

THE FRANKLIN

# gazette

THE  
MAGAZINE  
OF  
FRANKLIN COLLEGE  
SWITZERLAND

*Fall 2008*

*The Caribbean Conference and  
Maryse Condé*

*Cleaning Up Muzzano*

*Exploring Portugal*

*Graduation 2007/2008*

*Historic Collaboration with Lugano*

*Campus Dedications*





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The Franklin *Gazette* is published two times a year and is distributed free of charge to university friends, alumni, faculty, staff, and parents of undergraduate students.



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*Front Cover: Heavy Clouds over Palacio da Peña, Sintra, Portugal.*

Fall 2008

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## FEATURES

- 14 **An Open Mind Requires Commitment**  
Graduation 2007
- 17 **Paths and Journeys**  
Graduation 2008
- 21 **Exploring Portugal**  
Academic Travel led by Professor Wasiq Khan
- 24 **Maryse Condé**  
The Literary Trajectory of a Caribbean Writer
- 26 **Caribbean Unbound**  
A Franklin College Conference Dedicated to Caribbean Literature and Culture
- 27 **The Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award**  
An Award Created for Alumni Who Have Shown Outstanding Service to Franklin



Angela Fowler '76, Trustee, at the dedication of the Fowler Library.



Students during Academic Travel to Portugal.



Professor Brack Hale with Environmental Studies students testing the waters of Lake Muzzano.

## DEPARTMENTS

- 2 **Letters**
- 3 **Franklin Today**  
A Historic Collaboration  
New Major in Environmental Studies  
Appointment of Provost and VP Academic Affairs  
Career Resources Center, New Internships, Career Seminars Program  
New Graphic Design Center  
Fowler Library Inaugurated  
Plaque Dedicated in Memory of Romano Macchi  
Student Leadership Awards  
Senior Class Gifts  
Tibor Machan Speaks on Business Ethics  
Travvy Winners
- 28 **Alumni Council News**
- 29 **Reunions and Events**
- 33 **Class Notes**
- 37 **Faculty and Friends Notes**
- 38 **Annual Fund Report**

## From the editor

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Welcome to a special edition of the Franklin Gazette, which is slightly longer than usual and includes photos and details about both the 2007 and 2008 graduation ceremonies.

Important dedication ceremonies were held on campus during the 2007 graduation weekend. Thanks to the generous support of our donors, Franklin students are now taking advantage of two new facilities, the Graphic Design Center and the Fowler Library. You can read about these in the “Franklin Today” department. In 2008 for the first time ever, we celebrated graduation at the Palazzo dei Congressi, allowing us to better accommodate our everygrowing number of graduates along with their friends and family.

Franklin College continues to expand its array of academic offerings. In this issue, Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Sciences Brack Hale discusses the new Environmental Studies major. Professor Hale has been instrumental in getting students involved in the clean up of the nearby Muzzano Lake in conjunction with the local Pro Natura organization. We are also excited about the collaboration embarked upon by Franklin College, the Museo delle Culture of Lugano, and the Institute of Applied Philosophy at the Faculty of Theology of Lugano which, among other things, has opened the door to a course for Franklin students taught at the cultural museum entitled “The Anthropology of Art.”

You will also find contributions by our faculty. Professor Wasig Khan shares with us his

reflections on his Academic Travel to Portugal, an exploration of that country’s imperial legacy. Professor Robert McCormick talks about Franklin’s third biennial international conference dedicated to Caribbean literature and culture, and focuses on Guadeloupean novelist Maryse Condé, who opened the most recent edition of the conference. Tibor Machan, former Harwood Professor at Franklin College, discusses business ethics.

This special edition was born of necessity because our communications and publications team has been working hard on the new Alumni Portal section of our website. We look forward to resuming a normal publication schedule with this issue and urge you to take a look at the new Portal with all it has to offer. You can read more about it in the “Franklin Today” department.

We hope that you will enjoy this issue and look forward to your feedback.

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

Diana Tedoldi  
Editor

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



# A Historic Collaboration Among Franklin and Three Local Academic Institutions

June 13, 2007, marked the beginning of an exciting new joint venture among Franklin College Switzerland, the Museo delle Culture of Lugano, and the Institute of Applied Philosophy at the Faculty of Theology of Lugano with the signing of a collaboration agreement by the Faculty of Theology, the city of Lugano, and Franklin. This three-party initiative called for the joint and gradual creation of courses, initially at the undergraduate level, and for the constitution of a summer institute.

In the spring of 2008, Franklin students studied art at the Villa Helleneum in Lugano, home of the museum, in the context of a course entitled "The Anthropology of Art." The interdisciplinary course is team-taught by Johanna Fassel, Assistant Professor of Art at Franklin, and Günther Giovannoni, researcher at the Museo delle Culture. In addition, Franklin hosted a semester-long Honors Seminar in Anthropology and Archaeology taught jointly by Franklin President and Professor of Archeology Erik Nielsen and Professor Angela Hobart of Goldsmiths College, University of London, culminating in a weekend study tour to Franklin's Etruscan site in Murlo, Tuscany. Also during spring, 2008, the Franklin Honors Society featured a lecture on the history and current situation of Zimbabwe by Professor Francis Matambirofa, a scholar in residence at Professor Hobart's Centro Incontri Umani in Ascona. As the collaboration moves into its second year, we look forward to working again with the museum as we offer the Anthropology of Art class. Other courses for spring, 2009, include "The Politics of



*Signing of the agreement, from left, Professor Giovanni Ventimiglia, Director, Institute of Applied Philosophy at the Faculty of Theology of Lugano; Dr. Paolo Campione, Curator of the Museo delle Culture of Lugano; Giovanna Masoni Brenni; Dr. Erik Nielsen; and Professor Azzolino Chiappini, Rector, Faculty of Theology of Lugano.*

Mobility: Exile and Immigration," offered by Sara Steinert-Borella, Associate Professor and Dean of Arts and Humanities, in the department of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies. Franklin students will also have the opportunity to join in classes taught in applied philosophy at the nearby USI (the University of Lugano). In addition to classes, the collaborative group has proposed initial plans for a joint-research agenda among the Institute of Applied Philosophy, Franklin professors, and other international partners in gender studies and anthropology.

Franklin College has thus been given a wonderful opportunity to expand its course offerings and to participate in topical areas of research while extending its academic network locally and abroad. The museum in particular should continue to be both a rich resource for our students and a means of

connecting our faculty with a much wider network of similar institutions for the purposes of research and publishing. This proposal had its seeds in the meeting between President Nielsen and Professor Paolo Campione, Director of the Museo delle Culture, during the Murlo Exhibition in Lugano in the autumn of 2006. Franklin was then approached by Professor Campione and Professor Giovanni Ventimiglia, Director of the Institute of Applied Philosophy, in late spring, 2007, for discussions leading to the present agreement which is a tribute to the growing reputation of the College in the local academic community. In President Nielsen's words, "This is an exciting venture for Franklin College, a fruitful collaboration among three institutions of different characters and with different strengths."

## Franklin Launches New Alumni Portal and Net Community

We are happy to announce that the new alumni portal and net community section of our website has been launched this fall. The portal page opens to a full site that is designed to be both an information and networking site for Franklin alumni. It not only provides them with news about recent and upcoming events (including photographs), but also includes content and functionality reserved just for alumni in the section entitled "My Franklin Community" (My FC). My FC offers a way for alumni to keep in touch with their classmates, make new connections with other Franklin alumni, and easily continue their involvement with the College. Once an alumnus is registered it will provide a lifelong email address at Franklin which will help Franklinites keep in touch no matter where they are in the world. Since its launch, many alumni have already registered. Please take a look and become a part of the network...find out what it is new on campus, find old friends, and keep in touch with your alma mater. Go to: [www.fc.edu/alumni](http://www.fc.edu/alumni)

By Brack Hale

## FC Announces New Major in Environmental Studies

Environmental issues pervade the world in which we live and the decisions we make as individuals, consumers, communities, nations, and the world. The current struggle with global climate change is an excellent example; the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, which operates the Doomsday Clock, listed it as one of the two great threats facing the world right now (the other being international terrorism).

Nonetheless, possible courses of action are unknown, unfeasible, and/or considered unjust. Other issues such as the loss of biodiversity, the ever-growing human population, air pollution, waste generation, and lack of access to clean water and sanitation among many poor populations present similar challenges. Many professionals, from scientists to policy makers to businessmen and women, need the requisite training to analyze and deal with these issues. Preparing students to do just that is the goal of the new Environmental Studies (ES) major at Franklin.

During my on-campus interview for my current position, both administrators and students expressed an interest in Franklin developing some type of environmental major. Thus, after my arrival on campus I continued these conversations with students in my courses, with fellow faculty members, and with the Franklin administration and discovered that my initial impressions were correct and so began to work on developing a major. After several months of working closely with my colleagues in Economics and Political Science, as well as with the Curriculum Committee, I feel we have developed a major that draws on Franklin's diverse expertise in environmental issues and that will prepare students for exciting and necessary careers in environmental fields.

The new ES major became part of Franklin's offerings in the fall of 2007. It is an interdisciplinary major, meaning that it draws from multiple disciplines, such as biology, economics, and political science. This reflects the nature of environmental issues. Environmental problems are not simply scientific ones, but also result from the way human society perceives and interacts with the environment. It often does not suffice to develop scientifically sound solutions to environmental problems; solutions must also be socially acceptable. Our majors will have the skills and the perspectives to analyze these

complex issues in a variety of fields, including business, government, non-profit groups, consulting, and academia.

So what does the major entail? Students in the major start by developing a foundation in economics, political science, natural science, and statistics. This sequence of courses helps the students

understand the basics: how natural systems work, how economic systems work, and how political systems work. These courses also provide students with an introduction to the different methodologies used in these three areas. Additionally, the statistics course provides students with tools to understand the complex world of data and data analysis.

After completing these foundation courses, the students move on to take an upper-level core. This set of three courses provides students with advanced training in each of these three main areas and helps expand students' thinking to a more international level. The economics course, ECN 303, looks at economic issues in developing countries and

provides students with a better understanding of the issues facing the developing world and their role in sustainability of the globe. The political science course, POL 276, looks at environmental politics on the international level and how countries and other international entities attempt to manage the global environment. The science course, SCI 301, is a new course to Franklin. It will look at how the principles of biology can provide a framework to tackle conservation issues around the globe.

Students in the major also will take an upper-level set of electives that will reflect their individual interests. This set of courses must also be interdisciplinary, but students can take multiple courses in one field. This way, if a student is particularly interested in the economic side of environmental issues she/he can focus primarily on economic courses relating to the environment. On the other hand, if a student is more interested in the scientific side, she/he can focus on relevant science courses. As this major grows, so too will the options of courses in this area. I have already discussed with my colleagues potential courses in International Management and CLCS.

The major requires students to complete either an internship or a research project. This too allows flexibility for the students

Professor Brack Hale and students study the eco-systems in and around Ticino.



...how can the richness of so many different cultural perspectives be harnessed and put to use in a course of study?



depending on their interests and career goals. Students looking for careers in environmental policy, such as a government or consulting position, or students interested in working for an environmental non-profit should choose an internship as it will provide them with real-world experience that will increase their competitiveness in the job market after they graduate. Students interested in pursuing a graduate degree would likely choose a research project, as it would demonstrate their analytical abilities to graduate school admissions offices.

The final piece of the major is the capstone course. This course will be case-based and will provide the opportunity for students to integrate the various skills that they have gained during their time at Franklin. Ideally, this course will be taken during the last year at the College, as students will be expected to draw from the multiple disciplines that they have encountered in the major.

An integral piece of the science part of the major will be the nature reserve at the laghetto di Muzzano, a small lake close to campus which offers an excellent site for field studies relevant for the ES major.

During my first years at Franklin, I have developed a good working relationship with ProNatura, a major Swiss conservation group that manages the laghetto. ProNatura has authorized Franklin the use of the casetta (a renovated field classroom facility) and the laghetto for biological and environmental classes. Additionally, it will

...putting together a multidimensional understanding that arises out of the exquisite blend of place, individual subjectivity, and learning. available at Franklin College.

be a good source for majors interested in pursuing a research project.

The major also involves the creation of several new science courses. SCI 220:

Freshwater Conservation, which began in spring 2007 with a very high enrollment, focuses on the ecology and conservation of rivers and lakes. SCI 301: Conservation Biology (discussed above), SCI 310: Ecology, and ENV 497, the capstone course, will be introduced during upcoming semesters. Additionally, the new first-year seminar for science, SCI 199: Glaciers No More: Climate Change and the Alps, will count towards the major. As part of the new major, Franklin has also introduced a new course designation, ENV, for environmental courses.

I am very excited about the new major. Franklin offers an excellent location to study the environment and environmental issues. Within easy access to campus are a variety of natural settings, from mountains to lakes, from relatively pristine areas to urban agglomerations. Furthermore, Europe is a forerunner in environmental policy. Lastly, Franklin's international student body and faculty provide for a diverse range of perspectives, experiences, and opinions in the classroom, which can only strengthen our students' educational experience in the environment.

**Overview of the Environmental Studies Major**

- Foundation courses**
- 3 science (biology and environmental science) courses
  - Principles of Economics I and II
  - Introduction to International Relations
  - Introduction to Statistics

- Upper-level core**
- Conservation Biology
  - Developmental Economics
  - International Environmental Politics

- Upper-level electives**
- 3 upper-level courses with environmental themes. No more than two can be from same area.

- Experiential learning**
- Internship in environmental field OR
  - Research project/thesis

- Capstone experience**
- Interdisciplinary approaches to environmental issues

For more details, visit Franklin's website at: <http://www.fc.edu>

**Franklin Students Get their Hands Dirty to Help a Local Lake**

On March 31, 2007, a group of Franklin students sacrificed a Saturday to participate in the first (annual) clean-up day at the *laghetto di Muzzano*, a small lake near the Franklin campus. The event owes its inspiration to Marianne Rees '10, who approached me back in the autumn of 2006 to see if there might be some community outreach opportunities for her and her fellow students. Together, she and I worked with Dr. Nicola Schoenenberger of ProNatura to organize the clean-up event at the laghetto. We decided to concentrate on three projects: one to pick up trash along the lake's shores, another to remove invasive plant species from protected habitats around the lake, and a last one to build habitats for endangered snake species.

Overall the event was a huge success. Approximately 15 students, along with some locals, came out to help with the projects. We removed a lot of trash, nary an invasive palm was left standing, and we ended up with two beautiful new habitats for snakes. Dr. Schoenenberger was highly impressed with our students and is very excited about the possibility of future events. The event was covered by local television and newspapers which provided Lugano and Ticino with an excellent glimpse of the hard-working nature and goodwill of our students.



## Franklin Announces the Appointment of Dr. Kris Bulcroft as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



*Dr. Kris Bulcroft, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.*

Franklin College welcomes Dr. Kris Bulcroft to the campus and to the newly created position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Bulcroft held the positions of Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and professor of sociology at Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington. Prior to that, she was a member of the faculty at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. More than 20 years of experience in higher education have taught her: “Students change in terms of expectations and needs. A good institution listens to students and tries to respond to make them ready for the world.”

President Erik Nielsen, on announcing Dr. Bulcroft’s acceptance of the position, stated, “All of us at Franklin were very impressed with her strong academic experiences as well as her forthrightness and enthusiasm for Franklin College. We are confident she will bring new perspectives to Franklin and help guide us in the coming years.” Dr. Bulcroft was attracted to her new position for many reasons, including the fact that she found the Franklin community to be “extremely warm, welcoming and supportive.” She also appreciates the excellent foundation represented by the faculty.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs reports directly to the President of the College and in his absence serves as senior administrator. The Provost has responsibility for all aspects of academic affairs and also oversees student affairs and admissions. Dr. Bulcroft’s oversight and development of enrollment management and first-year experience programs, and her wide range of academic experience make her ideal for the position at Franklin. She commented, “The job of a provost is to get the best faculty, bring in resources to find innovative ways for students to learn, and discover where meaningful experiences are and

create them in abundance.” Her goal is to engender esprit de corps around common goals.

This highly important new position will assist Franklin College in moving through a period of strategic transition to an innovative academic model that connects academic programs in the liberal arts with programs in international management, communications, and governmental relations. This model includes two schools and multi-disciplinary institutes which support faculty research and scholarship and which will be the basis for focused future graduate programs. The new academic plan includes robust experiential learning opportunities that continue the strong Academic Travel programs for which Franklin is known. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs will lead these key academic strategies. When discussing how to handle this task, Dr. Bulcroft said, “Leadership shouldn’t just be seen as something imposed from above; it is about encouraging people to engage and then working collaboratively toward common goals.”

The new Provost is especially looking forward to fall and the students, noting, “Students are the best representatives of what campus culture is all about.” She plans to organize an advisory group of students and delve into why they chose Franklin, what their expectations are, and what they see as strengths and challenges of the College. She is enthusiastic about the diversity of the student body and explains, “Franklin, this microcosm of the bigger world we live in, provides a place for us to learn how to create common solutions. It is imperative that we get to know each other as individuals instead of geographical destinations. Students will leave here much more prepared than those in isolated perspectives.”

### **Dr. Kris Bulcroft—a Profile**

When Dr. Bulcroft was Vice Provost at Western Washington University, she oversaw a wide range of programs and projects supporting teaching and learning. Under her leadership the general education program was reviewed and revamped, a first-year experience was designed and assessed, and a campus-wide reading program was instituted. Dr. Bulcroft also served as Western’s representative on many of the statewide higher education initiatives such as accountability, transfer policy, and high-demand enrollment funding. Most recently she led the university’s institutional accreditation efforts. Dr. Bulcroft holds a B.A. degree from Pacific Lutheran University, an M.A. from Eastern Washington University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Her primary field of study is sociology, with emphasis on family life and aging. She has published widely on issues relating to family and aging policy, life course transitions, and family rituals. From 1986-88, she was an NIMH postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington Institute on Aging and worked as a research scientist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. Dr. Bulcroft has received Fulbright Awards for research and teaching in Canada and Slovakia and served as a reviewer for Fulbright proposals for Central Europe. She and her husband, Richard Bulcroft, are delighted to be joining the Franklin College community.



By Christina Bell

## Career Resources Center Launches New Career Seminars Program and Internships for Students

During the spring semester of 2007, the Career Resources Center, in collaboration with the Office of Student Affairs and the Writing Center, launched its first series of 10 career seminars. The weekly program featured topics such as resume writing, interviewing skills, and etiquette. In addition, career exploration, mock interviews, and career panels were offered to give students the opportunity to meet professionals from various fields and to experience real-world scenarios. Sara



David Moffly '83, CEO of Dynamic Graphics Group, is another example of an alumni connection made through the Career Office. He is seen here with Stefanie Giglio '08 from Millerton, N.Y., whom he had tasked with finding a niche between web users and the music world.

Forsythe '07 from Frankfurt, Germany, commented on the mock interview process, saying, "It was a very good experience, and it has let me pinpoint some things that I feel I would like to do better or differently in a real interview."

Examples of other activities included reviewing sample resumes and selecting candidates for an interview based on a job description. Additionally, the business dining scenario asked students to select a menu for a business dinner their boss was hosting. Discussion followed on what is appropriate to eat and drink in a working lunch, dinner, or interview.

As part of the full Career Resources Program, students also utilized the office to explore internships and full-time position options. The Center provided counseling for more than 50 students between October and May. Internships and full-time positions are made possible through alumni and friends of Franklin as well as by local and international firms and agencies cultivated through relationships among trustees, faculty, and staff. Ernst & Young, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Christie's NYC, SIETAR International, Baeble Music and Armani, among others, offered students practical work experience and the chance to network with professionals in their respective fields. As a testament to Franklin's new focus on career development, representatives from Ernst & Young in Basel commented on the quality and professionalism displayed by Franklin students during a recruiting visit to campus in February.

Fall 2007 programming included a new and exciting set of seminars for students. The three major components focused on Career Exploration, Resume/CV Writing, and Internship/Job Research Skills. Workshops were organized, and various companies and business people, including Sotheby's London Art Education Program, PricewaterhouseCoopers Basel, alumna Heidi Birrer, and Ernst & Young Frankfurt visited campus to interact with students. In addition, many new relationships with local Lugano-area businesses and organizations were cultivated to build internship programs and to identify students for potential full-time positions.

Spring 2008 focused on those students preparing for internship and job interviews and assisted others in polishing their resumes. An etiquette seminar held in conjunction with a student spring tea was hosted by Alexis Williams, a Resident Assistant and Career Services internship participant, and Jennifer Hayes, who served as Career Counselor at that time. Over 30 students attended this special



Roxanna Zarnegar '95, Vice President for Logistics Operations at Christie's New York, has partnered with the Career Resources Program to offer Alexis Williams '10, Lake Charles, La., the opportunity to experience the world of art from a unique angle.

event which focused on the many aspects of business and social etiquette.

In total, the career services team, which consists of Laura Thompson, Assistant Dean of Students; Christina Bell Cornelius, Writing Center Director; and Jennifer Hayes, past Alumni and Special Events Director, assisted close to 200 students during the spring 2008 semester.

As this program continues to grow, the possibilities for internships and full-time positions will be critical to its success. Alumni and friends of Franklin are a great resource for this program, and we encourage everyone to get involved.

If your company has an opportunity for a current Franklin student or graduate, please contact [careers@fc.edu](mailto:careers@fc.edu).

## Graphic Design Center Donated to Franklin by the Faber and Lowerre Families



*In front of the new Graphic Design Center, from left: Violetta Faber, Claus Faber, Marc Faber '07, Lavinia Lowerre '06, Paul Lowerre '77, Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76.*

On May 12, 2007, Franklin College unveiled the new Graphic Design Center, a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to graphic design, photography, and film editing. Made possible by two Franklin families, the Claus Fabers and the Paul Lowerres, the Center boasts sleek new Intel iMacs loaded with the latest professional graphics-specific software. The center is also equipped with an A1 Plotter, two digital projectors, a color laser printer, and a hi-resolution scanner.

The Center is the result of a friendship—a friendship that evolved into a shared commitment to contribute to the Franklin community. The Lowerres and the Fabers met through their children, Marc Faber '07 and Lavinia Lowerre '06, who attended Franklin College at the same time. The passion that Paul Lowerre '77, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and his wife Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76 feel for Franklin inspired Claus and Violetta Faber. Together, the two families decided to make possible a new learning facility on the North Campus.

While dedicating the new space, President Nielsen noted, “This Graphic Center is a remarkable addition to our teaching facilities, and it has been made

possible because of the generosity, support, and vision of two families.” Mr. Faber, who was accompanied by his wife and their sons Marc and Timo, replied, “We are so pleased to have become a part of Franklin’s future.” Chairman Lowerre, his wife, and their daughter Lavinia were also present for the occasion.

### Mr. and Mrs. Faber

Claus and Violetta Faber, whose son Marc graduated from Franklin College with a degree in International Management with an emphasis in Marketing in May, 2007, live in Frankfurt, Germany. During their son’s college career, the Fabers became involved with the College in a number of ways. Mr. Faber visited campus as a guest speaker for the Fall 2005 Lecture Series. As the owner and president of CMF Advertising, he spoke on marketing top brands in the industry. Later that year, he contributed to a project with Professor Pamela Adams who used his company—CMF Advertising—and one of their campaigns for Coca Cola to write a case study that will be published in a marketing text book. In addition CMF Advertising has offered three internships to Franklin College students.

### Mr. and Mrs. Lowerre

Paul and Ursula Lowerre, who currently reside in New York City, met at Franklin. Since they left Lugano, they have worked tirelessly albeit discreetly to help the College. Their leadership and enthusiasm on behalf of Franklin have been particularly significant in the successes of Franklin’s most recent era. Ursula Lowerre is well-known for her skill and attention to detail during the countless events she has hosted for Franklin board members and students as well as for the significance of her ideas and decisions. She supplied the initial financial support to establish Franklin College’s endowment and she was the first to initiate the hosting of accepted-student receptions in the home of alumni by hosting them herself.

As Chairman of the Board, Paul Lowerre has brought vision, hard work, good humor, and tremendous optimism during a period of much growth and change, including the recent purchase of the North Campus. Furthermore, the Lowerre’s challenge grant to encourage others to join in the philanthropic support of the College has inspired many and has made the current quality of Franklin’s learning environment possible.



*The new Graphic Design Center.*



## New Fowler Library Inaugurated

With the 2005 purchase of the North Campus, the Board of Trustees and the President of Franklin College knew that support from alumni and friends would be crucial to the realization of the campus's true potential. Inspired by this necessity, the Board's Vice Chairman Angela Fowler '75, who has harbored a lifelong love for reading and a passion for learning, decided to provide the financial support that would allow the College to create a library space in the academic building on the North Campus. Her gift also provides for the future of the library—through the establishment of an endowment—that will enable Franklin to continue to purchase library resources.

On Saturday, May 12, 2007, the Fowler Library was officially dedicated with a group of faculty, staff, trustees, and friends looking on. Chairman Paul Lowerre '77 introduced Fowler at the dedication ceremony with these words:

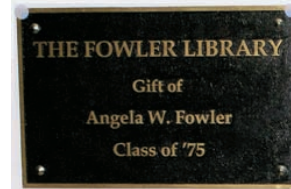
"In the American tradition of education, it is not governments who provide for the interiors of our learning spaces, it is people—people who care. My great friend and Franklin's great friend Angela

Fowler is one of those people, and I would like to thank her for her dedicated service to Franklin and also for fueling this project—a centerpiece for the College."

An inviting space with a panoramic view of Monte Boglia and Monte Bre, the Fowler Library brings a welcome addition to North Campus's study and instructional space. Home to a thorough selection of reference books and materials and the College's French, Italian, German, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish book collection, it also provides computers, audio-visual equipment, and study carrels.

### Angela W. Fowler

Angela Fowler's service to Franklin goes back to the days when she was a class agent, a Phonathon participant, and the first Alumni Trustee. In fact, her gift is the most recent in a long series of contributions that she has made to Franklin College. For the past 12 years, as a member of the Board of Trustees, Fowler has worked on behalf of the College, taking the initiative on several significant projects and completing those projects with remarkable determination. In the words of Chairman Lowerre, "Anytime anything needs doing, Angela comes forward. The breadth of her dedication knows no bounds."



Angela W. Fowler '75 in front of the plaque at the dedication ceremony of the Fowler Library.



## Plaque Dedicated in Memory of Romano Macchi

Romano Macchi, known to many of us as Signor Macchi, created delicious meals for generations of students in Franklin College's Grotto. He came to the College after years of running prestigious restaurants in Lugano and abroad, and left Franklin to manage the elegant new restaurant in Lugano's Casino. Yet, Macchi was much more than a talented chef to the students who knew him. He was a friend and an exceptionally nurturing confidante. With his broad smile he always made everyone feel welcome, as if among family.

On May 12, 2007, the Franklin College community placed a plaque in the Grotto dedicated to the memory of Signor Macchi, a man who was so well-loved and esteemed by all who knew him. His sister, Mrs. Christiane Conne-Macchi, was present for the occasion and said to the crowd, "We are here to remember the friendship and respect Romano gave to each of you. Thanks to everyone of you with all my heart." This dedication was made possible by the generosity of the Chauncey and Marion Deering McCormick Foundation through Christopher Hunt '92



From left: Chairman Paul Lowerre '77, Mr. Conne, Mrs. Christiane Conne-Macchi, and President Erik Nielsen.

## Student Leadership Awards Announced

At the Academic and Student Life Awards Ceremony in May, Dean of Students Leslie Guggiari noted that in a community as small as ours, we all have the chance to make a difference. Recognition—in the form of the Dean's List, academic area awards, student leadership awards, and faculty awards—was made of a number of special people who have indeed enriched the life of the College.

The prestigious Presidential Leadership Award is presented for showing outstanding dedication and leadership to Franklin throughout a student's college career. This award went to **Marta Oprisan** in 2007 and to **Annabelle Stewart** in 2008.

For generously sharing her graciousness and friendship with so many the Gerta Holman Award was given to **Meg Johnston** in 2007. Created to recognize a student who has shown particular sensitivity towards others, this award honors the much-loved former German professor for whom it is named. In 2008, the recipient was **Fleur Veldhuijzen Van Zanten**

The following faculty members were recognized for excellence in 2007: **Professor Brian Stanford** in Teaching, **Professor Andrea Terzi** for Professional Engagement, and **Professor Sara Steinert-Borella** for Service.

The following faculty members were recognized for excellence in 2008: **Pamela Adams** for Teaching, **Christopher Matthews** for Professional Engagement, and **Brack Hale** for Service.

Below is a complete listing of all student awards for 2007 and 2008.

### Academic Area Awards 2007:

ART AWARD  
Nichole Rousseau-McAllister (Art History)  
Margaret Johnson (Studio Art)

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE AWARD  
Zein Malhas

HUMANITIES AWARD  
Nichole Rousseau-McAllister  
Boriana Alexandrova

INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT AWARD  
Zein Malhas

FRENCH AWARD  
Jarett Gilbert

SPANISH AWARD  
Kirsten Abeln

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AWARD  
Carolyn Hilpert  
Casey Gayman

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AWARD  
Tabitha Grinnen-Anderson

### Student Leadership Awards 2007

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF A STUDENT ORGANIZATION  
Lauren Gagliano

OUTSTANDING FRANKLIN COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICE  
Petra Orent

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO STUDENT ASSEMBLY  
Jarett Gilbert

OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN AWARD  
Marianne Rees  
May Taher

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD  
Marta Oprisan

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD  
Zein Malhas

GERTA HOLMAN AWARD  
Margaret Johnson

### Academic Area Awards 2008:

ART AWARD  
Annamieke Kaper (Art History)  
Stefanie Giglio (Studio Art - Photography)

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE AWARD  
Liva Stokenberga

HISTORY AND LITERATURE AWARD  
Stephanie Maziejka

INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT AWARD  
Karl-Erik Kodu

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES AWARD  
Esra'a Al-Shafei

FRENCH AWARD  
Hilary Gibson

ITALIAN AWARD  
Mary DeMaio

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS / POLITICAL SCIENCE AWARD  
Liva Stokenberga

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AWARD  
Chelsea Keeton

### Student Leadership Awards 2008

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF A STUDENT ORGANIZATION  
Anna Peirano

OUTSTANDING FRANKLIN COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICE  
Jake Cornelius

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO STUDENT ASSEMBLY  
Nicholas Hasko

OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN AWARD  
Meghan Canale  
Dylan Lee

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD  
Annabelle Stewart

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD  
Liva Stokenberga

GERTA HOLMAN AWARD  
Fleur Veldhuijzen Van Zanten

## Class of 2007, Senior Class Gift

*By Christina Bell Cornelius*

In spring 2007 as the graduating class prepared to depart for destinations all over the world, they pulled together to leave something special behind for future Franklin generations. Under the leadership of class representative Palmer Dalglish '07 of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., the seniors raised over \$1,000 through their own personal contributions. They designated the contributions for the acquisition of a generous selection of books for the Grace Library. Hand-picked by department heads, each book will bear a plate acknowledging it as part of the 2007 Senior Class Gift. Rachel Meuser, past Director of Annual Giving and advisor for the project, stated, "Palmer always stressed participation and conveyed to the other students that it is not how much you give, but that you give. I think he helped the seniors understand the importance of giving back." Alumni support is vital to the growth of Franklin College.

## Class of 2008, Senior Class Gift

*By Tiffany Fish*

*Director of Annual Giving*

The class of 2008, under the leadership of class representative Annabelle Stewart of Los Angeles, California, raised over \$2,600 to be added to the Senior Class Scholarship Endowment started by the class of 2005. When the endowment reaches \$25,000, the scholarship funds will be used to help a deserving Franklin student. The senior class ran a successful "jeans campaign," which raised money for the gift and allowed faculty and staff to wear jeans on a designated day in exchange for a gift to the campaign. Alumni support is vital to the growth of Franklin College. The class of 2008 has started off on the right foot and set a great example for future classes to follow.



By Tibor R. Machan

## To Whom Is a Business Manager Morally Responsible?

*Tibor R. Machan, Ph.D., Professor of Business Ethics and Free Enterprise, gave a speech at Franklin College on June 6, 2007, entitled "Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility: Shareholders versus Stakeholders." Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Auburn University, he also holds the R. C. Hoiles Chair in Business Ethics and Free Enterprise at the Argyros School of Business and Economics, Chapman University, in Orange, California. He is the author, most recently, of The Morality of Business, A Profession for Wealthcare (Springer, 2007). He also co-authored, with James E. Chesher, The Business of Commerce: Examining an Honorable Profession (Hoover Institution Press, 1999). In the autumn of 1983 and again in 1985–1986 Dr. Machan was the Harwood Professor at Franklin College.*



Over the last several decades the field of business ethics has become very popular in colleges and universities, including business schools, around the world. Actually, other professional ethics courses have also gained entry into the medical, legal, engineering, and other curriculums. (Oddly, though, the ethics of education and scholarship have not joined this trend!)

In the field of business ethics the focus has tended to be on what has come to be called the theory of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). This view takes it as a given, not in need of a lot of argument, that what corporations ought to do, first and foremost, is to benefit society and not those who own the firm. One explanation of this focus is that in the field of economics, which is regarded a social science, it is widely accepted that what corporate managers *will* do—not so much what they *ought* to do—is to improve the company's bottom line.

Back in 1970 the late Milton Friedman did write a widely reprinted article for the *New York Times Magazine*, "The Social Responsibility of Business Is to Increase its Profits," insisting that the moral responsibility of corporate managers is to strive to make the company profitable. Up until that time it was simply taken for granted that this is what corporate managers would be doing—this follows from the general assumption in economics that in the marketplace everyone embarks upon the maximization of utilities, which is pretty much the same thing as trying to make a profit. But Friedman changed the account somewhat by claiming that this is not only what corporate managers *do* but it is also what they are *morally obliged to do*. Why? Because that is what they promised to do to the company's shareholders and investors.

In response to Friedman a great many people who came from the field of philosophical ethics began to write extensively about business ethics and insisted that, on the contrary, what corporate managers ought to do is to manage companies so they would benefit stakeholders. In other words, the moral responsibility of corporate managers is not to improve the bottom line but to help all those who could benefit from what the company is doing, all those who have a stake in the company's fortunes. This became the CSR movement. And today there are journals, magazines, conferences, and many books that advance the idea that the moral responsibility

of corporate managers is to benefit society, not the owners—shareholders, investors, stockholders—of the company.

This line of thinking is a not altogether subtle attack on the nature of the capitalist economy. In a capitalist system, companies are owned by those who buy shares and invest in them, and their managers' purpose is to make them succeed in the marketplace. Such success is measured, naturally, by how profitable they are, how good a return they bring in from their owners' investment. The details depend on the kind of firm in question, obviously, but this is the general understanding of capitalist business.

Of course, from the beginning the idea of capitalism—a term first used by critics!—has been demeaned by many people because it treated profit-making as a good thing. Going into the marketplace with the intention of bringing home a good return on one's investment just appeared too greedy, too avaricious. Never mind that, in fact, once one makes a good return on one's investment, it is an open question as to what one will do with the wealth one has accumulated. So the practical impact of rejecting the capitalist model is not so much a rejection of wealth but a rejection of the private allocation of wealth. Critics of capitalist business, in other words, do not want private individuals to be in charge of spending the profits made in business. They would like society or the public—which for practical purposes translates into government—to decide what happens to the wealth.

This used to be called socialism, but by now that grand experiment as a political economic system has had innumerable setbacks across the globe, so the term "socialism" has been dropped. Instead we have CSR or stakeholder theory. If such an idea can catch on, it will have the same impact that socialism does—to undermine the rights of individuals to allocate their own wealth and place this power into the hands of politicians and bureaucrats. All this without having to fess up to favoring socialism.

What needs to be debated in the field of business ethics is whether ownership confers the rightful authority to allocate resources. There should be no question-begging presumption that companies must serve society (*all* others in the realm)—after all, if they do their business well, they do that anyway while they are seeking to make profits. How profits should arguably be used should be left to those who earned them.

By Christina Bell Cornelius



Best Photo of Landscape (Nice, France) By Annamieke Kaper

# Travvy

If you have ever been on a Franklin College Academic Travel, you know it presents a strange paradox. In one way, the experience is yours and yours only, filled with wonder that can be difficult to communicate. In another way, Academic Travels are a collective experience, shared by one's travel group and by the Franklin community at large through the continuous swapping of travel photos and stories. This is

never more apparent than at the TRAVVIES, Franklin's annual formal awards ceremony featuring winning photographs taken by students on travel.

*Flashback* was the theme for last year's Travvy awards for which 400 photos were submitted. A panel of judges including students, staff, faculty members, and alumni selected favorites in categories such as best photo of architecture, landscape, nature and wildlife, and Franklin students. During the ceremony, student

presenters awarded winners with vouchers for Ryan Air and both presenters and winners shared stand-out academic travel stories.

As always, the members of the Student Programming Board Travvies Committee which included Keely Foutch, Anna Peirano, Simmy Kumar, Emma Ely, Mikaila Leonardi, and Ximena Benevente

created an enjoyable and smooth production.

Presented here are some of the winning photographs, so that you, too, can ponder Franklin students' travel experiences—both individual and collective, told and untold, seen and unseen.



Best Overall By Casey Johnson



Best Photo of Architecture (Opatija, Croatia) By Annamieke Kaper

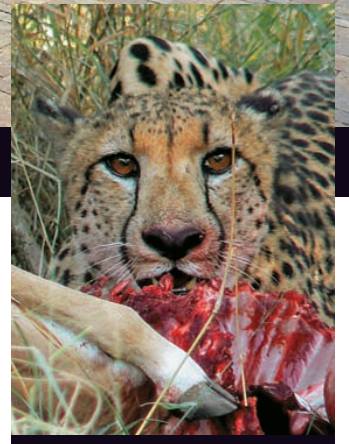




Best Photo of Nature and Wildlife (Sienna, Italy) *By Kai Little*



Best Photo of People (Izmir, Turkey)  
*By David Rubin*



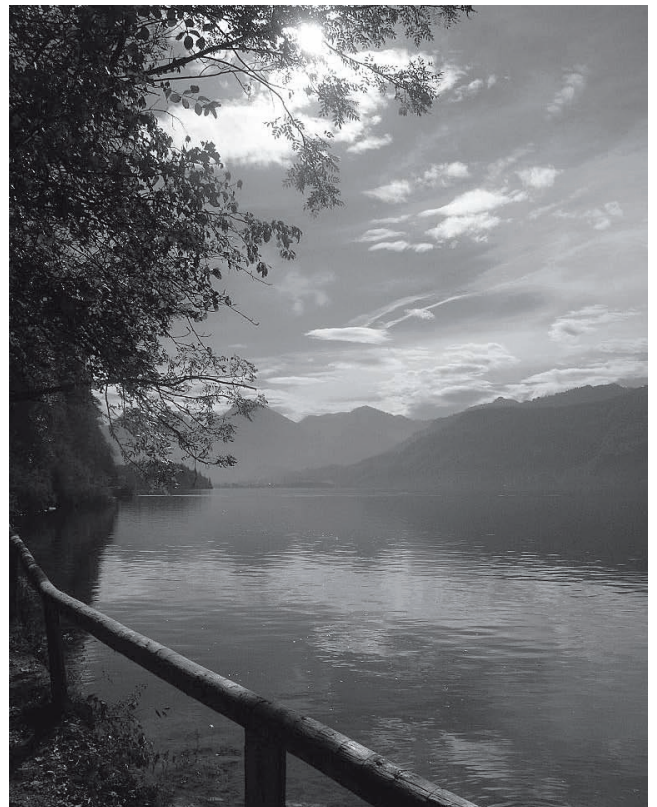
Best Overall *By Emily Nelsen*

# Travvy

# Travvy



Funniest Photo (Florence, Italy) *By Lura Harvey*



Best Black and White *By Carrie Christensen*

By Armando Zanecchia

# An Open Mind Requires Commitment

A delightful enthusiasm characterized Franklin's 37th annual Commencement ceremony on May 13, clearly a symbol of the exciting changes that have occurred at the College this year. Just the day before, for example, the College dedicated the Fowler Library and the Faber-Lowerre Graphic Arts Center at the new North Campus. Spontaneous applause from over 500 parents, relatives, and friends of the graduates filled the Hotel de la Paix's ceremonial hall as each group crossed the threshold: 66 graduating students from 22 countries in caps and gowns, 30 international faculty members dressed in the colorful academic robes of their doctoral universities, 20 gowned members of the College Board of Trustees who arrived from all over the world to participate in the ceremony, and the platform party that included His Excellency Ambassador Raymond Loretan, former Consul General of Switzerland in New York.

In his introductory remarks, President Erik Nielsen noted that the College's defining characteristics are its internationalism and its philosophy of liberal arts that includes the Athenian principle that an educated citizen is one who will give something back to the community. The themes of civic responsibility and giving back to the community certainly characterized the 2007 Commencement ceremony.



*His Excellency Ambassador Raymond Loretan delivers the Commencement speech to the Class of 2007.*

Prior to the conferring of degrees, President Nielsen presented the first Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award, which has been established in recognition of a different Franklin alumni every year who has made outstanding efforts on

“...open-mindedness is an asset and a responsibility that... requires commitment.”

behalf of the College. The award is aptly named in honor of one of Franklin's most dedicated benefactors, a member of the Class of 1976. Following a resounding round

of applause for her contributions to the College, Mrs. Lowerre looked on as Claudia Figueredo, a member of the Class of '95 and former Alumni Trustee, accepted the award. Figueredo, currently President and CEO of Action Public Relations, Inc., has devoted much effort and time to organizing Franklin alumni reunions. Her energy, ideas, and exuberance for Franklin are legendary. (See story on page 17.)

This year's Commencement speaker, His Excellency Ambassador Raymond Loretan, is another who has dedicated himself to giving back. A native of Sion, Switzerland, the Ambassador has served the United Nations, the Swiss Foreign Service, and the Swiss government during the course of his distinguished career. Most recently, he was the Consul General of Switzerland in New York, where he strengthened Swiss-American relations and promoted Swiss culture abroad. He thanked Franklin students for also being ambassadors of Switzerland and for speaking about its beauty and its culture in places near and far. He urged students not to forget the unique international character of Franklin, which he called the “Franklin Factor” and reminded them “to keep a piece of Switzerland in their hearts.” He then suggested two lessons that have served him well: “Remember that learning is a continuous process” and that “we should



always be ready to start anew, even if this means a major career change.” He spoke from experience, having recently left the Foreign Service to become a founding partner of Fasel Balet Loretan, a strategic communication consulting firm.

Speaking with grace, humor, and fluency, Ambassador Loretan reminded the graduates that “open-mindedness is an asset and a responsibility that, in fact, requires commitment.” In recognition both of the contributions he has made to strengthen the bridge between Switzerland and the United States and of his important role in advancing awareness of issues of global concern, the College bestowed upon Ambassador Loretan its highest commendation—the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.

The conferring of Franklin degrees then began with beaming parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends looking on and snapping pictures as Dean of the College Armando Zaneccchia presented the candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree to President Nielsen and Chairman of the Board Lowerre. Cheers and applause filled the room 66 times as degrees were conferred upon graduating seniors from the U.S.A., the Middle East, and

many other places including Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Azerbaijan, Japan, South Korea, Greece, and Macedonia.

Then, in a powerful, poised, and heartfelt speech, Valedictorian Zein Malhas, a young woman from Jordan, addressed her class. “I stand here before you today without my

“...we should always be ready to start anew...”

identity. Today I am not a Muslim Jordanian girl; I’m just a human being.” She stressed the similarities between mothers, fathers, and grandparents everywhere in the world. “It is up to us to teach our children that the differences among cultures are insignificant. We are not just any graduates, we are Franklin graduates.” She added, “If the world could be a place where people live side by side, cry together during hardships, laugh together during good times, and unite when needed, then we could all live in peace – the peace that Franklin College has given to

each and every person who has been part of its community.”

In his closing remarks, President Nielsen emphasized the importance that our graduates enter the world with a truly global education that encourages tolerance and understanding. He urged the graduates to accept the challenge the world has to offer and to forge ahead with the confidence that each one of them has the ability to make a meaningful contribution to the betterment of the 21st century. In a lighter vein, he quipped that we should certainly remember Ambassador Loretan’s wish to keep a piece of Switzerland in our hearts, and that did not mean keeping “hotel towels and Swiss street signs as souvenirs,” prompting laughter and applause throughout the hall and providing a perfect prelude to the traditional tossing of the graduates’ tasseled caps into the air and the recessional to the strains of Handel’s “Water Music.” A spirited reception followed on the hotel’s terraces that overlook the majestic scenery of Lake Lugano.

*NB: Dean Zaneccchia would like to acknowledge Christina Bell Cornelius for her contributions to this article.*



*From left to right, top row: Philip Mundt, John Kerr, Emil Naoumov, Giuseppe Spiaggia, Christoph Raderschall, Daniel Mueller-Varain, Maïke Friedrich, Marc Faber, Wolf-Gero Westhoff, Scott Boland, Jarett Gilbert, David Rubin, Frank Swigonski, Elisabeth Wilkie, Jordan Moon, Andrea Barbieri, Martin Capousek, Mersin Huseinovic, Palmer Dalgliesh. Second Row: Ahmed Al Qurainees, Maksim Budnikov, Lois Lee, Asblie Butler, Nichole Rousseau-McAllister, Naila Aliyeva, Sally Gonsalves, Tabitha Grinnen-Anderson, Carolin Hilpert, Petra Orent, Margaret Johnson, Casey Gayman, Jane Warren, Kathryn Hickok, Scott Wade. Third Row: Greg Papadopoulos, Ivan Burickson, Akito Takada, Otto Wahi, Terence Barton, Travis Poehler, Boriana Alexandrova, Paloma Mason, Tobias Topp, Suzette Lopez, Melani Balasopulos, Zein Malhas, Sara Forsythe, Yelena Fidel, Brooke Nelson, Franziska Zimmermann, Martina Cemovic, Kara Abe, Clarice Philline Dilao, Jacqueline Sucebeck, Beny Castro, Natalie Al Naber, Dima Takla. Bottom Row: Tesla DuBois, Marta Oprisan, Asuka Ashida, Hanar Albaloooshi, Nouf Al Moammar, Maha Abdulla, Colleen Whitman, Nina Kravis, Sara Steinert.*



**VALEDICTORIAN 2007...ZEIN MALHAS**

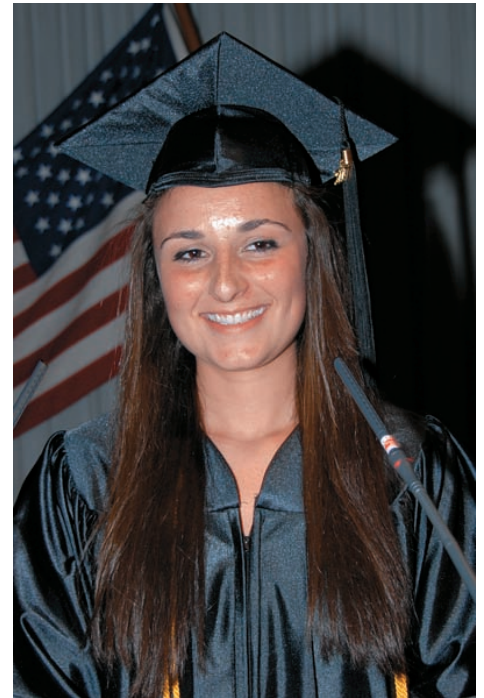
As Valedictorian of the Class of 2007, Zein Ammar Malhas graduated with the highest grade point average in the Class of 2007 – a 3.823 average out of a possible 4.0. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in International Banking and Finance and International Management, and graduated with Highest Distinction. She was on the Dean’s List every semester that she was at Franklin and earned all of her 134 credits at the College.

During her four years at Franklin, Zein won the Academic Excellence Award, the International Banking and Finance Award, and the International Management Award twice. Her May 2007 research presentation to students and faculty entitled “Granger Causality between Stock Market Indices and GDP Growth” – guided by the watchful review of her mentor Professor Dudukovic – was not only memorable but also certainly on par with graduate-level work. Zein was highly appreciated for her intellect, poise, maturity, leadership, and superior academic performance by the Franklin faculty.

Born in Amman, Jordan, Zein attended the Amman National School from primary

to high school where she graduated at the top of her class. Her sister, Taroub, graduated from Franklin two years ago and was Zein’s inspiration for attending the College. An all-round student, Zein was a four-year member of the women’s basketball team where she also served as Captain. She also was an active member of the Arab Club and the Benjamin Franklin Society.

Reflecting on her experience at Franklin, Zein stated that she found the quality of the academic and intercultural experience of the Franklin community to be without parallel. She noted in her address that all her professors – and the Franklin staff – were clearly standouts. Her Academic Travels took her to Sicily, Germany, Greece, Turkey, Tanzania, Cuba, Australia, New York, and Boston. Zein commented that she could truly appreciate foreign destinations only when she was able to see firsthand how people lived within their home cultures. Zein enjoys not only sports but also photography and music; she also plays guitar. Her plans for the future include employment at a Jordanian bank for a year in preparation for her graduate studies, ideally at the London



*Zein Malhas, Valedictorian for the Class of 2007.*

School of Economics. The College has great confidence that whatever Zein chooses to do will be pursued with excellence and with enthusiasm.



*Reception after the ceremony for the Class of 2007 held at the Hotel de la Paix, Lugano.*



By Cindy Korfmann and Matt Wilson '09

# Paths and Journeys



Amy Gold, Deputy Chairman of Christie's Americas.

Franklin College's Class of 2008 received a picture-perfect sendoff on Sunday, May 11, 2008. The ever-increasing size of the graduating class made a change of venue necessary this year, and the Commencement ceremony was held at Lugano's Palazzo dei Congressi, with its large, comfortable, air-conditioned amphitheater located along the lake shore in the middle of Lugano. The weather was nearly ideal, with just a few light showers keeping the surrounding park green and fresh. Camera-wielding family and friends buzzed with excitement as they waited for the ceremony to begin.

"Pomp and Circumstance," performed by musicians from the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, heralded the start of the procession down the aisles of the now-packed auditorium. Cameras flashed as the soon-to-be degree recipients filled their seats in front of the stage and Franklin professors

and members of the Board of Trustees mounted the stage dressed in the regalia of their respective universities.

Franklin College President Erik O. Nielsen welcomed the audience in both English and Italian, and then the podium was taken by Paul C. Lowerre '77, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, who expressed to the students, "The Franklin of the future will be built upon the passion that you give back." He introduced Alumni Trustee Eva Gianini-Enz, who reminded the graduating students, "The College will continue to grow and increase in academic standing if those who care the most stay involved and engaged." She then made the presentation of the 2008 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award along with Claudia X. Figueredo, to John Steinbreder '76 (see page 17 for the story).

President Nielsen then introduced the keynote speaker for Franklin's 38th

Commencement ceremony, Amy Gold, from Christie's Americas, the world's leading art auction business. In 2006 she became the first woman to be appointed Deputy Chairman of the company. In this role she is responsible for cultivating and maintaining the company's relationships with key national and international clients across the collecting spectrum. As a primary business-getter for the firm, she is a member of the Chairman's Office at Rockefeller Center. Gold earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from DePaul University in 1987 and her Master of Arts degree in art history from the University of Chicago in 1990.

In her address Gold stated, "As graduates of this extraordinary institution, your expectations – and your opportunities – are truly limitless. I'm sure your professors and parents have constantly reminded you of this. And, truth be told, we're all a little jealous." She continued



*Bottom row, left to right: Branislav Obradovic, Fabian Koch, Tallent Ricca, Alejandra Santa, Claudia Lasprilla, Mikaila Leonardi, Gunel Alakbarova, Hanouf Houthan, Caroline Chenot, Kara Grijalva, Kathryn Cicerchi, Caitlin Blanchard, Michael Garcia, Fleur Veldhuijzen Van Zanten, Hilary Gibson, Cristina Caioli, Maria Demidova, Emily Nelsen. Second row, left to right: Christophe Singh, Carrie Christensen, Alexandra Palomo-Pujol, Mary DeMaio, Priyesh Vyas, Marley Beasley, Casey Johnson, Milla Byrgazova, Annamieke Kaper, Andrea Borletti. Third row, left to right: Patrick Schollenberger, Alexander Schaeferli, Michael Keller, Brent Giangregorio, Liva Stokenberga, Jennifer Ryerson, Jacqueline Bergen, Desiree Martinez-Blazer, Chelsea Keeton, Lauren Gagliano, Irene Botchway, Stephanie Maziejka, Annabelle Stewart, Kirsten Abeln, Mariana Zureikat, Brigitte Underwood. Top row, left to right: Luca Boschin, Karl-Erik Kodu, Maximilian Olson, Massimiliano Orelli, Elliot Tomaeno, Ioanna Angelakis, Guido Schlembach, Fabio Kunz, Paul Alvarez, Philip Hirth, Marina Louie, Stefanie Giglio, Jacqueline Brown, Jake Cornelius, Candace Vaivadas, Angela Dansie.*

later, "... the key to holding on to a sense of wonder and creativity is to follow as many paths as possible – and ensure that you walk up and down, back and forth until you find just the right path." After urging the graduates, "Go out and have those unique life experiences that will make for great stories for your children and grandchildren. Take those calculated risks—you don't want to leave yourself looking back and wishing you had ventured onto a different path," she concluded, "... if you stand for something; if you believe in something; if you remain the citizens of the world that this educational experience has made you; and most of all, if you seek and search for not just the right path, but the right story – truly, it will make all the difference."

Sixty-six degree candidates from many different countries including Bahrain, Azerbaijan, Jordan, Russia, Estonia, Honduras, Nigeria, Switzerland, and the United States were presented by Sara

Steinert-Borella, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, and Andrew Starcher, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, to President Nielsen and Chairman Lowerre, who conferred the degrees. Liva Stokenberga, Valedictorian of the Class of 2008, then addressed her fellow graduates. She was born in the now extinct Soviet Union and linked her experience at Franklin to a journey, quoting Mark Twain: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime." She reminded her peers, "We all have come to Franklin College to gain our education through multicultural encounters, through learning in classrooms and through our guest lecturers. Above all, however, we have come here to escape vegetating in our own corners of the earth. This is what we all have in common." Liva, who will be attending

the London School of Economics next year, concluded, "Today a part of our journey is over ...Class of 2008 — enjoy your further path and take joy in the journey!"

In his final remarks, President Nielsen also acknowledged the importance of travel, saying, "Today it is imperative that our graduates ...enter the world outside with a truly global education and one that encourages tolerance and understanding. To accomplish this goal requires an academic program that creates an environment that broadens our cultural horizons through interaction and travel. For those of you about to graduate today, Franklin College has provided you that opportunity. You are the ambassadors of 25 different countries... It is this international blending which lies at the core of Franklin's strength." President Nielsen concluded by counseling compassion and tolerance toward others and then announced, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I present you Franklin College's graduating Class of 2008!"



## VALEDICTORIAN 2008...LIVA STOKENBERGA

Franklin College's Valedictorian this year was following a family tradition; in fact, her sister Aiga was Valedictorian of the College in 2005. Liva Stokenberga, who was born in Latvia, a country on the Baltic Sea that declared its independence from the U.S.S.R. only in 1990, was attracted to Franklin because she liked the flexibility of course offerings in an American college, she wanted to stay in Europe, and she was intrigued by Academic Travel.

In fact, Liva's Valedictorian address contained many references to travel, both real and symbolic. En route to Munich for Oktoberfest she was sidetracked to Val Verzasca, where some of her most meaningful friendships began. Academic Travel took her to Spain and Portugal, and twice to the former Yugoslavia. Then, however, she "fell in love" with Africa, which she visited three times "under the superb leadership of Professor Flutti."

Graduating with Highest Distinction, Liva majored in both International Economics and International Relations. She was also an Honors Program graduate; her

honors thesis was entitled "Baltic-Russian Relations Since 1991." During her time at Franklin Liva achieved a 3.836 grade point average out of a possible 4.0. She was also a Dean's List student for most of her academic-career and won the Academic Excellence Award, the Economics and Finance

Award, and the International Relations /Political Science Award. On the lighter side, Liva confesses that as a true Latvian, she does sing and dance. She was a member of many clubs at Franklin including the Frisbee Club, Greek Club, and Lugano Street Dance Club, for which she was also treasurer. Liva says that one day she would like to have her own beer brewery and that since she received a starter kit for her birthday this year she might begin brewing soon.

Liva is now at the London School of Economics, where she is singing in a choir and also dancing. Most importantly, she is pursuing a Master of Science degree in International Political Economy. Looking back at her time at Franklin, Liva says, "Only now can I really appreciate its uniqueness as an institution. The small class sizes are a great



*Liva Stokenberga, Valedictorian for the Class of 2008.*

advantage which allows you to truly get to know your peers, but above all, your professors. You learn to appreciate the excellent teaching quality that Franklin College provides, and I am thankful to all my professors."



*In 2008, for the first time, the Franklin College graduation ceremony and reception were held at the Palazzo dei Congressi in Lugano. Made necessary by the increasing size of the graduating class and in order to accommodate family and friends, the new venue was a huge success. Shown above: the reception after the ceremony.*



# EXPLORING PORT



OLISSIPPO quae nunc Lisboa, ciuitas amplissima Lusitaniae, ad Tagum, totius Orientis, et multarum Insularum, Aethiopiaeque et Americae, emporium nobilissimum

- 121 Sacellum D.N. consolationis
- 122 Templum s. Antonij de Padua.
- 123 Templum Misericordiae
- 124 Sacellum s. Spiritus de alfama
- 125 Templum s. Martini.
- 126 Templum s. Blasij et s. Luciae.
- 127 Templum s. Ludouici.
- 128 Templum s. Spiritus da pedreira.
- 129 Ermita D.N. do monte.



Insigniora urbis Olisipponae. Regibus  
 1 Castellum regium vulgo pacois do castello. 2 Regia regis  
 vulgo pacois da Ribeira. 3 Statuum regis vulgo pacois dos  
 fizes qui nunc est inauguratio. 4 Sancti Eloy regis vulgo pacois  
 de s. Eloy. Alia insignia. 5 Regium portuarum vulgo  
 Alfandega. 6 Demus s. Vincentis vulgo terraro do tupo. 7  
 Demus Indica vetis. 8 Demus Indica noua. 9 Armamentarium  
 vetis nunc Armon regis. 10 Hospitale omnium Sanctorum. 11  
 Plicina amplissima quae vulgo Regio dicitur. 12 Minc a s. Pauli  
 de s. Pauli dicitur. 13 Alcazara mercatorum amplissima  
 14 Fontis viderum, sicut canalis derivatus vulgo chafariz del  
 rei. 15 Fontis viderum et piscatorum vulgo Ribeira. 16 Demus  
 Senatoria ubi carcer publicus, a vulgo Limoeiro dicitur. 17

Castellum ciuitatis. 18 Circuitus in s. Martini montis momb.  
 circumdatus, a vulgo Alcazara dicitur. 19 moles Carbis  
 vulgo Cais do car uac. 20 Formaces ad conficiendum  
 calcem. 21 Moles Ignis vulgo Cais da maiz. 22  
 Loca, ubi rudentes manuum efficiuntur vulgo Cordemaria  
 23 Scholae generales ubi antiquo scientie proficiebatur  
 nunc sunt Combrige. 24 Pazo de madeira. Monasterium  
 s. Hieronimi. 25 Monasterium s. Vincentis ordinis Eremitarum.  
 26 Monasterium s. Martini de carne Carmelitae. 27 Monasterium  
 s. Trinitatis. 28 Monasterium s. Dominici s. Vincentis.  
 s. Eloy ordinis s. Vincentis. 30 Monasterium s. Vincentis  
 regularium. 31 Monasterium s. Martini da gracia, ordinis Augustini. 32  
 Collegium s. Vincentis. 33 Collegium et Schola s. Vincentis.

Isidorus. 34 Collegium orphanorum. Monasterium V.  
 Vitalis. 35 Monasterium s. Vincentis. 36 Monasterium D.N. do Ro  
 la. 37 Monasterium D.N. da misericordia. 38 Monasterium D.N. da  
 esperanca. 39 Monasterium s. Vincentis. 40 Monasterium  
 s. Vincentis. 41 Portus in veteri urbe. 42 Portus  
 ferri. 43 Portus maris vetis, nunc vulgo portus da Rua  
 das Comarcas. 44 Portus maris ad s. Vincentem. 45 Portus  
 s. Vincentis regis vulgo portus do chafariz del Rei. 46  
 Portus de canas de lizboa. 47 Portus s. Vincentis. 48  
 Portus Solis. 49 Portus s. Vincentis. 50 Portus s. Vincentis  
 Georgij. 51 Portus de s. Vincentis. 52 Portus de s. Vincentis  
 Alouis. 53 Portus in noua urbe. 54 Portus s. Vincentis Lau  
 rencia, vulgo portus de s. Lau. 55 Portus qui vulgo

dicitur da mouraria. 56 Portus qui dicitur portus da  
 Rua de palma. 57 Portus qui dicitur de Rego da vela.  
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Map of Lisbon, from 'Civitates Orbis Terrarum' by Georg Braun (1541-1622) and Frans Hogenberg (1535-90), c.1572 (coloured engraving)



## UGAL



As a graduate student at American University several years ago, Franklin College Economics Professor Wasiq Khan wrote a dissertation on the transatlantic slave trade. That research led Khan to Portuguese sources and awoke in him a strong interest in the colonial and commercial activities that linked Portugal to Macau, Timor, Goa, Mozambique, Angola, and Brazil. Long intrigued by international resource flows and the implications which these flows have had for wealth, power, and social change, Khan wanted to combine his academic interest in international resource flows, imperialism, migration, and the costs and benefits of colonialism with a student-oriented academic tour of Portugal.

This spring, 24 Franklin students joined Khan for a trip to five locations in Portugal (Lisbon, Porto, Lagos, Sagres, and Sintra). To frame the purpose of the travel and to highlight the worldwide significance of the country they were about to visit, Khan asked students whether they could imagine Indian food (or any Asian cooking) without hot peppers. To our best available knowledge, in fact, Indian and Asian cuisine generally did not include hot peppers until the 16th century when the pepper plant finally arrived in Asia, in no small part due to Portugal's linking of India and Asia with the pepper's native habitat—in the Americas.

Prior to departure, the students read *Another Day of Life*, Ryszard Kapuscinski's chronicle of the last days of Portuguese rule in Angola; selections from C.R. Boxer's magisterial





*Rock formations on the beach, Lagos, Algarve, Portugal*

history *Portuguese Seaborne Empire*, a selection of readings on the 1974 Revolution; and a renowned cost-benefit study of empire for Britain by Davis and Huttenback called *Mammon and Empire*. The students learned, among other fascinating facts, that Swiss military advisors were used by the Portuguese to improve their efficiency in siege warfare and particularly during their first 15th- and 16th-century military forays into what is now Morocco and Senegal.

On arrival in Lisbon, the group was greeted by its fine guide, Ruy Monteiros, a native of Lisbon and a military veteran of Portugal's colonial wars in Africa. The highlight of the first two evenings in Lisbon was undoubtedly the Fado concert in Bairro Alto. The costumes of the singers, the sweet and mournful sound of the Portuguese-Fado guitar, and the twinkle of silverware in the soft candlelight of the vintage restaurant made their mark on the group. Many became more musical for the remainder of the trip—frequently singing and dancing when inspired by the scenery or the talk in the bus.

After two days in Lisbon, the students boarded their chartered bus for three days in Porto, Portugal's commercial-business capital and second largest city. Porto presented the other side of globalization in Portugal—the side where Portugal becomes something of a colony itself, to France and then especially to Britain. This city's long and close relationship with Britain began with a 14th-century royal marriage, between Philippa of Lancaster and the Portuguese crown prince. The wedding took place in Porto and produced the Treaty of Lancaster, which even today links Britain with Portugal in a treaty of mutual protection.

The students spent a day dancing, singing, and eating in the beautiful riverside Ribeira neighborhood and then took a ride on a river sloop for a better view of the north shore with its century-old port wine warehouses, still used by a handful of ancient Anglo-

Portuguese port wine exporters; many of these warehouses are painted in faded pastel colors, giving the shoreline an ethereal and picturesque quality. Several students felt that Porto offered the visitor a view of Portugal very different from that of Lisbon or Lagos—Porto was a city that was somehow less tourist-oriented, but more authentic, and definitely more driven.

Onboard the bus once again, students traveled from northern Portugal to the southern Algarve in a one-day sweep that ended in

Lagos at the white-walled oceanside compound that was our hotel—Tivoli Lagos. The most important site here, on the very tip of Europe and near the once-secret royal enclave of Sagres, was Prince Henry the Navigator's first-ever school for mariners!—the school that produced Vasco Da Gama, the Portuguese mariner who was the first to link Europe with India. Cabo Sao Vicente also offered an unparalleled and dramatic cliff-side Atlantic vista. Men were fishing while we enjoyed the view and imagined earlier men first systematically studying ways to sail without following a coastline almost 700 years ago.

With three days remaining before departure, students and guides boarded the bus again for the half-day journey from Lagos to Sintra—a forested elite enclave in the hills outside Lisbon which is to Portugal what Versailles is to France. Portugal's kings and titled nobility built summer estates here. They filled their gardens with flora and fauna from a far-flung colonial empire. The interior of the royal palace at Sintra is a museum of furnishings and artifacts

from East and South Asia. Its kitchen is topped by two towering conical chimneys that dominate Sintra's skyline; they bear a faint resemblance to the hoods worn by members of the Ku Klux Klan. Even Thomas Cook, the famous English traveler and business magnate, had a home in Sintra which we viewed in passing on our



*Rossio Square, dusk, Lisbon*



way back to our lodgings near the beach—in the former royal servants' enclave of Colares.

Portugal's last king, Charles, was assassinated along with his son, the crown prince, by anarchists in central Lisbon in 1907. Earlier the royal family had built a final Disney-like pleasure palace on a hilltop in Sintra. This rococo edifice was the dynasty's last home—King Charles' brother, Manuel, ruled for three years after his brother's assassination. He was unmarried, but lived in the palace with his companion, a well-known Swiss songstress. In addition to official duties, he also dabbled in painting and his work was to be seen everywhere. One evening a group of military officers arrived at the palace, and Manuel and his entourage were asked to leave the country and given 24 hours to gather their belongings, board the royal yacht, and permanently depart for Britain.

Lisbon is a city full of immigrants from all corners of the former Portuguese empire. In Cascais, during our last afternoon, students enjoyed a sumptuous meal served by migrants from Portuguese India. The Goan family that owned the restaurant had a fascinating story to tell of departure and resettlement. Leaving Goa in 1961 after the Indian takeover of this Portuguese colony, they arrived in a Lisbon that very clearly was not a major European metropolis. However, the city changed and by 1974 it had witnessed a revolution, decolonization, and a massive influx of *returnados*. By 1975, Lisbon had over 2 million returnees from Africa. These new arrivals were Portugal's overseas citizens who had been stripped of their property and forced to flee their homes in Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, and Sao Tome and Principe. The new arrivals brought with them talents and tastes that reshaped Portugal. As a result Lisbon has, like London, become a

former imperial capital – deriving much of its special energy and dynamism from the legacy of its world-bridging empire.

Portugal's Revolution of the Roses occurred in 1974. Portuguese soldiers seized power from Caetano, who was the successor of long-time dictator Salazar. The new military regime nationalized most large property holdings in the country including banks, industries, and rural estates—the 20 families who controlled most of the country's wealth lost their assets and their status as did the country's landed gentry. The revolution had many causes, but primary among them were the concurrent pressures of a futile and hugely expensive colonial war, a lopsided domestic income distribution, and widespread economic collapse—brought on, in no small part, by the fiscal burden of stationing 150,000 soldiers in Africa. The old empire was reshaped decisively at the moment of the 1974 revolution. The country became a socialist republic ruled by the military with only a few colonial possessions, and even those soon disappeared: Timor broke away in 1975 and Macau in 2000. Portugal's only remaining possessions are the Azores Islands in the middle of the Atlantic.

After returning to Lugano, the students were invited to contemplate Portugal's imperial legacy in their final writing assignment. Some wrote of the country's incredible diversity of tropical fauna. Others pondered the imperial migrations that have reshaped Lisbon. A few students wrote about Portuguese music and the way the fado brings together so many worlds. Still others analyzed, from the Portuguese point of view, the advantages and drawbacks that possession of a widely dispersed 400-year-old empire had on a relatively poor country such as Portugal. Everyone who participated in Academic Travel to Portugal returned with new perspectives on an intriguing country.



*Aerial view inside Belem Tower, Lisbon, Portugal*

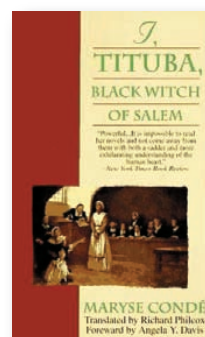
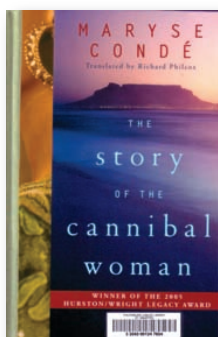
*Rossio Square, dusk, Lisbon*



By Robert H. McCormick, Jr.

# Maryse Condé

THE LITERARY TRAJECTORY OF A CARIBBEAN WRITER



The third edition of the Franklin College Conference on Caribbean Literature and Culture, which took place from March 29 to March 31, 2007, brought scholars from all over the world to our Lugano campus in the spring. An unprecedented number of scholars from Taiwan, Canada, the Caribbean, the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Denmark, and, closer to home, the universities of Fribourg and Geneva met to debate key issues in the conceptualization of the Caribbean. Maryse Condé, the Guadeloupian novelist, opened the conference with a presentation entitled "Itinerary of a Caribbean Writer."

The diversity and number of top-flight scholars in attendance at "Caribbean Unbound III" attest to the importance of Condé's work and to the oceanic surge of literature from the Caribbean into international prominence. Recently V.S. Naipaul has followed Derek Walcott as a Nobel Prize recipient. Because Condé's work is so important in that context, I would like to underscore some of the salient events of her literary trajectory.

Condé's work first achieved international acclaim with the 1984 publication, in Paris, of her third novel, *Segu*. *Segu*, which traces the decline of the west African Bambara civilization in the 18th and 19th centuries, filled a need of

the French-speaking readership avid for new perspectives on African colonialism and more sophisticated considerations of non-European culture. Well-researched and nourished by Condé's ten years living in Africa, *Segu* also captivates by both its drama and its contemporary relevance since it depicts a large-scale clash of civilizations, i.e., that of the indigenous Bambara with those of militant Moslems and expansionist European traders. The once-proud Bambara civilization, centered in *Segu* on the banks of the Niger River, was terribly weakened by these outside aggressions, and Condé's novel both depicts the resounding clash and attempts to explain the various causes of that decline.

Condé shifts the geographic locus of her fiction from Africa to the Caribbean in what we might call her second group of novels. The center of narrative interest changes as well from the male tribal leaders of the Bambara to a black Caribbean woman in *I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem*. This shift to the Caribbean can be related to changes in Condé's personal life in that, with the royalties from *Segu*, Condé bought a home in Guadeloupe. Waiting to move in, she received a Fulbright as a scholar in residence at Occidental College in California which brought her and her husband, Richard Philcox, into firsthand



contact with American life and American racism. That unpleasant cultural stimulus pushed Condé into the UCLA library where she researched the forgotten life of Tituba.

*I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem* is one of Condé's most popular novels, especially in the United States, as it is centered on the Salem witch trials. In her effort to animate Tituba, who was neglected by historians as well as by Arthur Miller in his play *The Crucible*, Condé consulted the Essex County archives in Salem to verify the historical existence of Tituba Indian and transcribed what the transplanted Caribbean woman actually said in her deposition. What is unique about Condé's literary attempt to inflate the collapsed lungs of her female Caribbean counterpart, however, is that the author invents a pre-Salem Caribbean past and a post-Salem Caribbean future for her heroine. The hybrid child of the rape of her mother on board the English slave ship "Christ the King," Tituba is also a witness to the hanging of her mother before leaving her Barbadian home, of her own free will, with John Indian, her Afro-Caribbean husband. The latter was sold by his mistress to the unsuccessful business man turned bitter Puritan pastor, Rev. Samuel Parris, who takes them to Salem.

In Salem, Tituba survives the infamous witch trials by admitting she had contact with the Devil and by denouncing other women. She was counseled to adopt such a less-than-heroic strategy by her "survivalist" husband and by Hester Prynne, whom Condé magically reincarnates from *The Scarlet Letter*. Condé's modernization of Hawthorne's heroine (she's given feminist ideas!) enables Hester to mentor the powerless Tituba in jail and to save her life. Unlike the historical Tituba, Condé's heroine returns, after her jail fees are paid, to Barbados where ultimately she is hanged after a failed plantation revolt, a revolt denounced to the authorities by the Maroon leader turned accomplice, Christopher.

In Condé's epilogue, Tituba is resurrected and her free spirit flies capriciously over the hills and fields of Barbados as she foments revolt against plantation owners, teaches an adopted young Caribbean girl about the natural beauty of her island, and even satisfies from time to time, although she is dead, her unslaked desire. In her meanderings, she discovers that the islanders are singing a popular song about her. As a song is the oral

equivalent of a book, the once neglected Tituba is re-inscribed into Caribbean history. Thus, Condé, as she indicates in her interviews, invents the ending she imagined the misfortune-laden Tituba would have liked to have had to her life.

*I, Tituba* initiated a series of novels anchored in the Caribbean. A year later, Condé published *Tree of Life*, a sort of fictionalized history of her family in the Caribbean in which she deals with Guadeloupians working at the Panama Canal, reggae in Jamaica, and the violence of the politics of independence, a status Guadeloupe still hasn't achieved. *Crossing the Mangrove*, on the other hand, takes place solely on Guadeloupe. It is a novel about the death of a mysterious foreigner whose life and death are judged, through a Faulknerian rotation of the narrator, by islanders, all of whom are in attendance at his wake. *Desirada*, a symbolic end to Condé's cycle, is a novel relating how a Caribbean woman, whose mother was from the satellite island of Desirada, leaves for Paris and then the United States and realizes that the essence of her existence is not Caribbean and that she must learn how to adapt to non-native environments and live, in her case, as a writer/academic along the snow-covered banks of the Charles River in English-speaking Boston.

One can, in a limited context, touch on only a few of the high points of Condé's novelistic trajectory. Thus, I am neglecting her more recent fiction, even her 2003 novel about South Africa, *The Story of the Cannibal Woman*, in order to include a few words about her participation in this spring's "Caribbean Unbound III." Not only did she give two keynote presentations, but she also gave two interviews that I know of (one for the local radio station), joined us for the Caribbean dinner with Richard Philcox, sharing her ideas, and her desserts, with our students, participated actively in panels about her work, encouraged the research of graduate students who attended, etc.

With respect to her understanding of Caribbean culture, Maryse Condé is an antenna, a kind of radio tower that receives wave lengths from all over the extended Caribbean world and reflects on the various modes, literary or musical, that Caribbeans use to understand themselves and express who they are. Even after retiring from her position as Chair of the Center for French and Francophone Studies at Columbia,

Condé remains an active part of avant-garde reflection on the Caribbean. In her second lecture, she tried to elucidate how the Caribbean might have influenced Europeans—and not the other way around—in ways that have not been completely understood in mono-directional conceptions of cultural influence. One example she gave was that of the surrealist, André Breton. His visits to the West Indies are well-documented. Condé suggested that perhaps someone should study the imagery in his poetry before and after his sojourn there in order to analyze more precisely how his experience of the Caribbean changed his writing and thinking.

Some time before her stay with us in Lugano, Maryse Condé was the guest of Harvard University for a symposium on her work. After her sojourn in Lugano, Condé flew to Paris where she received the Prix Tropiques for her latest work, one about her grandmother entitled *Victoire, les saveurs et les mots* (2006), in which she traces the link between her grandmother, who was a well-known chef, and Condé's own literary art. In Paris, Condé also serves as President of *Le Comité pour la Mémoire de l'Esclavage*. I'm told she will soon be attending a colloquium in Haiti. In short, as she is still very busy and much in demand, we were extremely fortunate that she and Richard spent three unforgettable days with us here at Franklin. A multitude of activities: student presentations on Caribbean literature, panels moderated by Franklin professors, Caribbean films on radio journalism in Haiti and slave revolts in Brazil, literary readings, a Literary Society creative writing panel, the student-prepared dinner orchestrated by Alejandra, Claudia and Ximena, a presentation of her documentary by Giusi Boni-Filippini of RTSI, the showing of a new Cuban film by its director, a live Cuban band, a new course on Caribbean literature and the jam-packed auditorium for Condé's first talk as a part of the Franklin College Lecture Series...all of the above were part of "Caribbean Unbound III." Most of them were attended by Maryse Condé and Richard Philcox. Those of us in attendance will not forget the thrill of those life-enriching moments. We sensed a gradually growing awareness of Caribbean culture as its riches were unveiled. We can only hope that such unbound, kaleidoscopic, "calypsoptic" richness can be rivaled at the fourth edition in 2009.

By Cindy Korfmann

# “Caribbean Unbound”



McCormick and Condé.

## A FRANKLIN COLLEGE CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO CARIBBEAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

“Caribbean Unbound,” Franklin College’s biennial conference dedicated to Caribbean literature and culture, was the brainchild of Professor Robert McCormick, Jr., and first took place in 2003. Conference sessions are conducted in English, Spanish, and French, and each year attract a larger number of participants. McCormick, Professor of Literature and English Composition at Franklin, became fascinated with the Caribbean during the years he conducted Academic Travels to Cuba. And in fact, the first “Caribbean Unbound” featured the charismatic Cuban literary figure Antonio Benítez-Rojo as keynote speaker.

Benítez-Rojo, who died in 2005, was a writer, poet, literary critic, and one of the most informed historians of the Caribbean. When once finally allowed to leave Cuba for a literary conference in Paris, he finked away from the delegation and eventually became a professor of literature at Amherst University. A fascinating aspect of the Caribbean is its immense diversity which at the same time is cohesive. In Benítez-Rojo’s words, “The Caribbean...has a polyrhythmic density. I am thinking of a rumba, a complicated Cuban dance whose master rhythm guides an array of different rhythms....Yes, all these sounds and gestures make a kind of harmony. Not an exclusively African harmony, not a European one, but a harmony that is universal and regional at the same time.”

The keynote speaker for “Caribbean Unbound II,” which took place in 2005, was New York University Professor J. Michael Dash. An acclaimed author, critic, and translator, Dash, who was born in Trinidad, opened the second conference with a talk entitled “Two Hundred Years of Solitude: Haiti in the New World Context.” Reminding the audience that the first Black slave rebellion ever successfully carried out occurred in Haiti, he connected Haiti’s history to the world-wide dissemination of Enlightenment ideals.

In 2007 “Caribbean Unbound III” took place at the end of March. The impressively high quality of keynote speakers culminated with the presence of the Guadeloupean author Maryse Condé, one of whose two presentations was entitled the “Itinerary of a Caribbean Writer.” In Professor McCormick’s words, “Besides being a distinguished academic scholar recently retired from Columbia University, she is also one of the most prolific contemporary fiction writers from the Caribbean.”

“Caribbean Unbound” is multicultural and multi-focused. There

are academic presentations each year by visiting scholars and Franklin faculty and students. This year’s three-day conference investigated such topics as “The Caribbean in New York,” “Creolization,” “On the Benefits of Colonialism,” “V.S. Naipaul: Fiction and History,” and “Haiti/Sexualité.” Literary and cultural scholars from more than 40 prestigious academic institutions as near as Geneva and as far away as Canada and Taiwan participated.

In addition to academic panels and discussions, this year there were presentations on such diverse topics as plantation justice, Caribbean music (specifically the calypso), gender roles in Caribbean literature, and a panel on creative writing. At each “Caribbean Unbound” conference various Caribbean films and documentaries are shown. A typically Caribbean meal is prepared by students for the participants on Friday night which is followed by live Cuban music.

The success of “Caribbean Unbound” has surpassed all expectations. It is remarkable for a college the size of Franklin to be able to attract so many highly qualified participants. The Caribbean, of course, is a timely and fascinating area for inspection. Among other things, it has a wide influence on literature, sometimes in unexpected ways, according to Professor McCormick. Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez, the Colombian author of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, speaks of himself as a Caribbean. William Faulkner, the great Southern writer, and another Nobel laureate, was influenced by plantation culture, which originated in the Caribbean and then moved on to the North American continent. According to Benítez-Rojo, the triangular map of Spain, Western Africa, and the Caribbean islands is the source of a tri-continental literature.

Professor McCormick finds it quite fitting for a such a conference to be held on Swiss soil because of a certain common ground the Caribbean shares with Switzerland—an area peopled by different cultures speaking different languages. (One ironic difference is that several of the Caribbean islands, such as Martinique, are overseas departments of France and therefore, unlike Switzerland, part of the European Union.) For the same reasons, he feels that “Caribbean Unbound” also fits in well with Franklin’s multi-cultural environment.

According to Robert Antoni, a Caribbean writer and intellectual who teaches at Columbia University, Benítez-Rojo’s most important book, *The Repeating Island: The Caribbean and Postmodern Perspective* (1989) “defines the undefinable, one of the last known and most elusive regions of the modern world, the Caribbean.” In its own way, Franklin’s “Caribbean Unbound” seeks to do the same thing.



# THE URSULA GENTILE LOWERRE OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

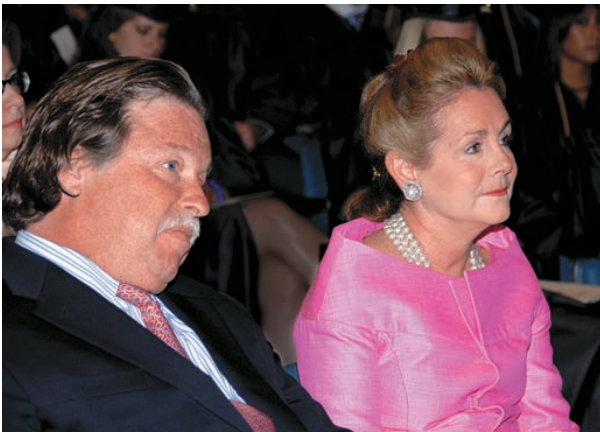
During Franklin College's graduation ceremonies on May 13, 2007, a very special new accolade was instituted. The Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award was created by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of recognizing an alumna/alumnus who has played a significant part in advancing the mission of the College. The award is named in honor of Ursula Gentile Lowerre, a Franklin graduate of the Class of 1976 and wife of Trustee Board Chairman Paul Lowerre. She has been a perceptive, thoughtful, and generous force on behalf of the College and of many philanthropic organizations in her home city of New York—including the Big Apple Circus and the Stanley Isaacs Center for the homebound elderly. For the past 30 years, Lowerre has worked tirelessly and discreetly to help the College during every step of its growth, whether through her constant contributions of books to the library, as Chairman of the 35th Anniversary Gala, or as a lead donor in starting the endowment for the College. She has been a consistent inspiration to the Franklin community.

## 2 0 0 7

The first recipient of this award was Claudia Figueredo, who graduated from Franklin in 1995. While at the College she was actively involved on many fronts and was also President of Student Government. Since graduation, she has remained in constant contact with the College and has engaged other alumni by leading alumni gatherings, including the Art Basel event in Miami. Figueredo has served as an Alumni Trustee and continues to contribute her time and energy to Franklin and its mission. Upon receipt of the tribute Figueredo stated, "The reason I am passionate about giving back to the College is because it gave so much to me."



President Erik Nielsen and Claudia Figueredo '95.



John Steinbreder '76 and Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76.

## 2 0 0 8

The 2008 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award was presented to Mr. John Steinbreder at the May graduation ceremony in Lugano. Steinbreder attended Franklin College from 1974 to 1976, earning his Associate of Arts degree. He then studied at the University of Nairobi in Kenya before moving to the University of Oregon, from which he graduated in 1979 with a B.A. degree in journalism. He has served on the Franklin College Alumni Council since its inception and spent three years on the Board of Trustees as an Alumni Trustee. He also helped develop Franklin's International Communications major and taught at the College during the summer of 2000. An award-winning journalist with more than 25 years of experience and the author of eight books, Steinbreder has been a reporter for *Fortune* magazine, a writer/reporter for *Sports Illustrated*, and a senior writer for *Golfweek*. In addition, he has contributed to many publications over the years, including the *New York Times Magazine*, *Departures*, *Forbes FYI*, *Time*, *Golf Digest*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. He lives in Redding, Connecticut, with his wife Cynthia and their daughters, Exa and Lydia.

By Derek Wilkinson '95, Richard Sussman '95, and Eva Gianini Enz '96



Derek Wilkinson '95

The May 2007 Alumni Council board meeting held in Lugano was an exciting time for all. It began with an Alumni-Council-sponsored boat cruise for graduates. **Derek Wilkinson '95** represented the council during this special event which offered students a chance to relax and celebrate the culmination of their time at Franklin. He encouraged them all to stay involved as alumni and to spread the word about Franklin in their respective communities.

The board welcomed **Eva Gianini-Enz '95** as an Alumni Trustee. Discussions surrounded the incredible growth Franklin College has undergone and continues to experience as the result of many years of hard work and diligence by the President, the faculty, the staff, and the Board of Trustees. Duly noted advancements included the increases in student enrollment, in SAT scores for entering freshman, and in student housing; newly created social programs; and the acquisition of the North Campus (formerly



Eva Gianini-Enz '95

known as Leonardo da Vinci), which has great features such as its Graphic Design Center, the new Fowler Library and much more.

Also noted was the new alumni web portal community (see page 3) which will serve all members of the Franklin College family—students, alumni, and friends of the school. As your Alumni Trustees, we are most particularly excited about the fact that we are finally going to be connecting with ease to Franklin's amazing and powerful alumni network across the globe.

Lastly, the new structure of the alumni association was discussed. The Alumni Council voted to establish the Franklin College Alumni Association which was to be voted on at the fall 2007 Board of Trustees meeting in New York City. The Alumni Council will be the governing body of the association and will include all Alumni Council members as well as the three elected Alumni Trustees (currently **Eva Gianini-Enz '96**, **Derek Wilkinson '95**, and **Richard K. Sussman '95**). Franklin's Alumni Director (currently **Austin Tomlinson '06**) will serve as an ex-officio member, and the standing committees will consist of Finance, Events, and By-Laws.



Richard Sussman '95

The fall 2007 Alumni Council meeting was held at the Arader Gallery as part of the New York City alumni reunion. Discussions concerned the by-laws of the alumni association and the Alumni Council acting as the governing body of the association. **Deirdre Kinney-Brennan '81** and **Derek Wilkinson '95** oversaw the meeting and presented a draft copy of the by-laws to all in attendance. The by-laws were to be reviewed by all members (via email) with changes and/or suggestions to be submitted by the first of the year. The by-laws were to be formally prepared and presented at the spring 2008 meeting in New York City for an official vote.

The spring 2008 Alumni Council meeting was held at the King's Carriage House restaurant in New York City. **Deirdre Kinney-Brennan '81**, Chair of the Alumni Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees, and Alumni Trustee **Derek Wilkinson '95** presided over the well-attended meeting. Formal alumni association by-laws were reviewed with few changes. The by-laws will go to the Board of Trustees for a final vote (with changes), and an official copy, along with the meeting minutes, Alumni Council Fund report, and *Alumni Council Handbook* will be sent to all Alumni Council and Board of Trustees members for

review. In addition, discussions took place regarding the sponsoring of the second annual graduating student and local alumni boat cruise, which takes place on the Thursday of graduation weekend. The cruise was unanimously supported by the members of the council, and all alumni are encouraged to attend this annual event as well as all the other graduation activities.

The annual graduation weekend Alumni Council meeting was held on Saturday, May 9, on Franklin College's North Campus. The meeting, which was presided over by Alumni Trustee **Eva Gianini-Enz '96**, began with an update from Jennifer Hayes on the Alumni Council Fund report as well as alumni association progress and past and future alumni reunions and events. Also highlighted during the meeting was the 2008 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award, which was being presented the following day during the graduation ceremony. **John Steinbreder '76**, who was the 2008 recipient, spoke during the meeting about Ursula's dedication to Franklin and how honored he was to receive an award in her name. Also attending the meeting was the 2007 award recipient, **Claudia Figueredo '95**.

How to involve more alumni in the activities of the Council was also a topic for discussion. Council members encouraged each other to reach out to classmates to seek their involvement in volunteering for events and fundraising assistance and to spread the word about all of the many positive programs and initiatives the College provides for students and alumni. The meeting concluded with a report from Jennifer Hayes on the graduation boat cruise, which is sponsored by the Alumni Council. The cruise, which attracted over 100 alumni and graduating students this year, has become a tradition.



*Alumni Events*

*Sonoma Valley, California  
March 5, 2007*

The Sonoma Mission Inn was the site of a gathering of alumni and members of the College's Board of Trustees in California on March 5, 2007. The weekend-long event, which featured wine tours, golf and a reception at the Inn, attracted over 39 alumni and friends. Also in attendance was Franklin President Erik Nielsen, who offered an update on all the exciting projects and programs taking place on campus. News about the Alumni Council and related activities was provided by Alumni Trustees **Derek Wilkinson '95** and **Richard Sussman '95**.

*Portland, Oregon  
March 10, 2007*

On March 10, 2007, 15 alumni, parents of current students, and friends gathered in Portland, Ore., at the Benson Hotel. Jennifer Hayes, Alumni and Special Events Director, discussed the importance of Franklin's career program and many of the new developments on campus as well as features of the new alumni website which will be launching soon.

*Seattle, Washington  
March 11, 2007*

Alumni and friends gathered in Seattle, Washington, at the Mayflower Park Hotel following an admissions event for prospective students and their families on March 11, 2007. Current parents and alumni heard from Alumni Director Hayes about the importance of career networking and helping to provide internships and jobs for current and graduating students. She also gave an update on the alumni website and emphasized the importance of staying connected to Franklin by providing address updates and helping search for lost alumni.

*Chicago, Illinois  
March 13, 2007*

The venue for a get-together of 15 alumni and friends on March 13, 2007, was the Millennium Park Grill in downtown Chicago. President Erik Nielsen informed the group about the new building project and student achievements. He also discussed photos that were presented as part of a slide show featuring both the Main Campus and the North Campus. Alumni Trustee **Wilkinson** and Alumni Director Hayes also attended the event and spoke to the group about the new alumni website and staying involved with the Alumni Council.

*London, England  
May 24, 2007*

Ten alumni and former Franklin staff members met at Swithins Restaurant in London, England, on May 24, 2007, for an event which featured President Erik Nielsen as the speaker. Attendees discussed the new building project and learned about the demographics of Franklin students. Alumni Director Hayes discussed the new alumni website, the career program and future goals for the alumni association.

*Boca Raton, Florida  
September 6, 2007*

**Andy Wetzler '84** and his wife Melissa hosted 13 guests at their home in Boca Raton, Fla., on September 6, 2007, where **Alesia Davenport**, Vice



*Milan: Elena Ottolenghi '95 and Hauwa Comis-Sessa '94.*



*Milan: Rafi Abrichantchi '86, Rachel Meuser, and Gianni Comis-Sessa '92.*



*Milan: Jason Woods '06 and Andrea Brothers '06.*



*Boca Raton: Top Row, Jacqueline Grellinger '91, Jerome Juska, Alesia Davenport. Bottom Row, Melissa Wetzler, Michelle Cutler '94, Andy Wetzler '84, and Sara Lif Gilbert '85.*



President for Advancement, was the guest speaker. Alumni and friends enjoyed cocktails and conversation while discussing the latest news from campus.

*Lugano, Switzerland*  
*October 7, 2007*

New students were welcomed on Franklin's North Campus by 28 local alumni from Lugano and the Milan area on October 7, 2007. This event, part of the First 52 Days Program, enabled new and transfer students to meet local alumni while socializing over ice cream and refreshments. A special thank-you goes to the student Orientation Leaders for their help.

*Houston, Texas*  
*November 1, 2007*

Twenty-nine alumni were treated to a special pre-opening-night gallery tour of the exhibit "Mary Heilmann: To Be Someone" on November 1, 2007. This event at Houston's Contemporary Art Museum was specially arranged for Franklin College. President Nielsen and Alumni Director Hayes were on hand to talk about the many new and exciting projects, programs, and developments on the Franklin campus.

*New York, New York*  
*November 8, 2007*

Over 100 alumni and friends gathered at the Arader Gallery in New York City for a reunion on November 8, 2007. Current and past parents as well as alumni from up and down the East Coast attended this special event which was sponsored by Graham Arader, who also donated proceeds of pieces purchased that evening to Franklin College.



*New York: David Stein '05 and Bea Villamor '03.*



*New York: Christopher Tung '06 and Beverly Baynard '82.*



*Tour of Houston's Contemporary Art Museum.*



*New York: Jason Bauer and President Erik Nielsen.*



*Lugano: Andrea Brothers '06, Alexis Williams '10, Babar Debnadi '10, Jason Woods '06, Caitlin Blanchard '08, Nicholas Corcoran '11, Rivet Daigne '11, and Virginia Tamburi.*



*Lugano: Christina Bell Cornelius '94, Jake Cornelius '08, Giulio Olivieri '97, and Rick Bell '65, Trustee.*



## REUNIONS/EVENTS

*Milan, Italy*  
*December 12, 2007*

A holiday reception was held on December 12, 2007, at the Jazz Café in Milan, where 30 alumni reunited over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. They were greeted by Jennifer Hayes, Alumni and Special Events Director, and Rachel Meuser, Director of Annual Giving, who provided updates on current Academic Travel, the new alumni web portal and net community, as well as alumni Academic Travel opportunities.

*Los Angeles, California*  
*February 21, 2008*

Over 30 alumni and friends participated in a private tour of the Walt Disney Music Hall in Los Angeles, California, followed by cocktails at the Brasserie Bar and Café on February 21, 2008. Alesia Davenport, Vice President for Advancement, and Alumni Director Hayes welcomed alumni, current and past parents, and guests, updating everyone on the many new projects and developments on campus.

*Washington, D.C.*  
*March 7, 2008*

Alumni Trustee Derek Wilkinson hosted Franklin Dean of Natural and Social Sciences Armando Zanechia and his Academic Travel group at the University Club in Washington, D.C., on March 7, 2008, along with local alumni, friends, and past and current parents. President Nielsen was also in attendance and brought greetings and updates from campus to the over 80 guests. The students enjoyed mingling with everyone and providing details about their academic excursions to D.C. and Virginia.



*Lugano: David Rubin '07, Michael Garcia '08, Paul Alvarez '08, Priyesh Vyas '08, and Kathryn Cicerchi '08.*



*Lugano: John Steinbreder '76 and wife Cynthia.*



*Los Angeles:Brasserie Bar and Café.*



*Los Angeles:Brasserie Bar and Café.*



*Los Angeles: Lisa Stohart '76, Robert Armstrong '74 and John Reitnauer '74.*



*Los Angeles:Brasserie Bar and Café.*



*Amman, Jordan  
April, 2008*

An unforgettable gathering was held in Amman, Jordan, from April 4-6, 2008. Mr. Ammar Malhas and his family graciously sponsored this special weekend for alumni and friends. Excursions to Petra and the Dead Sea as well as an alumni reception were the highlights of this event which brought alumni from around the world together to celebrate the Franklin experience. Chairman of the Board Paul Lowerre, President Erik Nielsen, Admissions Director Karen Ballard, and Vice President for Advancement Alesia Davenport attended the weekend as special guests of the Malhas family.

*Lugano, Switzerland  
May 8, 2008*

More than 100 alumni and members of the Class of 2008 attended the second annual graduation boat cruise on Lake Lugano on May 8, 2008. This new tradition which began with the Class of 2007 brought alumni and graduates together for a memorable evening to help kick off graduation weekend activities and events. President Nielsen and many Franklin Trustees also took part in the cruise to congratulate the graduates and to encourage their lifelong participation in the life of the College.



*Lugano: Emily Nelsen '08, Jacqueline Brown '08, Stefanie Giglio '08, and Tigbe Flanagan '06.*



*Amman: Karma and Ammar Malbas, Trustee.*



*Amman: Dr. Eric Widmer, Headmaster of the King's Academy, Junaid Munir, Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Jordan, and Ursula Gentile Lowerre '76.*



*Amman: Mr. and Mrs. Nayef Mawla.*



*Amman: Bailasan Badwan '03, Zein Malbas '07, Jude Abdul-Hadi '06, and guest.*



*Amman: Bailasan Badwan '03, Alaa Abbar '04, Jude Abdul-hadi '06, Tamer Atia '01, Paul Lowerre '77, Chairman, President Erik Nielsen, Taroub Malbas '05, Matt Wilson '09, Zein Soufan '02, Tigbe Flanagan '06, and Tala Atia '99.*



*Amman: Tala Atia '99 with friends.*



1962

Alicia Kimball has retired as Community Affairs Director for LaSalle National Bank-Chicago after 15 years. A member of the Corporate Photography Acquisitions Committee, she is also a docent-art lecturer for a medical association. She enjoys painting, gardening, reading, travel, and has two grown children and four grandchildren.

1963

Linda Clark writes that her older son, G. Gooder, lives in New York City with his wife and son, while her younger son, Grant, lives in Maryland with his wife and son. Linda saw Peter Salde, a classmate from the post-graduate program, who came to Grant's wedding last June. Carlotta Creech Doran is still living in Cleveland where the winters are cold and snowy. Carlotta fortunately spends three months during the winter in Florida. She enjoys her two wonderful grandchildren (ages 7 and 5). Elizabeth Thiele is putting together plans for a class reunion. Please contact Elizabeth to let her know your latest address, phone number, and email address so that she can contact you with the details. She can be reached by phone at (773) 244-1194 and by email at elizthiele@sbcglobe.net. Thomas Keene and his family send their greetings from Tucson, Arizona.



Anna and Philip Keene, children of Thomas Keene '63, with their dog.

1964

Jane Booth Young's oldest daughter, Elizabeth Jones May, attended Franklin College from 1988 to 1989 and her youngest daughter, Kathryn Jones, attended Franklin as a graduate student from Long Island University around 1995. Jane writes, "All of us loved Lugano and the education we all benefited from."

1965

Susan Cross is living in Pomfret, Vermont, supporting organic farming and environmental causes. Sally Gieg Smallen writes, "A very dear friend of ours, Kristen

Jones, will be a freshman at Franklin (*last fall—ed.*). Since graduating myself in 1965, I have always hoped a young student from our community would attend Franklin. This is great news for all of us—for her and also for all of you!"

1967

Ruth Bowman Russell is still ranching/raising cattle, preserving habitat and wildlife, and doing art projects on the side. She hopes to visit Franklin some day.

1969

Amy Benedicty writes, "Check out my new grandson on YouTube! [www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QCM5R4n42w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QCM5R4n42w); Anton Benedicty Monteiro was born on December 26, 2007, to Giuliana and Damian Monteiro."

1970

William Auer and his family enjoyed another great trip to Italy last summer with Garland Gay, his wife Maymay and their daughters. The two families have been renting a house in Siena for several years now. Jennifer Neviasser Christy and her husband had a wonderful visit in July, 2007, with Paulo Levi and his wife who were visiting from Sao Paulo. Jennifer is working as a development director at a shelter for abused women and children. Their son Stephen graduated from Emerson College and is working in Los Angeles as manager of intellectual property development for a Chicago-based company, and their daughter Dana is studying at Vassar College where she is a member of the Vassar Repertory Dance Theater. Gregory Cook is living in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., and is working for the Federal Communications Commission. He is married to Karen and has two children, Owen (16) and Elizabeth (14).

1971

David Barnes writes, "Anita and I enjoy our empty nest and are happier still that Conner, our first grandson, lives close by with his mom (our daughter Lacy) and dad. Our favorite son got a 'full ride' from Ft. Lewis when he decided to return to college. That won't stop him from working at Purgatory in the winter or whitewater guiding on the Ark in the summertime. Me? I still enjoy the Citation Ten." Ned Freeman writes that he was finally cured of his life-long bachelorhood on January 20, 2006! Ned married Jennifer Hathaway Newbold on the beach at Longbay Resort in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. About 60 guests and family members attended the week-long wedding party program held in the area of West End, Tortola.

1972

Mary Mortensen Morris writes that she is getting along splendidly with her family in Aspen, Colorado. Their children, Keaton and Tommy, are growing up fast. Mary writes, "I am hoping that Keaton will choose Franklin when it comes time for college. It was the best choice that I could have made!"



Mary Mortensen Morris '72 and her daughter, Keaton.

1973

Thomas Rees writes, "We are excited to have our daughter, Marianne, attending Franklin as a freshman. It brings back many great memories. If you have not seen the new campus in Lugano, go now; it is wonderful. Our niece Tatyana is also attending Franklin. We are still in contact with Carl and Diane Luppens, who also met at Franklin and later got married. They are doing well." Marc Osborne and Marcia Marquis write: "We have a beautiful new home in a recently renovated church on Wooster Park in New Haven. We love the energy of a college town. Our daughter Ale is nearby at Albertus Magnus College as a freshman. Franklin College was a major influence on our lives. (Marcia and Marc met at Franklin. Pat Tone encouraged them to apply to the same colleges after Franklin. Marcia and Marc were married in 1978 and remain happily together.) We became good friends with Brian and Jan Stanford, and Brian encouraged a life-long love of art. We think of him often, and we miss our dear friend Christina Stack, who attended Franklin with us and passed away too early." Four years ago Marcia and two colleagues started an early childhood school, the Apple Blossom School and Family Center in Wilton, Connecticut. Marc continues to teach

Spanish in his 16th year at Hamden Hall Country Day School in Connecticut.

1974

Valerie Acerra Ross was married on February 18, 2006, and continues to reside in Manhattan. Margaret Sipperly Salyer and her husband Chris are absolutely delighted that their daughter Margaret is attending Franklin! Margaret was a freshman this year. Mom Margaret writes, "It is such a joy to be able to share this experience with her. I was particularly pleased that her first Academic Travel was to London with my friend and professor Brian Stanford." Sunnie Kenowsky Irving is happily married to Joseph Irving and living in New York City. Sunnie is the co-director of the Fisher Alzheimer's Disease program at NYU doing research on *Memantine and Comprehensive Individualized Patient-Centered Management of Alzheimer's Disease: A Randomized Controlled Trial*. Robert Smith was working for Intel Corporation on a new factory startup in Chengdu, China, where he met Liu Jine; they were married on June 18, 2007, and moved back to California upon the completion of his assignment. Robert sends his regards to all of his Franklin friends. He missed the reunions over the last five years due to overseas assignments in Asia but is looking forward to the next one in California.



Robert Smith '74 with wife Liu Jine at their wedding in China.

1975

Hector Fossas is still living in Puerto Rico. He and his brother Jose Fossas '78 are distributors of Harley-

Davidson motorcycles for the Yamaha line that includes motorcycles, outboards, and wave runners. They service Puerto Rico, the U.S., and the British Virgin Islands from their main office in San Juan. Hector would like his 16-year-old daughter Carolina to attend Franklin. William Gould writes: "From WRG—Hi Ho! to Mercedes Trujillo, and condolences to Lisa Stothart and family—Herb was a great guy and will be missed." John Pritzlaff sends his greetings to his friends. Louisa Jenkins Stevenson is still riding her Italian scooter ("Someday I will scratch it!") and at least once a week wishes that she were back in Lugano.

1976

Carole Riordan is living in Las Vegas with son Robert and daughter Brigitte. Carole writes, "We welcome any visitors!" Eddie Hardy is married to Christine and has a lovely daughter, Brinly (4). He is teaching high school English. Mary Corcoran writes, "It's always amazing to read about the dynamic growth of the school. My husband Michael and I continue to live in Brooklyn, N.Y. We run a small education foundation. Our four boys range in ages: Michael (25), Ethan (15), Alex (9), and Ted (6)."

1977

Herman Fox writes, "The most exciting thing that's happened to us was the receipt of Georgina Weinstein's jazz album, *Come Rain or Shine*. The girl can sing! Georgina is currently scattin' with her beautiful daughter Anisha in Barcelona."



The cover of Georgina Weinstein's jazz album, *Come Rain or Shine*.

1978

Peter Greenbaum was married to Ellyn Lambert on May 27, 2007, in Chicago, where they reside. They were planning their honeymoon for September and hoped to pass through Lugano. Ellyn is very much looking forward to seeing the campus and the Lugano area. Robert Hunnewell and his wife, Anne, have



Peter Greenbaum '78 with wife Ellyn Lambert Greenbaum on their wedding day.

been married for 17 years. They have three children: Alex (14), Caroline (8), and James (6). Robert has recently started his own company, GoMotion, Inc., after having sold his previous company to BIC Sport, Division of Societé BIC. Carol Olmstead married Michael Calamaro on August 12, 2006. Carol and Michael moved from Los Angeles to Lone Pine, California, in December, 2006. Jose Fossas is the proud father of Bernard Arturo, who is living in Augsburg, Germany, with his mother, Viola Gleich, a native of Bayern. Jose visits Europe often to spend time with his son.



Bernard Arturo Fossas, son of Jose Fossas '78.

1979

Last spring in San Francisco Betty Mitchell enjoyed visiting with Franklin friends Dorothy DiGiorgio Moore '78, Karena Kolouch Fowler, and Ann Cunningham Kauffman '78.



**1980**

Susan Balzabre Gordon is doing well. Her son graduated from Cornell Law and is getting his Master's at the University of Chicago; her daughter just began college.

**1982**

David Davis has recently returned to London after spending five years in South Africa. He is working at Linedata Services in the field of investment technology. Julie Hollington Grimm is living in Golden, Colorado, with her family. Cork continues to run their bike shop, Green MNT. Sadie is 7 years old, and Samantha is 4. Julie enjoys sports, namely bike racing and horseback riding. She sells advertising for *Boulder Magazine*. Christina Hany Endicott's son, Tucker James Endicott, was born on September 22, 2005.

**1984**

Claire Overholt married Dan Nagy on September 1, 2007, at their home in Santa Monica. Annabelle, the daughter of her brother Bill Overholt '87, was one of the flower girls. Franklin classmate Robin Remark Zarate joined them from Florida with her husband J.C.

**1985**

Ronald Wagner writes, "We had an opportunity to visit Franklin College in early June, 2006. The campus is really expanding; it looks great! Villa Sassa was fun to visit, too; they have a nice restaurant along with their spa, hotel, and residences. A big 'Hello' to classmates from 1983-1985!" Ronald can be reached by email at: rswagner@earthlink.net. Karen Helke is working for the *Financial Times*, London. She has been working as a supporting artist (extra) in films such as *Last Chance Harvey* (Dustin Hoffman, Emma Thompson/2008 release) and trying to get into the new James Bond film (by Swiss director Marc Forster). Karen looks forward to the next alumni gathering in London.

**1987**

Robert Ranney is living in Nantucket and awaiting the next reunion. He is divorced and has a 12-year-old son. Rob keeps in touch with Aaron Buckwalter, Dee Spiro '86, John de Lellis '86, Siri Riis Kloud '86, and Diane Nuttall. He is a real estate appraiser and would enjoy hearing from his classmates. James Ryan sends greetings to friends from the class of '87. Jim, his wife Fran, and son Jake (and baby on the way) continue to reside in a suburb of Kansas City. Jim still sees Chris Kopecky often.

**1988**

Lisa Peck-Cruikshank and her family are doing well in Bronxville. They were recently in Beaver Creek, Colorado, for vacation. Lindsey just turned 7 and Robbie will be 6 soon.



*Lisa Peck-Cruikshank '88 with her husband Doug and children Robert and Lindsey in Colorado.*

**1989**

Jane Salyer Slatten is married and living in Covington, Louisiana, with children William (8), Andrew (4), and Laura (2).

**1990**

Alessandra Ferreri started to practice Tai Chi (Chinese martial art) four years ago, and it has become a real passion. She was recently teaching a class and studying to become a certified instructor. Katherine Butterfield Watts has moved from Bermuda to the U.K. for their children's education. Emma is now 8, Elizabeth is 6, and James is 3.

**1991**

Scott Licamele is a Vice President of Renaissance Capital and is based in Kiev. Renaissance Capital is the leading independent investment banking firm operating in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The firm serves both domestic companies and international clients investing in the CIS. Since its inception in 1995, the firm has raised more than \$50 billion for its clients – more

than any other financial institution in the region. Scott can be reached at slicamele@gmail.com.



*Scott Licamele and John Majors.*

**1992**

Gianni Comis-Sessa is the proud godfather of Eloise, the daughter of Gavin Tauber and his wife Rosia born in September, 2007, in London. Gianni and Umberta Gnutti Beretta '91 attended a Bollywood party at Villa Mangiacane in Florence, Italy. Umberta is in touch with Coleman McCartan '90 and Stefano Spinoglio '90. Gianni and Umberta would like to hear from Claudia Cieszynski '93.

**1995**

Tore Svanberg and his wife Aileen send their greetings. They have a second child, Isabella (1). Their son, Stefan, is already four years old. Tore recently started a new job as Managing Director at Thomas Weisel Partners, an investment bank. October, 2007, marked Tore's 10th year on Wall Street. He would love to hear from friends, especially from the Class of 1995. Elena Ottolenghi is the proud mother of Matteo, born on November 15, 2006.



*Elena Ottolenghi with son, Matteo.*

1996

**Daniela Coleman** has recently moved back to her native New York City after spending the last five years living and working in Brussels, Belgium, most recently as a Senior Policy Officer at the American Chamber of Commerce to the EU. In New York Daniela has begun working at Columbia University as their Director of Alumni Relations for the School of International and Public Affairs. She is excited to be back in the Big Apple and eager to reconnect with her friends from Franklin (dfcoleman1@yahoo.com).

1997

**Sarah Garvey** is living in New York City and working as the Associate Director of Communications at This Old House Ventures. **Evelyn Vanderhorst Lee** and **Djindo** had a daughter, Tessa Elizabeth Lee, on January 16, 2007. Evelyn is a Senior Vice President of Commercial Banking for SunTrust Bank in Washington, D.C. **Piyush Saraf** was married two years ago to his wife **Smriti** and is working at Powertech Global in Calcutta.



*Piyush Saraf and wife Smriti at their wedding.*

1999

**Monroe Mann** has recently completed his latest book, *Guerrilla Networking*, with Jay Conrad Levinson and looks forward to soon completing his next book, *The Artist's MBA*. (Monroe's books can be seen on Amazon.com.) In movie news, Monroe reports that he has recently secured a \$3 million letter of intent for his wakeboarding screenplay, *In the Wake*, and also a worldwide distribution deal – while still looking for investors. Last February, he screened his comedy film *Origami Deathmatch*, a 15-minute short film...with

over 30 actors, written, produced, directed, and co-starred in by Monroe, at Boston's Ruff Cutz film conference, where he was also a featured speaker. Currently, Monroe is completing his Master's of Entrepreneurship degree at Western Carolina University while concluding his second year at Pace University's JD/MBA program. He still runs his business, Unstoppable Artists, in New York City and has recently launched a unique social networking site called "The Juggernaut Club" which, he writes, differs from all others because membership requires a semi-annual dues payment, minimum activity requirements, and has one solitary focus: creating more successful members in whatever fields they find themselves. Monroe can be reached by email at roe@unstoppableartists.com.

2001

**Cailin Langan** earned a Master's degree in Strategic Communications in June, 2006, from Villanova University. She is currently working as the Executive Director of the Republican Party in Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, and was also accepted for membership in the Union League in Philadelphia. **Bedford (Shel) Wynne** and his wife **Tia** are living in Dallas, Texas. They are expecting their first child. **Heela Najibullah** has co-authored a book with **Brahma Chellaney** entitled *On the Frontline of Climate Change – International Security Implications* (Kondrad Adenauer Stiftung – New Delhi). Heela is a New Delhi-based analyst on non-traditional security issues who has worked with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Southeast and South Asia. In August, 2007, **Robb Hawkins** completed his MBA and MA at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Then in October, 2007, he was appointed to be a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State. Robb and his wife **Abigail Bates Hawkins '02** moved to Washington, D.C., in January, 2008, so that Robb could begin his training, after which they will be posted to a U.S. embassy abroad.

2002

**Ahu Iskit** was married on June 16, 2007 (also her birthday), to **Bugra Öncül** at Kempinski Ciragan Palace Istanbul. Among the wedding guests were alumnae **Müge Pamukcu '01**, **Yasmin Gürsoy '01**, **Deniz Yücel '00**, **Aslihan Saglicak Kocayas**, and **Yesim Çebi Küçükali '01**. The newlyweds went to Paris for their honeymoon, but plan on coming to Lugano for the next reunion. Ahu would like to reconnect with her classmates.



*Abu Iskit Öncül '02 and Bugra Öncül at their wedding in Istanbul June 16, 2007.*



*Alumni guests at Abu Iskit Öncül's wedding: Müge Pamukcu '01, Yasmin Gürsoy '01, Deniz Yücel '00, Abu Iskit Öncül, Aslihan Saglicak Kocayas '02, and Yesim Çebi Küçükali '01.*

2003

After four years with Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide in Manila, Philippines, **Bea Villamor** has moved to New York to pursue an MA in Media Studies at The New School. In addition to her graduate studies, Bea is busy in the Big Apple working at Parsons The New School for Design and meeting up with Franklin friends!

2004

**Ben Hohne** is currently living in Beijing pursuing a double Master's degree in International Affairs jointly conducted by Peking University and the London School of Economics. **Brian McGann** is a financial analyst with the World Bank in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **Carter Unger** was attending the U.S. Army officer school last fall as First Lieutenant. He was scheduled to become a Captain in November, 2007. He is in charge of Intelligence and Logistics and Infantry in Afghanistan—in the southern region. Before deploying there, Carter was training troops in Germany..



2005

Ashley Armstrong has completed the Master's in Art Business from Sotheby's Institute of Art in London. She is working and living in Los Angeles, California. Justin Niles is working for the Fire Department, New York City, Bureau of Health Services, World Trade Center Medical Monitoring Treatment Program. He is the senior author and research associate for their six-year assessment of the World Trade Center health impacts on FDNY rescue workers. The full report is available on [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov). Ann McDonald had a mini reunion in Philadelphia with Franklin classmates in the summer of 2007 and submitted an update on herself and her friends: Ann is currently residing in Riverton, New Jersey, and is working as a pharmaceutical copywriter for an agency in Philadelphia. She is engaged to be married this fall to Iakovos Manousos; Meg Johnson '07 is living in Bethesda, Maryland, and was applying for internships at environmentally-focused NGO's and hoping to do Americorp in the near future; Anna Ranck '06 is studying public relations and political science at Temple University in Philadelphia where she lives in the art museum area with Andrea Sitar '06; Andrea is studying anthropology at Temple University; Tesla DuBois '07 is living in Philadelphia and working for Americorp with city children; Erin Ryan '07 is living in D.C. and recently completed an internship with *National Geographic* magazine; Brenna Millard '06 is enrolled in environmental studies at Temple University and is a member of the women's crew team. Ann is happy to have so many friends in her area!



A mini-reunion in Philadelphia: Ann McDonald '05, Liva Stokenberga '08, Meg Johnson '07, Anna Ranck '06, Andrea Sitar '06, Tesla DuBois '07, Erin Ryan '07, and Brenna Millard '06.

2006

Tighe Flanagan is serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in a small village in southern Jordan, teaching English to 4th and 5th graders. Marcel Ricou is working for

the Peace Corps in Cameroon. At the time of our last update, he was involved in a youth camp project: a one-week overnight camp in the village of Koza in the extreme North Province from July 29 to August 5, 2007, organized by the Network of Women's Associations of the Sub-Division of Koza. The camp centers on three main themes: community health, life skills, and gender issues. It also includes activities oriented towards physical fitness, environmental education, and community service. Mariya Shadrina was married to Alberto Pitmo Gradillas in Candelaris, Spain, on July 28, 2007. The Catholic ceremony included 120 guests from the U.S.A. and Spain. Mariya and Alberto were planning on residing in Spain.

Faculty and Friends

James Alleman writes, "I started my teaching career at Franklin and now, with many detours in between, I have finished it at the University of Colorado; I retired from teaching in May, 2007. Barbara and I will spend our time between Boulder and New York City, and traveling to exotic and not so exotic places. We hope we will run into some of the alumni from the early years..."

Susan Hendricks is looking forward to going live online with her new educational consulting firm [www.prepschoolsearch.com](http://www.prepschoolsearch.com). Her firm will offer advisory services for families on schools and other programs.

Jane McHan moved to Concord, Massachusetts, after resigning from her position as Assistant Dean at the University of Maryland University College at Heidelberg, Germany, at the end of August, 2007. She taught an intensive course in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, for a month and then, after living abroad for 24+ years, she moved back to the States for at least a year! Jane had an appointment as a Visiting Scholar in the psychology department at Harvard University for the current academic year and will be working on a project regarding psychological aspects of war. She looks forward to alumni events in the Boston area.

Last summer, Harlan Wallingford attended a fascinating reenactment of the famous Scopes trial at Dayton, Tennessee, which originally took place in July, 1925. The battle between Clarence Darrow (defense) and William Jennings Bryan (prosecution) was quite authentic.

Franklin founders Wilfried Geens, Theo Brenner, Pascal Tone, and Jacques Villaret met for a traditional grotto luncheon at Il Mulino in the woods near Novaggio (Malcantone) this past summer.



Wilfried Geens, Theo Brenner, Pascal Tone, and Jacques Villaret in the Malcantone.

In Memoriam

Sabina Nader was an angel in training here on Earth, bringing joy, happiness, and laughter to everyone she met. God asked her back on June 13, 2007. She will be greatly missed by her friends and family. May she look down and give strength to her loved ones for eternity. We celebrated her life and mourned her death. She is survived by her parents George and Alma, her brother Didier '02, his wife, her nephew Matteo, and her brother Rafi. May she rest in peace. We love you and miss you.

Your Franklin Family



Sabina Nader.

## Annual Donor Report: July 1, 2006 — June 30, 2007

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

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

Alumni class years follow the alumni donor names.

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