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**IN THIS ISSUE**

A 28-page pullout supplement details the ideas, goals, and people behind GW's new \$1 billion philanthropic campaign.



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# GW MAGAZINE FALL 2014

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



The a cappella group Sons of Pitch performs at Lisner in August as part of a student showcase.

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Photo by William Atkins

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**GW  
TODAY**



# A Future Focus

They came in blue blazers and in volleyball uniforms; they came before leading the 3 p.m. visitors' tour around campus, and after a summer spent smiling through five sessions of Colonial Inauguration. Doctoral students broke from their research, and staffers put on hold countless tasks that keep the university running seamlessly.

The volunteers—students, alumni, staff, and faculty members—who grace the cover of this issue were offered nothing in exchange for their time: no pizza, no silly swag. The magazine put out a call to help us illustrate our cover story about GW's \$1 billion philanthropic campaign, and they answered, simply because they *are* GW. Dozens of people showed up, creating a rare crowd during an otherwise sleepy stretch of August.

The campaign is about them—and all of us here, and you. It's about the future that the GW community is helping to create, and there are glimpses of that world throughout this issue.

It's a future that is looking a shade greener, at least around campus, where soon 50 percent of GW's electricity needs will be generated by an array of hundreds of thousands of solar panels in North Carolina. University officials are hoping the plan, which will pump green power into the D.C. regional grid, will be a model of more sustainable city living.

Businesses run by GW alumni are using profits to build wells in Uganda and provide lifesaving antibiotics to infants, among other things. Their wares are featured in our first-ever gift guide, which we hope will help them do some good this holiday season.

We also profile the political science blog *The Monkey Cage*, launched by GW faculty members, which is deep into election mode ahead of November. The blog has grown steadily and become a highly-regarded junction where world news meets drama-free, data-driven analysis—now from a new home on *The Washington Post's* website.

And we look at the history-laden first seven decades of Lisner Auditorium, and toward its future: the venue recently finished a two-summer interior renovation and technical upgrade that aim to keep it competitive and, culturally, center stage.

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Volume 25, Issue 1

# Recalling a Start, an End, and the \$13 credit-hour



## Wow! Great job on the publication.

It conveyed the progressive attitude and mission of GW, it brought the reader up to date on numerous topics, and the health/prevention theme was very timely.

**Fred Graves, MBA '65**  
Bradenton, Fla.

## The Start of Something Big

With the arrival of your summer issue, I was struck by my sense of obligation to GW: to the English department and the friends I made; to GW's help in getting a Fulbright Scholarship, which led to two years' study in England and a master's degree; and to GW's employment office, which helped lead me to a 25-year career in the foreign service and 10 years in four Asian countries.

Quite a lot, I'd say.  
**O.J. Emory Jr., AA '52, BA '54**  
Staunton, Va.

## The Six-Decade Track

After graduating from GW in 1951, I began to work on my master's part time while also working part time.

Due to work circumstances I was not able to complete my thesis by the deadline. Years later, while retired in San Diego, I wrote *In Search of Gold Mountain: A History of the Chinese in San Diego, California*. I sent a copy of the book to the GW Geography Department and later received a call from the department head saying that she was going to be attending a conference in San Diego and could we meet.

After finding out that I lacked three credits for an MA, she said she would contact the dean and have me reinstated, but I would have to write a thesis. This proved to be a cumbersome process, but after almost a year my thesis was accepted and, in May 2014, I graduated.

In 1951, I paid \$13 a credit hour, but the fee has risen to about \$1,450. Too bad!  
**Murray Kent Lee, BA '51, MA '14**  
San Diego, Calif.

## A Fond Farewell

Dear Heather,  
We knew the day had to come when you would decide to turn over the editorship of one of the country's finest university magazines. The day has come

and we thank you for your service to George Washington, its alumni, alumnae, and friends.

Throughout those years you and your associates have reflected to us the tremendous growth—in quantity and quality—of our magazine. And the magazine(s) have told us the GWU story with class. I don't think I have missed an issue under your direction and I have enjoyed every one.

Best wishes and good luck for you and yours in the years ahead.  
**Warren Gould, BA '51, MA '55, and former GW Vice President for Resources**  
Austin, Texas

## ✉ All Write!

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We were ecstatic this summer to learn that *GW Magazine* has been honored with a bronze award for magazine staff writing, issued by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. This marks the third consecutive year the magazine has been recognized for excellence: Last year the magazine was awarded a silver in cover design, for an article on cybersecurity, and in 2012 it won gold in the category Best Articles of the Year, for a profile of an international art detective.



**Our fall 2013 feature on "Tree of Life" research was among the articles for which we won the award.**

Advice from alumni to the Class of 2018 (Pg. 66)



## Corrections

- In our fall issue, a caption on page 22 misspelled the name of the host of *The Kalb Report*. He is Marvin Kalb, not Martin Kalb.
- An article on page 61 misstated the nature of the George W.G. Stoner Learning Commons. The Commons is a state-of-the-art cooperative learning space, which

- includes a combination of 60 iMacs and PC virtual desktops with software for production, statistics, and design, as well as 10 flatbed scanners and other amenities.
- An advertisement on page 62 omitted degree information for W. Thomas Curtis. Mr. Curtis has both a BA (1981) and an MS (1995) from GW.

- A class note on page 73 misrepresented the focus of Chris Atkinson's work. He examines disasters in New Orleans, Palm Beach County, Fla., and Minot, N.D., but not in Los Angeles.

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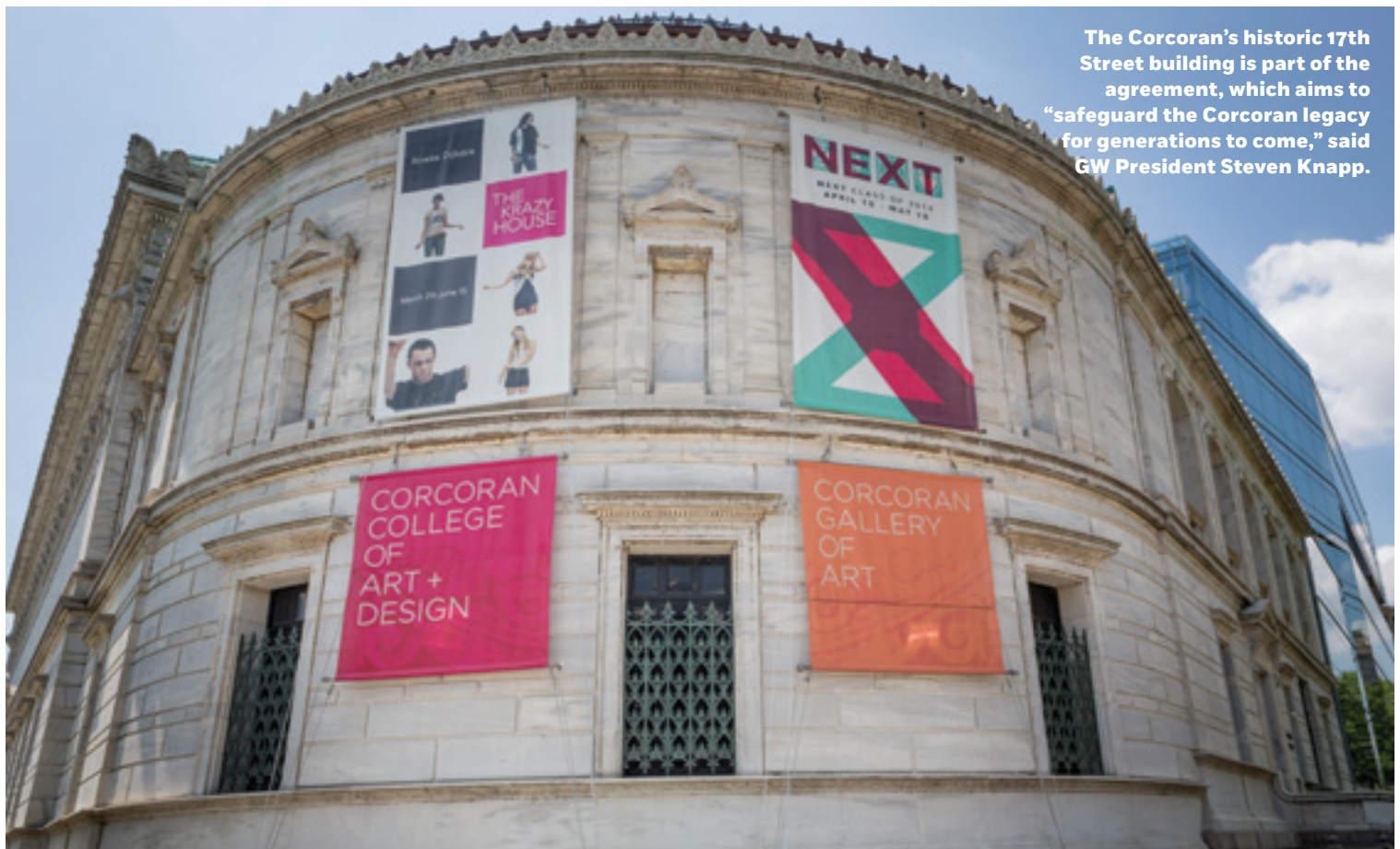


*“Medical advances make it possible for people to survive increasingly terrible injuries, but what happens after that?”*

LIZ LERMAN, MA '82, CHOREOGRAPHER OF HEALING WARS (PG. 12)

# GW NEWS

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The Corcoran's historic 17th Street building is part of the agreement, which aims to “safeguard the Corcoran legacy for generations to come,” said GW President Steven Knapp.

## ARTS

# Historic Collaboration Wins Court Approval

**GW, Corcoran, and National Gallery of Art move forward with plans to establish Corcoran School of the Arts and Design**

Leaders of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, the George Washington University, and the National Gallery of Art in August received approval from the D.C. Superior Court to implement the partnership agreements that were first announced in February.

The court's ruling permits the parties to proceed with the transfer of ownership of the Corcoran's historic 17th Street building and the College of Art + Design to GW. The National Gallery of Art will gain custody of



**ABOVE Under the deal, GW assumes custody of the Corcoran's Salon Doré, among other works of art.**



**LEFT Corcoran students will continue to work in the Corcoran buildings.**

the art collection.

"Today we take a dramatic step toward realizing a dynamic partnership that will safeguard the Corcoran legacy for generations to come," GW President Steven Knapp said after the court's ruling. "The university looks forward to welcoming Corcoran College students, alumni, faculty, and staff to the GW community and to working with them to continue and enhance their proud tradition of innovative arts education in our nation's capital."

The collaboration maintains the historic building as a showplace for art and a home for the Corcoran College and its programs, creating a global hub for the arts at GW. It also safeguards the Corcoran's collection.

"This is the beginning of a collaboration that will make the Corcoran collection more accessible to more people in the nation's capital," National Gallery of Art Director Earl A. Powell III said. "We look forward to restoring and programming the galleries in the historic 17th Street building with vibrant exhibitions of modern art, and to exhibiting a significant number of works from the Corcoran collection in the Flagg Building's Legacy Gallery and at the National Gallery of Art."

In February, the Corcoran Gallery of

Art entered into agreements with GW and the National Gallery of Art in order to ensure a long-term, sustainable future for the Corcoran Gallery and college and the rehabilitation and renovation of the historic Corcoran building.

The agreement ensures the preservation and display of the Corcoran's valuable collection of art, its retention in D.C., and the continued use of space within the Corcoran building for the exhibition of modern and contemporary art.

"We now embark upon this agreement to ensure that the Corcoran collections are stewarded as part of the nation's cultural patrimony and safeguarded as a public resource in Washington," said Corcoran Interim Director and President Peggy Loar.

"The Corcoran school will be strengthened as it enlightens the next generation of American artists, and the historic Corcoran beaux arts structure will be renovated as the site for its two traditional purposes: educating art and design students and exhibiting historic American masterpieces and thought-provoking contemporary art," she said.

The Corcoran College of Art + Design has become a part of GW and is now known as the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, within GW's Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.

Corcoran students continue to take classes in the Corcoran buildings and the Corcoran School maintains its distinct identity within the Columbian College.

GW assumes ownership and responsibility for the Corcoran building, including its renovation, which is slated to

begin early in October.

GW also assumes custody of and care for a limited number of artworks that will remain permanently in place in the Corcoran building: the Canova Lions, the Salon Doré, and the French Mantle.

The National Gallery will organize and present exhibitions of modern and contemporary art within the Corcoran building, and will maintain a Corcoran Legacy Gallery there, displaying a selection of works from the collection that are identified historically with the 17th Street landmark structure. These and other works of the Corcoran collection are being transferred to the custody of the National Gallery.

Works not accessioned by the National Gallery are being distributed by the Corcoran to other art museums and appropriate entities in the D.C. area. No work of art will be sold. Curators from the National Gallery and the Corcoran have begun to work together on the accession and distribution plan, which may take up to a year. □

**SPEAKERS**

## Clinton Talks 'Hard Choices'

Hillary Rodham Clinton is saying exactly what's on her mind these days.

The former first lady, senator, and secretary of state said she's "totally done" with being overly cautious about expressing herself, especially after reflecting on her experiences while writing the new memoir *Hard Choices*. Ms. Clinton's career negotiating some of the world's toughest conflicts taught her that neither "shouting matches nor biting one's tongue" render much. Instead, she said, she believes in straightforwardness and honest opinions.

"The perspective I've gained has encouraged me even more to speak to my mind and contribute what I can," Ms. Clinton said in June, during a candid conversation with her former speechwriter and staffer Lissa Muscatine at Lisner Auditorium. The event was sponsored by GW and D.C. bookstore Politics & Prose, which is co-owned by Ms. Muscatine. Eager guests filled the sold-out auditorium.

Writing *Hard Choices* came at a



**Hillary Rodham Clinton discussed her new book, *Hard Choices*, at Lisner Auditorium in June.**

transitional period in Ms. Clinton's life, just after she had left her position as secretary of state. Although she had the luxury of a more flexible schedule, Ms. Clinton said that she found penning the book—most of it by hand on legal paper in the attic of her New York farmhouse—a difficult task and one often distracted by other chores, like walking the dog and grabbing a drink of water.

"What I tried to do in the book is to give the reader a bit of a peek behind the curtain, because the headlines certainly tell some of the story—but not all of the story," she said.

As she tended to crises at home and overseas, Ms. Clinton said, one of her primary roles as secretary of state was to boost America's reputation abroad and reinforce that the United States was committed to being a consequential part of decision-making across the globe. In Asia, she wanted to demonstrate alliances; in Europe, she wanted to rebuild relationships.

"It was a multitasking of the highest order to try to be present, reach out, come up with new ideas, and make clear that America's presence and leadership was going to be front and center," she said.

While Ms. Muscatine didn't directly ask whether Ms. Clinton would campaign for the presidency in 2016, the two did discuss the legacy that the former secretary of state hopes to leave for both the American people and her future granddaughter, due this fall.

"I'm not ready to stop and think about legacy because I want to keep thinking about what my life has meant to me and what my obligations are to my grandchild and everyone else, and I'm going to do that through the work of the Clinton Foundation—and other ways," Ms. Clinton said.

Enthusiasts hoping Ms. Clinton will become America's first female president interpreted her answer as a clue that she'd run, and immediately burst into applause.

— **Julyssa Lopez**

**LAW SCHOOL**

# New Dean Arrives at GW Law

Blake D. Morant assumed the helm of GW's School of Law in September, becoming dean and Robert Kramer Research Professor of Law, after his selection by the university in June. Mr. Morant arrived at GW from the Wake Forest University School of Law, where he served for seven years as dean.

"Blake Morant is not only a seasoned dean but also a national leader in legal education," says GW President Steven Knapp. "He brings to this important position a proven record of accomplishments, and his extensive leadership experience will make him an extremely valuable addition to our law school and the entire university."

At Wake Forest, Mr. Morant built a national reputation as an administrator, tireless advocate for students, and respected legal scholar. He has published extensively in his areas of scholarly focus, including contract theory, media law, and administrative law.

"I have respected and admired the George Washington Law School throughout my career and consider serving as its next dean to be a distinct privilege," Mr. Morant says. "I look forward to working with the constituency of this historic institution during this time of both challenge and extraordinary opportunity."


Mr. Morant was elected to serve as president-elect of the Association of American Law Schools for 2014 and president in 2015. He also has served in numerous leadership positions for the American Bar Association, including as vice chair of the ABA Diversity Committee.

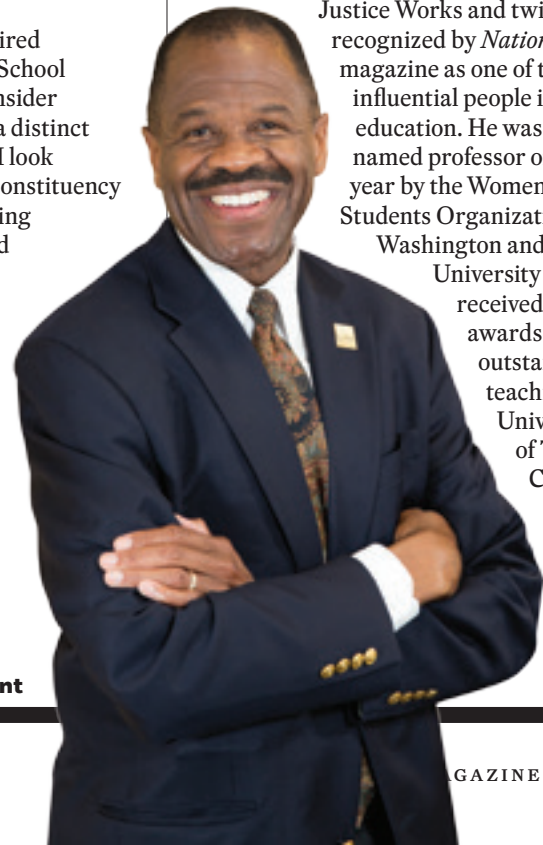
**Blake D. Morant**

He was appointed by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts to the Federal Judicial Center Foundation Board, and by the Virginia Supreme Court to serve on a task force to study gender bias in the Virginia courts.

Mr. Morant previously served as associate dean for academic affairs and the director of the Frances Lewis Law Center at the Washington and Lee University School of Law. He also brings extensive experience in legal practice in the public and private sectors, including service as assistant general counsel for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and as a member of the U.S. Army JAG Corps, earning the Meritorious Service Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster.

**"I have respected and admired the George Washington Law School throughout my career and consider serving as its next dean to be a distinct privilege."**

Among his professional honors, Mr. Morant was named the John R. Kramer Outstanding Law Dean by Equal Justice Works and twice recognized by *National Jurist* magazine as one of the most influential people in legal education. He was twice named professor of the year by the Women Law Students Organization at Washington and Lee University and received five awards for outstanding teaching at the University of Toledo College of Law. 



The museum's elliptical staircase curves up from the lobby to the third floor of the building.



ARTS

# GW Community Previews Museum Space

**Four-story structure will showcase treasures of the The Textile Museum and the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection.**

After months of construction and preparations, the university in June offered its community an exclusive sneak peek at the progress made on the new George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum.

Hundreds of GW students, staff, and faculty members toured the inside of the custom-built, four-story structure on the corner of 21st and G streets that soon will house the university's and The Textile Museum's most treasured art. Gallery



**ABOVE** A glass bridge connects the second floor of the new museum building to the renovated Woodhull House. **BELOW** Guests take in one of the new gallery spaces.

spaces will display pieces from the 90-year-old Textile Museum’s globally recognized collection of more than 19,000 objects. They date from 3000 B.C. to the present, and include some of the world’s finest examples of rugs and textiles from the Near East, Central Asia, East and Southeast Asia, Africa, and the indigenous cultures of the Americas. Other areas of the museum will be dedicated to the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection, which was donated to the university in 2011.

Major construction has concluded on the space. In the coming months, staff will bring the building up to museum quality and conduct extensive testing and calibration of sensitive climate control systems.

At the event, the museum’s staff and curators welcomed visitors, answered questions, and helped guests envision future exhibits. Guests marveled at the museum’s stunning elliptical staircase and took in the high ceilings of the second floor.

The second-floor gallery links to the Albert H. Small Gallery, which will showcase the historic Washingtoniana collection of objects documenting the history of D.C. The gallery runs alongside a glass bridge that connects to the 160-year-old Woodhull



House, which has been renovated to serve as part of the museum.

Kimberly Anthony and Margaret Wagner, two staff members in the GW Police Department, worked in Woodhull House for 10 years when it served as campus police offices and were amazed at how the building has been transformed.

“The way spaces have been merged into big gallery areas is incredible. The rooms have really opened up, and the

transformation is gorgeous,” Ms. Wagner said.

Bruce Baganz, president of The Textile Museum’s board of trustees, said the event represents a significant milestone and the culmination of a lot of hard work.

“Once the museum opens, we will be able to expand our historic mission and spread richness throughout the university community, where we are limited only by our imaginations,” he said. — **Julyssa Lopez**



GW is the first university in D.C. to receive the premier certification for green building design.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

## Public Health Building Goes Platinum

A little more than a month after the grand opening of the Milken Institute School of Public Health, the green building hit another milestone, earning a Platinum rating from the U.S. Green Building Council, the highest certification under the group's Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design rating system.

The 115,000-square-foot building is D.C.'s first university building project to be awarded the top rating for innovative sustainable design, and is one of only 1,100 buildings nationwide to receive the honor.

The achievement marks the university's ninth LEED-certified project and its first Platinum rating.

"Achieving LEED Platinum status demonstrates our commitment to building a high-performance green building, one that promotes a healthier workplace and a

more sustainable environment," says Lynn R. Goldman, the school's Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health.

Among its sustainable features, the building saves energy through efficient lighting controls in offices and conference rooms and floor-to-ceiling windows that infuse the building with natural light. The building is kept cool with the help of a green roof and an HVAC system with chilled beams and mass air displacement technologies.

The building is expected to reduce water use by 40 percent more than the baseline standard for commercial buildings through features including low-flow plumbing and a rainwater collection system. The green roof also will reduce stormwater runoff, and the native and adaptive plants used in the landscaping will require little or no water after they are established.

To encourage faculty members, staff, and students to stay active, the building includes desks that convert into standing workstations, a centralized staircase that promotes walking instead of taking elevators, yoga and meditation rooms, indoor and outdoor bike racks, locker rooms, and showers to encourage exercise.

— **Brittney Dunkins**

**DANCE**

## At Arena Stage, Questions Without Answers

In a compelling scene from *Healing Wars*, a new performance commissioned by the university, a veteran recounted the grisly car collision that caused him to lose his right leg.

Paul Hurley, the actor onstage during the vignette, was telling his own story.

Before becoming a performer, Mr. Hurley served in the U.S. Navy as a gunner's mate in Bahrain. In his monologue he described the haunting aftermath of his injury: endless surgeries and hospital visits, an ever-present ghost pain, and constant memories of the accident scene.

"What are the meds for that?" he asked.

*Healing Wars* doesn't try to answer this question, instead exploring broadly what it means to "heal" after the trauma of combat. The dance performance was choreographed by 2002 MacArthur Fellow Liz Lerman, MA '82, and ran through most of June at D.C.'s Arena Stage.

It is the first of three plays being produced as part of the National Civil War Project, a multiyear collaboration that has partnered four universities with five arts organizations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the war. The project has joined the Alliance Theatre with the Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts and Emory University; Baltimore's Center Stage with the University of



Samantha Speis dances in *Healing Wars*.

Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center; and the American Repertory Theater with Harvard University. To bring *Healing Wars* to the public, GW teamed up with Arena Stage.

The performance transported its audience between the Civil War and recent conflicts in the Middle East. The show's cast of eight performers—including film actor Bill Pullman and his wife, dancer Tamara Hurwitz Pullman—interpreted the cost of war from every angle as they took on the roles of damaged veterans, disillusioned doctors, and heartbroken family members.

“Looking at historic images of the Civil War and seeing all the amputations, I felt an immediate connection to today's conflicts,” Ms. Lerman says. “Medical advances make it possible for people to survive increasingly terrible injuries, but what happens after that?” —**Julyssa Lopez**

**STUDENTS**

# Colonial Inauguration Celebrates 25 Years

Though every student at GW pursues a different path after walking across the stage at Commencement, each student starts his or her journey at the same place—Colonial Inauguration.

The first session of CI was held during the summer of 1990. Over its 25-year history, the summer orientation program has become a much-loved tradition that welcomes students

and their families to the GW community.

Planning for CI was launched in 1989 by then President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg to strengthen the campus identity. Nearly 1,100 incoming undergraduate students and their families participated in the first CI; this summer, by comparison, more than 5,000 students and family members attended one of the five, two-and-a-half-day CI sessions.

Though many things about CI have changed, many traditions have remained the same—from the Buff and Blue BBQ to learning the fight song and touring the monuments at midnight. The programming evolves based on emerging trends in the student body: For example, CI now includes fall and spring sessions for transfer students and special workshops that address the specific needs of international students.

— **Brittney Dunkins**



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT** Colonial Cabinet members coordinate their outfits with colorful sneakers in 2012; students form a conga line at the first Colonial Inauguration, held in the summer of 1990; the first Colonial Cabinet poses for a group photo in 1990; the 1999 Colonial Cabinet; students pose with the mascot, George, at CI in 1992; a Colonial Cabinet member sums up the spirit of CI in four words: “Welcome to the family.”

SNEAKERS: JESSICA MCCONNELL BURT / CHALK ART; WILLIAM ATKINS / ARCHIVAL PHOTOS COURTESY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



President Steven Knapp joins second lady Jill Biden and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan for a meeting in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in June.

**AFFORDABILITY**

# College Cost Is Focus of White House Talk

GW President Steven Knapp joined Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, second lady Jill Biden, and a diverse group of students, student advocates, economists, and higher education experts at the White House in June for a discussion about college affordability and student loans.

Dr. Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, is a full-time English professor at Northern Virginia Community College and a lifelong educator. She said she has seen firsthand the power of education, as well as the financial barriers that can stand in the way of a student obtaining a degree.

**“We need to make sure that college is affordable for all, not just a luxury for a few.” – JILL BIDEN**

Over the past three decades, she said, the average tuition at a public four-year college has more than tripled. And the average undergraduate student who borrows for college will graduate with \$30,000 in debt.

“We need to make sure that college is affordable for all, not just a luxury for a few,” Dr. Biden told the group.

College affordability has been a priority for the Obama administration. The president raised the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,635 for the 2013-14 award year—a \$905 increase since 2008—and the administration has worked to improve repayment options available to responsible student loan borrowers.

The issue also has been a priority for Dr. Knapp. After attending a White House summit in January, in which President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama challenged college and university presidents to increase opportunities for low-income students, Dr. Knapp created a universitywide Task Force on Access and Success. The group is working with community-based organizations to host local workshops providing students with assistance on applications for admission and

financial aid. The university also is planning partnerships with community colleges to create new ways for high-achieving students to complete their bachelor’s degrees at GW.

“I see today’s White House discussion as one more step in an ongoing process,” Dr. Knapp said. “It was encouraging to hear such a variety of suggestions ... about what all of us—the federal government, state governments, nongovernmental organizations, and colleges and universities themselves—can do together to address this national challenge.” – **Lauren Ingeno**

**VETERANS**

# GI Bill’s 70th Anniversary Celebrated

Seventy years ago, GW student Don A. Balfour, AA ’44, BA ’45, became the first veteran to receive benefits from the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944, more commonly known as the GI Bill. And in June, officials from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs were at GW to commemorate the anniversary.





**Retired Vice Adm. Mel Williams Jr., associate provost for military and veterans affairs, opened the GI Bill commemorative event.**

Joined by GW student veterans, administrators, staff, and members of veterans' service organizations, the group reflected on the significance of the original GI Bill and discussed the future outcomes of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"As the son of a veteran who used the GI Bill for education and as a veteran who used the GI Bill, it's a privilege for me to be a part of this," retired Vice Adm. Mel Williams Jr., GW's associate provost for military and veterans affairs, said in his opening remarks.

The GI Bill made higher education accessible to working-class Americans and their families, said Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Sloan Gibson, in turn igniting the economy and creating the middle class.

Notable beneficiaries of the GI Bill include former President Gerald Ford, musician Johnny Cash, actor and film director Clint Eastwood, and 14 Nobel laureates. But Mr. Gibson said the majority of beneficiaries of the original GI Bill are "the everyday lynchpins, leaders in our communities and neighborhoods all across the country."

The Post-9/11 GI Bill became effective for millions of service members and veterans in August 2009 and provides the most generous educational VA benefits since the original GI Bill. The VA has distributed more than \$41 billion in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit payments to fund the education of more than 1.2 million beneficiaries.

One of the bill's federally funded provisions is the Yellow Ribbon Program, which GW has participated in for five years. As part of the program, GW provides full coverage of tuition and fees for undergraduate student veterans, as well as for qualified veterans and their family members pursuing law and master's degrees. Mr. Gibson commended the GW student

veterans present at the event, many of whom he had spoken with during an earlier roundtable discussion.

"I was really inspired as I listened to their stories, learned of their ambitions, and witnessed their passion and desire to continue to make a difference for their country," he said. —**Lauren Ingeno**

**SPEAKERS**

# Powell Talks Life, Leadership

Colin Powell's story has a simple beginning: A young boy born to Jamaican parents joins the army. From there, it becomes remarkable.

He won the Purple Heart after being wounded in the Vietnam War, and later received the Soldier's Medal for rescuing comrades from a burning helicopter. Mr. Powell, MBA '71, served Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan in key defense roles; President George H. W. Bush made him chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the '90s; and in 2001 his career catapulted when President George W. Bush selected him as secretary of state—the highest rank an African-American had ever held in the U.S. government.

In an August interview organized by the Smithsonian Associates at Lisner Auditorium, School of Media and Public

Affairs Director Frank Sesno asked the four-star general: "When you were a kid, did you imagine all you'd achieve?"

"I wasn't standing on the corner of 123rd Street saying to myself, 'Self, you're going to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff one day!'" Mr. Powell chuckled. "I couldn't have dreamed those things."

Whether he envisioned it or not, his leadership skills ultimately guided his career trajectory. It was public interest in those skills and the lessons his career taught him that led Mr. Powell to write his latest book, *It Worked For Me: In Life and Leadership*, published in 2012, which he discussed for the packed Lisner audience.

For a profile published in *Parade* magazine, the then-secretary of state was asked to share some quotes and words of wisdom he kept taped to his desk. The magazine published 13 frank, simple pieces of advice from Mr. Powell—a list he today calls the rules he lives by, and which in part inspired the book.

But even following these rules, Mr. Powell had a complex tenure as secretary of state—and now, as conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine dominate the news, he has been watching from the perspective of someone who's been there before.

Despite the difficulties politicians and foreign leaders encounter, Mr. Powell said, effective leadership comes from those who have the ability to inspire a population.

"What I have found is that leadership is all about people," he said. "People get work done—it's not the organization, it's not the PowerPoint chart, it's not the philosophy. Leadership is all about inspiring a group of people to achieve what needs to be achieved."

—**Julyssa Lopez**



**School of Media and Public Affairs Director Frank Sesno interviews Colin Powell, MBA '71, at Lisner Auditorium.**

HEADLINERS AT UNIVERSITY EVENTS

# GEORGE WELCOMES

**“The point is the acceptance of variety and not generalizing people out of existence. That is what literature teaches you to reject. That is why literature is so revolutionary.”**

**Azar Nafisi**, award-winning author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, sharing her passion for the written world in May at the semester’s final lecture of the Jenny McKean Moore Reading Series, sponsored by the English department’s creative writing program.

“It’s like Snakes and Ladders: You move a word in the first sentence of the paragraph and everything changes. It’s this wobbly, amoebic thing you’re working with, and eventually at the end of the day, it stops wobbling and becomes fixed.”

Award-winning author **John Banville**, speaking in March during a conversation with writer-in-residence Molly McCloskey as part of the English department’s Jenny McKean Moore Reading Series.

**“It normally takes less than 11 seconds [to process an ATM transaction]. By contrast, it takes 177 days to move records from the Defense Department to Veterans Affairs. You are living in a world of 11 seconds, and the government bureaucracy is in a world of 177 days.”**

**Newt Gingrich**, former speaker of the House, in a speech kicking off the annual National Conservative Student Conference, held at GW in July. The weeklong event, hosted by Young America’s Foundation, featured a lineup of conservative stars that included U.S. Senators Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Marco Rubio (R-Fla.).

**Azar Nafisi**

**John Banville**

**Newt Gingrich**

**“There’s a spectrum to violence—the subtle, covert name-calling and the dramatic, overt action. So often we don’t recognize the former until it becomes the latter.”**

Actor and activist **Ashley Judd**, speaking in April at the annual Grand Chapter Meeting of the GW Greek community, sponsored by GW Greek Life, the Program Board, and the Student Association.

**Ashley Judd**

“We’ve gotten to the point where you don’t need to physically attack a country to debilitate it.”

Estonian President **Toomas Hendrik Ilves**, whose nation is frequently touted as a premier example of strong technological infrastructure and Internet freedom, speaking at a forum in May hosted by GW’s Cybersecurity Initiative. Drawing lessons from cyber attacks it suffered in 2007, he said, Estonia quickly leveraged its population of just 1.3 million people to scale and develop defense tactics.

**“When I was a child, my mother would constantly say to me, ‘Can’t you be the bigger person?’ And I can’t, OK? I am the smaller person.”**

Humorist **Fran Lebowitz**, fielding questions from Associate Professor of English Margaret Soltan and audience members in the Jack Morton Auditorium as the final visitor in the Jewish Literature Live spring season, presented by the Department of English.

**Fran Lebowitz**

**Toomas Hendrik Ilves**



# AT A GLANCE



College of Arts and Sciences, the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, and the Naval Academy. Company officers will spend the first year of their three-year tour as full-time students. The program accepts Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard junior officers. The first cohort began the program in June.

## THE (STUDENT) BODY POLITIC

For the second consecutive year GW students were ranked the “most politically active” in the nation, according to the 2015 edition of *The Princeton Review’s* college guide, *The Best 379 Colleges*, released in August. The top spot was awarded following *The Princeton Review’s* survey of 130,000 students at 379 colleges nationwide. The publication also recognized GW among colleges in highly rated cities, universities with the best residence halls, and schools with the most popular study abroad programs.

## NEW MASTER’S AIDS U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

The university has been selected to create a graduate-level leadership program for U.S. Naval Academy company officers—whose primary responsibility is to serve as mentors and role models—in their first year of service. The 45-credit Master of Arts degree in leadership education and development will blend coursework from the Columbian

## BRAZIL AT GW

This summer marked the launch of Brasília Sem Fronteiras, or Brasília Without Borders, GW’s international academic exchange program in partnership with the government of Brasília, Brazil’s federal capital city. The four-week exchange is an experiential learning program on civic engagement and leadership development. A cohort of 335 high school and 50 college students from Brasília was selected from a pool of nearly 8,000 applicants based on academic achievement. At the opening ceremony in July, Brazilian Ambassador to the U.S. Mauro Vieira, GW President Steven Knapp, and other top Brazilian and GW officials welcomed the students to Washington.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

GW’s Board of Trustees elected three new trustees at its June 20 leadership meeting: Rutgers University-Newark Associate Professor Kyle Farmbry, BA ’92, MPA ’94, PhD ’99; scholar,

advocate, and filmmaker Sally Nuamah, BA ’11; and physician Art B. Wong, MD ’67. The new trustees will provide leadership for GW’s strategic initiatives and will help oversee the university’s fiscal, academic, and physical operations.

## SMPA DEBUTS PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

The School of Media and Public Affairs this summer launched an Executive and Professional Education Program, which leverages its signature programs in journalism, mass communications, and political communication to educate professionals on strategies for the digital age. The open enrollment program includes seminars such as “Creating Influence and Engagement With Social Media”; “Communicating Washington” with former congressional press secretary Jake Rubin and assistant press secretary/speechwriter Steve Norton; and “Storytelling in the Digital Age,” led by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Nina Seavey, director of GW’s Documentary Center.

 For more information, visit [smpa.gwu.edu/exec](http://smpa.gwu.edu/exec).

## PARTNERSHIP TO BOOST FOOD RESEARCH

GW has partnered with Wholesome Wave, a nonprofit focused on creating sustainable food systems. Using the university’s Urban Food Task Force, the Milken Institute School of Public Health, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and the Rodham Institute as resources, the two will analyze shared data and seek opportunities for research and education in the areas of food,

nutrition, and food policy.

## HEART-FRIENDLY, SUSTAINABLE-MINDED

The university was recognized by the American Heart Association in May as a platinum-level Fit-Friendly Worksite, a designation awarded to employers that, among other factors, promote a wellness culture by providing healthy eating options, offer physical activity support to their employees, and demonstrate measurable wellness outcomes. Platinum is the program’s highest level. Also in May, GW was awarded a gold rating for its sustainability efforts from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, after the university outlined its efforts in the association’s voluntary reporting database, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System.

## CYBERSECURITY EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Diana L. Burley, a professor in the Graduate School of Education and Human Development, was named the 2014 Cybersecurity Educator of the Year at the annual Colloquium for Information Systems Security Education in June. Dr. Burley, a nationally recognized cybersecurity workforce expert, was selected by CISSE for her contributions to the field of cybersecurity, which include serving on high-profile cybersecurity advisory committees, receiving numerous National Science Foundation awards, and publishing extensively and influentially on public-sector IT use, knowledge management, and information sharing.

5 QUESTIONS

# ...On the Common Core

*Kids have vocabulary homework, and this fall parents do, too. Their term? Common Core State Standards. Developed by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers, the set of voluntary K-12 education standards for language arts and math was intended to create uniform expectations for U.S. students, but implementation—as of press time, it’s in use in 43 states and D.C.—has proved controversial. Maria Ferguson, director of the Center on Education Policy at GW’s Graduate School of Education and Human Development, sat down with GW Magazine to explain the policy beneath the politics.*

**What problems in the K-12 curriculum does the Common Core address?**

The Common Core standards were designed to ensure that all students get the skills they need to compete internationally. We always talk about the United States’ curriculum being a mile wide and an inch thick, meaning we cover a lot of stuff, but not in detail. The Common Core is an effort to create a curriculum that is narrower but deeper, and that focuses on things that are important in the working world: cooperation, communication, analyzing difficult material, and defending an argument. A knowledge economy—and the 21st century is a knowledge economy—demands those things.

Parents forget that kids are not growing up in the same world they did, competing with kids from their town or state. They’re competing with kids from all over the world, who are learning at a higher standard.

**Why is it in the news so much right now?**

The Common Core has been in the process of implementation for several years, so more and more attention is now being focused on it. There’s always been a real sensitivity in the U.S. to any kind of national oversight regarding education—even though, among industrialized nations, we are really alone in not having a national curriculum. And even though these are state-led and state-developed standards, the Obama administration has incentivized states to

adopt college- and career-ready standards. That hasn’t helped clear up the confusion between what’s federal and what’s state and local. So some people who oppose the administration have rallied against Common Core. It’s unfortunate, because that political stuff distracts us from the important conversations we should be having about public education in America. It’s static.

**In states implementing the Common Core, what differences can be expected?**

It depends on the state. In the U.S., education is a very local enterprise. Before the Core, standards differed greatly from state to state. For some states, implementing higher standards did not represent much of a lift. Massachusetts, for example, has been a very high-performing state, so those students will have a relatively small jump in experience. In lower-performing states, the leap to the Common Core is going to be significant. Obviously those places are going to need more support, more resources, better teachers, all that stuff. And that’s difficult, because public education is funded by ZIP code in this country. Probably the places that need the most support have the least amount of funding.

**What research has your center done on Common Core?**

The CEP’s goal is to create a robust research agenda for education policy and practice. We are nonpartisan and don’t advocate for any one issue. We try to bridge the gap between research and policymaking to improve public education writ large. So we’ve focused on survey work around state and local implementation—looking at the intersection between the intention of the policy and

Maria Ferguson

how it actually plays out on the ground, because often the two will never meet. Last year we did a 41-question survey on state implementation of the Common Core.

**What were the takeaways?**

States are concerned about the “hearts and minds” aspect of implementing the Core. If you have a tea party contingent in your state that has decided to turn Common Core into “ObamaCore,” you need expertise and resources to combat that perception, and many states don’t have that. They’re also worried about how to marry K-12 with institutions of higher learning. And they’re concerned about getting teachers the training they need to teach the Core.

There’s an obsession with teacher evaluation that can be damaging: Just as states were implementing the Common Core, which demands a lot from teachers, they were also putting into place very high-stakes teacher evaluations. Teachers were going to be evaluated on standards that they hadn’t been trained to teach, against tests that weren’t ready yet, and their jobs could depend on the results of those evaluations. So that created a huge amount of issues, and many states have backed off that now.

Having said that, the polling shows that most teachers support the Common Core. It would mean that, for the first time, states could confab on how to better prepare their students. Standardization would create comparability, so some economies of scale could develop around curricula, materials, teacher training, and so on.

I have a kid who is experiencing the Common Core. It might be because I am a total education nerd, but to me it’s much better. She used to bring home these ridiculous worksheets from 1969. I haven’t seen those in a while.

—Ruth Steinhardt



FROM THE ARCHIVES

# A House for the History Books



ABOVE Woodhull House in 1912.  
 RIGHT The house today, with a pedestrian bridge connecting to the new museum building.  
 FAR RIGHT Maxwell Van Zandt Woodhull.



It soon will be part of the new museum that accommodates, among other things, Albert H. Small's famous collection of Washingtoniana. But Woodhull House, located at 20th and G streets, is itself an important piece of D.C. history.

Built in 1855 by Maxwell Woodhull, a commander in the U.S. Navy, the Italian-style mansion would count among its residents U.S. Sen. William Henry Seward, the eventual secretary of state under Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson who is now perhaps best remembered for negotiating the purchase of Alaska.

The house was bequeathed to the university in 1921, upon the death of the builder's son, Brig. Gen. Maxwell Van Zandt Woodhull, a university trustee and benefactor, according to a history in the online *GW Encyclopedia*.

A formidable presence on campus, Gen. Woodhull was an imposing man known for his signature derby hat, gold-topped ebony cane, and tendency to haul students off the street for "some infraction of university regulations which he had witnessed in his progress up G Street," Washington newspaper columnist and GW trustee Jessie Fant Evans, AB '13, EdD (hon.) '32, wrote in 1935. Ms. Evans added that "the General invariably handled these situations himself, cane in hand, without resort to university officials."

In recent years, Woodhull House has been home to a slightly less eccentric set of campus authorities: the University Police Department.

 For more on the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, visit [museum.gwu.edu](http://museum.gwu.edu).



As he planned and painted, Mr. Brannock could see workmen on a construction project a few streets away. "I'd be up on my scaffold every day, looking at those guys up on their scaffold," he says. "The way they were shaping the physical growth of the area seemed like a nice way to cap the mural."

"A guy walked by and watched me paint for a long time, and he said, 'You know, I lived in that building that you're painting.' He described what it was like to grow up here and how the neighborhood has changed."

Mr. Brannock spent time at the University Archives and the National Building Museum learning about the neighborhood. In this image of President James Monroe signing GW's charter, even the light fixtures are historically accurate.

The "foggy" part of Foggy Bottom comes from the neighborhood's industrial past, including as home to the Christian Heurich Brewing Company, pictured in the mural (depicted by the copper tank at the far left).

"It was important to me that the largest figure wasn't James Monroe, but instead these two anonymous young girls, who walked past once while I was working. They're just as important as a president or a famous scientist or the people building the buildings."

Mr. Brannock says he was interested in a complicated moral reading of progress. Some innovations, he says, are historical dead-ends—hence this depiction of a lobotomy. Walter Jackson Freeman II and James W. Watts, the nation's foremost practitioners of the procedure, both worked for decades at GW in the early- and mid-20th century.

SPACES

# Art Imitates Life

When artist Calder Brannock, BA '07, was approached just after his graduation about painting a mural on the side of campus grocery store FoBoGro, he accepted immediately—even though he'd never done anything like it before. He'd long been interested in the power of situating art in context, he says, and creating the mural at 2140 F Street NW seemed like an exciting new way to explore that. "One thing I like about public art is that it doesn't demand reverence," he says. "This is a casual space—we're in an alley. That gives people the opportunity to own their viewing experience. It's up to you how you want to relate to the artwork, or if you want to engage with it at all." — **Ruth Steinhardt**

WILLIAM ATKINS



SHOWCASING NEW BOOKS BY GW PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI

# BOOKSHELVES



## Filling in the Blanks

**It's well known that 19th-century British explorers sought to shape the lands they "discovered" in Europe's image. GW professor Dane Kennedy's new book examines a lesser-known narrative—the ways in which British explorations in Africa and Australia relied on native experts who, after all, knew the terrain like their own backyards.**

/ By Menachem Wecker, MA '09 /

***The Last Blank Spaces: Exploring Africa and Australia* (Harvard University Press, 2013)**

**Dane Kennedy**

British explorers tended, at least initially, to treat the continents of Africa and Australia as if they were uncharted oceans, which needed to be mapped and logged carefully using the best scientific instruments and techniques.

That changed when boots actually hit the ground, according to this new book by Dane Kennedy, the Elmer Louis Kayser Professor of History and International Affairs at GW. Local guides proved much more useful to the explorers when it came to navigating these lands.

As John Barrow, the undersecretary of the British admiralty, observed in the early 19th century, Africa represented "almost a blank on our charts," Dr. Kennedy quotes the official as saying. "So little indeed has our knowledge of this great continent kept pace with the increased knowledge of other parts of the world, that it may rather be said to have retrograded."

In filling that void, locals were vital. "Where [explorers] went and how they got there was often predicated on what they learned from guides, go-betweens, and other indigenous peoples," Dr. Kennedy writes. "So too was their access to food, water, shelter, and other necessities."

Although plenty of other books examine exploration in Africa and Australia, Dr. Kennedy says his book is unique in its comparative focus on the two continents, which the British explored from the late 18th to late 19th centuries. That approach, he says, "can illuminate similarities and differences that otherwise tend to get lost in the accounts of particular explorers and expeditions." And by concentrating on collective movements, rather than individual heroics or misadventures, the book studies exploration in the way that explorers and their sponsors would have seen it, "as a specialized, scientific practice," he says.

Dr. Kennedy emphasizes that explorers weren't independent actors operating through sheer force of will. "They were subject to various forms of oversight and constraint" from governments, intermediary





states, and indigenous populations, he says. “Far from acting as confident agents of a superior civilization, explorers often found themselves confused, fearful, and dependent. They may have provided the information that the British and other Europeans subsequently used to conquer the two continents, but they themselves were not conquerors.”

Dr. Kennedy, who became interested in this subject while writing his previous book—a biography of 19th-century anthropologist and explorer Richard Burton—says he shared “many of the stereotypical notions of who the explorer was and what motivated him, and was surprised to discover that the reality was far more complex and interesting.”



**Trading Tongues: Merchants, Multilingualism, and Medieval Literature (Ohio State University Press, 2013)**

**Jonathan Hsy**  
Medieval English writers, such as Geoffrey Chaucer, didn’t only write in English, Associate Professor of English Jonathan Hsy notes in this book. Chaucer, for example, was a customs official, and his poetry featured French and Latin merchant jargon. The book, Dr. Hsy

writes, examines “a pervasive intercourse among tongues in everyday life,” and it attends “to the manifold forms of social leveling engendered by urban commerce.” Not only did the business and legal terminology that were used for medieval commerce in London shape the ways that poets of the time wielded language, the book reveals, but writers shifted between languages for artistic reasons. Those writers used “different languages to develop distinct expressive registers, to stylize certain types of speech, or to evoke a vivid sense of place.” Although Chaucer is often called the “father of English poetry,” he spoke French and Latin and traveled to Flanders, France, Italy, and Iberia; William Caxton, a printer, lived in Bruges and Cologne before settling in Westminster. These writers not only contributed to the development of English, Dr. Hsy suggests, but also were “wayfarers *in medias res*—textual creators who are spatially, linguistically, and temporarily ‘in the middle of things.’”



**Citizen Strangers: Palestinians and the Birth of Israel's Liberal Settler State (Stanford University Press, 2013)**

**Shira Robinson**  
What does it mean, asks Shira Robinson, associate professor of history and international affairs,

for a democratically elected official from a sovereign state, such as Israel’s first president, David Ben-Gurion, to have self-identified as a colonial subject? That puzzle and others drive Dr. Robinson’s book, which delves into the “contradictions that emerged from Israel’s foundation as a liberal settler state—a modern colonial polity whose procedural democracy was established by forcibly removing most of the indigenous majority from within its borders” and maintaining control over the destinies of those who remained.



**Roman Palmyra: Identity, Community, and State Formation (Oxford University Press, 2013)**

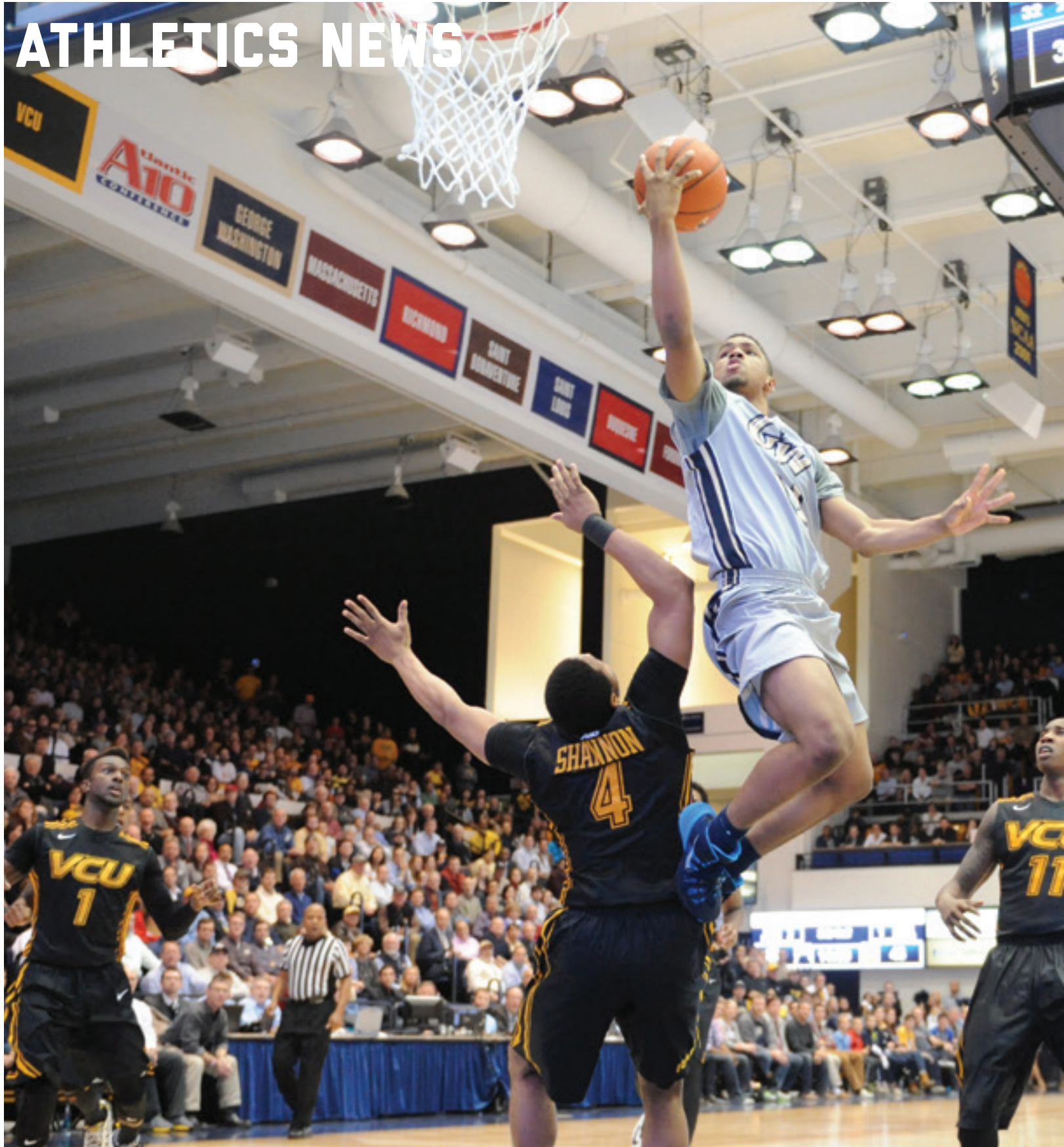
**Andrew M. Smith II**  
The city of Palmyra, an oasis midway between Damascus and the Euphrates River, rose in the ancient world from humble origins to become a powerful and wealthy urban fixture, due in large part to its situation on caravan routes. It was “a crossroads between east and west,” Andrew M. Smith II, assistant professor of classics, writes in his new book. The Palmyrenes represented a “secure and stable presence in an otherwise volatile desert frontier” and “handled not only the movement of material goods across the frontier but also the exchange of information.” The

city’s geographic location and its citizens’ diplomatic relations with their neighbors, Dr. Smith notes, helped Palmyrenes forge an identity that blended elements of Roman, Iranian, and Arabian cultures. The book focuses on two aspects of Palmyrene civilization in the first three centuries: the creation of “Palmyrene identity” and of Palmyra as “an urban community in a volatile frontier zone.”



**Bas Jan Ader: Death Is Elsewhere (University of Chicago Press, 2013)**

**Alexander Dumbadze**  
A fascinating portrait of the enigmatic Dutch performance artist Bas Jan Ader, who was lost at sea after setting sail in 1975, emerges from Professor of Art History Alexander Dumbadze’s thorough book. When Mr. Ader met his future wife, he lifted his shirt and announced that his belly button was one of the world’s five finest; at the wedding, he wore crutches because “he simply thought it was funny to fake an injury.” The stunt also related to Mr. Ader’s larger body of work focused on falling. Dr. Dumbadze contextualizes Mr. Ader’s falls within art movements of the 1970s, as well as the artist’s Christian upbringing, wherein falls might relate to mankind’s biblical fall from grace in the eyes of God.





Junior guard Kethan Savage

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

# Momentum on Its Side, Men's Basketball Aims Higher

From dark horses to big dogs, what a difference a year made for the GW men's basketball program.

This time a year ago, the Colonials were viewed as being only on the cusp of competing with the top of an increasingly rigorous Atlantic 10 conference.

Now after a 2013-14 season in which they equaled the second-most wins in program history, with 24, and finished third in a league that sent six teams to the NCAA Tournament, they're projected not only to compete for the 2015 A-10 championship but also to contend for a second straight trip to the big dance. And, more than ever in team history, they'll be doing that in the spotlight, with a record-high 14 nationally televised games.

"We're really excited going into this season," says head coach Mike Lonergan, whose contract was extended after last season through 2020-21. "We've got five veteran guys, and a lot of our five freshmen will find themselves in the rotation. We first have to mesh in the new guys with the veterans and build team chemistry, then try to figure out what our rotation will be. But I think we'll have more depth this year and have a very good chance to be successful and reach our goals."

GW will attempt to exceed expectations yet again behind one of the most experienced and talented junior classes in all of Division I basketball: guards Joe McDonald and Kethan Savage, all-conference second team wing Patricio Garino, and

GW ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

**“WE’RE HOPING TO GET BETTER CROWDS EARLY AND MAKE THE SMITH CENTER THE PLACE TO BE THROUGHOUT 2014-15.”**

— HEAD COACH MIKE LONERGAN

▶ forward Kevin Larsen, the A-10’s Most Improved Player of 2013-14. The quartet has been instrumental to the growth of the program since their arrival in Foggy Bottom in the summer of 2012, but for the first time the team’s potential lies in their hands as upperclassmen.

That four-man junior class will be aided by the return of senior forward John Kopriva and sophomore guard Nick Griffin, as well as the addition of junior forward Ryan McCoy, now eligible after sitting out last season following his transfer from Manhattan College. The team also will rely heavily on a heralded five-member freshman class for depth off the bench and possible starting roles.

Rookie forward Darian Bryant is the sixth *Washington Post* All-Met signee in Mr. Lonergan’s three years at GW, the latest in a local recruiting pipeline that includes Mr. Griffin, Mr. McDonald, and Mr. Savage, as well as 2013 stars and graduates Isaiah Armwood and Maurice Creek.

Mr. Bryant and fellow freshman Yuta Watanabe—who will be just the third player from Japan to compete in NCAA Division I basketball—are likely to make an immediate impact in the frontcourt. “I think because of the position Yuta plays, along with his height and ability to shoot the ball, he will have an impact and play major minutes right away. We’re going to need that from him,” Mr. Lonergan says.

Rookie guard Paul Jorgensen,

who garnered the nickname Prince Harry of Harlem for his ball-handling brilliance on the courts of New York City, is expected to partner with Mr. McDonald and Mr. Savage in the backcourt, while forwards Matt Cimino and Anthony Swan also are expected to contribute through their ability to stretch defenses with their size and shooting.

True to Mr. Lonergan’s mantra of needing to play the best to be the best, GW will embark on one of its most challenging schedules in program history, with a non-conference slate that features defending ACC champion Virginia, two opponents from both the Big Ten (Rutgers and Penn State) and the Big East (Seton Hall and DePaul), and a loaded eight-team field at the Diamond Head Classic in Honolulu during the Christmas holiday.

That non-conference slate will lead into an expanded 18-game A-10 schedule, with Mr. Lonergan’s aim “to come in the top third in the regular season and hopefully win an A-10 championship.” The league docket is highlighted by marquee home games against NCAA Tournament participants Dayton, Massachusetts, Saint Louis, and VCU, as well as conference newcomer Davidson and “Revolutionary Rivalry” opponent George Mason.

“One of our goals is going to be to go undefeated at home. We came close last year when we had tremendous fan support from alumni and students, and we’re hoping to build on that,” Mr. Lonergan says. “The Smith Center became a very difficult place to play, especially late in the year. We’re hoping to get better crowds early and make the Smith Center the place to be throughout 2014-15.”

 **For ticket information, visit [gwsports.com/tickets](http://gwsports.com/tickets).**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

**The Year’s Stats**

The Department of Athletics and Recreation strives to build student-athletes into champions in competition but also in the classroom and in the community. Here’s a look at a few of the department’s achievements in those areas in 2013-14.

**8,471**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS PERFORMED BY STUDENT-ATHLETES**

**ATLANTIC 10 COMMISSIONER'S HONOR ROLL MEMBERS\***

**99** **95**  
**SPRING '14** **FALL '13**

**38**  
**students were named academic all-conference performers.**

**94** **GRADUATES IN THE CLASS OF 2014**  
 (SEVEN GRADUATE STUDENTS)

**SPRING '14 DEPARTMENT GPA 3.22**  
**(ALL-TIME PROGRAM RECORD)**

**40** **mentorship pairings were made between alumni and junior and senior student-athletes in a pilot program created by GW Athletics and its national advisory council.**

\*denotes student-athletes with at least a 3.0 GPA



Venus Williams and Martina Hingis competed in July at GW's Smith Center.

**PROFESSIONAL TENNIS**

## Pro Tennis Returns, Packs Smith Center

Tennis superstars Venus Williams and Martina Hingis competed at the Charles E. Smith Center in July in one of the highlights of the Washington Kastles' fourth consecutive championship season, which brought professional tennis back to campus for the first time in more than two decades.

Ms. Williams and Ms. Hingis—with a combined 12 singles and 25 doubles Grand Slam titles between them—competed for the Kastles in their new home at the Smith Center. Before a franchise-record crowd of 3,275, the old rivals turned teammates played for the first time as doubles partners and led the Kastles to a 23-18 victory over the Texas Wild.

Later in the month, their team went on to win its fourth consecutive Mylan World TeamTennis championship with a five-set sweep of the Springfield Lasers. The title is the team's fifth in six years.

The Kastles came to Foggy Bottom after three seasons on

D.C.'s southwest waterfront, where nearly every home match was a sold-out event. The season brought professional tennis back to the Smith Center for the first time since the Virginia Slims of Washington women's event in 1990. Prior to that, the arena hosted the event from 1982 to 1986 and 1977 to 1979. The Smith Center also hosted the Volvo Classic men's event from 1976 to 1980.

More than 20 Hall of Famers have played at the Smith Center, including Arthur Ashe, Bjorn Borg, Chris Evert, John McEnroe, Martina Navratilova, and WTT co-founder Billie Jean King. **GW**

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

## Women's Basketball Looks to Top the A-10

When Jonathan Tsipis was named head coach of the women's basketball team in April 2012, he was tasked with re-establishing the Colonials as a national power and the most dominant team in the Atlantic 10 Conference. In just two seasons with Mr. Tsipis at the helm, GW

has taken major steps toward that goal.

In the 2012-13 season the Colonials posted their first A-10 championship win in five years. A year later, GW made even bigger strides, advancing to the conference semifinals and the third round of the Women's National Invitation Tournament. The team finished the season with a 23-11 overall record—a 12-win improvement in just two seasons—and posted an 11-5 mark in the A-10 to tie for second in the league standings and earn a first-round bye in the conference tournament.

The Colonials return a strong nucleus, anchored by junior Jonquel Jones, senior Chakecia Miller, and sophomores Caira Washington and Hannah Schaible. Ms. Jones, a 6-foot-4 forward, asserted herself as one of the best post players in the Atlantic 10 last season, becoming the only player in the league to average a double-double on the year en route to all-conference second team honors. Her frontcourt mate, Ms. Washington, was named A-10 Rookie of the Year and earned all-conference third team accolades after leading the A-10 in field goal percentage and offensive rebounding.

Ms. Miller has been one of the top defensive players in the league since her arrival in Foggy Bottom three years ago, and she was voted to the conference's all-defensive team last March. Ms. Schaible, meanwhile, started nearly every game as a freshman and injected a shot of energy every time she was on the court during her inaugural campaign.

Mr. Tsipis and his staff added five highly-decorated freshmen for the 2014-15 season. Philadelphia native Mia Farmer and Brianna Cummings, who hails from outside Atlanta, were each named player of the year by publications in their respective

hometowns, while New Jersey native Jada Matthews was a McDonald's All-America nominee. In addition, local product Kelli Prange was a *Washington Post* All-Met first team selection out of nearby Damascus High School, and Colombian Camila Tapias was selected to play in the SchollyMe All-World Game.

The Atlantic 10 traditionally has been one of the top conferences in Division I and last season proved no different, as the league sent seven teams to the postseason. With a versatile mix of seasoned vets and promising newcomers, GW women's basketball aims to reclaim what used to be Colonials' tradition: finishing atop the conference.

 For ticket information, visit [gwsports.com/tickets](http://gwsports.com/tickets).



Junior forward Jonquel Jones

# RESEARCH NEWS

**BIOLOGY**

## How Amphibians Went Global

**Study finds that amphibians may have spread by swimming great distances, in addition to short swims and moving with and over land masses.**

With more than 7,000 known species, amphibians can be found on six of the seven continents and in nearly every type of

ecosystem. But there have been few attempts to understand exactly when and how frogs, toads, salamanders, and the wormlike caecilians spread across the planet over the past 300 million years.

In what's being called the first large-scale study of its kind, Alex Pyron, an assistant professor of biology, has pieced together the evolutionary and geographic journey of more than 3,000 amphibian species, including nearly half of all existing species from every taxonomic group.

"There have been smaller-scale studies, but they included only a few major lineages and were very broad," Dr. Pyron says. "What we needed was a large-scale phylogeny [or evolutionary tree] that included

as many species as possible. That allows us to track back through time, not only how different species are related, but also how they moved from place to place."

Biologists have long hypothesized that the distribution of amphibians has been driven by two major processes: vicariance, in which a population is separated by a geophysical event, like the fragmentation of supercontinent Pangaea, and dispersal, in which the population travels across land bridges or short distances across oceans.

Dr. Pyron's findings, published online in June in the journal *Systematic Biology*, confirmed both hypotheses, but also suggested a surprising third: Some amphibians may have swum long distances from one landmass to another within the past few million years.

Past studies have assumed that long-distance, over-water dispersal was essentially impossible for amphibians due to

salt intolerance. However, when Dr. Pyron began completing his analysis, he noticed a number of cases that could not be explained by old age. For instance, one group of frogs found in Australia and New Guinea emerged long after the continental divide, but is deeply rooted within a group of amphibians that exists only in South America.

"You wouldn't think that frogs would be able to swim all the way there, but that seems like one of the more likely explanations," Dr. Pyron says. "They're 120 million years too late to have walked to Australia."

Next Dr. Pyron intends to study whether any specific quality, such as tolerance to salt water, allows some groups of amphibians to be better dispersers. He has also begun to conduct a similar analysis with lizards and snakes to see if the same distribution patterns hold up. —**Lauren Ingeno**

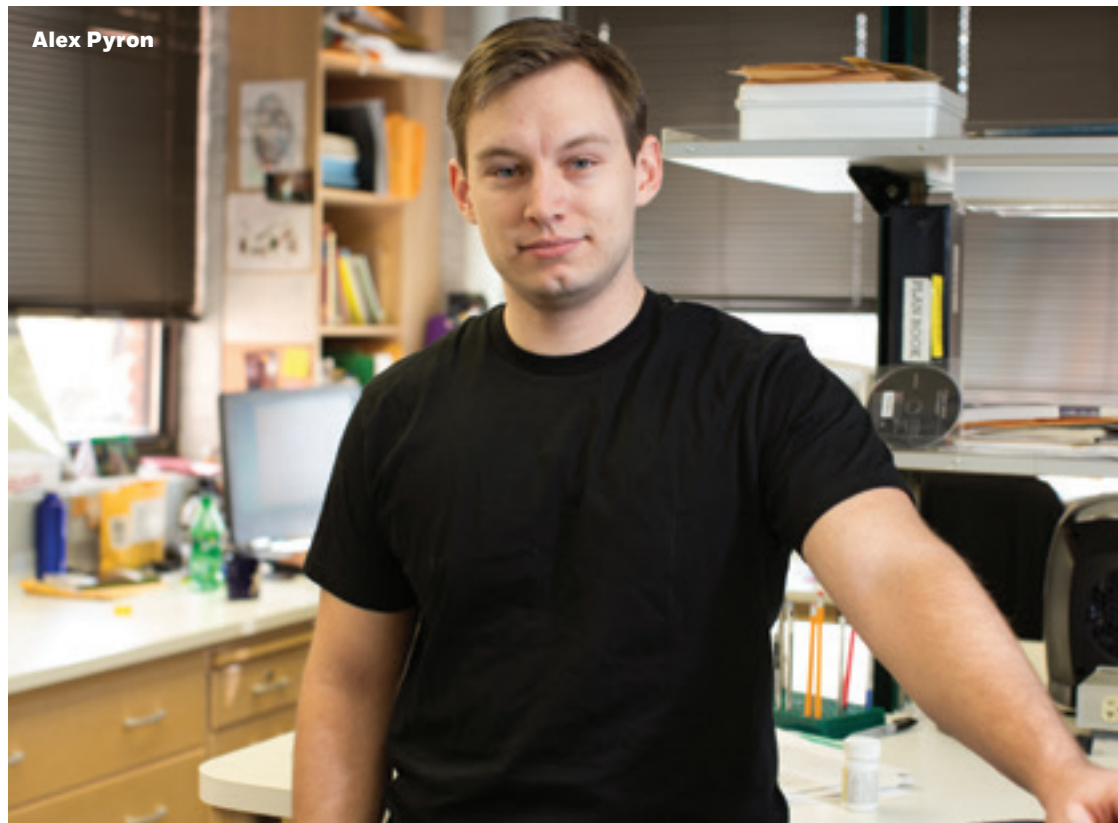
**NEUROLOGY**

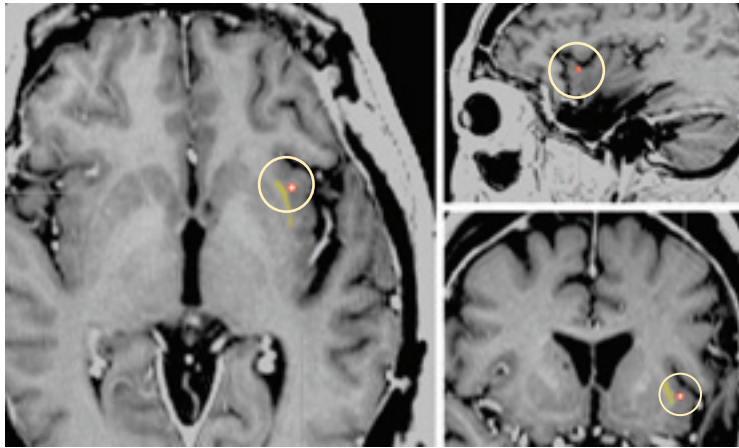
## On/Off Switch for Cognition

While mapping the brain activity of a patient with severe epilepsy, researchers think they may have inadvertently discovered the linchpin of consciousness.

"Consciousness has to do with widely distributed networks interacting with one another," says Mohamad Koubeissi, an associate professor of neurology and director of the GW's Epilepsy Center. "I was surprised to see that there was one region of the brain that, through electrical stimulation, could result in this global alteration of consciousness—with many spheres of cognition being paralyzed in just one moment."

Dr. Koubeissi and his colleagues described their findings in a case report





**Preliminary research suggests the left claustrum (highlighted here) may act as an “on/off switch” for human consciousness.**

published in August in the journal *Epilepsy and Behavior*.

The researchers had been trying to identify the origin of seizures in a 54-year-old patient by mapping her brain function; to do that they were stimulating electrodes that had been implanted in her brain.

As the woman read from a text, the researchers stimulated a region near a thin sheet of neurons called the left claustrum. The woman immediately stopped reading, stopped moving, and stared blankly at the researchers as her breathing slowed. When the stimulation was turned off, she resumed consciousness, with no memory of the incident.

In investigating it further, Dr. Koubeissi says he asked the

woman to repeat and recall a series of three words. After she successfully repeated the first two words, Dr. Koubeissi stimulated the electrode near her claustrum and said the third word. When he turned off the stimulation and asked the patient to repeat what he had said, she repeated his first two words correctly—but was unaware that he had even spoken a third.

“The conclusion is that this one specific spot may be heavily connected with all of the widely distributed networks that serve consciousness,” Dr. Koubeissi says.

While being awake and alert and, alternatively, being in a coma are two extremes of consciousness, there is a

full spectrum in between, he emphasizes. The woman in the experiment remained upright and awake when the brain region was stimulated, while her cognition seemed to simultaneously turn off.

The finding has yet to be replicated in other patients. Dr. Koubeissi believes it could have significant clinical implications for understanding and treating, for instance, coma patients, epilepsy, and some mental health disorders. —**Lauren Ingeno**

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

## Quitting? There’s an App for That

If you’re craving a cigarette, a text-messaging program can help you fight the urge to light up, according to a new study by researchers at the Milken Institute School of Public Health. More than 11 percent of smokers who used a text-messaging program to help them quit did so and remained smoke free at the end of a six-month study, compared with just 5 percent of controls, according to the new research, funded by the National Cancer

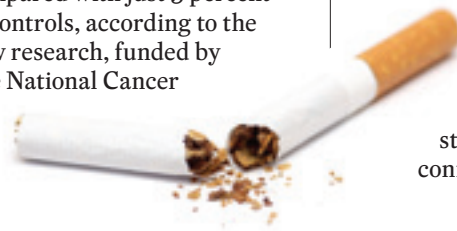
Institute and published online in June in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

The research team, led by Associate Professor Lorien C. Abrams, studied participants enrolled in Text2Quit—a mobile-based smoking cessation program, licensed by GW to the firm Voxiva Inc., which offers personalized advice on kicking the habit based on a user’s quit date. The Text2Quit program also allows participants to ask for more help, to receive a distracting tip or game to offset cravings, or to reset a quit date if they need more time. More than 75,000 people in the United States have enrolled in the program.

For the study, Dr. Abrams and her colleagues recruited 503 smokers online and randomly assigned them to receive Text2Quit or self-help material. At the end of six months, the researchers sent out a survey to find out how many people in each group had stopped smoking and biochemically verified the smoking status of those who said they had quit.

“Text messages seem to give smokers the constant reminders they need to stay focused on quitting,” Dr. Abrams says.

“However, additional studies must be done to confirm this result.” □



**“We have a dam that’s protecting us from this flood of bacteria—and the dam is antibiotics. Each time one of these types of bacteria becomes resistant to all of those antibiotics, it’s like water coming over the dam. So with each new strain of bacteria, more and more water is going to start flowing through.”**

—**Lance Price, an epidemiologist and professor in the Milken Institute School of Public Health, speaking to *GW Today* about his research—pioneering the use of genetics to understand the creation and spread of superbugs—and the topic of the new documentary *Resistance*, in which he’s featured as an expert.**

To read the full story, visit [go.gwu.edu/resistancefilm](http://go.gwu.edu/resistancefilm).



The D.C. metropolitan region has been ranked the most walkable urban metro area in the nation.

URBAN STUDIES

## D.C. Sets the Pace for Walkability

The D.C. metropolitan region has been ranked the most walkable urban metro area in the nation, according to a report released in June by GW's Center for Real Estate and Urban

Analysis, in conjunction with LOCUS, an advocacy coalition of Smart Growth America.

"There is a structural shift occurring in how real estate is developed in this country—from drivable suburban sprawl to walkable urbanism," says the center's chair, Christopher B. Leinberger, who led the research and serves as the Charles Bendit Distinguished Scholar at GW's School of Business. "We wanted to document that trend and provide concrete, market-

based evidence that walkable urban places can generate extraordinary economic value."

The report ranked the nation's 30 largest metropolitan areas, assessing the number of walkable urban places in each and the percentages of office and retail space found there.

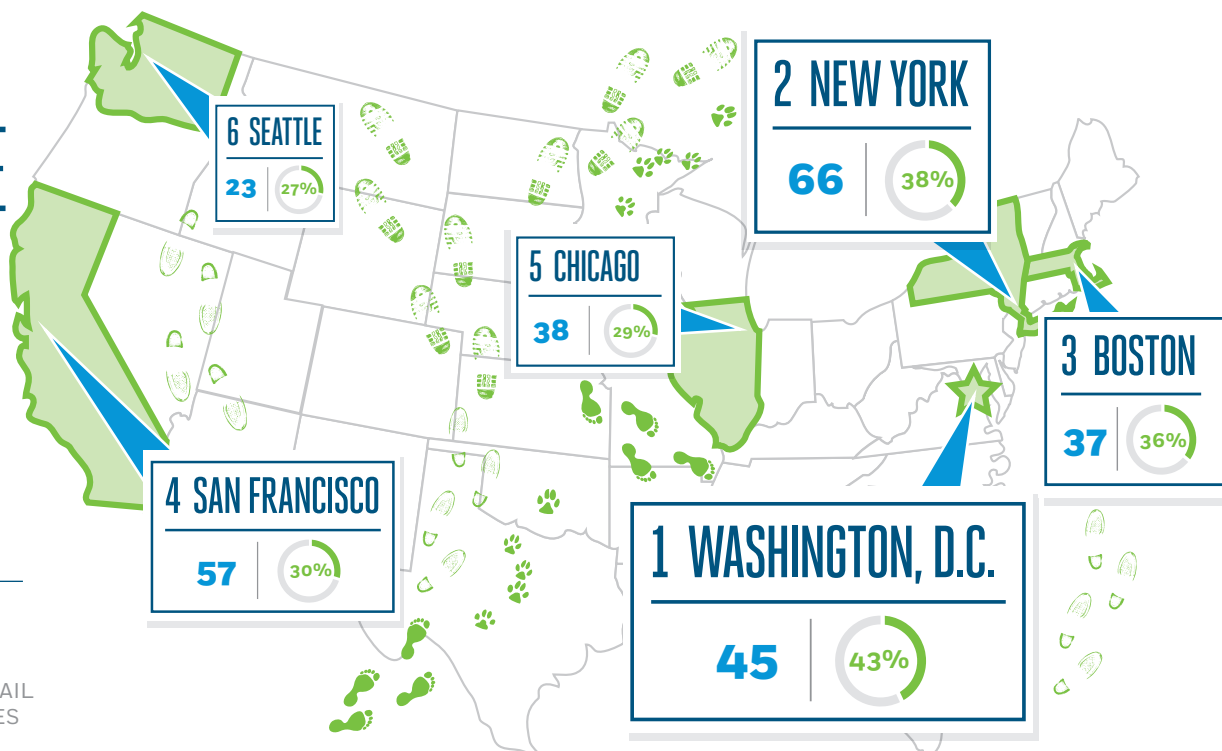
The D.C. area's top spot is due in part to its having the highest percentage of total office and retail space located within its walkable areas, the report found. And its walkable spaces were

almost evenly split between the city and the suburbs.

By comparison, Mr. Leinberger says, "the vast majority of walkable urbanism in New York is on Manhattan, where 8 percent of the population lives in only 0.3 percent of the landmass of the region." —**Brittney Dunkins**

For more on this story, visit [gwtoday.gwu.edu/dc-sets-pace-walkability](http://gwtoday.gwu.edu/dc-sets-pace-walkability).

## THE TOP 6 WALKABLE URBAN METRO AREAS



NUMBER OF WALKABLE URBAN PLACES

SHARE OF OFFICE AND RETAIL SPACE IN WALKABLE PLACES

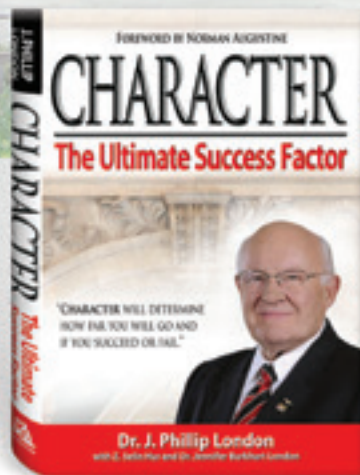


# A CULTURE OF CHARACTER

It's about doing the right thing, standing up for the truth, and putting the good of our neighbors and our nation ahead of ourselves. In today's world, a culture of character has never been more important for individuals and organizations. It separates good leaders from bad and sets them up for success – or failure.



THE  
GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY



**Dr. Jack London**, CACI Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board and an alumnus of The George Washington University (Doctorate of Business Administration '71 conferred "with distinction"), reflects on and analyzes the importance of good character in leadership in his book, *Character: The Ultimate Success Factor*. Using examples from history and his own experiences, Dr. London identifies the key role of strong character in personal and professional success.

Learn more about *Character: The Ultimate Success Factor*, available online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble, by visiting [www.characterthebook.com](http://www.characterthebook.com). All royalties from the sale of this book benefit CAUSE (Comfort for America's Uniformed Services) and its mission of helping America's military wounded.

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“  
I AM ONE OF  
GEORGE WASHINGTON'S

CITIZEN LEADERS

STUDENT VETERAN  
CUBAN AMERICAN  
GLOBAL CITIZEN  
CANCER RESEARCHER

DIPLOMAT  
FUTURE PUBLIC SERVANT  
COLONIAL  
DREAMER

U.S. NAVY VETERAN  
SURVIVOR

AND BECAUSE OF GW  
I AM MAKING HISTORY

”

# Making History, One Experience at a Time

The university embarks on a philanthropic campaign to expand support for students, academic programs, and research, taking a leap toward the “full greatness that was always in this university’s future.”

Marwan Sulaiman picked up the phone and dialed the number for home, which at this point in his life was a bit relative. His parents were in Iraq; he was in Connecticut, taken in by an American family a few years earlier as war ripped through his native country.

Now Mr. Sulaiman had received word of his acceptance to the George Washington University. He wanted to share the news.

The phone rang and seven time zones away a sleepy voice answered.

“I woke them up in the middle of the night,” Mr. Sulaiman said, recalling the 2010 conversation. “They were ecstatic.

“I said, ‘Don’t congratulate me yet; I haven’t figured out financial aid.’”

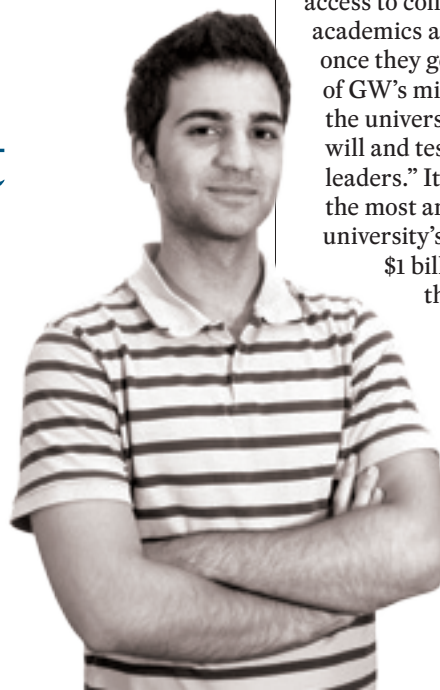
The cost was going to be a major problem for Mr. Sulaiman, who had left the Middle East as a teenager, his family split by violence and uncertainty. At age 15 he had been forced to move from Baghdad to Kurdistan because of the war in Iraq. A year later, he was in Connecticut, where he lived throughout high school.

Mr. Sulaiman isn’t one for hyperbole. His story didn’t require it then, and it doesn’t now. In the spring of 2010 he had no idea how he would pay for college. And then he got a message informing him that he had received a scholarship covering all four years at GW.

“That moment changed my life,” he said, speaking at an event this spring celebrating benefactors and students, ahead of his graduation in May. “People had more faith in me than I had in myself.”

His story is unique but not an anomaly. Providing more students with access to college—and to enhanced academics and research opportunities once they get there—is a central tenet of GW’s mission to educate what the university namesake in his last will and testament called “citizen-leaders.” It’s also the vision behind the most ambitious campaign in the university’s 193-year history, a

\$1 billion philanthropic effort that will bring GW into its third century by celebrating the past and providing for the future.



**Marwan Sulaiman**



**“Making History: The Campaign for GW,”** which formally launched on June 20, has raised more than \$525 million to date. The campaign aims to expand academic programs, enhance student support, and develop capital projects—creating opportunities that pay tribute to the Founding Father who envisioned a university in the nation’s capital that would serve as America’s intellectual hub.

“What George Washington would recognize today is our continuing mission to educate citizen leaders for the world,” GW President Steven Knapp said at the campaign launch event in June, held on the grounds of Washington’s Mount Vernon estate. “In those respects we have remained faithful to our founding vision for nearly 200 years. Tonight we’re announcing an ambitious goal that will enable us to implement the strategic plan that was unanimously adopted last year by the Board of Trustees and provides the blueprint for achieving the full greatness that was always in this university’s future.”

Much of that greatness resides in the student body. Of the campaign’s \$1 billion goal, \$400 million is earmarked for student support—half of which will go to Power & Promise Fund scholarships, like the ones received by Marwan Sulaiman and Maddison Bruer. She too had an improbable path to college, rife with obstacles. Though now a senior in the Elliott School of International Affairs, six years ago she was living in an abandoned trailer without electricity and without her family.

“I was homeless, hitching rides to school with anybody I could,” she told those assembled at the launch event. “By age 16 I was living in a youth homeless shelter trying to pick up what was left of my life.”

In the face of tremendous odds, Ms. Bruer never lost sight of her academic dreams, researching international affairs programs around the country, determined to make education the key to a better life. She found it in Washington, D.C., and at GW, where she

has worked for the Peace Corps, interned at the White House, and volunteered on campus as a student liaison to the alumni community and on the Colonial Cabinet, which welcomes and helps orient incoming freshmen.

“At 21, I am more than my circumstances, more than a statistic of a youth without a home,” she said. “I am a dreamer, a planner, and an achiever working toward a life in public service. I am a hard worker, a motivator, a citizen leader.”

She and Mr. Sulaiman are the tip of the iceberg. William Murphy, a junior in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, matriculated to GW with the support of a SEAS merit scholarship, an alumni grant, and as the recipient of the Nelson and Michele Carbonell Engineering Endowed Scholarship. He has been working in cancer research since his freshman year and now leads his own research project.

Emanuel Johnson, a senior in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, grew up on the South Side of Chicago “in a neighborhood riddled with drugs and gang violence.” He joined the U.S. Navy out of high school, serving from 2006 to 2013, and enrolled at GW afterward.

“I immediately saw all the great possibilities at GW,” Mr. Johnson said during the events surrounding the launch. “But I also had another conflicting emotion: Was I actually prepared to come and be successful? I knew I wanted to study political science. I also had a deep interest in economics, but math terrified me.”

Mr. Johnson enrolled in Associate Professor of Economics Roberto Samaniego’s introductory macroeconomics course during his first semester, sitting in the front row of a large lecture hall, “hanging on every word.” About a third of the way through the course, he said, Dr. Samaniego asked if he was considering a minor in economics. Mr. Johnson told him of his fear of math.

“He told me to get over it,” Mr. Johnson recalled. “He said, ‘You would be doing

**Through the campaign GW aims to raise \$1 billion to expand student support and academic programs, and to help break new ground by building modern research facilities—like the new Milken Institute School of Public Health building, at right—and by supporting the research of faculty members and students, particularly work that crosses the traditional boundaries between fields.**

yourself a disservice if that’s the reason you don’t study economics. Emanuel, you’d be good at it!”

Mr. Johnson, who now serves as president of GW Student Veterans, never did pick up that minor in economics; he added it as a second major instead.

“He challenged me to confront my fears and become a courageous student in the same way my training in the Navy taught me to be a fearless leader,” Mr. Johnson said. “I knew from my time in the Navy that a strong support system can take you to great heights. I was unaware such a strong support system existed on GW’s campus.”

**The educational experiences** and opportunities that attracted those students to GW—the academics, the use of Washington as an extension of the classroom, and the emphasis on research—are the focus of the other half of the campaign. While the university aims to raise \$400 million for student support, it also is seeking \$500 million for academic programs and \$100 million to break new ground both literally and intellectually, by building modern research facilities and supporting the research of faculty members and students, particularly work that crosses the traditional boundaries between fields.

In those endeavors the “Making History” campaign will propel new initiatives, like the development of accelerated BA/MA programs and other goals in GW’s strategic plan [see sidebar on page 36], while building



PUBLIC HEALTH BUILDING: JESSICA MCCONNELL BURT / TESTIMONIALS: SIMO AHMADI (BRUER); ABBY GREENAWALT (ALL OTHERS)

on the progress of earlier efforts.

For instance, the university has made a classroom of the cityscape through its more than a century of partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, particularly within the GW departments of biology, anthropology, and American studies, as well as the Department of Fine Arts and Art History; a course in media history offered by the School of Media and Public Affairs is conducted entirely at the nearby Newseum; and law students offer their expertise through pro bono programs, while students of medicine and public health offer primary care, nutrition education, and cooking demos to underserved communities. In one history class, meanwhile, students examine primary documents and resources to chronicle D.C. history in an interactive online exhibit. Last year, half of the students in the course were enrolled in GW's Early College Program, a partnership with the School Without Walls, a D.C. public high school located on the Foggy Bottom Campus.

Access is at the core of creating opportunities for students, and earlier this year GW launched a universitywide task force aimed at bolstering efforts to ensure the academic success of lower-income students. In June, the College of Professional Studies' program for community college graduates pursuing bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics received more than \$600,000 from the National Science Foundation to support scholarships. And Board of Trustees member Mark R. Shenkman, MBA '67, and his wife, Rosalind, recently donated \$5 million to support the GW Career Services Enhancement Initiative and the F. David Fowler Career Center at the School of Business.

On the research front, the university's focus on building cross-disciplinary collaborations, which seek to bring an array of perspectives to some of the world's most pressing issues, has recently given rise to universitywide institutes and initiatives exploring global women's issues, computational biology, sustainability, and cybersecurity. That effort is being bolstered by new buildings with state-of-the-art labs and classrooms, from the business school's Duquès Hall to the Milken Institute School of Public Health building, on which officials cut the ribbon in May. (The long-planned opening came on the heels of the announcement, in March, of a combined \$80 million gift to the school from the Milken Institute, the Sumner M. Redstone Charitable Foundation, and the Milken Family Foundation—the university's largest-ever gift—which is aimed at disease prevention and the promotion of wellness.)

The spring is expected to bring the opening, as well, of GW's Science and Engineering Hall, which will nearly double the space in Foggy Bottom available to a mix of academic

# "I Am Making History"

**During events surrounding the campaign launch, students and faculty members spoke candidly of the journeys that led them to GW and of the impact of the institution, punctuated by the ending "... and because of GW I am making history." Some are excerpted here, with light edits.**



**Emanuel Johnson**  
Hometown: Chicago  
Major: Political science and economics  
Class of 2015

*"I embarked on this journey not for myself, but for the individuals I will represent in the future [as a public servant], for the people in my neighborhood who have not had the same opportunities I have had, for my nephew who enlisted in the Navy two years ago. I came to equip myself with the tools to take on any challenge this world has to offer."*



**Michelle Suarez**  
Hometown: Miami  
BA '12 (international affairs);  
MA '14 (global communications)

*"I was one of the first people in my family to attend a four-year university, and I was the only person in my family to have ever left South Florida ... Classmates from around the world broadened my perspectives. I once found myself working in a group with students hailing from four different countries; not one of us had learned English as our first language."*



**Phyllis Goldfarb**, the Jacob Burns Foundation Professor of Clinical Law and associate dean for clinical affairs  
Hometown: Sandusky, Ohio

*"[The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics] are a place in the curriculum where law comes to life. Students represent clients who wouldn't otherwise have access to legal assistance; real people with real legal problems. ... Thousands of people have obtained justice that might otherwise have eluded them. ... Our benefactors enable us to make a difference in the lives of our students and our clients."*



**Maddison Bruer**  
Hometown: Norman, Okla.  
Major: International affairs  
Class of 2015

*"At age 13 I was fighting acne and fretting over what backpack I would use ... By age 15 my mother landed in prison and I was homeless ... By age 17 I was studying for the ACT, researching international affairs programs across the country, and saying 'I will succeed.' By age 18 I had been accepted into GW, given financial aid and a promise that they believed in me. Since coming to GW I have found the family that I lost."*



**Marwan Sulaiman**  
Hometown: Baghdad  
BA '14 (international affairs)

*"For a decade [in Iraq] we have seen bombings, killings, corruption, and kidnappings, but today's threat is even worse: it's a threat of all-out civil war. My GW experiences have helped me realize [that] diversity in all aspects positively impacts citizens, transforms communities, and helps them prosper. I hope to one day see this in my country."*

## VISION 2021

GW's 10-year strategic plan, called Vision 2021, was approved last year by the Board of Trustees as a framework for academic and research growth as the university prepares to enter its third century. It paints the image of a GW striving to be more open to unconventional thinking; that capitalizes on its location while working harder to show students the world; and that farms the space between scholarly silos for answers to big research questions.

Below is a brief look at some of the plan's major initiatives, as presented in the executive summary. For more detail on specific changes, the thought process behind them, and how they will be funded, the full strategic plan can be seen online at [provost.gwu.edu/strategic-plan](http://provost.gwu.edu/strategic-plan).



### To improve what and how students learn, the university will:

- Create a more unified undergraduate educational experience
- Admit undergraduate students to the university as a whole rather than to schools
- Design a new core curriculum
- Increase the global aspects of curricula and double the fraction of students from abroad
- Improve the linkage between academic programs and students' educational experiences outside the classroom
- Focus on the quality of education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
- Enhance the postgraduation opportunities for students and strengthen the quality of the graduate student body



### To advance the goals of GW research, the university will:

- Create eight to 12 cross-disciplinary institutes with the financial support necessary to undertake research in new fields
- Hire 50 to 100 new faculty members in areas of research identified in the plan
- Improve the infrastructure that supports research
- Encourage applied, translational, and policy research that works toward solutions to and new perspectives on significant societal problems



### To advance GW's focus on service and teaching students to harness knowledge for the benefit of humankind, the university will:

- Develop ways to communicate the results of research more effectively to the general public
- Make GW a leader in shaping the national dialogue in areas of our academic strengths
- Expand our role as a model institutional citizen

*“GW has made tremendous progress, and there is more to do. The campaign will lead to incredible changes for every facet of GW.”*

NELSON CARBONELL

disciplines. The new research and teaching hub, built to foster collaboration, will bring under one roof a diverse slate of engineers, computer scientists, chemists, biologists, physicists, and other researchers currently spread across a dozen campus buildings.

The building, Dr. Knapp has said, “is going to put George Washington on the map as a center for science and engineering innovation.”

The university also is putting the finishing touches on a new museum complex that will house the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum. The galleries will showcase the globally recognized collection of the 90-year-old Textile Museum, comprising more than 19,000 objects dating from 3000 B.C., and the trove of more than 800 objects documenting the history of the capital city that are found in the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection, which was donated to the university in 2011. And the university's new partnership with the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Corcoran College of Art + Design, and the National Gallery of Art (see news story, page 7) demonstrates the “vitality of the arts,” Dr. Knapp has said, and creates “a kind of collaborative institution that the arts world has never before seen.”

The “Making History” campaign will build on these initiatives and be a catalyst for new ones, said Nelson Carbonell, BS '85, chair of the GW Board of Trustees. Funds will be used to promote undergraduate research, hire distinguished faculty, institute aid packages for top graduate students, and build research opportunities in the arts and humanities, the sciences, engineering, medicine, and public health.

“GW has made tremendous progress, and there is more to do,” he said. “The campaign will lead to incredible changes for every facet of GW.”

Mr. Carbonell—whose financial contributions provided a path to GW for Mr. Murphy, the engineering student, among others—penned a moving open letter to George Washington and delivered it on the very grounds where the university namesake lived and died. He detailed Washington's dream of a university that would educate the citizen leaders of a then fragile and new democracy, and drew a line from Washington's vision to the future of GW.

“You didn't complete your own formal education; financial problems after your father's death in 1743 robbed you of that opportunity,” Mr. Carbonell said. “Instead you embarked on a rich life of self-education and discovery. You became an engineer, an agronomist, a surveyor, a politician, a soldier, a scholar. Nonetheless, you valued what you had been denied.

“It was your great wish to give others the opportunity to study and to learn.”



### What is a campaign, and why do we need one?

What about tuition and the endowment? Who's leading this effort? And how can alumni get involved? Those answers and much more information about the campaign can be found inside this issue of *GW Magazine*, in a pullout supplement created by GW's Division of Development and Alumni Relations.

More information is online at [campaign.gwu.edu](http://campaign.gwu.edu).

At the campaign launch event in June, held at George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, attendees watch as fireworks burst above the Potomac River.



# HERE COMES THE SUN





# The university inks a deal to receive half its electricity needs from the sun as it endeavors to become carbon neutral and **a model of sustainability in the city.**

BY LAURA HAMBLETON

When GW administrators considered the university's carbon footprint nearly a decade ago, they found a multitude of issues: Energy consumption across its three campuses and 150 buildings was akin to that of a small city. GW was largely powered by conventional fuel sources, which can contribute to climate change. And there was much more that could be done to raise awareness of energy efficiency and sustainability among students, faculty members, and staff.

Since then the university has completely rethought GW's use of natural resources. Officials have strategically placed every recycling bin and rain garden (which catch urban rainwater before it becomes polluting runoff); they have reconsidered energy usage

for each building, sought to understand the environmental impact of the university's paper and food purchases, and brought the topics of environmental, economic, and social sustainability into the curriculum.

But these major efforts—from retrofitting buildings with more efficient systems and light bulbs, to installing solar panels and toilets that flush with rainwater—still didn't go far enough.

So in a bold move this summer the university signed a 20-year contract to supply 50 percent of its electricity needs from the sun.

The contract with North Carolina-based Duke Energy Renewables brings together three D.C. partners—GW, American

University, and GW Hospital—and, at the time of the signing, represented the nation's largest non-utility solar power purchase agreement. GW's 1.65 million-megawatt-hour share alone, of the partners' total 2.35 million contracted megawatt-hours, would earn that distinction. CustomerFirst Renewables, a D.C.-based renewable energy integrator, was hired by the partners to help facilitate the deal.

The power will be generated by three new solar fields—comprising a total capacity of 52 megawatts from more than 240,000 solar panels—being built by Duke Energy Renewables in eastern North Carolina. The initiative, called the Capital Partners Solar Project, could prevent the release of some

3

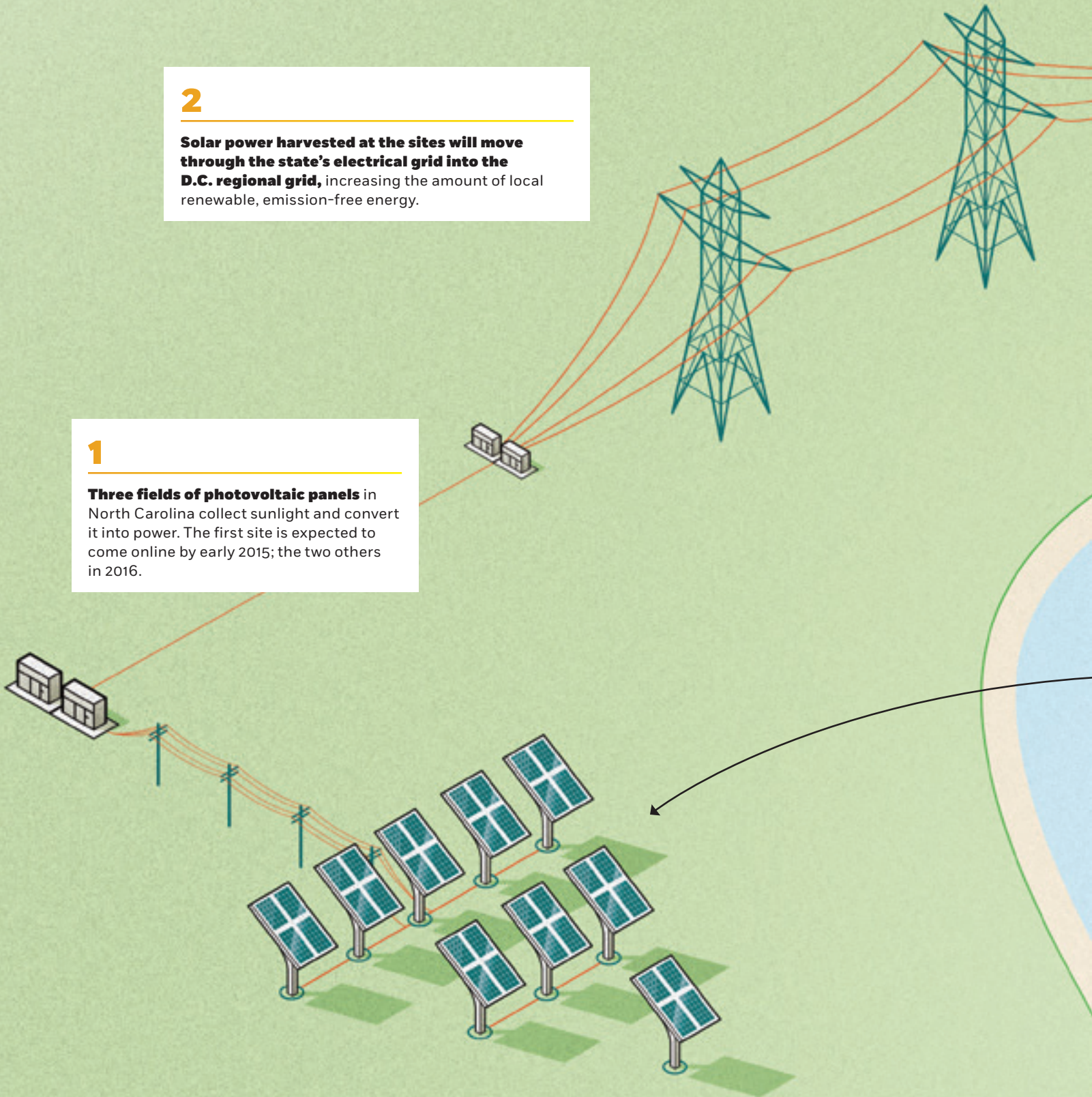
**GW, American University, and GW Hospital** draw solar power from the grid. The 20-year agreement has a fixed rate that is lower than each partner's current rate and could result in millions of dollars in savings by avoiding potential rate increases.

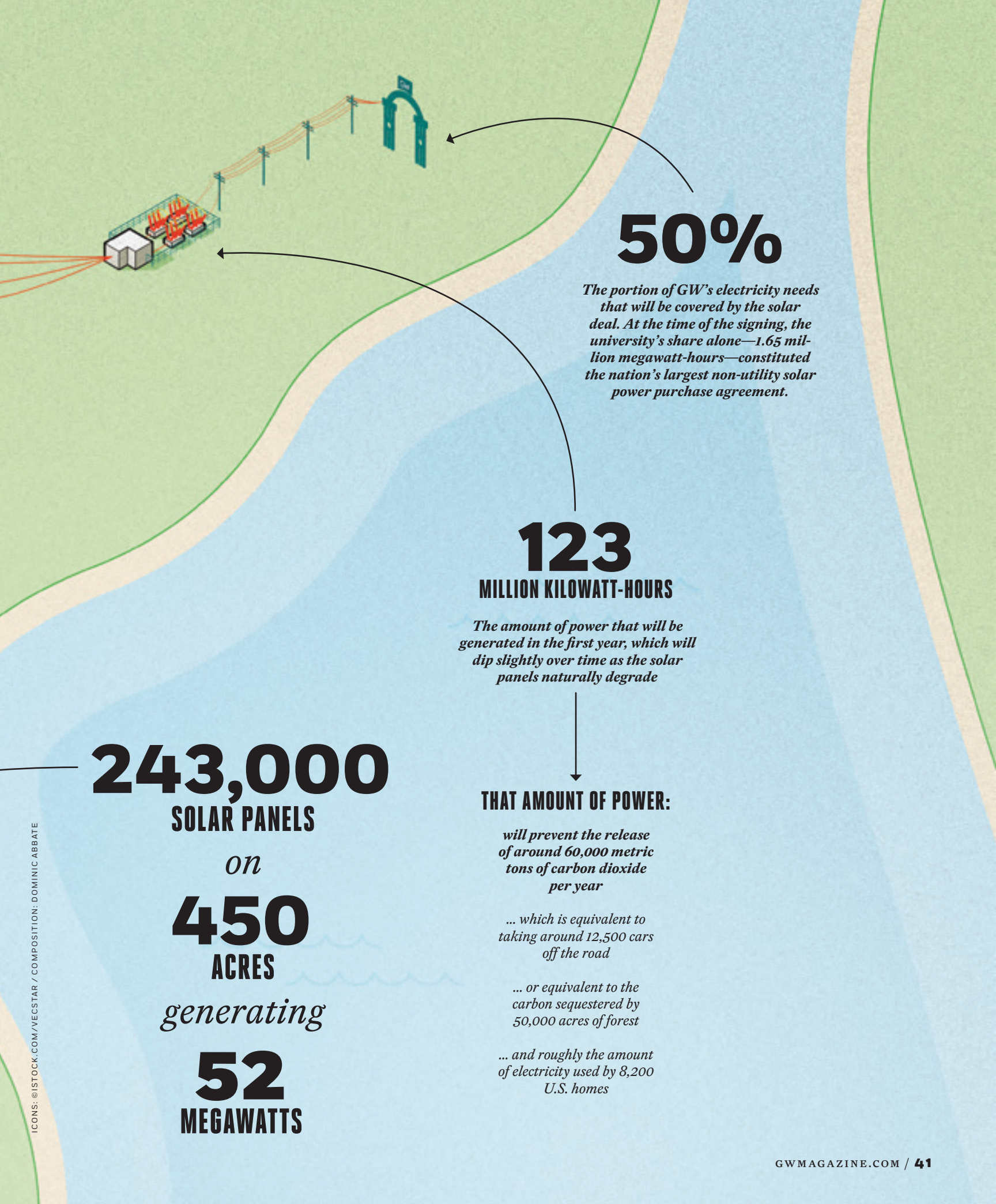
2

**Solar power harvested at the sites will move through the state's electrical grid into the D.C. regional grid**, increasing the amount of local renewable, emission-free energy.

1

**Three fields of photovoltaic panels** in North Carolina collect sunlight and convert it into power. The first site is expected to come online by early 2015; the two others in 2016.





**50%**

*The portion of GW's electricity needs that will be covered by the solar deal. At the time of the signing, the university's share alone—1.65 million megawatt-hours—constituted the nation's largest non-utility solar power purchase agreement.*

**123**  
MILLION KILOWATT-HOURS

*The amount of power that will be generated in the first year, which will dip slightly over time as the solar panels naturally degrade*

**THAT AMOUNT OF POWER:**

*will prevent the release of around 60,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year*

*... which is equivalent to taking around 12,500 cars off the road*

*... or equivalent to the carbon sequestered by 50,000 acres of forest*

*... and roughly the amount of electricity used by 8,200 U.S. homes*

**243,000**  
SOLAR PANELS

*on*

**450**  
ACRES

*generating*

**52**  
MEGAWATTS

▶ 60,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year, or the equivalent of taking 12,500 cars off the road, according to the group.

The initiative, which is being called the first of its kind for such large institutions, could result in significant cost savings over time. Yet the university hopes the effects will be far beyond that, jump-starting markets, stimulating the use of untapped renewable resources, and creating a model for sustainable city life.

“One of the slogans we’ve been using about sustainability is we want to ‘Practice what we teach,’” GW President Steven Knapp told *The Washington Post* recently. “We have academic programs that focus on sustainability, but we want to make sure our operations reflect that same value.”

### **THE UNIVERSITY’S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**, in 2010, set in motion

efforts to reach a goal of carbon neutrality. Written after GW became the first university in D.C. to sign on to the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, the plan put forth a pledge to reduce carbon emissions by 40 percent in 2025, and to become carbon neutral—balancing remaining carbon emissions with offsets elsewhere—by 2040.

GW established an Office of Sustainability in 2009 and launched a cross-disciplinary academic minor in the subject in 2012. Then about a year ago, the Office of Sustainability went looking for a partner to supply wind or solar power from off-site—a chance to use green power on a large scale despite a crowded urban landscape.

“We needed to implement a bold strategy to meet our Climate Action Plan targets and put us on the path to carbon neutrality,” says Director of the Office of Sustainability

Meaghan Chapple, who initiated the project.

GW received proposals from 30 companies and the bid from Duke Energy Renewables rose to the top.

“We can’t generate the energy we need solely from placing solar panels on our campus rooftops,” says Kathleen Merrigan, executive director for sustainability at GW and a former deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The university will continue that effort, she says, “but our buildings are tall and large. Some don’t have complete access to the sun. This is the next best thing.”

With the new solar power plan, “GW is demonstrating how urban communities can lead in renewable energy,” she says. “This is the largest non-utility solar purchase in the U.S., and we will be working with Duke Energy Renewables to make this project a living laboratory for all to learn from.”

In the deal with Duke Energy Renewables, the power company is paying for the construction and maintenance of the solar farms and owns those resources. In turn, GW, AU, and GW Hospital agree to buy the power at a fixed rate for 20 years. The pricing is less than the current electric rate for each partner, according to the group. Moreover, all three institutions anticipate increased savings over time, since the cost of fossil fuel is expected to rise.

“Locking in a price for solar could help the university avoid millions of dollars in potential electric rate increases over the duration of the agreement,” Ms. Chapple, says. “And the impact goes beyond our campus.” Since the announcement, calls have been coming in to her office from other universities, the private sector, and government offices wanting to know more.

Solar power harvested in North Carolina will move through the state’s electrical grid

into the D.C. regional grid, increasing the amount of green renewable energy in the area and decreasing the relative amount of conventional power—such as energy derived from nuclear plants and fossil fuels—on the D.C. regional grid.

Construction of the first solar field began this summer, and power is expected to start flowing in early 2015. Duke Energy Renewables expects the other two sites to begin delivering power by the start of 2016. That work will create a few hundred jobs, among other benefits of the deal for communities in North Carolina.

“The opportunities the project presents—hundreds of construction jobs, the sale of materials and consumables, and an increase in the tax base—are huge for our county,” says Jon Crouse, trustee for one of the parcels of land to be used in the project. “For the landowners and farmers, it enables us to diversify from a fully agricultural portfolio, build economic sustainability, and become part of a larger effort to be good stewards of the environment.”

This large-scale switch to solar will propel GW that much closer to its goal of zero emissions by 2040, Ms. Chapple says, and complement a growing array of conservation projects. “Our biggest source of emissions is our building usage,” she says. “We are investing money in making buildings more efficient in terms of energy and water, which is projected to create savings that will be re-invested in future energy and water improvements in buildings.”

Nine buildings on campus have earned Gold certification under the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system. And this summer GW’s new Milken Institute School of Public Health building earned Platinum certification, the highest LEED

rating—a first for the university, and one of only about 1,100 Platinum ratings nationwide.

Light and heat sensors now detect when people exit rooms in the newly renovated laboratories on the fifth and sixth floors of the School of Medicine and Health Science's Walter G. Ross Hall. And the university is installing a co-generation plant in Ross Hall, which captures and recycles steam to generate electricity and heat for both Ross Hall and the soon-to-be-completed Science and Engineering Hall.

GW also is looking anew at its rooftops: The university has outfitted three residence halls with solar thermal hot water systems (with a fourth to be installed this academic year), and four buildings with green roofs. Even sidewalks are being rethought. Last fall, the university installed the world's first walkable solar-paneled pathway at the Virginia Science and Technology Campus, in Ashburn. The 100-square-foot walkway can generate enough energy to power 450 LED pathway lights, while a trellis feeds power back into a nearby university building.

The university is also aiming, by 2017, to divert 50 percent of its waste away from landfills to sustainable efforts, such as composting, recycling, and donation. Toward that goal, the university last year began using a single-stream recycling system, in which designated recyclables—such as non-soiled paper, plastic food and drink containers, cardboard, steel/tin aluminum, and glass—can all be placed in the same container.

**WITH THE NEW SOLAR POWER AGREEMENT,** GW officials say the school is now positioned to become a model for going green and help provide the spark needed for wider change. That is already beginning in its classrooms and labs.

Universities are the ideal incubators to investigate energy alternatives because they are neutral places, without a political bias, says Amit Ronen, director of GW's Solar Institute. "We identify issues and develop solutions," he says.

The contract is "groundbreaking," he says, and notable for the fact that a consumer approached a power company with a request: "We want to go green. What can you do for us?" he says. "It's unique to go out into market and ask who is going to supply power. This wasn't possible a couple years ago."

The nature of the deal crosses several disciplines—public policy, economics, chemistry, engineering—and "already the university is trying to think how can this be a model for other universities and businesses," says Lisa Benton-Short, a geography professor and the director of GW's academic minor in sustainability.

"How can we study this and learn from it?" she says. "How can we communicate about it? How can we involve our students? How do we get research out there to inform decision makers and make these projects more affordable?"

With that in mind, GW and Duke Energy Renewables are exploring a potential multiyear research collaboration to study the impacts of the energy project.

Elsewhere around the university, professors and students are delving into the industrywide implications of new technologies.

Students in the law school, for example, are researching how laws hinder or help the generation of new energy sources and what those laws mean to power companies, says Donna Attanasio, the law school's senior advisor for energy law programs.

"How are utilities going to survive?" she says. "If everybody is putting solar panels

on their roofs, they aren't paying a utility. Consumers are making very different choices because technology is allowing them to make different choices. Let's say the university wants to get off the grid because it isn't green enough; we might create micro-grids."

Engineering students, meanwhile, are trying to figure out how to make this kind of model feasible and affordable, says Ekunday Shittu, an assistant professor in the Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering. "Engineers seek solutions to problems and look for the economic viability of those decisions. If 29 states mandate a certain percentage of energy must come from renewables, how do you make that work?"

Students from engineering, landscape design, and interior design are examining how homes will put renewable power to work, and rely on it solely. Last year, forging a team with students from American University and Catholic University, the group designed and built a 700-square-foot solar-powered home and surrounding garden, which won seventh place in the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon.

And students in the popular academic minor in sustainability grapple with issues from across the spectrum, as the coursework is drawn from all corners of the university—from anthropology to engineering, public health, geology, chemistry, and policy, to name a few.

Just as the new solar deal involves a mix of specialties and itself fits into a mosaic of environmental efforts around the university, the academic minor, too, resists categorization. "Our sustainability program doesn't sit in one school," Dr. Benton-Short says. "We did that deliberately. Faculty recognized sustainability is inherently interdisciplinary." ☐

**"GW IS DEMONSTRATING HOW URBAN COMMUNITIES CAN LEAD IN RENEWABLE ENERGY. ... WE WILL BE WORKING WITH DUKE ENERGY RENEWABLES TO MAKE THIS PROJECT A LIVING LABORATORY."**

**—Kathleen Merrigan, executive director for sustainability at GW**

# INSIDE THE MONKEY CAGE

If politics can be a bit of a circus—with both the commentators and the commented-on as the acts on display—then political science professor John Sides and his team of bloggers at The Monkey Cage aim to bring a little order to the chaos.

---

**O**ne word: “Whew.”

That was the text political science professor John Sides sent to his colleague Lynn Vavreck around 11 o’clock the night of the last presidential election, after Ohio was called for President Barack Obama.

But it wasn’t “whew, I am glad that the Democrat beat the Republican,” he clarifies. It was: “Whew, I’m glad that our forecasting model was right!” Dr. Sides, one of the founders of the popular political science blog The Monkey Cage, had been largely ignoring the day-to-day chatter of cable TV commentators while he and Dr. Vavreck, a UCLA political science professor, stuck to the underlying fundamentals of presidential elections: Back in April 2012, they had forecast that the president was favored to win a second term, buoyed by his position as

the incumbent and the country’s ongoing, if sluggish, economic growth.

Now, with the U.S. map once again transformed into a chessboard of blue and red, Dr. Sides and other political scientists at The Monkey Cage are again in full swing with prognostications. And again they are trusting that a predictive model—which draws on elections going back to 1980—will earn more “whews” than “whoopses” as the Senate and House races are called Nov. 4.

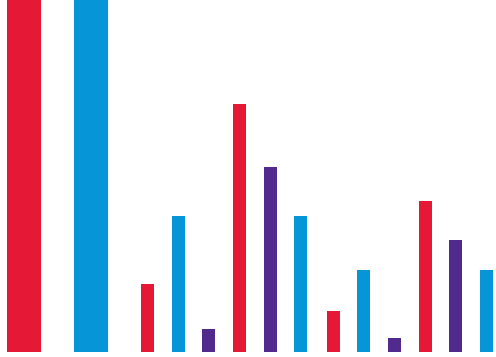
The blog, though, is bigger than any one election year. Dr. Sides and his colleagues set out in 2007 to “gain political science research greater attention and currency,” he wrote in his inaugural post. In doing so, they hoped to help recalibrate political discourse, to spot the molehills and flat plains on a landscape that could seem dominated

by pundit-made mountains and valleys. And they hoped to use the past to inform the present. Political scientists “don’t need to predict the future to say something useful,” Dr. Sides later wrote. “Explaining the past is equally important.”

Along the way, their focus has gone global—and so too has the blog, which last September took up an enviable roosting place at *The Washington Post’s* website.

**The blog’s name borrows** from a quote by the early 20th-century American writer H.L. Mencken: “Democracy is the art and science of running the circus from the monkey cage.” But the founding bloggers didn’t choose it with cynical intent. Dr. Sides says the blog’s name is meant to be a reflection of its purpose: to make sense of





political goings-on, which can come off as a three-ring spectacle.

That genial wink hinted at in the blog's name is one of the reasons it's so successful. The blog intended to fill an unmet demand for research-based analysis—to marry scholarly insights with unfolding political events, and to do it in a way that was come-at-able for the non-polisci set. And wit is as much a part of

## Cable news “has to be filled with ‘Wow, this thing happened.’

## Could it change the race?’

## The answer, in most cases, is probably not.”



the blog's DNA as the science itself.

Dr. Sides and his co-founders—in particular, the late, eminent GW political science professor Lee Sigelman—shaped The Monkey Cage into a site covering the gamut, from sober political commentary to occasional playful musings.

Dr. Sigelman, a former chair of the political science department who helped elevate it into the national rankings, “had a huge influence on the blog,” says Henry Farrell, an associate professor of political science at GW and a primary contributor to The Monkey Cage since its early days. “John and I were pretty young, and Lee gave us credibility, and also the courage to add a level of fun and frivolity that we otherwise would have felt nervous about.”

In an obituary after Dr. Sigelman's cancer-related death in 2009, at age 64, *The Washington Post* recalled that he told an interviewer: “We political scientists are an awfully stuffy lot. We dress badly.

We bore our students and write dull articles that we publish in political science reviews. So I try to use our research tools to poke fun at ourselves.”

Case in point: In a post from August, Dr. Sides spotlighted a question that a reporter posed to a fellow political scientist, about whether U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio's thinning hair could affect his chances in a possible 2016 presidential bid. As that colleague knew, Dr. Sigelman had already asked the question and answered it in a research paper

(“Hair loss and electability: The bald truth”) published more than two decades ago.

“Whatever hurdles you may face in 2016,” Dr. Sides summed up, addressing Sen. Rubio, “your hairline isn't one of them.”

GW political science professor Sarah Binder, an occasional contributor to the blog, explores topics like Senate filibusters and the blocking of judicial nominees. But it's her dioramas built with marshmallow Peeps, for an annual contest run by *The Washington Post*—including her take on the Papal Conclave and the political scandal that gridlocked commuters at the George Washington Bridge in New Jersey—that seem to get her noticed at conferences, she jokes.

But while the blog's sense of humor gives it personality, its good reputation is built on dispassionate analysis and insights that often are backed up by data and graphs and links to scholarly papers.

The blog's roster now counts eight primary contributors and twice as many occasional writers, a group that chimes in from more than a dozen U.S. universities. Across the field of inquiry, the writers make a point of examining the underlying structures that shape the way democracy works, not the latest gaffe or poll.

“In much of punditry, whatever you say has to be new and different and huge,” Dr. Sides says. “Every day on cable news—day after day, hour after hour—has to be filled with, ‘Wow, this thing happened. Could it change the race?’ The answer, in most cases, is probably not.”

While The Monkey Cage gives up some theatrical flair, its straightforward sagacity has won it wide recognition.

The site made *Time* magazine's “25 Best Blogs” list in 2012, with the writer calling it a “hub for academic myth busting of overhyped campaign coverage.” And in 2011, Dr. Sides was named “Blogger of the Year” by the news magazine *The Week*, which hailed the team's “clear, concise, and witty posts” that emerge “whenever the political debate strays too far from the evidence.”

The magazine noted that “the judges felt Sides had not only developed a new template for bloggers but also shown a certain bravery by asserting the right of academics to blog at a time when others have seen their university careers suffer for doing so. The Monkey Cage is an invaluable resource not just for academics and political journalists but for all political junkies.”

Says University of Michigan political science professor Arthur Lupia: “There is nothing else like it. While bombastic opinions and snark make much political commentary entertaining, there are times when it is useful

John Sides





to differentiate claims that can be validated through a scientific process from claims that are the product of hot air.”

**On any given day this summer**, the blog might carry headlines on Ebola and African politics, the struggles for Ukraine and Syria, racial tensions in Ferguson, Mo., and a musing from left field—like Dr. Farrell’s spirited takedown of American ideas on tea, which the Irishman found to be “verging on the blasphemous.” But the election is never far from sight.

Aside from news analysis, Dr. Sides and others keep an evolving forecast of the House and Senate elections on *The Washington Post*’s “Election Lab” page. In every district and state, visitors can find projections for each race, as well as for the overarching control of the Capitol’s chambers.

The current expectation for big Republican wins aligns with a common midterm pattern, with the president’s party tending to lose seats, Dr. Sides says, adding that other current conditions—such as a slowly growing economy and a not-so-popular president—could seal the lopsided deal in November.

But the depth of the blog’s election analysis also has the power to expose failings in popular political theories.

One recent post took on the common notion that Democrats can’t win midterm elections because their would-be voters don’t show up. After parsing the data, Dr. Sides concluded that voter turnout matters “maybe less than you think.” Commentators, in his view, “put too much emphasis on it.”

Other posts poke holes in arguments about the game-changing nature of politicians’ foot-in-mouth moments. Take President Obama’s June 2012 comment that the “private sector is doing fine,” or Mitt Romney’s “47 percent” comment the same year, about Americans feeling they are “victims” and the government is responsible for caring for them. In posts, Dr. Sides has shown that these types of gaffes—while good for grabbing headlines—don’t change voters’ minds enough to decide elections.

“Many a news cycle was built on a ‘gaffe’ with a remarkably short shelf life,” he wrote.

The blog’s brand of quick, comprehensive analysis might even help shift the postmortem narrative of an election, which tends to stick soon after. The Monkey Cage, among other outlets, was a testbed for ideas and analysis in 2012 as Dr. Sides and Dr. Vavreck, the UCLA political science professor, attempted to rapidly digest the presidential election through a scholarly lens.

Their book, *The Gamble: Choice and Chance in the 2012 Presidential Election*,

was published the following year, after the expedited peer review and release of a few chapters as free e-books along the way.

The problem, the authors wrote in a follow-up essay on the news site *Inside Higher Ed*, is that in the few years it can take an academic book to be published, “the conventional wisdom about the election has congealed—whether it is correct or not.” And while journalistic accounts provide insight into why decision-makers in a campaign did what they did, they write, “a political science account can better determine whether those decisions mattered.”

Their findings challenged post-election interpretations about the impact of the economy and of campaign advertising, among other factors. And overall, as the dust settled, they found the outcome to be “very much what extant political science research led us to expect.”

But even as the work of the bloggers breaks new ground, it comes at a frustrating time for them, with Congress threatening to slash federal funding of political and social science research.

“Right now, it looks like the worst-case scenario—a roughly 40 percent cut in funding for social science—will not come to pass,” he says. “But I would not expect the issue to go away.”

Last year, taking to the blog in defense, he drew a contrast between the hard sciences and the social ones, noting that while medicine may be able to cure a disease, the treatment can’t reach anyone without stable political institutions. Plus, he wrote, it’s the exploratory nature of science that gives it value—how much value, though, is difficult to predict. “It’s hard because you can’t anticipate how one project might inform later ones,” Dr. Sides wrote. “It’s hard because some funding goes to create public goods—like large datasets—that many others will use, and those myriad projects also cannot be anticipated. It’s hard because some research won’t work, and we can’t know that ahead of time.” And, of course, knowing what doesn’t work has value, as well.

While domestic policy was the blog’s initial polestar, The Monkey Cage has added regular contributors with expertise in other parts of the world, including the Middle East. GW Professor of Political Science and International Affairs Marc Lynch recently joined the blog as a regular contributor and has helped boost its international coverage.

In a recent post, Dr. Lynch, who also is the founder and director of the Project on Middle East Political Science, pointed out a striking lack of political science research relating to the latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The familiarity of the situation—“much

of the analysis of the war could probably be recycled from 2008 or 2012 without changing much beyond the dateline,” he observed—raises questions not about what is happening there, but rather what isn’t.

He suggests possible avenues for future research, such as exploring the possibility of there being no peace process after all, and why populations in Arab countries haven’t lashed back at their leaders for openly working with Israel, as political scientists thought they would.

**As the blog’s contributing** roster has grown, so has its audience. Soon after its launch, The Monkey Cage attracted some 30,000 page views per month; at its peak as an independent site, that number was about 370,000. As Dr. Sides put it: “That’s growth from tiny, tiny, tiny to a larger—but still niche—website.”

Niche or not, editors at *The Washington Post* took notice and last year added it to its distinguished stable of bloggers. “The editors welcomed us, saying, ‘Keep on doing what you’re doing,’” says Dr. Sides.

Readership took off from there. The Monkey Cage now logs roughly a million page views per month—except for this April, when a post went viral, drawing more than 2.5 million views and catching attention far and wide.

The post, written by political scientists Kyle Dropp, Joshua D. Kertzer, and Thomas Zeitzoff, highlighted data from a national survey they conducted, which asked respondents what action the United States should take in the Russian invasion of Ukraine, but also to locate Ukraine on a map.

“The farther their guesses were from Ukraine’s actual location,” the scientists wrote, “the more they wanted the U.S. to intervene with military force.”

Far-fetched guesses placed Ukraine in Iowa, Australia, as a speck in the ocean, and so on. But, as political satirist Stephen Colbert said of the study: “This is America! We don’t need to know where a country is to send troops there.”

Even without the occasional surge in traffic, the monthly numbers alone amount to the kind of exposure that a team of political scientists might’ve only hypothesized about back in 2007. They have the platform they’ve always wanted and plenty of politics to address, especially come November.

Dr. Sides concedes that he will be holding his breath on Election Day as the tighter contests are called. And whether the predictions were right or wrong, the results will be banked and the team will begin mining them for insights. At the circus, the next show is always just around the corner. ■



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# Stage Presence

For more than seven decades, Lisner Auditorium has shined a spotlight on A-list movers, shakers, and thinkers, from Martha Graham to the Dalai Lama to Pink Floyd. With a raft of new technical and design upgrades, the venerable D.C. venue is primed for a second act.

/ BY MARY A. DEMPSEY /

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**LISNER AUDITORIUM**

# W

hen Isabella Rossellini presents her one-woman show at Lisner Auditorium this fall, she will be taking the same stage that her mother, Ingrid Bergman, did 68 years earlier in the theater's first-ever commercial production.

Well, almost the same stage. While the outside of the imposing limestone building remains unchanged, a lot has been happening inside.

Lisner has finished a two-summer renovation that laid a new floor on that historic stage while also upgrading the sound and lighting systems, freshening the look of the theater, and expanding its repertory. With the face-lift behind it and new, high-energy marketing in place, the auditorium is now expanding its offerings on a music and entertainment landscape that has grown increasingly competitive.

"We like to remind people of our history, of all the people who have performed here," says Lisner's Executive Director Maryann Lombardi. "But we're also spending time reintroducing ourselves, asking people to take a second look at us and our changes."

Ms. Bergman's 1946 debut in the Broadway-bound *Joan of Lorraine* unfolded on what was considered the biggest stage south of New York City and landed her the starring role in the film adaptation, *Joan of Arc*, for which she would be nominated for an Oscar. For Lisner, it kicked off a remarkable trajectory that has drawn a who's who of performers, politicians, and global leaders across the nearly seven decades that have followed.

Blues legend B.B. King, comedian Jerry Seinfeld, and actress Meryl Streep have graced the 59-foot stage. So have U.S. Supreme Court justices (the past year alone: Antonin Scalia, Sonia Sotomayor, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg), as well as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, folk singer Pete Seeger, and classical guitar legend Andrés Segovia.

The Dalai Lama has appeared at Lisner three times. Pink Floyd performed at the auditorium, as did comedian Ellen DeGeneres. Singer Mat Kearney hopped off the stage into the crowd to get fans dancing in the aisles at his show last year.

On separate occasions, two presidential children danced at Lisner: 17-year-old Chelsea Clinton in the Washington Ballet's young dancers troupe, and Ron Reagan, who left Yale to join the Joffrey Ballet. Both times, the dancer's respective parents came the few blocks from the White House to attend.

Some Lisner events have been groundbreaking. In 1983, the theater was the site of D.C.'s first community meeting on the burgeoning HIV/AIDS epidemic. Twenty-nine years later, in 2012, experts returned to Lisner to discuss the same topic but in a far more hopeful tone.

The same year the auditorium hosted "The Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium: O'Reilly vs. Stewart 2012," a sold-out, pay-per-view debate between Fox News' Bill O'Reilly and *The Daily Show's* Jon Stewart. And earlier this year astronaut Buzz Aldrin, speaking at a summit hosted by GW's Space Policy Institute, told the audience that a human settlement on Mars is within reach.

Lisner may be continuing the same high-profile programming it always has, but it's doing so under a bigger spotlight. The upgrades come as part of a broader university effort to continually refresh the infusion of arts and cultural opportunities on campus.

For Eric Annis, the auditorium's production manager for the past 21 years, that renewed attention is palpable.

"They're paying attention to the building, restoring it on the inside," Mr. Annis says. "In the past, Lisner was an independent place that sometimes felt forgotten. But now it's being seen."

## Something old, something new

At Ms. Rossellini's upcoming November performance, audience members will settle into the same seats as those used by Ms. Bergman's audience. When repainting the walls and replacing carpeting, Lisner's managers saved the theater seats, opting for reupholstering rather than replacement.

And when the curtain opens, Ms. Rossellini will have before her the same view her mother had: 1,500 seats on a sleek rise. There are no balconies, just a columnless main floor and terrace with no obstructed views.

It's an interior that offers an elegant subtle class, which follows naturally from the exterior—a nearly unembellished cube considered architecturally bold for its time.

Construction on the auditorium finished in 1943, nearly three decades before the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts would open nearby. And while Ms. Bergman's 1946 performance was the first commercial show, it wasn't the first event.





**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT Primatologist Jane Goodall; writer Toni Morrison; International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde; Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club; the Bacon Brothers; Hillary Rodham Clinton; Laura Bush with journalist Cokie Roberts; Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin; former Secretary of State Colin Powell, MBA '71; Sesame Street's Elmo; Andy Williams, Robert Kennedy, Perry Como, Ted Kennedy, and Eddie Fisher sing at a fundraiser in 1968; and Elvis Costello**



The theater's inaugural use took place before the building was even completed: the 122nd University Convocation, held in February 1943. The roiling war abroad cast a shadow over the mood inside, however, as did a brief citywide blackout.

The following year students put on Lisner's first theatrical production, called *And the Home of the Brave*, and the theater quickly became a hub for world-class performance and a magnet for students and fans.

"The [Lisner] manager would call me up and say, 'The Royal Ballet is rehearsing at two o'clock. Margot Fonteyn will be on stage. Bring your people over to observe,'" Elizabeth Burtner, who began GW's dance program, recalled of Lisner's early days during a 1989 oral history interview.

The auditorium, she said, added a rich dimension to the Foggy Bottom Campus. "On our own doorstep, we had performances by Marcel Marceau, the National French Theatre, Martha Graham, the Russian Ballet."

Ms. Burtner recalled how her students had danced for nine years at Roosevelt High School because the university had no venue of its own. "So when Lisner opened ... I revered the place," she said. "I loved it. I entered it and left it spotless. I knew what it was to be deprived of a place to perform."

Those early years also were a turbulent time for the theater. Ingrid Bergman's performance brought not only star power but a firestorm, as well.

Ms. Bergman was unhappy to learn that the auditorium, like many in D.C. at the time, was segregated. She couldn't get out of her contract, but she did hold a press conference to voice her opposition. Picketers protested outside on opening night while calls for boycotts and leaflet campaigns continued through the show's three-week run. As a result of the protests, the governing board of the National Symphony Orchestra unanimously voted to cancel its scheduled performances at Lisner and the Dramatists Guild banned its members from entertaining at the auditorium and all other segregated theaters.

The following year, GW's Board of Trustees voted to open the theater's doors to all patrons. An old emergency call box outside the theater now marks the moment, having been retrofitted with a bust of Ms. Bergman's watchful gaze, created by artist Calder Brannock, BA '07, as part of a public arts initiative.

Lisner's deep history, from nearly the beginning, also is recorded in ink that covers the back of its expansive fire curtain.

While on the front of the fire curtain hangs an enormous mural by celebrated abstract painter Augustus Vincent Tack—"Time and Timelessness," which was commissioned in 1944 and is considered the artist's final monumental work—the back is a cultural time capsule,

*"We like to represent the diversity that exists within our university and the larger community upon our stage."*



**Lisner Executive Director Maryann Lombardi**



FROM LEFT Lisner's renovated interior; Production Manager Eric Annis behind the ceiling lights; Izzy Einsidler, assistant technical director for lighting design, before the autographed fire curtain; GW's King James & the Serfs of Swing; festivities for Colonial Inauguration; and the bust of Ingrid Bergman on the street outside.

## A Small Bench by the Road

Writer Toni Morrison drew an enthusiastic crowd to Lisner Auditorium in 2011, when the Nobel laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner read from her novel *A Mercy* and talked about a new, unpublished work during a Q&A that followed. But the onstage performance was only part of the occasion.

Outside the theater sat a new bench inspired by Ms. Morrison.

That black metal bench—where theatergoers wait for the auditorium doors to open on show nights, and where GW students and staff grab a spot in the summer sun—is an homage to the 1989 remarks Morrison made to *World Magazine* about the absence of historical markers to remember people who were enslaved.

"There is no suitable memorial or plaque or wreath or wall or park or skyscraper lobby," she told the magazine. "There's no 300-foot tower, there's no small bench by the road."

The bench outside Lisner was the sixth placed in the ongoing Bench by the Road Project, a historical and community outreach initiative of the Toni Morrison Society, launched in 2006. While Lisner's bench marks the end of racial segregation at the auditorium, others have been installed at sites that are significant in the history of slavery. The first bench was unveiled on Sullivan's Island, S.C., which was the entry point for nearly 40 percent of the slaves transported to the United States.

bearing the autographs of many who have appeared on Lisner's stage. They extend across the width of the curtain, as high as the eye can read and right down to the floor.

Kids' TV fixture Fred Rogers, of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, noted the year, 1986, beside his signature. Rosanne Cash, Elvis Costello, and k.d. lang are tucked among the names, along with an ambassador of Burundi. President Ronald Reagan signed the curtain, following a news conference to thank the doctors and nurses at GW Hospital for their care after the 1980 assassination attempt by John Hinckley Jr.

Bill and Hillary Clinton, Al Gore, and Antonin Scalia are also among the dignitaries whose names are penned onto the heavy fabric, interspersed with the signatures of rock icons.

Terry Espenschied, a crew member at Lisner for more than 15 years, recalled actor Lou Gossett Jr.'s visit in 2010 to present academic awards to students at D.C. charter schools.

"After everything, I asked if he would sign the curtain," Mr. Espenschied says. "He says, 'I already have' and showed me the spot where he signed when he was here for the release of his book.

"He looked at how filled up the curtain space was and says he'd only sign once."

Ms. Lombardi characterizes the curtain as a "piece of history" and says she is seeking a grant to digitize the array of names on it.

### *From world music to multimedia experimentation*

While the fire curtain and architecture stand as reminders of the auditorium's past, the Lisner team says the new infrastructure upgrade and diversified marketing push will shape its future.

The auditorium now has both a digital mixing console and an analog soundboard. A new LED system to dim the house lights joins the installation of 10 rigging points for lights, two lighting and camera perches, and a new spotlight booth. Twitter feeds from performances are being encouraged, and wireless connectivity has been boosted.

Mr. Annis, the longtime production manager, says the new state-of-the-art MLA Compact sound system is the same as what's been used at the Grammy Awards, and does much to boost the venue's appeal to musicians.

"We've had several televised events in a row," he says. "They've run the gamut from loud electrical music to a single-mic bluegrass band, and with the MLA Compact they were all equally articulate and clear."

Anne Kogan, Lisner's programming manager, says the spectrum of changes has pushed the auditorium into the category of "exceptional."

"It's made it so we can handle whatever production needs come out," she says. "Our sound system is amazing. Our lighting is amazing. We can get high-level artists and they know they're going to have an easy day here because the sound system, in particular, is so smooth to work with."

The technical upgrades complement the auditorium's physical face-lift. That includes a fresh look in the lobby and a new box office, will-call station, and cherry-wood bar with



interactive lighting detail. Stroke the bar's counter and tiny lights pulse in changing patterns. Lisner carpenter Dan Peterson built the bar, embedding within it accents that replicate the decorative geometric lines found on the upper walls of the lobby.

Behind the scenes are new heating, cooling, and safety systems, and lobby and seating upgrades that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The upgrades join other features that have long shaped Lisner's standing: a large chorus dressing room, the ability to accommodate flying scenery, one of the biggest loading docks in the area, and an enviable reputation for handling security, which makes it popular with high-profile political events.

Three types of performances unfold at Lisner Auditorium: It provides a rental space for events, serves as a roadhouse for other organizations, and presents its own shows.

Among organizations that rent the space, traditions have grown. Lisner has been home to West African dance company KanKouran's annual fall performance for 25 years. It's also the longtime setting for the elaborate holiday production, "Christmas Revels."

The auditorium is also stepping up its collaborations with iconic D.C. entities, such as independent bookstore Politics & Prose, with which Lisner co-presents a high-profile author series, and with the Smithsonian Associates, which sponsors educational lectures, workshops, and other presentations, often dovetailing with Smithsonian exhibits.

For Lisner's own shows, booked and marketed by the team, the programming breaks up into large slices of world music,

rock, and speakers, like a recent appearance by author David Sedaris.

"We embrace the diversity in our programming. It is an asset to us as a presenter and a venue," Ms. Lombardi says. "We like to represent the diversity that exists within our university and the larger community upon our stage."

The fall lineup, for instance, includes performances by Boban and Marko Markovic Orchestra, a 13-piece Balkan band; famed Brazilian singer-songwriter Milton Nascimento; world music legend Youssou N'Dour from Senegal; and banjoist Béla Fleck.

"We're known for world music. We're committed to that," says Ms. Lombardi. "We have a strong history presenting African and Brazilian artists, along with flamenco. We are also working to serve new audiences and reclaim some ground in pop and rock music."

The upcoming calendar is also mixed with other events, including a multimedia show by Art Spiegelman, best known for *Maus*, his Pulitzer Prize-winning graphic novel about the Holocaust. In his October appearance, Mr. Spiegelman and composer Phillip Johnston converge live music with animated projections of graphic novels and narrative.

The calendar also features author Sam Harris in conversation with *Washington Post* religion writer Michelle Boorstein about his new book, *Waking Up: A Guide to Spirituality Without Religion*.

Part of the impetus behind

the new schedule and marketing efforts is tapping a plentiful but hard-to-corner segment of the audience: students.

"The students are a huge priority of ours," Ms. Lombardi says. "The students love politics and speakers. They come in droves for those events, but we're also trying to book more music events that get them excited to walk in our doors."

They can be a complicated market, though, since students tend to buy tickets at the last minute and they're equally sought after by the growing list of music venues and other outlets now operating in the D.C. area.

Outreach directed at students, who receive discounts to all shows, has stepped up and the effort seems to be paying off. Concerts by Solange, Ben Folds, and Elvis Costello this past year packed the venue, with strong student attendance.

It's part of a broader effort that amounts to cultivating a new romance between the auditorium and the audience; something that mirrors—and benefits from—the relationship Lisner has built with artists that has been going strong since the 1940s.

"I want people to be saying, 'I wonder what's happening at Lisner,'" says Ms. Lombardi. ☺



**The dance company Momix, known for its dazzling choreography, performed at Lisner in April.**

A GW

Shelter yourself from the coming storm of seasonal sales and must-have pitches by shopping early. We even did the legwork for you: *GW Magazine's* first-ever gift guide puts a spotlight on gifts that will double as a pat on the back for a fellow Colonial—and, with some of these, even triple as a good deed for someone in need. By Kelly Danver, BA '14

# Gift Guide



**Jonas Umbrellas**  
[jonasumbrellas.com](http://jonasumbrellas.com)

These umbrellas don't just block water, they reroute it. While traveling in Uganda during his time at GW, **Josh Pavano, MBA '14**, was struck by the living conditions and decided to make a difference. The result is a company that creates and sells umbrellas to fund wells, through a partnership with the nonprofit Drop in the Bucket. It takes 500 sales to fund a Ugandan well, and each batch of 500 carries a design that is retired once it's sold out. Customers can even register their umbrella to get updates on the well they helped build. "This is about creating a larger impact and a close connection with those you are helping," Mr. Pavano says. "I want consumers to be more conscientious about where their money is going." \$55

When a parent wraps a child in a hand-sewn cotton blanket from Babies4Babies, both the kid and the parent can feel warm and fuzzy. The company, launched by **Kate Marie Grinold Sigfusson, BA '08**, operates with a "buy one, save two" philosophy: Through partnerships with humanitarian and public health organizations abroad, each blanket sale funds the purchase of two tubes of an antiseptic gel used to prevent infection in newborns, often where the umbilical cord is cut. The blankets are made for swaddling—new parents might appreciate the step-by-step instructions on the website—but these could easily suit any number of uses. Ms. Sigfusson also is working on expanding Babies4Babies to include products for older children, which will be similarly paired with lifesaving treatments. \$34  
*(Hippo not included)*



**Babies4Babies**  
[babies4babies.com](http://babies4babies.com)

UMBRELLA: COURTESY JONAS UMBRELLAS / BABIES4BABIES; BAKED BY YAEI, OLIO; WILLIAM ATKINS / LETTERING; MINHEE KIM / ANNA BAGS; COURTESY ANNA BAGS



Teach a person to fish, and sure, they will eat for a lifetime. But show them how to pamper a foodie and they will eat *well*. Olio Tasting Room is the place to start. Owner **Penny Willimann, MBA '05**, and her husband, Mike, opened their first shop in Alexandria, Va., in 2011—now joined by a second in Middleburg, Va.—which that year was crowned best new retail store in *Washington City Paper's* annual “Best of D.C.” reader poll. It’s easy to see why: Small steel drums line the tables offering samples from dozens of drizzling dimensions, from chipotle-infused olive oil to chocolate-infused balsamic vinegar. “It’s an experience store,” says Ms. Willimann. Also available is Olio’s own creation, Silvertree—an olive oil made with a mix of Leccino and Tortiglione olives—as well as pastas, honey, and salts, like the can’t-miss truffle sea salt, which Ms. Willimann sprinkles over salads, french fries, and steak. **\$5-\$30**



**Olio**  
[oliotastingroom.com](http://oliotastingroom.com)

During her final year at GW Law, **Yael Krigman, JD '09**, turned to baking as a stress-release valve. She kept it up after becoming an associate at the D.C. office of an international law firm, where for months her “Monday treats” generated office buzz. Eventually she flipped her hobby and career, opening Baked by Yael, an online store that sells her line of goodies, ranging from cake pops—the birthday staple’s one-bite retort to doughnut holes—to rugelach and bagels.

The law firm is still hooked, making a point of continuing the “Monday treats” tradition for the entire office, she says, and Ms. Krigman’s fan base has continued to expand: Her Cookies n’ Cream cake pop bested 11 others in a kids’ taste test set up by *Washingtonian* magazine in 2012, and later this year she plans to open a storefront, billed as the city’s first “cakepoppery,” across from the National Zoo. **Cake-pop packages start at \$24.95 online.**

**Baked by Yael**  
[bakedbyyael.com](http://bakedbyyael.com)



## FASHION WITH A FOCUS



Designer handbags and scholarships typically don’t go hand in hand—but then again, purses typically aren’t designed by aerospace engineers, either. Jayne Orthwein is using that remarkable combo for a remarkable purpose: to honor her daughter, Anna, a GW student who died after her sophomore year.

**“The Claire” (retail \$1,450) is made of French plonge lambskin with a suede lining.**

In 2009, Ms. Orthwein launched ANNA Bags ([annabags.com](http://annabags.com)), which produces the brand Anna Orthwein, and she dedicates a portion of the profits to educational opportunities at the university her daughter embraced.

“GW offered Anna the academic rigor and social environment to develop into the wonderful young woman she had become,” Ms. Orthwein says.

Anna transferred to GW in 2006 to study biology with a focus on pre-med, but died unexpectedly after a brain aneurysm ruptured in June 2007. The Orthweins worked with Sigma Alpha Lambda, a national leadership and honors organization to which Anna belonged, to establish the annual, merit-based Anna Orthwein Memorial Scholarship at GW.

Ms. Orthwein, formerly a senior adviser at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and an engineer at NASA’s Johnson Space Center, is the designer of the Anna Orthwein brand. Each handbag emerges through a painstaking process, first as an oil painting, then wrought by the handiwork of D.C.-area leatherworkers and manufactured in New York.

As a result, the business has developed a reputation for combining creative design with high-quality materials and impeccable craftsmanship. The business had the featured handbag of D.C.’s 2012 Fashion, Beauty, and Lifestyle Expo, and ANNA Bags was chosen to accessorize the Thomas LaVone Collection at the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Fashion Show. The handbags are available close to campus, in Georgetown, but also in New England and, soon, London, Paris, Dubai, and Hong Kong.

At GW the ripple effect of the business and the memory of Anna widens every year.

“When I learned I got the scholarship, everything changed,” says Samantha Bauer, BS ’14, who was the 2012-13 recipient of the scholarship.

Ms. Bauer came to GW on an athletics scholarship but left the lacrosse team in 2012 to focus on academics. That helped her in the classroom, but losing her athletic scholarship threatened her ability to stay in school.

“Words cannot describe what this award has meant to me,” she says. “It truly has changed my life.” —**Buthaina Shukri**



Elementary school may be too soon for college tours, but it's never too early to put GW on the map. This children's book follows the most spirited Colonial of all, GW's mascot George, as he goes about a typical day visiting friends and alumni around the university. The book takes readers on a stroll past GW and D.C. landmarks, from Thurston Hall to the Mount Vernon Campus, Gelman Library, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Smith Center, where George cheers on the men's basketball team (spoiler alert) to a last-second victory. The book, published last year, was written under the pen name Nelson Vernon—a nod both to George Washington's horse and to his Mount Vernon estate. The book can be purchased online through national retailers such as Barnes & Noble ([barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)) and through the GW Bookstore ([go.gwu.edu/bookstore](http://go.gwu.edu/bookstore)). **\$15**

*Hello, George!*  
[go.gwu.edu/hellogeorge](http://go.gwu.edu/hellogeorge)

Although perhaps best-known as tall, fast-growing panda chow, engineers are putting a new spin on bamboo. Treated with heat, the plant's lightweight, woody rods can be made strong—like strong enough to support two wheels and a human on the go. It's able to withstand more stretching and pulling than steel, and is more shock absorbent than carbon fiber, says **Matthew Wilkins, BS '12, MS '14**, who runs the bamboo bicycle startup Pedal Forward with fellow GW graduates **Christopher Deschenes, BBA '12**, and **Elizabeth Hubler, BS '14**. Currently, a percentage of each sale helps provide bikes to nonprofit partners Bicycles Against Poverty and the Tumaini Fund, which use them, respectively, to help low-income entrepreneurs in northern Uganda and widows and orphans of AIDS in Tanzania's Kagera province. Eventually they hope to establish a "buy one, provide one" model, in which U.S. sales enable their bikes to be built and then sold at a lower cost in developing countries. **\$400**



*Pedal Forward*  
[pedalforward.com](http://pedalforward.com)



## Capital Kombucha

[capitalkombucha.com](http://capitalkombucha.com)

It's refreshingly fizzy, slightly tart, and fermented but nonalcoholic. The tea known as kombucha, which is brewed with yeast and bacteria, has been enjoyed for millennia, but it's a relatively new taste in the D.C. area. The three alums behind Capital Kombucha—**Daniel Lieberman, JD '13, MBA '13; Andreas Schneider, MBA '13; and John Lee, MBA '13**—say their modern take on this iced tea is the first kombucha to be D.C. born and brewed. Whatever health claims are made for kombucha (consult a physician if you have questions), it's a drink that's low on sugar and uniquely appealing, and that's enough for us. And with flavors ranging from basil lemongrass to mango chili, and an emphasis on fair-trade and organic ingredients, the founders suggest the drink moves seamlessly from the breakfast hour to happy hour. Find it in stores by visiting the company's website or order it via online retailers, including Relay Foods ([relayfoods.com](http://relayfoods.com)), Washington's Green Grocer ([washingtonsgreengrocer.com](http://washingtonsgreengrocer.com)), and Hometown Harvest ([hometownharvest.com](http://hometownharvest.com)). **From \$3.40**

The organic and farm-to-table movements are great and all, but technically there is one higher shade of purity out there. As **Nova Kim, ATT '61**, points out: Before there was organic, before there was farming, there was wild. Her business, Wild Gourmet Food, has a mushroom-of-the-month club that gives adventurous eaters that closer connection to nature. Ms. Kim and her longtime companion and business partner, Les Hook, gather selections from the Vermont wilderness they call home. Each month two to four servings of a different dried mushroom, from the

familiar (morels, chanterelles) to the less so (like bear's head), are shipped along with a recipe card that includes details on handling and use, as well as nutritional and medicinal information. Ms. Kim and Mr. Hook—who also collect mushrooms and greens for Vermont's Twin Farms Resort in Barnard and Pane e Salute in Woodstock, and who have garnered ink in *The New York Times Magazine*, among other news outlets—offer an array of food packages beyond mushrooms, too, as well as educational walks through the local woods. **From \$275**

## Wild Gourmet Food

[store.wildgourmetfood.com](http://store.wildgourmetfood.com)



# MAKING HISTORY: THE CAMPAIGN FOR GW Philanthropy Update



FROM LEFT Wendy Ellis, Qiushi Huang, Vinu Ilakkuvan, and Jennifer Schindler-Ruwisch

## MILKEN SCHOLARS SELECTED

### Group of 4 is the first to be funded by program launched with \$10M gift

Four incoming doctoral candidates have been selected as the inaugural cohort of Michael and Lori Milken Public Health Scholars at GW's Milken Institute School of Public Health. The scholarship program is funded by a \$10 million gift from the Milken Family Foundation, which was awarded to the school in March.

"The scholarship program allows us to offer outstanding students from diverse backgrounds the financial support to work toward an advanced degree in public health," says Lynn R. Goldman, the Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health. "For the first time in our school's history, we are able to recruit the most talented scholars in the world into our graduate programs.

These students will be the public health leaders of tomorrow."

The inaugural cohort of Michael and Lori Milken Public Health Scholars are:

#### Wendy Ellis

**PURSUING: DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY**

After a 15-year career in broadcast journalism, Ms. Ellis' path took a turn when she started volunteering with Child Haven, which provides therapeutic daycare for children who have been abused. She earned an MPH from the University of Washington, and now is the manager of child health policy in the Office of Child Health Policy and Advocacy at Nemours, a children's health system.

#### Qiushi Huang, MPH '14

**PURSUING: PHD, EPIDEMIOLOGY**

During her final semester of a master's degree program in food science at Cornell University, Ms. Huang took an epidemiology course and realized her real passion. Prior to moving to D.C. to earn a master's at GW, the Beijing

native worked as a research and teaching assistant at the Department of Food Science and Technology at Cornell and interned at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. She is interested in lifestyle interventions in cancer prevention and treatment, and hopes to return to China to apply what she has learned.

#### Vinu Ilakkuvan

**PURSUING: DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH BEHAVIOR**


Years of involvement in dance and journalism bred a love of communications in Ms. Ilakkuvan, which in turn led her to seek a public health career focused on health communications and marketing. After earning bachelor's degrees in biomedical engineering and economics from the University of Virginia, and a master's degree from the Harvard School of Public Health, she served as program coordinator for bullying and youth violence prevention at the Virginia Department of Health. Ms. Ilakkuvan now works at Legacy, a D.C. nonprofit devoted to

smoking prevention.

#### Jennifer Schindler-Ruwisch PURSUING: DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH BEHAVIOR

While an MPH student at Columbia University, Ms. Schindler-Ruwisch worked at the New York University School of Medicine as a research assistant on food policy and obesity prevention, and provided schools technical assistance in wellness programming for the New York City Department of Health. Currently she works with BLH Technologies, Inc. as a contractor for the National Cancer Institute, helping to develop tobacco control publications and providing research support on tobacco prevention-related projects. During the evenings she teaches a GED class to young parents and pregnant young adults.

—Lauren Ingeno

 To learn more about the Milken Public Health Scholars, visit [go.gwu.edu/milkenScholars2014](http://go.gwu.edu/milkenScholars2014).

## UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES ONLINE CAMPAIGN RESOURCES

The George Washington University has launched two websites to keep members of the GW community informed about the university's \$1 billion philanthropic campaign, "Making History: The Campaign for GW" (see page 32), and the impact of those gifts on GW students and faculty members.

The new campaign website, [campaign.gwu.edu](http://campaign.gwu.edu), details the goals and priorities of the campaign and provides the George Washington community information and resources to help the university, its students, and its faculty members make history. Learn more about the campaign's main pillars of supporting students, enhancing academics, and breaking new ground. Read about each school's goals and strategic priorities, find where your passion intersects with those goals, and see how a gift of any size, even just \$25, can make a difference. Look to the website, as well, for information on other ways to support the university during the campaign, and to keep informed on the campaign's progress.

The other website, GW's new *Impact* blog, [gwimpact.org](http://gwimpact.org), shares the stories of GW donors and of the students, faculty, and programs affected by their gifts.

Most importantly, it's an outlet to share your story. Did philanthropy have a positive impact on your time at the university? Has a GW donor or alumni volunteer helped you personally or professionally? Want to share why you support GW? Visit the *Impact* blog and share your story today.

 Visit GW's Impact blog and share your story today at [go.gwu.edu/shareyourstory](http://go.gwu.edu/shareyourstory).

## GRIFFITH INSTALLED AS YOCHELSON PROFESSOR AND CHAIR

### Endowed professorship named for "dean of Washington psychiatry"

The GW community in August celebrated the installation of James L. Griffith as the fourth Leon M. Yochelson Professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Griffith, who was appointed chair of the department in October 2013, follows a brief but distinguished list of GW psychiatrists to hold the endowed professorship: Jerry M. Wiener, David Mrazek, and, most recently, Jeffrey S. Akman, MD '81, RESD '85, who now is the Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, vice president for health affairs, and dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Dr. Yochelson, known throughout the local psychiatric community as the "dean of Washington psychiatry," founded GW's psychiatry department in 1959. In 1981, Joseph E. Rankin, MD '46, a former director of GW's psychiatric residency program and the department's first full-time faculty member, endowed the professorship.

Dr. Griffith has been a member of the SMHS faculty since 1994, and served since 2011 as interim chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Under his leadership, the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis recently joined the department as a new academic division, and the department has gained national recognition for its programs in global psychiatry and the rehabilitation and treatment of political torture survivors in the United States and other countries.

## A GLOBAL EDUCATION, GW-STYLE

### Slim Scholars Program aims to foster top Mexican grad students

Michel Richaud, Class of 2015, came to GW to pursue a career in sports management, and his education already is affording him an up-close, global perspective: In February he traveled to the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, as part of a program run by Associate Professor of Tourism and Sport Management Lisa Delpy-Neirotti.

"I sort of knew how competitive the sports industry was, but had never seen it firsthand before," says Mr. Richaud of the trip. "I'm not planning to back away from it. Instead, I'm preparing myself to the best of my abilities to have an edge over the competition and have a higher probability of landing a great internship and a great job afterwards."

That "only at GW" experience wouldn't have been possible for Mr. Richaud if it weren't for the Carlos Slim Scholars Program, a GW global initiative that brought him to Foggy Bottom in 2013.

The program, funded by the Carlos Slim Family Foundation, awards merit-based tuition scholarships to top Mexican graduate students enrolled in two-year master's degree programs in engineering, business, and international affairs. Slim Scholars grow personally and professionally through academics, community involvement, and leadership, and are provided opportunities to visit with global and business leaders around the United States.

"The goal of this special partnership is to inform and empower future leaders of Mexico to bring about positive, lasting change in the areas of technology, public policy, and entrepreneurship that affect the quality of life for all citizens," says Associate Provost for International Programs Donna Scarboro. "These students simply took Washington, D.C., by storm with their good ideas and their energetic work."

In addition to their studies, Slim Scholars are able to take advantage of the opportunities that define an education in Foggy Bottom, including unique internships, special access to policymakers, and student leadership opportunities. All Slim Scholars become actively involved on the GW campus: Mr.

**FROM LEFT Slim Scholars Brenda Estefania Ortiz Calva, Javier Arreola Rosales, Michel Richaud, Paola Gonzalez Rubio, and Benjamin Heras Cruz with President Steven Knapp.**



Richaud was elected as both a cohort representative and as vice president of social media and communications for his MBA class in the School of Business.

Opportunities like the Carlos Slim Scholars program help build a powerful—and crucial—understanding of global affairs, Dr. Scarboro says.

“To prepare young people to thrive and contribute in a global and changing world is our challenge, and GW is able to step up to this challenge as no other institution can do,” she says. “For this reason, it is imperative that we find all possible means to include and engage students from around the world. Offering a global education benefits our educational mission and increases the success of individuals, with an ultimate aim of improving conditions for all people and all societies.”

## SANOFI US ENDOWS PROFESSORSHIP

### Public health professor will focus on chronic disease prevention

The Milken Institute School of Public Health announced this summer a \$2.5 million gift from global health care company Sanofi US to endow a professorship centered on increasing the nation’s focus on prevention and new treatment strategies in the management of chronic clinical conditions.

The Sanofi Professor of Prevention and Wellness will engage in cutting-edge research and serve as a member of the teaching faculty.

“It is with pleasure that I

announce the creation today of this newly endowed position, made possible by the gift from the visionary leaders at Sanofi,” said Lynn R. Goldman, the Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health at the Milken Institute SPH. “This position will help to strengthen the school’s expertise and ability to target chronic conditions with preventive strategies that are effective at keeping people healthy before serious health problems get a chance to develop.”

The endowed position will be located in the Department of Prevention and Community Health and will collaborate with GW’s recently established Sumner M. Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness.

Sanofi CEO Christopher A. Viehbacher said the partnership

“reinforces the Sanofi goal to improve health by reducing the human and financial burden of chronic disease that threatens innovation and the global economy. The academic rigor and the desire to find real-world solutions for preventive care and patient access to innovative treatments makes this work critical to the sustainability of health everywhere.”

Endowed positions are the highest honor bestowed on faculty members, and the positions come with funds that can be applied to research, assisting graduate students, or other critical academic endeavors.

**For more on enhancing academics at GW, visit [campaign.gwu.edu/vision/enhance-academics](http://campaign.gwu.edu/vision/enhance-academics).**



## NEW DONOR SOCIETY LAUNCHED

### Group recognizes consecutive-year philanthropic gifts

The name George Washington is synonymous with honor, loyalty, and love of country. And the names of many George Washington University donors, too, have become synonymous with honor, loyalty, and love of GW. To honor its most committed supporters, the university has established GW Loyal, a loyalty giving society that recognizes members of the GW community for continued philanthropic deeds.

“Donors who make annual contributions to GW are the cornerstone of the university’s philanthropic efforts,” says Mike Morsberger, vice president for development and alumni relations. “Their commitment, year in and year out, sustains our students and faculty who strive to make history each and every day.”

Thousands of members of the GW community each year support the university with gifts of all sizes. Alumni, parents, faculty, staff, friends, and students who give any amount, to any area of the university, for two or more consecutive fiscal years (July 1 to June 30) will be recognized as members of the new GW Loyal society.



 Continue your loyal giving or take your first step at [www.gwu.edu/give2gw](http://www.gwu.edu/give2gw).

## ANNUAL GIVING

# FY'14 BY THE NUMBERS

Annual gifts to GW support students and enable them to explore new opportunities; they enhance academics; and they help the university break new ground.

**22,021**  
DONORS  
GAVE 

**\$13.5**  
MILLION IN  
ANNUAL GIFTS

### WHICH HELPED

**430**



**undergraduate students present their original research during Research Days**

**450+** student-athletes  
compete in **24** varsity sports



**GW Libraries provide access to 2,258,365 volumes, 21% of which are electronic**



**3 out of 5** undergraduate students receive financial aid

**868**

**students study abroad**



**300** students complete **16,300** volunteer hours on **Alternative Break** trips to **17** locations, including Ecuador, Guatemala, and the Appalachian Mountains

# ALUMNI NEWS



In his new book, alum Marc Leepson examines the life of Francis Scott Key, who 200 years ago wrote the words that became "The Star-Spangled Banner."

## HISTORY

# For Anthem's Bicentennial, Exploring the Poet Behind the Song



Journalist and author Marc Leepson hadn't been to Georgetown's Francis Scott Key Park until a reporter recently asked to interview him there. The location wasn't a stretch; Mr. Leepson, BA '67, MA '71, is the author of the new book *What So Proudly We Hailed*, a biography of Francis

Scott Key, who penned "The Star-Spangled Banner" 200 years ago this September. But

still, the park, which was built in 1991, was new territory for him.

"I always just thought of the Key Bridge as the Key Bridge, not the Francis Scott Key Bridge," Mr. Leepson says. And the adjacent park commemorating the former site of Mr. Key's house on the other side of the bridge also was something of a mystery. "I had driven by it many times, but I had never been there," he says.

If Washington landmarks bearing Mr. Key's name tend to be underfoot but unnoticed, perhaps Mr. Key himself has fallen beneath the radar. He is widely known as the author of the national anthem—

written after watching the bombardment of Baltimore's Fort McHenry during the War of 1812—but that's about all many people know about this fascinating life.

A prominent Georgetown lawyer and storied orator, Mr. Key was behind the line of British ships when he witnessed "the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air" on the night of Sept. 13-14, 1814. Having successfully negotiated a prisoner release, he was held by the British until after the battle so he couldn't betray their plans. Mr. Key didn't know which side had won until day broke and he saw the fort's enormous flag flying; the sight inspired him to write the words that in 1931 became the national anthem.

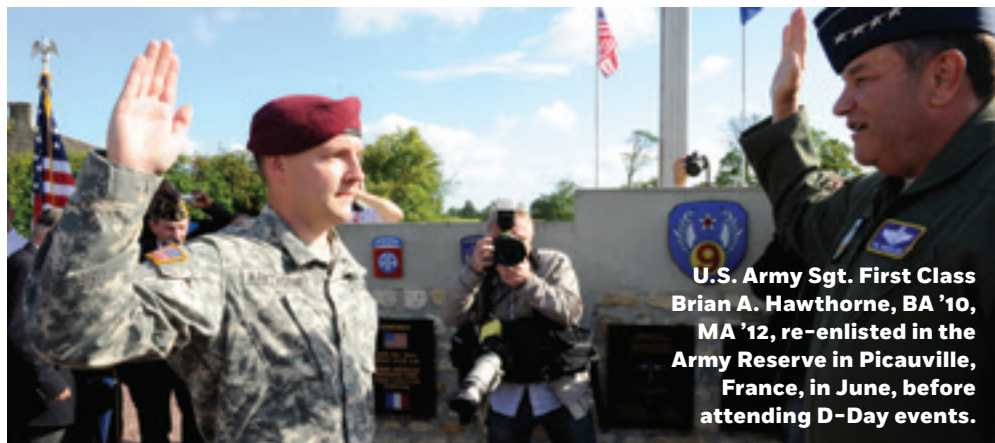
Mr. Leepson's book, his eighth, teases out a compelling portrait. The father of 11 and renowned lawyer who argued more than 100 cases before the Supreme Court, Mr. Key also at times was a study in contradictions: He was a slave owner who defended slaves pro bono and sought to curb the international slave trade.

Although Mr. Key had a supporting role in Mr. Leepson's 2005 book, *Flag: An American Biography*, the Middleburg, Va.-based author still had much to learn, and consulted with GW history professors Bill Becker, Denver Brunsmann, and Nemata Blyden. "I owe them the debt of gratitude," he says. Dr. Blyden, he notes, helped him understand an aspect of the story that surprised Mr. Leepson the most: Mr. Key's involvement with the American Colonization Society, which sought to send free blacks to Africa to what would become the colony (and later nation) of Liberia.

"You can't judge what happened 200 years ago through 21st-century eyes," Mr. Leepson says. And in Mr. Key's contradictory relationship to slavery, he hears echoes of other famous patriots. "It's kind of akin to Thomas Jefferson," he says. "If you were going to cherry-pick Jefferson's writings about the institution of slavery ... he would sound like an abolitionist. And yet he owned hundreds of slaves in his life."

— Menachem Wecker, MA '09





**U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Brian A. Hawthorne, BA '10, MA '12, re-enlisted in the Army Reserve in Picauville, France, in June, before attending D-Day events.**

## MILITARY

# In D-Day Speech, Obama Salutes Alumnus' Service

During a speech that honored the more than 150,000 World War II servicemen who stormed the beaches of Normandy 70 years ago, President Barack Obama recognized a George Washington University alumnus who has dedicated himself to supporting a new generation of veterans.

The president told the story of D-Day on June 6 at Normandy American Cemetery, in France, where 9,387 U.S. military dead are buried, in commemoration of the battle that changed the course of history. He also praised the post-9/11 generation of service members, assuring D-Day veterans present at the ceremony that their legacy “is in good hands.”

U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Brian Hawthorne, BA '10, MA '12, who was in Normandy for the commemorative events, is part of that group, the president said.

“Sergeant First Class Brian Hawthorne’s grandfather served under General Patton and General MacArthur,” Mr. Obama said. “Brian himself served two tours in Iraq, earned the Bronze Star in Baghdad for saving the life of his best friend, and today, he and his wife use their experience to help other veterans and military families navigate theirs.”

Mr. Hawthorne came to GW

in 2008 after serving his tours in Iraq with the U.S. Army Reserve. During his undergraduate years, he served as the first legislative director of Student Veterans of America—which involved testifying before Congress on numerous occasions—and co-founded and became founding president of GW Veterans, now a staple organization on campus for student veterans.

Upon graduating he was given the George Washington Award, one of the university’s highest honors, for his work on behalf of GW’s veteran community. Mr. Hawthorne was selected as a Presidential Administrative Fellow in 2010 and earned a master’s in political management in 2012.

He now serves as a board member and volunteer for Student Veterans of America.

The week before the Normandy ceremony, Mr. Hawthorne re-enlisted in the Army Reserve. He says it was an honor to participate in the commemorative D-Day events, and that it was “humbling to re-enlist ... on such hallowed ground.”

—Lauren Ingeno

## ALUMNI PROFILE

# ‘No Girl, and No Baby, Left Alone’

In the mid-1980s, a series of newspaper articles about teenage pregnancy in Hong Kong caught the attention of four Hong Kong residents.



**Alia Marwah Eyres, BA '01, runs the nonprofit Mother's Choice, in Hong Kong, which provides care and counseling to teenage mothers and abandoned children.**

Although none of them had previous experience with the issue, they felt a responsibility to help. So in 1987, they created Mother’s Choice, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping those vulnerable girls and babies.

“Many of the girls were literally kicked out of their homes and were shunned by the community,” says Mother’s Choice CEO Alia Marwah Eyres, BA '01, daughter of co-founders Ranjan and Phyllis Marwah, who along with her six younger siblings volunteered at Mother’s Choice as a child. “Mother’s Choice was started to provide a safe and nonjudgmental place for young girls facing crisis pregnancy.”

The organization began small—just one borrowed room—but today, Mother’s Choice has 120 full-time employees and about 680 regular volunteers.

The organization provides counseling and residential care for young mothers, and operates a home for babies and children with special needs who have been abandoned. In addition, Mother’s Choice runs a large foster care program, provides adoption services, and conducts sex education programs in local schools.

The organization has provided 51,000 young girls with counseling and shelter during pregnancies; cared for 3,600 babies and children, including 2,600 with special needs; and provided 510,000 students and parents with sex education classes.

Ms. Eyres, who is a member of the Elliott School’s Board of Advisors, spent several years as a corporate lawyer in New York and Hong Kong before joining Mother’s Choice.

“I am so passionate about serving vulnerable girls and babies in our city,” she says. “It is really my calling in life and the reason why I quit my corporate legal job in 2012 to take the lead at Mother’s Choice full time.”

Despite the organization’s remarkable achievements, there is an unmet need for the services Mother’s Choice provides, she says.

“We still have an incredibly high crisis pregnancy rate among teenagers and many thousands of children languishing in institutional care in Hong Kong,” Ms. Eyres says. “As CEO, my role is to develop a strategy that will help ... accomplish our big vision: to see that no girl, and no baby, is left alone in Hong Kong.” —Tara Medeiros

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Education is the  
kindling of a flame...

—Socrates



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This organization receives financial support for allowing Liberty Mutual to offer this auto and home insurance program. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. © 2014 Liberty Mutual Insurance

**Colonials Helping Colonials ... means that alumni, students, faculty, staff, and volunteers are committed to looking out for each other, opening doors for each other, and helping each other become successful.**

**FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

## Fellow Colonials:

We are all members of the GW Colonials family. A core value of families is supporting each other—caring about each other's goals and dreams, and helping each other achieve them.

A major focus at GW is promoting a culture of what we like to call "Colonials Helping Colonials." This means that alumni, students, faculty, staff, and volunteers are committed to looking out for each other, opening doors for each other, and helping each other become successful. Colonials Helping Colonials is the name for the shared expectation that when a fellow Colonial reaches out, you will help.

What is new is that we are making this long-standing value part of the daily conversation at GW. We want to talk about it more. To embed values into our culture, we discuss them in our homes, places of worship, and community groups. And so, using the same power of repetition, together we can instill into the GW culture the enduring value that all GW Colonials should help each other accomplish their goals.

Recent (and not-so-recent) graduates need to be able to count on you to respond when they reach out—to take their calls and answer their emails or text messages or LinkedIn invites. You can help them, whether it is to learn about your field of expertise, or how to make connections in your community or profession, or other input that Colonials might need. You may well want similar help one day, which is why our Colonials network is lifelong and worldwide.


There are countless recent examples of Colonials Helping Colonials:

- the GW alumnus who flew to Colorado for an alumni-student event, started mentoring a student, and gave her a job upon graduation;
- the GW alumna who recognized the need for a workshop to help students better present their business plans, and then created and presented the workshop herself;
- the many Colonials who gave career advice to other Colonials on the Career Advisor Network this year;
- the thousands of alumni who supported other Colonials this year by hosting dinners, attending networking events, and mentoring students and alumni;
- and the remarkable donations of all sizes to the university that are truly making history.

Your GW family is large: 260,000 living alumni; more than 10,000 faculty, administrators, and staff; 25,000 students; and thousands of current and past parents. We have alumni in almost every state and major city in the United States and in more than 150 other countries. No matter where you are or where you go, you rarely will be off the GW grid.

A deep and powerful network of support is a hallmark of leading universities, and GW is a leading university. I encourage you to get involved in GW, to volunteer, and to be there for other Colonials when they reach out for help. That is Colonials Helping Colonials. You will find it rewarding, and you can make a profound difference for others.

Best regards, and raise high!



Steve Frenkil, BA '74 and Past Parent ('06, '10)  
President, GWAA, 2013-15  
[alumni.gwu.edu/gwaa](http://alumni.gwu.edu/gwaa)



## Freshman Advising

Good advice has a way of sticking with you—sometimes literally. This year GW's Office of Alumni Relations reached out to Colonials around the world for advice, encouragement, and wisdom to pass along to incoming GW freshmen.

By mail, by Web, and in person at note-writing events, alumni responded in droves. The initiative collected 2,500 pieces of advice from more than 1,000 alumni. And as the Class of 2018 filled the residence halls in August, each student was greeted with a note of his or her own, welcoming them not just to their new D.C. home, but to the lifelong and worldwide community of Colonials. —Ruth Steinhardt

 To learn more about opportunities for alumni to connect with students, visit [alumni.gwu.edu/alumni-volunteering](http://alumni.gwu.edu/alumni-volunteering).

If you ever ask yourself, "Should I stay in tonight?" — the answer should be NO!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Take advantage of all the "free" stuff DC has to offer. You are in a wonderful city filled with so much history.

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Enjoy each day and try new things — you only get to experience college once!

Congrats! Each and every connection you make could serve you in the future, make them meaningful, be memorable!

Best of Luck!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Your major doesn't dictate who you become professionally. Study what you enjoy!

#GWCLASSOF2018

Take advantage of all the student orgs, they can become a second family!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Get out from behind the computer and meet w people face to face — real things happen much faster that way! Don't be afraid to pick up the phone. 1 call = 10 emails 😊

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Even if an event sounds weird or out of your comfort zone -> GO!! You literally have nothing to lose by going.

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Find your niche.

And RUN to it.

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

nothing is permanent. If you are unhappy w/ something, take action & make a change. you are never stuck. Take charge of your life!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Don't be afraid to try new classes or experiences. You might find something that you really like about them.

FIND AT LEAST ONE STUDY PARTNER IN YOUR MAJOR

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Be willing to change your mind!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

4 years will go by in the blink of an eye.

Seize EVERY OPPORTUNITY

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

- 1) Get a summer internship
- 2) Study abroad if you can
- 3) say yes to new things
- 4) take fun classes 😊

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Join extra-curricular clubs and volunteer to be on the board - that helped me land my first job!

Congrats on making the Best decision!

Remember to make every connection be a meaningful one!

Good Luck.

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

Trust your gut - it's always

right... whether it comes to people or the new situations you'll find yourself in!

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

YOU GET OUT OF YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE WHAT YOU PUT INTO IT

DON'T BE AFRAID TO TAKE RISKS

#GWADVICE #GWCLASSOF2018

## MUSEUM

## For Historian, the Trail Leads Back to GW

Pedestrians in the D.C. area might recognize the yellow signs and historic photographs that denote Cultural Tourism DC's Neighborhood Heritage Trails. At the center of these 16 paths, which run through neighborhoods across the District, is historian Jane Freundel Levey, MA '91. This fall, Ms. Levey brings her knowledge of the city to GW as a consulting curator for the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection, which will be housed in the new George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum.

The homecoming takes Ms. Levey's career—her life, even—full circle. Born at GW Hospital to Bernice W. and Milton Freundel, BA '49, Ms. Levey grew up in D.C. and, after college, worked locally as a reporter, garnering bylines in the pages of the *Washington Post*, *Washingtonian*, and *Regardie's* magazine.

"It finally occurred to me that I was much more of a historian," she says of her tendency as a journalist to focus on stories of how the city's current issues stemmed from its past.

She earned a master's degree and launched her new career from GW. Mentor Howard Gillette, a professor in the American studies department, introduced her to the Historical Society of Washington, where Ms. Levey met Kathryn Schneider Smith, MA '86, the society's president and a historian who later launched the journal *Washington History*—of which Ms. Levey eventually would become editor.

When she took a job at Cultural Tourism DC and started working on the Heritage Trails project, Ms. Levey made a point of working directly with the community where each trail is based, ultimately bridging a gap between longtime D.C. residents and newcomers at a time when the city was grappling with the effects of rapid urbanization.

Uniting people through history is something Ms. Levey sees herself continuing to do at GW. Her role involves working with museum director John Wetenhall to plan exhibits for Mr. Small's historic trove of D.C. treasures. She'll also brainstorm ways that GW can teach D.C. history to the broader community, with the goal of making GW a principal center for scholarship on the city.

—**Julyssa Lopez**



Incoming GW students meet each other and local alumni in (top, then bottom from left) Chicago, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, and Boston.

## EVENTS

## Around Globe, Sendoffs Link GW Community

The George Washington University Alumni Association grew to more than 270,000 members this spring—and perhaps no GWAA event has demonstrated the expanse of that network as well as the traditional summer sendoffs, held every year to welcome incoming students and their families to the university community.

This summer nearly 50 sendoff events, held in 26 U.S. cities and in more than a dozen countries around the world, gave incoming students a first glimpse of life as a Colonial.

"It's a great opportunity to meet other new students, their families, current students

and even some faculty members," says Shane Ryan, BA '15, a rising senior in the Elliott School of International Affairs. "It's a time to learn more about getting and staying involved on campus, while understanding that your connection to GW lasts far beyond your four years here as an undergraduate."

Carol Conchar, a GW parent and regional director of admissions for the Southeast in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, says summer sendoffs can also provide relief to anxious incoming students leaving home for the first time, especially those from towns and cities several hours or more from campus.

"While we do see about 14 percent of our student body coming to GW from the Southeast, many of the applicants from this region wonder how they will fit in at GW," she says. "The events we host for admitted students in the region prove that they are not alone and they already have 'hometown' Colonial connections." —**James Irwin**

# CLASS NOTES

**60s**  
& EARLIER

**Eleanor Powell, AA '43, BA '44**, was profiled by *Examiner.com* in the article "Artist

Eleanor Powell: A One-in-a-Billion Mind." Ms. Powell describes her work as "hard-edged geometric paintings in acrylics, most of which appear to be three-dimensional." Her work has been featured in numerous juried shows and is in public and private collections throughout the country.

**Thelma Leaffer, BA '60**, in May published an article in the *Cambridge Chronicle & Tab* about a GW Alumni event that featured a discussion of how the media shapes the public image of the presidency. The talk was led by GW professors Steve Roberts, the J.B. and M.C. Shapiro Professor of Media and Public Affairs, and Edward Berkowitz, a professor of history and of public policy and public administration. It was held in April at the Charles Hotel in Cambridge, Mass.

**Michael Galen Martin, BA '66**, is the author of *Liberalism: The Demise of America* (Sophistopia Press, 2013). The book "examines the failure of liberalism by looking at it from a variety of angles."

**Allen Dale Olson, MA '67, EdD '72**, and his daughter, Circe Olson Woessner, on Memorial Day opened a special exhibit in the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History in Albuquerque, N.M. The exhibit, "Sacrifice & Service: The American Military Family," was curated by Dr. Woessner, who is the co-founder with her father of the Museum of the American Military Family. More information about the museum, the only one of its kind in the country, can be found at [museumoftheamericanmilitaryfamily.org](http://museumoftheamericanmilitaryfamily.org).

**Judith Zilczer, BA '69, MA '71**, published *A Way of Living: The Art of Willem de Kooning* (Phaidon Press, 2014), a monograph commemorating American painter Willem de Kooning's 110th birthday. The book was reviewed in the *Financial Times*.

**70s**

**J. Phillip London, DBA '71**, received the Semper Fidelis Award from the Marine Corps

Scholarship Foundation in May for his commitment to the U.S. Marines and their families. Mr. London also received TechAmerica Foundation's Corporate Leadership Award in June and serves as executive chairman of CACI International.

**William Hamilton, MS '71**, was among nine outstanding journalists honored in April during the 44th anniversary celebration of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame. A master parachutist, he served for 20 years as an infantry officer, including two tours in Vietnam, earning the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, 20 Air Medals, four Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart.

**George Willingmyre, MS '72**, published "Patent Policies and Standards Setting: The Issues—What Is Going On? Why Should I Care?" in the May/June 2014 edition of *Standards Engineering*. Mr. Willingmyre is president of the international standards and trade policy consultancy GTW Associates.

**Bruce Merwin, BA '73**, was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America 2015*. Mr. Merwin is a partner in the real estate and banking practice group at Thompson & Knight's Houston office.

**Rhea Shaefitz Oelbaum, BA '74**, co-authored a chapter on end-of-life care for pediatric lung transplant patients for the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation. Ms. Oelbaum is a transplant social worker at St. Louis Children's Hospital. She previously worked for Washington University School of Medicine researching behavioral family interventions for adolescents with poorly controlled diabetes. Ms. Oelbaum was married to the late **Stuart Oelbaum, BA '73**, and they have two children.

**Robert S. Peck, BA '75**, was named chair of the board of overseers of the RAND Institute

for Civil Justice. Mr. Peck, a Washington, D.C., lawyer with a practice focused on constitutional and appellate litigation, will serve a two-year term. He also was elected secretary of the board of directors for Justice at Stake, a Washington D.C.-based advocacy group that works to ensure fair and impartial courts throughout the country.

**Francis N. DeLuca, RESD '76**, has been appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners by Gov. Chris Christie. Dr. DeLuca was chief of orthopedic surgery for several years at Overlook Medical Center in Summit, N.J., and then served as chairman of the department of surgery at Overlook Medical Center-Atlantic Health Systems.

**Marian Lee, BA '76**, has written a children's book, *The Lioness of Brumley Hall and Her Most Unusual Grandchildren* (CreateSpace, 2014). She writes of the book: "The relationship between a grandmother and her grandchildren takes on a new meaning due to the existence of numerous magical powers." It was published under Ms. Lee's pen name, Augusta Pearson Benners.

**Roberta Camille Locko, MD '76**, has been inducted as a fellow in the American College of Radiology. Dr. Locko is network director of radiology at Harlem Hospital and professor emerita at Columbia University Medical Center in New York.

**80s**

**Ronald Zelnick, BS '80**, is the 2014 president of the Palm Beach County Medical Society. He practices general and colorectal surgery in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., and Jupiter, Fla.

**Jonathan Chase, BA '81**, has published *Sing the Story* (Createspace, 2014), a new Christmas musical.

**Elliott Kugel, MS '83**, was named in the February 24, 2014, issue of *Barron's* magazine as one of the "Top 1200 Advisors in America" and also was ranked No. 19 in the state of New Jersey in the same survey. This is his fifth year in a row being recognized on the *Barron's* list. He was also recognized by the *Financial Times* in their FT 400 ranking for 2014 as one of the top 400 advisers in the United States. Mr. Kugel is a managing director of investments at Merrill Lynch in

Bridgewater, N.J., and resides in Skillman, N.J.

**Chuck Fann, MS '84**, has been selected as Hutchinson Community College's 2014 Dragon Educator of the Year. An instructor of criminal justice, he was selected for the honor from nominees in all academic areas by the HCC Student Government Association.

**John L. Cox, BA '84, MPA '86, EdD '09**, received the 2014 Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Grant. A primary focus of this award involved meeting government and higher education officials to discuss collaborating on India's plan to pilot 200 community colleges. Dr. Cox is president of Cape Cod Community College in Massachusetts.

**Luis J. Fujimoto, BS '85**, was appointed commissioner of the American Dental Association's Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations in Chicago. Previously he was the president of the Osseointegration Foundation and of the New York State Board for Dentistry under the New York State Department of Education. He is also a board member of the Medical Reserve Corps at the New York State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the James Brister Society at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a clinical professor in the department of periodontology of the Nippon Dental University in Tokyo.

**Susan Tolbert, MFA '86**, is a painter and recently showed her work at the University of Mary Washington's Mid-Atlantic New Painting exhibition and the d'Art Center's Mid-Atlantic Art Exhibition. She also mounted a solo exhibition with the City of Norfolk, Va.'s Selden Arcade and Gallery. Ms. Tolbert is the daughter of fellow alumna and artist **Eleanor Powell, BA '44**.

**Gina M. Burgin, BA '87**, was appointed deputy secretary of administration for the commonwealth of Virginia by Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

**James Winslow, BA '87, MBA '91**, co-founder and president of the Salute Military Golf Association, is pairing with the GW golf team to grow and expand the organization. Student-athletes will work on their short game with the SMGA warriors.

**Carolyn Lugbill, MS '88**, was recently named partner at

SHIFTPOINTS Inc., a strategy consulting firm based in Tysons Corner, Va. Ms. Lugbill, who is president and founder of Going Global Matters, will serve as an authorized “value-added reseller” of SHIFTPOINTS programs and products. Previously, she served as the international activities director for the American Society of Association Executives. She also is a volunteer leader with The Joshua Fund, which provides humanitarian relief in the Middle East.

**Joseph D. Edmondson Jr., BA '88, JD '91**, was elected to the board of directors of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs. The committee was established in 1968 to provide pro bono legal services to address discrimination and entrenched poverty in the Washington, DC community. Mr. Edmondson's election follows more than 20 years of service as a trustee representing Foley & Lardner, where he is a partner in the firm's securities enforcement and litigation practice.

**90s** **Renee Lewis, MS '90**, president, CEO, and co-founder of the Bethesda, Md.-based consulting firm Pensare Group, was honored by the greater D.C. chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners with its 2014 Woman of Distinction Award. Ms. Lewis serves on the board of the GW Alumni Association.

**Fasil A. Gebremariam, MS '91**, is a senior project engineer with CH2MHILL, one of the world's leading companies in consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program management. He works with the firm's transportation business group in Chantilly, Va., and is a professional registered engineer in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

**Lillian Rountree, BA '91**, is the senior development officer at Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech. She will be based in northern New Jersey, with the primary geographic focus of her efforts in the greater New York City area. Ms. Rountree comes to Clarke after serving for the past six years as the director of outreach and development at the DePaul School for Hearing and Speech in Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Anousheh Ansari, MS '92**, the first female private space explorer,

first space ambassador, and first astronaut of Iranian descent, has joined the board of directors of CRDF Global, an independent nonprofit organization that promotes international scientific and technical collaboration. Ms. Ansari also is co-founder and chairman of Prodea Systems.

**Alysia Mathews Broadfield, BA '93**, is the author of *Just a Kiss* (Entangled Publishing, 2014). Ms. Broadfield's debut, a Regency historical romance, is the first of her four-book series, “It's in His Kiss.”

**Lisa (Looney) Erickson, BA '94**, is the creator of Migraine Magick, a migraine remedy that “combines modern medicine, energetic frequencies and quantum physics.” Migraine Magick is available in the United States and is in trial stages in the Middle East and China. More information at [migrainemagick.com](http://migrainemagick.com).

**Racheline Maltese, BA '94**, has published her first novel, *Starling* (Torquere Press, 2014), a “fairytale about fame.” Its sequel, *Doves*, is slated for publication January 2015. Both books are set in Los Angeles and are co-written with Erin McRae.

**Chriselle Tidrick, BA '94**, founder and artistic director of Above and Beyond Dance Company, served as a spring guest artist in GW's Department of Theatre and Dance, where she gave instruction and guidance as students worked toward an April performance. Ms. Tidrick and her company dancers also developed a new work, *Dreamscapes*, which premiered in September in Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Andrea Boito, BS '94**, was awarded the 2013/14 Grace D. Long Faculty Excellence Award at Penn State University, Altoona College. She also was awarded the 2010/11 Student Government Association Excellence in Classroom Teaching Award and was promoted to senior instructor of mathematics and statistics.

**Antoine Hart, BA '95**, associate director of college counseling at the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, N.J., has been selected as the school's head girls' varsity basketball coach. Mr. Hart will begin his coaching duties when the winter sports season begins in November. He has an extensive background in basketball as a coach and a player at the high school, college, and professional levels. Mr. Hart has been the Big Red

boys' freshman basketball coach for the past two years, leading the team to a 19-1 record.

**Eric Pogue, BS '97**, was named to *Law360's* 2014 Rising Stars. Mr. Pogue, a partner at Hunton & Williams, was among eight lawyers under 40 recognized for their work in energy law. Mr. Pogue, who earned a master's in geoscience before going on to receive a law degree, represents clients in development, financing, and acquisition of a variety of asset types and is currently focusing on renewable energy projects.

**Michael Wert, BA '97**, published *Meiji Restoration Losers: Memory and Tokugawa Supporters in Modern Japan* (Harvard East Asian Monographs, 2013). The book is about the “losers” of the Meiji Restoration and the supporters who promoted their legacy.

**Micah Hauben, BBA '98**, received the Ted Damko Award at the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association conference. The award is presented annually to an athletic administrator in each district who has made significant contributions to their school and community.

**Meredith Becker, BA '98, MS '01**, has been promoted to executive director at Brightview Mt. Laurel, a Brightview Senior Living community in Mt. Laurel, N.J. Ms. Becker is the former associate executive director at Brightview Greentree, a Brightview community in Marlton, N.J.

**Jeff Mordock, BA '98**, a staff reporter for the *Delaware Law Weekly* and *Delaware Business Court Insider*, won five first-place journalism awards in the Delaware Press Association's Communications Contest. He won first place for best print news article, best online news article, continuing coverage, investigative reporting, and enterprise reporting. He also took home second-place awards for continuing coverage and specialty business reporting. In addition to his print journalism, Mr. Mordock is a contributor to National Public Radio's Delaware station.

**Lonnie Giamela, BA '99**, has been added to the 2014 Southern California Rising Stars list by *Super Lawyers*. Mr. Giamela is a partner at Fisher & Phillips in Los Angeles. His practice includes preventive counseling, preparation of documents like employee handbooks

and compensation plans, and litigation before state and federal administrative agencies and courts.

**00s** **Benjamin Mastaitis, BA '00**, is an assistant counsel at the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs in his native Albany, N.Y. He previously spent nearly five years as an assistant district attorney in Albany, prosecuting violent crimes. He lives outside of Albany with his wife and two daughters.

**George Arlotto, EdD '02**, has been named superintendent of Anne Arundel County (Md.) Public Schools. Mr. Arlotto was formerly a principal at Wheaton High School in Montgomery County, Md.

**Michael Y. Bennett, BA '02**, received tenure and promotion to associate professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He is the author of *Reassessing the Theatre of the Absurd* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011/paperback 2013); *Words, Space, and the Audience* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012); *Narrating the Past Through Theatre* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012); and *The Cambridge Introduction to the Absurd* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015).

**Jessica Falcone, MA '02**, has been awarded the Edward C. Dimock Prize in the Indian Humanities for her as-yet-unpublished manuscript, *Battling the Buddha of Love: A Cultural Biography of the Greatest Statue Never Built*. The book examines the controversial plans and practices of the Maitreya Project, which has long endeavored to offer to India a multimillion-dollar “gift” of the world's biggest statue. Ms. Falcone is currently an assistant professor of anthropology at Kansas State University, where she teaches anthropology courses about South Asia, religion, futurity, the arts, and expressive cultures.

**Lester Wallace, MA '03**, works with the hip-hop diplomacy program Next Level, which is a partnership between the U.S. State Department and the University of North Carolina's Department of Music that sends teams of hip-hop artist educators—DJs, emcees, beatmakers, and breakdancers—to conduct hip-hop academies all over the world. Mr. Wallace is on the Next Level India team and performs under the name DJ 2Tone Jones.



**Eliot M. Bassin, BS '04**, has been elected by the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants to serve as advisory council chair for the organization's 2014-15 activity year. Mr. Bassin is a partner in the firm of Bregman & Company in Stamford, Conn.

**Sally Freeman Parkhurst, MA '04**, has recently published a novel entitled *The Emboldening of Kassia West* (CreateSpace, 2014), available on Amazon.com. She resides in Fairfax, Va.

**Julia Rafal-Baer, BA '04**, was appointed assistant commissioner at the New York State Education Department. As a former teacher in the Bronx, Dr. Rafal-Baer is humbled and honored to serve the educators, families, and students of New York.

**Stacey Rosenfeld, PhD '04**, has published *Does Every Woman Have An Eating Disorder?: Challenging Our Nation's Fixation With Food and Weight* (Siena Moon Books, 2014). The book "explores our nation's unhealthy weight obsession and outlines practical, healthy steps to feeling good about your body at any size." Dr. Rosenfeld, a clinical psychologist, also specializes in substance abuse, mood disorders, and sports/exercise psychology at her California-based private practice.

**Melissa Springer, BA '04, MBA '10, CERT '12**, is the first vice president of client strategy at digital innovation agency Social Driver. Her duties will include managing multimillion-dollar portfolios of projects and overseeing website redesigns, integrated branding efforts, and other major change management initiatives.

**Erin E. Lamb, BA '06**, joined Rawle & Henderson as an associate in the firm's Philadelphia office. She concentrates her practice in the areas of catastrophic loss, product liability, construction, premises liability, and general casualty matters. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

**Andrew Novak, BA '06**, published two books on the decline of the death penalty worldwide: *The Death Penalty in Africa: Foundations and Future Prospects* (Palgrave, 2014) and *The Global Decline of the Mandatory Death Penalty: Constitutional Jurisprudence and Legislative Reform in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean* (Ashgate, 2014). Mr. Novak is an adjunct professor of international and comparative

criminal justice at George Mason University and an adjunct professor of African law at American University. He also practices law part time in Washington, D.C., in employment discrimination for a government agency.

**Kris Ansin, BS '07**, a 2007 awardee of the GW Mannatt-Tractenberg Award for Leadership in Public Service, is now the director of a small nongovernmental organization, the Mali Health Organizing Project, a model program for community-driven maternal and child survival. In June, Mali Health was awarded a Grand Challenges Explorations Award from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Stephen Ryan, BA '07**, has joined Northrop Grumman Corp.'s information systems sector in Redondo Beach, Calif. Mr. Ryan joins Northrop Grumman after seven years with the Department of Defense, including a year spent deployed to Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. At the DOD he received numerous awards and commendations, including two Joint Civilian Service Commendation Awards and the National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Citation.

**Rose Hickman, BA '07**, will travel to Mexico in fall 2014 for a nine-month research project funded through the Fulbright U.S. Student Programs. In Mexico, Ms. Hickman will work with the economics department at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. She will conduct field research on a national microfinance program that extends small loans to low-income women living in rural areas to promote the formation of small businesses.

**Derek Tarnow, BA '08**, is a 2014 Gold Edison Award winner, recognized for creative design and innovation for his design for Logitech of an accessories system for the iPhone 5 and iPhone 5s.

**Carlos Paz Jr., BA '08**, was one of eight young professionals to receive a 2014 Houston Grand Opera Ovation Award. Mr. Paz was recognized for his work with Neighborhood Centers Inc. He also works with Operation Change, TEDxYouthDay, and the LiveSmart Initiative.

**Sydney Prochazka, MA '09**, is the director of programs for the Cincinnati nonprofit Adopt A Class,

a mentoring program designed to facilitate personal, sustained connections between members of the business community and elementary-school-age children.

**David Rosenberg, BS '09**, married Jessica Young on May 18, 2014 in Norwalk, Conn. Three other GW alumni were in attendance: **Jon Jacobs, BS '09**; **Harry Ingram, BS '09**; and **Jessie Merron, BA '10**.

**Leah Spelman, BA '09**, received a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Jordan. She traveled there this fall.

**Bridget Kathleen Corliss, BA '09**, recently began a yearlong posting in Abuja, Nigeria, with Action Against Hunger. Ms. Corliss previously served with Action Against Hunger in Juba, South Sudan.

**10s** **Anasse Bari, MS '10, CERT '12, PhD '12**, a faculty member in GW's computer science department, recently celebrated the publication of his book *Predictive Analytics for Dummies* (Wiley, 2014). Dr. Bari co-authored the book with fellow alumnus **Mohamed Chaouchi, MS '05**, and software engineer Tommy Jung.

**Dana Sleeper, BBA '12**, was recently promoted to executive director of the Maryland, D.C., and Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association. Ms. Sleeper also is a member of the national Solar Energy Industries Association Board of Directors and serves as a volunteer board member for the Ralph Verde Foundation.

**AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? Submit your own class note, book, or Artists' Quarter update:**

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MAIL *Alumni News Section*  
*GW Magazine*  
2121 Eye Street, NW  
Suite 501  
Washington, DC 20052

## IN MEMORIAM

**Evelyn Hull Maddox Pope, SD '46**  
April 17, 2014  
Middleburg, Va.

**Dorothy Henry, BA '48**  
February 15, 2013  
Washington, D.C.

**Bennet Porter, AA '49, MD '53**  
July 21, 2014  
Hermitage, Tenn.

**Orville Wright Donnelly, MA '51, MD '57**  
March 28, 2014  
Kennett Square, Pa.

**Edward Felegy, BA '58**  
March 30, 2014  
Alexandria, Va.

**Janet K. Lobred, BA '59**  
January 12, 2014  
Kensington, Md.

**Arthur Alexander Christiansen, BA '65**  
May 10, 2014  
Front Royal, Va.

**Francis Edward Field, MA '65**  
October 28, 2013  
Lander, Wyo.

**John Cain, MBA '69**  
March 13, 2014  
West Chester, Pa.

**Ralph Kalish, BA '72**  
May 4, 2014  
St. Louis, Mo.

**William D. Duffy, MS '73**  
May 16, 2014  
Monroe, Wash.

**Thomas Scott Palmer, BA '87**  
April 20, 2014  
Washington, D.C.

**Meagan L. Condon, BA '92**  
February 25, 2014  
Charlestown, Mass.

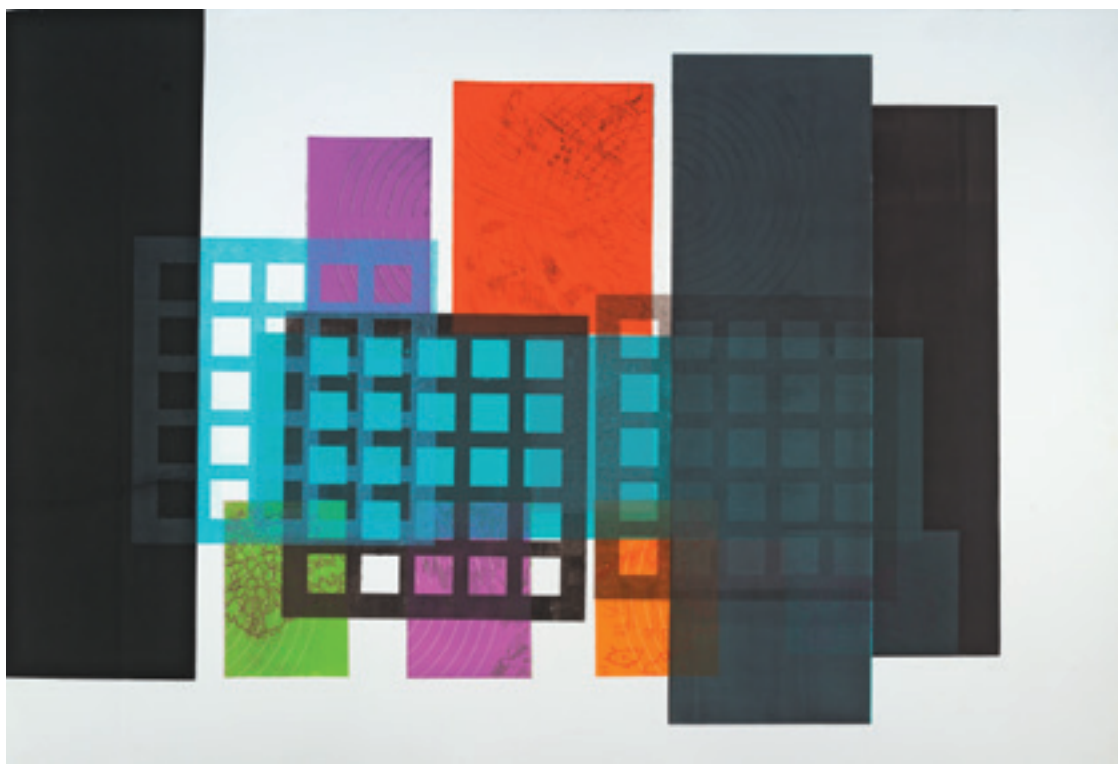
### Faculty and Staff

**William B. Griffith**  
Elton Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy  
February 10, 2014  
Washington, D.C.

**Clarence C. Mondale**  
Emeritus Professor of American Civilization  
May 2, 2014  
Washington, D.C.

UPCOMING SHOWS BY GW PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI

# ARTISTS' QUARTER



**Hidden Coconuts,**  
2013. Mixed media  
print, 30" x 44".

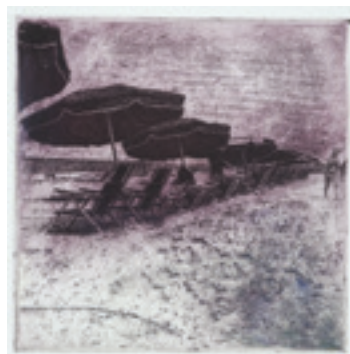


**TOP Icon No. 56, 2004,**  
archival pigment print,  
14" x 11". **BOTTOM LEFT Icon**  
**No. 65, 2004, archival**  
**pigment print, 4" x 5".**  
**BOTTOM RIGHT Icon No. 7,**  
2006, archival pigment  
print, 11" x 14".



## MIRIAM MÖRSEL NATHAN, BA '69, MA '71

BBLA Gallery in New York City showcased the works on paper of **Miriam Mörsel Nathan, BA '69, MA '71**, in June. The exhibition, entitled *I First Saw the World Through a Mosquito Net...*, included mixed-media prints, etchings, and paintings, many based on old photographs. Ms. Mörsel Nathan says her work is a documentation of fragments, "odd juxtapositions of times and places I did not know and those I did experience ... It is a process of building and rebuilding."



**TOP Virginia Beach, 2014,**  
etching, 5" x 5". **BOTTOM Path**  
**Around the Reservoir, 2014,**  
etching, 5" x 5".

## DAVID ALLISON, MFA '81

**David Allison, MFA '81**, is exhibiting *Icons of American Culture* at the Athenaeum Gallery in Alexandria, Va. The show, which runs through Nov. 9, combines expected American iconography with humorous and personal reflections on Mr. Allison's own American experience.

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USPS FORM 3526-R**

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Danny Freedman, Managing Editor

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# YOU CAN'T MISS

This season, GW Men's Basketball will play on national TV a school-record 14 times.

DATE	OPPONENT	NETWORK	TIME
Dec. 22	vs. Ohio*	ESPNU	2:30 PM
Dec. 23	vs. Colorado or DePaul*	ESPNU	2:30 PM or 4:30 PM
Dec. 25	at Diamond Head Classic*	TBD	TBD
Jan. 3	at Saint Joseph's	CBSSN	TBD
Jan. 6	SAINT LOUIS	CBSSN	TBD
Jan. 10	at La Salle	NBCSN	12:30 PM
Jan. 15	RICHMOND	ESPNU	TBD
Jan. 17	GEORGE MASON	NBCSN	4:30 PM
Jan. 22	at Fordham	NBCSN	7:00 PM
Jan. 27	at VCU	CBSSN	TBD
Feb. 6	DAYTON	ESPN2	TBD
Feb. 14	VCU	ESPN2	TBD
Feb. 21	at Richmond	CBSSN	TBD
Mar. 7	MASSACHUSETTS	NBCSN	3:30 PM

*\* games played in Honolulu, HI*

Home or away, the Colonials always have home court advantage thanks to the support of Buff & Blue Fund donors. Be a part of this winning team.

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