www.fc.edu/alumni/galapics/index.htm). The Gala marked a new era for Franklin College, and with the new addition of the North Campus Franklin's vision is clearer than ever.

The Alumni Council continues to organize events with the help of alumni and Franklin friends from around the world such as Ody Markezinis '94 (Tokyo, Japan), Trustee Jim Moore '74 (Santa Monica, CA), and many others who bring the extended Franklin family closer together. As always, we encourage all alumni to get involved by either hosting or helping organize alumni events. Alumni can also contribute to the College initiative of increasing enrollment by supporting admissions counselors during their regional tours.

The Alumni Council hosted events this fall in Istanbul, Turkey; Tokyo, Japan; London, England; New York City, NY; Santa Monica, CA; and Lugano, Switzerland.

We continue to sustain and build a better foundation for our Alumni Council fund with the help of Andrew Rebak '93, who is



serving as Fund Officer. The Council is aiming for 100% participation from all its members and sees progress and improved participation with Andy's help. The Council has also addressed a need for more Alumni Council members to join (alumni can supply suggestions and propose candidates to alumni@fc.edu or contact one of the Alumni Trustees).

Emily Lingeri, the Alumni Coordinator of Franklin College, has contributed to the Alumni Council's success in planning and organizing international events. We appreciate her valuable support.

On behalf of the Alumni Council, we would like to thank H. John Steinbreder III '76 for his hard work and guidance as an Alumni Trustee. His enthusiasm and support have made this Council stronger financially and have also helped provide a better vision of the Council's future. In spite of his commitments as senior writer for *Golfweek* magazine, contributor to other publications, and author traveling the world, John took the time to help lead the Alumni Council for three years. He will be succeeded by N. Derek Wilkinson '95 and Richard K. Sussman '95 as new Alumni Trustees. John's dedication to the Council sets an example for future Trustees. John, you will surely be missed!

As always, please check back often at the Franklin website, www.fc.edu, and click on Alumni so that you can be updated on the latest events and news of Franklin. If you would like to help or participate in any way or are interested in hosting a gathering in your part of the world, please contact the Alumni Office at events@fc.edu. Let's hear it for Franklin!



N. Derek Wilkinson '95 – Alumni Trustee

Since graduating from Franklin in 1995 with a Bachelor's degree in International Relations, Derek has stayed actively involved with the College through alumni events and recruiting. In fact, his first job after receiving his degree was as a Franklin Admissions Counselor for the Eastern US, and recruiting then became Derek's career, mostly in the field of

executive search. After having spent nearly six years with Korn/Ferry International, Derek is now a Senior Vice President and Principal with Slayton Search Partners in their Washington, DC, office.

Derek's ten plus years of experience in the search industry have allowed him to develop a deep understanding and national perspective across industries and functions. His work encompasses the following fields: aerospace and defense, education, financial services, international organizations, government, legal and professional services, not-for-profits, technology, and trade associations with specific areas of functional focus in advancement, business development, finance, human resources, marketing, operations, and sales. This broad experience gives Derek the ability to understand the organizational dynamics and day-to-day operations of business at several levels and the ability to identify leadership - from the C-Suite to the field - that is best suited to his clients' needs. He credits his experience at Franklin as being the foundation for this kind of insight and adaptability.



Richard K. Sussman '95 – Alumni Trustee

Richard K. Sussman, who graduated from Franklin College in 1995, has more than ten years of experience in the fields of property investment and online media. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in International Political Science and German, he attained a Master's degree from Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center in San Francisco, where he is a candidate for a Ph.D. in Organizational Management.

A dual citizen of the United States and the United Kingdom, Richard, who was born in London, has had an interesting and varied career. His experience encompasses development of strategic partnerships, investment property analysis and sales, marketing, corporate and business development, and market intelligence. In addition to representing clients in over \$225,000,000 in investment property acquisitions, he has implemented Asian, Australian, and European market expansion for various U.S. technology firms and co-founded one of the internet's fastest-growing online social networks for consumer entertainment purposes, a network that is also a medium for product and service providers to target markets to a global consumer base.

Richard has been a member of FCWAG (Franklin College West Coast Advisory Group) since its inception in 2000.

*Istanbul,
October 20, 2005*

*Alumni and Student Reception,
Bosphorus Dinner Cruise*

Wissam Aktaa '05
 Wissal Al-Dakheel '05
 Tahir Ipekci '90
 Melanie Balasopulos '07
 Huseyin Baral
 Rudi Berberoglu '01
 Caitlin Berry '09
 Kelli Bollin '07
 Burak Bolluk '98
 Milla Byrgazova '07
 Brett Clark '06
 Roger Creixams
 Palmer Dagliesh '07
 Altug Doyceptu
 Selin Erdem '05
 Erdinj Erdepdu
 Ermen Esici
 Marc Faber '07
 Yelena Fidel '06
 Maike Friedrich '07
 Lauren Gagliano '07
 Stefanie Giglio '08
 Zeyrep Inceoglu
 Selen Kaksal
 John Kerr '07
 Ersan Koc '98
 Emrah Lale
 Lavinia Lowerre '06
 Kayihan Magriso '00
 Lillian McIntyre '06
 Jordan Moon '07
 Maria Mordkovich '07
 Petra Orent '08
 Ibrahim Ozkan
 Gregory Papadopoulos '07
 Travis Poehler '07
 Christoph Raderschall '07
 Arthur Reiter '06
 Professor Georges Rocourt
 Andrea Sitar '08
 Annabelle Stewart '08
 Seref Suermen '01
 Burcu Tokgoz
 Christopher Weed '09
 Elisabeth Wilkie '07
 Franziska Zimmermann '07



Student group in Istanbul.



Yelena Fidel '06, Melanie Balasopulos '07, Arthur Reiter '06, Maria Mordkovich '07, and Milla Byrgazova '07.



Lauren Gagliano '07, Christopher Weed '09, Jordan Moon '07, Caitlin Berry '09, and Andrea Sitar '08.



Seref Suerman '01, Kayihan Magriso '00, Ersan Koc '98, Rudi Berberoglu '01, Professor Georges Rocourt, Lavinia Lowerre '06, and Palmer Dagliesh '07.



Wissam Aktaa '05 and Wissal Al-Dakheel '05.



Selin Erdem '05 and Professor Georges Rocourt.

*London,
October 25, 2005*

*Alumni and Student Reception
The Savile Club*

Charles Aubertin '74
Lucille Danielle Amoako '02
Jennifer Berg '76
Camilla Carlbom '91
Jake Cornelius '07
Angela Dansie '09
Stuart Flinn
Karen Helke '85
President Erik Nielsen
Ellen Nielsen
Willem Peppler, Trustee
Cristina Quazzo '83
Philip Renaud '95, Trustee
Professor Brian Stanford
Graham Wellesley '85



Graham Wellesley '85, Karen Helke '85, and Professor Brian Stanford.



President Erik Nielsen, Karen Helke '85, and Cristina Quazzo '83.



Graham Wellesley '85, Lucille Danielle Amoako '02, Willem Peppler, Erik Nielsen, and Karen Helke '85.



Lucille Danielle Amoako '02 and guest.



Angela Dansie '09 and Jennifer Berg '76.



From left: President Erik Nielsen, Willem Peppler, Professor Brian Stanford, Jennifer Berg '76, Jake Cornelius '07, Cristina Quazzo '83, Lucille Danielle Amoako '02, Stuart Flinn, and Camilla Carlbom '91.

*New York City,
November 4, 2005*

*Lecture by Professor Patrick Saveau
and Alumni Reunion,
The Colony Club*

Benny Barton, Trustee
Laurent Belet, Trustee
Natalie Belet
Richard Bell '65, Trustee
Paulise Bell
Bruce Caputo
Bonnie Caputo
Natalie Carrasco '00
Jessica Crowe-Rothstein '03
Jeffery Dalglish
Tracy Della Torre '03
Daniel Favretto '02
Angela Fowler '75, Trustee
John Fullerton '03
George Kaludis
Otto Kaletsch, Trustee
Nina Kaletsch
Deirdre Kinney-Brennan '81, Trustee
Corrine Kuhar '03
Robinson Leech '66
Paul Lowerre '77, Chairman
Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76
Ned Lynch '66
Colette Lumsby '85
Bridget Maguire
Ernst Matthiensen, Trustee
Stephanie Matthiensen
Kevin McNeely '73, Trustee
Margaret Osmer McQuade, Trustee
Samantha Meilman '03
Sally Dodge Mole '65
Matthew Myles '04
President Erik Nielsen
Ellen Nielsen
Eileen Oakford '76
Scott Oakford '75, Trustee
Francesca Paoelli '03
Fulvio Pelli, Trustee
Claudia Pelli
Willem Peppler, Trustee
Derek Peterson '02
Noelle Santaniello '04
Professor Patrick Saveau
Caroline Sherman '69
David Sinclair
Bert Spencer '66
Felicia Tashkovich '90
Douglas Taylor '71
John Taylor '65, Trustee
Pascal Tone, Trustee
Lynn Tone
Rona Underwood
Marta Underwood
Natalie Valenzuela '93
Cabell Goosby West '65, Trustee
N. Derek Wilkinson '95, Alumni Trustee
Suzanne Yachechak
Glenn Yachechak



Natalie Belet, Cabell Goosby West '65, and Ned Lynch '66.



Angela Fowler '75, Sally Dodge Mole '65, and Douglas Taylor '71.



Bridget Maguire and Derek Wilkinson '95.



Samantha Meilman '03, John Fullerton '03, Derek Peterson '02, and Tracy Della Torre '03.



Eileen Smith Oakford '76 and Scott Oakford '75.



John Fullerton '03, Natalie Carrasco '00, and guest.



Claudia Pelli, Fulvio Pelli, Stephanie Matthiensen, and Willem Peppler..



Will Maier '04, Noelle Santaniello '04, and DeVon Solomon '04.

*Santa Monica,
November 12, 2005*

*FCWAG Meeting and Reception
Jonathan Beach Club*

Ross Atkinson '75
Sharon Bannick '95
Nicolo Becucci '96
Daniel Burns
Patricia Cali '81
Douglas Carolus
Mark Clemens '74
Steve Cooper
Sue Cooper
Mary Dean '66
Lindsey Edelman '97
Wendy Ferrari '82
Geoffrey Folkherth '91
Ranlyn Hill
Jennyre Hughes '83
Christopher Hunt '92
Randy Hunt '74
Valerie Hunt
Rebecca Garrett '89
Jay Gilman '78
Vivian Lohn
Tibor Machan
Brooke MacPhail '98
Caroline Mankey '86
Tahnee McKellar '79
Harry McMahan '73
Jim Moore '74, Trustee
President Erik Nielsen
Ellen Nielsen
Claire Overholt '84
Milena Rada '77
John Reitnouer '74
Marc Sallus '74
Allan Spiwak '95
Silja Steinmetz '04
D.L. Stothart '76
Richard Sussman '95, Alumni Trustee
Casey Ueberroth
Matteo Verna '98
Terry Whalen
Rob Wrede



Richard Sussman '95 and Alan Spiwak '95.



Lisa Stothart '76, Milena Rada '77, and Terry Whalen.



Jim Moore '74, Daniel Burns, and Richard Sussman '95.



Casey Ueberroth, Robin MacPhail '98, and Nicolo Becucci '96.



Valerie Hunt, Harry McMahan '73, and Randy Hunt '74.



Matteo Verna '98 and Rebecca Garrett '89.



Caroline Mankey '86 and guest.



Guest, Silja Steinmetz '04, and Vivian Lohn.



Steve Cooper and Sue Cooper.

*Lugano
December 15, 2005*

*Alumni Christmas Aperitivo
Leonardo da Vinci Villa
Franklin College North Campus*

- Sergio Attili '95
- Christina Bell '92
- Alessia Cassano '92
- Enrico Crovetto '94
- Arianna Artioli Dahmani '95
- Ryahd Dahmani '96
- Alesia Davenport
- Massimo D'Onofrio '91
- Franco Guarisco '94
- Kim Hildebrant '90
- Nicky Tauber Hildebrant '91
- Jennifer Jamieson '90
- Professor Morris Mottale
- President Erik Nielsen
- Ellen Nielsen
- Giulio Olivieri '97
- Barbara Zen Rimoldi '96
- Professor Georges Rocourt
- Professor Brian Stanford
- Jan Stanford
- Dorothy Wheeler '04
- Dean Armando Zanicchia
- Charlotte Zanicchia



Professor Brian Stanford, Nicky Tauber Hildebrant '91, and Jan Stanford.



Nathan Jones and Christina Bell '92.



Franco Guarisco '94 and Alessia Cassano '92.



Professor Georges Rocourt, Jennifer Jamieson '90, Nicky Tauber Hildebrant '91, Kim Hildebrant '90, and Dean Armando Zanicchia.



Giulio Olivieri '97, Enrico Crovetto '94, Professor Morris Mottale, and Sergio Attili '95



Ryahd Dahmani '96 and Massimo D'Onofrio '91.



Alesia Davenport, Nathan Jones, Massimo D'Onofrio '91, and President Erik Nielsen.

1963

Elizabeth Perkins Nichols married Bob Nichols in 2000 and moved to Middlebury, Connecticut, in 2001. Elizabeth is working as a nurse for a large urology practice. She and Bob now have a total of four children and three grandchildren in their combined family.

1972

Mary Schubach McCarthy writes, "We are still travelling extensively. My husband has a Russian art gallery in Park City, Utah. My oldest daughter Rachele graduated from medical school last May, started her residency at the University of Utah in Pediatrics and Psychiatry, and got married last June. My second daughter graduated from Gonzaga University in Education and Special Ed last May. She moved back to Salt Lake City to start her teaching career. I am still very involved as a volunteer at the YWCA. I went to Italy in April with five girlfriends." **Scott Olson** and **Catherine Morgan** send an aloha to



Catherine Morgan '72 and Scott Olson '72 in Hawaii.

their classmates from 1972. They were reunited at Scott's South Kona "Bali House," where he caretakes a unique retreat house. Cathy lives on the northerly tip of the Big Island.

1973

Elizabeth Miller Halaby Wales was remarried in 2002 and would love to reconnect with the Claremont contingent in San Francisco. **Robert Wolff** manages a hedge fund in Chicago. Robert would like to hear from old friends at rwolff@aquarianfunds.com.

1974

Jay Moore Reighley is still providing health care to women in a private practice using a functional medicine approach. She writes, "Daughters Rosie (15) and Christine (13) were off to the Wild West for a summer of hiking and biking while husband Doug and I stay home to support them. Why leave Maine in the summer?" **Ronald Wallace** visited the campus last

August during his travels around Europe. He is currently teaching in California.

1976

J. E. Hardy is living with his wife Christina and daughter Brinly (1 1/2 yrs.) in Kentucky while teaching at Iroquois High School. **Maggie White** has lived on Martha's Vineyard for the past nine years, during which time she has acquired a small luxury inn in Edgartown, the Hobknob Inn, and has started two other companies, Hobknob Construction and Hobknob Realty. She would love to have alumni visit her. **Adele Shook Merck** is very happy with two teens, George (15) and Grace (13). She writes, "My husband and I have been getting ready for **Sydney Lawford McKelvy** and her husband and **James Coleman '75** and **Kim Williams** to visit us in P.B. for a 50th B-day Party. I am in full time (lay) ministry and spreading the Gospel throughout the USA and Europe! (plus supplying Bibles and Jewish Bibles to all who need them)."

1978

Kathleen Farrell is very pleased with the new improvements to campus and hopes to be able to visit soon. **David Keiser** writes, "Life is wonderful. I am madly in love with an angel named Lynne. I run an international luxury goods business where we make items out of stingray. Otherwise, I spend the balance [of time] running a charitable farm where meat is given to a food pantry in South Bronx. My son is 21 and studying in Santa Barbara, and my daughter is a freshman at UC Boulder."

1981

Maria Brisbane had dinner with **Electra Preston** last March and was looking forward to getting together with **John Cummins** last April. Maria writes, "I miss the pizza with the egg in the middle at ABC!" **Rafid Louis** writes, "Franklin College is a very special place, a unique experience, and I shall always cherish those memories."

1982

Lars McKim has been married now for seven years and has two daughters (4 years and 6 months). He is working as a manufacturing engineer in Canton, Massachusetts. Lars sends his greetings to the Class of '82 and hopes to visit Lugano soon.

1983

Tatiana Kaletsch Abend has been living in Mallorca, Spain, with her husband and three children for 11 years. She is currently retraining in the field of nutrition and individual consultation. **Gordon Bower** writes, "Anyone coming to Playa del Carmen, Tulum,

or Cancun: give me a call or send me an email: g_bower@msn.com; +52 984 873 0111. All is great in Mexico." **Alison Bradley** is living in New York City with her little daughter Alma Ullinca (6) and working as a photographer. **Molly Hays-Jette** and her husband Roger have adopted two beautiful daughters from the Sichuan Province of China. **Alysa Yiping** is 3 and **Lilly Xin Xin** is 21 months. Molly and Abbie Engler took a campus tour during their visit to Ticino last



Molly Hays-Jette '83 and Abbie Engler '83 in Lugano.

May and attended the 2005 Gala. **Cristina Quazzo** is enjoying life in London, where she has been living for the past seven years. She works for HSBC Private Banking, heading up the US private client desk, where she sorts out clients' cross-border tax and estate planning issues before moving on to their financial situations and allocations. After living nine years in Italy, she enjoys reconnecting with Americans while still having the opportunity to work with Italian clients. Her job has her travelling several time a year to the States to the HSBC NYC, San Francisco, and Miami offices for her clients. Sadly, Cristina has not seen any Franklin friends in ages and sends her greetings to **Ginny T. Missy T., Jack, Blair, Heidi, Ralph, Francie, the Julies, Frank M., Kurt VK, Amy D.,** and others. Cristina writes, "Miss those good times...seems so long ago! If any of you are passing through London, do give me a call on my cell phone (011-44-7770) 234593 or send me an email so that we can catch up." **Jennyre "Missy" Hall Thomas** sent the following message last spring, "**Cristina, Ginny, Blair, Gordon, Ralph, Arthur, E.M., Cristin ...** where are you guys???" I'm bringing my family back to Franklin in August. My son is now the age we were when we were in Lugano! Email me: jennyreh@cox.net."

1984

Andy Wetzler reports that all is well in South Florida. Please send him an email if you plan to be in the area: wetzler@gmail.com.

1985

Sara Lif Gilbert and her son Jean-Michael Feliz-Lif '07, who also attended Franklin, are doing great. They enjoyed getting together in South Beach, Florida, for Art Basel and are considering paying a visit to Lugano.

1987

Stephen Connell writes, "The past year has brought lots of changes at the Connell household. Karen and I had our first child, Patrick Francis, on March 23, 2005. Prior to that we moved to a new home and, although I'm still working as an architect in Pittsburgh, I've also changed employers." Chris Kopecky says "hi" to all his classmates from his year abroad in 1987 and asks for email from his old friends at chris@kopeckylaw.com. He is a criminal lawyer in Kansas City where he lives with his wonderful wife Rose and two beautiful daughters, Samantha and Sabrina. He remembers his days at Franklin very fondly, especially Academic Travel. Chris and fellow classmate Jim Ryan still remain best friends. "I would love to hear from Josh (the language god), Satche (orange cone on head), Hideyo (pie in the face), Phillis (gondola in Venice), Henry or Kevin (basketball in Budapest), or any of the other great Franklin folks we hung out with . . ."

1989

Heidi Rudisch sends the following update: "My son Peter is 13 now. He loves Europe, visiting every summer with friends and family. He may want to attend Franklin. All I have to do is keep on him so he has the grades. I got married in March 2004 to a wonderful man who is a drug and alcohol counselor. We live in a great historic town near famous Red Rock-Sedona, Arizona, and the quaint historic mining town Jerome. I am a Special Education teacher for a charter high school that specializes in at-risk youth (students who need to work full time, are pregnant, are caring for their infants, need smaller classes, or have other reasons for not fitting into more traditional schools). I also proctor self-paced sciences, social studies, work study, and electives that run the full spectrum of subjects. The students ask how to get my job and I tell them, 'know more trivia than everyone else.' I am returning to the study of romance languages to be able to help the English-as-a-second-language and other hispanic students more. *Ciao* to anyone who remembers me!" Phil Joslin is still living in Frankfurt and has been working in banking for 11 years now. He does quite a bit of travelling for his job and enjoyed catching up with Jan Heydorn '87 in Frankfurt at the beginning of the summer. Rebecca Garrett is living in Los Angeles, California, where she works for Sotheby's International Realty and also has a small photography business, both of which keep her very busy. She would like to catch up with other alumni

and can be reached via email at rebeccagarrett@adelphia.net. Rebecca recently met up with Ranney Draper '85, who has received his PhD and is teaching English to high school students, and Dale Hope '73, who is living in Honolulu with his wife Annie and daughter Ollie.

1990

Zhennya Slootskin Wirz writes, "I want to let everyone know about Going Coastal, Inc., a nonprofit I co-founded after 9/11 to connect people to urban coastal resources. We are always looking for supporters and currently seek book donations (tax deductible) of gently used titles. All books are welcome—subjects of particular interest are natural history, maritime themes, and travel narratives. Contact me at info@going-coastal.org or visit www.goingcoastal.org."

1991

Amanda Foxman Ward and her husband Christopher had a baby boy. John Quinn Ward was born on June 21, 2005, joining his brothers Henry and Ned.



John Quinn Ward.

Stefano Spinoglio has recently returned from a three-year copper mining operation job based in Lubumbashi in the Dem. Rep. of Congo. Stefano writes, "What an experience...you can imagine that



Stefano Spinoglio '91 with wife Mila and daughter Camilla Alexandra.

coming back to civilization is a big shock. I hope that my daughter Camilla Alexandra, who was born on August 1, 2005, and my wife Mila will allow me to take some time to continue my freeride and heli-skiing in Europe and Canada." He would be happy to get in touch with classmates, especially Marc Epstein '90. Stefano can be contacted by email at stefanospinoglio@yahoo.com.

1993

Elizabeth Simpson Wessel writes, "We have just purchased a new home in South Tampa and are knee deep in renovations. I've traded my credit cards for a Home Depot charge card!! So, no exciting news to report."

1994

Anders Ek and his wife Karin now have three sons, Karl Gustav (8), Viktor (6), and Axel, who was born on March 27, 2005. Anders sends his regards to all.



Karin Ek, wife of Anders Ek '94, and baby son, Axel.

Tom Pegues sends his greetings to all his friends from Franklin. He writes, "I often spend time with Natalie Rice Valenzues '93, Sabrina Rice '91, Giampaolo Consigliere '96, and Stephano Bandelli '96. I heard from Matt Johnson '95 recently and he is doing well in DC. I had a great time catching up with Natalie Dickson '94, Hauwa Comis-Sessa '97, and Gianni Comis-Sessa '92 on the flight to Nigeria enroute to Oyinkan George's wedding last May. I recently bought a place in Vancouver where I spent part of my



Alumni help celebrate the wedding of Ody Markezinis '94 and Aki Kanae Kura '98.

time hanging out with old friend Margaret Villacin '92. I wish the Franklin Family safety, peace, and lots of love." Ody Markezinis and Aki Kanae Kura '98 were married in Guam on March 12, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency. Among the many alumni who came from around the world to attend the celebration were Giulio Olivieri '97, Christopher Hunt '92, Toshio Iwasaki '00, and Maki Kono '98.



Ody Markezinis '94 and Aki Kanae Kura '98 cut the wedding cake at their wedding reception in Guam.

1997

Joseph Tamagni recently finished his second summer working as a Bilingual Assistant for the Italian School of Middlebury College in Vermont. He also directed and edited a 45-minute student film, "I cavoli sono distrutti," while at Middlebury. Melinda McClimans Wightman has begun working as the Assistant Director of the Middle East Studies Center (MESC) at Ohio State University. She writes, "I still think of my professors from Franklin often and draw upon the many different kinds of experiences I had during my four years there."

1999

Margo McClimans recently started a new business called International Stone Consultancy. She is a natural stone broker and helps companies in foreign countries import marble and granite from Italy. www.stone-resource.com. Monroe Mann visited campus last July. He took part in a few classes where he shared his experiences of serving in Iraq. His service



Monroe Mann '99 at the Lugano campus, July 2005.

term was due to end in December, 2005. Gian Marco De Sisto married Paola on May 28, 2005, at the Castello di Vigoleno near Piacenza, Italy. Many



Andrea Paracucchi '99, Alicia Cervantes '00, Viviane Abdel Messih '00, Marco Frigido '01, Gian Marco De Sisto '99, Selin Bosquet '97, Patrick Bosquet '98, and Roger Corbi '00 at Gian Marco De Sisto's wedding.

alumni were in attendance. He recently moved to a new job in London which he finds challenging and rewarding with Citigroup Global Markets in Equity Derivatives Sales for Italy and Spain.



Paola and Gian Marco De Sisto dance at their wedding.

2001

Daniel Eng and his wife Angel have a baby girl. Kristin Anabelle Eng was born on September 1, 2005.



Kristin Anabelle Eng.

Malka Abdul Mannan stopped by the alumni office recently during a visit with her sister Safi, who was due to complete her degree in December, 2005. Malka worked as a political translator for the Saudi Embassy in Brussels for the last three years. She then returned to Cairo where she was planning on seeking employment in a different field. She sends her greetings to the class of '01 and would like to hear from her old friends, from whom she hasn't heard in a long time, at sonnolent8@hotmail.com.

2002

Brooke Franke and Duncan Autrey '99 both served as Peace Corps volunteers in Paraguay. Duncan worked in health sanitation and Brooke was an urban youth volunteer in a barrio outside the capital, Asuncion. Duncan plans to travel the world in search of his destiny while Brooke will be returning to the States and was also hoping to return to Franklin last May to attend her sister's graduation. Melissa Wassef was married in Cairo last June. Many alumni from the Middle East attended the ceremony.

2003

Kelsey Fava paid a visit to campus with Marcus Skarin last June. They were very impressed with the expansion of the school and the programs offered to alumni and seniors through the new Career Resource Center. Both Kelsey and Marcus remarked that Franklin did not seem like a small school anymore. Victoria Dearing was scheduled to present a collection of her photos at an art festival in Milan, Italy, "Africando," which was taking place from September 27 to October 17 at the Castello Sforzesco. The festival and exhibition are affiliated with the Comune di Milano and shows some of her photographs from a month spent in Senegal, Guinea, Bissau, and Niger. More information about Victoria can be found at www.victoriadear.com.

2004

Mercedes Marino worked for the John Kerry Presidential Campaign as Director of Operations for the State of Maine. Later in the year she worked for



Mercedes Marino at the Leonardo da Vinci villa, Franklin College campus.

the International Organization for Migration as a Support Officer in Los Angeles. Her roles were to set up voting stations for the "Iraq Out of Country Program." Mindy Knowlton Underwood is now not only happily married but also has a great new job working directly for the CFO, CEO, and VP of a hospitality/hotel decorating firm in Colorado. She's really enjoying it and cherishing her new and exciting responsibilities. Mindy says hello to everyone at Franklin! Dorothy Wheeler attended the 2005 Graduation Ceremony and Gala, and found a job in Manno during her visit. She is excited to be back in the Lugano area and started her new job last July.

Katherine Wilkenfeld is living in Greenville, South Carolina, and working in promotions for Red Bull Energy Drink. Chad Wesen is currently serving in the Peace Corps in Moldova. Last spring he took the foreign service exam and also played basketball on a local team. In addition to putting together a grant for a summer reading program targeted at children in grades 3-6, he is considering working on a milk cooperative with one of the locals and was asked to be on the strategic planning committee of the town. Over the summer he taught local kids how to play baseball and helped run a business camp for high school kids as well as continuing with his long-term projects with MUN, the local organization he works for.



Tibor Machan (right) with Jim Moore '74 at a recent Franklin event in California.

Faculty and Friends

Dr. Alban Urbanas is currently Professor of Philosophy and French at Wesley College in Dover, Delaware. His second son, Marc Alexander, was born on June 6, 2005, weighing seven pounds and measuring twenty inches, and is currently brightening the lives of his parents and brother Eric.

Henry Wesley Garrett ("Wes") has returned to Iraq for a second tour of duty. Wes, who joined the Navy upon his return to the States from FC, has prospered since having enlisted. He is making efforts to finish his Master's degree while serving, but the time constraints make it difficult. Wes is stationed with a Marine unit on the ground near the city of Fallujah, where there are very few days without incident. He often shares stories of his wonderful experiences living in Lugano and working and going to school at FC. Wes sends everyone his best regards.

Tibor R. Machan, who was the Harwood Professor at Franklin in the autumn of 1987 and 1985-86, is now the R.C. Hoiles Professor of Business Ethics and Free Enterprise at Chapman University in Orange, California. Professor Machan has returned often to visit Franklin.

In Memoriam

Herbert Stothart II, Remembered

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our father Herbert Stothart II, who died on October 6, 2005 from complications of a stroke. He was 74 years old. Herbert was born on November 23, 1929, in Santa Monica, California, the only son of artist Mary Vernon Wolfe and the pioneer Broadway and MGM film composer Herbert Stothart, best known for the original score for 1939 film classic



The Wizard of Oz.

Stothart was raised in Santa Monica and attended the Harvard School and UCLA where he earned a Master's degree in Art History, married Roberta Ann Bates and with her built a home on the Old Malibu Road in Malibu, a location he carefully selected for its perfect surf break.

Driven by his great passion for Italian art he moved his family to a tiny village in the Provincia di Como, Northern

Italy, where he was an early faculty member of The American School in Switzerland and Franklin College in Lugano, Switzerland. The family traveled extensively together, often crossing the Atlantic Ocean on "banana boats" and other nontraditional forms of transportation.

Eventually returning to Southern California, he taught art history at UCLA and Santa Monica City College. Professor Stothart was well known for inviting students and friends on day-long field trips to his mountaintop property in Solstice Canyon, the "Castello Academy in Malibu—A Center for Spiritual Renaissance" for passionate discussions and lectures about ancient art and architecture, Greek tragedies, Italian opera, ethics, gardening, sculpture, and nature. He was a consummate dreamer and was deeply intrigued and committed to the idea of living off the land.

Determined to uphold his father's musical legacy he was also a great supporter of the Film Music Society and its efforts toward film music preservation maintaining many of his father's music manuscripts and papers. *The Herbert Stothart Collection* is presently being catalogued for UCLA Music Special Collections and will include rare information about Broadway and Hollywood history. Stothart is survived by his four daughters; Lisa, Camille, Anna Lucia, and Betta; his sister, Constance Stothart Bong; and Roberta Bates Stothart. A memorial service will be held on "The Mountain" in the spring.

— submitted by the children of Herbert Stothart

Annual Fund Report: July 1, 2004 — June 30, 2005

The students, faculty, and administration of Franklin College wish to thank those who have given so generously to the College's Annual Fund this past year.

The Alumni/Development Office has made every effort to ensure that the information in this donor listing is correct. However, errors do occur and for this we apologize in advance. If you made a donation to the Franklin College Annual Fund during the last fiscal year but find your name omitted, misspelled, or listed under an incorrect heading, please advise us.

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