Service Learning in Thailand

Jane LaFarge Hamill '03
Art as International Language

Graduation 2010/2011

The Taylor Institute
A Graduate Program at Franklin

* Houses drawn from Rhun's store after school
* Also, chickens.
* Also also, XNATHAN.
PRESIDENT
Erik Nielsen

The Franklin Gazette is distributed free of charge to university friends, alumni, faculty, staff, and parents of undergraduate students.

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Sustainability issues are gaining increasing importance in education, and Franklin College is rising to the challenge. A concrete example of this is the recently established Center for Sustainability Initiatives at Franklin (CSIF), whose directors are Professors Brack Hale and Johanna Fassl. We will explore the many successful projects in which the CSIF has engaged, and we will discuss their objectives.

Among the initiatives that have been experienced by students on campus is the Franklin Sustainable Garden Initiative, which has given us an insight into the importance of sustainable agriculture. Professor Josh Long discusses the various aspects of this collaboration involving our students, faculty and staff.

A component of Franklin’s new focus involves service learning. In this issue you can read about the Academic Travel to Thailand, led by current Dean of Student Life and Engagement Leslie Guggiari and organized in collaboration with the Sainam Foundation. Students experienced the socio-economic culture of Thai villagers firsthand, helping construct houses and teaching English to the children of the local village school. The article is illustrated with pages and drawings from the travel journal of Blue Delliquanti ’11. We would like to thank her for allowing us to publish her incredible work.

We have celebrated the Commencement of two graduating classes since our last issue, the Class of 2010 and the Class of 2011. The keynote speaker at Commencement 2010 was Ms. Diane Farrell, member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, the official export credit agency of the United States. Mr. P. Olivier Sarkozy, Managing Director and Head of Carlyle Global Financial Services Partners, gave the keynote speech at Commencement 2011.

Alumna Jane LaFarge Hamill ’03, figurative artist living and working in New York City, is the subject of our Alumni Feature. Jane has traveled around the globe for inspiration in true Franklin style. She was preparing to travel to Beirut as this issue was being finalized.

On campus several members of our faculty have recently published books, some of which are featured in this issue. Networking forums among alumni and students have been a great success. The two latest forums were held in New York and Washington, D.C., and the College will soon expand its video conferencing capabilities to enhance and facilitate this and other events like it in the future.

You will find a selection of photos taken at the many alumni gatherings that have been held around the globe. We could not accommodate all of the photographs which can be found on the College’s website. The link to the web photo gallery can be found in the Alumni Events listing.

The Gazette staff hopes that you enjoy this issue. We look forward to your comments and suggestions.

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

Save the Date - May 25-27, 2012 - Global Reunion in Lugano

The Franklin College Office of Advancement, along with the help of alumni volunteers, is in the process of organizing a weekend-long all class Global Alumni Reunion, which will take place in Lugano, May 25-27, 2012. It promises to be an exciting and fun opportunity to reconnect with fellow classmates, faculty and staff members here in Switzerland!

In the coming months we will be sending you more details about the 2012 Global Alumni Reunion, including the schedule of activities and how to register. In the meantime, please take note of the dates.
Franklin is pleased to announce a recent redesign of the Franklin website. Not only does it have a new look but, taking advantage of recent advancements in technology, the new format has a wider viewing area, a more dynamic interface and a much greater focus on video, both in style and in content. In an effort to increase the website’s capability for highlighting new academic and extracurricular programming, the Office of Marketing Communications has spent recent months finding ways to offer a design that can present a significant amount of content while maintaining a straightforward system of navigation. The result is a website filled with interactive content, photos and video, which not only allows visitors to get a better view into what students experience at Franklin but also permits them to discover more easily the most recent evolutions of the programming and opportunities that continue to make Franklin a unique place to study.

Social media and mobile devices have also been important considerations in the site’s development, and the new format seeks to incorporate these two evolutions of internet technology. A new Franklin YouTube channel and further integration of Franklin’s Facebook activity give students an important role in the development of content, especially with regards to the exciting photography and video that come out of each semester’s Academic Travel experiences. Visitors can also take Franklin with them wherever they go, as the site has found its new dynamism through technology that is fully compatible with mobile devices.

Visual dynamism, social context and portability will continue to shape the evolution of the Franklin website, just as they are shaping the future of the current generation of students. The world is increasingly technological, but the photos of the students as they spend their curricular and extracurricular time on sustainability and service leadership projects show a side of Franklin that has its focus on another kind of future. The design and development staff hopes that this new step into a rapidly changing and high-tech methodology for the website manages to offer the quantity of content expected in today’s media while maintaining the warmth that expresses the singular human qualities of Franklin, its students, its alumni and all of the individuals that make up the Franklin family.
Thanks to the help of over 35 alumni volunteers, the Franklin College Alumni Council organized and sponsored two successful and enlightening Networking Forums, on September 9, 2010, and March 31, 2011. These forums gave current Franklin students the chance to question expert alumni in the fields of communications, marketing, public relations and international relations about their take on how to succeed in their own lines of work.

In September, 2010, with the help of Franklin friends Greg and Kathleen Harper, the Alumni Council was able to host a live video-conference between a panel of alumni (Bea Villamor ’03, Cyrus Sanati ’99 and Scott Anderholt ’78) in New York City and students of all ages in Lugano. The event was moderated by John Doyle ’06 and Leslie Guggiari, Dean of Student Life and Engagement. Over 140 students were in attendance, each eager to gain knowledge of the working world in which they all wish to succeed. A focus group of 14 students challenged the three panelists with in-depth questions about their careers and how to “market” the invaluable sets of skills they are obtaining from a Franklin education. Students in Lugano were happy to have the opportunity to glean some external advice from those who have worked and are working in their desired fields. As current student Erin Cummings ’14 said, “I learned an exceptional amount and would love to attend another Networking Forum in the future.”

The second forum, held at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., focused on the area of international relations and was moderated by Washington Post ombudsman, Patrick B. Paxton.
'75. Mr. Pexton facilitated a discussion between the panel, which consisted of Rob Thayer '75, Alexis Sampson ’04 and David Kirk ’03, who represent a diverse set of career paths within IR, and approximately 90 Franklin students in Lugano. Although the connection between panelists and students was virtual (via videoconference), the advice and guidance on topics ranging from selling the Franklin experience at an interview to developing and pursuing a passion were authentic and tangible.

The alumni and parents who were able to attend the forums in New York and Washington were especially energized by the enthusiastic student response and attendance. Such events serve as a great way for alumni to take a more hands-on approach to giving back to Franklin by providing students with some of the information and tools they may need to be successful after graduating. Franklin alumnus Andrew Rebak ’93 stated, “I think these types of events will be especially useful to students as they look to move into the work force. Hopefully, with a few more we can create a great resource depository for students to have at their fingertips.”

Because of the overwhelmingly positive response from the Franklin community about these two events, the Alumni Council, along with a group of student volunteers, has developed a new program called Borderless Student-Alumni Forums (BSAF). The BSAF committee plans to organize similar events, using video conferencing technology to connect current students with alumni in Washington, New York, San Francisco and Jeddah in the coming academic year.
Pascal F. Tone Elected Chairman of the Franklin Board of Trustees

At its fall meeting held in New York City on November 12, 2010, the Franklin College Board of Trustees elected Mr. Pascal F. Tone as its new Chairman. Tone replaces Paul Lowerre ’77, who stepped down after ten years as Chair. Mr. Lowerre continues his membership on the Board, which began in 1995. Mr. Tone has a long history of association with Franklin, beginning with his role as an instructor at the former Fleming College, the immediate predecessor to Franklin, and as a co-founder in 1969 of Franklin College itself. In the College’s early years he served as its Director of Admissions and Development and then as its President from 1973-79. He is currently Vice President of Wealth Management at Neuberger Berman in New York and has served in voluntary leadership positions for many years for the U.S. Equestrian Team. Mr. Tone was awarded his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has earned graduate degrees from Columbia University and MIT. He is a long-time benefactor of the College: the Tone Athletic Center on campus is named in his honor.

At the same meeting Ms. Angela Fowler ’75, was re-elected to a three-year term as Vice-Chair of the Board, a position she has held since 2001. Ms. Fowler is a practicing landscape architect in New York City, where she is president of her own firm. She has also worked as a landscape architect and project manager for the City of New York’s Park and Recreation Department, and with Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, P.C., of New York. Ms. Fowler completed her Bachelor’s degree at Boston University after earning the Associate’s degree at Franklin and received her professional training at the University of Virginia, where she was awarded the degree of Master of Landscape Architecture. Hers is a familiar name on campus: she provided funding for the Fowler Library on the North Campus, among many other gifts, and has served on the Board since 1995. Her father, Harry W. Fowler, was Chairman of the Board of Advisors from 1974 to 1976. Ms. Fowler also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Miss Hall’s School, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

The Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award 2010

The 2010 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award was presented to Sally Dodge Mole ’65 at the May graduation ceremony in Lugano. Sally is a creative entrepreneur, successful business owner, experienced fundraiser and energetic environmental activist. Among her many activities she was a founder of the Locally Grown Food movement and the creator of Taste Vermont!, a biannual event which promoted public awareness of specialty farmers in Vermont. She was Executive Director of the North Shire Museum and History Center for six years. In addition to serving on the boards of the Vermont Land Trust, the Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation and the Education Committee of the Wildlife Conservation Society, Sally now manages her family’s farm properties and directs timber operations and organic farm activities as well as continuing her agricultural advocacy consulting. She lives in Manchester, Vermont, where her husband Dale Guldbrandsen and has two sons, three stepdaughters and four grandchildren.

Sally has been extremely supportive of Franklin since its inception, when the College was a venture with many challenges to its future success. Her generosity and enthusiasm encouraged and inspired others to support the College during this crucial time in its history, helping it grow from a two-year to a four-year institution. She was also instrumental in helping secure the College’s first permanent home, the Kaletsch Campus.

A member of the Franklin Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1993, Sally has also been a part of the Alumni Council since its founding. She is currently on the Panelist Selection Committee for the College’s first video-conferencing Networking Forum.

In her acceptance speech Sally urged the graduating seniors to engage in service, which she called “the turning of vision into reality” because it “helps you to be empathetic, aware, knowledgeable.” As in the case of her service toward Franklin, she said, “What starts out as a small effort on your part, builds passion and energy over time and ends up making a big difference.”

This accolade is named in honor of Ursula Gentile Lowerre ’76, who has always been a driving force behind many of the initiatives we know today as part of Franklin College. Appropriately, therefore, the award, which is presented annually, recognizes individuals who have kept Franklin at the forefront of their thoughts and have worked on the College’s behalf with dedication and vitality.
Professor McCormick Teaches His Final Franklin Classes Summer 2011

Professor Robert McCormick, Jr., one of Franklin's great teachers, has significantly contributed to the Franklin College spirit over the past 23 years. He has achieved much in his many years as a professor, and many students will say that they cannot imagine their Franklin experience without him. Yet, as of this fall, Professor McCormick will turn a new page.

Professor McCormick's teachings have supported the Franklin College international mission ever since he joined the faculty in 1988. “The cultural diversity present at Franklin always keeps pushing you in new directions,” he said. “What is interesting about teaching creative writing is that each message is formed by that person’s unique experiences and vision of the world. The cross-cultural groups of students here in all courses always bring you a fresh, new perspective.” Professor McCormick’s classes introduced new perspectives through such courses as Modern Women Writers, The Art and Aesthetics of Proust, and through his African, American, Russian, Latin American and Caribbean literature courses, taking students across borders, both figuratively and literally. “I always seem to have had a favorable response from students for my Russian Literature course. Perhaps that’s because the texts are so great,” says McCormick. “World Literature allows for some rather extravagant experiments into the unknown, and I have especially enjoyed teaching Proust because his work really impacts those who read it.”

Innovation in the classroom was always complemented by Professor McCormick's Academic Travel programs. Every Academic Travel with Professor McCormick demanded deep investigation as he led students to such places as French-speaking Switzerland and France, Greece, Paris, Kenya, South Africa, Northern Greece and Turkey, Cuba, Venezuela and, most recently, the Dominican Republic. Known for his diverse and demanding itineraries, McCormick introduced his students to vestiges of Caribbean colonialism, Hemingway hangouts and the haunts of the gods, spanning from Grecian temples to Venezuelan tepuis. Academic Travel is a key part of the Franklin experience, and students will tell you that McCormick-led Travels were nothing short of extraordinary.

In addition to his teaching and travels, in 2003 Professor McCormick founded “Caribbean Unbound,” a biennial conference on Caribbean literature and culture held on campus every other spring. In true Caribbean style, the conference features academic panels in English, Spanish and French with internationally known scholars, literary readings, Caribbean films, Franklin student panels, a traditional Caribbean meal and even live Cuban music on occasion. Maryse Condé, the Guadeloupean writer who was the initial inspiration for McCormick’s interest in Caribbean literature, was the keynote speaker for the 2007 edition. The most recent edition (spring, 2011) boasted the largest and most international group of attendees in “Caribbean Unbound” history, connecting participants from all over the globe, from Australia to Turkey, for a weekend colloquium on Caribbean studies. The keynote speaker was Professor Claudine Michel, a professor of Black Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

When not uniting the world's Caribbean scholars, Professor McCormick is also the Faculty Advisor to The Literary Society, which is responsible for Franklin College’s annual literary magazine, Creating Re-Views. Having evolved from its very first handmade edition in 1996 and now distributed at the annual Gatsby Gala that celebrates the magazine’s printing, Creating Re-Views was just released last week for the fifteenth consecutive year. Originally conceived during Academic Travel Paris in 1994, Creating Re-Views was first mapped out on a paper tablecloth by students. Initially bound by hand-stitched yarn, Creating Re-Views was designed from the start to be a forum for creative writers and to explore the links between literature, art and photography. The concept, name and humorous group photo of the members have become regular features, and the publication of the annual magazine has become one of Franklin’s long-standing traditions. “I can’t thank the many talented writers and photographers enough for building on and embellishing our germinal conception, Vive La Société Littéraire!” wrote Professor McCormick in this year’s edition.

Creating Re-views has always stirred the student body, and its distribution this year at the Gatsby Gala (Part Deux) made the Gala “the place to be,” explained McCormick. “People were interested to see what their fellow students had been doing, so that created a friendly environment. For this edition of the Gala we read only student writing, and most students seemed impressed with the quality of our publication. The event, held outdoors on the Kaletsch Campus lawn, was weather-dependent, and we were on the edge of our seats the whole week wondering if we would be able to hold it outside, but in the end, we managed to get our outside reading in. The rain came just as we were finishing up.”

Although Professor McCormick will not be teaching at Franklin next academic year, he will still be teaching World Literature in Summer Session One and Creative Writing: Fiction in Summer Session Two. “I had a lot of fun with my World Literature class this semester,” he said. “The fact that we were covering epics from Persia, the Ramayana from India, along with some texts that had links to the “Caribbean Conference,” seemed to draw in a diverse group. Students of all nationalities appreciate seeing their cultures included in any discussion of literature, and the conversations are always interesting with the exchange of so much personal experience.” International experiences permeating classroom discussions: Is this not the very essence of Franklin College?

We all have our reasons for going to university, but when it comes down to it, we choose Franklin College because we are looking for something “more.” Franklin boasts an education both in and out of the classroom, made possible by the professors who come from all reaches of the globe. These professors are at the heart of the Franklin College experience, and Professor McCormick has lived up to this responsibility in a way that goes above and beyond his calling. He has inspired countless students in the classroom and beyond. It would be impossible to recount all that he has achieved in his time with Franklin College, but Professor McCormick’s contribution to Franklin’s educative mission and community spirit is invaluable.
Student Leadership Awards 2010

On May 15, 2010, the Franklin community, along with parents and friends, gathered to acknowledge certain students and faculty members for their hard work, exemplary performance and generosity at the annual Awards Ceremony.

Students Sampson Hatziahtanasiou and Dylan Lee each received the Presidential Leadership Award for their outstanding overall contribution to the College. Rene Musech received the Academic Excellence Award, and Madison McClintock received the Gerta Holman Award for exceptional responsiveness and mindfulness toward other cultures.

The following faculty members were recognized in 2010: Professor Pamela Adams for Excellence in Teaching, Professor Floyd Parsons for Excellence in Professional Engagement and Professor Georges Rocourt for Excellence in Service.

The Outstanding Staff Performance Award was created in 2009 with the purpose of recognizing and rewarding excellence in service to the Franklin community. This year the award was presented to Domenico La Gamba, Director of Franklin’s Physical Plant. He was cited for his passionate commitment, for being innovative and flexible in tough situations which arise quite often around the campus and for putting “countless hours into making Franklin a better, safer and more beautiful place. He manages to accomplish all these tasks, and usually with a smile.”

Academic Area Awards 2010

ART AWARD
Gemma Loud (Visual and Communication Arts)
Alexis Williams (Art History)
Marcela Correa (Art History)

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE AWARD
Andreas Uhl

HISTORY
Alexandra Herbert

MANAGEMENT
Max Hilpert
Felicia Lubertazzi

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES
Daria Lyubhina
May Taher

MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE (ITALIAN)
Andreas Uhl

CREATIVE WRITING, LITERATURE AND ENGLISH
Carlos Arguello

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
Kyle Hartman

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
William Turner

Student Leadership Awards 2010

GRAHAM ARADER III AWARD
Tatjana Mullally
Rene Musech

OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN AWARD
Miriam Tohill

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD
Sampson Hatziahtanasiou
Dylan Lee

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD
Rene Musech

GERTA HOLMAN AWARD
Madison McClintock

Faculty Awards 2010

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
Pamela Adams

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT
Floyd Parsons

EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE
Georges Rocourt

Staff Awards 2010

OUTSTANDING STAFF SERVICE
Domenico La Gamba, Director of the Physical Plant

Senior Class Gift

By Tiffany Harrington, Director of Annual Giving

The Class of 2010 left its mark on Franklin, not only by being the largest graduating class in the history of the College, but also by raising more than $3,000 for the senior gift. More than 30 seniors as well as faculty and staff contributed to the fund. This gift was designated to support the Senior Scholarship for a future Franklin student and for library resources.

The Senior Scholarship was established by the Class of 2005 to create a lasting legacy at Franklin. The scholarship, which is currently at more than $17,000, will provide distribution to a deserving student when it reaches the endowment minimum of $25,000. Every senior class has contributed to the scholarship since its inception.

This year’s senior class also felt that the library could use its support in order to obtain further resources for students and therefore allocated part of the gift to the library. The success of the senior class gift has grown over time, and this year was a record breaker, providing the largest amount ever raised by any class since the establishment of the gift.

By Robert Pallone, Vice President for Advancement

The Senior Class Giving Campaign is an annual tradition at Franklin College and this year’s results did not disappoint. The Class of 2011, under the leadership of Senior Representatives Inigo Garcia ’11, Zokir Hayoev ’11 and Rene Musech ’11, rallied to raise a record $3,658 for library resources to support the work of future students at Franklin. The funds will pay for additional material such as senior thesis research document requests and online periodical subscriptions.

The initial goal of $2,011 (signifying the graduation year) was surpassed through the personal contributions of over 40 seniors, several members of the faculty and staff, and a parent couple. As they have done in previous years, Jake Cornelius ’08 and Christina Bell Cornelius ’94 offered a challenge to match the gift, inspiring a high rate of participation.
Student Leadership Awards 2011

The Franklin community gathered in the Kaletsch Campus Auditorium May 14, 2011, for the annual Awards Ceremony to recognize the outstanding performance and dedication of certain special students as well as members of the faculty and staff for their hard work, outstanding performance and dedication.

Michael Thomas was awarded the Presidential Leadership Award for his overall contribution to the College through extracurricular involvement, civic responsibility and leadership qualities. Maggie Humphreys received the Academic Excellence Award, which recognizes intellectual curiosity, a love of learning and scholarly promise. The Gerta Holman Award, named in honor of a former Franklin professor whose inspirational teaching transcended the classroom, was given to Lina Binladin in recognition of her particular sensitivity towards others. Danielle Zuchovicki won the Outstanding Freshman Award. Other students listed below received awards for excellence in their own special areas of study.

Every year faculty excellence is recognized, and in 2011 the awards went to: Professor Sanja Dudukovic for Excellence in Teaching, Professor Johanna Fassl for Excellence in Professional Engagement and Professor Brack Hale for Excellence in Service.

The Outstanding Staff Performance Award was presented to Austin Tomlinson ’06, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations.

While a student at Franklin Austin, who speaks four languages, received the Gerta Holman award in recognition of his passion about cross-cultural relations. Since his graduation Austin has been working full-time for the College, presently from his home office in the U.S. The nominating committee, noting his enthusiasm and competence, described him as an “organizer extraordinaire” who shows great initiative in promoting the interests of the College while “galvanizing parental involvement and alumni sense of identity with Franklin.”

President Nielsen gave special recognition to Colin Hollinger, who is retiring this year. The College’s librarian since its foundation in 1970, Colin has also been the manager of the bookstore. The number of students to whom Colin has provided help runs to the thousands, and the esteem in which he is held is demonstrated by the numerous former students who ask to see him when they make return visits to the College. He leaves a permanent legacy in the tens of thousands of books he has catalogued, but, more importantly, in the personal assistance he has given to Franklin students over the years.

Professor McCormick gave special recognition to Professor Robert McCormick for his many contributions to the College. An article devoted to Professor McCormick’s many accomplishments appears on page 7 of this issue of the Gazette.
Many colleges and universities across the globe are striving to become more environmentally friendly and Franklin is no exception. All over campus there is evidence of increased awareness and efforts towards minimizing Franklin's impact on the environment. In 2008, two students, Benjamin Marks '09 and Kyle Hartman '10, were provided with Life-long Learning Scholarships (LLLS) to work with Professor Brack Hale on a research project to assess the state of sustainability at Franklin. The nine-month project resulted in the establishment of the Center for Sustainable Initiatives at Franklin (CSIF). President Erik Nielson allotted resources to support the creation of the Center, which included space on the top floor of the North Villa that has a conference and resource room and offices for three professors working with the CSIF.

The mission statement of the CSIF exemplifies its overarching goals for making Franklin a greener and more sustainable campus. Also important are the Center's recognition of the diverse Franklin community and its desire to incorporate this diversity into carrying out sustainable projects on campus.

In order to achieve the educational aspect of the mission, a variety of courses with themes rooted in sustainability are now available to students studying in many disciplines. For example, in spring, 2011, students can take sustainability-themed courses in the areas of communication and media studies, comparative literary and cultural studies, environmental science, geography, management, political science, and visual culture and fashion design.

Many professors are involved in supporting the Center's efforts. The key actors are the two directors, Professors Brack Hale and Johanna Fassl, the advisory council, Professors Josh Long, Alison Vogelaar, Caroline Wiedmer and Armando Zanecchia, and Dean Sara Steinert-Borella. Other professors who have also been involved include Satomi Sugiyama and Wasiq Khan. Several Life-long Learning Scholars also work regularly with the CSIF, including Meije Gernez '11, Amanda Leinberger '11 and Karen Wilson '11. Involvement in the CSIF is open to any member of the Franklin community. The CSIF conference and resource room serves as a meeting place for regular meetings of the CSIF staff, as well as the Franklin Alliance, the Sustainable Agriculture Club and the Franklin Voice staff. It also serves as a workspace for the Life-long Learning Scholars who work with the CSIF and its related activities.

The Center's organic formation represents a unique process that presents both challenges and benefits for the future. Co-directors Hale and Fassl recognize that Franklin's small size and close-knit community make school-wide changes simpler than at larger institutions. Support from students, faculty, staff and administration strengthens the viability of setting long-term goals. “Hopefully, the building of the Center from the bottom up is an indication of the Franklin community's long-term aspirations for it,” says Leinberger. “Now, rather than making demands for a sustainable campus from the top down, we can create a custom plan to cater to the specific needs of Franklin which can be adapted with input from the community.” She adds that those most active in the Center's projects agree that its organic nature will cater to the specific green needs of Franklin and contribute to its longevity, making the Center itself conceptually sustainable. “We [the CSIF] have already met many challenges and projects with much success in our first year alone,” says Gernez. The unique environment in which the Center has been created means that a large part of the battle for a
greener future at Franklin has been fought. After only one year in operation, the CSIF has successfully engaged in many projects. Some examples include:

- A project to help reduce Franklin’s dependency on resource-intensive plastic bottles. The CSIF organized an initiative to supply the campus with SIGG water bottles, which are made in Switzerland and are recyclable. They can be used at campus eateries in place of cups or PET bottles.

- The creation of a CSIF website page to serve as an informational and educational resource. Lydia Minor Voigt ’10 and Professor Fassl worked to develop the website page for the Center (http://www.fc.edu/content/sustainability). Leinberger is continuing that work to keep the information updated and relevant. The CSIF has also created a Facebook page to facilitate easy feedback and conversation from the community.

- A project to educate students about Swiss-style recycling. The CSIF and SGA have teamed up to encourage and enforce correct recycling habits on campus, in Sorengo and in Lugano. Based on an analysis done by Hale and Tristan Jones ’11, the CSIF put together educational materials for orientation and the residence halls regarding recycling. Andriana Friel ’11, representative of SGA, says, “It is great to have the Center as a resource on campus. The Center has been valuable in helping us achieve some of our goals geared towards a greener campus.” The CSI and SGA will both continue to promote a healthy relationship with the community through recycling and clean-up projects.

- A project to increase the use of public transportation. This year, the CSIF and Franklin invited Arcobaleno (a consortium of public transportation providers in Ticino that already offers a significant discount to students) to sell public transport passes on campus in September. Through an agreement between Franklin and Arcobaleno, staff and faculty are now also eligible for discounted passes.

- The establishment of a sustainable garden (see article, page 13).

- A project examining how to make Academic Travel, a cornerstone of the Franklin experience, more sustainable. The original analysis by Marks and Hartman showed that Academic Travel is the number one contributor to Franklin’s carbon footprint. The CSIF has been developing a guide for travel leaders to demonstrate how travels can be executed in a more sustainable fashion.

- The development of community events such as the annual Earth Week celebration and a three-day forum on sustainability, jointly planned with AIESEC and the Università della Svizzera Italiana. Franklin hosted the forum’s last event, a panel discussion on sustainability and business, featuring Professors Hale, Long, Vogelaar and Zanecchia as well as guest Dr. Nicola Schoenenberger, former manager of the Laghetto di Muzzano nature reserve and current consultant with the Tulum group in Lugano.

The CSIF has also connected Franklin to the global community interested in sustainability. It is a member of the North American-based Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). This organization has featured Franklin twice
in its weekly newsletter, once as its spotlight school (August, 2010). One of the benefits of Franklin’s membership is that all Franklin community members have free access to AASHE’s vast resources on sustainability (for more info see: www.fc.edu/content/sustainability).

Franklin has also been recently accepted as a member of the UN-sponsored Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI). Several Franklin faculty members travelled to GUNI’s annual meeting in Barcelona in November, 2010, to present posters about CSIF. Brack Hale, Alison Vogelaar and Armando Zanecchia explained the establishment and development of CSI and how it is organically embedded within the FC campus. Johanna Fassl and Caroline Wiedmer’s contribution showed how FC has successfully incorporated topics of sustainability across the curriculum.

Looking towards the future, the CSIF hopes to build upon its successes. It strives to expand its curricular offerings and collaborations and will continue its analysis of Franklin’s day-to-day practices. It also hopes to motivate and coordinate faculty-level research into issues of sustainability, connecting our experiences with the rest of the world. It hopes to continually improve its outreach. For example, it wants to facilitate more channels of communication between the Center and the campus community. The next source of media outreach the Center plans to develop is a blog so the community can chat and learn about sustainability through personal accounts of experiences. It also hopes to organize discussion-based events. The Life-long Learning Scholars are planning a host of events, including movie nights with sustainable themes and discussion panels as well as trips connected to local sustainable efforts over the course of the next several months in order to engage the community in extracurricular conversations about sustainability. With the prospect of empowering sustainability on campus, the CSIF states on the website that one of its main goals is to “take Franklin’s international and multicultural campus community as a model to engage diverse stakeholders in the Center’s activities, projects and dialogues,” and, so far, it appears to be doing just that.

Professor Hale notes that the CSIF’s greatest achievement has likely been its facilitation and centralization of the campus dialogue regarding sustainability and sustainable behaviors. Change in any organization, institution or society is not easy and takes time. Nonetheless, the CSIF has seen many improvements in Franklin’s approach to sustainability in a short time. He cautions, however, that the CSIF’s objectives are to inform about, encourage and facilitate sustainable practices at Franklin, not to substitute or replace individual efforts. Ultimately, we will achieve a sustainable society, on campus and off, only if every individual takes personal responsibility to live a more sustainable life.

**Professor Brack Hale’s Laghetto di Muzzano Research Published in Ticino Scientific Journal**

The *Bollettino della Società Ticinese di Scienze Naturali* recently published the results of a five-month research project developed by Professor Brack Hale, assistant professor of Biology and Environmental Science, about the status of the water quality of the Laghetto di Muzzano. Franklin students Megan Richardson and Kyle Hartman, along with a former student of Professor Hale’s from Duke University, assisted with the sampling project. The study was performed in collaboration with Pro Natura Ticino, a Swiss ecological protection and conservation organization and owner of the Laghetto di Muzzano area since 1945.

The research examined the trends in water quality over the course of a growing season to determine the current nutrient levels of the lake and the role of stratification for nutrient dynamics. Excessively high levels of nutrients were found, particularly phosphorus in the bottom waters of the lake that inevitably endanger its biodiversity. In the past, the eutrophic state of the lake has led to the local extinction of water lilies and the water chestnut as well as numerous fish kills.

The demonstrated role that internal loading of nutrients plays in the Laghetto’s water quality indicates that actions to manage and reverse eutrophication will take time. Further, these actions will not be successful until the current level of external loading is significantly reduced. Until then, the risks for the flora and fauna will continue to increase.

Recent front-page coverage by the *Corriere del Ticino*, Lugano’s main newspaper, and articles in other local print media reported the news about the findings of Professor Hale and the inclusion of the study results in the October 2009 edition of the *Bollettino della Società Ticinese di Scienze Naturali.*
For over three decades now, colleges throughout North America have been creating organic campus gardens to reduce their ecological footprints and educate students about the importance of sustainable agriculture. Numerous studies have clearly demonstrated the benefits of such projects. By providing a local, organic source of produce for food services and student consumption, these gardens reduce reliance on imported, conventionally grown produce (which is frequently grown with the aid of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides). In addition, campus gardens provide an outlet for the recycling of organic waste, reduce costs associated with labor and transport of food and provide numerous opportunities for hands-on education.

In years past, Franklin students, faculty and staff have expressed interest in beginning a sustainable campus garden, but such a project presented unique challenges. Franklin’s small campus size leaves little space to devote to gardening, and with the majority of students leaving for the summer academic break, it is difficult to maintain the garden during the most productive months. In the fall of 2009, the Center for Sustainability Initiatives at Franklin began exploring possibilities for overcoming these challenges. Professors Brack Hale, Armando Zanecchia and Joshua Long discussed the idea of a campus garden with several students and found that there would be enough student volunteer workers to maintain the garden in the summer months. Responding to concerns over the lack of space, students found an unused site on the hillside above the North Campus Annex. In May of 2010, Professor Long and Meije Gernez ’11 coauthored a formal proposal for the Franklin Sustainable Garden Project. Shortly after its submission, President Nielsen approved the proposal and Franklin’s ground crew began handling logistical concerns (e.g., steady water supply, safe walkway to the site, etc.). After this considerable effort by the Franklin ground crew, students began working on preparing the garden for a late summer planting.

Soon after work began to prepare the garden for this first planting, it was discovered that the soil quality was poor and teeming with rocks. The students did not view this as a setback, but rather a challenge to overcome. Several trial crops were planted and monitored, and under the supervision of Professor Hale, the SCI 350 Environmental Research Methods class analyzed the soil. While the tests detailed the poor quality of the soil, there were no serious levels of pollution, and the trial crops of San Marzano tomatoes, Genovese basil, thyme, rosemary and red bell peppers showed excellent results despite the record summer heat.

Since the beginning of the fall semester, several steps have been taken to improve the fertility of the garden site. Students have worked to remove rocks, till the soil and build an organic compost heap. The recently established Sustainable Agriculture Club, an organization of over 30 Franklin students, has been coordinating many of these efforts. Along with maintaining the campus garden, the club has future plans to educate the Franklin community about the importance of sustainable agriculture, reduce Franklin’s ecological footprint and attract study-abroad students interested in organic farming.

In preparation for the official groundbreaking in spring, students were working under the supervision of Professors Long and Gardiner to build raised beds, terrace a section of the hillside and formulate a planting schedule. Numerous courses (including classes in Environmental Studies, Science, and CLCS) will be making use of the garden in the coming months. The long-term goal of the project is to provide a reliable source of fresh organic produce for the campus food services and, ultimately, to forge a business plan that will ensure the economic—as well as environmental—sustainability of the project.
The Life and Times of Thomas Hare

Floyd Parsons, who has taught at Franklin College since 1981, is a specialist on the British proportional political representation movement. He has recently written a book about Thomas Hare (1806–1891), a self-taught British lawyer and enthusiast for proportional representation whose scheme was vigorously promoted by John Stuart Mill as the way to ensure that all, not just the majority, were represented in the legislature. Parsons’ book, entitled *Thomas Hare and Political Representation in Victorian Britain*, examines this political theorist within the context of the history of party politics during his lifetime. By linking the debate about voting rights to contemporary arguments over parliamentary reform, the book addresses the relationship between political theory and party politics as it allows the figure of Thomas Hare to emerge from the shadow of Mill and to assume a more central and appropriate position in the history of the theory and practice of political representation in Victorian Britain.

Professor of history and philosophy, Floyd Parsons received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, England. His historical research on British proportional representation was done at St. John's College under Henry Pelling, the renowned historian and pioneer of the serious study of electoral and party politics. In England Parsons lectured on the life and times of Winston Churchill and participated in international conferences on Victorian politics and William Gladstone. His primary interests are the relationship between political theory and party politics and the conflict between science and religion.

Seeing and Hearing—Tiepolo

Eloquence is a word more often associated with the spoken word than with the painted image. Therefore, the title of Johanna Fassl’s new book, *Sacred Eloquence: Gianbattista Tiepolo and the Rhetoric of the Altarpiece*, piques the interest of both the art lover and the curious reader. Tiepolo, who was born in 1696, was the last important figure painter of the Venetian school. He occupies a particular position in the history of art: firmly embedded in the eighteenth century, he is one of the last great painters of the classical tradition and, at the same time, one of the precursors of modernity. Fassl focuses on the pictorial language in Tiepolo’s altarpieces which she breaks down into four different forms of rhetoric—iconic, narrative, silent and visionary. Deliberately concentrating on what is not painted rather than what is actually depicted, the book addresses the abbreviation and absence of key symbols in Tiepolo’s images as an eighteenth-century phenomenon anticipating modernity. The reader is able to see Tiepolo, and especially his altarpieces, in a new light and with a clearer understanding of his messages, both those that are articulate and those that are subtle.

Johanna Fassl, who was born in Munich, Germany, holds a Ph.D. with distinction in Art History from Columbia University. She received Mellon and Getty fellowships for her research on Tiepolo that led to this book. Currently an assistant professor of art history at Franklin College, she is also the director of Casa Muraro, the Columbia University Study Center in Venice.

Brian Stanford Publishes Somerville

It is said that there is a novel in each of us. In the case of Brian Stanford, Professor Emeritus of Art History and Studio Art, he says there have been many over the years. Now, one of them is seeing the light of day with the recent publication of *Somerville*. Professor Stanford provided the following synopsis of his murder mystery, noting that “the book itself is quite intricate and difficult to reduce to a simple description.”

In January, 1996, the body of a Cambridge professor was found floating in the river Cam. An autopsy showed a large amount of alcohol in his system. At an inquest a verdict of accidental death was brought in. Some of his colleagues knew that it was no accident but could not prove it. There had been other deaths. They began to speed up their researches from the early wartime years to the present. They discovered that the owner of a large Swiss pharmaceutical company had—at the beginning of the war—exchanged drugs for paintings stolen by the Nazis. Immediately after the war various groups were formed to trace such stolen property. There began a chain of deaths that did not end with the murder of the Cambridge professor.
Announcing the Taylor Institute for Global Enterprise Management
Teaching International Management at a Graduate Level – the Franklin Way

Gazette: Thanks for talking with us. First, tell us about the Taylor Institute and John Taylor's role in its creation.

Gebhardt: It's a new teaching and research institution which focuses on management of global enterprises and is the first realization of the College's strategic vision to offer graduate studies. As such, it is the academic and physical home for this, our first Master's program. The Institute's mission is to offer a high standard of graduate studies in international management and to promote and sponsor faculty research in this field. We're able to move forward because of a transformative gift from John Taylor. In his professional life, John is the Chairman, CEO and founder of FX Concepts, an international foreign exchange firm based in New York City. You likely will have seen him interviewed on CNBC or in the Wall Street Journal as an international expert on foreign exchange and interest rate markets. John has been associated with Franklin since its founding and has been for many years an enthusiastic supporter of Franklin's goal to offer graduate studies. He has guaranteed funding for the Taylor Institute sufficient to permit a measured, evolutionary development of research and teaching programs over the course of three to five years and has pledged to match gifts from others in support of the program.

Gazette: Business management education in colleges and universities is over a century old and has seen rapid growth in degree programs during the last 25 years. Why does the world need yet another one?

Gebhardt: I agree that the world probably doesn't need yet another cookie-cutter MBA program. However, our studies have revealed that there is an unmet need for a program of study at the graduate level that focuses on a global perspective answering...
such questions as: How do we design, manage and lead sustainable organizations engaged in activities that increasingly cross national and cultural boundaries? How does one manage innovation and organizational change in a flat world?

Gazette: What makes Franklin’s take on management education especially valuable?

Gebhardt: From the beginning, Franklin has been committed to a world focus in how it teaches, whom it hires as faculty and the kinds of students it recruits. We are drawing on 40 years of experience “on the ground” in this respect. Few schools have anything near this kind of experience. Our Master’s program will be similarly distinctive. We are offering an intentionally small program to ensure maximum student-faculty interaction; an American pedagogical philosophy that explicitly considers the world as its context; a multi-cultural student body and faculty; a location in Switzerland, especially Lugano, a top financial services center with a growing number of international corporate headquarters and easy access to the industrial and fashion centers of northern Italy. On top of this we feature a versatile faculty, all of whom share an interdisciplinary mindset and a passion for both teaching and engaging in cutting-edge research. It’s unbeatable.

Gazette: What will the program be like in terms of the curriculum and student experiences? How long is it?

Gebhardt: It’s a one-year program, which we think is ideal and affordable. Students will enroll in six courses per term, for two terms. They’ll work in small study groups to give them experience with real-world group cooperation and decision making. One day a week all students will participate in a seminar on a current topic in business, politics, economics or finance, led by a visiting executive or scholar. The program also includes an Academic Travel experience and a two-month internship as key components. Finally, all students will regroup on campus at the end of the program for a capstone leadership experience.

Gazette: So, is this a program only for those who want to pursue careers in business? What if someone wanted a management role in a nonprofit or an NGO?

Gebhardt: Excellent management is a universal endeavor, whether it is employed at profit-seeking companies, nonprofit organizations or even government bodies. What our students will be learning will have applicability to a wide range of organizations and their missions, especially in a global or cross-cultural context.

Gazette: Can you tell us what type of students you are looking for?

Gebhardt: Our ideal students will be bright, inquisitive about the world, comfortable in multi-cultural or international settings and have experience with a language beyond their native one. They will also be prepared to work hard — this is an intensive program that will challenge and inspire them to new levels of performance.

Gazette: What kind of positions do you foresee for students who complete the program?

Gebhardt: We see our students joining or returning to multinational companies; private, family-owned firms with cross-border business activities; or nonprofit organizations in management roles. For those taking time off from their careers, this program will enhance their capabilities for taking on more challenging assignments with their current employer or with a new one. For those who have yet to join the work force, the program will make them more attractive candidates, ready to take on leadership roles. Aspiring entrepreneurs will have gained insights into turning their ideas into the next Google or Oxfam.

Gazette: Tell us about the faculty.

Gebhardt: We are building a great faculty for the program. First, Pamela Adams, who is Professor of International Management and Marketing at Franklin, is on board as the Senior Fellow of the Institute. She is a widely published and respected scholar as well as excellent teacher. We also have an exciting visiting professor coming in the fall of 2012. Will Sparks is director of a graduate program in organizational development and leadership at Queens University in Charlotte, South Carolina. He is a scholar in business leadership and winner of numerous teaching awards. We will be announcing further appointments over the course of the next few months.

Gazette: Where will the Taylor Institute be located on campus? Is there any room for it?

Gebhardt: Yes, space on campus is certainly tight, but the Taylor Institute and this program will have permanent space in the new building that is planned as the third phase of the residence hall on Via Ponte Tresa, across from the Kaletsch Campus buildings. It will occupy the ground- and first-floor and will have space for classrooms, faculty offices and meeting rooms. Until the building is constructed, we will house the program in rented office space adjacent to the Kaletsch Campus.

Gazette: Tell us a little about yourself, if you don’t mind.

Gebhardt: After receiving my MBA from Harvard Business School, I spent a good part of my career working in international trade and finance, primarily in the United States, South America and Switzerland. Since 1988 I have consulted for a wide range of companies in the areas of strategic growth planning and implementation. I also teach courses here at Franklin in international management. My wife, Ornella, teaches Italian at Franklin, and my son attended classes here.

Gazette: Are you having fun?

Gebhardt: You’re joking, right? Working with talented people to build a new program from the ground up, what could be more exciting? Everyone involved in this project has a sincere desire to create a distinctive educational experience which will produce dynamic future leaders. And, as you know, with all the frustrations and challenges a small college offers, Franklin is a great place to work.

For more information about the Taylor Institute please visit our website: www.fc.edu/taylorinstitute

Or call: Chiara Napolitano or Robert Gebhardt at: +41 91 986-3672
Do you know the bumper sticker that says, ‘Think Globally. Act Locally’? Well, I internalized that concept while studying in Lugano many years ago. Ever since, I have made financial contributions year after year to Franklin College in the hopes that other young people will have the same experience. Will you help the next generation learn to be global citizens while improving the villages, towns, cities and nations in which they live? Consider giving as your appreciation for your own experience and as an expression of your desire to help shape future learners at Franklin.

WORDS TO GIVE by

If you would like to join Robin in supporting Franklin’s mission through a gift, please use our online gift form at www.fc.edu/makegift or contact the Advancement Office via email at: advancement@fc.edu
Franklin Celebrates Its 40th Commencement

The festive and light-hearted atmosphere at Franklin College’s 40th Commencement ceremony was enhanced by sunshine and dancing reflections from nearby Lake Lugano. As musicians from the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana played “Pomp and Circumstance,” the members of the largest graduating class in Franklin’s history, 85 students from 31 different countries, entered the amphitheater of the Palazzo dei Congressi in downtown Lugano on May 16, 2010, attired in traditional black caps and gowns. They were followed by the faculty and members of the Board of Trustees, each wearing the colors of his or her university and providing a panorama of pageantry as a backdrop to an unforgettable occasion.

A common thread—public service—ran through the comments of everyone who spoke at Commencement. In his introductory remarks President Erik Nielsen noted that today the inculcation of civic responsibility in students is a vital component of a college education. He commended the senior class for the impressive number of public service projects initiated by the students themselves, highlighting Academic Travel programs designed to help communities rebuild homes, learn English or initiate sustainable development programs; blood drives in support of the Red Cross; after-school English language instruction in the local community; and the cleanup and monitoring of lake water in the College’s local environment.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Franklin College, Paul Lowerre, then took the podium. After greeting the members of the audience, he told the story of a boy from Banjul, The Gambia, in Africa, who had written a letter to him ten years ago. Without ever falling into bitterness the handwritten letter spoke of the loss of a family to war, a life of indescribable hardship and a fervent desire to be reinstated in a school. As a result of this letter Chairman Lowerre helped the boy return to school and later enabled him to attend Franklin: Kebba Fadera received his diploma at this Commencement. Chairman Lowerre paid special tribute to him and also to the Franklin students who “embraced and encouraged” him in a new and different world.

Richard H. Bell ’65, member of the Board of Trustees, presented the 2010 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award, which is given annually to a Franklin alumni who has made outstanding efforts on behalf of the College and which is aptly named in honor of Ursula Lowerre ’76, one of Franklin’s most dedicated benefactors. This year’s recipient was Sally Dodge Mole ’65, member of the Franklin Board from 1983-1993 and member of the Alumni Council. Mole, who is committed to land conservation and a founder of the “buy local” movement in Vermont, accepted the award, promising students that they would find that “service to others will fill your lives with...”
passion, purpose and many new friends.”

The 2010 Commencement speaker was Diane Farrell, member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank, which is the official export credit agency of the United States. As part of her job she represents and promotes the interests of small business exporters. Through frequent visits to India she also encourages increased sales of U.S. goods and services to that country. Farrell has had more than 25 years of professional experience in the private and public sectors in financial management, maintaining fiscal integrity and managing budgets. Speaking with irresistible enthusiasm, she enumerated eight “pearls of wisdom,” all extremely practical, positive and inspiring, which included maintaining the global citizenship that the students have acquired at the College through which they must set good examples and aim for “inclusive growth” for the masses of less privileged people throughout the world. She also recommended finding personal mentors, being diplomatic and a good listener, keeping a sense of humor, building up a “goodwill bank,” running for public office, saying “yes” more often than “no” ...and taking many photographs throughout life. Provost Kris Bulcroft then introduced the Valedictorian of the Class of 2010, Kyle Hartman, whose speech was succinct and lively. He praised Franklin College for being “an institution that strives to promote intellectualism among its students without restricting them to complacency...from dancing with the Himba tribe in Namibia to wandering the streets of Paris at 5 a.m., our Academic Travel experiences have aroused our sense of adventure and molded us into curious and culturally aware individuals.”

He asked, “What kind of students would we be if not for our professors who work tirelessly to expand our creative and analytical abilities?” He noted that “the end of college elicits visions of an uncertain future. I say to embrace this uncertainty: we now have the opportunity to do whatever we want...and I really do believe that with enough desire, dedication and hard work anything in life is possible.”

President Nielsen provided some final thoughts, pointing out the incredible changes that have taken place in the world, especially politically, financially and in the field of technology, since the Class of 2010 arrived at Franklin in 2006. He reminded the students of Mark Twain’s words: “There are basically two types of people: those who accomplish things and those who claim to accomplish things.” He urged them to strive for the former and make themselves and their college proud and then he announced: “Ladies and Gentlemen, I present you Franklin College’s graduating Class of 2010!” The new graduates cheered, threw their hats into the air and filed out of the auditorium to the strains of Mouret’s “Rondeau.” The ceremony was followed by a lively reception on the terrace.
The Valedictorian of the Class of 2010, Kyle Hartman, is from Cleveland, Tennessee, in the United States. He graduated magna cum laude with a major in Environmental Studies and a minor in French. The academic career of this outstanding student dovetailed perfectly with the public service theme that ran throughout the entire Commencement ceremony. Kyle won the Environmental Studies Award in May, 2010, and one of his major passions was the cleanup of the Lake of Muzzano, which is near the College. Working as Professor Brack Hale’s research assistant, he co-authored an article on their research at the lake and wrote his thesis on invasive species in Ticino. In his Valedictory, Kyle specifically thanked Professor Hale “who, over the years, has not only been my inspiration and mentor for all things scientific, but also a close friend who has spent countless hours listening to me rant, rave and complain, but also shared in numerous successes and even failures.” Kyle also paid tribute to his family, saying, “What kind of people would we be if it were not for the sacrifices and dedication of our families? If your family is anything like mine, they have instilled in us a strong work ethic and have been overwhelmingly supportive in our desire to study far away from home.”

Since graduation Kyle has been working two jobs in Tennessee, but was discouraged about not finding employment in the environment field in spite of his efforts to find something. He recently took a long solo trip to Israel and Jordan. On his way home he stopped at Franklin and writes, “With Professor Hale’s help, I gathered up the courage to apply to the University of Zurich for their Master’s program in Environmental Science.” He was thrilled to be accepted and is now in the process of moving to Zurich to work on the Master’s and then a Ph.D. His career goals are “focused on finishing my degrees and then doing postdoctoral work in Europe.”
A sunny day embraced the participants in Franklin College’s 41st Commencement ceremony, creating a festive atmosphere for the 94 students graduating—once again the largest graduating class in the history of the College.

Spontaneous applause filled the large amphitheater of the Palazzo dei Congressi in downtown Lugano on Sunday, May 15, 2011, as the seniors in their traditional black caps and gowns proceeded down the aisles. Their arrival was heralded by “Pomp and Circumstance,” performed by members of the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana, and they were followed by Franklin’s international faculty members dressed in the colorful academic robes of their respective doctoral universities and gowned members of the Franklin Board of Trustees, who arrived from all over the world to participate in the ceremony.

Speaking both English and Italian, President Erik Nielsen welcomed members of the senior class, representing 20 different countries, their parents and friends, faculty, staff and members of the community.

He then introduced Pascal Tone, the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Franklin College and, 41 years ago, Franklin’s founding president. Chairman Tone reminisced about the birth of the College: “It has been 41 years since I and four other young educators began an adventure which brings us to this point in the College’s history. The College opened its doors in the fall of 1970 in a rented villa in the Paradiso section of Lugano. There were 11 faculty members and a few more than 70 students, mostly from the United States . . . and there was Academic Travel, too. It was an exciting time to be part of a new institution with eager students in a magnificent international setting like Lugano.” He continued, “Although the College has changed dramatically for the better, I sense the same eagerness and excitement on the part of students and faculty for the global educational experience which is truly unique at Franklin College.”

Two honorary degrees were granted this year. President Nielsen introduced the first candidate, Paul Lowerre, Franklin College’s outgoing Chairman of the Board, who served in that position for the past ten years. With great appreciation he underlined the “sincere and overarching dedication” of both former Chairman Lowerre and his wife Ursula to the College, saying that as chairman, Lowerre “shouldered the responsibility of guiding this institution, serving as a role model for his colleagues on the Board and being its chief cheerleader.” Sara Steinert-Borella, Dean of
the College, presented Chairman Lowerre, citing his professional success and his many philanthropic activities. As he accepted the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, Chairman Lowerre, an alumnus himself and husband and father of alumnae, spoke to the Class of 2011. He recalled arriving in Lugano in 1975 as a sheltered 18-year-old at a time when communicating back home, even by telephone, was complicated. Nine months later he had studied Russian literature, learned basic Italian and conversational French, travelled to eight different European countries (including an Academic Travel behind the Iron Curtain with Professor Schlein), skied in the Alps and visited classmates in Qatar. Admitting that no one outside the hall would believe such an awakening was possible, Chairman Lowerre affirmed: “But we’re Franklin College and that’s just how we work!” He continued, “By sharing intellectual and social engagement and discovering a global cross-cultural context, at Franklin we are changing the world for the better every day.” Wishing the seniors great and important lives, he also urged them to stay involved with the College.

This year’s Commencement speaker, P. Olivier Sarkozy, was the recipient of the second honorary degree. Managing Director and Head of Carlyle Global Financial Services Partners, Mr. Sarkozy, who has vast experience in the financial world, received his Master’s degree in Medieval History, cum laude, from St. Andrew’s University in Scotland. In addition to serving on the Board of Trustees for St. Andrew’s, Mr. Sarkozy is also on the board of Young Citizens, Inc., a group devoted to promoting service learning in academic settings. As President Nielsen conferred the Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, he recognized Mr. Sarkozy’s contributions in support of education and in promoting enlightened leadership through cultural understanding.

After accepting his degree, Mr. Sarkozy addressed the members of the Class of 2011. Saying that this is a unique time in our evolution, rife with conflict, danger and inequity, he pointed out that “Innovation has given us the means to alter our environment in ways we do not comprehend.” He also noted that we very recently came within a hair’s breadth of seeing the capitalistic system on which we depend suffer a complete collapse. On a positive note, Mr. Sarkozy continued, “While as a society we still have a long way to go to make this a just and caring world, the tools we have at our disposal have never been greater. Advancements in medicine, technology and agriculture have made it possible for the average citizen to live better than kings of yesteryear. While the challenges are great, so too are the possibilities. How thrilling a time to come into the world as graduates. Approximately 70 percent of the world population is illiterate. Only one percent have completed a degree in higher education. Given the quality of your university, you will be among the top one-quarter of one percent of the world from an educational perspective. That really is a rarefied position.” However, with this privilege comes a great responsibility which you “simply cannot shirk. You have a responsibility first and foremost to remind yourself of your blessings. Aim higher: approach all things with humility and compassion; maintain a healthy skepticism but avoid cynicism.” In closing, Mr. Sarkozy urged, “Maintain an open mind and a curious disposition as befits the education you have been blessed with.”

The candidates, from many different countries including France, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Brazil, Kyrgyzstan and the United States, were presented by Dean Steinert-Borella to President Nielsen and Chairman Tone who conferred the degrees. Each student was greeted by wildly enthusiastic applause from the audience.
VALEDICTORIAN 2011...KAROLINA VAICKUTE

This year’s Valedictorian, Karolina Vaickute, was born in and spent part of her childhood in Plunge, a small rural town in Lithuania. When she was still young, her parents emigrated to the United States; she and her family have resided in southwest Florida for 14 years. At Franklin Karolina studied Visual and Communication Arts and declared Psychology and Art History as minors. During her three years as a student, one of her most edifying extracurricular activities was working as a reporter for the student newspaper, the Franklin Voice. That experience reinforced her interest in journalism, and in the future she hopes to find a career where she can unite her “passions for the written and the visual in order to inform and touch people on an emotional level.” In her Valedictory, Karolina said that her favorite theme is “how is the time you’ll be entering the real world,” and considered the fact that “from our idyllic little corner of southern Switzerland the real might appear a bit fantastical.” However, remembering experiences that the Class of 2011 took part in, such as building a community in Thailand, cleaning up Lake Muzzano, walking the streets in Sarajevo at night or simply speaking with someone of a different culture in downtown Lugano, she was able to conclude that, after all, she and her classmates were quite well-prepared to enter the real world.

When asked how she chose to come to Franklin, Karolina recalled, “I learned about the College through a postcard sent to me . . . after I completed my college entrance exams. I made the decision to apply on a whim; after my acceptance I spent a year working in order to raise funds to attend. The postcard contained the headline, ‘Welcome to the Biggest Classroom in the World.’ Having the world itself as a stage for learning has brought me so many diverse opportunities that making decisions about the future has become incredibly difficult, and at the same time, exponentially more rewarding.” Karolina is currently hoping to work in visual media before returning to university to study photography and graphic design.

In his closing remarks, President Nielsen observed that “today it is imperative that our graduates leave their formal training and enter the world outside of academe with a truly global education and one that encourages tolerance and understanding.” He encouraged the new graduates to “accept the challenge the world has to offer and go forward with the confidence that you have the ability to make a meaningful contribution to the betterment of the twenty-first century.” In conclusion President Nielsen acknowledged the generosity of both the outgoing senior class and their parents in making gifts to the Senior Gift Fund and the Senior Parent Fund, thanking in particular senior class representatives Inigo Garcia, Rene Musech and Zokir Hayoev. Mentioning that this year is the 100th anniversary of International Women’s Day, he finished with a quote from Maya Angelou “which in its essence speaks to the heart of Franklin’s mission of respect for others”: “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” Inviting the graduating class to stand he announced: “Ladies and Gentlemen, I present you Franklin College’s graduating class of 2011.” The traditional tossing of the graduates’ tasseled caps into the air and the recessional to the strains of “Rondeau” were followed by a reception in a hall bedecked by huge banners depicting life at Franklin.
3/17: Upon arriving in Udon Thani, Kadie and I take a tuk-tuk (motorized rickshaw) into the central part of town, dominated by a day market, a night market, and a Western-style mall. We had a fun girl-time shopping experience and then took a walk while it was still light out. We found a big Buddhist compound with Chinese-style architecture and really pleasant monks in pajama-like robes. The sun set so quickly that I only had a few minutes for a color sketch before it got too dark.

The illustrations in this article are from the spring semester 2010 Thailand travel journal of Blue Delliquanti ’11. Blue taught English at the local school while she was in Thailand as other members of the group helped build homes for locals. Photo of Blue (facing page) by Greg Wen ’11.
Imagine strapping on a headlamp, walking into a dry and dusty rice paddy under the stars and hunting for your dinner—of crickets.

“Crickets taste like the oil they’re fried in,” quips Dean Leslie Guggiari. “They’re not bad—and are a great source of protein.” Following the fried cricket was a yummy “ant egg” delicacy. According to the Dean, they weren’t quite as appetizing.

Not every college Dean is willing to nibble on a crispy cricket, but Franklin’s Leslie Guggiari, Dean of Student Life and Engagement, isn’t typical as Deans go—she’s typically Franklin. Guggiari and her students had traveled halfway around the world to learn and to serve. Reasons enough to rise to any culinary challenge.

“Franklin College has a global perspective on higher education,” Guggiari explains. “We have a great responsibility to teach students about the world—about world cultures and sustainability—and not just through textbooks, but through hands-on experiences. Franklin believes that learning doesn’t necessarily have to happen in a classroom. It also happens through service work.”
Teaching students about cultures and sustainability has recently taken Guggiari and a group of 14 Franklin students far from the Lugano classrooms and posh dining-hall fare to the province of Surin in eastern Thailand, to Ban Naudom, a rural village of 100 residents, mostly farmers, in one of the poorest regions of the country.

“This Academic Travel focused on service learning,” Guggiari points out. “Our understanding of service learning, however, is not to be confused with volunteer work or community service. We engaged in a true partnership.”

Students were able to gain a tremendous amount of knowledge about Thai village culture, develop lifelong friendships and experience 13 days of hands-on service. In exchange, the villagers also made lifelong friends—and also received three new houses as donations.

“This was a collaborative partnership,” Guggiari says, “not the old-fashioned concept of volunteer work. We didn't build new homes for the village of Ban Naudom to make ourselves feel good, but to serve and learn. It was a win-win situation for everyone.”

Dean Guggiari’s Academic Travel in March, 2010, was designed to expose Franklin students to an East-Asian culture and to allow students to discover and experience firsthand the socio-economic culture of Thai villagers. The Travel also offered Franklin students—a group comprised of Nicaraguans, Americans and Brazilians—a method of using their own resources to benefit the Thai people directly. Those resources were largely made up of dedication, patience, hard labor and 13 days of sweat and sore muscles.

Building cement and brick walls proved to be grueling work for the Franklin construction crew, who worked in extremely high temperatures under the blistering sun. The students were up at 7 a.m. and on the
job site at 8 a.m., working steadily until 4:30 p.m. and breaking only for lunch.

Despite the physical challenges, working with a non-English-speaking crew was an extraordinary experience for the students. "They realized how easy it was to go into this village with no common language and to make friends in a very short period of time," Dean Guggiari notes. "The students had to communicate nonverbally at the work sites, in restaurants and virtually everywhere in the village. They were nervous at the beginning, but soon realized the profound connections they had with their new Thai friends. They came to understand that the world is a small place—and that we can all help each other."

The teamwork required on any job site is often hard to achieve, even for a crew that speaks the same language. "But the fact that the Franklin students worked so well with their Thai coworkers without a common language," Guggiari observes, "is simply amazing to me. This was a lesson in itself: we at Franklin can cross borders and learn about each other without any commonalities at all, without similar religious, political or cultural views. We can still connect as people—and the connections can be quite deep."

While some of the students were well informed about development aid and working with villagers, having already traveled to African villages on previous Academic Travels, others were more surprised by village life and the amount of manual labor required. All were asleep, exhausted, by 10 p.m.

Two women students in the group opted out of the construction work and instead worked in the village daycare or taught English in the local elementary school. Blue Delliquanti’s experience teaching English to village children definitely confirmed her love for the classroom and her commitment to teaching "English as a Second Language" overseas. "For the last couple of years," Blue explains, "I had considered the
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children in India. Dean Guggiari’s family sponsored one of these Indian children, prompting Guggiari to travel with Romano on an academic trip to India in 2005, when she visited several of Romano’s Indian projects. From 2000 to 2010, Guggiari served on his Board of Directors as the only English-speaking member.

In 2007, Romano started the Sainam Foundation in Thailand and adopted Ban Naudom as his new home, marrying a Thai woman and building a permanent house in the village. Hearing about Romano’s new Thai venture, Guggiari contacted him with the possibility of working as a teacher, probably an English teacher, once I graduate from Franklin. The service available while in Thailand gave me a good chance to test my commitment and my raw teaching skills, as well as how I would fare in a completely unfamiliar teaching environment.”

Several other students are considering jobs in the nonprofit and development-aid sectors, and their experiences in the small Thai village confirmed that career choice. Hannah Sloss’s trip to Thailand and experience with the Sainam Foundation opened up options for working in the nonprofit sector. The summer following the trip to Thailand, Hannah interned with a non-governmental organization in Washington, D.C.

The Ban Naudom–Franklin partnership was born out of a partnership between Franklin College and the Sainam Foundation, a nongovernmental organization that helps Thai children who have been orphaned or abandoned by their parents as well as those children and their families who are extremely poor, by providing educational scholarships, developmental assistance in the form of micro-finance loans and medical care.

The Sainam Foundation was founded by former Lugano resident Claudio Romano, who left his lucrative career as a Swiss banker to work among the poorest of the poor, establishing a foundation to help projects. From 2000 to 2010, Guggiari served on his Board of Directors as the only English-speaking member.

In 2007, Romano started the Sainam Foundation in Thailand and adopted Ban Naudom as his new home, marrying a Thai woman and building a permanent house in the village. Hearing about Romano’s new Thai venture, Guggiari contacted him with an idea—to gather money through Franklin’s Academic Travel Program and work with students to build new houses for the villagers. The students would build the walls and windows, and the Thai locals would add the finishing touches, finalizing the homes in five to six weeks.

Romano eagerly accepted the Dean’s proposal and became intimately involved with the Franklin partnership from the beginning, making space for some of the Franklin students and Guggiari to sleep on the floor of his house. Another group of students slept on the floor of the local hairdresser’s salon.

And Romano made sure the students were involved in Sainam’s various sustainability projects aimed to revitalize Ban Naudom’s economy. If the students wanted drinks during the day, for example, they purchased them from one of stores in town that received micro-financing from the Sainam Foundation. Students also purchased Sainam-Franklin partnership t-shirts sewn by one village shop and printed by another, shops receiving micro-financing from Sainam.

One of the larger aims of the Sainam Foundation is to provide young women with a good education in order to stop them from leaving the poverty-stricken Surin Province to find work in the sex industry in Bangkok—for some, their only way to
drained the water out of the pond to irrigate the paddies because March is a very dry season,” Guggiari explains. “The fish flopped around in the mud and we caught them with our hands, the students at the bottom of the drained pond, covered with mud, grabbing fish—which we then grilled all afternoon. We were part of the villagers’ lives in a very normal way.”

To fight the debilitating heat, the students also learned to wear the typical wide-brimmed straw hats the Thai workers wore in the rice paddies and to wrap scarves around mouths and necks to ward off the extreme dryness, dirt and dust. But the challenging conditions didn’t detract from the joy of the Ban Naudom villagers. “Thailand is called the ‘land of smiles,’” Guggiari notes, “and it’s really true. When you experience the Thai people, no matter what they are living with or living without, you experience a great deal of happiness. This was an invaluable lesson for our students. Here were people who had never grown up in houses. In fact, the houses we built for them were, for some, the very first homes they had ever slept in. But their poverty didn’t mean that they were unhappy. On the contrary.”

The Franklin students learned many life-long lessons. As Guggiari observed, “The

support their families. The Foundation is also working to provide a rice mill for local workers to free them from corrupt “middle men” who rent out not only the mill but also the tractors needed for harvesting the rice paddies, often at exorbitant rental fees.

Franklin students were able to observe Sainam’s successful sustainability efforts up close. They visited Romano’s mother-in-law’s home, where local women wove silk on looms and sewed scarves that eventually sell in Switzerland, providing a substantial income for Ban Naudom families.

“Romano and Sainam are working hard to bring a self-sufficient lifestyle to these people,” Guggiari explains. “The villagers want to live proudly and happily on their own without being dependent on other people.”

To prepare the Franklin students to live and work in such a vastly different environment, Romano visited the Franklin campus with his wife to explain village life. In their pre-travel meetings, students learned how the sex industry of Bangkok impacts rural life; reviewed expected behavior for westerners in a Buddhist culture; and discussed the extensive required reading list provided by Dean Guggiari, which included A History of Thailand; Culture Shock Thailand: A Survival Guide to Customs and Etiquette; Inside Thai Society: Religion, Everyday Life; Thailand: The Worldly Kingdom; and Thailand: A Short History. Each student was also expected to write a research paper, keep a travel journal and complete a final exam upon return. Some students also created video projects. “This was not a sightseeing trip,” the Dean affirms, “but an absorption into Thai village life. We were there to learn and to serve.”

Taking a break from their daily work on Saturday, the Franklin students joined their Thai friends in the village soccer league game—"losing terribly," according to the Dean. “But it was an amazing experience to be a part of their community, amidst the clapping and cheering.” On Sunday, the group walked to a small shack owned by Claudio’s wife, a fishing hut located in the middle of the rice paddies, for an unusual day-long experience of Thai fishing. “They drained the water out of the pond to irrigate the paddies because March is a very dry season,” Guggiari explains. “The fish flopped around in the mud and we caught them with our hands, the students at the bottom of the drained pond, covered with mud, grabbing fish—which we then grilled all afternoon. We were part of the villagers’ lives in a very normal way.”

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The Franklin students learned many life-long lessons. As Guggiari observed, “The
students were most concerned about the image they projected to the villagers. They didn’t want to be perceived as the ‘rich white kids’ arriving to save the day. They truly wanted to serve, to make friends and to learn as much about the Thai culture as possible. Franklin students are good at that. They know how to cross borders very well.”

According to Franklin student Jonathan Newhall, “The trip to Thailand provided me an especially poignant insight into how many people in the world live. It was certainly the smallest community and the most financially impoverished place I had been to—but there was a tangible sense of community. The people were very friendly and willing to share their food, their culture, their knowledge, their jokes, whatever they had. We all felt truly welcome.”

Dean Guggiari’s goal for her students was to understand how to meet another identity without preconceptions and without being judgmental. “I wanted my students say, ‘I can respect that identity. It has a place. It has a voice on earth, just as I do,’” Guggiari emphasizes. “When we talk about a vastly different identity, we may not accept it or even understand it, but it’s so very important to learn to respect that it exists.”

Franklin student Hannah Sloss reflects: “My experience with the Sainam Foundation has definitely influenced my understanding of what it means to be a global citizen. Despite how small the world is becoming, no one can truly anticipate how much people from extremely different walks of life have in common. Being a global citizen, in my opinion, reflects the realization that all people have similar goals in life. And although the circumstances in which people find themselves may be strikingly unequal, there is a common ground: we all seek personal fulfillment in providing for others, our family, our communities, our countries and our society.”

Hannah, who worked in the nursery and primary school, shares that her experience in Thailand was more than just an academic course or travel adventure: “The children I met and the bonds I formed with the people in Ban Naudom were real,” she says, “something I will never forget. To be so unconditionally accepted and embraced by strangers has since made me re-examine my own tendency to judge others prematurely. Overall, this experience not only tweaked my worldview, it also deepened my own self-awareness.”

At the closing ceremony for the Franklin travelers, the entire village joined in the farewell, tying yellow strings around the wrists of their departing guests, a common Thai custom that promises enduring friendship. “We had up to 50 yellow strings around our wrists,” Guggiari recalls. “Our new Thai friends were crying as they said goodbye. The students were shocked, realizing that they...”
had not shared one word of English with most of their new village friends, but deep connections had been forged.

For the Franklin team, lasting cross-border friendships, developed through service, will redefine sustainability for years to come—lifelong friendships, three rock-solid new houses and enduring lessons of what it means to embrace another culture as one’s own, if only for a matter of days.

Although this Thailand experience was the first time Blue Delliquanti had visited a developing country, she affirms that “seeing how dedicated the locals in Ban Naudom were to educate themselves and their children and further the development of their village, even outside of Sainam’s significant influence, was really inspiring. I felt welcomed and accepted by the community and appreciated for my efforts, and I in turn felt strongly connected with their wellbeing and the future development of their village. To me, that is what it means to be a global citizen, to have a lasting bond with a community thousands of miles away from your own and being invested in their wellbeing.”

To see photos of the Thailand trip: www.fc.edu/thailandphotos

To see videos of the Thailand trip: www.fc.edu/thailandvideos

For more information about the Sainam Foundation: www.sainam.net
ART AS INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

Figurative Artist
Jane LaFarge Hamill
Travels the Globe for Inspiration

When Jane LaFarge Hamill ’03 was a little girl, her parents would bring her to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. As a child, she would look with awe at the paintings by her paternal great-great-grandfather, John LaFarge, a man whose artistic aspirations were many and who passed those gifts down to Jane and her siblings. “In the Franklin College tradition, he was one of the first American art explorers to go outside the regular Grand Tour of Europe,” says Hamill. “He went to the South Seas before Gauguin was there and explored a lot of places.”
Twenty years or so after those Met visits, Hamill has her own art studio in the Williamsburg area of Brooklyn, N.Y., where she pursues her calling as a contemporary figurative artist.

Growing up in Princeton, N.J., and traveling many places with her family, Hamill knew she wanted to take a different path to college than her classmates at the Lawrenceville School were taking. “They were going to Yale, Columbia and Penn … that kind of school,” she says. “I realized there was another opportunity, and it was to open the barn door instead of the windows and Franklin was that for me.”

Her former babysitter, Cindy Hudson ’85, who had gone to Franklin College, introduced her to the school. When Hamill traveled to Switzerland to visit, she knew that she had found the right place. Here she was able to travel and explore the art of Europe first-hand. “I have always been an experiential learner,” says Hamill. “I think that’s one of the best pulls of the Franklin education.”

At Franklin, Art History and Studio Art Professor Brian Stanford encouraged Hamill to start exploring when she was a freshman. “Stanford had a suggestion that would change the importance of art in my life,” says Hamill. “He said to go to the Venice Biennale—at the time I didn’t even know what this was. But that Friday I got on a train, then a fuming vaporetto and into a slightly flooded hotel near San Marco….During the subsequent two days I spent exhilarating and exhausting hours walking through pavilions of the most important contemporary art as curated in 1999. The work I saw that weekend taught me profound lessons and asked me questions that stay with me even now.” One of the questions she started to ask herself was how medium works as metaphor. Hamill found one answer in the work of William Kentridge. “I learned how a crude stop motion series of charcoal drawings could communicate the entire debate of ongoing racism in South Africa,” she says.

While at Franklin, Hamill also spent a year abroad at Slade School of Fine Arts at University College in London. Here she found inspiration in the work of Euan Uglow, a British figurative painter, who became an artistic hero for Hamill. “When I went to the Slade I began falling in love with figurative artists,” says Hamill. “The body is something we all have in common and I think it’s an easy form of communication for visual arts.”

After attending Franklin and receiving a degree in Communication Arts, Hamill went on to the New York Academy of Art to earn her M.F.A. in 2005. In graduate school, she discovered a community of peers and mentors who were instrumental in teaching her how to do “the business” of being an artist and who offered fellowship in the singular life of an artist. “I used to have a drawing night at my studio where we would have a live model and everyone would draw,” says Hamill. “It’s a nice way of getting the community together. Otherwise we are all just kind of working on our own, in our own studios, solitary.”

During a grad school show where her thesis painting was exhibited, the Stricoff Fine Art Gallery noticed her work and invited her to its gallery. Recently she switched galleries, and the J. Cacciola Gallery in New York now represents Hamill. “I was put straight into a gallery situation where I was living off my work and didn’t have to have another job, and in that I was very fortunate,” says Hamill. “Talent, luck, hard work—there are a lot of different factors that contributed.” She has never had to wait tables or any of the other stereotypical occupations of a starving artist, although she admits that New York is a challenging place to break into the art scene because of the competition. “It is very difficult here,” says Hamill. “There are hundreds of artists and the galleries have their choices. Luckily for me, figurative art has become more popular.”

Since 2008, Hamill has applied yearly for grants to travel overseas and work on projects. Her first solo exhibition, “Figures in Absentia-ville,” was held at the Stricoff Fine Art Gallery in 2009 and was based on her research in a small town in Estonia called Mooste. She received the grant from MoKS Center for Art and
Social Practice. The youth of Estonia are the original inspiration for what has become a motif for her—branded cycling jerseys.

Over the last several years, Hamill’s work has involved these cycling jerseys. “I get them all from eBay,” she says. She has jerseys promoting everything from Panasonic to pharmaceutical companies and banks. “I am also looking for a Starbucks jersey,” she says. “They are very difficult to get hold of.”

“I used to work only from a model, and it was purely perceptual. Now I have decided working from a photo can give you just as important information that you can pull from life. When you are looking at a still life your brain is filtering out a lot of information and you are just picking out the information that you need, and when you are looking at a digital photograph you are still choosing.” Regardless of where she gets the information, it is always about the interpretation. “That’s what painting is about—the information that you take and the information that you leave behind,” she says.

Hamill will often start her pieces from a reference photograph. She will manipulate the image in Photoshop and piece together compositions and then refer to it as she is painting. Gone are the days when a model had to sit for hours, although Hamill will still utilize models. Now, Hamill can simply photograph herself and use those images in her paintings, looking from canvas to computer screen.

“The meaning is in the choices,” she says. “I take inspiration from anywhere I can get it,” she says. Some of those influences include choreographer Pina Bausch, composer Igor Stravinsky, figurative artist Jenny Saville and abstract artist Cy Twombly, to name a few.

“Compensated Spokespeople: Skittles, USA.” In preparation for group shows later this year, Jane has been working on a series of paintings showing cacophonies of swirling bodies donning a variety of these high profile logos. In 2010, she completed a cycling jersey with a Skittles logo from the 1980s—“Compensated Spokespeople: Skittles, USA.” In preparation for group shows later this year, Jane has been working on a series of paintings showing cacophonies of swirling bodies donning a variety of these.

“I am not trying to say these are the best ways of being because they are not, but I am trying to make an international language in which I can say I am from here or I am from there,” she says. “I am not trying to say this is better or that is better. I am trying to start an international language.”

Hamill's work has been shown in over 100 juried group shows, including the Whitney Biennial in New York. She has received several grants and residencies, including a fellowship from the Artadia Foundation. In 2010, she received the first annual Jane Hamill Scholarship at the Franklin Campus of SUNY Purchase.

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cycling jerseys with corporate sponsorship ranging from Pfizer to Astana.

“In the future I would love to do an audio installation to supplement my paintings,” she says. “In Estonia and Serbia I recorded interviews with each of the people I made portraits of. I would like to get a whole group of countries represented in this series, and have a babble of the audio interviews playing at a low murmur beneath the paintings.” She has aspirations of going to Rwanda, but the next trip she will be taking is to Beirut in 2011. “It’s supposed to be one of the most fun cities to visit,” says Hamill. “The people have a great spirit of community and hospitality.”

In the spirit of hospitality, Hamill enjoys cooking for her friends when she’s not painting. “I cook, but truthfully I am always in the studio,” she says. “Cooking is interesting because if you are making something in the kitchen it is very similar to being at your palette mixing colors…but it’s a lot easier to make something you enjoy right then and there.”

Although she spends many long days (and nights) in her studio, she is quite happy to be there or traveling to another country for inspiration. She doesn’t take her success for granted. “Becoming an artist is a pretty tough place to get to, and I don’t know if I would have been able to do it without the novelty that I learned at Franklin,” says Hamill. “In 10 years, I would like to see myself painting, represented in New York, still traveling, teaching, and that’s all that I can hope for. I am pretty happy with exactly how things are right now. If things stayed the same, I would be a lucky woman.”
By Austin Tomlinson ’06

The Franklin Alumni Council, composed of 41 enthusiastic and dedicated alumni volunteers, spanning fifteen time zones from Los Angeles to Manila, continues to provide crucial support to the College and its alumni. Under the current leadership of Alumni Trustees Jennifer Raley ’77 and Frances Stewart ’75, the Alumni Council has continued to sponsor and organize a wide variety of initiatives around the globe.

After discussing various ways the Alumni Council might support the College at one of its three annual meetings, it emerged that it could be of great assistance in the area of career services. Frances Stewart and Andrew Rebak ’93 suggested the Council organize a “Networking Forum” for current students in which they could ask questions of a panel of expert alumni (via video conference) about specific professions. Frances Stewart agreed to lead the initiative, along with a group of Alumni Council volunteers. On September 9, 2010, the College’s first Networking Forum took place and was a huge success. Following the success of the first Networking Forum a second one was held on March 31, 2011. Most recently the program has been renamed Borderless Student-Alumni Forums and in the coming academic year students and alumni volunteers plan to organize four BSA Forums in various locations around the world (see the article on page 4 of this magazine for more details).

Although the organization and the execution of the Networking Forum program has taken up a lot of the Alumni Council’s time and resources, the Council continues to stay involved in a variety of other initiatives. Among other things the Council sponsored the Fall 2009 Lecture Series, a program that continues to inspire and enrich the lives of many Franklin students and members of the local community. In May 2010 and 2011 the Council hosted the third and fourth annual Alumni Council-sponsored art competitions on campus. Many impressive works of art were submitted by various student artists. The winners of the competitions, Kadeema Kasim ’11 (USA) and Laila Abduljawad ’14 (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), both received $500 awards for their submissions. Also in May, 2010, the Alumni Council covered the travel expenses from the U.S. to Lugano for the 2010 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award recipient, Sally Dodge Mole ’65.

Facilitating opportunities for alumni to reconnect with one another as well as with the College is of great importance to the Alumni Council. Following tradition, the Alumni Council continues to sponsor alumni events around the world, most recently in Amman, New York, Miami, San Francisco and Lugano.

None of these projects would have been possible without the generous support of the Alumni Council members who continue to make generous contributions annually to the Alumni Council Fund. Alumni Council Fund Officer Freddie Middelstaedt ’05 has been leading the Council’s successful fundraising activities for the past four quarters; both the 2009-2010 and the 2010-2011 academic years were record-breaking years for the Alumni Council Fund in terms of total dollars raised. After meeting in Lugano in May, 2011, the Alumni Council formulated a variety of exciting plans it intends to carry out during the 2011-2012 academic year. The College is grateful to the Alumni Council for its continued support and its dedication to Franklin alumni.

Frances Todd Stewart ’75 - Alumni Trustee

Franklin College is pleased to introduce a new Alumni Trustee, Frances Todd Stewart. She attended Franklin in 1974–1975 and worked on an independent study project, traveling to Brussels to research the then newly formed European Economic Community. This international experience created a solid foundation for her lifelong work in many different countries around the world. After Franklin, she completed her studies with a B.A. from Williams College.

Frances, who is President of Creative Products International, a full-service new product development, custom manufacturing and import-export company of eco-friendly fabrics, packaging, giftware, housewares and pet products, holds a number of patents for her award-winning innovative products, including most recently a CD-ROM postage stamp series commemorating the long-lasting environmental commitment, new monarch and historic transition to democracy of the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. She was appointed by President Reagan to the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the first woman to hold such a position. Both of Frances’ daughters attended Franklin, Natalie, during the fall semester 2006, and Julia, during the 2006–2007 academic year. Frances is married to Charles Stewart and also has a son, Chas. She is thrilled to reconnect with Franklin as a member of the Board of Trustees and as a Franklin Alumni Trustee.
Alumni Events

To view complete photo galleries of events please visit: www.fc.edu/alumnigallery

Costa Vescovato, Italy
October 3, 2009
Eighteen alumni and friends from Switzerland, Italy, Monaco and the United States visited the Cooperativa Valli Unite, which is nestled in the hills of Tortona in the Italian Piedmont region. Vintner and sustainable farmer, Ottavio Rube, led the group on a tour of the cooperative which included wine tasting in the cooperative’s rustic wine cellar. The tour was followed by an elaborate four-course lunch and a presentation on the most recent developments at Franklin, by Austin Tomlinson ‘06, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations.

Wadi Rum, Jordan
October 9-10, 2009
Wadi Rum, Jordan, was the site for a special two-day Franklin gathering of attendees from Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and the United States. There was a brief presentation by Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Austin Tomlinson ‘06 on the latest news at Franklin. Afterwards the group enjoyed a traditional Jordanian dinner accompanied by Arabic music and folk dancing. The following morning, the group was roused out of their Bedouin tents at 5:30 a.m. for a sunrise sand-buggy tour of Wadi Rum.

Washington, D.C.
October 30, 2009
Franklin alumni, parents and friends had the honor of spending an evening at the Swiss Ambassador’s residence in Washington, D.C. The reception began with a warm welcome back on “Swiss soil” by Swiss Ambassador Urs Ziswiler. Following the Ambassador’s welcome, President Erik Nielsen spoke about the 40-year history of Franklin and current campus news. The evening’s keynote speaker was Dr. Jonathan Steinberg, Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Modern European History at the University of Pennsylvania. He gave a fascinating and humor-filled talk entitled: “Switzerland in the 1960s: the World in Which Franklin College Was Born.”

New York City
November 6, 2009
One-hundred-and-thirty Franklin attendees from around the world celebrated the 40th anniversary of Franklin College at the Americas Society in New York City. The cocktail reception began with a welcome by Franklin College’s first President, co-founder and now Chairman of the Board of Trustees Pat Tone. Later, President Erik Nielsen presented Franklin alumnus James E. Moore ’74 with the 2009 Ursula Gentile Lowerre Outstanding Service Award. Franklin Professor Johanna Fassl gave a thought-provoking lecture entitled “Branding, Art and Identity: Why Does a Stuffed Shark Sell for $12 Million Dollars?”
Lugano, Switzerland
November 21, 2009
The Grotto Riviera in Agno, Switzerland, was the venue for a gathering of 69 Franklinites from Europe and the United States. President Erik Nielsen was on hand to welcome everyone and to publicly express the College’s appreciation to outgoing Alumni Trustee Eva Maria Gianini ’95 for a job well done. Franklin Trustee Fausto Gianini, his wife Uta and Trustee Willem Peppler were among those who came to enjoy the traditional Ticinese food, wine and music.

Miami, Florida
December 11, 2009
Alumnae Renu Mody ’83 and Claudia Figueredo ’95 hosted a memorable Swiss-Italian inspired holiday reunion, complete with Swiss-Italian hors d’oeuvres and prosecco, for Franklin’s South Florida alumni. Over 20 alumni from various areas of South Florida gathered at Renu’s beautiful home in Miami Beach. Attendees learned about Franklin’s most recent developments in a brief presentation by Franklin Trustee Ernst Matthiensen in addition to reconnecting with old friends and making some new ones.

Tokyo, Japan
January 15, 2010
A group of Franklin and American University of Paris alumni spent an evening together at the very elegant Century Court Marunouchi restaurant in Tokyo. This joint Franklin College/ American University of Paris alumni event was organized by Franklin alumni Maki Kono ’98 and Toshio Iwasaki ’96 and by American University of Paris alumna Diana Akiko Izawa ’99.

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
February 2, 2010
The Hilton Hotel in Jeddah was the site of the College’s first alumni event in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It was organized and sponsored by Franklin alumnus Sheikh Hussein Al-Banawi ’77. Among the attendees were President Erik Nielsen, Swiss Consul General Hans Stalder, Counselor for Commercial Affairs Amer Kayani from the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Public Affairs Officer Jeffrey Hill from the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah and many other Franklin alumni, parents and friends.
Salt Lake City, Utah  
February 6, 2010

Franklin alumni, parents and prospective students met at Utah’s premier Italian eatery, Lugano Restaurant, for a beautiful four-course dinner prepared by Greg Neville ’78, the restaurant’s owner and Franklin alumnus. The event’s program included an illustrated presentation about recent College developments by Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Austin Tomlinson ’06; the screening of a DVD about an Academic Travel to Morocco; as well as a short talk by Franklin Trustee Kevin McNeely ’73.

San Francisco, California  
February 26, 2010

The St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco was the site for an alumni reunion in February, 2010. The program included a brief update on the College by President Nielsen and an illustrated talk by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and director, Eric Paul Fournier.

Los Angeles, California  
March 2, 2010

Franklin alumni, parents and friends enjoyed an evening at the Downtown Independent, Los Angeles’ premier independent theater, owned by Franklin alumnus Jim Kirst ’05. The evening began with a cocktail reception in the theater’s chic lobby and was followed by the screening of the Swiss/Hungarian film The Valley, the score of which was composed by Franklin professor Paul Glass.

New York City  
March 5, 2010

Alumna Esra’a Al-Shafei ’08 was the featured speaker for an Alumni Council-sponsored reception at the Harvard Club in New York City. Her presentation was entitled, “Shaping the Future of the Middle East with Social Media.” Al-Shafei is founder and Executive Director of MideastYouth.com. Ninety-six alumni, parents and friends attended. Guests also heard a brief update from President Erik Nielsen about some of the exciting things that are happening on campus.

Lugano, Switzerland  
May 13, 2010

The annual Alumni Council-sponsored Boat Cruise took place in May, 2010. Franklin alumni and trustees from around the world gathered together to reconnect with old friends and to congratulate and welcome members of the graduating class of 2010 into the Franklin alumni family. Over 130 guests attended the event, with some coming from as far as the Philippines, Jordan and the West Coast of the United States.

New York City  
September 9, 2010

Thirty-six attendees including Franklin alumni, parents and friends gathered at Hudson Terrace in New York for an informal networking event. The College’s newly minted alumni from the class of 2010 were especially eager to connect with other Franklin alumni and get advice on careers and life after graduation.
Milan, Italy
October 2, 2010
Franklin alumni and friends from Switzerland, Italy, Serbia, the United States, Turkey and Brazil attended a private guided tour of the Museo Diocesano in Milan, home to some of Lombardy’s most valuable religious treasures. The tour was followed by an aperitivo and a four-course dinner with many Franklin professors joining in at a nearby restaurant.

Amman, Jordan
October 8, 2010
Alumni, parents and friends from Oman, Germany, the United States and Jordan met at the Wild Jordan Café in Amman, Jordan, for a reception sponsored by the Franklin Alumni Council. Guests included the Saudi Ambassador to Jordan, Ambassador Fahad Al-Zeid, President Erik Nielsen and Franklin Trustee Ammar Malhas. The evening’s program began with an illustrated presentation by President Erik Nielsen about some of the exciting new projects that are taking place at the College and concluded with a reception.

Washington, D.C.
October 29, 2010
The National Press Club in Washington, D.C., was the venue for a Franklin College reunion in October, 2010. The evening’s program began with a brief update from campus by Vice President for Advancement Robert Pallone and was followed by a thought-provoking talk about the midterm elections by former United States Congressman and Franklin friend Butler Derrick. Congressman Derrick’s talk was followed by a reception in the First Amendment room at the National Press Club.

New York City
November 5, 2010
Alison Wright, a renowned photojournalist who has created compelling images of endangered cultures and the human condition around the globe, gave a lecture entitled “Learning to Breathe” at the Explorers Club in New York City. Franklin alumni, parents and friends enjoyed a welcome reception and listened to a brief update about the school by President Erik Nielsen before the talk by Wright. The event ended with a cocktail reception.
Lugano, Switzerland  
November 11, 2010
Franklin alumni, seniors, professors and guests came together for an informal networking event in Lugano at the chic Havana Deck Bar located in the Hotel Parco Paradiso in November, 2010. Alumni Council Member Ajlin Dizdarevic ’96 was the gracious hostess of the event.

Miami, Florida  
January 8, 2011
The Bass Museum of Art in Miami, Florida, was the scene for a special gathering in January, 2011. After a reception on the outdoor patio and an update from campus by Robert Pallone, Vice President for Advancement, guests enjoyed a private guided tour of the museum's impressive art collection.

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia  
February 15, 2011
Deena Bougary ’98 and her husband Nasser Mahdi hosted 35 Franklin alumni, parents and friends at their home in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The evening began with a reception followed by a traditional Saudi folk dance performance, a presentation by President Erik Nielsen, remarks by Chairman of the Board Pat Tone and an al fresco dinner featuring culinary highlights from around the Kingdom. Guests included Franklin friend and Jeddah-based Swiss Consul, Hans Stalder, and Franklin’s first Saudi graduate, Sheikh Hussein Al-Banawi ’77.

Tokyo, Japan  
February 19, 2011
A group of Franklin and American University of Paris alumni spent an evening together at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan in Tokyo. Franklin alumni traveled from as far as Jakarta and Manila to attend the event. This joint Franklin College/American University of Paris alumni event was organized by Franklin alumni Maki Kono ’98 and Toshio Iwasaki ’96 and by American University of Paris alumna Diana Akiko Izawa ’99.

New York City  
March 4, 2011
The Austrian Cultural Forum New York, a contemporary architectural landmark building located in the heart of Manhattan, was the venue for a recent New York gathering. After a reception in the Austrian Cultural Forum’s gallery Peter Liebowitz ’77 of AKRF, Inc. introduced archeologist Elizabeth Meade. Meade’s talk was entitled, “An 18th-Century Hull below Manhattan: The Excavation of the World Trade Center Ship.” The evening concluded with an Austrian-themed cocktail reception. Guests included Austrian Vice-Consul Johannes Kortherr, President Erik Nielsen and other members of the Franklin Board of Trustees.

San Francisco, California  
March 11, 2011
Bahrain-based Franklin alumna Esra’a Al-Shafei ’08 was the main speaker at a Franklin event which took place at the Fort Mason Center in San Francisco in March. She gave a presentation entitled
“New media as a tool to facilitate the struggle against oppression in the Middle East.” President Erik Nielsen began the evening with some observations and news from campus for the guests. The evening concluded with a cocktail reception where guests enjoyed wines that were generously donated by Kevin McNeely ’73 of Roessler Cellars and Tim Darrin ’74 of Daviana Winery.

**London, United Kingdom**

**May 6, 2011**

The Savile Club in London was the site for a gathering of Franklin alumni and friends in May. Brack Hale, Biology and Environmental Science Professor at Franklin and co-founder of Franklin’s Center for Sustainability Initiatives, spoke on sustainability initiatives at Franklin and outlined some of the center’s goals, challenges and accomplishments. The evening concluded with a cocktail reception that was generously sponsored by Franklin alumnus and Trustee Philip Renaud ’95 and his wife and alumna Estefania Renaud ’95.

**Lugano, Switzerland**

**May 12, 2011**

The annual Alumni Council-sponsored Boat Cruise took place during graduation weekend in Lugano with 170 trustees, seniors, alumni, faculty and staff in attendance. The cruise is a celebration of the many successes of the class of 2011 and a welcome of the graduating class into the Franklin alumni family. Guests came from as far as Saudi Arabia, the United States and the Czech Republic to help celebrate this special occasion.
1963  
Frederic Hagen is settled down in Miami Lakes, Florida, and is happily married to Paula Mark. He is barely getting around the golf course in under 100 strokes!

1964  
Jane Young is enjoying her first grandchild, Parker, son of Lisa Jones May ’92. Her other daughter, Lani Jones (graduate of LIU at Franklin), lives in Telluride, Colorado.

1965  
Rebecca Cook coauthored a book with Simone Cusack entitled Gender Stereotyping: Transnational Legal Perspectives (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009). She is a professor of law and faculty chair in International Human Rights, Faculty of Law, at the University of Toronto; Simone Cusack is a public interest lawyer at the Public Interest Law Clearing House in Melbourne, Australia. A description of the book can be found on the following link: www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14658.html.

1966  
Jeanne Owen is now a veterinarian and works full-time on her horse farm in South Carolina.

1967  
Ricardo Delgado recently completed a world tour and visited Egypt, Mumbai and the Forbidden City, among other places. He sends his regards to Lugano.

1968  
Helen Lovejoy Battad is enjoying retirement after 34 years of teaching special education.

1970  
Thomas Osborne and his wife own a bed-and-breakfast in Limerick, Maine. They were expecting their second grandchild in July, 2010.

1971  

1972  
Eden Buck Cross has been designing a new home for the historic thriller author Steve Berry and his family, in St. Augustine, Florida. Eden writes, “There may be stories done on him and what we’ve done in the New York Times Magazine, Architectural Digest and the like...when it’s done.” Lisa Somerville Hampton is living in Fort Worth, Texas. She writes, “I never thought that I’d be a resident of Texas for 23 years. Since 1986 my husband Bob and I have lived in Plano, Fort Worth and Willow Park. We prefer Fort Worth because of its beauty, culture and lifestyle. We have a beautiful fawn greyhound named Kanga, as quirky as I am. I still miss the Northeast, though.”

1973  
Frederic Wiedemann is settled down in Miami Lakes, Florida, and is enjoying her first grandchild, Parker, son of Lisa Jones May ’92. Her other daughter, Lani Jones (graduate of LIU at Franklin), lives in Telluride, Colorado.

1974  
Ricardo Delgado has been designing a new home for the historic thriller author Steve Berry and his family, in St. Augustine, Florida. Eden writes, “There may be stories done on him and what we’ve done in the New York Times Magazine, Architectural Digest and the like...when it’s done.” Lisa Somerville Hampton is living in Fort Worth, Texas. She writes, “I never thought that I’d be a resident of Texas for 23 years. Since 1986 my husband Bob and I have lived in Plano, Fort Worth and Willow Park. We prefer Fort Worth because of its beauty, culture and lifestyle. We have a beautiful fawn greyhound named Kanga, as quirky as I am. I still miss the Northeast, though.”

1975  
Amy Gilman Landa writes, “In the 30 years since leaving Franklin I have raised two beautiful, intelligent and compassionate children. They’re teens now in high school, my daughter headed for a career in medicine after graduation next year, my freshwater son dedicated to basketball and fun. I’ve enjoyed several different careers, always circling back to financial accounting having obtained CPA certification in ’83. I’ve taught skiing in Sun Valley, Idaho, was the General Manager for Hawaii Leisure, Ltd., contributed to designing the accounting system for Cinnabon outlets, helped a friend’s company survive and emerge from Chapter 11, sold women’s clothing for Fresh Produce, coauthored LifeLines: Stories of Love, Life, Loss, Family and Hope, founded AppleStar publishing and am now producing financial statements for ranches, resorts and marinas in Arizona and Nevada. I’ve had a great time at all of it. Gorgeous Lugano has lured me back twice, Italy quite a few times. ‘Vino rosato della casa’ are four of my favorite words.”

1976  
Greg Neville visited campus with his wife Julie and their two young daughters in July, 2009, on the occasion of their vacation in the Lago Maggiore region.

1977  
Nanette Simmons, who visited campus last April, had originally planned to travel with her son, but his flight was unfortunately grounded due to the volcanic ash that was covering the skies of northern Europe. She toured the Kuletsch Campus and the North Campus facilities and was very impressed with the residences, libraries, labs, gardens, etc. Frederic Wiedemann and his wife Florence run a nonprofit called “My Baby Angel Foundation” which works with families who have suffered a miscarriage or infant loss.

1978  
James Hardy, who lives in Kentucky with his wife Christine and daughter Brinkly, is teaching at Atherton High School. Carole Riordan’s son Robert (15) was due to play “Baby John” in LVA’s upcoming West Side Story and daughter Brigitte (13) was busy applying to high schools.

1979  
Kendall Wideman Pickett and her husband John are enjoying great success and having a wonderful time with their real estate careers in Palm Beach, Florida, and would love to hear from any FC alums interested in property there.

1980  
Spencer Ewald went on a two-week safari with his family in Tanzania last summer.

1981  
Heather Luchak Kunkel stopped by the College for a tour of the campus last August with her husband Gerard, daughter Brittany and son Dane. They live in Pennsylvania and were accompanying Brittany to Rome where she is participating in a study-abroad program. Heather was delighted to meet up with Professor Brian Stanford while on campus.
1983

Margaret Jones Abboud writes that her brother, Ernest Jones, married Roberta Fabbrini in February, 2010, and is now residing in Rome. Ernest continues to work worldwide for the U.N. Margaret and her husband Moussa live in Worcester, Massachusetts, with their two children, Kayla (10) and Christian (8). Julia Taylor Olson, Julie Baker and Betsy Case came to the campus last fall during a visit to Lugano with Leslie Guggiari. The friends were on their way to Italy on vacation.

1984

Courtney Jung is living in Toronto, Canada, and would love to hear from her old classmates.

1985

Kevin Williams is married and living in Japan, teaching English at a local college and enjoying his three young children. He reports that Alex D’Amario is as lovely as ever, Smlin’ Ron Wagner, who swung by Japan ages ago, is fine, and Steve Holmsen got married recently.

1986

Tina Matas Chamberlain and Maria Marenco di Moriondo ’88 visited campus together in May, 2010. Before coming to campus for a tour with Diana Uhrik Tedoldi ’90, they had lunch with Jennifer Jamieson ’90 and Liz Cooper, Tracey Schuster Escobar ’88 and Tracey’s daughter Sylvie in Millerton, New York, in October, 2009.

1987

Sadie Greenway Lawson and her husband Jon live in Colorado with their two children. Sadie is a ski instructor at Breckenridge Ski Resort.

1988

Brett Duch had his first child, Maximo Alexander Duch, in April, 2010. Brett recently completed a Master’s of International Business plus a Certificate in Finance from Nova Southeastern University. He is currently working for Citrix Systems, Inc., in the CFO office as Senior Manager, Business Intelligence Programs; he has been with Citrix for 13 years in various technical, managerial and finance positions.

1989

Sylvia Sadek Hartman made her annual trip to Lugano last fall and got together with Annette Rossi-Roetger ’90, Jennifer Jamieson ’90 and Diana Uhrik Tedoldi ’90 for a lovely fondue Chinoise dinner. Phil Joslin is the proud father of a baby girl. Juliette Margaux was born in January in Singapore.

1990


Heather Lasah Kanshe’81 at the Franklin Campus with Professor Brian Stanford.
1991
Keisha Hayle was married to Stanislav Anikin on October 3, 2008, at the Ritz-Carlton in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Keisha is an art consultant in Jersey City, New Jersey. She runs Kish Galleries, an online gallery that sells artwork to hospitals and offices.

1992
Suzanne Ybarra finished her graduate program in history at Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, in December, 2009, receiving her Master’s degree. On January 5, 2010, she gave birth to twin boys, Miles and Grant Gordon, in Los Angeles, California.

1993
Theron de Ris has started a global investment firm, Eschler Asset Management LLP, in London. Natalie Rice Valenzuela had a baby girl named Belén Alicia Valenzuela on July 19, 2010.

1994
Massimo D’Onofrio and Elena Keselman were married on August 15, 2009, at the church in Muzzano, Switzerland. Massimo is CEO of a local startup coaching and real estate company, Swisspresence dot com LTD, which is based in Paradiso. He recently went IPO with a multimedia company, VRWAY Communication (VRW.MI) www.vrway.com, co-founded in 1999. He has an EMBA and is active in his village’s cultural commission. Elena is a graduate of the Moscow Medical Academy and the mother of three children, ages 9, 7 and 4. November 30, 2010, Massimo and Elena announced an addition to the family with the birth of a new baby, Guila. They live near the College in a villa called Pitagora’s Place overlooking the small lake of Muzzano. Massimo would like to hear from his friends and can be reached via email at max@donofrio.eu or by visiting his political and IT blog on www.massimodonofrio.ch.

Talal Twal visited campus in January, 2010, with his wife Lara and son Abdul Aziz during their vacation in Lugano. Omar Grigli 89 joined them for a tour of the College.

Omar Grigli ’89, Talal Twal ’92, Lara Labubi and Abdul Aziz.

Christina Bell Cornelius and Jake Cornelius ’08 are the proud parents of Samuel Cornelius, born on July 13, 2010, weighing 7 lbs. and 2.3 ounces, and measuring almost 20 inches in length.

Suzanne Ybarra ’92 with George Gordon and their twin boys, Miles and Grant.
1999

Mohammed Al Haddar and his wife Sara visited campus during their honeymoon last October. Mohammed was happy to be back at the College after so many years, especially with his wife.

2000

Christopher Carroll visited campus with his wife Robin in June, 2009. Chris and Robin had just arrived from Paris by train and were continuing to Rome and then Barcelona. Chris was impressed with the College’s computer facilities and was happy to see that the Falcon’s Nest is a student lounge.

2001

Leen Ali-Hasan Daoud and her husband Amin welcomed the birth of their daughter Mia on September 5, 2009. Leen is a sales manager and is involved in the business of selling industrial kitchens to luxury hotels and restaurants, mostly in the Middle East. Sales have recently expanded to Italy as well.

2002

Heba Al-Okar has opened her own business, “dados,” a spa and fashion boutique, in Qatar. It is a very unique and trendy concept: www.dadosbeauty.com.

2003

Emanuele Audero, who earned his Master’s in International Hotel Management, was married to Hana Martinez in June, 2009, and is currently living in Turin, Italy. Corrine Kuhar accepted a job in the summer of 2009 with the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer. Her first assignment is at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, where she will be staying for two years. Conny Schmidt achieved her long-planned goal in September, 2009, graduating with an MBA from the University of Oxford/ Said Business School. In April, 2010, she began working for a German high-tech firm in Jordan as the head of sales and marketing. Marcus Skarin had been working in sales and marketing for Hewlett Packard and Microsoft in Sweden since graduation and is now a marketing consultant for the family firm. On August 22, 2009, he married Katarina Skarin Ebenstrand, who is a nurse and chairperson for the union.
2005

Toshio Iwasaki ’96, Kaoru Iijima, Ody Markezinis ’94 and Maki Kono ’98 organized a farewell party for Dimitri Karmires at a restaurant in Tokyo, Japan, on December 7, 2010. After living in Japan for more than two years, Dimitri relocated to Washington, D.C.

Isabel Diez is living in Mississippi with her husband, and both are working and studying for their MBAs. Nickolas Neibauer and Natalie Al Naber ’07 were married in June, 2010.

2006

J David Macor and Chelsea Stephens recently announced their engagement. The wedding is planned for October, 2011, in Dallas, Texas. Chelsea is presently employed as the manager of the Anthropologie shop in Houston, and J David is a management consultant with the Accenture Global Co. in Houston, Texas, where he began working last January. Stephanie Green is engaged to Kevin Clark. They are planning a May, 2011, wedding. Ban Al-Turk was married to Yazan Al-Hayek on July 8, 2010, at the Marriott Hotel in Amman, Jordan. They had 420 guests from Jordan and around the world, and went to Barcelona and Mallorca on their honeymoon. Kate Ogren Armour and Jane Warren ’07 have recently launched a new online lifestyle magazine called Matchbook.
left for Seattle to participate in Earth Corp. (an Americorp position with an environmental focus.) She is involved in environmental fieldwork and habitat restoration. Carolina Vara is living in Miami, Florida, where she is studying for her graduate degree to become a school psychologist. Casey Gayman has been appointed “Presidential Management Fellow” and is now working for the State Department in Washington, D.C. Ashlie Butler has launched her clothing line, Couture Chaos, a joint venture between herself and business partner Amanda Perna. Both were interested in creating a clothing line that was made in the U.S.A. The brand is meant to bring the fashion industry back to the States, and all garments are made of the finest fabrics.

2008

Stefanie Giglio is currently working as a staff photo-journalist at a small independent newspaper where her stories and photographs often grace the front page. She continues to run a freelance photography business on the side. She spent much of 2010 living in Malawi while she worked on a personal photographic documentary project that concentrated on human-interest stories depicting enduring worldwide themes: love, work, education and getting by. Several of the images and stories from her Malawi project were published in international travel magazines, and her “Bwato Girls” mini-series is being used to raise money to build wells in a town in southern Malawi.

An image from Stefanie Giglio’s ’08 “Bwato Girls” mini-series. “Bwato” is the Chichewa name of the wooden dugout canoes in which the girls are photographed.

Jacqueline Brown Oberbeck was married in September, 2009, and has been working on her Master’s in International Affairs and Administration. Rosy Paloma-Pujol is the assistant producer for “The Best of South Florida” and loves her job. Christophe Singh sends news about the latest online publication of the International Public Policy Review—a graduate-student-run academic journal based at University College London. Christophe served as Book Review Editor on the Editorial Board of the journal through-out the previous year, with the responsibility of creating a novel practitioner-focused section, the IPPR Book Review, for the journal. “For this first edition of the section, [Franklin] Professor Wasiq Khan kindly agreed to write a review on two recent works by Jeffrey Sachs and Thomas Friedman. Khan’s review adds to all of our ongoing joint efforts to promote Franklin’s unique model of educational excellence in the wider academic community.” Christophe congratulates Professor Khan for his contribution and would very much welcome feedback. Brigitte Underwood is an executive assistant at a Swedish digital media company called Great Works. Matthew Boutwell is working for Norwegian Cruise Line as a consultant for direct sales for European and African cruises, and is currently involved in a project to develop all of the land-based shore excursion “vacations” for Norwegian.

2009

Christine Ege has been living in London studying for her Master’s in East Asian Art at the Sotheby’s Institute of Art. She was also in the process of applying for internships with Sotheby’s, Christie’s and numerous other galleries around London. Marina Louie Henchoz was recently married to Pierre-Alain Henchoz. Khara Jabola-Carolus is very active in numerous women’s rights movements and is also involved in some organizations that help underrepresented Philippine immigrants in the U.S. She worked for the electoral campaign of Philippine congresswoman Liza Maza during her run for the Philippine Senate.

Carla de Lemos is enjoying her new job as a legal consultant for JP Morgan Chase in south Florida. Alexis Williams is employed at Christie’s in Los Angeles as Executive Administrator, working closely with the Los Angeles office’s president regarding client relations and event management.

2010

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In Memoriam

Susan Morton Parker ’65 passed away on September 17, 2009. She is survived by her daughter Ashley E. Parker, her mother Elizabeth E. Morton and her sister Liza M. Gossett.

Kandis Giblin ’66 passed away peacefully on December 26, 2009. She is survived by her husband Peter and her children Katie and Patrick.

Elizabeth Legg Jepsen ’86 passed away on November 18, 2009, after a long battle with cancer. Elizabeth is survived by her husband Thomas Jepsen and their son David.

Federico Frongillo, who served as Franklin College’s janitor from 1970 through 2005, passed away in December, 2009. He is survived by his wife Felicita and son Gaetano.

On May 31, 2010, Franklin College lost a treasured friend, beloved professor and illuminating spirit for generations of students when Dr. Horus Schenouda died at the age of 93. Dr. Schenouda came to Lugano by a circuitous route. Born a Coptic Christian in Alexandria, Egypt, he was educated by Jesuits. Revolution ended his profession as a lawyer in Cairo and years later student unrest at the Sorbonne, where he was teaching in Paris, forced him to move on again.

Dr. Schenouda was a descendant of the pharaohs, and the title of his last book of poetry, Le Pharaon sans tombeau—the pharaoh without a tomb—is especially haunting and prophetic because he will always live in the hearts of the hundreds of students, readers and friends whom he has left behind all over the world. He is survived by two daughters.

If you would like to read more about Dr. Schenouda’s fascinating life and books, please see: www.fc.edu/horus-schenouda. Some of the hundreds of tributes written by friends and former students can also be seen there.
Franklin gratefully acknowledges all alumni, parents and friends who participated in the 2009-2010 fundraising year. Recognition is given at the beginning of the listing to the Villa Society members by gift level and then to other contributors. Villa Society gift levels are outlined at the beginning of the listing. Recognition is also given to Franklin World Citizen Club members, which is also described. Both giving clubs were inaugurated for the 2008-2009 year to recognize special commitments to supporting Franklin and their importance to the College. Alumni and friends honored by memorial or honorary gifts are recognized at the end of the list.

Alumni class years follow the alumni donor names.
* Franklin World Citizen Club members: Donors who have made gifts in each of the past five years or each year since graduation.

### Founder's Associates

- Anonymous
- *Mr. Paul C. Lowerre '77, Trustee, and Mrs. Ursula G. Lowerre '76
- Mr. Ammar K. Malhas, Trustee and Mrs. Karma Malhas
- Mr. Warren B. Mosler
- Mr. Leander W. Smith

### Villa Cirla Associates

- Ms. Linda Bean
- *Mr. Richard H. Bell '65, Trustee
- The Estate of Ms. Ashleigh Cocks '65
- *Mr. B. John Lindahl, Trustee
- Mr. Kevin W. McNeely '73, Trustee
- Mrs. Adele S. Merck '76
- Mr. Lawrence R. Miller
- *Ms. Sally D. Mole '65
- Mr. and Mrs. Sergey Nesterenko
- *Mr. Scott I. Oakford '75, Trustee
  - Mr. and Mrs. Lucio Dalla Gasperina
  - Mr. and Mrs. Behram Dwecha
  - Mr. Reese Jones
  - Mr. and Mrs. Alan P. Laholt
  - Mrs. Katharine C. Prentice '66
  - *Ms. Jennifer Rayley '77, Alumni Trustee
  - Mr. Philip Renaud '95, Trustee, and Mrs. Estefania Renaud '95
  - Mrs. Frances Stewart '75, Alumni Trustee
  - Mr. Jay S. Tucker '77 and Mrs. Andrea Tucker
  - *Ms. Katrina Wollenberg '71

### Villa Ferrari Associates

- Mr. Timothy Darrin '74, Trustee
- Ms. Hazel J. Dyer
- *Ms. Angela W. Fowler '75, Trustee
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Gebhardt
- *The Hatziathanasiou Family
- Mr. and Mrs. Jamie A. Iredale
- Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy M. Josse
- *Dr. Willem Peppler, Trustee
- *Mr. Pascal F. Tone, Trustee, and Mrs. Lynn Tone
- *Mr. and Mrs. Frederick B. Weed

### Villa Sassa Associates

- Mr. Laurent Belet, Trustee
- Mr. Gordon W. Bower '83
- Mr. and Mrs. Lucio Dalla Gasperina
- Mr. and Mrs. Behram Dwecha
- Mr. Reese Jones
- Mr. and Mrs. Alan P. Laholt
- Mrs. Katharine C. Prentice '66
- *Ms. Jennifer Rayley '77, Alumni Trustee
- Mr. Philip Renaud '95, Trustee, and Mrs. Estefania Renaud '95
- Mrs. Frances Stewart '75, Alumni Trustee
- Mr. Jay S. Tucker '77 and Mrs. Andrea Tucker
- *Ms. Katrina Wollenberg '71

### Kaletsch Campus Associates

- Ms. Alaa Abbar '04
- Mrs. Denise H. Alfeld '88
- Mrs. Samiha Al-Gosaibi
- Mr. Michael Angelakis
- Mr. W. G. Arader
- Dr. John S. Bailey, Trustee
- Mr. John Beare
- Mr. and Mrs. James R. Billingsley
- Dr. and Mrs. Zeljko Bogetic
- *Ms. Emily M. Boynton '09
- Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Bremininkmeyer
- Mr. Sidney Bruckerhoff
- Mr. and Mrs. Philip Cheevers
- Mr. Michael D. Crippen '76
- Mrs. Chen Chu '03
- Mr. and Mrs. Bart Davis
- *Mr. Shaun Dwecha '10
- Dr. Michael Formenius and Dr. Christine Formenius
- Mr. and Mrs. Lucius L. Fowler
- Mrs. Ann Geraciotsi '85
- *Ms. Kandyce K. Gnidioc '09
- *Dr. Ronald J. Goldman '73

### Villa Society Gift Levels

- Founder's Associates: $25,000 and up
- Villa Cirla Associates: $10,000-$24,999
- Villa Ferrari Associates: $5,000-$9,999
- Villa Sassa Associates: $2,500-$4,999
- Kaletsch Campus Associates: $1,000-$2,499
  (six years post graduation and after)

### Young alumni entry levels for Kaletsch Campus Associates

- First year (Class of '09 and '10): $100
- Second year ('08): $200
- Third year ('07): $300
- Fourth year ('06): $400
- Fifth year ('05): $500

### The Franklin College Villa Society

Franklin's leadership gift society, the Villa Society, offers annual membership to alumni, parents and friends who make a gift of $1,000 or more. The Society was founded to recognize the critical difference leadership gifts make at the College and thank these donors for their special commitment to the College. Annual membership and recognition is based on an individual's personal gifts and corporate matching gifts received in a single fiscal year. The society takes its name from the history of Franklin and the villas that have been part of Franklin history since its founding. Kaletsch Campus with the Main Villa is the current location the College uses as a classroom building and administrative offices. Villa Sassa was the main campus villa for 12 years until 1986. Villa Ferrari was used in the early years from 1971 to 1974. Villa Cirla was the original building in which Franklin College was housed in 1970 after the College was founded. The higher level of Founder's Associates recognizes the largest gifts leading the way at Franklin.

### The Franklin World Citizen Club

Another important part of supporting Franklin is the loyal support of donors who donate to the College year after year. The Franklin World Citizen Club recognizes loyal, annual giving to Franklin at any gift level. When a donor has given a gift to Franklin five fiscal years in a row, or every year since graduation for young alumni, the donor becomes part of the Franklin World Citizen Club. The membership will continue as long as the donor continues to give each fiscal year. This recognition of alumni, parents and friends who show a special commitment to Franklin was created to acknowledge outstanding yearly dedication to the school.
A N N U A L  G I V I N G

*Mrs. Margaret Salyer '74
*Ms. Norma Sams
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sandoz
Ms. Sibyl Sanford ‘70
Ms. Kamila Sarowa ‘03
Mr. Daniel M. Sember and
Ms. Susan B. Durham
Ms. Isabel M. Schlatter ‘05
Dr. and Mrs. Hans Schmidt
Ms. Cindy Schmidt
Mr. Louis H. Schmidt ‘71 and
Mrs. Katherine Schmidt ‘71
*Mr. Mark N. Schneider ‘75
Mr. Christopher J. M. Scholz ‘76
Mr. Robert L. Schott ‘76
*Mr. Jesse Schwarz ‘10
Ms. Katherine E. Scott ‘76
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey H. Selig
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Seret
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher
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