

THE FRANKLIN

# gazette

THE  
MAGAZINE  
OF  
FRANKLIN COLLEGE  
SWITZERLAND

SUMMER 2006

*The "Baobab Project"*

*Tales From Africa...*

*Graduation 2006*

*The Land Down Under*

*From Franklin to the Peace Corps*

*Campus Dedications:*

*The Avena Fountain*

*The Kaletsch Campus*

*The Pascal Tone Athletic Center*



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Summer 2006



*Suzanne, Salvatore John, and John Anthony Avena in front of the fountain dedicated to the memory of John Avena '77.*



*The Annual "Travvy" Awards announce the winners.*



*Academic Travel visits Australia!*

*Front Cover: Zambian child from the Baobab village in front of a large Baobab tree.  
Photo by Laura Marsala '06.*

## FEATURES

- 13 **The Land Down Under**  
Academic Travel adds a New Continent to the Itinerary
- 16 **H. E. Dr. Richard Gardner**  
Keynote Speaker, Graduation 2006
- 17 **Commencing a Lifelong Journey**  
Graduation 2006
- 19 **Valedictorian 2006**  
Rachel Hill, Valedictorian for the Class of 2006
- 20 **Big Tree, Small Village and the Students Who Made the Connection**  
Franklin students and the Baobab Project in Zambia
- 24 **Tales From Africa**  
Professor Anne Maran Flutti writes about small scale organic farming in Africa
- 28 **Changing Challenges: From Franklin to the Peace Corps**  
Chad Wesen '04 and his Peace Corps experiences in Moldova

## DEPARTMENTS

- 2 **Letters**
- 3 **Franklin Today**  
Class of 2006 Selects Endowed Scholarship as Their Legacy  
Fountain Dedicated to the Memory of John Avena '77  
South Campus Named for Otto and Nina Kaletsch  
Athletic Center Named For Pascal Tone  
Building the Future for Franklin College  
Franklin Catches Olympic Fever  
"Euroland—Global Player or Global Drag?"  
Michael Nobel Opens the Dean's Honors Lecture Series  
Career Fair Introduces New Opportunities  
The "Fashionistas" Host Campus Fashion Show  
The Annual "Travvy" Awards  
Student Leadership Awards Announced  
New Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Student Programming Named
- 30 **Alumni Council News**
- 32 **Reunions and Events**
- 34 **Class Notes**
- 37 **Faculty/Staff Notes**

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## From the editor

Dear Alumni and Friends,



This issue of the *Gazette* will take you from Africa (twice), to Australia, to Moldova, and back to Lugano.

Professor Anne Flutti has conducted many Academic Travels to Africa, and her trips to Malawi and Zambia, in particular, have made a huge impact on her students. Professor Flutti discusses sustainable agriculture and permaculture—organic farming as applied to the development of a small-scale farm in Malawi. In spite of her retirement at the end of the 2005/2006 academic year, students will be glad to hear that, schedule permitting, Professor Flutti will still be available to lead further visits to Africa.

You can also read about the Baobab Project, a student-initiated and operated project designed to help a small rural village in Zambia which grew out of Professor Flutti's special summer travel to Malawi and Zambia in 2004.

Still in the southern hemisphere, Franklin College students embarked upon a new Academic Travel destination last spring. Professor Pamela Adams led a group to Australia, initiating Franklin's first Academic Travel Down Under. The rich program featured visits to Australian businesses, the University of Queensland, the QUT, the University of Sydney, museums, and the natural wonders of Australia.

In our Alumni Feature, **Chad Wesen '04** writes about his rewarding experiences in Moldova as a Peace Corps volunteer. He is involved in organizational development at the local office of the national agricultural extension agency as well as in a variety of youth development-oriented projects such as

coaching basketball and baseball, organizing this year's Model United Nations (MUN) Conference, and working toward the construction of a playground.

Back on campus, important dedication ceremonies were held on the occasion of graduation weekend last May. Franklin's South Campus was officially named Kaletsch Campus in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Otto Kaletsch, and the John Avena Fountain and the Pascal Franchot Tone Athletic Center were inaugurated at the North Campus.

We are also pleased to feature contributions by graduates **Paolo Vismara '06** and Valedictorian **Rachel Hill '06**. Paolo Vismara writes about the conference organized last March by the Area of Economics and Finance on the future of Europe, which boasted the participation of experts of global fame. Rachel Hill shares with us her perspective on Professor Adams' Academic Travel to Australia.

I wish you a pleasant summer and look forward to your feedback!

Diana Tedoldi  
Editor

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

### Class of 2006 Selects an Endowed Scholarship as Their Legacy

Your grandfather's watch, your mother's pearls: gifts from those who came before you hold great value. As a gift to future Franklin generations, the graduating Class of 2006 has chosen to contribute funds to an established scholarship. Created by the Class of 2004, the permanent endowed scholarship benefits future Franklin students and can go toward tuition, books, fees, Academic Travel supplements, or extra-curriculars. The criteria include merit, need, academic excellence, and outstanding leadership. So far the Class of 2006 has raised a contribution of about \$1000, through donations from seniors and a promotion called "Jeans Day" involving staff and faculty. Coming soon to the North Campus Villa, a plaque will acknowledge all senior classes who contribute to this scholarship and the awardees who benefit from it.

## Fountain Dedicated to the Memory of John Avena '77

By Christina Bell

After Franklin College purchased the North Campus, **Chairman Paul Lowerre '77** toured the grounds with a friend. The two came to a battered hole in the ground that was once a fountain. "It is important that the waters bubble from this fountain again," he told Lowerre. "This spot will inform everyone's impression and opinion of this campus."

Immediately recognizing the symbolic power of this centrally located public space, Chairman Lowerre consulted his wife, **Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76**, on the subject. "Who would we dedicate such a place to?" he asked. The two unanimously agreed—the memory of their dynamic classmate **John Avena '77**.

Thus, the idea for the John Avena Fountain was born. Thanks to the hard work and generous contributions of many, the fountain was officially dedicated on May 13, 2006. At the ceremony, Chairman Lowerre spoke of his dear friend and the spirit of friendship for which Avena will always be remembered:

*It causes me great pride in the efforts of everyone to see Franklin's development. In the early years this school was a vastly different place. There were no dormitories. Students lived in apartments scattered throughout Lugano. Certain people were galvanizers, those who brought us together. John Avena was one of those people. He broke down barriers and created the very thing that makes this school unique—connectivity and cross-cultural friendships. Our hope is that Franklin students for generations to come will say, "Let's meet at the Avena Fountain."*

Many in the Franklin community, including John Avena's mother Francine, widow Suzanne, and sons Salvatore, 12, and John Jr., 10, stood by for the striking moment when the sight and sound of bubbling, flowing water returned.

"I would be very happy to know that each year students connected and formed friendships here by this fountain." Suzanne Avena continued, "John made more friends than anyone I ever knew. No one ever forgot him and he never forgot anyone."

Memorializing a loved one is a great way to create a lasting tribute while supporting a worthy cause. Many of John's friends, classmates, and family members have contributed to this project.

Anyone wishing to make a memorial donation should contact Alesia Davenport (adavenport@fc.edu). A stone with the name of the donor will be placed in the Avena Fountain area for any gift or pledge of \$5,000 or greater.



Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76, Francine Avena, Salvatore John Avena, John Anthony Avena, Jr., Suzanne Avena, and Paul Lowerre '77.

### JOHN AVENA '77

Born on Halloween Day in 1956, John Avena grew up in Cinnaminson, New Jersey. John's parents, Salvatore and Francine Avena, instilled a love of foreign places in their children at an early age, traveling extensively throughout Europe and other parts of the world. Given those experiences, his cousins Gina and Carol Salvatore recommended that John consider Franklin College. It was a perfect match!

John made the most of every minute he spent at the College. He was known to lift spirits and rarely left someone without a smile or a good laugh. While at Franklin, he made many lifelong friends before continuing his education at Widner College in Pennsylvania. After graduating, he started his own business and married Suzanne Kathleen Ciccone. He was most proud of his role as a father to sons Salvatore John Avena and John Anthony, Jr.

John was a person who never met a stranger. He could be anywhere in the world and inevitably someone would recognize him and an old friendship would be rekindled. His spirit, charisma, charm, love of life, and sense of humor will live on in the hearts and memories of his family, friends, and classmates. The new fountain will become a meeting place filled with fun and laughter.

## South Campus Named for Otto and Nina Kaletsch



On the clear, mild morning of Saturday, May 13, Franklin College's South Campus was officially named Kaletsch Campus in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Otto Kaletsch.

For those present, the dedication provided an occasion to reflect on how far the College has come and to acknowledge two special people who have made all the difference. The gathering included Dr. and Mrs. Kaletsch, Chairman and Mrs. Lowerre, President and Mrs. Nielsen, Vice Chair Angela Fowler, and three Franklin founders—Mr. Pat Tone, Mr. Jacques Villaret, and Ambassador Wilfred Geens—in addition to several trustees and members of faculty and staff. President Nielsen opened the ceremony by saying a few words about Otto and Nina Kaletsch. "Otto Kaletsch has dedicated the past 25 years of his life to Franklin College. He has been untiring in his devotion to this institution, and throughout it all his commitment has never wavered." He noted, too, that it is impossible to think of Otto without also thinking of Nina: "As the Chairman's wife, Nina has always conducted herself with dignity and grace and yet has never been aloof."

In acknowledgement Dr. Kaletsch responded, "I am impressed and flattered." Always a supporter of all that fosters a can-do attitude in young people, he spoke of the impact the College makes on students. "I often think of the uniqueness of this school. An education at Franklin instills confidence. First you have to learn how to shop for groceries in Italian and that is just the beginning. The peak of my daughter Tatiana's adventures may have been when she got lost on a subway in Moscow . . . Students graduate with the feeling that 'if I can do that, I can do anything.'" Mrs. Kaletsch, too, reflected on the Franklin experience as she addressed her colleagues and friends. "I am incredibly honored," she said. "This school is an inspiration. It certainly was for my son and my daughter-in-law, as it was for Tatiana."

The ceremony culminated with the unveiling of a plaque and a handsome new sign and an official ribbon-cutting.



*Dr. and Mrs. Otto Kaletsch before the unveiling of the new campus sign and plaque.*

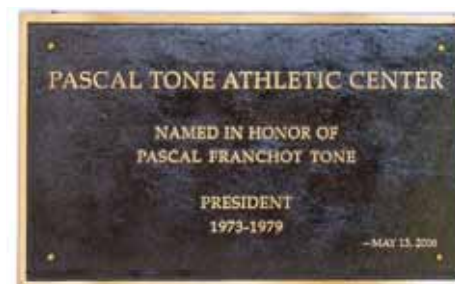
### OTTO KALETSCH

Known for his leadership, dedication, and generous financial support on behalf of Franklin College, Otto Kaletsch was the College's longest-serving Chairman, is the current Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees, a Franklin parent, and the recipient of a Franklin College doctoral degree.

As Chairman, Kaletsch constantly worked towards a better Franklin, guiding the College through difficult times towards unparalleled success. He led by example and provided sensible, effective management. One of the most valuable characteristics of his leadership was his ability to encourage and inspire others towards service and excellence on behalf of the institution.

During Kaletsch's tenure, student enrollment doubled. Academic initiatives resulted in major growth in the size of the faculty and the number of academic programs. Investments in the College's physical infrastructure—specifically, the purchase of the Panera residence and the Mancuso property on Via Ponte Tresa—have created a broader future for Franklin College. When the opportunity to purchase the Leonardo DaVinci Campus (now known as North Campus) arose, he was a strong supporter of the acquisition. For all these reasons and many more, naming South Campus in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Kaletsch is highly appropriate.

## Athletic Center Named for Pascal Franchot Tone



With the purchase of the North Campus, the President and the Board of Trustees knew that philanthropic support would be needed for Franklin College to realize the growth involved in a two-campus college. Thus, a strategic plan was developed and gift opportunities resulted from this process.

Chairman and Mrs. Lowerre provided initial leadership and momentum. They issued a challenge to all trustees, alumni, parents, and friends of Franklin, agreeing to match gifts dedicated to the project.

Since that time, many have come forward to take a prominent role in making Franklin's new era a reality. Pascal Franchot Tone, a Franklin founder, its second president, and a current board member, is one of those people.

Because of a lifelong commitment to team sports and athletics, Tone chose to provide financial support for the Athletic



*Mr. and Mrs. Pascal Tone at the dedication of the Pascal Tone Athletic Center.*

Center at the College. "It is heartening for me to see, in the *Franklin Gazette* and the *Franklin Flash*, what a tremendous role athletics are beginning to play at Franklin College," says Tone.

The Athletic Center, which comprises a gymnasium and fitness center, was officially dedicated as the Pascal Tone Athletic Center on Saturday, May 13, 2006 with a group of faculty, staff, trustees and friends looking on.

### PASCAL FRANCHOT TONE

Founder, Past President, Current Board Member, Philanthropist

If you went to Franklin, you may remember Pat Tone as an avid hiker and a talented skier. You may even have been one of the many students who piled into the VW bus with Tone to explore hiking and skiing in Andermatt and other Swiss towns.

Tone has long realized that athletic activity builds leadership skills and empowers young people, and in fact athletics played an important role in his own education. He was a member of the 4 x 100 relay team that won the National Championship in the Preparatory School Division at the Pennsylvania Relays and also received the Wilber C. Riley Award as outstanding athlete of 1962 at the Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The Atlantic Coast Conference gave him special recognition for being on the Dean's List while competing in varsity athletics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While living in Lugano, Tone was a member of the Hockey Club Alto Vedeggio in Mezzovico, which won the Third Division Championship of the Swiss National Hockey League.

Tone's tenure at Franklin College began in 1969 when he was a founding member of the College and professor of Literature, Drama, and Film Production. He continued to dedicate his wisdom, vision, and expertise to Franklin as Director of Admissions and ultimately as the second President of the College from 1973 to 1979, during which time the College experienced achievements such as recognition from the IRS as a tax-exempt corporation and accreditation from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools as an Associate of Arts degree-granting institution in 1975.

Today, Tone continues to serve the College as a Trustee.

## Building the Future for Franklin College

By Alesia Davenport

Private gifts from alumni and friends provide the margin of excellence at Franklin College. As illustrated in the three previous articles, philanthropic support can help provide the foundation for the school through buildings and enhanced environments. Other giving opportunities such as scholarships, professorships, library acquisitions, lab furnishings, and the latest technology help improve the quality of a Franklin College education.

Donors have unlimited avenues to help shape the future of Franklin College through philanthropic support. These gifts can be outright or deferred and can be designated for a variety of purposes.

The benefits of supporting an educational institution like Franklin College go beyond taxes. Giving is an individual act and donors receive emotional rewards when seeing how their support makes a difference. For example, a scholarship donor enjoys observing the recipient mature, achieve academically, develop leadership skills, and graduate to become a productive and engaged member of the community. A donor who gives a gift of technology enjoys seeing our graduates morph into the professional world with the experience to operate within the parameters that are standard to the industry. A donor who provides support for curriculum development or a new program takes pleasure in watching the program transform ideas and thoughts on paper into an institute that has worldwide recognition for excellence in a particular field.

In addition to the emotional satisfaction of making philanthropic gifts, financial benefits can also be derived, depending on the tax structure of the donor's country of residence. For example, a Trustee recently established a gift to the College through a Charitable Remainder Unitrust. Through this gift vehicle, the donor contributes appreciated assets into a charitable remainder trust. The trust invests the assets and pays the donor an income for life, lives, or for a period of years. At the end of the designated time period, the remainder assets become the property of Franklin College and the funds will be used to enhance student life.

Another creative way to give is to donate appreciated assets. For example, suppose ten years ago you bought 100 shares of XYZ stock for \$50 per share. The value has appreciated and it now sells for \$75 per share. To make a \$5,000 gift to the college the donor could give shares of the stock, which results in real costs to the donor of only \$3,750.

Since Franklin College is a private institution, we rely on private support from individuals, foundations, and corporations to sustain a high quality of faculty, research, and education. As it moves forward, the College must cultivate a spirit of philanthropy within the Franklin community by engaging, energizing, and better utilizing the natural worldwide network of alumni and friends as partners in the future of the school.

For additional information on exciting projects happening within the College, please contact:

Alesia M. Davenport, MA, CFP  
Vice-President and Head of Institutional Advancement  
(adavenport@fc.edu)

## Franklin College Catches Olympic Fever

By Christina Bell



Eighty nations, healthy competition, surprisingly hassle-free parking: Franklin College and the 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Torino actually have a lot in common.

So what was it like for the Franklin community to have the Olympics just three hours away?

Olympic excitement officially began with the lighting of the flame in Lugano's Piazza Riforma. "The people of Lugano were all out and excited. We waited for a long time and it was worth it. I took at least 20 pictures with my phone," said Franklin alumna Arianna Artioli Dahmani '95.

"The anticipation and the buildup towards the Olympic events were almost as exciting as the reality of being there," commented senior Christine Nitescu. "Friends and relatives back home made many of us feel so special saying, 'you are so close. You gotta go.'" And many students did go. They immersed themselves in the experience of Torino, the athletic events, and, of course, the official Olympic store. Those who went were glad they did. "It was an experience I can tell my kids and grandkids about," said Nitescu.

Hockey was the clear favorite of those who attended several events. "The crowd was mobilized and because it was a longer event, it was fun," said senior Katie Hathaway. The general word, too, was that any sport involving jumping (a.k.a. flying) and snow is impressive in person. "You cannot get a sense of the height snowboarders reach unless you are really there," explained Hathaway.

Certainly, however, the Olympics were not all fun and games. Many had the type of adventures that travelers hate to live through and love to tell about. There was the American student sitting amongst a sea of overzealous Latvian hockey fans during the Latvia - US game. Let's just say singing was involved. Hathaway and her visiting relatives got caught in a blizzard during an alpine event. They walked through sleet and hail for an hour and half on a windy mountain trail to get to buses going to central Torino. "We were freezing. It was fun, though, to see people from all nations holding each other up, trying to keep each other from slipping," said Hathaway.

In fact, the most valuable outcome of Olympic excitement could be that Franklin students were able to do what they do best—transform their real-life travels into research interests. Senior International Communications major Nitescu studied the way the media covered the Olympic events. Further, she analyzed the symbolism present in the opening ceremonies. "With the alpine horns, Ferraris, and even a famous model representing Venus, the opening ceremony contained a lot of stereotypes, especially of Italy, the host country." Hathaway even decided to write her senior International Relations thesis on the history of the Olympics: "I became interested in the political side of the Games and how they can serve to rejuvenate a city. I studied the many ways the Olympics are meant to encourage peace through sports."

At the center of the Olympic experience was always Director of Student Programming Jeff Bourgeois, who took a total of 45 students to Olympic events in the Franklin College van over the course of three different trips. In his words, "The Winter Olympics added to this semester in meaningful ways. It got people talking and traveling, and that is a good thing."

## Franklin Conference on the Future of Europe: "Euroland—Global Player or Global Drag?"

By Paolo Vismara '06

In the first week of March, 2006, Franklin College hosted a conference on the future of Europe, organized by the Area of Economics and Finance. Professors Terzi and Bibow invited experts of global fame who participated actively for an enlightening and valuable experience that benefited the whole Franklin community. The focus of this international workshop was the role that the European Union (EU) is undertaking in the international sphere and whether or not it can be a catalyst for global growth. Distinguished Professor Charles Goodhart, from the London School of Economics, talked to students, faculty, and a broad audience from the local community and introduced some of the themes of the conference in his keynote speech.

As it transpired from his initial comments, there exists a need for structural reforms in order to boost growth and employment within the EU. Goodhart indicated how the European Central Bank (ECB) succeeded in its goal of maintaining low and stable inflation, but it failed in guaranteeing firm and strong economic growth and a fully integrated European financial market. Monetary integration in Europe was carried out with the purpose of promoting economic efficiency and diminishing transaction costs, largely based on the Optimal Currency Area theory.

However, the European common currency was adopted as the result of a political decision, in the hope of a self-stabilizing movement, and not on the basis of economic principles. Hence, due to the structure of the EU, its monetary regime and its institutions, the inability to adjust to asymmetric supply and demand shocks emerged as another issue for an already defective European system.

Uniquely, the EU combines a centralized monetary policy—directed by the ECB—with a decentralized fiscal policy control—managed by the single nation states. According to Goodhart, this unbalanced relationship between monetary and fiscal coordination is due to an error in mainstream monetary theory. The combination of federal and national regimes has also created imbalances and rigidity in the labour market. The Stability and Growth Pact was designed to solve these imbalances. However, through its rigidity and lack of a federal approach, it simply managed to put additional pressure on individual nation states.

In conclusion, in Goodhart's words, "The euro has an idealistic core, but also considerable weaknesses." He suggests that the emergence of political parties that will run on the ticket of opposition to the euro is not that far down the road. However, the willingness of fast-growing countries such as Turkey and Eastern European nations to join gives hope for the future to a stagnant European economy. Nonetheless, the failure of the European Constitution has made EU development step back in its integration process and has defined the limits of European integration. The conference brought to the surface the fact that as of right now the EU is in need of fundamental reforms before it can regain the catalyst position that it once had in the scheme of the global economy. In the light of the emergence of China and India, and the rebirth of Japan, this will be a crucial challenge for the future of Europe.

The conference, made possible by the generous support of Julius Bär and Fingroup, continued with a two-day workshop including the following participants:

CHARLES GOODHART

Professor Emeritus,  
London School of Economics  
*The Euro and the Reform of the Stability and Growth Pact*

PHILIP ARESTIS

University of Cambridge  
*Can the Eurozone Play a Stabilizing Role in Balancing Global Imbalances?*

RICCARDO BELLOFIORE

Università di Bergamo  
*Prospects and Limits of Keynesianism in Europe*

JÖRG BIBOW

Franklin College Switzerland  
*Global Imbalances, Bretton Woods II, and the Role of the Eurozone*

JEROME CREEL

Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Économiques, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques  
*The Euro as a Pact (with Fabrice Capoen)*

HEINER FLASSBECK

UNCTAD, Macroeconomic and Development Policies Branch, and Honorary Professor, Hamburg University, for Economics and Politics  
*Global Imbalances and the European Response*

JAMES FORDER

University of Oxford  
*The Idea of "Policy Coordination" and the European Monetary Union*

ALEX IZURIETA

CERF, Judge Institute, University of Cambridge  
*The World Economy, US and Europe: Stylized Facts, Sustainability, and Scenarios (with George Irwin)*

SERGIO ROSSI

University of Fribourg  
*The Role of the Euro in the International Monetary Arena: Present and Prospects*

CLAUDIO SARDONI

University of Rome "La Sapienza"  
*The Economic Rationale of the EMU and the ECB*

ANDREA TERZI

Franklin College Switzerland  
*The Eurozone in the Global Economy: Price Stability is not Enough and Macro Governance Institutions are Needed*

ACHIM TRUGER

Institut für Makroökonomie und Konjunkturforschung, Düsseldorf  
*Fiscal Policy and Macroeconomic Performance in the EMU: Lessons for the Future (with Eckhard Hein)*

RICHARD WERNER

University of Southampton  
*Europe's Choice and Lessons from Japan: Supply vs. Demand Side Policy, Fiscal vs. Monetary Policy*

Image: Nic Miller/Digital Vision/Getty Images



## Michael Nobel Opens the Dean's Honors Lecture for Spring

By Gerardo Morina

These words opened the Spring 2006 Dean's Honors Lecture at Franklin College on April 27. After the speech Gerardo Morina interviewed Nobel and wrote the following article (translated for the Gazette by Diana Tedoldi) for the Corriere del Ticino:

A longtime resident of Switzerland, Dr. Michael Nobel was born in Sweden in 1940. After working for seven years as a researcher in social sciences at the Institute for Mass Communications at Lausanne University, he has since been a consultant for UNESCO and the United Nations and is involved in humanitarian organizations and scientific research throughout the world.

Dr. Nobel is the Chairman of the Nobel Family Society, which has the mission of keeping alive the spirit of its illustrious ancestor and creator of the prestigious Nobel Prize. Although he arrived in Lugano from Lausanne still recovering from an acute kidney colic attack, Nobel nevertheless was ready to meet an audience eager to hear him yesterday evening at Franklin College in Sorengo; afterwards he graciously agreed to answer our questions.

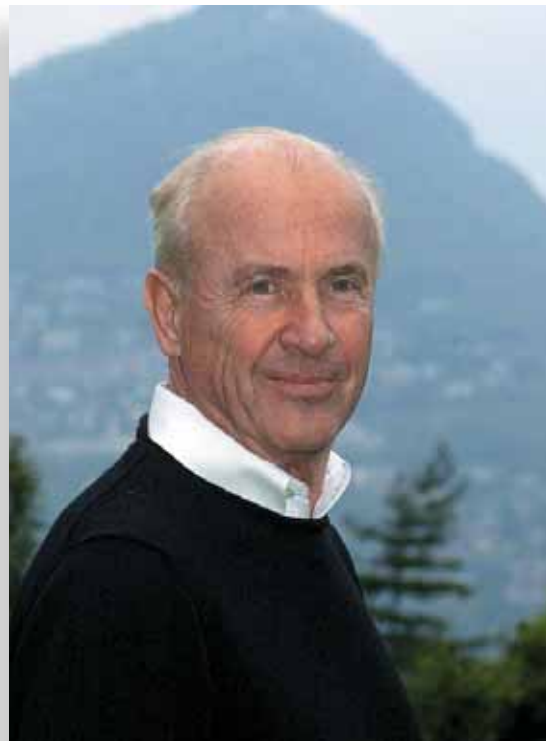
**Q.** Dr. Nobel, you represent the Nobel family. What is the spiritual legacy that binds you to your great-granduncle Alfred?

"Obviously I don't have a direct memory of him, but what I admire most about my great-granduncle were the firm determination and spirit of endurance in the face of adversity (his father's financial collapses, the explosion which took the life of his brother Emil, etc.) displayed by this chemical engineer who, thanks to his ingenuity and inventiveness, managed not only to amass an immense fortune, but also to maintain an intense sense of idealism until the end of his days."

**Q.** As we know, Alfred Nobel's discoveries were also used to resounding effect on the war front.

"Certainly, but the facts that his father had a weapons factory and that he himself invented dynamite did not keep him from embodying a pacifist and philanthropic spirit."

"MY NAME IS NOBEL,  
MICHAEL NOBEL,  
GREAT-GRANDNEPHEW OF  
ALFRED."



**Q.** Could you elaborate?

"Alfred fundamentally believed that holding weapons was not necessarily a prelude to using them, but was instead a deterrent among the peoples. Moreover, his decision to transfer part of his enormous estate after his death to a special foundation—dedicated to awarding five equal-sized prizes annually to those who best served mankind in the fields of physics, chemistry, physiology and medicine, literature, and activities promoting peace among nations—originates from a strong philanthropic base. By choosing these wide-ranging but all-encompassing disciplines Alfred revealed a many-faceted, almost Leonardesque spirit to the point that I would define him a universal genius."

**Q.** His sensitivity towards a non-scientific discipline such as literature is amazing.

"Yes, even though many don't know that as a young man Alfred himself wrote poetry in English, and a draft of a theatrical text was found among his papers."

**Q.** And what was Alfred Nobel like on a personal, human level?

"Alas, on this level I often feel compassion for him because fundamentally he was a solitary person and extremely lonely. He died without relatives or friends nearby on December 10, 1896, in the villa named after him in San Remo, Liguria."

**Q.** Alfred, however, embodied the same philanthropic spirit which can be found today in his great-grandnephew.

"Well, let's say that I have a strong sensitivity for all that concerns the well-being of mankind. It's no coincidence that, among other things, I preside over a non-government organization which is opposed to all kinds of violence. I believe in peace and in the importance of research. And it's no coincidence that I first devoted myself to promoting research in the field of diagnostic medicine, where I saw the beginnings of the diffusion of techniques such as magnetic resonance imaging and that subsequently I have been involved with institutions tied to the fight against cancer."

Photo by Maurizio Cornelli, Corriere del Ticino

## Career Fair Introduces New Opportunities

By Christina Bell

This April at the Career Fair students learned about career opportunities straight from corporate decision-makers. Students in attendance were motivated and relieved by what they heard from the experts. "What the speakers said gave me hope and made me more aware of what is out there," said sophomore Milla Byrgazova.

Presenters included: Silvester Ocrelli from UBS; Pelejoao Gutzwiller from Società Generale; Diego Franchetti from Ti Impiego, a career placement firm; and Giuseppe Macario from Evergreen, an environmental solutions company. Additionally, Franklin's own Christina Bell and Laura Thompson respectively presented information on writing resumes and finding international opportunities.

The company representatives expressed keen interest in Franklin students for their unique backgrounds and skills. Owner of Evergreen, Giuseppe Macario said, "We are happy to make this connection with Franklin College. It is not so easy to find people who have language skills and experience working with people of many cultures and communication skills. We are growing like mushrooms and we need good people." Similarly, UBS's Silvester Ocrelli expressed a need for personnel with multi-cultural experience, saying "UBS hires an average of 2000 new employees per month, and these new hires are stationed all over the world."

Overall, the students walked away with more confidence regarding their job search. "That I will find the right thing is becoming clearer to me," stated senior Afsaneh Ghobad. Ghobad even had the chance to interview with Evergreen. "I am interested in sustainable development. The interview was a great experience," she said.

Following the presentations, students had the opportunity to mix and mingle with the speakers during a wine and cheese reception. The career fair was organized through the Franklin College Career Resource Center in conjunction with the Advancement Office.

## The "Fashionistas" Host Campus Fashion Show

By Christina Bell

The lawn outside the President's office could easily be one of the prettiest spots on campus. This past April, however, it became stunning, thanks to a creative, ambitious



group of students who planned and executed a professional, engaging fashion show. The students call themselves the Fashionistas, and this year they were organized by seniors Janan Shakur '06 and Ashlie Butler '06. "We knew the only way we could make it happen was if we started early. So Janan and I got to work as soon as the semester began," said Butler. To build excitement for the fashion show, the Fashionistas organized three preliminary promotions including a Valentine's Day fundraiser, a free make-over day, and a Martini Party. Brooke Nelson '08 contributed support of every type from start to finish.

When the big day finally arrived, at least 100 people were in attendance. Women in the audience had been instructed to wear white, while the men were asked to wear black. Sushi and fresh fruit were butlered to guests. Then the music began and, one by one, models (Franklin's own) strutted down the catwalk. The show included full collections designed and handmade by Janan Shakur '06, Ashlie Butler '06, Angela Evans '06, Dorothy Wheeler '04, Dagmar Schmautz '05, Beisan Al-Shafei '06, Evan Neidich '09, and Megan Austin '09. The fashion show represented a fresh burst of creativity and entertainment for all involved.

Not surprisingly, the Fashionistas won the award for best leadership at the Student Leadership and Academic Awards.

**Q.** You are of Swedish origin, but left Sweden a long time ago.

"Yes, I live mainly in Lausanne, Switzerland, and I am a dual Swedish/Swiss citizen. However, because of my commitments deriving from chairing many organizations around the world, I have calculated that I spend more than 200 days a year travelling."

**Q.** Alfred Nobel's will speaks of dedicating prizes to young scientists, to award in particular "those whose work, during the course of the past year, has conferred the major benefit to humanity." Has anything changed over the decades in the criteria for awarding the prestigious Nobel prizes?

"Yes, it is rare today that the winners are young scientists and that their merits have emerged in the course of the past year. Today's Nobel Prize winner is on the average beyond middle age, and the Prize often recognizes the culmination of a decades-long collaboration rather than the fruits of a single person."

**Q.** The awarding of the Nobel Prizes, which were conferred for the first time in 1901, is often fraught with heated discussions and not always absent from cultural or political considerations.

"You see, I can't really address this point because I personally have no power or influence in the conferring of the prizes. Everything is in the hands of the specific committees in whom we must have faith."

**Q.** Among the many prizes that you yourself have received for your philanthropic work is one of special importance, the UNESCO Medal "for important contributions to the cultural dialogue between nations." Today, as you know, there is a lot of discussion about the lack of such dialogue and even about "clashes of civilizations." What do you think?

"I believe that human beings often can't find a common meeting ground because of a lack of communication and accurate information. It is this, above all, that keeps alive a large gap between civilizations. I also think, however, that on the whole the Nobel Prizes contribute now and always have to creating a better world, also from the point of view of broadening dialogue and encouraging |comprehension among different peoples."

# And the Travvy

Academic Travel is certainly academic. Reading, writing, and studying are important parts of the experience. However, it is also more than academic. It can be hilarious, life-changing, humbling, and even beautiful, so much so, in fact, that it is difficult to record or convey. This is one reason we hold the Travvies each year. At this event, we celebrate those who have captured the essence of Franklin's longest-standing tradition through the photographs they have taken.

*Wish you were here!* was this year's Travvy theme. Student photographers submitted 178 images to a panel of judges comprised of students, staff, and faculty members. Like other famous awards shows, the Travvies included two hosts and several presenters. Participants and audience members dressed in formal attire.

Students Marta Oprisan, Tesla Dubois, and Elizabeth Mullen in addition to Director of Student Programming Jeff Bourgeois made up the Planning Committee. The result of their hard work was a flawless and funny program. They sought out fresh faces to present each



BEST PHOTO OF A LOCAL (Africa) By Angela Evans



BEST COMPOSITION By Asuka Asbida



BEST ARCHITECTURE (Dubrovnik) By Asuka Asbida



BEST PHOTO OF A PROFESSOR (Venezuela) By Alex Marston



BEST LANDSCAPE (Turkey) By Stephanie Giglio



JUDGES' CHOICE, BEST PHOTO (Venezuela) By Casey Gayman

# goes to...

Travvy. Presenters were asked to share an anecdote or a memorable moment from an Academic Travel. "It was a great group," said Bourgeois. Presenter and sophomore Michael Garcia enjoyed being a part of the program. "It was my first time on Franklin's stage! I prepared a few stories and I decided which one I would tell right before I went on," she said.

Categories included: best architecture, best composition, funniest photo, best photo of a local, best photo of a faculty trip leader, best photo of a tour guide (non-faculty), best photo of landscape, best photo of Franklin students, and best video. A judges' choice and a people's choice award were given for the best overall photo, as well.

Winners of each category received a Ryanair voucher worth 50 euros. Judges' choice and people's choice category winners received 100-euro vouchers. All winners also received certificates featuring their photos.

And the Travvies went to...



ENTRY / HUMOR (JAPAN) By Rory Schember



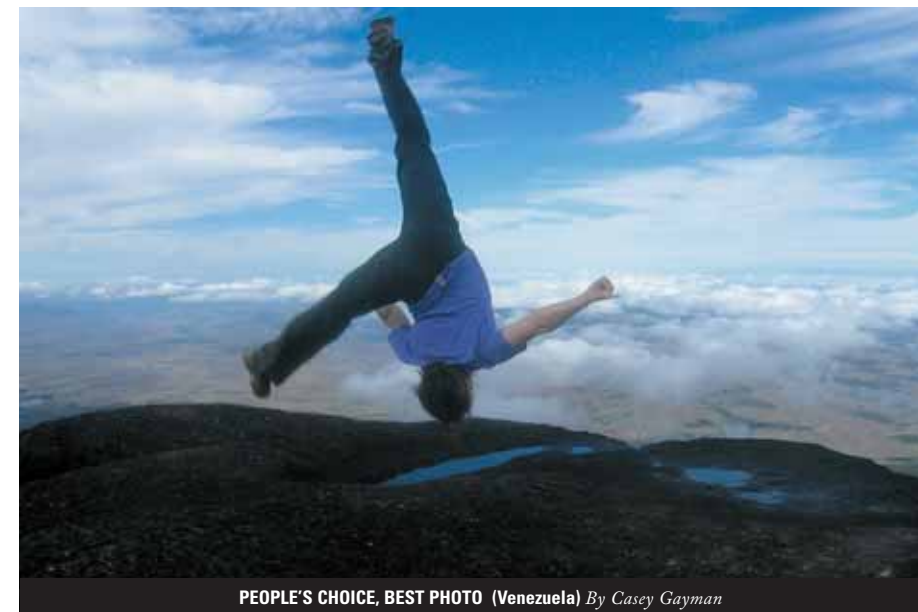
ENTRY / BEST PHOTO OF A LOCAL (Turkey) By Annabelle Stewart



BEST STUDENT PHOTO (Venezuela) By Alex Marston



BEST TOUR LEADER PHOTO (Venezuela) By Alex Marston



PEOPLE'S CHOICE, BEST PHOTO (Venezuela) By Casey Gayman



FUNNIEST PHOTO (Venezuela) By Alex Marston

## Student Leadership Awards Announced

This May at the Academic and Student Life Awards Ceremony, Assistant Dean of Students Laura Thompson aptly noted that you are remembered for what you contribute. In the spirit of acknowledgement, a few were honored at this very special event.

The prestigious Presidential Leadership Award was presented to senior **Andrea Brothers** by Dr. Nielsen for her dedication at Franklin throughout her college career. The Gerta Holman Award was presented to senior **Laura Marsala** for her work in Africa. Created to recognize a student who has shown particular sensitivity and mindfulness towards other cultures, this award honors the much-loved former German professor for whom it is named.

The following faculty members were recognized for professional excellence: **Sanja Dudukovic** for Teaching and **Joerg Bibow** for Professional Engagement.

### Academic Area Awards:

#### ART AWARD

Gaia Boeckmann (Art History)  
Alexandra Strassheimer (Studio Art)

#### ECONOMICS & FINANCE AWARD

Jason Woods

#### HUMANITIES AWARD

Amanda Yachechak

#### INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

Zein Malhas  
Sharif Seret

#### FRENCH AWARD

Marcel Ricou

#### ITALIAN AWARD

Andrea Brothers

#### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AWARD

Marcel Ricou

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

Rachel Hill

### Student Leadership Awards

#### OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

#### OF A STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Ashlie Butler  
Janan Shakur

#### OUTSTANDING FRANKLIN COLLEGE

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Christopher Tung

#### OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN

Trista Garttner

#### PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Andrea Brothers

#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

Jason Woods

#### GERTA HOLMAN AWARD

Laura Marsala

By Christina Bell

## Student Services Announces New Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Student Programming



Laura Thompson

Franklin College is pleased to introduce two staff members who joined us at the beginning of the 2005-2006 academic year.

Laura Thompson is Franklin College's Assistant Dean of Students and the Director of Housing. She brings over ten years of higher education experience to the College as well as her passion for international living and travel. Previously, Laura has been Director of Student Life at the University of Redlands' Salzburg program, a Resident Director with Semester at Sea, Area Director at Tulane University, and a

Resident Director at the University of Nevada, Reno. Laura's approach is student-centered and hands-on. "In an international environment, it is especially important that students are supported as they confront life outside the classroom. My goal is to be consistently supportive and approachable. No matter where students come from, they respond well when they know you are genuinely concerned about their well-being," says Laura.

This coming fall, Laura is looking forward to working with the recently selected resident assistants (already proving to be a dynamic group) and to co-leading an Academic Travel to Salzburg, Austria, and Wurzburg, Germany.

Laura holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of San Diego and a Master's degree from the University of Nevada, Reno, in counseling and educational psychology with an emphasis in college student development.



Jeff Bourgeois

Jeff Bourgeois has just completed his first year as Franklin College's Director of Student Programs, responsible for developing social, educational, and other meaningful activities for students. He has organized both new programming initiatives and traditional Franklin events, ranging from the Smartcar Rally to AIDS Awareness Week, to help students make the most of their extracurricular experience.

"Getting involved is a vital part of being a student at Franklin. It's my job to create opportunities for students to have meaningful experiences when they're not in class." Students can take advantage of those opportunities either solely through participating or also by taking part in the organization and development of activities, to which end Jeff introduced the Franklin College Student Programming Board this semester. "The Board," as it's referred to, is a new leadership opportunity for students to gain valuable

experience in organizing projects, managing groups of volunteers, and keeping track of a budget while presenting great programs and events for the Franklin community.

Before Jeff arrived in Lugano, his life was composed of many different experiences. His great passion for travel has led him to amazing and beautiful places. Just last year, he was teaching English at HeBei Normal University in Shijiazhuang, China, and before that he served as Assistant Director of Residence Life at California State University, San Bernardino. Other positions Jeff has held include Area Coordinator at the University of South Florida and Resident Director at the University of San Francisco. Originally from Pelham, New Hampshire, he holds a Master's degree in Educational Policy and Leadership from the University of Kansas and a Bachelor's degree in English Education from Plymouth State (NH) University. When he is not working Jeff enjoys college basketball, scuba diving, and music.

# THE LAND DOWN UNDER

*This semester Franklin College added another continent to its list of Academic Travel itineraries: Australia!*



### THE PROFESSOR'S VIEW

by Pamela Adams

After a four-hour bus trip through a snowstorm from Lugano to Zurich, an eleven-hour flight to Bangkok, a three-hour layover, and another eleven-hour flight to Sydney, we finally made it. Yes, that is a total of about 30 hours! But no time for jet lag as we had a lot to learn about this far-off continent.

Australia became a British colony a little more than 200 years ago and an independent nation only in 1901. Its relatively high level of population growth in comparison with other developed countries is driven almost entirely by immigration. But this has meant that Australia also has a comparatively youthful population as well as a high level of ethnic diversity. Upon our arrival in Sydney we set off to explore the challenges facing this youthful island culture and economy over the next decade.

We had three major topics to examine during our trip. The first concerned the opportunities offered by the country's resources in terms of manufacturing, tourism, and other service industries within a global economy. After doing a considerable amount of

CONT. PAGE 14

### THE STUDENT'S VIEW

by Rachel Hill '06

*In the early morning hours of March 5, I awoke full of eagerness and excitement. I hurriedly packed some last minute things in my suitcase, double-checked that the bamboo plant had water, called a taxi, and locked my door behind me. I was performing the usual pre-Academic Travel routine...for the last time.*

*At the Grotto, 27 of my peers and I climbed onto a bus for the first of many head counts by Professor Pamela Adams. Although it was still dark out, the air was full of anticipation for what lay ahead—the Land Down Under! For Franklin College, it was the first trip to Australia, and for many of the students it would be the last Academic Travel. This could mean only one thing: high expectations.*

*Fortunately those expectations were not only met, but far exceeded in one of the most enjoyable and well-organized Travels of my Franklin career. Through visits to Australian businesses, universities, museums, and nature reserves, we gained a well-rounded perspective of the culture and international position of the young nation.*

*Just a short walk away from our hotel in Sydney was MacQuarie*

CONT. PAGE 15



**THE PROFESSOR'S VIEW (CONT.)**

research on the economic development of the country, including analyses of some of the major industries and the infrastructure available across the continent in terms of roads, railways, and ports, the students had lively conversations with many local experts, with visits to Macquarie Bank, the largest investment bank in Australia; McCann Erickson, one of the largest advertising companies in the world; and the Castlemaine Brewery, maker of one of Australia's most famous products, Four-ex beer. The group also met with professors at the University of Queensland and at the QUT, the major business school in Brisbane, to put these more specific cases into a broader perspective of the comparative advantages and disadvantages Australia has within the world economy and business environment. The students were able to debate the challenges faced by a country linked so closely with the United Kingdom and the United States in political terms, but so dependent on the Asian continent in economic terms. Those students who were seriously tempted to look for jobs in Australia after graduation also got a dose of reality as our experts explained the difficulties of maintaining an economy based on the export of minerals and raw materials, a welfare state with an increasingly ageing population, and a rate of economic growth so concentrated in such a small portion of the national territory. But many claim they are still interested in going back to work in Australia at some point.

Our second topic turned to politics in order to understand the challenges faced by policy makers in terms of immigration issues. Through our discussions with a leading expert on the topic at the University of Sydney we learned how the source of foreign immigration has changed over the past few decades from a strong European (mostly British) base to a much more diversified influx from India, Asia, and the Middle East. The country needs immigration for its growth, but the government is faced with difficult policy decisions about how to manage the country's borders in order to attract the skill sets needed to support this growth while integrating diverse cultures and ethnic groups into the existing social and political structure.

Of course it was impossible to explore the issues of immigration in Australia without also discussing the history of the native Aboriginal population. We began to uncover elements of their heritage the first day in the Art Gallery as we saw their early art forms, which have become objects of great interest for scholars of primitive art. Their creations tell the story of their daily lives and are inspired by the spirituality that is such a strong part of their culture. Dots and colors represented scenes of hunting and family life. Rivers were portrayed as snakes that wriggle through the desert lands. Burial sites were decorated with beautiful wooden monuments unveiling the lives of the persons interred there.

We also experienced a part of their history as we walked through the Botanic Gardens of Sydney with a native Aboriginal guide, who showed us how each tree and plant was used for either food, shelter, tools, or medicine and every element of nature was taken advantage of by the people for survival. And of course he taught us how to throw a boomerang and to play a didgeridoo. During our talks with experts at the Natural History Museum we learned about the difficult history of government policy towards the Aboriginal population and the efforts of recent governments to solve some of the social and economic problems of the past.

Our final topic was environmental policy in Australia. We visited some of the major tourist attractions along the Gold Coast and touched firsthand some of the natural wonders of the country, including the plant and animal life that only Australia can offer. We then analysed ways in which Australia is working to protect these wonders against the sprawl of urban development and its ambitious policies to attract large numbers of tourists and to spur economic growth.

This was my first experience as a Travel leader and what I learned from the trip is that the program gives us faculty members a wonderful chance to get to know each student at a personal level in a way that is not possible on campus. We all left Australia to come back to Lugano enriched not only by our new knowledge but also by the warm group relationship that had been built during our long journey.



Photo credits clockwise from top left: Rachel Hill; Pamela Adams; Jerry Drimall/Photographer's Choice/Getty Images; Stuart Wainman/LandStone/Getty Images; Shaun Egan/The Image Bank/Getty Images

**THE STUDENT'S VIEW (CONT.)**

Bank, where our group was presented with an overview of the company and its domestic and off-shore investments. This gave us a glimpse into Australia's economy, which was later supplemented by a presentation from an economics professor at Queensland University in Brisbane.

In addition to a discussion on population issues with a professor at the University of Sydney, we explored Aboriginal culture and heritage as well as the country's biodiversity at the Australian Museum, Botanic Gardens, and the New South Wales Art Gallery.

Our tourist obligations were fulfilled with a tour of the country's most famous landmark, the Sydney Opera House, a boat tour of Sydney Harbour, and 360-degree views from the Sydney tower. Many of us also visited the Sydney Aquarium and the historic Rocks district, which is known for its ethnic diversity, on our own.

The drive up the coast to Brisbane was divided by an overnight stop in Coff's Harbour, followed by a much-needed day of rest on the beach at Byron Bay. Fortunately, we got to experience another aspect of Australia's unique biodiversity on a hike through the lush rainforest at Dorrigo National Park.

In Brisbane, a visit to the McCann-Erickson advertising agency provided insight into the processes of creating messages that appeal to Aussie culture. Later a presentation at the Queensland University of Technology explained the complexities of creating advertisements for such a young culture that is still largely developing its identity.

What would a trip Down Under be without koalas and kangaroos? At first glance, the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary seems like any other animal reserve. But inside the park one is immersed in the natural splendor of Australian wildlife. Located less than an hour from the famous Gold Coast, Lone Pine is home to 130 koalas and several other species of indigenous animals. Here we cuddled a koala, hand-fed kangaroos, and saw dingoes, wombats, crocodiles, and several species of birds in their natural habitats. This complemented knowledge we had gained on a tour of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney, where a guide showed us how Australian Aboriginal people have used the native flora and fauna for over 60,000 years of survival.

The last stop on our itinerary was the Castlemaine Brewery, home of XXXX ("Four-ex") beer. The tour took us behind the scenes and back in time, exploring the history of the business within the community and every step of the brewing and distribution process. The tour wound up, of course, with a free sample of the finished product, whereby we toasted a bittersweet end to a memorable Travel.

All too quickly we were back on a plane with about 24 hours of travel time ahead of us. We left behind the sunshine and funny accents but, as always, returned to Lugano with souvenirs, new memories, and yet another piece of the world puzzle in place.



Clockwise from opposite page top left: Max Budnikov and friend; the Academic Travel group; the Sydney Opera House and Bay; Lifeguards practicing at Brisbane Beach; Photographing the roof at the famous Sydney Opera House; Rachel Hill '06 and Christine Nitescu '06 at the Castlemaine Brewery.

## H.E. Dr. Richard N. Gardner Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker, 2006

A Professor of Law and International Organization at Columbia University; Of Counsel to the global law firm of Morgan Lewis, and Bockius; a former US Ambassador and UN General Assembly delegate; an accomplished author; and a foreign policy specialist, Dr. Richard N. Gardner has forged an admirable international career.

For Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Dr. Gardner served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs. Under President Carter, he was the US Ambassador to Italy from 1977-1981 and during the Clinton Administration, he served as the US Ambassador to Spain, 1993-1997. From 1982-1993, as the Co-Chairman of the Aspen Institute, Dr. Gardner and his colleagues brought world leaders together to discuss international economic issues.

In recent years, he has been a delegate to the UN General Assembly and a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations. Currently, he is a member of the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy. As Ambassador Holbrooke noted during the swearing in ceremony for the UN General Assembly, "Dick is one of the best in the business. He knows more about the UN system than all of us combined, and it's been an honor and a privilege to have him on our team."

Dr. Gardner serves on the Board of Directors of the San Paolo IMI Bank Group and of the International Advisory Board of Banco Santander Central Hispano. He is also on the International Capital Markets Advisory Committee of the New York Stock Exchange. He is a member of the UN Association group engaged in a dialogue on multilateral issues with the Chinese Institute of International Studies, as well as the Trilateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Relations.

A significant voice in foreign policy issues, Dr. Gardner has published four books on international affairs including *In Pursuit of World Order: US Foreign Policy and International Organization*. His latest book, *Mission Italy: On the Front Lines of the Cold War*, was published in September 2004 in Italian and in September 2005 in English.

During his tenure as a US Representative, Ambassador Gardner has worked on a wide range of issues, particularly those related to UN peacekeeping, UN financial and management reform, and the Middle East, and has addressed the UN General Assembly on several occasions. His speeches are available on the US Mission to the UN's web site, [www.un.int/usa](http://www.un.int/usa).

Dr. Gardner holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Yale Law School, a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Economics from Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Harvard.

He is married to the former Danielle Almeida Luzzatto, a columnist for the Italian magazine *Cibi*. The Gardners have two children.

## Mission Italy On the Front Lines of the Cold War



Global turbulence and political upheaval marked the four tumultuous years of Richard Gardner's ambassadorship to Italy. The kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, the failed attempt of the Italian Communist Party to take power, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and the seizure of American hostages in Tehran all left their marks upon the rapidly changing political landscape of 1977 to 1981. The culmination of these events resulted in Italy's historic decision to deploy U.S. cruise missiles, which Mikhail Gorbachev identified as a decisive factor in his decision to shift Soviet foreign policy toward genuine disarmament and peaceful cooperation, ultimately signifying the end of the Cold War era.

*Mission Italy*, Richard Gardner's intensely compelling and meticulously detailed memoir, draws on hitherto classified material to offer unique insights into the foreign policy of the Carter administration, portraits of American and Italian leaders, and details of policy differences inside the Carter Administration and between Washington and Gardner's Rome Embassy. Balanced, scrupulous, and compelling, this major contribution to our understanding of crisis diplomacy and the victory of the Western Alliance in the Cold War is invaluable reading for all those interested in the inner workings of U.S. foreign policy, diplomacy, and European politics.

### Praise for *Mission Italy*

"Richard Gardner's memoir of a crucial time in U.S. relations with Italy is both an enthralling story and a significant contribution to the history of the Cold War."

— Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Pulitzer-prize winning historian

"*Mission Italy* is a scrupulously honest and thoroughly documented narrative of a critical episode in the history of the Cold War. Rich in anecdotes and revealing details, it can serve as a guidebook for students of diplomacy and aspiring diplomats."

— Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter

"Richard Gardner's book about his time as ambassador to Italy during my administration is a dramatic, accurate account of one of the most difficult and successful diplomatic missions in the history of the Cold War."

— Jimmy Carter, former US president

"Richard Gardner's account of those years, nourished by his personal records and by previously unpublished documents, helps us to better understand the greatness and smallness of Italian leaders of those times and the role played by the United States on the delicate boundary between an unavoidable active interest and an interference it wished to avoid. Portraits and analyses are presented with great effectiveness."

— Giuliano Amato, former Italian prime minister

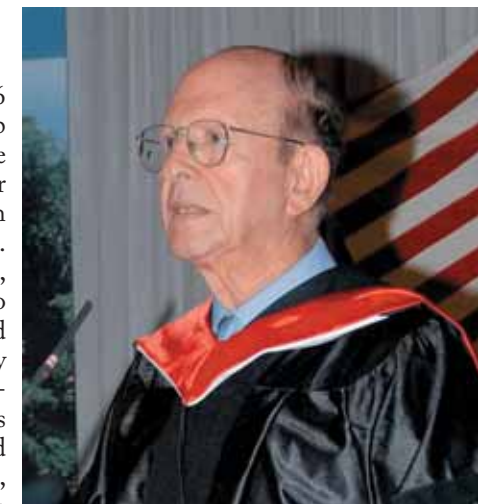
"An exemplary and fascinating story not only of an American intellectual and scholar in Italy, but also of one of the most complex periods in the political life of our country and of Europe."

— Francesco Cossiga, former Italian president and prime minister

# GRADUATION MAY 2006

By Rebecca Self

## Commencing a Lifelong Journey



His Excellency Dr. Richard Gardner delivers the Commencement speech to the Class of 2006.

If there had been a theme to Franklin's 2006 graduation, it might have been, "A Job Well Done." The elegant ballroom, the Spazio de la Paix, was filled to capacity for Franklin's commencement exercises, which featured its largest graduating class to date. Seventy students represented 20 countries, from Honduras to Peru and Estonia to Syria. Cloaked in their black caps and gowns, the students looked remarkably similar, despite their varied cultural backgrounds and the multitude of exciting choices that lay before them. They majored and minored in Studio Art, Economics, International Management, Psychology, Marketing, French, Business, International Communications, and much, much more. They'll be heading to the Peace Corps, to job interviews in Los Angeles, to graduate schools in Boston, to work in South Africa, to points unknown...but they share a foundation in this cross-cultural educational experience and in the adventures that led them to May 14.

This year's commencement speaker, Dr. Richard Gardner, former Ambassador to Italy and Spain and Professor of Law and International Organization at Columbia University (see sidebar article), said, "I haven't been here long, but I can see that this is the best of what international education has to offer." He commended the College, saying, "What you are doing is terribly important." His advice to the students reflects our shared commitment as a community to crossing cultural boundaries and divisions, to fulfilling Franklin's mission.

"...I can see that this is the best of what international education has to offer... What you are doing is terribly important."

Louvet, Ramadan, McIntyre, Torres-Muga, Schwartz, Obayuwana, and Yachechak, Gardner emphasized, "Treat others with respect." He added a second point, which was to treat even those people not in positions of

high regard or stature with respect, because you never know with whom you're dealing, and the future is uncertain. An up-and-coming local journalist or a recently-fired administrator could turn out to be the next Silvio Berlusconi or Giorgio Napolitano, as in Gardner's own experience many years ago in Italy.

Introducing the speaker, President Nielsen said, "Last night at dinner someone asked Dr. Gardner why his recent book came out in Italy first, and he replied, 'Out of respect for the Italian people; I was writing a book about their country.'" Dr. Nielsen noted, "That says a lot about the measure of the man."

"Life is a journey of discovery," Gardner pronounced in his opening remarks. "Live the journey well..." He encouraged students to always approach life as one continuous educational experience. New places and people, ways of life and ideas will face each of us every year, every day, in every new situation. He recommended approaching this process of change in particular ways. "There are two kinds of power," he said, "hard power and soft power." He advised students that hard power—the use of force or will or intimidation—is not as wise as building relationships, communicating clearly and completely, building support, alliances, and allies along the way. "Make friends," he summarized, and it was clear throughout the day that the students have.

Graduating Senior Maria Shadrina said, "My two best friends are so different. One is Philippine; the other is from Dallas, Texas.

I'm from Moscow. I will not have stereotypes and judgments when I meet people anymore."

With his final point, Gardner urged the graduates to employ long-term vision. The journey is long, and the road is crowded with

*Life is a journey of discovery.*

*It is a privilege to study in Europe, particularly in*

*Lugano, which is*

*located in its very center.*

people of all sizes, shapes, and colors, as we have seen at Franklin College. Dr. Gardner may not have known before he arrived at Franklin that he was speaking our language, so to speak, but Valedictorian Rachel Hill echoed and reinforced his advice as she spoke of her "Franklin family." "I think each one of us has a Franklin family," she said, "a support

group of amazing friends who have been next to us through the highs and lows."

As if they'd planned their speeches together, Hill built upon Gardner's points, personally speaking to her classmates. "Many people say it's important to gain experience after graduating from college," she said. "Well, we're unique in that we already have notable experience. We've shared many adventures. In the past four years, I've been to nearly 30 countries, but that's normal for us at Franklin."

Along the Franklin College journey, she added, graduates gain not only notable experience, but also valuable skills. "We can sleep in train stations and airports, and cook a gourmet meal with a hot plate and a water boiler... we've learned to make do anywhere we go and to adapt to any situation we find ourselves in. We've been lost in foreign places... and made an adventure out of it."

The most important thing, Hill continued, is what Franklin graduates choose to do with

these adventures, the opportunities they've had here and the people they've met. "Never forget to thank the people who have helped along the way. Thank you, Mom. Thank you, Professors... Never forget the people, places, and experiences that have inspired you."

Graduation Day 2006 highlighted that in so many ways being a part of this Franklin family, of this community, on this journey, is a privilege. Dr. Gardner said, "It is a privilege to study in Europe, particularly in Lugano, which is located in its very center." In more ways than one, this is where the tribes meet; the day seemed to make clear that students, parents, faculty, and staff alike are aware of the privilege we all share. Such is the nature of the journey of our Franklin families. Hill concluded her remarks to her classmates with, "Congratulations and thank you for being part of my Franklin experience." Graduation Day 2006 illustrated a job well done. Well done, graduates. Well done, parents. Well done, Franklin.

VALEDICTORIAN 2006...RACHEL HILL

Rachel Hill, this year's Valedictorian, graduated from Franklin on May 14 with a cumulative grade point average of 3.858 out of 4.0. She was awarded Outstanding International Communications student twice in her four years here. In addition to attaining exceptional academic results and numerous awards, Hill also managed to work an admirable range of life experience into the last four years. She has earned outstanding grades while maintaining a commitment to service and an active social life. In many ways, Rachel's Franklin experience epitomizes "having it all." She was an RA, wrote for the *Enlightenment*, the *Gazette*, and the *Franklin Flash*, helped coordinate and manage the last fundraising phonathon, participated in numerous clubs and activities, and has been to at least 30 countries in the last four years.

Rachel was also Valedictorian of her high school class in Wickenburg, Arizona, but says that Franklin became somewhere she felt she belonged. "I just winged it," she began, as we sat down to discuss her Franklin College experience. "I got an admissions postcard in the mail and thought, 'How could I not go there?'" Hill thought she'd stay at Franklin for a year for the experience, but arrived and "fell in love—with Franklin, with Lugano, with everything."

Midway through her Franklin experience, however, Hill felt she wanted to try something different. "I thought that being anonymous would be refreshing." She went to the University of Arizona for one semester and spent another in the Semester at Sea program. She returned to Franklin, though, where she has a "close-knit group of amazing friends."



Rachel Hill, Valedictorian, Class of 2006.

My Mom even comments on it when she visits," she said. "Somebody is always there for me...if something happens, I have a support group here." In her Valedictorian address, Hill thanked her "Franklin family" and her Mom, who raised her and supported her along this journey.

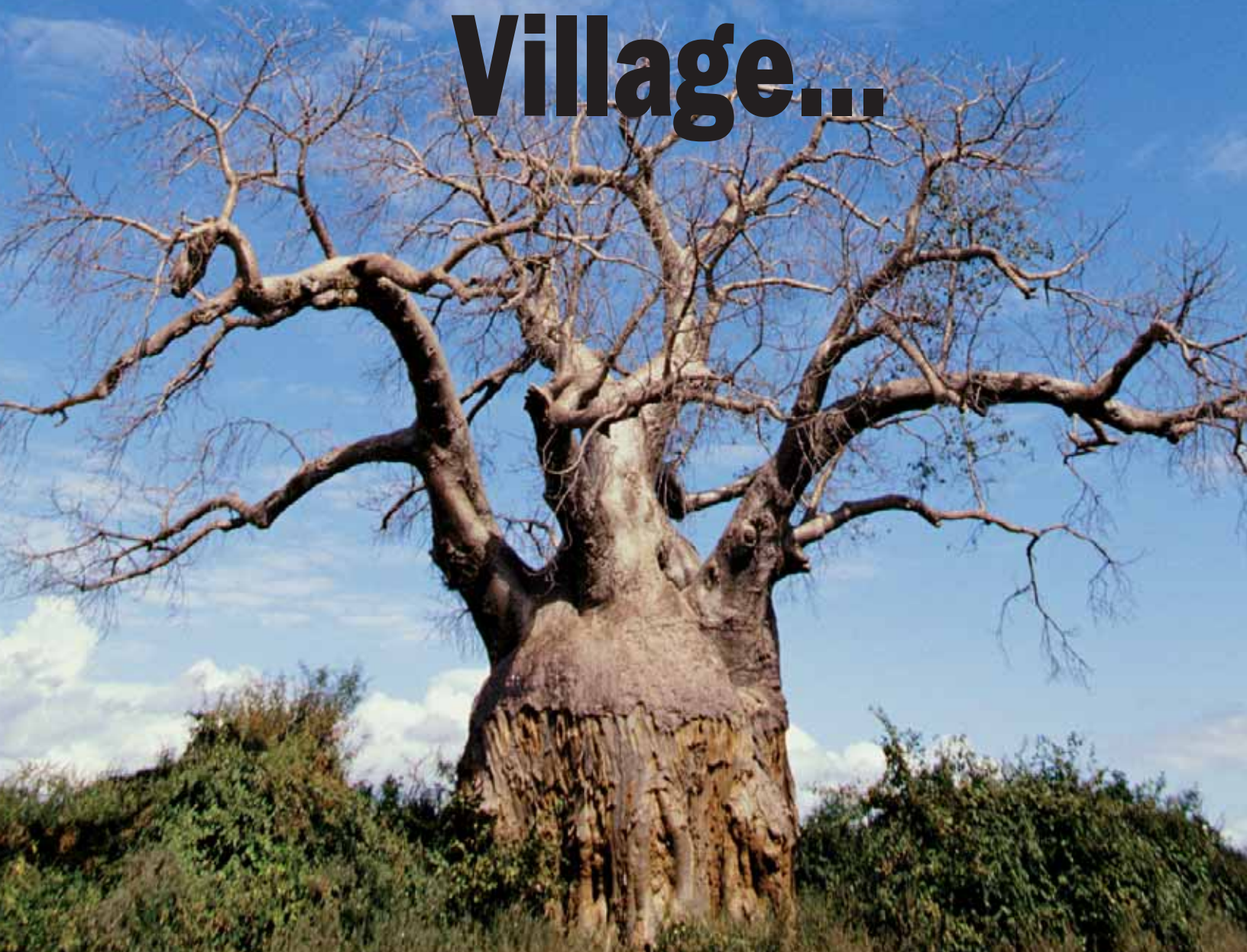
Now, she feels, the future is wide open. "Franklin has opened doors to things I never thought of before, things I never knew existed, places I never thought I would visit, and things I never thought I'd do." Franklin has left her inspired "to continue to do new things and see new places and learn about other cultures, other peoples' ways of life." Hill noted that Professor Flutti's Academic Travels were among her most inspiring Franklin moments. "She's an amazing woman in and of herself—she opens your eyes to a whole new world beyond what you see on tv news and shows it to you up close and personal."

Hill hopes to begin working for Virgo Publishing in Phoenix, Arizona, soon and, remarkably, has recently discovered a Franklin graduate overseeing a communications position there. Summing up what she learned at Franklin, Hill said, "It's such a big world, but, then again, it's such a small world because Franklin people are everywhere."



Left to right, first row: Angela Evans, Ban Al-Turk, Jude Abdul-Hadi, Louna Kara-Hamoud, Karen Cooper, Temilade Aromolaran, Beisan Al-Shafei, Jennifer Obayuwana, Nicole Frei, Tatiana Aldyukhova, Rachel Hill, Elena Usan, Christine Nitescu, Amanda Yachechak, Marcela Torres-Muga, Elizabeth Mullen. Second row: Lillian McIntyre, John Doyle, Bradley Dancy, Mario Antonio V. Villamor Jr., Stephanie Green, Michelle Schaeffer, Andrea Dallas-Walker Brothers, Katherine Anne Hathaway, Jonathan Ayerbe, Dina Debs, Diya Bitar, Afaneh Gbobad, Tatiana Blanco, Ileana Appleton, Anne Maxey, Maria Shadrina, Lavinia Lowerre, Chloe Schwartz, Rory Schember, Neil Kiessling, Jessica Schenck, Steven Wright. Third row: Nawaf Al-Shaalan, Katie McKenna, Christina Bakken, Brett Clark, Christopher Tung, Sivietta Nebraska Mejia Dubon, Adrian Batlle, Laura Marsala, Paolo Vismara, Anna Balenko, Fred Kaasik, Sharif Seret, Alexandra Srasseimer, Elizabeth Jane Potter, Aurélie Louvet. Fourth row: Tighe Flanagan, Jason Giancola, Oliver Rizzi Carlson, Janan Shakur, Charles Ellis Noyes, Stephen Ellis, J David Macor, Stephanie Lamb, Arthur Reiter, Evgueni Dobrov, Max Jakubowski, Austin Tomlinson, Jason Woods, Fadi Ramadan, Marcel Ricou.

# Big Tree Small Village...



By Read Mercer Schuchardt

It is the most commonly used tree for bonsai, it is the national tree of Madagascar (home to six of the eight extant species), and it makes an appearance both in Antoine de St.-Exupéry's story *The Little Prince* and as the home of the character Rafiki in Disney's film *The Lion King*. But the Baobab tree is best known as the tree that can store up to 120,000 liters of water in its trunk in order to survive the harsh conditions of drought so frequent in its natural environment, a trait that leads some to claim that Baobabs can live up to 200 years. In the case of the African Baobab, the biological capacity to store that which protects life itself serves as a useful metaphor for the Baobab Project, an independent



Justin Niles '05 and Baobab village children celebrate after a long day of digging.

enterprise which grew out of Professor Anne Flutti's special Academic Travel in June, 2004, to Malawi and Zambia in order to learn more about an organic farming method known as "permaculture." Since that life-changing trip, the Baobab Project has grown both deep roots and new shoots here at Franklin College.

Permaculture comes from the Tasmanian researcher Bill Mollison, who coined the term in 1974 by contracting the word *permanent* and the word *agriculture* to signify what he describes (in his book *Introduction*

to *Permaculture*) as "a design system for creating sustainable human environments." Integrating knowledge of plants, animals, buildings, and infrastructures, permaculture seeks more than anything to find ecological relationships among these systems in order to create self-sustaining and, if possible, surplus-producing human habitats. Or, as recent Franklin graduate **Laura Marsala '06** tells it by concrete example, planting a lot of marigolds around your key crops helps because the marigold is a natural pesticide.

The key student figure in the leadership of the Baobab Project, Marsala, along with FC alumni **Justin Niles '05** and **Danielle Bennett '04**, was integral in getting the project started back in 2004.

The Baobab Project gets its name from the large Baobab tree in front of the Baobab Village outside of South Luanga National Park in Zambia. It is a village in which the women and children in particular were malnourished for lack of sufficient food sources. Working with the village headman, Ovet Daka, Marsala says that she and her student colleagues used "their knowledge of sustainable farming methods to focus on two essential things for the village: 1) Building an organic garden that would provide

Photos: Joseph Van Os/The Image Bank/Getty Images; Laura Marsala '06.



Villagers in front of the Baobab tree.

sufficient food and allow the community to be self-sustaining, and 2) Funding the village children's education to allow for all resources to go to the garden and provide them with an opportunity to expand their own horizons."

Student and community involvement at Franklin has been exceptional. From the point of view of on-campus fundraising drives to subsequent trips back to Africa, Marsala speaks very positively about the experience in helping this village achieve self-sustenance. While



Local countryside.

Niles and Bennett have since graduated, both are still involved and/or working in jobs relevant to their experiences in Zambia. Niles recently returned from living on a sustainable farm in Malawi for the past eight months, after accompanying the group last summer to help install a treadle pump in the village. Bennett, who now does watershed restoration for a living in Washington state, also

keeps her hand in the Baobab Project, and most recently came back to campus last fall to help the group write a strategic plan for the future. She described the trip to Africa by saying "life altering would not be an overstatement." It was "an exercise in [Ghandi's maxim] how to be the change you want to see in the world." She continued, "Africa showed me the position that I was born into in this world, and I intend to put those circumstances...toward useful purposes." Bennett also stated that it showed her "the absolute fallacy of trying to help, let alone save, anyone...Africa is a ridiculously beautiful place in many ways, raw and real. Guilt is a plague. No work like this should be undertaken out of pity."



Laura Marsala '06 with a village child.

Current on-campus leadership is comprised of students Max Budnikov (Treasurer), Lauren Gagliano (Volunteer Coordinator), Chelsea Stephens (Fundraising Coordinator), and Michael Garcia (Communications Coordinator). Behind the scenes are Tomaso Rizzi (the "moneyman") and, above all, the indefatigable Professor Anne Flutti. Marsala describes Flutti as "the backbone of this endeavor" who nevertheless encouraged students to initiate and carry out the project, and whose support and knowledge allowed so many things to occur. Marsala herself will make the Baobab Project part of her own career decision after she graduates from Franklin and says that students interested in joining the effort can contact her

via e-mail (lmarsala@gmail.com) as she will be "part of the project for life." Does the Baobab Project actually need your help? It does.

Since its inception, Marsala notes, the project goals have "Africanized," which she says means that the goals and outcomes have changed course and direction many times. Having hoped for "immediate and beautiful results," Marsala now describes it as "the most difficult task I have ever taken on" and notes that the results that have occurred have taken time and often taken different forms than originally expected. The permaculture garden was itself initially quite successful and many villagers were fed from it, but later, through lack of management and proper care, it fell victim to



Two Baobab village women with their children.

drought. Marsala states that currently "the biggest need is actually having someone there year-round who is able to monitor progress and weaknesses. Because permaculture is somewhat of a foreign idea to the village, there needs to be a constant supply of knowledge that the farmers can utilize. At the same time, many of the village students don't understand the value of education and are not apt to attend classes. They need constant motivation."

While permaculture in Africa presents unique geographic and educational obstacles, the general historic trend towards awareness of organic farming, sustainable investments, and local community building is part of a larger pattern of cultural shifting that many in



Lauren Gagliano and the new treadle pump.

the industrialized world have begun to value and put into practice. Thanks to Professor Flutti, Marsala and her student colleagues have not simply been able to see an exotic country on Academic Travel, but rather have been faced with the complexity of the world through the specific challenges at the Baobab Village in



Village women.

students, the Africa trip was not only an education they can use for a lifetime, it has become the concrete starting point of their post-college lives.

Photos: Laura Marsala '06 and Anne Maran Flutti.



# Tales From Africa...

By Anne Maran Flutti

Our African travels have brought us to many countries, from Namibia in the west across southern Africa to Mozambique in the east. Many tales could be told about our experiences, some dramatic as our trucks ploughed through flooded Mozambique, others exhilarating as we observed a flash flood roar past our tents one night in the Namib Desert, and still others even awe-inspiring as we lay shivering in our sleeping bags under the weight of the million stars above us in the salt pans of Botswana.

More recent experiences have greatly influenced our lives and deepened our understanding of the harsh realities of life in rural Africa. Prior to the first Academic Travel to Malawi we developed our lectures, studies, and observations around the theme of sustainable agriculture, its practice and its potential. But not only that. The program included game drives and wild life observations, discussions with local rangers, informal evening lectures around the campfire on such diverse topics as eco-tourism, hunting, habitat destruction, and biodiversity. In fact, our activities included everything deemed appropriate to an African Travel.

We also visited farms, some successful, others less so. One in particular so impressed me that I decided to return to Malawi the following summer accompanied by a small group of undergraduate students. Our purpose was to observe, study, and attend lectures on the subject of organic farming as applied to the development of a small-scale farm in Malawi managed and directed by Dr. Glyvyns Chinkhuntha. Over the years, Dr. Chinkhuntha has developed a highly productive farm on what was once a snake-infested swamp. We observed his methods of crop cultivation, composting, irrigation, and integrated pest control. Of particular interest to us was that food resources and economic profits could be obtained without necessitating expenditures on sophisticated equipment, costly chemical fertilizers, and pesticides that are impossible for impoverished small-scale farmers in developing countries to purchase. The farm has now become a teaching and training centre for local farmers, students of agriculture, and academics and is closely associated with the Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi.



Photo: The Freedom Gardens and the voluntary marigolds.

As stated by Harrings Kachali of the Mbowe Sustainable Ecofarming Project of Mzuzu:

*Malawi, 360,000sq.km, with a population well over 11 million, is a small, land-locked country in the southeastern part of Africa. Its economic life is totally dependent upon agriculture. However, people in rural areas live below the poverty line.*  
(Permaculture in Malawi. Conference Proceedings, 2004)

Notwithstanding the agricultural strategies developed and applied in post-independent Malawi, recent studies reveal that poverty is increasing and, according to the analysis of Epharaim Chirwa, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Malawi:

*Agricultural policies have favoured large-scale farms and large-scale production at the expense of small-scale farmers who make up more than 80% of all households.*  
(Access to Land, Growth and Poverty Reduction in Malawi. Conference Proceedings, 2004)

Over the past years, the IMF and the World Bank have made efforts to reconstruct the agricultural sector to increase efficiency and productivity, BUT with little understanding of the reality of small-scale farming systems in Malawi. The agricultural reforms that were applied to Malawi followed a one-size-fits-all approach, such as the removal of price controls and the privatization of agricultural agencies, but did not reflect a more profound analysis of local needs and difficulties: lack of roads and transportation to reach markets, lack of the development of irrigation schemes to ensure food security independently from seasonal rainfall, lack of training programs . . . and the list continues. The assumption of well-meaning donors and the IMF had been that markets selling produce at affordable prices would automatically become available. Yet our experience in Malawi and the neighbouring country of Zambia revealed that isolated farmers in rural villages could not adequately feed their families and continue facing chronic food insecurity. In the words of Professor John Mlava of the Bunda College of Agriculture:

*We are now paying the price. Vegetation has been removed and forests have been cut down to create large estates for the cultivation of cash crops such as tobacco and tea. Deforestation has led to soil erosion, degradation of water resources, habitat destruction, and the extinction of plant and animal species. Small-scale farmers have been forced to cultivate on marginal lands.*  
(Lecture. Lilongwe, June 27, 2005)

Does a solution exist? To abbreviate our experience to the essential, I shall focus on the Tikondwe Freedom Gardens in the Dowa District of Malawi. Shaded by solitary trees, thatched roofed villages came to view on hilly slopes. Slim silhouettes, silent and still, watched us drive past, a rusty cloud of fine dust kicking up behind us. The farm appeared in the distant valley as a green haven in a rather desolate land of red earth and sparse shrubs. We had reached our destination. Here, with vision and tenacity, with the application of all available knowledge of organic farming practices, and with the addition of original and innovative methods, Dr. Chinkhuntha has transformed an inhospitable swamp into a productive small-scale organic farm. His initial goal was to provide food security for his family and for himself:

*If you start small you will ensure that there are factors for growth. If you start small, no matter how small you start, you will have returns. Generally, Nature does not start things in a big way. I call this the fig seed strategy.*  
(Glyvyns Chinkhuntha. Lecture, June 17, 2005)

His approach to agricultural development has been to utilize efficiently those resources that are available. Irrigation is maximized by creating graded, sunken plots surrounded by high ridges along which water can be channelled as need arises. The ridge system PROVIDES windbreaks, water delivery systems, and self-contained ecosystems. The topsoil of the designated plot is removed, the underlying clay soils are utilized to construct the ridges, and the fertile topsoil is then replaced. The source of water is the same throughout the farm, but the fields, graded at differing degrees, utilize the force of gravity to allow for water flow. Thus many plots are irrigated by a network of furrows along and parallel to the ridges surrounding each field.



The sunken plots being worked at the Freedom Gardens.



A group of students discuss the day's events.



Glyvyns Chinkhuntha, village women, and student.

A variety of crops are cultivated: beans, sweet potatoes, onions, cabbages, and even strawberries. These crops are then available not only for domestic consumption but also for sale to local hotels and lodges. Throughout the plots and along the ridges, plants with anti-parasitic properties such as the marigold, sage, and basil flourish in untidy profusion, thus reducing the presence of pests to a tolerable level, the voluntaries, as Dr. Chinkhuntha calls them. Indigenous nitrogen-fixing plants grow along the ridges, their presence a valuable source of nitrates for neighbouring crops. Composting of all organic matter furnishes the farm with natural fertilizer. The organic matter thus obtained enriches the soil with plant nutrition, supplies humus for water retention, and reduces surface salinization.

*Farmers need to be put in a position that they know that which is helpful to produce food for themselves . . . For food production, education is necessary . . . absence of knowledge is the disaster of the third world.*  
(Glyvyns Chinkhuntha. Lecture, June 17, 2004)

The construction of deep and long trenches strategically positioned along the outer borders of the farm serves a dual purpose, that of collecting flood waters during the rainy season as well as creating an innovative strategy for incrementing the life, and consequently the productivity, of banana trees. The roots extend themselves annually and horizontally from the trunk itself and are thus facilitated in reaching a source of nutrients and water, enabling the plant to live longer and produce more. Local village people work on the farm, 15 people a day. They are paid in food, in social services, and in cash for poverty alleviation. Farmers from surrounding villages have begun to apply similar methods of cultivation to their own plots. Freedom Gardens has slowly transformed itself from a productive farm into an educational centre.

Daka, an impoverished farmer living in an isolated village in Zambia, thus became a protagonist in our organic farming experience. We had been travelling from Malawi to the South Luangwa National Park in Zambia and had stopped to admire an enormous baobab. Were it not for the great tree at its entrance, the village, a dusty cluster of thatched mud huts, would have remained hidden from sight in the African bush and we would have travelled on to our destination unaware of its existence. But we stopped to admire it and were soon surrounded by smiling pot-bellied, brown-eyed children, mothers carrying infants, boys, and elders. We shared our evening meal with them. Daka expressed his wish to improve his lot and that of his village people. My thoughts immediately turned to Dr. Chinkhuntha. So we financed his room, board, fees, and travel expenses, thereby enabling him to work and study with Dr. Chinkhuntha at Freedom Gardens. Knowledge was made available to a farmer to improve the productivity of his land, to supply food to his village people, and perhaps, by example, to improve the well-being of his community. We have since visited the village and were shown neat plots of beans, peas, carrots, and pumpkins where previously withered stalks of maize eked out their existence in tired, grey soils.

It was this transfer of knowledge from one African farmer to another, the mentoring process, that we found so encouraging. Projecting this case on a large scale, numerous organic farming centres of training could bring about economic benefits to small-scale farmers in isolated rural areas of Africa. Indeed, it was evident that a modest investment targeted to meet a specific local need—in this case, food security—did enable Africans to help themselves. . . albeit with success isolated, always fragile, and on occasion short-lived.

*Let us make farming so attractive to our youth that when they compare farming to white-collar jobs, they see more benefits and a better life in farming.*  
(Glyvyns Chinkhuntha. Proceedings of an All-Africa Conference, Uganda, 2004)

INDEX

*Permaculture:* Permaculture (a contraction of permanent agriculture) principles focus on thoughtful designs for small-scale intensive systems which are labor efficient and which utilize biological resources rather than fossil fuels.

—Bill Mollison from *Permaculture One*, 1978

*Sustainable agriculture:* The goals of sustainable agriculture are to provide food security and economic well-being accompanied by respect and care for the environment.

*Organic farming:* Crop and livestock production are carried out without the use of commercial inorganic fertilizers, synthetic pesticides, and herbicides.

By Chad Wesen '04

After graduating from Franklin College with the class of 2004 in May, I began my Peace Corps service in Moldova, a small country hewn out of Ukraine and Romania by two rivers, the Prut and the Nistru. Moldova, a former Soviet Socialist Republic, now enjoys three main distinctions: it is considered to be the poorest country in Europe with a per capita GDP of \$2,100; it was the first former communist country to re-elect an unreformed communist party to power after independence; and it has made international news with its efforts to stifle Transdniestria, a break-away republic sponsored by Russia.

Since my arrival and completion of a three-month intensive immersion course in the national language of Romanian, I have been living in a small village named Cainari (pop. 4,700) and working at a local office of the national agricultural extension agency. Despite the fact that I've been assigned to work primarily with farmers, I've also found myself working on a wide variety of projects that can be generally termed "youth development." I've found that working with the youth in Moldova can be a much more enriching experience than working with the adults, who tend to be recalcitrant and stuck in the past. To this end, I've been involved in a variety of projects including coaching basketball and baseball, organizing a national Model United Nations Conference, setting up a series of business seminars, and constructing a playground.



Chad Wesen '04 in Moldova.

Coaching basketball and baseball has been really rewarding, and it's amazing to see the improvement the teams have made in two years. This year's basketball season finished in April with a final tournament for villages across Moldova, where the boys I coach took second place and the girls first place. The school pride and sense of accomplishment that come with that kind of finish form part of the unquantifiable impact of school sports. Baseball has been less successful but equally rewarding, as many of the kids have never seen it on television before or played it themselves. Whereas basketball is for high school kids, baseball is for 11- to 15-year-olds, and working with

them has been a lot less competitive and a lot more fun. Teaching the game has been an exciting challenge, and both kids and adults come to watch practices with the same curiosity one would expect if aliens were manning the bases.

Organizing this year's Model United Nations (MUN) Conference turned out to be a bigger challenge than foreseen, but the three-day conference was a huge success. Many high school students in the US and Europe have a chance to discuss international problems at MUN Conferences, and we extended this opportunity to Moldova for the third year. We had 81 students in grades 9-12 in attendance as well as 21 Moldovan coaches. We were responsible for organizing their room, board, and conference programming throughout the conference, which was a monumental logistical task, but it went well and we received nothing but positive comments. Conference highlights were broadcast on two different national television stations as well as being featured in two different newspapers. The conference was held for the first time at the national economics university. The rector was highly impressed, saying that it was the best organized conference ever hosted at the university.

Though coaching sports and organizing the MUN Conference were important, one of the most influential programs I started with a group of six other volunteers is the IATA! Seminar series. IATA! is an acronym in Moldovan for *Intreprinderile si Afacerile Tineretului Antreprenoriat*, which roughly translates to Youth Business and Enterprise Entrepreneurs. In these three-day, intensive seminars, high school age students are introduced to the basics of business and economics through the process of learning how to write a business plan. One of the major benefits of the program is that, unlike similar seminars, it is all locally funded and doesn't rely on grants. We have thus far completed seven such seminars in a variety of villages and small towns with resounding success. Over 150 Moldovan students have attended, and over 20 business plans have been written (though only a few have been implemented). The cornerstone of the program is an 80-page textbook written and translated into Romanian by the founding volunteers. The text is so popular that several teachers have adopted it for use in their "life skills" classes.

The last of my major youth activities was



Maria Pasat, Agronomist, Chad Wesen '04, Elena Esanu, Executive Director of the NGO and accountant, and Gheorghe Pasat, plant protection specialist.

the construction of a playground in Cainari. Community leaders approached me in the summer of 2005 and asked me to help them write a grant to finance the construction of a playground in the dilapidated city center. Three months and a great deal of work later, we won an \$800 grant through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, and construction of the playground has recently begun. We hope to open it to the general public in July of this year.

The majority of my activity with my primary partner (the agricultural NGO) has been in organizational development. The organization has been active for three years, but lacks many of the capacities needed in order to be effective. I have, therefore, put a great deal of effort into improving its services, creating a better-defined management structure, developing a comprehensive marketing program, and generally improving its prospects for sustainability. In addition, I have been working with an agricultural services cooperative to improve the efficiency and profitability of the dairy industry in a neighboring village. Together we have been working in three parallel directions: to bring in some high quality pure-bred cows, to create a milk collection point with a modern refrigerator and testing equipment, and to improve feed quality. We have subsequently written three grants, one through Heifer International for 30 pure-bred dairy cows, one through the Peace Corps Small Projects Assistance program in the sum of \$2,800 for the feeding program, and one through the National Association of Agro-Inform in the sum of \$5,000 for the milk collection point. We've already won the \$2,800 grant and have started implementing the program, but are

still waiting to hear from the other two organizations.

When I joined the Peace Corps I was told that being a Peace Corps volunteer, unlike most traditional work, is a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week job. I thought they were just exaggerating for effect, but after working on projects from cattle feed quality programs to building playgrounds, I can see how correct that statement was. Work as a PCV is challenging in inexplicable ways, but it can also be incredibly rewarding. Looking back on my year and a half of work I can say with confidence that the hardships were worth it and that while many projects individually may show few results, my overall impact on my community and the individuals in it has been extremely positive. The results may not all be as tangible as a playground, but they are ethereally positive. There are, however, many small things I wish I could have done differently, that in retrospect would have made work more effective and life easier. But I think one should not trivialize the value of learning from mistakes, this being especially true when working while immersed in a different culture. If one could understand all cultural nuances from the outset, life would be boring.

Many people wonder what kind of career a student will be prepared for after attending Franklin College. I can't think of another school that could possibly have prepared me better for this type of grassroots development work. Many Peace Corps volunteers who studied in the states had only been superficially introduced to other cultures and countries, if at all. This made adjustment to work and life here exponentially more difficult for them. I found that my socio-cultural experience from Franklin was the primary reason I learned the local language quickly and integrated into my community well (two of the primary indicators for volunteer success worldwide). Many Moldovans I've met have complimented me on my empathy for their cultural background and economic situation, which I believe I gained through my experiences at Franklin. These skills cannot be measured on any standardized test, but are important life skills that make Franklin graduates successful. The only piece of advice I would leave for future Franklin graduates is to get involved in life. Try to do more than the minimum and you'll find it tremendously rewarding.



By N. Derek Wilkinson '95, Alumni Trustee

The Alumni Council has been busy planning the next steps in the evolution of alumni involvement at Franklin. Several meetings have taken place around Board events, as well as in conference calls among the Alumni Trustees and the Alumni Council as a whole, to discuss the nature of creating a formal Alumni Association. Attendance has been limited at some events, but day-to-day involvement of more members of the Alumni Council has increased significantly. Several new members have been added: **Nicolo Becucci '96**, **Marci Harris '98**, **Geoff Kacoyanis '95**, **David Kirk '03**, **Evelyn Lee '97**, **Freddie Middelstaedt '05**, **Grace Svazic Molnar '95**, **Melissa Monk '92**, **Derek Peterson '02**, **Julia Hawkins Sousa '04**, **Chay Woerz '97**, and **Roxanna Zarnegar '95**



N. Derek Wilkinson '95

Upcoming themes will include: the use of technology to allow alumni to get back into and stay in touch with one another; the further refinement of committees among the Alumni Council to take on and manage projects associated with growth; fundraising activities to begin making the Alumni Council, and an eventual Alumni Association, not only self-funding and self-perpetuating, but also a contributor to Franklin activities and expansion.

As always, we would like to acknowledge the great help and strong support from so many members of the Franklin College community, beginning with President Nielsen and including the Board of Trustees, the Advancement Department staff, parents of past and present students, alumni, friends, and Franklin professors and students.

In closing, we would urge all Alumni Council members to continue their hard work for the school. And please advise us if you know of any alumni who would like to join the Council and contribute even more to the continued growth and prosperity of Franklin. Also, contact any of us if you are interested in hosting a gathering in your part of the world.

Again, thanks for your support, and here's to a happy, successful, and fruitful graduation for the class of 2006.

#### ALUMNI EVENTS

This spring the Franklin College Alumni Office teamed up with the Admissions Office to host twin receptions. The events, which were held in locations across the United States, each consisted of an afternoon reception to welcome accepted students and their parents to the Franklin community followed by a reception for alumni.

During the afternoon receptions current parents, past parents, alumni, and Franklin College staff members were on hand to answer questions from accepted students and their parents. Of the accepted students in attendance, some are committed to attending Franklin in Fall '06, while others are still undecided. These gatherings provided the closest thing to a campus visit without getting on a plane.

Following the accepted students' receptions, the Alumni Office hosted receptions for alumni and friends of the College. The goal of these receptions was to reunite classmates and connect members of the Franklin network. The Franklin College Alumni Office strives to more fully utilize the natural global network that exists within the Alumni group by identifying alumni willing to become more involved through intern sponsorship, alumni to alumni networking, alumni to student mentoring, and student recruitment activities.

Please note that due to a computer failure, pictures from the Dallas, New York, and Washington, DC, events were lost. If you attended these receptions and took pictures, please share them with us. Please send digitals to Ute Joest at <ujoest@fc.edu> or send prints care of Ute Joest, Franklin College, Via Ponte Tresa 29, 6924 Sorengo (Lugano), Switzerland.

#### DUAL RECEPTIONS

*Dallas, Texas*

*February 25, 2006*

The first of these dual receptions was hosted by Mrs. Carol Barton, wife of Trustee Benny Barton and mother of current student Terence Barton, in Dallas, Texas. The group enjoyed Mrs. Barton's southern hospitality, shared Franklin College reminiscences, and viewed pictures that jogged fond memories of their time on campus.

*New York, New York*

*March 4, 2006*

Franklin College alumni, friends, trustees, and Alumni Council members joined President Erik Nielsen for a reception at the University Club. Both President Nielsen and Chairman **Paul Lowerre '77** addressed the group, sharing information about the College including Swiss accreditation, the opening of the new campus, and the vision for the future. Following their speeches, the group viewed the Greece Academic Travel video produced by graduating senior Marcel Ricou.

*Washington, DC*

*March 11, 2006*

A small alumni group gathered at the Hotel Washington to renew contact with Franklin College and old classmates. The group was addressed by Trustee **Rick Bell '65** and President Nielsen. During the social hour, attendees viewed the latest photos of Lugano and the new campus.

*Denver, Colorado*

*March 18, 2006*

Staff members Alesia Davenport and Eric Delehoy hosted the Denver alumni reception at the Marriott Tech Center. The threat of a spring snowstorm did not deter attendees. The group showed tremendous enthusiasm for the College and for renewing old friendships.

*San Francisco, California*

*March 25, 2006*

The NCAA tournament and numerous other activities in town could not keep Franklin supporters away from a reception held at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in downtown San Francisco. Several dignitaries were in attendance including Trustee **Kevin McNeely '73** and former Dean of Fleming College Dr. Michael Holmes. After the reception, the party continued in the jazz lounge of the hotel.

#### OTHER ALUMNI RECEPTIONS

*Miami Lakes, Florida*

*January 10, 2006*

President Nielsen greeted guests at a Franklin College reception held at the Don Shula Hotel in Miami Lakes. A guest appearance by Coach Shula was scheduled; however, due to unexpected minor surgery, he was unable to attend. Dr. Nielsen shared the excitement of the opening of the new North Campus with the group and talked about the future direction of the college. Several special guests were in attendance, including Trustee Ernst Matthiensen and his wife Stephanie, Dr. Samir Moussalli, who will be a visiting professor on campus during the summer, and **Giulio Olivieri '97**, who traveled all the way from Lugano to attend.

*Geneva, Switzerland*

*March 7, 2006*

Alumnus **Dooley Awadalla '95** served as host for a small alumni reception in Geneva at the BBM Wine Bar. Alumni and friends gathered to reconnect and reminisce at this first-ever Geneva reception. The group had such an enjoyable time that they vowed to get together again in the near future.

*Milan, Italy*

*May 5, 2006*

A crowd gathered at the Jazz Café in Milan to meet other local members of the Franklin community. Franklin College Professor Georges Rocourt (Assistant Professor of International Management) and **Julia Hawkins '04** of the Advancement Office joined guests from Lugano, other parts of Ticino, and Northern Italy to enjoy cocktails and Franklin fellowship following a long work week. Professor Rocourt and Ms. Hawkins provided an update about the College and the festivities planned for graduation the following week.

For more information on how to host an alumni reception or how to volunteer for leadership opportunities within the Alumni community, please contact Ute Joest at [ujoest@fc.edu](mailto:ujoest@fc.edu) or 41 (0) 91 986 3609.

*San Francisco, March 25, 2006*

*Sir Francis Drake Hotel*

*Reception*

**Attendees:**

- Francisco Castanheira '77
- Juana Castanheira
- Tim Darrin '75
- Debbie Darrin
- Alesia Davenport
- Michael Garcia
- Kathleen Gnekow Garcia
- Christine Gakovich
- Shayna Glickman
- Elizabeth Halaby Wales '73
- Abigail Bates Hawkins '02
- Robert Hawkins '02
- Michael Holmes
- Anita Holmes
- Leila Jere
- Alison Macbeth '93
- Kevin McNeely '73
- Rosemary McNeely
- Steven Minchen '84
- Kelly Minchen
- Richard (Mitch) Mitchell '02
- Tom Rees '73
- Mary Rees '73
- Jennifer Rees
- Marianne Rees
- Peter Roman
- Daniel Shiffman
- Tobias Sugar '01
- Tore Svanberg '95
- Aileen Svanberg
- Kota Tabuchi '03
- Ronald Wallace '74
- Chay Woerz '97
- Veronica Woerz



*Veronica Woerz and Aileen Svanberg.*



*Kevin McNeely '73 and Shayna Glickman.*



*Alison Macbeth '93, Chay Woerz '97, and guest.*



*Kota Tabuchi '03, Shayna Glickman, and Tore Svanberg '95.*



*Ronald Wallace '74, Debbie Darrin, and Tim Darrin '75.*

*Miami Lakes, Florida, January 10, 2006*

*Don Shula Hotel*

*Reception*

**Attendees:**

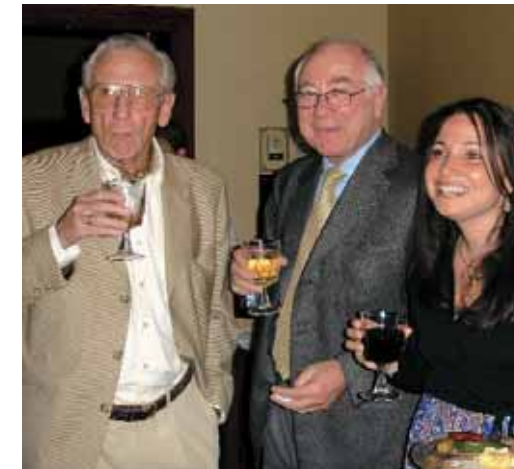
- Eduardo Blanco
- Marili Blanco
- Thomas Browne '74
- Maricel Browne
- Lorraine Cohen '95
- Rhonda Cornell
- Charles Cosier '73
- Michelle Cutler-Azriary '94
- Alesia Davenport
- Brett Duch '88
- Claudia Figueredo '95
- Maria Marta Mari
- Susan Gordon '80
- Stuart Gordon
- Jerome Juska
- Valentino Macor
- Teresa Macor
- J David Macor '06
- Ernst Matthiensen, Trustee
- Stephanie Matthiensen
- Renu Mody '83
- Kevin Mody
- Medina Mody
- Dr. Samir Moussalli
- President Erik Nielsen
- Katherine Norman '91
- Giulio Olivieri '97
- Rose Pujol
- Joseph Steen
- Carrie Stephens La Noce '90
- Andy Wetzler '84
- Cinda Yaremo '74



*Rose Pujol and Teresa Macor.*



*Alesia Davenport and J David Macor '06.*



*Ernst Matthiensen, Trustee, President Erik Nielsen, and Claudia Figueredo '95.*



*Michelle Cutler-Azriary '94, Claudia Figueredo '95, and Carrie Stephens La Noce '90.*



*Thomas Browne '74 and Maricel Browne.*



*Joseph Steen and Lorraine Cohen '95.*



*Samir Moussalli, Rhonda Cornell, and Jerome Juska.*

**1963**

**Elizabeth Thiele** recently returned from a trip to Peru. She very much enjoyed the Sacred Valley and a trek to Machu Pichu. Elizabeth writes, "The Inka civilization and its accomplishments are amazing, as well as the beautiful scenery."

**1964**

**Lynn Campion Waddell** is still living in Sun Valley, Idaho, and Buzzman, Montana, with her husband Ted. Working as a professional photographer as well as working on their farm keep Lynn very busy. Ted is an artist who shows in galleries around the country, so his travels keep them busy as well. Lynn saw **Jane Booth Jones** in Sun Valley last winter.

**1965**

**Sally Dodge Mole** reports, "I have seen a lot of **Paul '77** and **Ursula Lowerre '76**, and **Susan Cross** here in Vermont. I became interested in **India Howell's '77** Rift Valley Children's Center, an orphanage in Tanzania. Check it out on the web at [www.tanzani-anchildrensfund.org](http://www.tanzani-anchildrensfund.org). We can all volunteer!" **Sally Gieg Smallen** and her husband and led their ninth pilgrimage to India last year where they now have a thriving Ananda Center in Gurga on the outside of Delhi. Sally sends her blessings to you all.

**1970**

**William Auer** recently spent two weeks in Siena, Italy, sharing a house with **Garland Gay '70** and **May May Gay** and their family. **Katharine Goodbody** is practicing law and living in New Haven, Connecticut. Her oldest daughter Rachel is a sophomore at Stanford, her middle daughter Kate is a senior in high school, and her youngest daughter Anna is in the 8th grade.

**1971**

**Roger Montgomery** is living in Saratoga, California, with his wife and selling real estate in the Monterey Bay area. He would like to hear from his old roommates, **Jim, Pedro,** and **Roger.** **Louis Schmidt** was planning another trip to Italy in July and was hoping to visit campus in order to show Franklin to their 16-year-old! Louis sends his regards to old friends and classmates.

**1972**

**Mary Schubach McCarthey** is currently a co-owner with her brother of Standard Optical, the family optical business, which is 95 years old this year. Her husband owns a Russian Art Gallery in Park City, Utah, specializing in Russian Impressionism. Mary's oldest daughter Rachel, who was married in June, 2005, is a second-year medical resident at the University of Utah

in pediatrics and psychiatry. Mary's daughter Dominique graduated from Gonzaga University and is a second-grade teacher in Salt Lake City. **Mary (Macey) Mortensen Morris** travelled to Tuscany for two weeks with her family last October. She writes, "It was bellissimo! The scenery, weather, artwork, museums, churches, food—everything was fantastico. I was very pleased that my Italian returned within two days, so we had no problems communicating. We started out in Firenze, then went to Siena, Pienza, San Gimignano, Sestri Levante on the Ligurian Coast, and Pisa. Driving around in the Tuscan countryside was like being in heaven! Then it was back to school for Keaton and Tommy, and back to our routine for Johnny and myself. I'm still painting watercolors, and Johnny is working on his second book. We are all happy and healthy. Can't ask for much more than that!"



Keaton (14), Mary (Macey), Johnny, and Tommy (11) Morris at the Palazzo Pubblico, Siena, in October, 2005.

**1973**

**Carl Hamann** writes, "I see classmate **Richard Cocco '73** often and always enjoy exchanging Christmas cards with **Eloise Tencher**—who hasn't aged a day since Franklin."

**1974**

**Valeria Acerra** was married on February 18, 2006. Peter Lilienthal is a Senior Economist in the International Programs Office of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

**1975**

**Louisa Jenkins Stevenson** was hoping to visit campus last spring.

**1976**

After 16 years in London, **Jennifer Berg** took the leap to New York City. **Michael Crimi** has moved to

West Palm Beach and would love to hear from Franklin College friends in the area. **Alexander Hendrie** has moved to Eagle Rock, California, and is still juggling the dream: lawyering, producing and writing screenplays. **Adele (Dede) Merck** has been trying to visit Lugano for two summers now. She works daily in her family's ministry, the P.B. Prayer Team Ministries, Inc., to give out God's word to everyone and Bibles throughout the nation, and finds it very exciting and fulfilling. Her son is 15 and attending high school, while her daughter is 13 and attending the same day school that Dede attended as a child. Dede is in regular contact with **Sydney Lawford McKelvy**, **Kim Williams**, and **Jonesie Coleman**. She also sees **Lizet Pulitzer** in her town. Dede thinks of Franklin fondly. **Carole Riordan** has recently moved to Las Vegas with her two children Robert, 11, and Brigitte, 9. Carole writes, "We welcome any Frankinites to contact us at (702) 341-8148."

**1978**

**Robert Hunnewell** and Ann, his wife of 15 years, have lived in Dedham, Massachusetts, for the past six years. Robert and Ann have two sons and a daughter, ages 12, 6, and 4. After receiving his Associate of Arts degree from Franklin College in 1978, **Mitra Shahkar** went on to the San Francisco Art Institute, where she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts. Mitra sends her best wishes to everyone at Franklin, especially her professors. You can check her website at <http://fotoservices.bluewin.ch/fotopage/artworldofmitrashahkar>. **Andrea Allen Theriault** is a special education teacher in middle school in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. She writes, "I am sending my oldest son off to college! Yikes—time flies. I have one son who is a freshman in high school. . . I still have fond memories of wearing my toga on a moped on our way to P.K.'s toga party."

**1979**

**Carlotta Estermann** stopped by campus to see the new building renovations over the winter holidays while visiting with her mother.

**1981**

**Anna Pawelzik Kattermann** is a part-time teacher at a boarding school in England, where she has been living with her husband and daughter for approximately two years. Anna enjoys living in the country side. **Kate Higbie Lowe** is working in development for her children's school, the New Canaan Country School, in Connecticut. Kate sends her best to everyone in Lugano. **Allyn Carlson Teilborg** married Ray Teilborg on September 6, 1998, and moved to Allyn's home state of North Carolina soon after their now 5-year-old daughter, Ashley JaneLynn Teilborg, arrived. Allyn is a sales manager for Harold Import, a line of cook's tools, etc. She travels all over the USA for her job.



Ashley Jane Lynn with mother, Allyn Carlson Teilborg.

**1982**

**Brian Christian** writes, "A shout out to **Edmond, Richard, Richard,** and **Russell.** Hard to believe it has been 25 years since we climbed the hill to the bus from the Sentiero di Gandria." **Barbara Annunziata Rose** is the bestselling author of *Stop Being the String Along: A Relationship Guide to Being THE ONE* and *Know Yourself*. Barbara loves hearing from her dear friends at Franklin.

**1983**

**Gordon Bower** still enjoys living in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. If you are in the area, call Gordon at 52 984 803 2535. **Blair Jennings** sends her greetings to her Franklin friends from 1983. She would like to hear from them by email at [bjennings@msn.com](mailto:bjennings@msn.com). **Julia Taylor Olson** reconnected with **Nancy Barker (Tatum Graham) '82** last fall and is planning on having an alumni event in Atlanta soon.

**1985**

**Colette Lumsby** sends her regards to fellow Frankinites. Colette has recently relocated back to the East Coast where she is now working as a broker for Blue Star Jets in the New York office. She is finding her time in the private jet aviation business quite "the trip" and eerily reminiscent of some of her fondest times at Franklin. **Johanna Moffitt** is the global marketing director for FitLinxx, a fitness software company. Johanna enjoys skiing and competitive sailing as much as possible. She sees **Lisa Ballek Lonngren** often.

**1986**

**Mary Olmstead Jordan** is a member of Team Copaxone as an equestrian in the sport of eventing in the United States. Copaxone is a treatment for Multiple Sclerosis, a neurological disorder that affects 400,000 Americans. Mary, along with nine other

athletes with MS in the US, spread a message of hope and awareness through their athletic endeavors.

**1988**

**Glenn Shafer** looks forward to bringing his wife Dana to Lugano for a visit. They have a son Joshua, 5, and a daughter Lily, 2. Glenn keeps in regular contact with **David Cole**, **David Henry**, and **Carol Karimi**. Glenn writes, "I only spent one semester at Franklin College, during the fall of 1987...it was my junior year as a semester abroad student...but I met friends for life at Franklin."

**1990**

**Kim Hildebrant** and **Nicky Tauber Hildebrant '91** had a baby girl named Maya on February 8, 2006. Their son Alexander has just turned 3 years old. **David Richards** is married and living in Philadelphia,



Maya Hildebrant.

Pennsylvania. He was endorsed Republican candidate for Sheriff in 2003 and received 81,000 votes—his opponent, however, received over 300,000. (David writes that Philadelphia is a very Democratic town). David and his wife are in the process of adopting a baby girl from China. He writes, "It is an exciting time for us because it requires us to travel to China for the adoption. I haven't been to China since 1988 when I went with a Franklin College group. I miss Lugano immensely and I hope to return soon with my wife and new baby. Some of the people I would like to get in touch with are **Ashton Wolfson '91**, **Dan Varner '89**, and **John Standish**. I also miss the always interesting **Professor Morris Mottale**." **Katherine Butterfield Watts** is still living in Bermuda and working as a corporate administrator at Appleby Spurling Hunter, a local law firm with offices in London, Cayman, BVI, and Hong Kong. Katherine's job requires her to deal with a variety of clients and she finds it challenging. Her husband Steve, who started

working for himself some years ago, is now a partner in marketing/advertising for his box office website [www.boxoffice.bm](http://www.boxoffice.bm) and partner in a recently established company called DVD Express. Katherine is in touch from time to time with **Julian Clift** in California, **Nina Hacker Glendenning '89**, **David Glendenning '91**, and **Barbara Bruderer**. She would like to hear from **Tim Kirkman '92** and other friends by email at [dolly@watts.bm](mailto:dolly@watts.bm).



Robert Bjorklund and Miho Tsuchiya Bjorklund.

**1992**

**Miho Tsuchiya Bjorklund** was married last October 15, 2005 to **Robert Bjorklund** of Sweden at the Asakusa Shrine in Tokyo, Japan. They had a traditional Japanese ceremony with kimono, after which the newlyweds headed to Okinawa for their honeymoon. Miho and Robert now live in Stockholm. **Machi Sumie Okuda '94** attended the wedding. Miho writes, "Please drop me a line if you ever visit this cold country! [miho\\_machida@hotmail.com](mailto:miho_machida@hotmail.com)."

**1993**

**Andrew Rebak** and his wife Yvonne recently had their first child. Luke Andrew Rebak was born on November 9, 2005, in New York, weighing 9 lbs. and 4 oz.

**1994**

Ody Markezinis and his wife Aki recently had their first child. Hana Eftixia Markezinis was born on November 8, 2005. Alexander Passigatti sends his greetings to his Franklin friends and would like to hear from them.



*Hana Eftixia Markezinis.*

**1995**

Derek Wilkinson and his two colleagues have had a resounding success in starting the Washington, D.C., office of Slayton Search Partners. He credits Franklin with his ability to strike out on a new venture with a very diverse team.

**1996**

Tia Roosendahl's latest interest has been alternative medicine—body therapy, massage, myofascial trigger point work—and she is learning more every day. Tia also has a hand in film and real estate investment projects.

**1999**

Mohammed Al Haddar sends his greeting to Franklin College and Lugano. He would very much like to visit Lugano in the near future. While in Iraq, Monroe Mann wrote a book called *Battle Cries for the Underdog—Fightin' Words for an Extraordinary Life*. Frederick Vesprini sends his regards to Franklin alumni, particularly the Fall 1999 Namibia Academic Travel group. Frederick enjoyed his brief experience at Franklin and looks forward to visiting Lugano, hopefully soon.

**2002**

Sara Attar married Mazen at the Villa d'Este in Cernobbio, on the Lake of Como, on November 8, 2005. Heba Al-Okar was her maid of honor, and

another bridesmaid was her sister, Basma Attar '06. Many graduates from Franklin as well as some current students attended, including Zein Soufan '02, Hana Al-Farouqi '03, Hala Khalil '03, Elif Eren '04, Rosita D'Alessio '02, Taroub Malhas '05, Jude Abdul-Hadi '06, Maha Abdulla '07, Rania Mansour '03, and Tamer Atia '01. Hiroko Hamaguchi received her Masters of Arts in Finland in Intercultural Communication and International Relations. She is now working in Bali, Indonesia, and sends her greetings.

**2004**

Julia Hawkins and Jordan Christopher Sousa '05 were married on February 18, 2006, at the Emmanuel Methodist Church in Southampton, Bermuda. The



*Julia Hawkins '04 and Jordan Christopher Sousa '05 wed in Bermuda.*

ceremony was followed by a dinner reception at the Elbow Beach Hotel in Paget. Among the many friends present were alumni Katherine Wilkenfeld '04, Kamilka Sarova '03, Jordana Gregg '03, Brian McGann '04, Shannon Miller '06. Jordan is currently working for a financial company in Bermuda. Julia writes, "Jordan and I met at Franklin and both have

fond memories of our times as students at the College. We now join the long list of married alumni! If you would like to see more pictures of the wedding, please visit [www.jordanandjulia.com](http://www.jordanandjulia.com)."

**2005**

Maria Fernanda Martinez-Fenton '05 married Michael Guarco '06 last fall. They had a small private civil ceremony and will have a reception with friends upon the completion of Michael's studies. He plans on attending law school and Maria Fernanda would like to continue working for the Red Cross Language Bank

*Correction:*

Ody Markezinis '94 and Aki Hoshino were married in Guam on March 12, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency. Aki is a graduate of the University of British Columbia, Canada.

**Faculty and Friends**

Emily Lingeri and her husband Nicola have a new baby boy. Gianluca McCoy Lingeri was born on January 16, 2006, in Lugano, weighing 3.91 kilos and measuring 51 cm.



*Emily Lingeri and son Gianluca.*

Dr. Harlan Wallingford sends his greetings. He writes, "I retired in 2000 to Tennessee, a warmer low tax state. I love it here. I hear 'please' and 'thank you' a lot more often than in New York. I am tutoring part time at a local community college, any subject they request, but the big demand is for algebra. The air is full of music here, all kinds, so I don't lack for culture. I've done a lot of traveling, to Nepal, Malaysia, Egypt, Thailand (have a student e-mail correspondent there), and Moscow (where my son works for KPMG)."

**In Memoriam**

The Franklin community was very saddened by the passing of Sue Vitali-Knowles last February. She was a former staff member of the College.

