

GW



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If an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, what then is \$80 million of prevention-based funding worth? GW public health researchers, students, and the public at large are about to find out.

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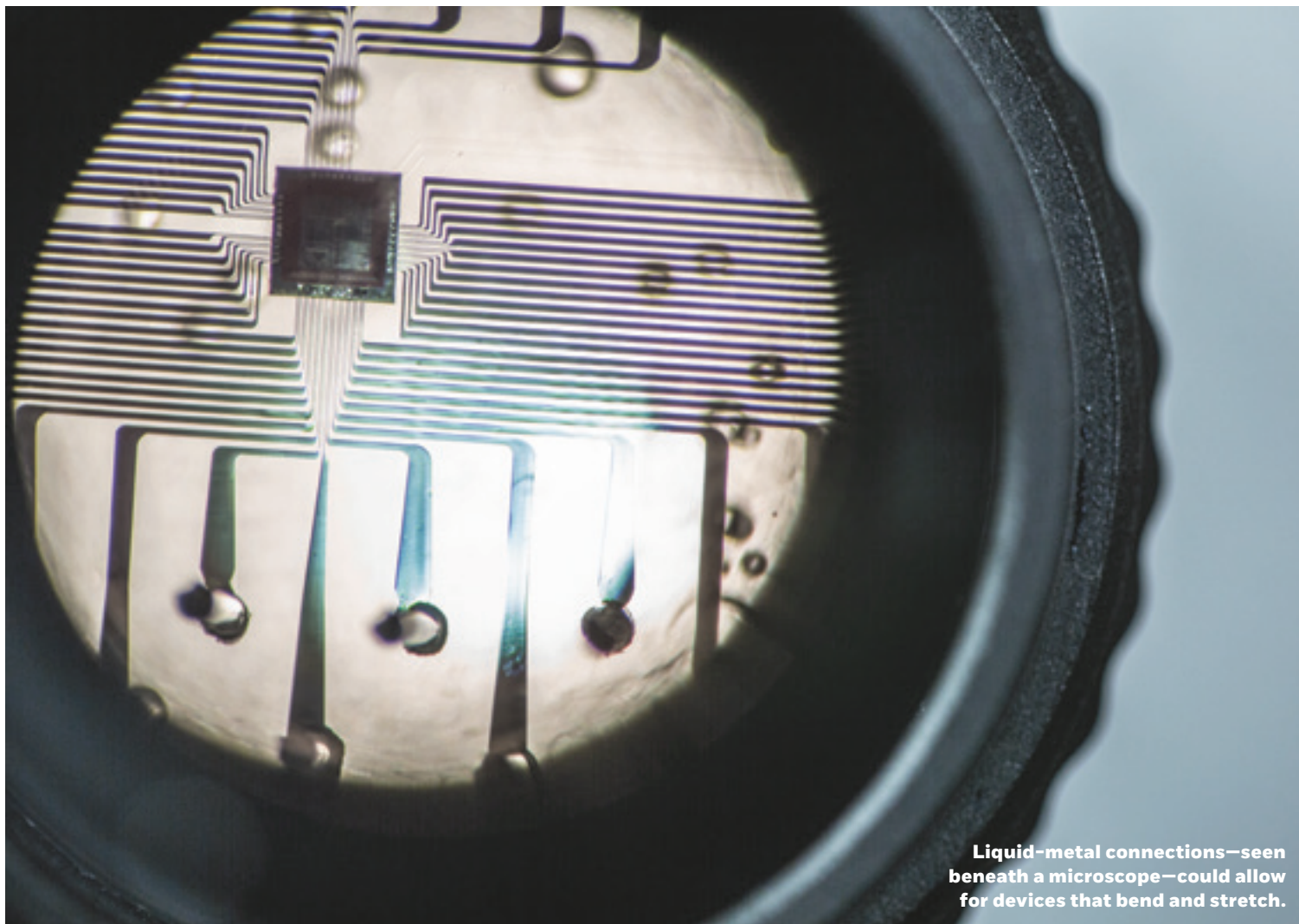


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# GW MAGAZINE SUMMER 2014

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



Liquid-metal connections—seen beneath a microscope—could allow for devices that bend and stretch.

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If an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, what then is \$80 million of prevention-based research funding worth? GW public health scholars are finding out. / **By Amanda MacMillan** /

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Illustration by Ben Wiseman





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# The Hum of Summer

The summer air may be stagnant around Washington, but Foggy Bottom is anything but still this time of year. The halls of GW hum with promise.

The wisdom and momentum of Commencement blow in from the National Mall like a refreshing breeze. We are reminded of the potential of every mind under those mortarboard caps, and even our own. It was hard not to be moved this May when chef extraordinaire José Andrés implored students to redefine their vision of success. It “is no longer only about achieving your goals,” he said. “It’s about using your skills and talents to do something bigger in the world. This is the new American Dream.”

Student speaker Gabriel Felder recalled the words of his father—who did not survive to see Gabriel graduate—urging him not to waste his time while at GW. “To be a GW student is antithetical to ‘wasting it,’” he said. “We are perhaps best known as those that don’t just seize opportunities but make our own.”

To see that fine quality, even in the summer, look no further than the pages that follow: The scientific expertise and political acumen at our public health school just attracted an \$80 million gift that will focus largely on one of the most salient, global topics today: preventative health; there is a remarkable new dean at the Columbian College who is tasked with fostering both the liberal arts and the sciences, and the common ground in which they need each other; GW engineers are working to invent bendable electronics; and another professor is reimagining the phrase “have a heart”—why stop at one?

And even with classes out, Foggy Bottom is far from empty. Waves of freshmen will be anxiously arriving for Colonial Inauguration and will be enveloped for the first time by the traditions and spirit of the university.

For so many here the season marks the start of something new, and I count myself among them. After 16 years at *GW Magazine*, including a dozen as editor, I am leaving to be closer to my home in Maryland so I can see more of my children, now 11 and almost 8, during the second half of their time at home.

I will miss working here and, in particular, with the fabulous team that produces the magazine. Most of them are alumni, just like us. I am excited to see what they do with future issues and, now as a reader, I look forward to keeping up with the accomplishments of our incredible alumni and our alums-to-be.

Please keep the dialogue going by staying in touch at [magazine@gwu.edu](mailto:magazine@gwu.edu) and continuing to share your stories and your story ideas.

*Heather O. Milke*  
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Volume 24, Issue 4

## 'A Knockout Clear Through'



Congratulations! The spring 2014 issue of *GW Magazine* was spectacular!

Generally, I just skip through the issue with minimal interest. Over the years, I recall a rather heavy emphasis on government, business, sports, etc.

This issue, with the cover article on the search for the origin of life (“Plenty of Space but No Room for Error”), was a knockout clear through. I read every word of that article, as well as every word of the article on the Arab Spring (“The Arab Spring: Three Years Later”), as well as the story of professor Thomas Buerghenthal’s survival of the Holocaust (“A Lucky Child”). That picture of him and his family is compelling. Kudos to the writers.

I’ve never contributed any money to *GW Magazine* or to the Alumni Association, but I came closest to it this season because of the current issue.

**John Heideman, MS '66**  
Loveland, Ohio

### The Search for ... Updates

The article regarding astrobiologist Pascale Ehrenfreund (“Plenty of Space

but No Room for Error”) in the spring 2014 magazine is fascinating. Is there a website to follow the progress of this effort?

**Charles E. Brown, BS '83**  
Garnet Valley, Pa.

*Neat, right? The European Space Agency has a trove of mission information and updates on two websites, one geared toward the general public (esa.int/Our\_Activities/Space\_Science/Rosetta) and another that's heavier on the science (sci.esa.int/rosetta). For that latest on Dr. Ehrenfreund and her colleagues at GW's Space Policy Institute, visit www.gwu.edu/~spi. —Eds.*

### Another Lucky Child

I really enjoyed reading about Mr. Buerghenthal (“A Lucky Child”). We are the same age and come from the same area. I was a lucky child, because my family was deported to Siberia as “enemies of the people,” so I was spared the concentration camps, but it was no picnic.

My accomplishments are not as impressive, but nothing to apologize for. Women didn't have major careers at the time. I “produced” an MD (my husband), Class of '58, and earned a BS in chemistry for

myself. My three children are all well-educated, self-supporting, and married. They have blessed me with five grandchildren. Life is good.

**Miriam Edelstein, BS '55**  
Nanuet, N.Y.

### 'A Lucky Reader'

I'm a lucky reader. What a wonderful article. Professor Buerghenthal's life is an inspiration of hope and resilience. Thank you for sharing his beautiful story.

**Diane Cohen, MS '83**  
Arlington, Va.

### Evolution of (and in) the Magazine

Let me add my voice to the many letters you have received regarding the change of format in *GW Magazine*. Great articles on the origin of life and the Arab Spring! How about one in a forthcoming issue on evolution?

Thanks so much for turning *GW Magazine* into an interesting, readable publication.

**John V. Cox, MS '69**  
McLean, Va.

*A feature on the work of GW biologists piecing together the so-called Tree of Life (“Endless Forms Most Beautiful and Most Wonderful”) was on the cover of our fall 2013 issue, available for download here: magazine.gwu.edu/fall-2013-issue. Enjoy! —Eds.*

### Serving Those Who Serve

From 1967 to 1969 I was

stationed as an intelligence officer at Fort Monroe, Va. GW then had the Tidewater Center on post. Classes were at night and on the weekend, and I was able to juggle my military and personal schedule to attend them. After two years I received my degree.

Congratulations to GW for being an early leader in outreach to the military.

**Joe Koletar, MS '69**  
Bolivia, N.C.

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*“Freedom is the ability, desire, and aspiration to live in a context where I can realize my full potential as a human being.”*

THREE-TIME PULITZER PRIZE WINNER THOMAS FRIEDMAN (PG.20)

# GW NEWS

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## COMMENCEMENT

# Chasing the 'New American Dream'

**In his Commencement address, world-renowned chef José Andrés says that success is not just achieving dreams but also having an impact on the world.**

When José Andrés addressed the Class of 2014 at Commencement in May, he brought along a heap of humility—and a few friends.

“When President Knapp asked me to speak at your Commencement, I thought: Why a chef?” he told the crowd of some 25,000 people, including graduates and their families, assembled on the National Mall. “Even my daughter said: They asked you to speak, or to cook lunch for the graduates?”

But, Mr. Andrés said, it was when Dr. Knapp told him that he was the first name

**“It’s not about having high-paying jobs, big houses, fast cars. There’s nothing wrong with that. But the new American Dream is bigger. It’s about how to achieve your success while also making an impact in the world. What you create for yourselves you must also create for others.”**

**—JOSÉ ANDRÉS**

The university ceremony was one of more than a dozen events—including individual school celebrations, a doctoral hooding ceremony, senior class toast, Phi Beta Kappa induction and Interfaith Baccalaureate—held during GW’s Commencement week.



JESSICA MCCONNELL BURT





**ABOVE** Student speaker and political communications major Gabriel Felder, BA '14



**LEFT** Maudine Cooper, who led the Greater Washington Urban League for more than two decades, received an honorary Doctor of Public Service.



**LEFT** W. Russell Ramsey, BBA '81, was recognized for his service and generosity to the university with an honorary Doctor of Public Service.

on the call list that it was too much for the world-renowned chef to believe. “Really? Take a look,” he said, motioning to big-screen monitors.

Then appeared a constellation of stars, each speaking on the phone with Dr. Knapp and politely declining the invitation: late-night TV host Craig Ferguson (who said he would be tied up “watching television that evening”), U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, Gwyneth Paltrow, Morgan Freeman, Owen Wilson, Al Roker, and others. One after another they suggest that he try their friend José.

In truth, of course, Mr. Andrés is every bit deserving of the honor, and of the standing ovation he received from the crowd afterward. As Dr. Knapp noted, Mr. Andrés has won “nearly every culinary award in the United States, including the James Beard Award for Outstanding Chef,” and then some. He is the first chef to be awarded his native Spain’s Order of Arts and Letters medallion and was among *Time* magazine’s 2012 list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

His “culinary passion is more than equaled by [his] dedication to eradicating hunger and improving nutrition in the United States and across the world,” Dr. Knapp said. At GW—as a lecturer, presidential adviser, and Urban Food Task Force member—he has been “transforming our understanding of food’s influence on global health and economic prosperity.”

In his speech, Mr. Andrés appealed to the graduates to reach for a redefined notion of success, which “is no longer only

about achieving your goals,” he said. “It’s about using your skills and talents to do something bigger in the world. This is the new American Dream.”

It’s an ideal that the graduates could have a role in shaping, he said.

“It’s not about having high-paying jobs, big houses, fast cars,” he said. “There’s nothing wrong with that. But the new American Dream is bigger. It’s about how to achieve your success while also making an impact in the world. What you create for yourselves you must also create for others.”

Mr. Andrés charted his own nontraditional path to success, and told graduates of his childhood in Spain and of his time as a sailor, as an immigrant in New York, and as an entrepreneur in Washington—and the perseverance that got him here.

“My story is not one of overnight success,” he said. “When I found myself alone in a new country, I didn’t buy a lottery ticket and hit the jackpot. I just kept going.”

He also talked about the impact of his experiences in public service, starting as a young volunteer decades ago at DC Central Kitchen to founding World Central Kitchen after Haiti’s devastating earthquake in 2010.

“I didn’t want to throw money at the problem, but instead to invest in sustainable solutions,” he said.

In addition to Mr. Andrés, Dr. Knapp conferred honorary Doctor of Public Service degrees upon social justice advocate Maudine Cooper, and businessman and philanthropist W. Russell Ramsey, BBA '81.

“All of my life, I’ve wanted to help people

in a small way,” said Ms. Cooper, who led the Greater Washington Urban League for more than two decades. “As time went by, through the Urban League, I found a means of helping in a larger way.”

Mr. Ramsey also was recognized for his service and generosity to GW, where he served as chair of the Board of Trustees from 2007 to 2013. Under his leadership, the university developed its academic strategic plan, restructured its medical center, and redeveloped several areas on campus.

“I don’t believe I will ever be able to fully convey what this means to me,” said Mr. Ramsey. “I was the first in my family to ever attend college—the first person. The older I get, the more I appreciate just how incredible the opportunity was to earn that degree from the George Washington University.”

In his charge to the class of 2014, Dr. Knapp urged the graduates to keep alive their energy, commitment to service, intellectual curiosity, and respect for others. “You are exceptional men and women, and I am proud to call you graduates of this great university,” he said. “You are our future.”

The university ceremony was one of more than a dozen Commencement week events, including individual school celebrations, a doctoral hooding ceremony, the senior class toast, the Phi Beta Kappa induction, and the Interfaith Baccalaureate.

**For Commencement videos, including José Andrés’ speech, visit [commencement.gwu.edu](http://commencement.gwu.edu).**

The Corcoran's home on 17th Street in Washington, D.C.



ARTS

# GW, Corcoran, National Gallery of Art Finalize Agreement

**Partnership aims to build “collaborative institution that the arts world has never before seen”**

Leaders of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, the National Gallery of Art, and the George Washington University announced in May that the final agreements have been signed for their historic collaboration.

The agreements confirm and formalize the terms that were first announced in February.

The collaboration will maintain the historic Corcoran 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 will safeguard the Corcoran’s collection and increase access to it as a public resource in Washington, D.C.

“These agreements will ensure that the

legacy of the Corcoran will be preserved in Washington and carried forward into the future,” says Peggy Loar, interim director and president of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design. “As we proceed with the full realization of our collaboration, we are grateful to everyone in our community—board, staff, faculty, students, donors, and the public—for the concern and support they continue to demonstrate.”

The Corcoran College of Art + Design will become a part of GW. The university will operate the college, maintain its distinct identity within the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, and assume ownership of, and responsibility for, the Corcoran’s 17th Street

building, including its renovation. Students will continue to take classes in the Corcoran building.

GW also will assume custody 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.

Full-time faculty members of the Corcoran are transferring to GW after the closing of the transactions, and GW is committed to continuing their employment through at least August 2015. The university also will take ownership of the Fillmore building, currently used for classes in Georgetown. GW plans to sell this building to consolidate classes to the Corcoran building.

“I can’t imagine a more effective way to demonstrate the vitality of the arts and the power of arts education than this unprecedented three-way partnership among George Washington, the Corcoran, and the National Gallery of Art,” GW President Steven Knapp says. “Together, we are building a kind of collaborative institution that the arts world has never before seen.”

The National Gallery of Art will organize and present exhibitions of modern and contemporary art within the Corcoran building. The National Gallery also will maintain a Corcoran Legacy Gallery within



the building, 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 will be transferred to the care, custody, and possession of the National Gallery of Art.

The National Gallery intends to accession a significant portion of these works into its own collection; the others will be distributed by the Corcoran to other art museums and appropriate entities with a preference given to those in the Washington, D.C., area.

Under the agreements, the Corcoran board will carry forward the institution's 145-year history by supporting stewardship of the Corcoran name and legacy. Timing of the final closing of the transactions is dependent on the process of obtaining D.C. Superior Court approval for changing the means by which the charitable organization implements its mission, the current means having become impossible or impracticable.

To prepare for renovations and the new program of exhibitions, the galleries of the Corcoran building will close to the public on or about Oct. 1. ☐

### **The new partnership is the latest chapter of a rich history between GW and the Corcoran.**

William Wilson Corcoran served as the president of GW's Board of Trustees from 1869 to 1872 and donated generously to the university. In 1884 he founded the Corcoran Scientific School, which is now GW's School of Engineering and Applied Science. He also donated a building on H Street that served as the location of the medical school and later as the university hospital from 1898 to 1948.

In 1924, Foggy Bottom's Corcoran Hall was dedicated to honor Mr. Corcoran's memory.

He founded the Corcoran Gallery of Art in 1869 and donated additional funding to establish the Corcoran school in 1878. The gallery's collection includes more than 17,000 works and objects and is considered one of the world's best American art collections.

#### **BUSINESS**

## **Pepperdine Dean to Lead GW Business School**

The university announced in May that Linda A. Livingstone has been selected as the next dean of the GW School of Business. For the past 12 years Dr. Livingstone has served as dean of the Graziadio School of Business and Management at Pepperdine University, and is the incoming chair of the board of directors of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the leading international accreditation body for business schools.

She begins her service at GW on Aug. 1.

"Linda Livingstone has been a highly successful dean, respected not only within her current institution but also by her peers in business schools around the world, who have elected her to lead their accrediting

body," GW President Steven Knapp says. "Her proven skill in managing a complex organization and recognized leadership in business education will make her a tremendous asset to our School of Business and our university as a whole."

At Pepperdine, in California, Dr. Livingstone led a business school with approximately 1,600 students on six campuses and more than 35,000 alumni worldwide. She oversaw a \$200 million expansion of the business school's regional campuses, increased the school's international partnerships to 40 business schools around the world, and led the school to membership in the Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative and as a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Management Education.

Under her leadership, the Graziadio School established the Education to Business Live Case Program, which was recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as "one of the top 10 college courses in the country that will pay off at work." She also launched the Dean's Executive Leadership Series, a high-profile lecture program that brings to campus leading business innovators; introduced a student business plan competition; and added new degree programs in management and leadership, applied finance, and global business.

"I look forward, with enthusiasm, to the opportunity to serve as dean of the School of Business at the George Washington University," she says. "Working with the faculty and staff to build on a strong foundation of programs and research to continue to enhance the quality and reputation of the school will be a privilege."

Dr. Livingstone earned a Bachelor of Science in economics and management, a Master of Business Administration, and a PhD in management, with an emphasis in organizational behavior, all from Oklahoma State University. ☐



**Linda Livingstone will lead GW's School of Business beginning in August.**



Parts of the GW campus were lit blue in honor of Autism Awareness Month in April.

**AUTISM**

## For Kids With Autism, a Focus on Adulthood

**\$2.5M gift will endow first director of initiative to study, help navigate transition**

When 2-year-old Dylan was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder in 1996, his parents—GW Board of Trustees Chair Nelson Carbonell Jr., BS '85, and Michele Carbonell—began a hopeful but often frustrating journey as they grappled with the question of how they would provide their son with a healthy and meaningful life.

It is an era that they refer to as “the Dark Ages.”

Eighteen years later, the world is very different for parents of young children with autism, with more early childhood intervention programs, stronger policies, and a greater understanding of the disorder. But for young adults with autism the world remains a difficult place to navigate.

“We’re still in the Dark Ages. Nobody has figured out how to create a world in which these young adults can live independently, have jobs, and have a real life,” Mr. Carbonell says. “Now that our son is 20, we’re facing similar challenges that we faced when Dylan was 2 years old. There aren’t good programs, policies, or strategies for autistic adults and

teens transitioning to adulthood.”

Compelled by this reality, the Nelson A. and Michele Carbonell Family Foundation announced in April a gift of \$2.5 million, which will provide an endowment for a professor who will serve as the inaugural director of GW’s interdisciplinary Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Initiative.

“GW has done many things in this area, and we think that our gift will allow us to bring those efforts into focus to make it real and make it permanent,” Mr. Carbonell says.

The initiative has 86 affiliated faculty members—from five schools around the university—who are applying a multidisciplinary approach to research, policy, and treatment for individuals with autism and neurodevelopmental disorders.

The director will tie together these moving parts, making GW an integrated resource for people with autism and their families to obtain state-of-the-art assessments, interventions, medical treatments, support services, and opportunities to participate in research and clinical trials. The initiative also will help shape policy and programs that will streamline and make affordable the necessary services for people with these disorders.

“These young adults—they are the first wave of the autism epidemic,” says Ms. Carbonell, chair of the national capital area chapter of Autism Speaks, an advocacy and science-funding organization. “We need to do better by them. And we don’t have time to waste.” — **Lauren Ingeno**

**For more on the AND Initiative and the work of GW researchers, visit [go.gwu.edu/andinitiative](http://go.gwu.edu/andinitiative).**

**HONORS**

## Holocaust Hero Given President’s Medal

At the height of World War II, as the Nazis attempted to finish their extermination of European Jews, a Swiss diplomat stationed in Budapest hatched an idea to protect the defenseless.

The diplomat, Carl Lutz, BA '24, called on Swiss protecting power mandates—allowing a nation to protect the citizens and interests of another country on foreign soil—and issued protecting letters to Hungarian Jews, shielding them from the Nazis and the fascist Hungarian Arrow Cross. His actions saved the lives of 62,000 people during the Holocaust.

In March, GW posthumously honored



**Through diplomatic savvy and at enormous risk, Carl Lutz, BA '24, saved the lives of tens of thousands of Jews during World War II.**

WILLIAM ATKINS / LUTZ COURTESY OF AGNES HIRSCHI



Mr. Lutz with the President's Medal in a ceremony attended by several foreign guests, including Swiss Ambassador to the United States Manuel Sager, former Hungarian Ambassador András Simonyi, and Mr. Lutz's daughter, Agnes Hirschi.

"George Washington is proud to honor Carl Lutz as a distinguished alumnus and a passionate advocate for social justice, whose tireless and courageous efforts rescued tens of thousands of those who would have perished during the Holocaust," GW President Steven Knapp said at the ceremony.

Mr. Lutz led Switzerland's foreign interests section in Budapest from 1942 to 1945, representing 14 countries that had severed ties with the German-allied Hungarian government. In this capacity he worked with the Jewish Agency for Palestine to issue safe-conduct documents for 10,000 Jewish children to find new homes in what would later become the State of Israel. When the Germans began occupying Hungary in 1944, Mr. Lutz set up 76 safe houses around Budapest, declaring them annexes of the Swiss legation. Among these locations was the legendary Glass House, where 3,000 Jews found refuge and the Zionist Youth Movement was headquartered.

Mr. Lutz negotiated with the Hungarian government and the Nazis to issue letters of protection to 8,000 Hungarian Jews, guaranteeing their safety. In an audacious feat of diplomatic skill, he then deliberately misinterpreted this permission and secretly issued tens of thousands of additional letters.

"It was a ruse," Ms. Hirschi said of her father's plan. "[Nazi leader Adolf] Eichmann spoke of units—Jews were not people, just units. So my father interpreted 'units' as 'families.' Thus he was able to increase the number of people he could protect."

Mr. Lutz died in 1975, and has since been honored many times for his bravery. Among them, the city of Budapest in 1991 established the Carl Lutz Monument, located at the entrance to the city's former Jewish quarter, and, in 1999, the Swiss Confederation issued a national postage stamp in his memory.

"Holocaust memory reminds us how vulnerable we are to such evil, but also includes the memory of those very few who risked their own lives to save fellow human beings," said Walter Reich, the Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Professor of International Affairs, Ethics, and Human Behavior at the Elliott School of International Affairs. Among those people, he said, Mr. Lutz was "one of the greatest." — **James Irwin**



Jay Carney (left) discussed the challenges and rewards of being White House press secretary.

**POLITICS**

## White House Press Secy. Takes GW Behind Scenes

During his time as White House press secretary, Jay Carney dealt with some of the Obama administration's most difficult and complex issues: the government shutdown, the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, and the unfolding political turmoil in Ukraine. And the whole experience has been a lesson in the inner workings of government, even for a former *Time* magazine Washington bureau chief.

"When you get on the other side, you find out it's not quite as you imagined—it's more complex than you realized," he told a capacity crowd at GW's Jack Morton Auditorium in April, six weeks before he announced his resignation.

During the interview with Major Garrett, a distinguished fellow in the School of Media and Public Affairs and CBS News' chief White House correspondent, Mr. Carney spoke candidly of the challenges, new experiences, and rewards that come with being the White House press secretary. The event was so popular that its hashtag, #GWCARNEY, trended on Twitter.

"The most surprising thing about this job is how human it is," he said. "It's people sitting with the president, giving him the best advice they can based on what they think is best for our country." — **Julyssa Lopez**

**To watch the interview, visit [smpa.gwu.edu/inside-white-house-briefing-room](http://smpa.gwu.edu/inside-white-house-briefing-room).**

POLITICS

# At GW, Biden Challenges GOP Budget

Vice President Joe Biden used GW as the launchpad for the administration's election-year campaign against the House Republican budget plan, speaking in April to a packed Marvin Center Grand Ballroom and lingering after to chat with students.

"It was one of the most incredible experiences I've had at this school," said sophomore Eric Estroff.

After the speech, students flocked to the front of the room, where the vice president chatted and posed for photographs. Mr. Estroff, a student in the School of Media and Public Affairs, managed to snag a selfie with Mr. Biden.

"I'm just in shock," he said. "It's really 'Only at GW' ... it's amazing."

At his second



appearance at GW within a year, Mr. Biden took on the 2015 GOP budget proposal, authored by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis, during an event hosted by the GW College Democrats, the Program Board, and the Student Association.

The plan, Mr. Biden said, calls for trillions of dollars in new tax breaks for the wealthy and proposed cuts to programs that middle-class families depend on, essentially breaking the "basic bargain" that the growing middle class would benefit from its hard work.

The budget plan would take funding away from Medicaid, education, research, and infrastructure, he said, and he challenged the students not to give in to cynicism or to think that "none of this really matters."

GW College Democrats President Omeed Firouzi, who introduced Mr. Biden, said after the speech that he was pleased the vice president "personalized" his remarks for the college audience.

"The popular perception, at least in some corners, is that young people are apathetic about politics,"

Mr. Firouzi said. "He kind of shot back at that and really highlighted how it's important for us to pay attention to these issues that do affect us." — Lauren Ingeno



**ABOVE** GW student Emilie Pollack poses with the vice president. **LEFT** The speech, in April, was Mr. Biden's second visit to campus in the past year. **Afterward, he chatted and posed for pictures with students.**

TUITION

# GW Board Maintains Fixed-Tuition Policy for Undergrads

GW's Board of Trustees in February approved the university's fixed-tuition program for the 10th year in a row, guaranteeing that tuition prices will not go up for returning undergraduates, and that increases in cost of attendance will be limited

to no more than 3.4 percent for incoming undergraduates in the 2014-15 academic year.

This is the seventh year in a row that the university has limited increases in cost of attendance—which includes tuition, fees, room, and board—to approximately 3 percent, which is lower than increases at most major private universities.

GW will set tuition for incoming undergraduates in fall 2014 at \$48,700 annually for up to five years as long as students remain in good academic standing. Returning sophomores, juniors, seniors, and fifth-year seniors will have no increases in tuition. Students from GW's 2013 graduating class paid the same tuition all four years, while students at similar institutions experienced increases of up to 15 percent during the same period of time.

"This year, we mark a decade of giving

our students the assurance that their tuition costs will stay the same throughout their undergraduate years. At the same time, we are once again keeping our tuition increase for new students close to inflation," said GW President Steven Knapp. "In both these respects, we are maintaining our commitment to make GW accessible to students from all backgrounds."

When it adopted its program in the 2004-05 academic year, GW became one of the first universities to embrace fixed tuition. Executive Vice President and Treasurer Lou Katz explained that the goal was to address mounting financial concerns from parents and take the guesswork out of tuition costs. With a fixed rate, GW offers parents a long-term look at expenses, as opposed to other universities that provide bill projections only on a year-to-year basis. ☐



April Ryan, White House reporter for American Urban Radio Networks, moderated the panel.



HUMANITIES

## Global Humanities Project Debuts

The Office of International Programs hosted the first colloquium of the Global Humanities Project in March, bringing together the presidents of three universities alongside humanities advocates from around the world.

The project is designed to highlight the value of the humanities and to link universities as they promote humanities in higher education. It is sponsored by GW, Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, and Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco.

"To think about the humanities as a subject on which we can come together makes every kind of sense," GW President Steven Knapp told attendees, including President Driss Ouauouicha of Al Akhawayn and Rector Gülay Barbarosoğlu of Boğaziçi.

The two-day event featured receptions at the embassies of both Turkey and Morocco. Attendees shared ideas in a series of roundtable discussions among GW, Boğaziçi, and Al Akhawayn faculty members, covering topics from "Narrative and Identity" to "Humanities as Social Intervention" and "Religion and the Humanities."

A range of disciplines were represented, including the expected literature and arts fields but also physics, engineering, business, and law, among others. Collaborative projects in humanities research and arts performance were developed, to be elaborated upon over the coming months.

"The discussions were so energizing and useful that the three presidents have agreed to continue the project and to bring the groups together again in the future," said Donna Scarboro, associate provost for international programs, who organized the project.

"We are preparing the citizens and leaders of tomorrow," Dr. Ouauouicha said. "And for them to be successful, they need to know as deeply as they can their own culture—but they also need to know the culture of the other, the international practices, and international values, because the world of tomorrow will require dealing with other cultures." — **Ruth Steinhart**

MEDIA

## White House Press Corps: Diversity Matters

In 1944, Harry McAlpin of the National Negro Press at last became the first African American reporter to attend a White House press conference. Alice Dunnigan, in 1948, became the first black female White House correspondent and the first black journalist to accompany a president on the campaign trail.

Both were trailblazers but neither wanted to be "firsts," George Condon of the *National Journal* told an audience at the Jack Morton Auditorium in April. They wanted, he said, to give voice to questions that were important to their communities.

This year the White House Correspondents' Association celebrates its centennial and its history, while acknowledging the work that still needs to be done. Following Mr. Condon's remarks, a panel discussion organized by the School of Media and Public Affairs and the WHCA explored how critical it is to continue diversifying the press today.

The panelists included, among others, senior reporters and editors from ABC

News, NBC News, *The Washington Post*, and The Associated Press. The conversation was moderated by April Ryan, White House reporter for American Urban Radio Networks.

During a trip to New Orleans on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Ms. Ryan said, then-President George W. Bush told her he didn't think the briefing room boasted a representation of America. There needed to be more minorities.

"Sometimes, I walk through that room and I glance around as the press conferences or briefings are getting ready to happen, and I don't see a representation of America," Ms. Ryan said.

Kristen Welker, White House reporter for NBC News, said she frequently finds herself the only female journalist of color in the briefing room.

"I feel the weight of that responsibility ... It's important that the group of people there is representative of the diversity we see in the country. As reporters, we bear the background of our experiences," she said.

Personal experience engenders new perspectives, and panelists advised students interested in journalism to use their experiences and established connections to nab stories no one else is covering.

"If you have a connection with something in this city and you don't use it to your advantage, you're not being smart," Ken Strickland, Washington bureau chief for NBC News, told students. "Whatever tools the good lord gave you, use them."

— **Julyssa Lopez**

INNOVATION

# Region Primed to Become Hub for ‘Big Data’

From wristbands that transmit the wearer’s location to sensors that map the human brain, the amount of available information about how we work, play, and function has increased almost inconceivably in recent years. Data storage, computing power, and intelligent software now are able to manage and manipulate data sets too colossal to be analyzed by traditional methods.

This is what’s called big data and analytics. It’s measured in tera- or petabytes—the latter equal to about 250 trillion MP3 downloads—and could generate spectacular new models of behavior, leading to more accurate analysis and more effective decision-making across every field.

The region, in particular Northern Virginia, and including GW, could be a hub for the opportunities big data presents, according to a research report conducted by Chmura Economics & Analytics and released by the university, the Northern Virginia Technology Council, and Vienna, Va.-based consulting firm Attain, LLC.

The report was presented in May at a symposium on GW’s Virginia Science and Technology Campus. Among many other findings, the report highlighted the enormous amount of data generated by regional data firms; the high level of expertise in areas like national security, cybersecurity, and health care; and an expected average annual employment



FROM LEFT GW Vice President for Research Leo Chalupa; Keith Crandall, founding director of GW’s Computational Biology Institute; Gary Shiffman, president and CEO of data firm Giant Oak LLC; and Frank Stein, director of the Analytics Solution Center at IBM Federal

growth over the next three years among the region’s big data and analytics firms that is three times as fast as average annual forecasts by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for all occupations over the next decade.

Greg Baroni, chairman and CEO of Attain, the event’s premier sponsor, said the D.C. region can and should be recognized as “the nation’s data capital.”

And GW intends to help get the region there. “We want to be part—indeed an essential part—of this region’s emergence as an increasingly powerful innovation-based economy,” GW President Steven Knapp said.

Ali Eskandarian, dean of the Virginia Science and Technology Campus and of

GW’s College of Professional Studies, noted that the university is “making significant investments in big data,” particularly with its Computational Biology Institute and forthcoming research institutes on genomics and engineering.

After the presentation of the report, two panels convened experts—including GW’s Vice President of Research Leo Chalupa, representatives from IBM and Google Federal, and the heads of local data firms, among others—to discuss the difficulties of expanding the big-data workforce and the potential challenges and opportunities presented by the burgeoning field, such as privacy concerns and possibilities for new development. — **Ruth Steinhardt**

**“We want to be part—indeed an essential part—of this region’s emergence as an increasingly powerful innovation-based economy.”**

— PRESIDENT STEVEN KNAPP



STUDENTS

# For a 25<sup>th</sup> Year, SJT Scholarships Deliver Joy, Pride, and Full Rides

Stephanie Young, dean of students at KIPP DC College Preparatory School, made an offer to Llewellyn “Xavier” Richie on Monday afternoon—they could get breakfast together the next morning if he would let her drive him to school. She could not let the KIPP DC senior be late on what she knew would be one of the most important days of his high school career.

For Mr. Ritchie, it was just a Tuesday morning in March. It wasn’t until a prize patrol team interrupted his college prep class, and his peers erupted in resounding cheers, that he realized he was the recipient of a Stephen Joel Trachtenberg Scholarship

to the George Washington University. The four-year award covers tuition, room, board, books, and university fees for exceptional students in the District of Columbia.

As GW President Steven Knapp, accompanied by Director of Admissions Karen Felton and Colonials mascot George, announced his name, Mr. Richie buried his face in his hands, trying to hide the tears welling up in his eyes.

“This has relieved the financial burden of going to college.” Mr. Richie said. “I’m looking forward to a new beginning.”

The good news rolled on for the rest of the day, as GW administrators and staff traveled to six local high schools, surprising eight D.C. students with full-ride scholarships. It is a tradition that Dr. Knapp called his “favorite day of the year.”

Instituted by then-GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg in 1989, the scholarship program this year celebrated its 25th anniversary. It has supported 149 local students, who are nominated and then selected by GW’s undergraduate admissions team based on GPA, SAT scores, course study, teacher recommendations, leadership qualities, and extracurricular activities.

While the SJT scholars were overwhelmingly thankful on Tuesday, Dr. Knapp emphasized that the students are as great a benefit to GW as the university is

to them.

“We get to bring talented students who really strengthen our ties to this great capital city, which we are so very much a part of,” Dr. Knapp said. Moreover, the scholarships serve as a symbol of possibility to the rest of the high achievers in the District. “We want to send the message that college is out there; it’s in their future,” he said.

— Lauren Ingeno

To see the excitement and cheers, visit [go.gwu.edu/sjt2014](http://go.gwu.edu/sjt2014).

INITIATIVES

# Task Force to Address Access for Low-Income Students

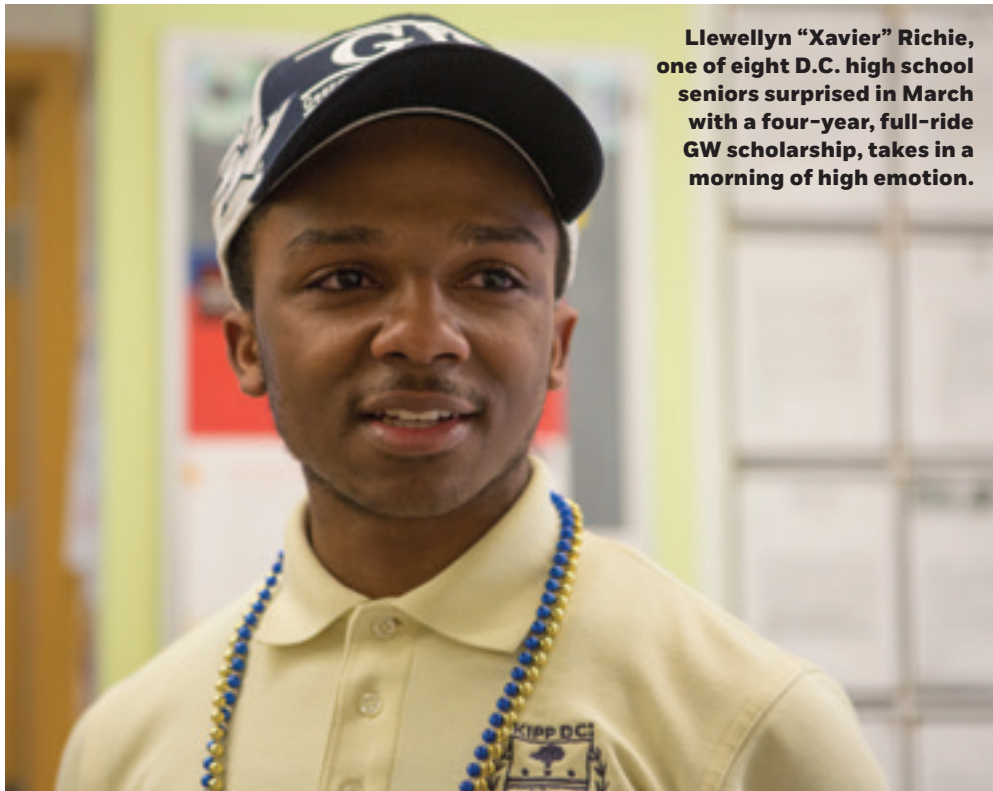
GW President Steven Knapp in January announced the formation of a universitywide Task Force on Access and Success, aimed at expanding higher education opportunities for low-income students—regardless of the institution they choose—as well as ensuring the success of low-income students at GW.

A week before the announcement, Dr. Knapp had joined more than 100 university and college presidents, as well as corporate and nonprofit leaders, for a White House summit on the topic.

Dr. Knapp said the university’s plans to support students, parents, and school counselors include assigning admissions liaisons to underserved high schools, bringing more local students on campus visits, and hosting Saturday workshops for middle school students so they see college as a possibility from an early age. GW also will work with community groups to offer assistance with applications for admission and financial aid.

For more on this story, visit [go.gwu.edu/lowincomeaccess](http://go.gwu.edu/lowincomeaccess).

**Llewellyn “Xavier” Richie, one of eight D.C. high school seniors surprised in March with a four-year, full-ride GW scholarship, takes in a morning of high emotion.**



CAREER SERVICES

# \$5M Gift to Help Expand Career Services



**Mark R. Shenkman, MBA '67**

Career services at GW will get a major boost thanks to GW Board of Trustees member Mark R. Shenkman, MBA '67, and his wife, Rosalind.

The couple is donating \$5 million to support the GW Career Services

Enhancement Initiative and the F. David Fowler Career Center at the School of Business. In recognition of these gifts, the

board voted in May to permanently name the Ivory Tower residence hall Shenkman Hall.

"Many of our students already seek knowledge through internships and experiential education," Mr. Shenkman says. "By providing more resources to redefine and expand career development, we are providing additional opportunities for students and alumni as they pursue their career aspirations."


The university created the Career Services Enhancement Initiative in 2012 as an effort to strengthen the overall career culture at GW for students, alumni, and employers. The initiative aims to empower students and alumni to translate their academic and co-curricular experiences into a lifetime of engaged citizenship.

Additional funding will enable the Fowler Career Center at the School of Business to provide services and resources to students, alumni, faculty, and staff for strategic career planning and lifelong experiential learning.

"This magnificent gift from Mark and Rosalind Shenkman is one more sign of Mark's unwavering commitment to his

alma mater," President Steven Knapp says. "Whether through his wise and dedicated service on the Board of Trustees, his role in the creation of our new Veterans Memorial Park, or his generous support for the aspirations of our students, Mark is playing a key role in leading this university into its third century."

Since 1982, Mr. Shenkman—the founder, president, chief executive officer, and chief investment officer of Shenkman Capital Management Inc.—has made gifts both individually and through his company. Previous gifts have supported the School of Business Annual Fund, School of Business Dean's Fund, School of Business Financial Markets Research Institute, GW Cancer Institute Gala, Hillel Fund, and the President's Fund for Excellence, among other endeavors.

Most recently, in 2013, he established the Shenkman Seminar Series at the Graduate School of Political Management and funded the move and expansion of Veterans Memorial Park to its new location on Kogan Plaza. 

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

# IMF Spring Meetings Held on Campus

The International Monetary Fund hosted its spring meetings at GW in April, bringing thousands of international affairs scholars, policymakers, and journalists who joined IMF representatives for discussions of inequality, emerging technologies and markets, and unemployment.

The meetings focused on how individual countries—particularly the United States, one of the IMF's founding members—can push reforms that will support global economic growth.

GW students volunteered at several sessions and panels, witnessing the inner workings of what's widely considered the most powerful international economic institution. Other seminars and discussions featured GW faculty members known for their research and expertise in financial and

international policy.

Among the events surrounding the meetings, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde joined journalist Charlie Rose for an interview at Lisner Auditorium; the next day, she and former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright were among the panelists at a town hall-style forum, sponsored by Al Jazeera America.

Panelists addressed a number of financial issues worldwide—including historic IMF reforms proposed at a G-20 Summit in 2010. The proposals would increase the roles and responsibilities of emerging markets and developing countries, but the United States has yet to ratify the reforms.

Ratification requires approval by 85 percent of the IMF's voting shares; the United States, the fund's largest member, owns 16.7 percent of the vote.

Congress has blocked passage, citing concerns the changes would weaken U.S. influence. The White House publicly supports the changes. G-20 financial chiefs have given the United States until the end of

the year to ratify.

"Multilateral' means 'partnership'—everyone helps carry the burden," Ms. Albright said. "Bottom line: This has to happen." — **Julyssa Lopez and James Irwin**



**Christine Lagarde**





**IN PICTURES**

Ira Glass, host of the public radio show *This American Life*, brought “Three Acts, Two Dancers, One Radio Host,” his blend of storytelling and modern dance, to Lisner Auditorium in February. The show closed with a confetti-packed final number in which Mr. Glass joined dancers Monica Bill Barnes (left) and Anna Bass.

WILLIAM ATKINS

HEADLINERS AT UNIVERSITY EVENTS

# GEORGE WELCOMES

**“Freedom is the ability, desire, and aspiration to live in a context where I can realize my full potential as a human being.”**

Three-time Pulitzer Prize winner **Thomas Friedman** spoke in February on *The Kalb Report* about freedom, technology, privacy, and the press.

“I wanted to bring awareness to a problem that seemed to be invisible ... to do something to counteract the constant barrage of destructive, demeaning, and dehumanizing images and media messages that diminish the value of women as whole beings.”

**Beverly Bond**, founder and CEO of Black Girls Rock!, on her dedication to building positive images of women of color. Ms. Bond gave the keynote address at Betts Theatre for GW’s monthlong Black Heritage Celebration, organized by the Multicultural Student Services Center.

“Slowly, minute by minute, the concern for external success starts to crowd out concern for the inner moral life ... Reclaiming the formula for morality is essential.”

Journalist **David Brooks** delivered the inaugural Richard Blackburn Endowed Lecture on Civility and Integrity, hosted by the School of Business and held at Lisner Auditorium in February.

**“Two-thirds of my brain was fixated on food ... during some of the most incredible moments of my life.”**

**Mika Brzezinski**, co-host of MSNBC’s *Morning Joe*, spoke candidly about her struggles with food and body image during a public forum at the Marvin Center hosted by GW’s Milken Institute School of Public Health. The forum was part of a weeklong series of campus activities held in February in conjunction with National Eating Disorders Awareness Week.

**Beverly Bond**

**David Brooks**

**Thomas Friedman**

**Mika Brzezinski**





“The goal of a teacher is not just to teach but to make sure students are learning.”

Department of Education Secretary **Arne Duncan** participated in a panel discussion titled “Why Teach?” at the Marvin Center in April. The conversation was hosted by the Graduate School of Education and Human Development and by TEACH, a teacher recruitment organization funded in partnership by State Farm, Microsoft, and the U.S. Department of Education.

**Arne Duncan**

“It is a fantasy to say that international laws regulate. What helps to regulate, what constrains bad guys is the determined power of the United States.”

Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and political commentator **Charles Krauthammer** squared off against political strategist and Obama campaign architect David Plouffe in March for the annual “Only at GW” debate at Lisner Auditorium.

**Charles Krauthammer**

“Change takes teamwork—diverse points of view are critical. You need a road map. And culture really matters.”

**Sheri McCoy**, CEO of Avon Products Inc. and a current GW parent, delivering GW’s 15th annual Robert P. Maxon Lecture in March. The lecture, held in the Jack Morton Auditorium, was hosted by the School of Business and the Institute for Corporate Responsibility.

**Sheri McCoy**

“If you go to McDonald’s with \$5, you can buy five hamburgers or one salad. If you’re poor and you’re hungry, which are you going to buy? It seems pretty obvious.”

Nutritionist **Marion Nestle** spoke about urban food issues and their health consequences at a lecture held at the Jack Morton Auditorium in April. The event was sponsored by the Urban Food Task Force, the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences.

**Marion Nestle**



# AT A GLANCE

## CONTEST NAMES RESIDENCE HALL

After two rounds and hundreds of submissions, GW's #HistoryLivesHere competition—a social media contest to name the new residence hall at 2121 H Street—has a winner: District House. The contest, which began Feb. 8, ended March 23 with more than 1,000 votes cast. District House was one of four finalists—along with University Commons, Tricentennial Hall, and Unity Hall—out of an original list of 815 names submitted by members of the GW community. The winning name, submitted by senior Alexandra Blackwell, received 469 of the 1,077 votes.

## INT'L ADVOCACY DEGREE

The Graduate School of Political Management this fall plans to launch a 39-credit Master of Advocacy in the

Global Environment, focusing on international political management, legislative advocacy, and public relations strategies. It will include residencies in which students travel abroad and meet with people who shape decisions worldwide. The residencies and their respective courses will complement a core curriculum designed to examine how culture and political structure affect global advocacy.

## ROSS HALL RENOVATIONS

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Walter G. Ross Hall earlier this year inaugurated nearly 35,000 square feet of renovated lab space that houses two new labs: the Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty and the Center for Basic Research for the Cure and Prevention of HIV/AIDS. The redesigned areas, occupying the building's fifth and sixth floors, are LEED Gold-certified and were designed to encourage

discussion, collaboration, and innovation. The labs were built with a \$15 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, awarded in 2010.

## UCC ADDS EATING DISORDERS COUNSELOR

The University Counseling Center in February added its first eating disorder services coordinator. Nancy Cass will provide specialized counseling to students and work with university partners to support and educate the campus community about disordered eating and body image issues. Ms. Cass says she will work with the Student Health Service to create resources that address the medical and mental effects of eating disorders, as treatment usually requires consultation with a therapist, a nutritionist, and a psychiatrist. She also will facilitate referrals for students who require higher levels of care.

## SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

In April, U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Antonin Scalia closed out

the 20th season of *The Kalb Report* with a discussion of the First Amendment, NSA surveillance, and the pair's perhaps unlikely, longstanding friendship. Despite their conflicting views, "they are great friends who dine together, travel together, love going to the opera together," said host Marvin Kalb. The program was broadcast live from the National Press Club.

 Watch the program at [research.gwu.edu/kalb-report](http://research.gwu.edu/kalb-report).

## NEW GSEHD DOCTORATE

The Graduate School of Education and Human Development announced a number of planned academic innovations, including accelerated pacing for selected master's programs—"4+1" programs, which would enable qualified undergraduates to take graduate courses in GSEHD during their senior year and potentially complete the master's degree in an intensive fifth year—and the development of a new crossdisciplinary PhD. The new degree is designed to complement the EDD, GSEHD's flagship doctorate, and will focus on issues in education and society. The school hopes to recruit the first doctoral cohort to begin in fall 2015.

## IT LEADER

*Computerworld* named P.B. Garrett, vice provost and chief academic technology officer, as one of its Premier 100 IT Leaders. Ms. Garrett was honored with the award in March at *Computerworld's* annual Leadership Conference. She has served the university for more than 15 years and oversees the university's Academic Technologies department.



Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsberg talk with Martin Kalb on the final episode of the 20th season of *The Kalb Report*.





## 5 QUESTIONS

# Geneva Henry

*Geneva Henry isn't a lifelong librarian. Her path to becoming GW's university librarian and vice provost for libraries took a couple of right angles: A political science major, she was working toward a doctorate in political science when a required computer programming course opened up a career-defining passion. That led to a successful career in industry before her move to academia. "I didn't have your traditional trajectory to this position," Ms. Henry says. Now she's using her knowledge of complex information systems to make GW's libraries as powerful as she knows they can be.*

### **What role should libraries and librarians play in academia today?**

It's all about service. We're here to facilitate research. Before the Internet, if you wanted scholarly information you had to come into the library. Librarians knew how to find information you couldn't find on your own.

Today people don't need to come into the library to get the information, which means having librarians stay in the library is a bad model. Searching online for information can be overwhelming; librarians know how to sift intelligently through that. So what we need now is to be proactive in engaging with researchers, faculty, and students. With the right skills, librarians can be an integral part of your research team. They can help you pull together a data management plan and help you think about curation and long-term preservation.

The other unique aspect of libraries is

special collections. Because there is so much available online, the 21st-century library will be distinguished by its unique materials—what we have that nobody else has. That's what's going to bring in the scholars.

### **What are some of those resources here?**

We have a really strong collection in labor history: the International Brotherhood of Teamsters archives and the National Educational Association archives. We have the Kiev Judaica collection, which is one of the strongest Judaica collections in the country. Of course there's the University Archives. And we have a huge collection of Washingtoniana, including materials from poet laureates—some pretty incredible stuff.

I want to position GW as a hub of information. One way to do that is to work with other institutions. Scholars of Washingtonia, for instance, shouldn't have to say, "OK, I have to go to Howard for this, to GW for this, to the Martin Luther King Library for this" while doing research. We should present a unified face for the end user—not giving our collections away to each other, but facilitating their use. We should be building communities of scholars.

### **How can libraries better connect with students and researchers?**

That is a challenge. We need to understand what our users need, what it is they're interested in, and how we can provide more of that. For instance, we're trying to do more

with multimedia—we have a lot of expertise, especially if we collaborate with Academic Technologies and the Division of IT. So we should be surveying our faculty and students, giving them a menu of software platforms and other things we could provide training for, and find out what they're interested in.

I'm a data-driven person. Let's not just make good guesses: Let's find out exactly what our users want. We can't give them everything, but there are things we can do. And if we have choices, let's do those things.

### **How can libraries help students in the job market?**

I go back to multimedia. When GW students are going to job interviews they may be up against candidates who can talk about nontraditional ways of communicating, like using video and other technologies. With staffing and training, we can use our multimedia lab to give GW students that same advantage. We can expose them to data visualization and geographic information systems so they can create their own map-based visualizations. We can help them work with data sets. Those things haven't been incorporated into the curriculum yet, so the library has a big role to play there.

Also, I hope, we can teach students how to be inquisitive. It's not just a matter of doing a Google search; we can teach them how to do a more intelligent query, to think more deeply about how to craft the point they want to make. Those are lifetime skills.

### **What is your vision of the library of the future?**

Really, the library of the future—the library of today—is the No. 1 interdisciplinary crossroads on campus. So it should be an interactive environment. We should have shared labs and simulators where the English faculty and the engineering faculty could work shoulder to shoulder. Things like visualization are as applicable in arts and humanities as they are in the sciences, and the libraries are the natural place for disciplines to meet.

We can also provide preservation environments for the research our scholars are doing: We can safeguard their publications and their data sets and the simulations they create, and migrate them over time so they remain available.

Fundamentally, it is still about preservation of the human record. That's what libraries do. And in the 21st century, into the future, that requires understanding technology. —**Ruth Steinhardt**



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# A Force of Change



## Bias Discussion Continues At Student Life Meeting

DISCUSSION ON THE Human Relations Act, an act to endorse non-discrimination in campus organizations, continues today at the Student Life meeting at 4 p.m.

During a two hour session on Monday, the Committee discussed items of its judicial priority by recommending the formation of a Supreme Court of Student Appeals. The Court would be composed of six students, four faculty members and two administrators.

At yesterday's meeting, Inter-Fraternity Council President Kenny Markison presented an alternate proposal drawn up by the IFC. Its basic difference from Alan Nag's Human Relations Act (see story, p. 10) lies in that it prohibits fraternities and sororities to be accused of racial discrimination, allows for more appeals to such cases, and recognizes the IFC, the Public Relations Council, and the Student Council as users of original jurisdiction.

The Human Relations Act makes Student Life or its successor, the Supreme Court of Student Appeals, as the court of original jurisdiction.

...THE HATCHET, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 1968

## SC Recommendation Cites Greek Race Discrimination

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION in selection practices of student organizations, including those affiliated with national groups, was target of a recommendation issued at the Jan. 10 meeting of the Student Life Council, and sent to the Student Life Committee.

The recommendation was aimed specifically at fraternities and sororities, the motion proposed by Strong Hall representative Tova Indritz.

Since a student referendum in 1964, the fraternities and sororities have been required submit activities annually to the Student Activities Office, citing nondiscriminatory practices. However there is no word of the affidavits on file in the Student Activities Office. Indritz commented that since the Greeks had failed comply with the request to activities, they should be fined to cover up doubts among students concerning their entry policies.

Peggy Cooper, a senior at GW, a Negro testified that she discriminated against because of race when going through

## Greek Community, Student Life Debate Discrimination Issue

by Eva Cohen and Alan Waters

ACTIONS OF THE past week have challenged the status, and future, of the Greek system at GW.

Monday—Alan Markison presented the proposed "Human Relations Act" (see p. 10) to Publications Council. They responded, according to Maria Simpson, president of Publications, by establishing a "sub-committee to examine the Human Relations Act" and to recommend systems to use if they could be used in a discriminatory manner.

Tuesday—The Inter-Fraternity Council, in a recent all-night meeting, voted unanimously to support the intent of the plan, but on the condition that the proposal be sent back for their final approval before being "passed into law" by President Elliott.

Wednesday—The Student Life Committee met at 12:30 p.m. and discussed the proposed "Human Relations Act" and the IFC's court of original jurisdiction—all cases of discrimination. Further discussion implied that all campus organizations, regardless of total membership, will have University recognition if, after their own national convention, the group's national policy has a racial clause (see story, pp. 1-2).

President Elliott met with General Alumni Association President, Rev. Judge L.J. Doherty and evening in District, President Elliott later related, "the concern of the alumni" towards the action of IFC. An emergency meeting of the Inter-Fraternity Council was called at the IFC house. According to Ken Markison, IFC president, "there was a considerable amount of feeling of this meeting that the school was trying to destroy the inter-fraternity system in fact, it is in point, he wanted to establish the

## Administration, CWS Meeting Narrows Chasm

EVERYONE involved expressed optimism about the results of a meeting held last week between GW officials and the Concerned White Students. The meeting was a result of the recent march to the Hill led by the CWS.

William Smith, vice-president for student affairs, University Treasurer John Conley, and Personnel Director Curtis Davis, were among the administration

When Peggy Cooper Cafritz, BA '68, JD '71, arrived at the university 50 years ago this fall, in 1964, she almost immediately set to work pushing against old obstacles and laying the groundwork for the future: Just days into her freshman year, the Mobile, Ala.-native was leading the fight on campus against racial discrimination by sororities.

Ms. Cafritz—an Emmy and Peabody award-winning documentarian and an advocate for the arts and education, including as a former president of the D.C. Board of Education—was among a small group of African Americans attending GW at the height of the civil rights movement. "There were very few of us," she recalled at GW's 2011 Commencement, where she was awarded an honorary degree, "and it could be a lonely existence."

Though the fight against discrimination would last well into until her senior year, Ms. Cafritz's passion for activism never waned at GW. She helped found the Black Student Union and advocated for the engagement of inner-city children in the arts as a way of transcending their socioeconomic situations.

To that end, she organized a Black Arts and Entertainment Festival on campus in 1968. And that summer Ms. Cafritz and the late dancer and choreographer Mike Malone launched a grant-funded Summer Workshop for Careers in the Arts. The program, which had the support of then-President Lloyd Elliott and was held in GW buildings, provided arts training for dozens of students, black and white. It was such a success that, in 1974, it blossomed into a D.C. high school: the Duke Ellington School for the Arts, which has a lasting relationship with the university.

Ms. Cafritz, speaking to graduates in 2011, said that she arrived "as a very angry, young black woman" amid tumultuous times locally and nationally. But, she said: "I left George Washington as a woman who had transformed from black to African American, I am sure, and I was not so angry anymore, because I saw how my energies could be directed, through institutional help, to create and change and give opportunities to others."

— Bergis Jules

For more bits of GW history, follow @GWUArchives on Twitter and visit [go.gwu.edu/archives](http://go.gwu.edu/archives).

COURTESY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

ABOVE Kids dance at the arts festival; RIGHT Ms. Cafritz testifies at a 1968 Student Council meeting



SPACES

# Room to Reflect

When it comes to GW and to Washington, D.C., President Steven Knapp's office stands at the center of the action. The Washington Monument pokes through the cityscape beyond his floor-to-ceiling windows, which also offer a front-row view of campus development in bloom: Across the street, a mixed-use residence hall/retail space is rising, and, just down Eye Street, work is concluding on the new Science and Engineering Hall. Inside his sunny, book-lined office are the accumulated ephemera of his seven-year tenure at GW's helm, including gifts and memorabilia from students, colleagues, and partner organizations all over the world. — Ruth Steinhardt



*Dr. Knapp's standing desk can be adjusted to and from a seated position by a switch underneath. GW Facilities Services custom built the desk's top to match the surrounding desk space for a seamless fit when lowered. He was curious to try a standing desk after reading about the health benefits—suffice it to say, the entire faculty of GW's Milken Institute School of Public Health now uses them—and had it installed last year. So far, Dr. Knapp reports, he's enjoying the new setup. (His forlorn desk chair looks on in the background.)*



“Everything goes as bright as daylight,” he remembers of the 1995 shuttle launch (pictured at left) that took the Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope (pictured at right) into orbit, which Dr. Knapp attended as provost of Johns Hopkins University. “It takes a few seconds for the sound to arrive. It’s completely silent and then everything starts vibrating like crazy. I’ve never seen anything quite as impressive.”



This replica of the Bible used during George Washington's swearing-in as president was presented to Dr. Knapp at his own inauguration. The original, owned by Freemasons in New York City, was brought down with an honor guard for the occasion. “I wasn’t presumptuous enough to actually swear on it,” he says, “but they had it displayed, and they gave me this replica as a souvenir.”

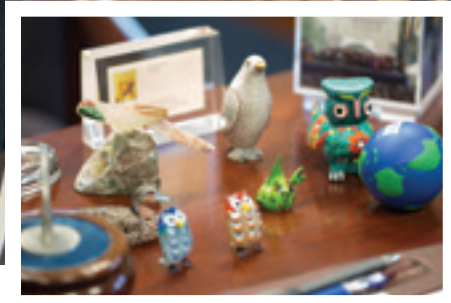


One side of Dr. Knapp's office is lined with books, many of which date from his days as a graduate student and as a professor of English literature. The collection, though, extends beyond English into other languages he's studied, including Latin, Spanish, French, German, and Russian.

On Dr. Knapp's desk, a glass-topped box displays dozens of pins from various events and initiatives: friendship flag pins from Canada and Kuwait, Teamsters and Autism Speaks logos, and many more. The collection "is far from exhaustive," he says—he has a drawer overflowing with more at his home.



Among the commemorative shovels from a host of groundbreakings there is a small sledgehammer, used to take the first whacks on the parking garage that stood on the site of the new Science and Engineering Hall.



Most of these figurines were given to Dr. Knapp by members of his family, testament to his interest (amateur, he stresses) in birds and bird-watching. He became interested during time spent on his sheep farm in Maryland.



A percussionist—who since arriving at GW has shared the stage with Earth, Wind & Fire, the late local icon and “godfather of go-go” Chuck Brown, and GW students—Dr. Knapp received the bongos as a gift from his office staff. Does he ever play them in the office? “I do! I think they have a cathartic effect.”



SHOWCASING NEW BOOKS BY GW PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI

# BOOKSHELVES



## Bones of Contention

**“If you are reading this letter,” forensic pathologist Samantha Owens reads in the beginning of *When Shadows Fall*, by bestselling author J.T. Ellison, MA ’94, “I am dead and I would be most grateful if you could solve my murder.” Parsing the clues to the crime proves a descent down a distinctly D.C.-flavored rabbit hole.**

/ By Menachem Wecker /

### *When Shadows Fall* (Harlequin, 2014)

**J.T. Ellison**

This gripping whodunit—the third in a series about the fictional medical examiner Samantha Owens—finds *New York Times* bestselling author J.T. Ellison, MA ’94, exploring familiar turf: Georgetown



and northern Virginia. It’s a novel that so carefully blends facts and meticulous research with invented characters and plot that it nearly has an air of creative nonfiction.

The author, who met her husband, Randy Ellison, MA ’94, at GW, went to high school in McLean and spent a lot of time in Georgetown before college. “All my old haunts are making their way into the books,” she says. Georgetown restaurants The Tombs and Chadwicks make appearances in *When Shadows Fall*; in the series’ second book, *Edge of Black*, there’s an attack on the Foggy Bottom Metro station, and Dr. Owens teaches a course at GW.

The new book catches up with Dr. Owens as she attempts to settle into a new job launching a forensic pathology program at Georgetown University, having left the world of law enforcement. (She would have landed at GW, Ms. Ellison says, “but there is already an established forensic program [at GW], and for the sanctity of the story, I wanted her to be breaking new ground.”)

Without divulging too much, Dr. Owens and some colorful characters confront a good deal of danger as they try to infiltrate an evil cult. As one would expect from a mystery set in the District, there is an ever-mounting body count, a law firm with questionable ethics, and tension between local and federal law enforcement. All of that is met with beautiful descriptions of characters and of the unique urban-rural symbiosis one finds in the D.C. metropolitan area.

A funeral home, for example, is “housed in an antebellum mansion worthy of its own sound stage in Hollywood as a depiction of Tara” from *Gone With the Wind*. The FBI headquarters has a “brutish, dirty cream concrete edifice.” And a doctor is “very tall and much too thin, slightly stooped over, the physique of a praying mantis.”

Descriptions of autopsies, even, are similarly poetic—such as when a corpse’s breastplate makes “little crunching noises



that echoed in the quiet space.”

If the Nashville, Tenn.-based author seems to have a firm grasp of the subjects she explores in the book, it's no accident. Ms. Ellison worked at the White House and Commerce Department as a presidential appointee, then in the private sector with defense and aerospace contractors, before focusing on her “hidden passions,” forensics and crime.

And that has required a kind of continuing education. To research the series, she has gone on ride-alongs with homicide investigators, talked with FBI agents, observed autopsies, and studied survivalists. All that legwork, she says, is at the core of writing realistic crime fiction.

“I can spend a week learning something, and only a sentence-worth of knowledge will make it into the book,” she says. “I get a PhD every book I write.”



**Collaborative Colonialism: The Political Economy of Oil in the Persian Gulf**

(Palgrave Macmillan, 2013)

**Hossein Askari**

Oil and the Middle East may seem inextricably entwined, but Hossein Askari, Iran Professor of International Business and International Affairs, who has taught at GW since 1982, tries to imagine a Persian Gulf without it. “Would the Gulf region have been better off if oil had never been discovered?” asks

Robert Looney, a professor of national security affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School, in the foreword. The book, he writes, “leaves no doubt that oil’s corrosive effects ... have been a blight on the region.” Dr. Askari, who grew up in Tehran, credits oil with playing a role in “most of the significant developments” in the region over the past 75 years, including “inefficient institutions, the absence of the rule of law, corruption, economic failure, wars and conflicts, foreign interference, [and] foreign relations.” Among the book’s insights, nonexperts might be surprised to learn that types of crude oil are not created equal, and that the Persian Gulf was deeply poor before oil was struck. Looking ahead: “Oil revenues will decline and current economic policies will become unsustainable,” he writes. “The time is now for the United States to stop thinking about short-run benefits and take a good look at the long-run catastrophes that could unfold.”



**Religion, Politics, and Polarization: How Religiopolitical Conflict Is Changing Congress and American Democracy**

(Rowman & Littlefield, 2013)

**William D’Antonio, Steven**

**Tuch, and Josiah Baker**  
Despite the separation of church and state, it’s no secret that religious groups of every

stripe have cultivated allies in Washington. By studying roll calls from congressional votes from 1969 to 2010 on topics ranging from abortion to welfare spending, Steven Tuch, professor of sociology and of public policy and public administration at GW, and his co-authors find that party affiliation increasingly suggests a religious agenda as well. And, they observe, “Unfortunately, at present, there seem to be few values and beliefs that are shared across parties.”



**Every Rock a Universe: The Yellow Mountains and Chinese Travel Writing**

(Floating World, 2013)

**Jonathan Chaves**

Professor of Chinese Jonathan Chaves first fell in love with the Yellow Mountains of eastern China from the paintings of 17th-century artist Hongren. In his new book, Dr. Chaves provides the first English translation of the travel writings of writer and calligrapher Wang Hongdu (1646-1721/22), who pursued every peak in the range. Funding from GW’s Sigur Center for Asian Studies helped Dr. Chaves travel in 2011 to the Yellow Mountains, which, he writes, “exhibit some of the most spectacular scenery in China.” Despite that, the mountain range was rarely visited until its beauty and religious and cultural appeal made it a favorite pilgrimage destination in the

17th century. Wang Hongdu’s text, which was only printed in 1775—some 80 years after it was composed—contains gems (in Dr. Chaves’ translation) like this: “I have heard from those who have grown old living in these mountains that the clouds actually have *homes*. They come from a particular mountain, and will inevitably return to that same mountain!”



**Citizenship and the Origins of Women's History in the United States**

(University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013)

**Teresa Anne Murphy**

Competing ideas of women’s citizenship, which extends beyond legal rights to “broader terms of inclusion in society, the economy, and government,” evolved between the late 18th century and the Civil War, writes Teresa Anne Murphy, an associate professor of American studies, in this book. Those contentious formulations of women’s citizenship, she writes, shaped the ways in which women’s history has been constructed. “Earlier histories that criticized the economic practices, intellectual abilities, and political behavior of women in the past created a narrative of exclusion that legitimated the differentiated citizenship considered suitable for women,” she writes. “Women’s history was, necessarily, a history of nations.”

**FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT Danil Zelenkov, Viktor Svensson, Francisco Dias, Julius Tverijonas, and Azan Piperno;**  
**BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT Ulrik Thomsen and Nikita Fomin.**







## Net Gains

The No. 53-ranked George Washington men's tennis team finished the spring season in May as one of the best squads in program history, as the team won its third Atlantic 10 title in four years and gave No. 28 South Carolina nearly all it could handle at the NCAA team tournament.

After a slow start, the season pivoted on a 3-0 weekend at the end of February, in which then-unranked GW knocked off No. 70 Charlotte, No. 60 UNC Wilmington, and East Carolina to catapult the Colonials into the national team rankings and give head coach Greg Munoz his 100th career victory. The team went on to earn the No. 1 seed in the 2014 Atlantic 10 Championship and downed league rival VCU in the championship match to advance to the NCAA Team Championship.

The team's first-round tournament loss to South Carolina wasn't without a bitter fight: two sets were decided in extra games and three were decided in tiebreakers. In the end, the Colonials wrapped the season with an overall record of 17-7.

Competing in the final match of his career at the tournament, senior Nikita Fomin earned the program's first-ever NCAA point with a straight-set victory at the No. 2 singles position. And the Colonials' top doubles tandem of junior Francisco Dias and freshman Julius Tverijonas maintained a national ranking throughout the year, capping the season as the No. 83 duo in the country.

There also was a slew of A-10 honors. Each member of the GW lineup won a year-end award from the Atlantic 10, and the Colonials' eight postseason honors were the most for any team in the conference.

Mr. Dias was named the A-10 Most Outstanding Performer for a second time, and Mr. Munoz was tabbed Coach of the Year for the third time in four years. Additionally, Mr. Dias, Mr. Fomin, sophomore Danil Zelenkov, and Mr. Tverijonas were named to the all-conference first team, seniors Viktor Svensson and Ulrik Thomsen earned a spot on the second team, and Mr. Thomsen and Mr. Zelenkov were also named to the all-academic team.



"I'll always be proud of our guys for what they were able to accomplish," says head coach Mike Lonergan of the team, pictured above at the NCAA Tournament.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

## Stellar Year Raises Bar for Colonials

Expectations were modest for the men's basketball team as it entered the 2013-14 season. Around Foggy Bottom, it was believed that the Colonials would be better than last year's 13-17 record and the 10th place prediction in the Atlantic 10 preseason poll. But little did anyone know that GW would enjoy one of the best seasons in school history.

GW posted a 24-9 record to match the second-most victories in the program's 100 seasons and earned an at-large bid to the

2014 NCAA Tournament, its 11th all-time appearance in college basketball's premier event.

The 11-win improvement from the previous season tied for the eighth-best turnaround among 353 NCAA Division I teams in 2013-14 and helped third-year head coach Mike Lonergan secure a contract extension through 2020-21.

"I thought we had a great season," says Mr. Lonergan. "I'll always be proud of our guys for what they were able to accomplish for themselves, our program, the university, alumni, and fans. We reached our goal of making the NCAA Tournament and finished in third place in what was a really strong A-10. Nobody can take either of those things away from us."

It was fitting that, as the

team celebrated its past and present this season, the Colonials were led by a mix of motivated veterans and talented underclassmen.

Graduate student Maurice Creek and senior Isaiah Armwood keyed the revival in Foggy Bottom after both sought GW to redeem their college basketball careers. Mr. Creek, who persevered through a series of setbacks during four years at Indiana, proved to be the perimeter spark the Colonials needed, averaging a team-best 14.1 points and connecting on 80 three-pointers, the second-most in one season in program history, to earn third team all-Atlantic 10 honors.

Mr. Armwood, a local product who returned home from Villanova three years ago, leaves

GW as one of just two players in school history to record at least 500 points, 500 rebounds, 100 blocks, 100 assists, and 50 steals in his GW career. Mr. Armwood was a second team all-Atlantic 10 and A-10 all-defensive team pick after averaging 12.7 points and a team-best 8.4 rebounds and 1.5 blocks in his final collegiate season.

As much as GW's success in 2013-14 can be attributed to Mr. Creek and Mr. Armwood, it can also be linked to a quartet of student-athletes who blossomed in their sophomore seasons: Patricio Garino, Kevin Larsen, Joe McDonald, and Kethan Savage. All four saw significant scoring spikes, highlighted by Mr. Savage, who went from 3.1 points per game as a freshman to 12.7 before his sophomore year



was cut short in January by a broken foot.

Mr. Garino and Mr. Larsen picked up the slack in his absence, as Mr. Garino earned second team all-Atlantic 10 and A-10 all-defensive team honors, while Mr. Larsen was chosen the A-10's Most Improved Player. Mr. McDonald was one of the league's most productive point guards despite battling a painful hip injury throughout the season which required offseason surgery.

While victories over NCAA Tournament teams Creighton, Manhattan, Massachusetts, St. Joseph's, and VCU will serve as benchmarks for a program on the rise, there remains one game that will serve as motivation for the Colonials heading into summer workouts and a 2014-15 season in which expectations will certainly be elevated.

"I wish we would have played better against Memphis in the NCAA Tournament, but I think it's something to really build on in the future," says Mr. Lonergan. "We don't want to just get there, we want to advance. I think our guys can really taste it and they know it's going to take a lot of hard work, but it's definitely possible to get back to that point and further."

#### OLYMPIANS

## After Sochi, Wedding Bells and a Rugby Bid

Elana Meyers Taylor has had a busy year.

After opening 2014 in Europe for the last four races of the Women's Bobsled World Cup, it was on to Sochi, Russia, for her second Winter Olympic Games. Driving the United States' top sled, the 2010 bronze medalist upgraded her hardware with

### "I'M ALL ABOUT LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST. THIS WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT."

a silver medal, finishing just fractions of a second behind the Canada-1 sled, to become the first U.S. female bobsled athlete to win two Olympic medals.

"Sochi was amazing," says Ms. Meyers Taylor, BS '07, MTA '11, a former standout on the Colonials softball team. "To be able to compete for my country in another Olympics was a dream come true."

Following the Olympics, and with a late-April wedding on the horizon, she returned for just a week before heading to Chula Vista, Calif.—to train with the U.S. rugby team. Despite never having played the sport, Ms. Meyers Taylor, who is the daughter of a former NFL running back, won a spot in a pool of athletes who are eligible to compete for the national team.

Ms. Meyers Taylor played in her first tournament in China in early April, just over a month after returning from Sochi, and if all goes well she will be going after her third Olympic medal

in Rio de Janeiro at the 2016 Summer Games.

"I'm all about living life to the fullest," Ms. Meyers Taylor told *TeamUSA.org*. "This was an opportunity to do something different."

She is no stranger to trying new sports. After five years on the softball team at GW, where she graduated as arguably the best player in program history, she struggled in a tryout for the 2008 national team, and then softball was dropped from the 2012 Olympic program. So she turned her focus to bobsled as the means of achieving her Olympic dream and became the first former GW student-athlete to win an Olympic medal when she took bronze in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Later in April she was back East to marry fellow bobsledder Nic Taylor at her parents' home in suburban Atlanta. And just days later, she was in D.C., at her old stomping grounds on GW's Mount Vernon Campus, where her No. 24 softball jersey was retired prior to the Colonials' final home game against Dayton.

Inducted into the GW Athletic Hall of Fame in February, Ms. Meyers Taylor was a two-time Atlantic 10 Student-Athlete of

the Year for softball and College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American, as well as a first-team all-conference selection in 2006 and 2007.

"Words cannot describe what that meant to me," says Ms. Meyers Taylor, who became the softball program's first recruit in 2002. "I came to GW with the goal of building a softball program, and with the athletes and coaches we have today, I believe that me and my teammates on that first team played a part in this. To have my jersey retired means the world to me because it meant so much to me to be a part of the GW softball family."

#### WOMEN'S SQUASH

## Climbing Into National Prominence

When sophomore Eunice Tan won the final point to clinch a 5-4 comeback victory over Columbia on February 23 at the College Squash Association Team Nationals at Princeton



Olympian and former GW softball star Elana Meyers Taylor returned for the retiring of her No. 24 softball jersey.



The women's squash team concluded the season with its highest ranking in program history: No. 9 in the nation.

University, it did more than just secure the George Washington women's squash team's first ever Kurtz Cup (B-Division) Championship. The win also marked GW's arrival into the elite level of collegiate squash, just 13 years into its run as a varsity program.

The A-Division—teams ranked first through eighth in the CSA—is normally filled with Ivy League mainstays like Yale, Harvard, and Princeton, along with traditional powers like Trinity.

As of this year's title run, which included victories over two higher-ranked Ivy League opponents, GW women's squash has officially joined the conversation. The Colonials concluded the season with their highest ranking in program history: No. 9 in the nation.

"It is incredibly gratifying to be able to compete with and beat Ivy League programs," says head coach Wendy Lawrence. "The Ivy League schools have had a stronghold on the top-10 rankings, and with the exception of Columbia, have been varsity programs for 40 to 60 years. We

have only been a varsity program for 13 years, so we have come a long way in a short amount of time. Any time you can beat a team above you in the rankings it is great, but it is even sweeter when they are teams that have a rich history."

With new resources having allowed GW squash to attract high-level students and athletes to the university, Ms. Lawrence has brought elite international student-athletes to compete at

**"ANY TIME YOU CAN BEAT A TEAM ABOVE YOU IN THE RANKINGS IT IS GREAT, BUT IT IS EVEN SWEETER WHEN THEY ARE TEAMS THAT HAVE A RICH HISTORY."**

GW, including two-time College Squash Association All-American Anna Gabriela Porras of Bogota, Colombia. Ms. Porras is one of a number of international student-athletes within the squash program, joining athletes from Malaysia, Ireland, and Bermuda. Next season student-athletes from Jamaica and Ireland are slated to join the Colonials.

"What helps us recruit these international student-athletes is the fact that we are in Washington, D.C., which makes it a very attractive destination for these students," says Ms. Lawrence. "The university has a lot of international

students so it makes our players more comfortable being in a community that is more diverse than some of the schools that we compete with."

With additional international student-athletes, along with a heralded recruiting class of stateside players, the women's squash program is poised to continue its climb in the rankings with a goal of competing in the Howe Cup (A-Division) bracket at next season's nationals.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

## For Outgoing Stars, a Banner Year

When Danni Jackson and Megan Nipe decided to return to GW's women's basketball team for a fifth year while attending grad school, they had one goal: to hang a banner in the rafters at the Charles E. Smith Center. Twenty-three wins and a banner-worthy postseason appearance later, the duo wrote their legacy.

In just the second game of the season, GW defeated 10th-ranked California, a Final Four participant from the previous season, at the Smith Center. Ms. Nipe scored a career-high 31 points, garnering national attention from ESPN, and Ms. Jackson hit a clutch three-pointer with 3:11 remaining.

The win put GW women's

basketball back on the map, and four and a half months later, the Colonials found themselves the last Atlantic 10 team standing in the postseason as they advanced to the third round of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

The Colonials have come a long way in just two years under head coach Jonathan Tsipis, whose contract has been extended through the 2020-21 season.

In 2012-13, his first season at the helm, GW won a game at the Atlantic 10 championship for the first time since 2008 and posted its most overall and conference victories in five years. The Colonials took an even bigger step in 2013-14, tying for second place in the Atlantic 10 standings, advancing to the A-10 semifinals and earning a postseason bid for the first time since 2009.

They did so with a strong mix of veteran leaders and enthusiastic newcomers. Ms. Jackson and Ms. Nipe saved their best for last, and freshmen Hannah Schaible and Caira Washington burst onto the scene and earned multiple Atlantic 10 weekly honors. Then in December, amid a seasonlong eight-game winning streak, the Colonials received a new surge of talent and energy when 6-foot-4 sophomore transfer Jonquel Jones became eligible to compete.



**Danni Jackson**



Ms. Jones, who sat out a year after transferring to GW from Clemson last winter, immediately asserted herself as a force to be reckoned with down low and became one of the best post players in the Atlantic 10. The Bahamas native was the only player in the league to average a double-double on the year and earned all-conference second-team honors despite missing the first 10 games of the season.

Ms. Washington blossomed in the front court with Ms. Jones by her side. The freshman out of nearby Georgetown Day School went on to lead the A-10 in field goal percentage and offensive rebounding and became the first Colonial since 2005 to be named Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Year. She also earned all-conference third-team accolades.

Ms. Nipe was on fire to start the season, averaging 18.5 points per game through the first 11 games of the year, but on Dec. 26 she suffered what should have been a season-ending injury, tearing her ACL in practice. Knowing surgery would mean the end of her career, however, the grad student looked logic in the eye and missed just five games, coming off the bench to average 12.1 points per game over the final 18 contests and scoring the 1,000th point of her career.

Ms. Jackson, meanwhile, stepped up when her backcourt partner went down, averaging nearly 16 points per game in the five games without Ms. Nipe and finishing with a career-high 13.1 points and six assists per game on the season. The point guard ended the year with 204 assists, one shy of GW's single-season record, and will leave the program as just the second Colonial ever with 1,000 points and 500 assists in her career.

It was a mission accomplished for Ms. Jackson and Ms. Nipe, with the sought-after banner soon to be hung at the Smith Center as a tribute to five years of blood, sweat, and tears.



## EVENTS

# Pro Tennis Returns to Smith Center

The Washington Kastles announced the team will play its 2014 World TeamTennis season at GW's Charles E. Smith Center in July, which will feature tennis stars Venus Williams and Martina Hingis, and will bring professional tennis back to campus for the first time in more than two decades.

In six seasons, the Washington Kastles have rewritten the record books of Mylan World TeamTennis, claiming the King Trophy in 2009, 2011, 2012, and 2013, and setting a U.S. professional record with a 34-match winning streak. The team comes to Foggy Bottom after three seasons on D.C.'s southwest waterfront, where nearly every home match was a sold-out event.

"The George Washington University and the Charles E. Smith Center have hosted some of the world's foremost experts, leaders, and luminaries in a multitude of professions, including politics, arts, sports, and entertainment," says

Director of Athletics and Recreation Patrick Nero. "With the Washington Kastles set to play their professional team tennis season at the Smith Center this summer, we are adding to that proud history."

Ms. Hingis is expected to play in all seven of the Kastles' home matches, while Ms. Williams will headline the July 16 home date. They are expected to play doubles together when Washington hosts the Texas Wild.

"We consistently strive to create some of the greatest fan experiences in all of tennis and are thrilled to play for our fourth straight WTT championship in this state-of-the-art facility," says Kastles owner Mark Ein. "I know our Kastles fans will love not only the comfort and new amenities at the Smith Center but also the incredible intensity, energy, and excitement they will find this summer in our new home."

Before each home match, the Kastles will close off 22nd Street NW between F and G streets for an outdoor fan festival featuring QuickStart kids tennis courts, fastest-serve contests, music, mascots, and specials on food and drinks.

The season brings professional tennis back to the Smith Center for the first time

in nearly 25 years, since hosting the Virginia Slims of Washington women's event in 1990. Prior to that, it hosted the event from 1982 to 1986 and 1977 to 1979. The Smith Center also hosted the Volvo Classic men's event from 1976-1980.

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.

The Kastles will offer a wide range of fan features, including high-definition instant replays, animated baseline scoreboards, and hospitality areas in the Colonials and Champions clubs. Kastles cheerleaders will also entertain the crowd.

**Tickets are available through Ticketmaster, at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com) or 202-397-7328. Kastles Baseline Experience, Kastles Baseline Club, and all season tickets can be purchased by calling 202-4-TENNIS (483-6647) or visiting [WashingtonKastles.com](http://WashingtonKastles.com).**

# RESEARCH NEWS

**DISCOVERIES**

## Scientists Uncover Oldest Pterodactyl

An international research team has discovered the earliest and

most primitive pterodactyl—a group of flying reptiles that would go on to become the largest flying creatures ever known—and pushed back their emergence by 5 million years.

Working from a fossil discovered in northwest China, the team—led by University of South Florida paleontologist Brian Andres, James Clark of GW’s Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, and Xu

Xing of the Chinese Academy of Sciences—named the new pterosaur species *Kryptodrakon progenitor*, from the Latin *krypto* (hidden) and *drakon* (serpent), a reference to the movie *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, which was filmed near the place of the fossil’s discovery.

The team’s analysis, published in April in the journal *Current Biology*, determined the fossil to be the first of the broad group called pterosaurs to bear the characteristics of the subgroup Pterodactyloidea, which would become the dominant winged creatures of the prehistoric world. The findings indicate that these reptiles flew above the

Earth 163 million years ago.

Pterodactyls—which evolved into giant creatures, some as big as small planes—went extinct with the dinosaurs, about 66 million years ago. They are considered close relatives to the dinosaurs but are not dinosaurs themselves.

The small fossil is thought to have a wingspan of about four and a half feet. It was discovered in 2001 by Chris Sloan, formerly of *National Geographic* and now president of Science Visualization, in the Shishugou Formation of northwest China. The discovery took place on an expedition led by Dr. Xu and Dr. Clark, when Dr. Andres was a

The fragmented remains of the earliest pterodactyl, found in northwest China.

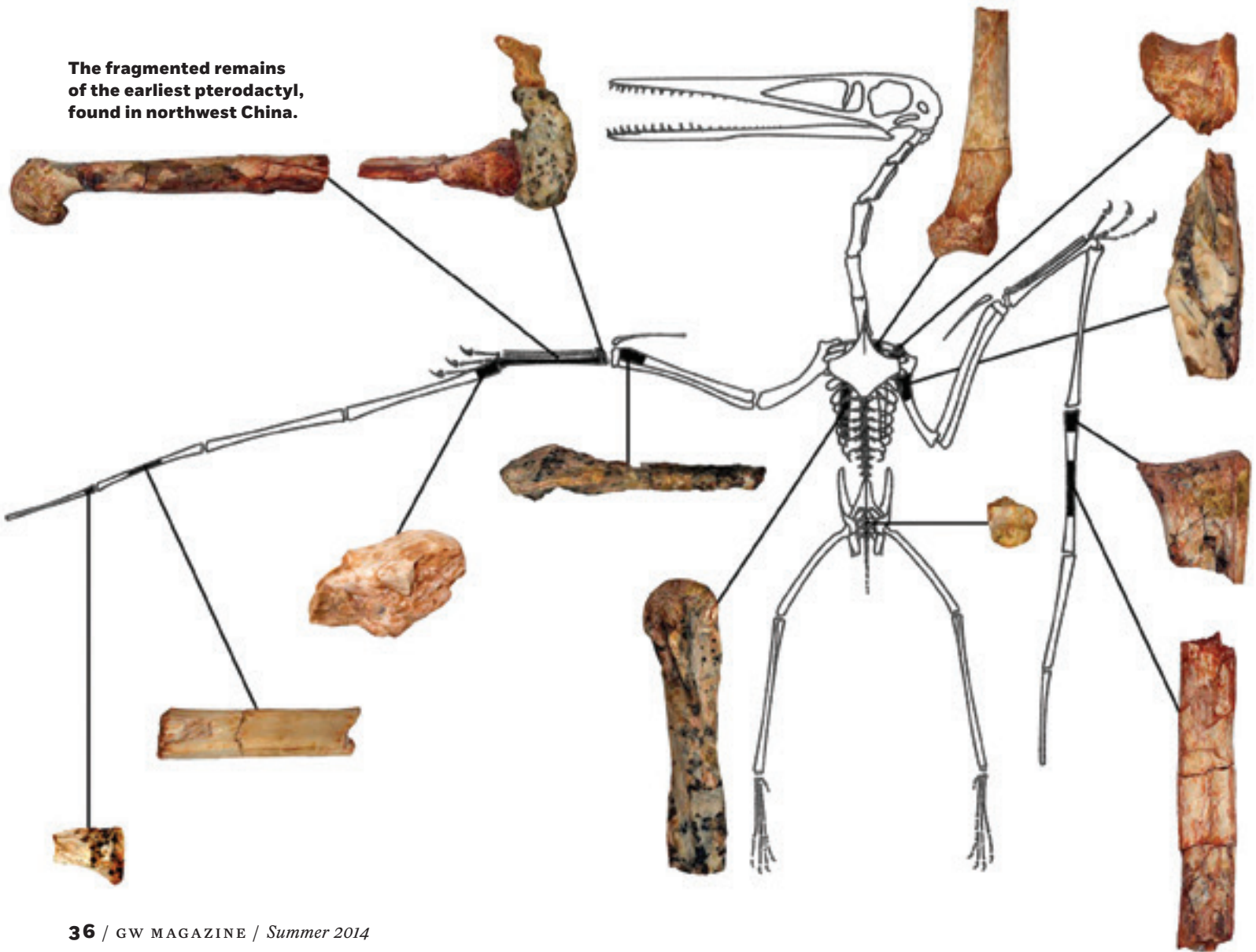


ILLUSTRATION BY BRIAN ANDRES / FRUIT. © IStock.com/ELENAGAAK / RONE. JESSICA MCCONELL BURT



graduate student at GW.

“Kryptodragon is the second pterosaur species we’ve discovered in the Shishugou Formation and deepens our understanding of this unusually diverse Jurassic ecosystem,” says Dr. Clark, the Ronald B. Weintraub Professor of Biology.

The discovery provides new information on the evolution of pterodactyls, Dr. Andres says. As the pterosaurs evolved, their wings changed from being narrow and more useful in marine environments to being more broad and helpful in navigating land environments.

The new species “fills in a very important gap in the history of pterosaurs,” Dr. Andres says. “With him, they could walk and fly in whole new ways.”

#### ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## For Top Biz Plan, a Taste of Success

A zero-calorie dietary supplement that could help cancer patients whose sense of taste has been altered by radiation and chemotherapy was awarded the top prize at this year’s GW Business Plan Competition.

The student-led team behind the supplement, Sensamir, won \$35,000 in funding at the competition in April. The winning proposal was presented

by the budding company’s CEO, fourth-year medical student Rehan Quadri, and Chief Marketing Officer Owais Khalid.

The funding was among a record \$130,000 in cash and in-kind prizes that more than 100 teams vied for across nine categories of competition. The prize pot for the annual event, hosted by the GW Office of Entrepreneurship, puts it among the top 10 university business plan competitions in the nation, says John Rollins, the contest’s director and co-founder.

The awards for “Best For-Profit Social Venture” and “Best Sustainable Technology” went to Pedal Forward, a sustainable bamboo bike company led by School of Medicine and Health Sciences senior Matt Wilkins. Formerly known as Panda Cycles, the idea started as commitment to action during the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative University conference.

“Social entrepreneurship is important because it provides a framework for businesses to find their own success while also in pursuit of helping others,” Mr. Wilkins says.

The prize for “Best Non-Profit Social Venture” went to Common Sense Action, a bipartisan cross-campus organization that seeks to mobilize college students for political action.

Software company BitGrid earned a second place prize and \$15,000 for a plan to create more efficient power grids. Third place and \$8,000 went to hyper-local social media messaging application Yapper, while Small Spacecraft Micropropulsion, a company that provides low-mass and low-power electric propulsion solutions for small satellites,

**The winning team, Sensamir, demonstrated its taste-enhancement supplement by giving the judges lemons to taste.**



**Doctoral student William Rone (right) explains his research project to Jim Chung, executive director of the Office of Entrepreneurship, during GW Research Days.**

won fourth place and \$5,000.

The “Older Adult Focused Innovation” prize, presented by AARP, went to DormGen, a company that helps senior citizens earn extra money by renting out their homes to students during their travels abroad.

Co-sponsors of the business plan competition included Annette and Richard Scott, Capital One, Luther King Capital Management, Blank Rome, LLP, the AARP Foundation, Deloitte, Brazen Careerist, WeWork, Affinity Lab, AdvantEdge, iStrategyLabs, In The Capital, and Event Rentals DC, as well as several GW schools and departments.

—Brittney Dunkins

#### RESEARCH DAYS

## Student Scholarship on Display

Inspired by the tails of lizards, cheetahs, monkeys, and dinosaurs, doctoral student William Rone is designing

a biomimetic tail that could address the shortcomings of legged robots.

“If you’ve ever watched a baby learn to walk, it’s not easy. So imagine trying to teach a piece of software how to walk, how to stay upright when one of its legs slips, or how to lean into a turn while running so it doesn’t fall over,” says Mr. Rone, a student in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

If he’s successful, the adaptable tail would stabilize a robot in response to external disturbances and enable movement at high speeds without having to change its leg motions—making such robots an ideal tool for search and rescue, reconnaissance, and other applications.

Mr. Rone was one of more than 430 students who presented original research in April during this year’s Research Days event. He tied for first place in the graduate student category, along with Rebecca Ella Biermann, a master’s student in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences who presented on the accuracy of 3-D modeling in archaeological applications.

The 19th annual, two-day event—hosted by the Office of

the Vice President for Research and the Office of the Provost—showcased research from the arts, business, education, engineering, humanities, law, sciences, and other topics on the first day, while the second day focused on research from the health and medical sciences.

Stephen C. Ehrmann, vice provost for teaching and learning, says the event not only gives students practice in scientific communications but also helps make the connection between learning in the classroom and real-world applications. It also serves to highlight research by undergraduates, which can go unnoticed, Mr. Ehrmann says. Twenty percent of undergraduates leave GW with some type of mentored research experience, he says—a number he expects will continue to grow.—**Kristin Hubing and Lauren Ingeno**

**FLUID DYNAMICS**

## Flying Snakes Soar With Aid of Whirlwinds

They slither, they sneak, they hiss, they ... fly?

Despite their wingless bodies, some snake species in the lowland tropical forests of Southeast and South Asia can glide—the animal kingdom’s only gliders to manage without appendages. They push off from tree branches, rotating their

**SPACE**

**“Almost daily, we get a picture of a star that is no longer. One of these days, that’s going to be the story of our star—the sun. We need to become a multiplanet species.”**

—**NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, speaking at GW in April during the three-day Humans to Mars summit. The event brought together top thinkers—including Buzz Aldrin and GW professors—to discuss the feasibility of reaching Mars in two decades.**

To read the full story, visit [go.gwu.edu/h2m](http://go.gwu.edu/h2m).

ribs to flatten their bodies and making side-to-side movements, soaring as far as 100 feet. One species is even known to turn in midair.

So how do they do it? Lorena Barba, an associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, led a team that built a two-dimensional computer model of a cross section of a snake in order to explore the fluid dynamics at work.

The study, conducted at Boston University and published online in March in the journal *Physics of Fluids*, confirms the findings of earlier physical experiments by team member Jake Socha, a biomechanics professor at Virginia Tech. But while that research suggested the snakes’ bodies generate quite a bit of lift, the computational study allowed the team to explore the forces behind it.

What they found was that small vortices, or whirlwinds, generated around the snake offer a boost in the form of upward suction. Next the team hopes

to construct a 3-D model to investigate why snakes wiggle in the air.

“It’s not wild to think that our understanding of the fluid mechanics of this particular shape could lead us to, for example, design a different type of airflow that is ideal for energy harvesting or a wind turbine—or who knows,” Dr. Barba says. “You find applications in unexpected places.”

—**Lauren Ingeno**

**BUSINESS**

## Project Aims to Simplify SEC Form

A team of eight graduate students from the GW School of Business will be researching the financial disclosure statements of nearly 50 *Fortune* 500 companies with an eye

toward improving clarity and readability, and will present its results to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in the fall.

The project is part of the Initiative on Rethinking Financial Disclosure, a partnership between the university’s Institute for Corporate Responsibility and the nonprofit Center for Audit Quality.

The students will be examining the SEC’s Form 10-K, the annual public financial reporting statement used by corporations. Viewing them from an investor’s perspective, the students will offer recommendations for making the reports more clear, concise, and comprehensive, Associate Director of the ICR John Forrer says.

The initiative was launched in May in response to a speech last year by SEC Chair Mary Jo White, in which she called for the 10-K to be streamlined so that it is more useful for investors.

—**Brittney Dunkins**



**Chrysopelea ornata, one species of flying snake**



# — 2014 GW Summer SEND-OFFS —

Don't miss this chance to start your GW community!



Graciously hosted by alumni and parents in cities across the globe, GW Summer Send-Offs provide students and their families the opportunity to meet various members of the GW community, including parents, students, alumni and administrators.

## Domestic Send-Offs

### Allentown, PA

Wednesday, July 23 • 7-9pm

Hosted by GW Parents Laurie Lesavoy & Buddy Lesavoy, GWSB BBA '80, MBA '82, LAW JD '87

### Atlanta, GA

Sunday, August 10 • 3-5pm

Hosted by GW Parents Carol Conchar & Tom Bills

### Baltimore, MD

Thursday, August 7 • 6:30 - 8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Nancy Frenkil & Steve Frenkil, CCAS BA '74

### Boston, MA

Wednesday, July 16 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Karen & Stuart Watson

### Chicago, IL

Wednesday, August 6 • 6-8pm

Hosted by Oscar David, CCAS BA '84

### Dallas, TX

Sunday, August 10 • 2-4pm

Hosted by GW Parents Julie & Sandy Doerge

### Delray Beach, FL

Wednesday, July 23 • 6-8pm

Hosted by GW Parents Barbara Kendall, GSEHD BA '84 & Richard Kendall

### Denver, CO

Tuesday, August 5 • 6-8pm

Hosted by GW Parents Stephanie & David Tryba

### Greenwich, CT

Wednesday, July 16 • 6-8pm

Hosted by GW Parents Amy Dana & Joe Profaci

### Houston, TX

Sunday, August 3 • 3-5pm

Hosted by Carrie Potter, GWSB BBA '99, MBA '01 and Alicia Raymond & Shawn Raymond, ESIA BA '94

### Kansas City, MO

Sunday, August 3 • 3:30-8:30pm

AT-Bones baseball game hosted by the GW Kansas City Alumni Network

### Long Island, NY (Syosset)

Sunday, July 20 • 4-6pm

Hosted by GW Parents Angela Somers & Tom di Galoma, GWSB MBA '85

### Los Angeles, CA

Sunday, July 20 • 3-5pm

Hosted by GW Parents Susan & Jon Berger

### Miami, FL

Thursday, July 24 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Sandra Couttenye & Luis Rojas

### Milwaukee, WI

Tuesday, August 5 • 6-8pm

Hosted by GW Parents Cathy & Eddie David

### New York, NY

Wednesday, July 30 • 6-7:30pm

Hosted by GW Parent Mario Grauso

### Northern NJ (Glen Ridge)

Tuesday, July 22 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by Anne Baum, CCAS BA '82 & Marty Baum, CCAS BA '82

### North Shore, MA (South Hamilton)

Saturday, July 19 • 12-3pm

Hosted by Joanne Holbrook Patton, MVC SD '48

### Orange County, CA

Sunday, August 10 • 2-4pm

Hosted by Jacki Cisneros & Gilbert Cisneros, CCAS BA '94

### Philadelphia, PA

Wednesday, July 23 • 6-8pm

Hosted by Anne Cutler, CCAS BA '81, Al Nadel, CCAS BS '71, LAW JD '76 & Jim Quinlan, CCAS BA '00

### San Antonio, TX

Date and time to be determined.

Hosted by Jim Eskin, ESIA BA '75

### San Francisco, CA

Saturday, August 2 • 2-4pm

Hosted by GW Parents Cyndi & Darren Weingard

### Seattle, WA

Sunday, July 20 • 4-6pm

Hosted by Emily Heston & Bill Heston, GWSB MBA '85

### St. Louis, MO

Wednesday, July 30 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Julie & Jeffrey Ramacciotti

### Washington, DC (Arlington)

Tuesday, July 29 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Maria Rosen & Doug Rosen, CCAS BA '80

### Westchester, NY

Tuesday, July 29 • 6:30-8:30pm

Hosted by GW Parents Stacy Hochberg & Jonathan Hochberg, GWSB BBA '85

# #gwsendoff

## International Send-Offs

Astana, Kazakhstan

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Athens, Greece

Bangalore, India

Beijing, China

Berlin, Germany

Bogota, Colombia

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dubai, UAE

Hong Kong

Istanbul, Turkey

Geneva, Switzerland

Guangzhou, China

Lima, Peru

London, United Kingdom

Mexico City, Mexico

Mumbai, India

Munich, Germany

New Delhi, India

Paris, France

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Seoul, South Korea

Shanghai, China

Shenzhen, China

Singapore

Taipei, Taiwan

Tokyo, Japan

To RSVP and for the most up-to-date Summer Send-Off information, visit [alumni.gwu.edu/sendoffs](http://alumni.gwu.edu/sendoffs).

# A HEALTHY INVESTMENT

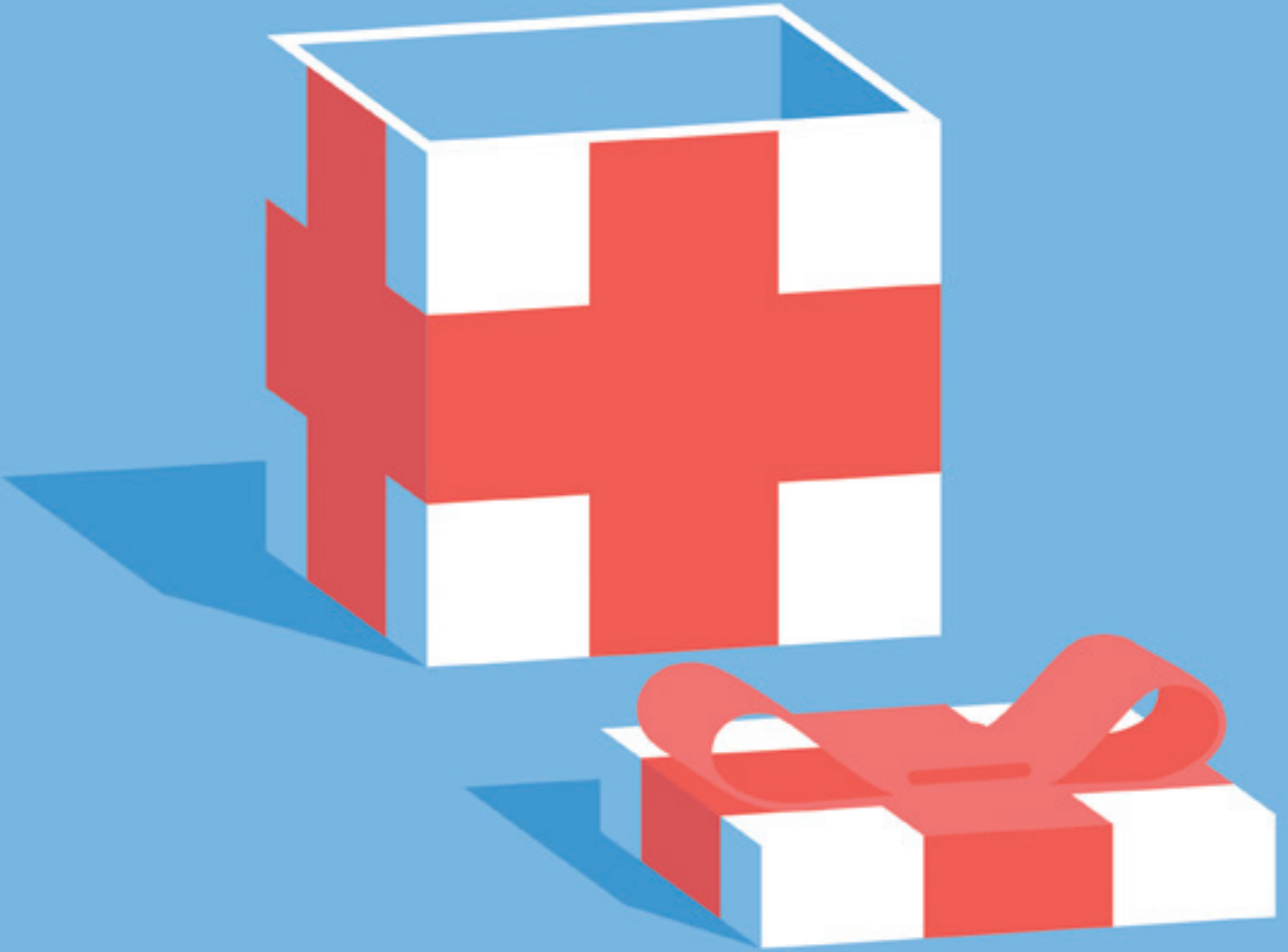
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If an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, what then is \$80 million of prevention-based funding worth? GW public health researchers, students, and the public at large are about to find out.

**/ BY AMANDA MACMILLAN /**







**T**he punch of modern medicine has evolved into a powerful, knockout blow, capable of curing cancer, eradicating disease, and managing what would otherwise be debilitating, lifelong conditions. But it's largely reactionary, delivering treatments after illness strikes—when costs, not to mention risk of complications, are sky high.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seven out of 10 deaths in the United States are related to chronic, preventable diseases. And yet, other figures show that only about 3 percent of our health care dollars are directed toward the kind of preventive care that might head off these problems before they arise.

Research in the health field traditionally has followed the same pattern, with funding often going toward finding cures or developing new drugs. The Milken Institute, a Santa Monica, Calif.-based nonprofit and nonpartisan think tank, is no stranger to this approach; over the years, it has funded many important initiatives focused on removing barriers to progress in medical research. But along the way, chairman Michael Milken and his fellow board members made an important decision: They wanted to dedicate some of their philanthropic endeavors to prevention—to affect the lives of children and adults around the world, before they have a chance to get sick.

“There are holy grails on either side of the barbell when it comes to health,” says Milken Institute President Paul Irving: “prevention and wellness on the one side,

and treatment and cures on the other side. And certainly, we can't ignore one side when it comes to things like heart disease, cancer, and Alzheimer's disease—especially when we know the prevention side, in the long run, is going to be the most effective way to spend our money and save lives.”

To achieve these kinds of goals, Mike Milken knew he needed to invest in people and programs with similar objectives, as well as the capacity to effect meaningful policy change. And so in March the Milken Institute, the Sumner M. Redstone Charitable Foundation, and the Milken Family Foundation announced three gifts totaling \$80 million, focused on the prevention of disease and the promotion of wellness, including funding for research, faculty support, and student scholarships. The recipient? GW's School of Public Health and Health Services, which, in recognition of the gifts, is now known as the Milken Institute School of Public Health.

## **CHAMPIONS FOR CHANGE**

The two businessmen made their fortunes in the finance and entertainment industries and have long been philanthropic. Mike Milken, a legendary financier, has directed his foundations' initiatives in such areas as job creation, international trade, and biodiversity, to name a few. Sumner Redstone, the chairman of Viacom and CBS, has supported public school education, literacy, the cinematic arts, and poverty prevention, both in the United States and around the world.

But both men have a longstanding passion for health issues, as well. From the beginning of his career in the early 1970s, Mike Milken has been advocating for, and

funding through his various charities, research for new cures. This accelerated with the establishment of the Milken Family Foundation in 1982. After he was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1993 and given just months to live, he was determined to find the best treatments possible. Now healthy and 68, his quest to improve cancer survival rates—and public health in general—still continues. The Milken Institute's Washington-based *FasterCures* center, for example, focuses on shortening the time to find new treatments for chronic disease. And its annual Partnership for Cures conference in New York brings together health leaders from around the world.

Sumner Redstone, who holds an honorary degree from GW, also is a prostate cancer survivor. After his own grim diagnosis, he turned to Mike Milken for treatment advice. He has since credited his recovery to cutting-edge research—along with a healthy lifestyle that, even now at age 91, includes daily exercise—and has used his own charitable foundation to support *FasterCures*, along with other health and medical institutions.

For their latest collaborative effort, their foundations have teamed up to provide GW with an unprecedented level of funding for the university: \$40 million from the Milken Institute to support new and ongoing research and training in public health; \$30 million from the Sumner M. Redstone Charitable Foundation to develop and advance innovative strategies to expand wellness and the prevention of chronic disease; and \$10 million from the Milken Family Foundation to name the school's leadership post the Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health. In addition to the school's renaming, GW has established the Sumner M. Redstone Global Center for

**“There are a lot of people who are financially very well-off and have the best medical care for themselves, but there are fewer who actually are passionate about health and wellness of the general population and want everyone else to have access to it, as well.”**

**—LYNN GOLDMAN, THE MICHAEL AND LORI MILKEN DEAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH**



SCAVONE PHOTOGRAPHY



Prevention and Wellness, an interdisciplinary center that will bring together and provide resources for new research at the school.

The school's dean, Lynn Goldman—an epidemiologist, pediatrician, and a former top official at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—has worked to establish GW collaborations with both these men. And she says that, more than the duo's personal health histories, she is impressed by their commitment to helping others.

"There are a lot of people who are financially very well-off and have the best medical care for themselves," she says, "but there are fewer who actually are passionate about health and wellness of the general population and want everyone else to have access to it, as well."

The world of public health has not always had donors knocking down the doors to contribute, Dr. Goldman adds.

"We're not like a medical school, where you have grateful patients who donate because you've cured them. What we have are nonpatients—those whose cancer was prevented or whose heart attack was prevented—but not many of those people recognize that fact," she says. "It's absolutely critical for our school that people in the philanthropic community have the foresight to realize that prevention will be the best return on their investment, and I'm hopeful that people are starting to come around to that point of view."

## **A WORTHY RECIPIENT**

As the only school of public health in the nation's capital, GW has a geographical advantage over other programs around the country—a selling point when the Milken Institute began considering recipients for its gift.

"It's blocks from the White House and the Hill and the most important health agencies in the world," says Paul Irving, the Milken Institute president, "and there is something about being able to walk down the street and have a face-to-face conversation with the people who are making laws and changing policies that you really can't compete with. Most GW faculty and students know this, of course, but I think it's probably a more powerful tool than most people appreciate."

Location wasn't the only reason that the two philanthropists chose GW as their beneficiary, though; they also were impressed with the school's ability to represent itself on the world stage.

For the past three years, GW researchers and professors have joined industry and government leaders at the Milken Institute's Global Conference, presenting on topics from nutrition to antibiotic resistance. In 2012, GW co-hosted the Milken Institute's

Celebration of Science, a three-day event that brought to campus leaders from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, as well as White House advisers, U.S. senators and representatives, Nobel laureates, and the heads of major charitable foundations. And in January, GW participated in the Summit on Public Health at the Atlanta headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an event co-sponsored by the Milken Institute and the CDC Foundation.

Over the past few years, Dr. Goldman says, the Milken Institute also has hosted Southern California alumni events for GW, and Mike Milken has been a guest speaker at GW public health-focused events in New York City and Washington, D.C.

"In a sense I think they were testing our ability to convene people, to reach out and bring together policymakers and scientists and industry leaders," she says. "And they saw that we were very successful at doing that. We can attract hundreds of alumni and enormous audiences, and they appreciated that we have the capacity to generate that kind of interest in an issue."


Paul Irving says that the institute's board members also were impressed with the school's history, as well as its trajectory under Dr. Goldman and GW President Steven Knapp. Established in 1997, the public health school brought together three programs from GW's highly regarded schools of medicine, business, and education. Today nearly 1,400 students from almost every U.S. state and more than 43 countries pursue undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees from the school, along with joint degrees with GW's law school, medical school, and Elliott School of International Affairs. The school also offers two online master's degrees—in public health and health administration—which allow students to take classes from anywhere in the world.

"GW is already an influential voice in public health policy, but we want to see it become even more so," he says. "We want to enable its students to have a first-rate education without some of the financial burdens they would have otherwise. And [we] want it to attract the best faculty members and the best researchers, and to give them increased resources and visibility so that they can excel."

## **CENTERED ON WELLNESS**

Within weeks of announcing its record-breaking gift, in fact, GW already was attracting esteemed new colleagues.

William Dietz, a former director at the CDC and senior adviser to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, was brought on to lead the new Sumner M. Redstone



**“There is something about being able to walk down the street and have a face-to-face conversation with the people who are making laws and changing policies that you really can't compete with.”**

**—PAUL IRVING, PRESIDENT OF THE MILKEN INSTITUTE**



# A HEALTHY HOME BASE

Along with taking a new name, the Milken Institute School of Public Health also moved into a long-planned new home on campus this year—a \$75 million, nine-story space with LEED Platinum environmental standards and loaded with health-conscious touches. Located on Washington Circle, next to GW Hospital and just blocks from the White House, the 115,000-square-foot building for the first time brings all seven of the school's departments under one roof.

“Previously, the faculty was scattered all over campus and even off campus in multiple buildings, and there was very limited opportunity for day-to-day interaction,” says Associate Dean of Research Kimberly Horn. “Now I think we’ll start to see much more interdepartmental conversation and overlap in research areas, which really is a critical part of successful public health policy.”

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony in May, Dean Lynn Goldman called the new building “a dream come true,” saying it gives the school a “magnificent opportunity” to train future public health leaders.

“Our students are the backbone of our mission,” she said. “... We’re leaving the next generations with a lot of serious problems to solve. And we also need to leave them with the knowledge and skills and capacity to be able to address those problems.”

Students already are taking advantage of the building's healthy design features: A glass-enclosed atrium shines natural light on informal meeting and study areas, and a central staircase encourages walking rather than using the elevators. To Loretta DiPietro, chair of the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, the new building represents the face of public health in Washington, D.C. “It is a model of movement and light and environmental stewardship, and I think it’s extraordinary,” she says.

Even individual workspaces are geared toward healthier habits. Each member of the faculty and staff can choose to work from a standing desk (which adjusts up and down to accommodate sitting, too). “I’m delighted to see how many people in the building are using them for at least part of the day—even people I never thought would do it,” Dr. DiPietro says. Each floor also has just one printer, which will encourage walking and, perhaps, second thoughts about the use of paper. And many of the 20 classrooms and lecture halls contain movable furniture, allowing students and professors flexibility to create their ideal work and discussion spaces.

The building's basement houses a yoga studio, exercise rooms, and fitness classrooms—including metabolic and body composition laboratories—for the exercise and nutrition sciences department. “We also have a huge space that we call the playroom that can be divided up into smaller segments, where our department hosts all of the undergraduate leisure time activities, like badminton, basketball, Afro-Brazilian aerobics, you name it,” says Dr. DiPietro. “Free yoga is held at noon every day, and at least three days a week one of the rooms has music playing for people to just go in and dance on their lunch hour.”

Locker rooms, showers, and bike racks also encourage active commuting and working out before or after classes.

Finally, a 228-seat auditorium, a state-of-the-art convening center, and several conference rooms equipped with webcasting technology make the school's new headquarters an impressive place for hosting conferences, speakers, and government and industry leaders.

“It’s a great time to be at GW,” Dr. DiPietro says. “There’s excitement and discovery everywhere you look.”



FROM LEFT GW Provost Steve Lerman, Dean Lynn Goldman, Mike Milken, Lori Milken, Diane Knapp, GW President Steven Knapp, and Nelson Carbonell, chair of GW's Board of Trustees, cut the ribbon at the opening of the Milken Institute School of Public Health building in May.



**“There are so many issues involved, from local legislation to housing to financial obstacles, and these all play a role in why people act the way they do. That’s an exciting challenge for us as public health professionals, to recognize that most disease is not just about biomedicine but it’s really about how people live their lives.”**

**— RAJIV RIMAL, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Global Center for Prevention and Wellness. Dr. Dietz, whose research has focused on obesity, will be an invaluable addition to the school, Dr. Goldman says. “We have some ongoing research regarding prevention and wellness, but to have a center that will bring that together in one place—and under the direction of a world-class leader in this area—will really take us to the next level,” she says.

One of Dr. Dietz’s primary goals for the Redstone Center is a focus on childhood obesity, especially in areas of the world where obesity and malnutrition are happening together. He’d also like to see the center contribute to research on tobacco prevention, physical activity initiatives, clean air and drinking water, and early childhood health education—all areas, he says, that will require multifaceted solutions.

“You can’t very well help someone change their diet or get children to be physically active if they don’t have the resources and the access to do so,” he says. “We need to focus on integrating clinical and community services, because these aren’t problems that can simply be solved in the doctor’s office alone.”

Professor Rajiv Rimal, chair of the Department of Prevention and Community Health, which will house the Redstone Center, agrees that lifestyle changes can be the key to preventing chronic illness—but that actually effecting those changes can be easier said than done.

“There are so many issues involved, from local legislation to housing to financial obstacles, and these all play a role in why people act the way they do,” he says. “That’s an exciting challenge for us as public health professionals, to recognize that most disease is not just about biomedicine but it’s really about how people live their lives.”

### **NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Although a large portion of the gift will be dedicated to the Redstone Center, Dr. Goldman says there’s not a single department within the school that won’t benefit from the donation. GW’s overall profile will continue to be elevated, she says, as its relationship with the Milken Institute deepens. (In April, for example, Dr. Goldman, Dr. Knapp, Dr. Dietz, and environmental health professor Lance Price all presented at the institute’s 2014 Global Conference.) The school also will launch a new master’s program in public health nutrition beginning this fall—something that’s been in the works for several years and finally will be unveiled with the help of these new resources.

Loretta DiPietro, chair of the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, says she’s looking forward to new research initiatives that focus on solutions for physical activity and nutrition issues, rather than on the problems themselves.

“The science is pretty straightforward: We know that people don’t move around enough and we know that the modern-day diet is horrific, and in that sense I’m not sure how much new information we can uncover,” she says. “But what we’re lacking tremendously is the policy approaches to changing those disparities in food access or engineering physical activity back into the day—who pays for it, how it’s done, what really works and what doesn’t. Those are the important questions.”

Dr. Rimal is optimistic that increased funding will allow the school not only to hire more faculty members but also to accept more students.

“Our doctoral pool is one of the most competitive in the country,” he says. “In departments like mine, we typically have

been able to admit four or five students out of 60 to 80 applicants. It will be a really important step if we’re able to fund more doctoral students in the future.”

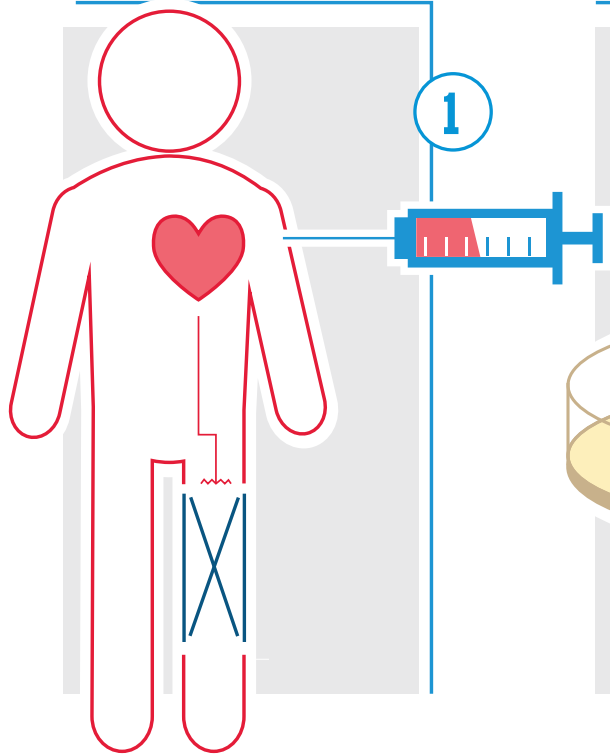
In fact, several Doctor of Public Health candidates will now receive full funding for their coursework each year, thanks to the newly created Michael and Lori Milken Public Health Scholarship program. Wendy Ellis is one of three incoming students in the first class of recipients, and she says the award already has had a profound impact on her.

“I knew I needed to be in D.C. and I wanted to be at GW—it was the obvious choice for the work I want to do with children’s health,” says Ms. Ellis, who moved East after completing her Master of Public Health at the University of Washington and accepting a job at a local pediatric hospital. Because the doctoral program was so small, however, she had to wait a year before she could even apply. “I had to sit on the sidelines, so during that time I met with every faculty member I could. That’s what really sold me on GW—meeting professors who really wanted to understand where I was coming from and students who were so genuinely excited about the program.”

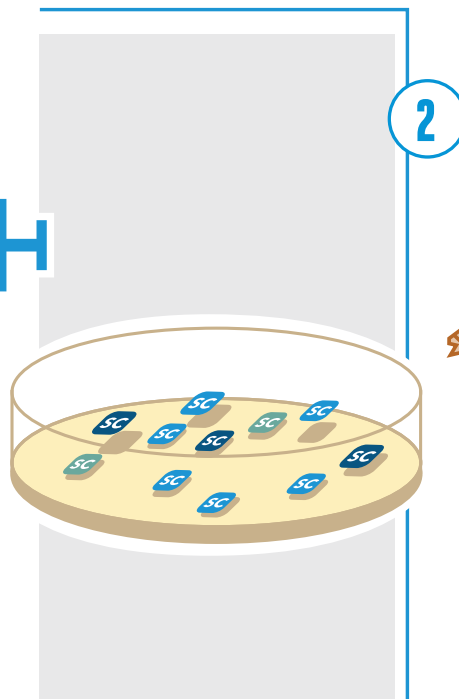
Still, when Ms. Ellis finally received her acceptance letter in March, with an offer for minimal funding, she knew she’d have to consider other schools. “I wasn’t quite sure I could afford to attend, as much as I wanted to be there.”

But before she could make her decision, she received a phone call from Dr. Goldman with the good news. “I was floored. To be at this point in the history of the school, when it’s poised to become such a national player in the public health field, is just such an incredible honor. I’m still pinching myself to make sure it’s all real.” ☐

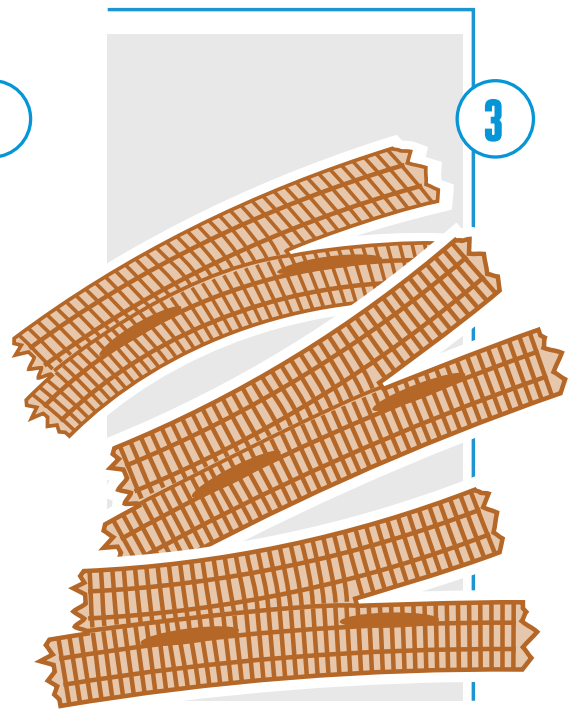
## HARVEST SKIN CELLS, BONE MARROW, FAT, AND BLOOD



## ISOLATE STEM CELLS



## PRODUCE CARDIAC MUSCLE CELLS



# A HEART IN THE RIGHT PLACE(S)

Narine Sarvazyan is engineering mini-hearts that can be put wherever the circulatory system could use an extra push.

/By Ruth Steinhardt/

Narine Sarvazyan and her team were trying to create universal-donor stem cells—cell transplants that the immune system would be less likely to reject—when something else caught her eye.

Observing a clump of cardiac muscle cells, called myocytes, she noticed that they were affecting blood flow in nearby vessels.

“I thought: Why not just use these cells and wrap them around [a vein] and make a little pump?” says Dr. Sarvazyan, a professor of pharmacology and physiology in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The pump, essentially, would be a miniature heart—the kind of extremely simple circulation-aiding organ of which some worms, for example, have several.

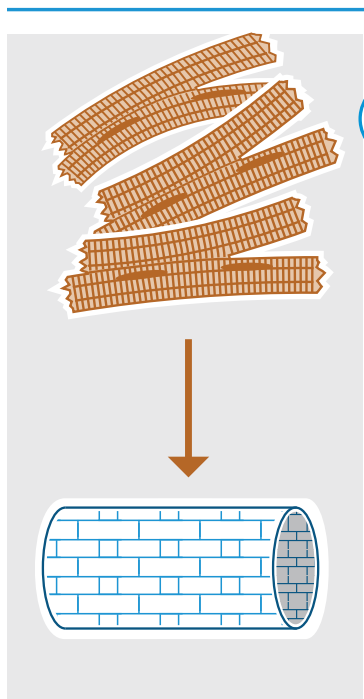
The human heart is usually sufficient to circulate blood through the body. In the lower extremities, the movement of skeletal muscles helps squeeze veins, and valves ensure that pressure pushes blood only one way—back to the heart.

As people age, however, those valves often lose their efficacy and become one cause of blood pooling in the venous system. That pooling of the blood, called chronic venous insufficiency, can lead to varicose veins—which affect an estimated 25 percent of adults—as well as edema, ulcers, infections, or even amputations.

According to an article by Dr. Sarvazyan,

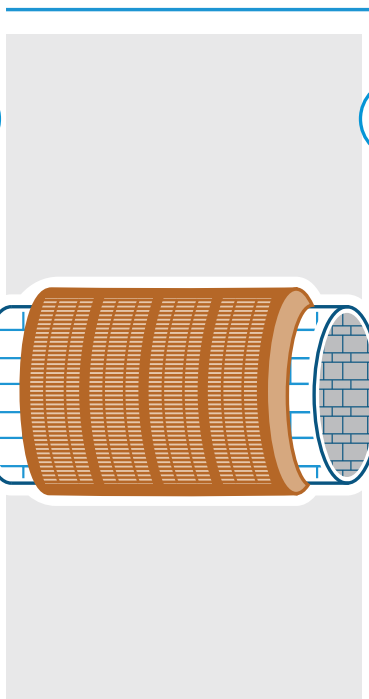


## SEED CELLS INTO SCAFFOLDS



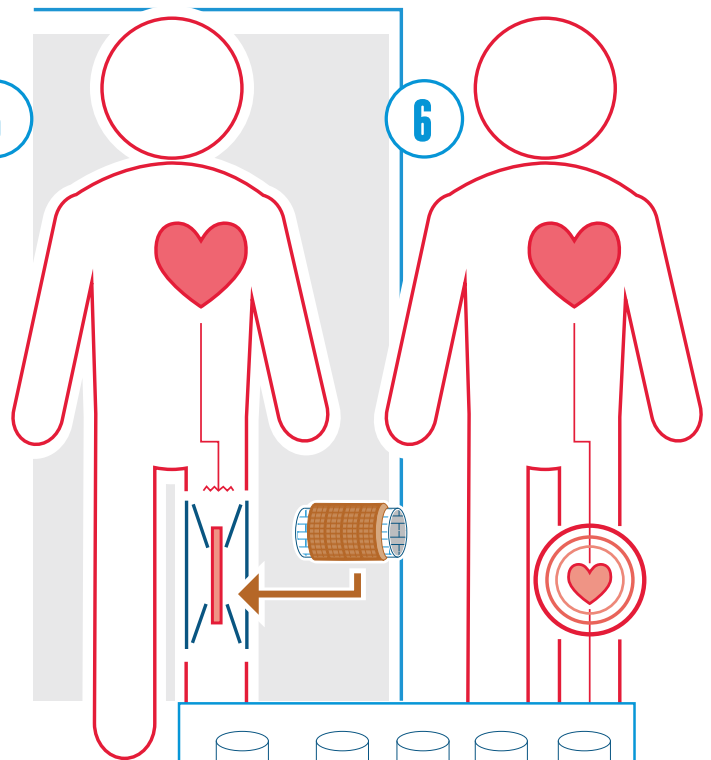
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## CREATE A CUFF OF BEATING MUSCLE

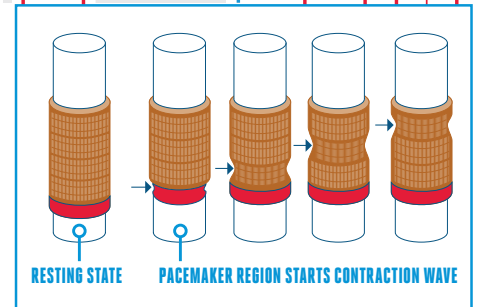


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## IMPLANT

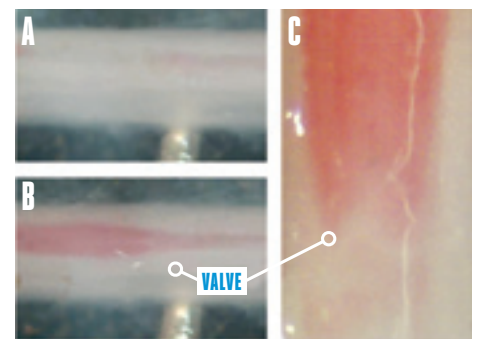


6



RESTING STATE

PACEMAKER REGION STARTS CONTRACTION WAVE



TOP As people age and the valves inside their veins lose efficacy, mini-pumps made from patients' own heart cells could keep the blood flowing and ward off a slate of common health conditions.  
BOTTOM An excised segment of a rabbit vein containing a valve.

published online in February in the *Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, there are few treatment options at present, particularly when valves fail deep in the venous system.

Her idea could help treat the condition in a new way. Since groups of myocytes will spontaneously beat just as the heart does, tissue engineers could use a scaffold-like structure to build a rhythmically contracting piece of cardiac tissue from a patient's own stem cells. This self-beating muscle then could be wrapped around veins with dysfunctional valves to help push blood back to what Dr. Sarvazyan jokingly calls "the big heart."

The CardioVein technology, as it's been dubbed, is still in its early stages, but Dr. Sarvazyan and her team have built a prototype to test the concept and last year filed a provisional patent.


Researchers elsewhere, working on "big heart" tissue repair, have already successfully grafted small pieces of cardiac muscle to live animals, where it became vascularized and continued to beat for months, she says.

"All the individual steps of this process already have

been shown by ourselves or others," she says. "So there are many indirect indications that [the concept] should work."

The next step is to measure whether the cuff, wrapped around a vein, could produce sufficient pressure to aid circulation in a living animal. This summer Dr. Sarvazyan and her team will work on strengthening the cuffs and measuring the pressure and flow they are capable of producing. With sufficient funding, she says, they could begin testing in live animals within the year.

Until then, Dr. Sarvazyan has to divide her focus among multiple projects—including the stem cell research that first sparked her imagination. But the mini-heart idea might be the most revolutionary.

"It's really exciting in its simplicity," she says. 



Narine Sarvazyan







**AS SEEN BY THE DEAN**

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*COLUMBIAN  
COLLEGE OF ARTS  
AND SCIENCES  
DEAN BEN VINSON III*

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*In August, Ben Vinson III will reach his first anniversary at the helm of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the largest school at the George Washington University. He oversees more than 7,000 students, nearly 500 full-time faculty members, 42 departments and programs, and 27 research centers and institutes. Dean Vinson stepped away from his jam-packed schedule to talk with GW Magazine about the importance of the liberal arts, new opportunities for the Columbian College, and the best part of his job.*

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**BY MARY DEMPSEY**

**“THE LIBERAL  
ARTS REMAIN A  
KEY [ACADEMIC]  
FOUNDATION.  
... LIBERAL  
ARTS TRAINING  
NOURISHES  
THE MIND  
AND INSPIRES  
CREATIVITY.”**

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## **AS THE DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY’S LARGEST SCHOOL, WHAT’S YOUR TYPICAL WORKDAY LIKE?**

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There is no typical day. Today I started out making introductory remarks at a literary symposium on French popular culture. Then I went to a meeting with my department chairs. Then I introduced and moderated a panel with an adviser to the Egyptian president. That turned into a fundraising session, followed by a meeting with faculty. Tonight I’m getting spruced up and going to the Corcoran ball. Then I’ll go home and bounce my kids on my knees (who will have been up way too late). I have twin boys who are 3 and a daughter who is 6.

Every day is a surprise. That’s the beauty of this job. You’re exercising different mental muscles all the time. The only thing typical is that there’s a lot going on.

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## **THE BEST PART OF THE JOB?**

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The best part is my daily interaction with the faculty, students, and staff. The people are what make this place go. It’s a pleasure to come in to work each morning.

I also learn so much about this school by talking to alumni. I’ve been traveling to meet alumni, mostly in Los Angeles, Boston, and New York. I’m encouraged by their motivation to build a framework of support for our students and graduates.

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE GROWING IN TECHNOLOGY FIELDS, BUT PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO TALK ABOUT THE PITFALLS OF AN EDUCATION THAT IS TOO NARROWLY FOCUSED. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION TODAY?**

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The liberal arts remain a key foundation for any educational experience. A liberal arts training nourishes the mind and inspires creativity. It encourages lateral thinking—that is, being able to think across disciplines to arrive at innovative solutions, instead of relying principally upon the framework of a single approach.

One can be inspired, for instance, by what one learns in a classics course to reason through how to solve a thorny policy issue or even to arrive at a new design approach to an

engineering problem.

The liberal arts also provide a compass in a world canvassed by technology. Take the field of ethics. As one of my faculty members recently explained, technology has become so pervasive that the human system of checks and balances that existed to filter information is vanishing in certain fields. In a world of information overload, inundated by the blogosphere, it is important that the future workforce develops deep internal reasoning skills, an appreciation for humanistic approaches, and values refined by a liberal arts training. Before our new generation of leaders hits the “send” button in their workforce tasks, we want to be sure that they have been nurtured to understand the world and humanity as best as possible.

But let’s face it. We’re in a fast-paced world where people want results instantaneously, and where liberal arts training is not seen as immediately gratifying for careers. In bypassing [the liberal arts], what one would miss, of course, is the exploratory adventure that becomes the essence of forming a mind that is alive, with the ability to be creative in a very agile way and anchored in human values that have withstood the test of time.

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## **YOU DESCRIBE YOUR VISION FOR COLUMBIAN COLLEGE AS BEING FOCUSED ON “THE ENGAGED LIBERAL ARTS.” WHAT DO YOU MEAN?**

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The engaged liberal arts take the best of the liberal arts approach and the best of real world-applied endeavors and marries them into a holistic educational experience. What is beautiful about the Columbian College is the superb strength we have in the core liberal arts. We also have a score of fantastic programs inspired by the real world. Take the School of Media and Public Affairs or the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, for instance. What is exciting for me is that these are professional schools that are being fully nourished and enhanced by the best of our liberal arts programs. Other examples include our professional programs in art therapy, museum studies, the forensic sciences, and architecture and design.

The engaged liberal arts, as an educational model, simply tries to harmonize and encourage the interface of timeless academic disciplines with those of a more pragmatic nature. This combination better prepares our students for navigating the 21st-century world and accessing fulfilling careers.



**Dean Vinson is approaching his first anniversary at the helm of GW's largest school.**



**COLUMBIAN COLLEGE WILL HAVE CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY, PHYSICS, AND HOMINID PALEOBIOLOGY LABS AT THE NEW SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING HALL. HOW IMPORTANT IS THAT?**

It plants a flag of victory as we invest seriously in the sciences. Our scientists have been advocating for years for a building of this type. My wife, a biochemist, always tells me that to do science well, you need great infrastructure. This building has been carefully designed to optimize cross-fertilization of the sciences and beyond. By being housed in the Science and Engineering Hall, the programs you cite will be almost naturally stimulated to spark conversations

with each other, as well as nearly every other resident of the building. This cross-contact model will inspire students as well.

I foresee the Science and Engineering Hall as a tremendous incubator of projects and ideas that will help define science for years to come, inspiring productive partnerships within and beyond our university.

**THE UNIVERSITY RECENTLY ANNOUNCED AN UNPRECEDENTED COLLABORATION BETWEEN GW, THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, ITS COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN,**

**AND THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART. WHAT WAS YOUR ROLE, AND HOW WILL THIS AGREEMENT AFFECT COLUMBIAN COLLEGE?**

GW was approached by the Corcoran before I arrived, but I have been involved almost from the beginning of this new round of negotiations. I am excited about the enormous benefits of this collaboration. We have a great opportunity here to bring together many arts programs in a shared, integrated space. Theater and dance, museum studies, interior design, fine arts and art history, music, art therapy—all of these could be co-branded with the Corcoran to create an integrated and inspired arts program that would rival many of the best

*“THE MORE I TALK WITH OUR STUDENTS, THE MORE I’M CONVINCED THAT WE’RE INCUBATING A RICH SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS WITHIN THEM THAT WILL NOT ONLY IMPACT THE EMERGING NATIONAL AGENDA BUT THE FUTURE PRIORITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA AS WELL.”*



**Dean Vinson welcomes Vice Premier Liu Yandong of China, who visited the GW Confucius Institute in November.**

WILLIAM ATKINS



along the mid-Atlantic corridor.

An important third signature of the collaboration is the involvement of the National Gallery of Art, which will present all kinds of opportunities, from the use of galleries as teaching instruments to possible internship and community outreach opportunities. Our partners, the Corcoran and the National Gallery of Art, are such revered institutions in the D.C. community. Through them, we have a chance to build something special and something that is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

One big question to resolve is how to unite the Corcoran culture with our GW culture. I'm excited by the challenge and the spirit of collaboration that I've heard from both sides. If we do this right, we will have created something that is dynamic and unique in the landscape of arts education nationally.

## WHAT'S AHEAD FOR COLUMBIAN COLLEGE?

The opportunities are endless at this point. We've got so much going on. One very excellent opportunity is the connections we can make in the global realm. In the university's strategic plan, there are sections fully devoted to globalization and citizenship. The bottom line for CCAS is that we can educate people to be model global citizens. The more I talk with our students, the more I'm convinced that we're incubating a rich social consciousness within them that will not only impact the emerging national agenda but the future priorities of the international arena as well.

As for other opportunities, we're on the brink of being a breakout institution in our research capacity because the instruments and faculty are falling into place. I also see for the Columbian College a bright future in online education that is offered in ways that do not compromise quality. It is an important way to educate—even innovate—and reach more students. And going online can give us more global access, which further advances our global connection.

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR SCHOLARSHIP AND THE BOOK YOU'RE WRITING.

As much as possible, I try to remain active as a scholar. I have an article due in June for a journal in Cartagena, Colombia, and I'm editing the *Oxford Bibliographies* online. I'm also taking over as editor of *The Americas* [a quarterly review of Latin American history]

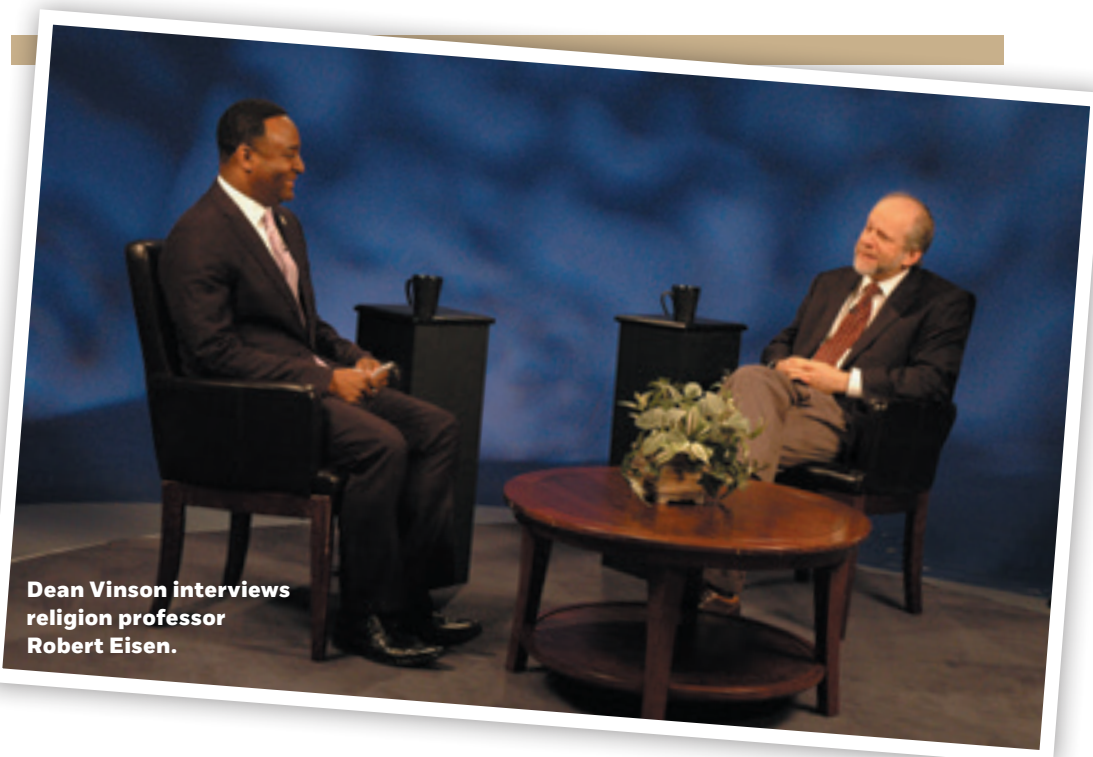
this summer.

My research is focused on the extreme varieties of racial mixture in colonial Latin America, mostly in the 17th and 18th centuries. The book I'm currently writing is about the Mexican caste system and how the foundations of that system served as a template for understanding modern race relations. More people are becoming interested in this area, but when I started out I was one of only a few.

The working title of the book is *Before Mestizaje*, which refers to the mythos about racial mixture that has reigned for years in Latin America. While my work on it has slowed down tremendously this year because of my responsibilities as dean, the book is scheduled for delivery to my publisher in July 2015.

## WHAT WOULD PEOPLE BE SURPRISED TO LEARN ABOUT YOU?

I enjoy a good video game from time to time and am a huge sports fan. I even tried my hand at tai chi and fencing in college, becoming a less than mediocre talent at both. Also, I play saxophone. I was in a jazz-funk-fusion band in college, called Side-Effect, which was later renamed to Third Inversion. Among our gigs were some memorable Dartmouth frat parties. As a faculty member at Penn State, I was part of a good—but far from great—history department cover band. Appropriately for historians, we called ourselves the Irreconcilable Differences. ☐



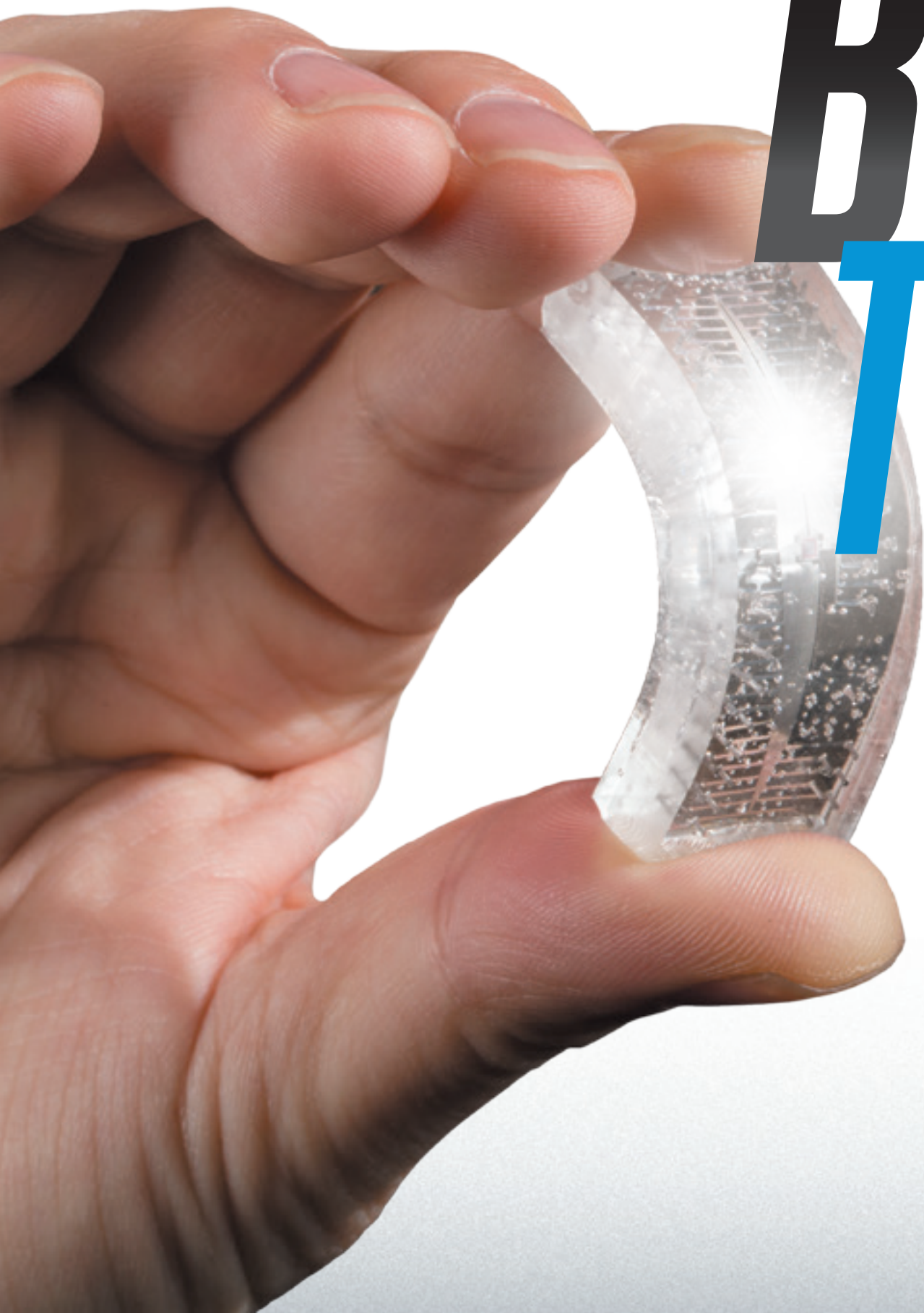
Dean Vinson interviews religion professor Robert Eisen.

## Dean's Conversation Series: Great Thinkers, Great Discussions

In an ongoing series of video conversations, Dean Ben Vinson interviews Columbian College faculty members across an array of disciplines on their research as it relates to the most pressing issues of our time. The monthly forum was launched by Dr. Vinson in January to showcase Columbian College research and its impact.

Inaugural guests include Professor of Religion Robert Eisen on faith and its correlation to both compassion and violence at the global level; Professor of Psychology Jody Ganiban on combatting the childhood obesity epidemic; Director of the GW Solar Institute Amit Ronen on the significance of solar power as an energy alternative; Associate Professor of Biology John Lill on how climate change affects plant-animal ecosystems; Professor of Political Science Sarah Binder on resolving legislative gridlock; and Assistant Professor of Art History Mika Natif on the intersection and impact of Eastern and Western art techniques and images.

 To view the video series, visit [gwmagazine.com](http://gwmagazine.com).



# BEAT THE



# BENDING RULES

**TINY, FLEXIBLE  
ELECTRONICS—  
WIRED WITH LIQUID  
METAL AND ABLE  
TO ANALYZE A  
FRACTION OF A  
RAINDROP—SOON  
MAY BE COMING TO A  
BODY NEAR YOU.  
BY HELEN FIELDS**

Zhenyu Li, assistant professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is holding a new invention between his thumb and forefinger. It looks like a piece of hard, clear plastic, about the size of a pack of gum. Inside are some fine wires and a square chip.

But then he squeezes his fingers together. The device bows upward and a tiny amount of liquid squeezes from the inside. “This will be a little messy,” he says, grabbing a piece of paper towel.

The liquid he’s wiping off is a gallium-tin alloy. Inside that fat piece of flexible material is an electronic sensor with a very unusual set of wires: They’re tiny channels filled with liquid metal.

Dr. Li and his colleagues at GW’s School of Engineering and Applied Science are figuring out how to make electronics bendable. They’ve applied for a patent on their solution to the problem, which combines a tiny integrated circuit chip with liquid wires to make a finished product that is—well, floppy. Dr. Li wraps it around his index finger to show how far it can bend.

Researchers around the world are working on flexible electronics that could show up in all sorts of places—a computer

# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE, THE SQUARE SENSOR COMES INTO FOCUS. IT'S TINY—ONLY 1.5 MILLIMETERS ON A SIDE. **FOUR OF THESE CHIPS** COULD LINE UP SIDE BY SIDE ON THE TIP OF A PENCIL ERASER.

monitor that can be rolled up and stowed, for example. For now, the GW team is developing a device for medical diagnostics. Its flexibility means it could bend and stretch with the skin. One day something like it might be part of an implanted device, to monitor blood glucose or take other internal measurements.

Dr. Li's lab is a small room with a lot of tables and shelves, loaded with machines and materials. Drawers hold all kinds of electronic doodads, like LEDs and resistors; on a counter is a plastic board with wires sticking out of it, with a smartphone lying nearby—part of a student project.

A few days earlier, Dr. Li says, three graduate students and two undergrads were working in the cramped space, which is already feeling a bit crowded with just two professors and a writer. Shelves are crammed with everything from disposable tissue wipes to an ELISA machine, which performs a certain kind of biological assay, on a top shelf high above the refrigerator.

Dr. Li sets the device under one of the many microscopes in the room and switches on the light. The silicone rubber glows yellowish.

Under the microscope, the square sensor comes into focus. It's tiny—only 1.5 millimeters on a side. Four of these chips could line up side by side on the tip of a pencil eraser. From the chip emanates a tight array of tiny tunnels, each filled with liquid metal. These are the wires. Unlike the copper wires traditionally used in electronics, these wires still work when they're folded and stretched. All of the chip's 40 contacts are wired up for the sake of testing; if it was being used for real there might be just a few wires, to get power from batteries or to carry the output

data to a communication chip.

Dr. Li is an expert in microfluidics—moving tiny amounts of liquids through minuscule tunnels. The channels through his device are 80 microns wide, about the diameter of a human hair. The most obvious ones are the wires.

But the part that got Dr. Li started in the project is a barely visible tunnel that starts at a hole on the surface of the block of silicone rubber, loops over the chip, then exits again, parallel to the way it came. It solves a particular challenge: how to deliver a tiny amount of liquid to a sensor.

When Dr. Li came to GW, in 2010, professor Mona Zaghoul, the chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and one of her graduate students were working on designing a tiny sensor that could detect a molecular marker of breast cancer in blood.

It's easy to imagine times when it might be nice to work with only a tiny amount of liquid—sometimes only a tiny amount of DNA is available for analysis, for example. For infants, taking a large blood sample is difficult. Researchers have been trying to figure out how to miniaturize various machines that work with liquids.

But there are practical problems with designing a tiny sensor. You can't pour a liquid sample on a chip for the same reason that you can't dunk your phone in the bathtub: Electronics and liquid do not mix. So Dr. Zaghoul was thrilled to have Dr. Li, an expert in moving tiny liquid samples, join the department. "The first time I met him, I said, 'Can you make me a well to put that liquid on top of that sensor?'"

Dr. Li made that well, and it worked. But it wasn't perfect. The well still held a relatively

large amount of liquid, 10 microliters—about the volume of a smallish raindrop—and the arrangement was awkward. Also, they had no way to clean out the well, so the chip could only be used once. Still, it worked. "It detects the cancer biomarker," Dr. Zaghoul says. "The student got his PhD!"

They tried again with a sensor that another of her students was working on: a chip that measures magnetic nanoparticles in fluid. Biologists sometimes use magnetic nanoparticles to tag specific molecules. Measuring the magnetic field tells you the concentration of the target molecule.

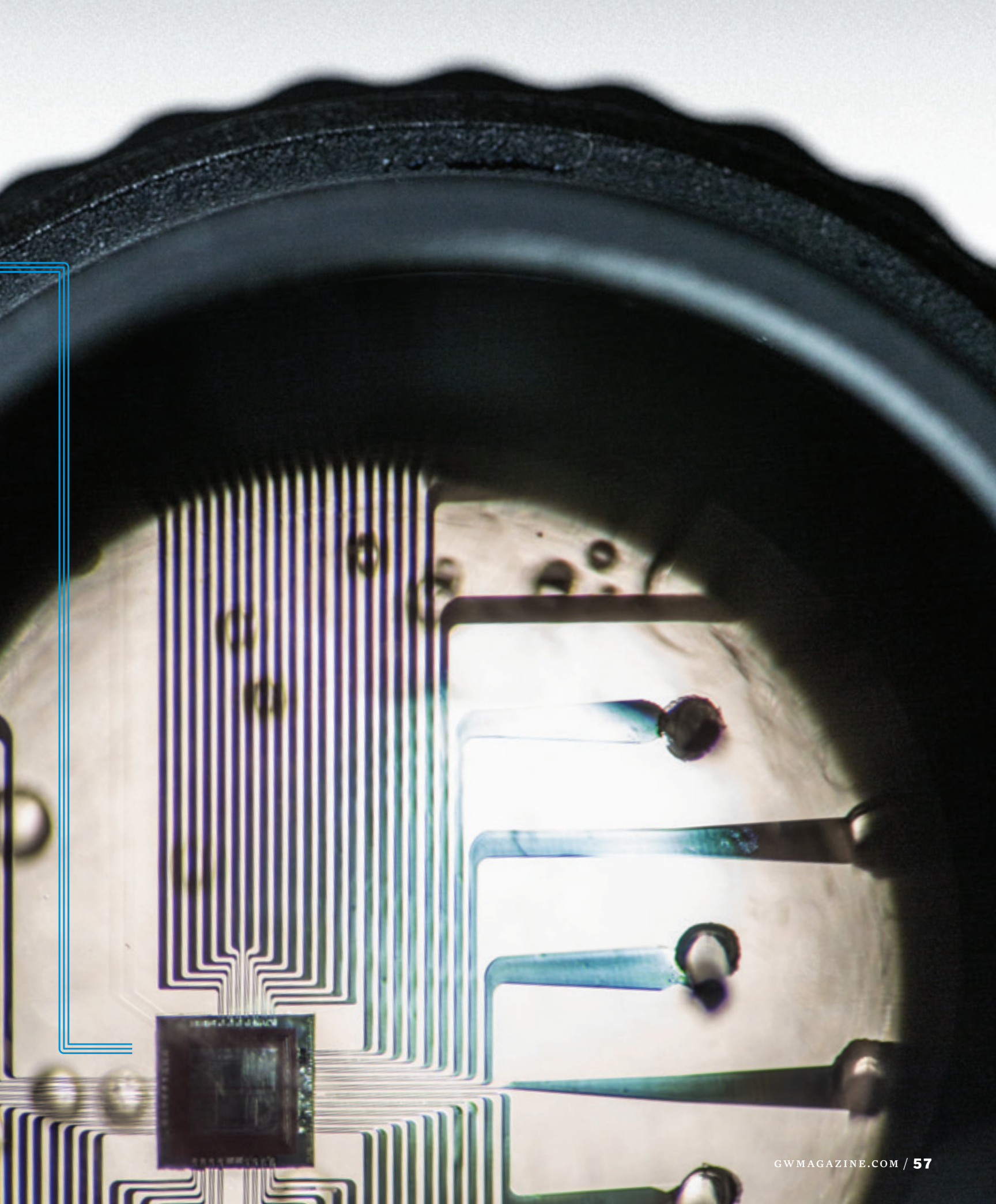
Dr. Li had an idea: What about a microfluidic channel that pumps the test liquid over the chip? It could use a smaller volume—and they'd be able to clean it out.

Dr. Li works in the medium of silicone rubber. It's cheap, easy to mold, and easy to punch holes in. Technically known as PDMS, for polydimethylsiloxane, it's the preferred material for microfluidics—and it's also used in Hollywood, to make gory wounds and creepy monster faces.

Dr. Li starts by designing the channels he wants, using industrial design software. Then, using standard techniques for manufacturing computer chips, he makes a hard, shiny silicon wafer with the shape of the channels standing up on it, in relief. This works just like a Jell-O mold. He mixes the PDMS polymer from its two components, pours the polymer onto the mold, then puts it in the oven for 30 minutes or so to set.

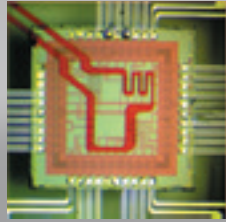
When the polymer is baked, he glues it to another piece of silicone rubber that has the sensor embedded in its surface. He uses a biopsy needle to punch holes down to the wires, then fills them with liquid metal. Like mercury, the gallium-tin alloy is liquid





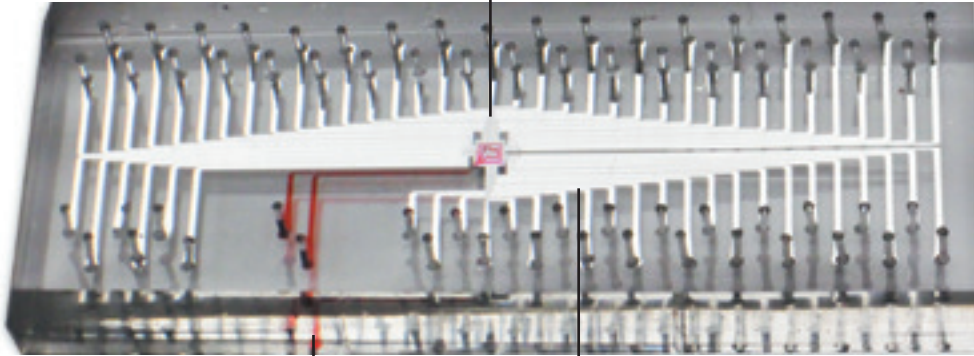
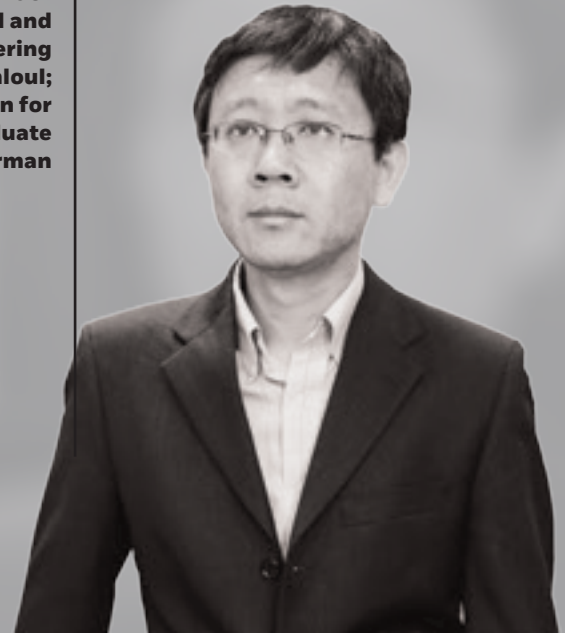
### SENSORY DETAIL

The tiny chip (enlarged below) is powered by a network of channels filled with liquid metal, which allows the device to be flexible and still work. Fluid to be analyzed is carried across the sensor via another channel (below, in red), which holds about 10 nanoliters, or about one-thousandth of a raindrop.



### THE PROFESSORS

Assistant professor Zhenyu Li (right); Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair Mona Zaghloul; Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies Can Korman



### SILICONE VALLEYS

The body of the device is made of silicone rubber, which Dr. Li pours into a mold to create the tunnels, and then bakes. A biopsy needle is used to punch holes down to the tunnels, and liquid metal is poured in.

### BLOOD WORK

As an implanted medical device, fluid for analysis would be drawn in through a hole at the surface and pumped over the sensor then back again, where it would exit through another hole. One of Dr. Li's students is designing channels that might be able to separate different kinds of blood cells.





# WITH SOME ADAPTATIONS, SOMETHING LIKE THIS DEVICE COULD BE USED TO DIRECTLY MONITOR MOLECULES IN BLOOD.

at room temperature. Unlike mercury, it's pretty safe. A five-milliliter jar of the liquid metal costs several hundred dollars, but that much metal can make thousands of microfluidic wires; the cost of the metal in a single device is less than 10 cents.

When the wires and sensor are all hooked up, Dr. Li can push fluid through the sample delivery channel with the help of a bit of compressed air. The channel holds about 10 nanoliters, roughly one one-thousandth of the volume that went in the well on the previous chip. After use, Dr. Li can clean it by pushing the sample out with a syringe, or he can draw the liquid out by putting an absorbent pad at the end of the channel.

The best part: Because everything except the chip is flexible, the resulting device can bend and stretch.

There's no particular reason that a device to measure magnetic nanoparticles would need to be flexible and stretchable. But this was a convenient way to work out the flexible, stretchable design, and it's easy to imagine other applications, Dr. Li says.

For example, it could stick onto the skin—a flexible, stretchy organ—to soak up liquid in the form of sweat or tears. A contact lens made using this principle could detect a condition in tears, while taking only a

few microliters of liquid. It might be able to monitor electrolyte or alcohol levels in sweat. It wouldn't need a pump; water soaks into the device by itself.

With some adaptations, something like this device could be used to directly monitor molecules in blood. For example, it's long been a dream for diabetes experts to develop an artificial pancreas that would monitor glucose levels in blood and use that information to deliver insulin. A device like this could fit unobtrusively into the body and could sample blood with help from tiny pumps and other miniature devices.

Can Korman, associate dean of research and graduate studies and a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, collaborated with Dr. Zaghoul and Dr. Li on the device; he worked out how the magnetic nanoparticles in the fluid would interact with the electronics on the chip.


It goes beyond medical devices, Dr. Korman says. "There's a whole field about how to make electronics flexible." One major area of research has been on solar panels; now they're rigid and have to be handled carefully, but manufacturers would love to have the option of a solar panel that is flexible and cheap.

"Our immediate thought was a biomedical application, but it could be many other things," he says.

Another example is a laptop or cellphone that can roll up and go in a pocket. Even if the electronic components are rigid, they could be embedded in a flexible substrate and make up a flexible product, the way that thousands of metal rings come together to make a flexible piece of chain mail.

For now, the team has applied for a patent, and Dr. Li continues his work on microfluidics. One of his students is designing microfluidic channels that might be able to separate different kinds of blood cells. Another is using silicone rubber and liquid metal to make tiny lenses.

And he's looking forward to having a new workspace next year, when the Science and Engineering Hall opens. Till then, he or a student must take a whole day to go to the University of Maryland or the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in Gaithersburg, Md., when he needs to manufacture a new mold for silicone rubber; the new building will have a clean room. He'll be able to get some of his machinery out of storage, too.

He looks at his small, messy lab. It looks like the kind of place where people really are inventing things. "The messy part you expect, but the space is really limited right now," he says. Next year, he hopes, the electronics will be smaller and the possibilities greater. 



# Philanthropy Update

## A NIGHT OF 'POWER & PROMISE'

**Donors, students celebrated at annual dinner recognizing significance of scholarships, fellowships**

In 2010, after receiving his acceptance letter to GW, Marwan Sulaiman called his family in Iraq. He had been living in Connecticut for several years and wanted to tell his parents the good news—and the catch that came along with it.

“I was so happy, and they were ecstatic,” Mr. Sulaiman said. “And then I said, ‘Wait, don’t congratulate me yet. I haven’t figured out financial aid.’”

Cost was going to be a major problem for Mr. Sulaiman, who had left the Middle East as a teenager, his family split by war and uncertainty. And then he received a message that changed his life.

“I woke up with an email saying I had received the Dirk S. Brady Endowed Scholarship Fund that would cover all four years at GW,” said Mr. Sulaiman, who graduated in May from the Elliott School of International Affairs.

“People had more faith in me than I had in myself.”

His story was one of hundreds circulating in the room on a Saturday night in early April at GW’s annual Power & Promise

dinner, celebrating benefactors and students.

Power & Promise, established by President Steven Knapp, has raised nearly \$100 million in scholarships and fellowships since 2009. Recently, it was announced that approximately \$15 million of an \$80 million gift from the Milken Institute, the Sumner M. Redstone Charitable Foundation, and the Milken Family Foundation will be directed to support student financial aid—the largest single contribution ever to the Power & Promise fund. In total, 14 new endowed scholarships and fellowships have been established so far this year.

“None of this would have been possible without the generosity of donors like those we are thanking and celebrating tonight,” Dr. Knapp said.

More than 60 percent of GW students receive financial support, which reduces loan burdens and helps make higher education accessible to those who might otherwise struggle to afford tuition.

“All of this is a testament of the commitment of the GW community to increasing access to higher education,” Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Planning Forrest Maltzman said. “No single investment in GW has as great a return as a scholarship.”

Mr. Sulaiman—who at age 15 was forced by war to leave Baghdad for Kurdistan, then was taken in by a Connecticut family—eventually was able to meet Dirk Brady, BA ’43, for whom his scholarship had



**Marwan Sulaiman, left, Dr. Knapp, and sophomore Zinhle Essamuah at the Power & Promise dinner in April.**

been named. Mr. Brady was a refugee from Nazi Germany who immigrated to the United States in 1936. The endowed scholarship established his family provides financial aid to students who have fled their home countries because of political, ethnic, or religious persecution.

“At the time, I was 19 and he was 93,” Mr. Sulaiman said. “Yet, we had a lot in common, coming from war-torn countries. But that’s not what we talked about; we ended up chatting for a few hours about GW and our favorite moments here.”

Mr. Brady died in 2012.

“What he shared with me that day makes me appreciate being here even more,” Mr. Sulaiman said. —James Irwin

**To learn how to create an enduring opportunity for GW students by endowing a scholarship, please contact Matt Banks at [mbanks@gwu.edu](mailto:mbanks@gwu.edu) or 202-994-5125.**

## PRESIDENT EMERITUS LEAVES \$1.15M TO ELLIOTT SCHOOL

The Elliott School of International Affairs received a \$1.15 million bequest in March from the Lloyd H. and Evelyn E. Elliott Charitable Remainder Trust. Lloyd Elliott served as president of the university from 1965 to 1988, and the Elliott School was named for him and his wife, Evelyn “Betty.”

“For more than two decades, Lloyd Elliott led this university with a grace, thoughtfulness, and strategic acumen that laid the groundwork for everything his successors have achieved,” says President Steven Knapp. “This final and extraordinarily generous gift is one more expression of the dedication to GW that he and his wife, Betty, brought to their engagement with GW over so many years.”

The gift establishes the Elliott School Strategic Initiatives



Fund, an endowment that will be used to support priority programs within the school and to launch new initiatives on emerging global issues. The fund will be open to additional contributions from any donor at any level.

“Lloyd and Betty were actively engaged in the life of the school that bears their name. This gift is a testament to their commitment to the school’s important work,” says Michael E. Brown, dean of the Elliott School. “This new endowment will enhance the school’s academic programs and global impact in perpetuity. It is a tremendous step forward for GW’s Elliott School of International Affairs.”

As vital members of the GW community for more than four decades, Dr. and Mrs. Elliott made myriad contributions to the university’s institutional development. Mrs. Elliott died in 2009; Dr. Elliott died in 2013.

“My parents were devoted to GW and to the Elliott School in particular,” says Patricia Kauffman, the Elliotts’ daughter and a member of the school’s Board of Advisors. “They believed in the important mission of the school—to prepare tomorrow’s leaders to manage global challenges.”

## GELMAN STUDY CENTER NAMED FOR FORMER ADMINISTRATOR

**Naming honors George W.G. Stoner’s service to GW as employee, donor**

The Estelle and Melvin Gelman Library’s new Learning Commons will be named in honor of George W.G. Stoner, a loyal donor and dedicated staffer who served the university for 45 years. He is credited with bolstering recruitment of students, both nationally and internationally, and helping to

develop several key programs, including Colonial Challenge and Alumni Admissions, during his nearly 36 years as director of admissions at GW.

Mr. Stoner, who passed away in December 2010 at age 84, made over 300 outright gifts to GW during his lifetime, most of them supporting Gelman Library. He also designated GW as a beneficiary of his estate, resulting in a \$1.875 million gift to support GW’s Librarian Discretionary Fund.

“Many GW alumni had the great pleasure of meeting with Mr. Stoner while we were prospective students,” says Vice Provost and Dean of Student Affairs Peter Konwerski, BA ’91, MA ’94, PhD ’97. “But as the man who signed all of our admissions letters for more than 30 years, that letter and his very signature symbolized the official start of the GW experience for generations of new students. It’s most fitting that a space serving current and future GW students on a daily basis should bear his name.”

The new George W.G. Stoner Learning Commons is a state-of-the-art cooperative learning space that integrates current technology with student-centric design elements.

In addition to being the center for many basic library services, the Learning Commons offers

technology-equipped group study rooms, multipurpose rooms, and two student lounges. It is also home to the GW Writing Center, a multimedia lab, and a data visualization room.

## RESEARCHER INSTALLED AS WALTER G. ROSS PROFESSOR OF BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH

**HIV/AIDS expert is ‘tackling some of the world’s biggest challenges’**

Renowned HIV/AIDS researcher and educator Douglas F. Nixon was installed in March as the Walter G. Ross Professor of Basic Science Research at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Dr. Nixon has led research teams around the world in an effort to develop a cure for HIV/AIDS, and his work has been recognized by numerous research organizations, including the National Institutes of Health, the Gates Foundation, and the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

“Dr. Nixon is tackling some of the world’s biggest challenges,

and his exceptional work holds real promise for improving the lives of hundreds of millions of people,” Jeffrey S. Akman, MD ’81, RESD ’85, the Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, SMHS dean, and vice president for health affairs, said at the event.

Dr. Akman said Dr. Nixon’s enthusiasm and bold yet collaborative and respectful leadership style are among the strengths he brings to his new role.

In addition to holding the Ross Professorship, which was created by a gift from the Walter G. Ross Foundation in 2006, Dr. Nixon was named chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine at SMHS in October and leads the school’s Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty and its Center for Basic Research and Prevention of HIV/AIDS. He also serves as chair of the National Institutes of Health AIDS Vaccine Research Subcommittee.

“No one individual is going to make this breakthrough,” Dr. Nixon said at the installation. “We all come up with ideas. Ideas are frequent. But actually putting things into practice requires groups to work together and to set common goals. We want to cure AIDS. It’s time to end HIV.”



The new George W.G. Stoner Learning Commons is a cooperative learning space that integrates technology and design.

## \$2.5M GIFT SUPPORTS MEDICAL HUMANITIES

A \$2.5 million gift from alumna Yolanda C. Oertel, RESD '72, and her late husband, James E. Oertel, will endow a new fund in support of the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Medical Humanities Program. The new fund will establish The Yolanda and James Oertel Professorship for the Medical Humanities at SMHS.

In addition to funding the first named professorship in this discipline at GW, Dr. Oertel hopes that the endowed professorship will help incorporate the study of medical humanities into medical education and give students and physicians the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the human condition and improve their clinical skills.

"The use of humanities refines the humanistic skills of physicians and contributes to

their sense of well-being during their professional lives," GW President Steven Knapp said at a special luncheon honoring Dr. Oertel in November.

Medical humanities is an interdisciplinary field that addresses the application of the humanities, the arts, and social sciences to medical education and practice. Its study is designed to help physicians develop and nurture skills of observation, analysis, empathy, and self-reflection that are essential for humane and effective medical care.

### "KEEP ON TRUCKIN"

#### Alumnus' photo from RFK's funeral train added to collections

While many dorms around the country boast posters of bands, sports teams, and John Belushi, one student dormitory on GW's Foggy Bottom Campus is now home to an iconic image from the

tumultuous 1960s.


"Keep on Truckin'," a recent addition to the GW Permanent Collection that now hangs in Mitchell Hall, is a photograph taken by Seth Beckerman, BA '68, that captures a scene from Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's funeral train as it traveled from New York City to Washington, D.C., in June 1968. Mr. Beckerman decided to donate a copy of the photograph to his alma mater after reading a George Washington Today article about alumni artwork being displayed in GW dormitories.

As a senior in 1968, Mr. Beckerman witnessed the country falling into tumult after the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr., in April, and Sen. Kennedy just two months later. As a photographer and writer for the *GW Hatchet*, he was invited to participate in Sen. Kennedy's funeral procession along with other student journalists.

Mr. Beckerman took more than 300 photographs during the long train ride, as tearful crowds lined the tracks to say

goodbye to the beloved senator and presidential hopeful. "Keep on Truckin'" captures a curious scene from the day: three nuns standing in the back of a white pickup truck as small clusters of people stare at the passing train.

Mr. Beckerman hopes the picture will intrigue students and pique their interest in learning about the story behind the image.

 For more about donating artwork and other in-kind gifts, visit [giving.gwu.edu/gifts-kind](http://giving.gwu.edu/gifts-kind).

## BID TO ENDOW PROFESSORSHIP IN KOREAN STUDIES

### Professor-led effort would broaden study of literature, culture

When professor Young-Key Kim-Renaud steps down this spring as Columbian College's chair of the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, she will leave an indelible mark on the department she fostered and helped become one of the finest in the country—but she's not done yet.

Dr. Kim-Renaud is raising funds to permanently endow a new Korean Studies Professorship in the Humanities at GW. She and her husband, Bertrand Renaud, founded the Young-Key Kim-Renaud Endowed Fund and have already raised \$600,000 toward their goal of \$2.5 million. She hopes the GW community will rally around her mission.

"This professorship will be held by someone who can expand and deepen Korean studies at GW," she says. "This new professor of literature and culture will further strengthen GW's East Asian programs and help provide a more comprehensive



*"It's INCREDIBLE that you can TRANSFORM SOMEONE'S LIFE by providing them with opportunities to EXCEL."* – Tom Curtis, BA

Tom is supporting GW's Power & Promise initiative for scholarships and student aid through his IRA. His estate will receive a significant tax deduction and GW will receive a portion of his IRA tax-free.

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ONLINE: [go.gwu.edu/plannedgiving](http://go.gwu.edu/plannedgiving)

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education for our students.”

Dr. Kim-Renaud joined GW’s faculty more than 30 years ago and has served as departmental chair for the past 12 years. Under her leadership, the department has grown in size, quality, and variety of programs offered. In addition to founding GW’s Korean Language and Culture program in 1983, she has organized academic conferences, cultural events, and colloquia promoting scholarship and mutual understanding between Koreans and other groups.

Dr. Kim-Renaud previously helped raise five other endowment funds in Korean studies at GW, including two professorships and a fund that supports the popular Hahn Moo-Sook Colloquium in the Korean Humanities, named for her mother, an important Korean author.

“The humanities complement in a crucial way scientific and technical studies,” she says. “In the 21st century, students need to have access to the study of languages, history, and cultures of East Asia. Most importantly, learning about others is the best way to learn about oneself; it enhances creativity and critical thinking. The new professor of Korean studies will continue to lead that charge at GW.”

—Gray Turner

**To learn how you can support this new fund, please contact Jay Harder at [jharder@gwu.edu](mailto:jharder@gwu.edu) or 202-994-9909.**

## CHANGING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE

### Time in India sparks nonprofit medical immersion program

Ketan Patel came to GW in 2004 with aspirations of becoming a



**Angelica Mulica (foreground), a 2013 Dr. Interns participant, works in a clinic with Ketan Patel, BS '08, MBA '10, the founder and director of Dr. Interns.**

doctor.

In the summer of 2005, Mr. Patel, BS '08, MBA '10, spent several months in India visiting clinics and hospitals, recording his observations in a journal. After graduating from GW’s School of Engineering and Applied Science in 2008, Mr. Patel began applying to medical schools.

Needing inspiration to tackle the essay portion of the applications, he picked up that journal from his trip to India. While reading, he remembered several experiences that made him question the country’s health care system. One entry described how a severely burned 23-year-old woman was denied care because there weren’t enough resources for all the patients.

Mr. Patel also suffered from burn injuries, when he was 7 years old, so he felt a powerful connection to that woman.

“As I read that journal entry again I thought, What could I do differently as a doctor?” he says. “These doctors wanted to help this woman but they didn’t have the authority to do it. I realized

that instead I wanted to travel around the world and build a different kind of health care system.”

In 2010, after graduating from GW’s School of Business, Mr. Patel founded Dr. Interns, a nonprofit organization that brings doctors and medical student interns to Surat, India, for two weeks to provide health care to community members and raise awareness of health care disparities around the world.

In the past four years, more than 100 interns from more than 50 universities have traveled to India with the program. This year, approximately 40 interns will travel to Surat to work at Shree Prannath Hospital.

Mr. Patel works with Dr. Interns team members, including his twin brother, Kamal Patel, BS '08, MD '13, an emergency room doctor in Philadelphia, to offer fellowships to a few students every year, which cover the full cost of the trip.

For Elizabeth Gomes, BS '13, her time with Dr. Interns in 2010 challenged her lifelong dream of becoming a pediatric oncologist.

“About halfway through the

internship I started realizing that I was becoming more interested in how and why people were getting sick and ending up in the hospital, versus how they were going to treat them once they were there,” she says.

After her trip, Ms. Gomes changed her major to public health, and this June she will move to Togo, Africa, to be a community health and AIDS prevention worker for the Peace Corps.

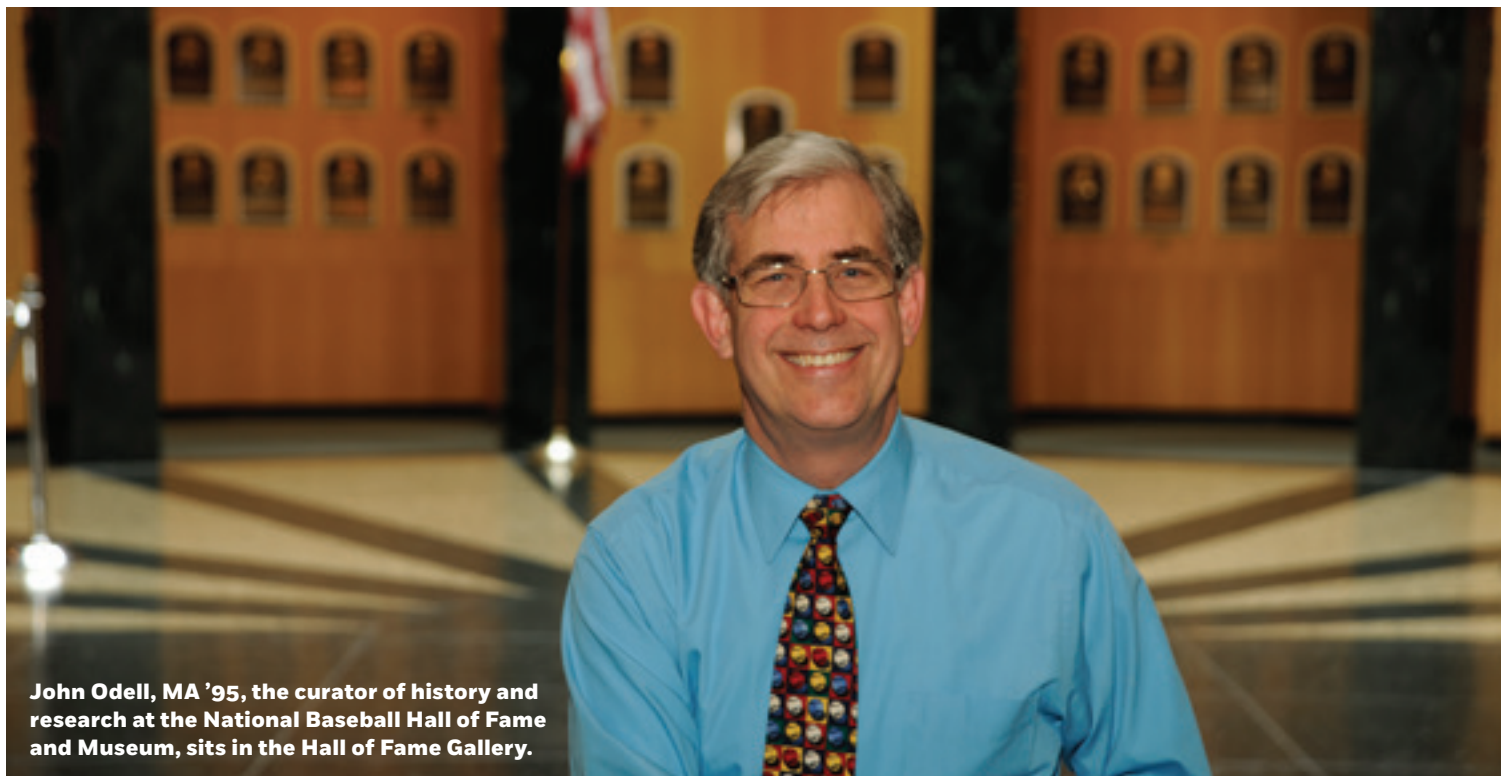
Mr. Patel recently donated \$10,000 to Dr. Interns, and his employer, PricewaterhouseCoopers, matched the gift. He views his donation to GW and the matching gift from PwC as an investment in Dr. Interns and its students, who, he hopes, will go on to make an impact in public health and health care.

“I am donating to the students at GW,” he says. “I feel that as an alumnus I owe it to the students.”

—Julia Parmley

**For more information on Dr. Interns, visit [drinterns.org](http://drinterns.org).**

# ALUMNI NEWS



John Odell, MA '95, the curator of history and research at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, sits in the Hall of Fame Gallery.

## MUSEUMS

# Beyond the Ballpark: Curating the Baseball Hall of Fame

“When I realized that museum studies was my calling,” says John Odell, MA '95, “GW seemed like the perfect place to take the next step.”

That intuition has paid off for Mr. Odell. These days, you'll find the museum studies alumnus in Cooperstown, N.Y., where he works as curator of history and research at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Fifteen years ago, when Mr. Odell first heard that the position was open, he knew it was a life-changing opportunity. “I’ve always loved the game of baseball itself, and suddenly there was this unique chance to marry that passion with my career,” he says. “I’ve been here ever since.”

At the Hall of Fame, Mr. Odell works not only to tell the story of baseball in America but also to shed light on the country’s history through the lens of the beloved pastime.

“Telling stories has been an important part of human culture since the very beginning of time,” says Mr. Odell. “That’s really what the museum does—we entertain, but we also show people that there’s a deeper side to the game they love.”

Because there’s new baseball history every year, Mr. Odell and the Hall of Fame staff (which includes fellow Colonial Mary Wiedeman Quinn, MA '94, the director of exhibits) are constantly working to update,



modernize, and refresh the exhibits. When current players achieve a milestone, the museum collects mementos, like jerseys and helmets, to help preserve the moment.

The job involves maintaining a balance of history and recent history. “We’re very much geared towards our visitors,” he explains. “Some people want to hear about the 1927 Yankees, while others want to hear about today’s Washington Nationals. We aim to tell the story of what’s going on now alongside the stories of great old parks, players, and teams.”

Sometimes the story of the “old greats” involves an unexpected gift. Mr. Odell recalls a donation, “out of the blue,” of the 1966 World Series glove belonging to famed Baltimore Orioles player Brooks Robinson. As a child, the donor had lived on the same street as Mr. Robinson, who by then had retired. When Mr. Robinson noticed that the young boy’s glove was falling apart, he offered the boy one of his own.

In these situations, Mr. Odell explains, the protocol is “trust, but verify.” The Hall of Fame doesn’t make purchases; all items are donated out of the love of the game. Mr. Odell then follows a painstaking fact-checking process in order to ensure that each item in the Hall of Fame is a true piece of history.

In the case of Mr. Robinson’s glove, he relied on photo evidence, as well as a personal note from Mr. Robinson written on official letterhead. “The detective-work part of my job is just terrific,” he says. “Now we have this wonderful artifact, not only from a great player but a great person.”

When he’s not tracking down these pieces of history, Mr. Odell is focused on creating new history through the Hall of Fame’s annual induction ceremony.

Each year Mr. Odell is behind the scenes, carefully curating new exhibit cases and researching the careers of the inductees, which this year include Frank Thomas and Tony La Russa.

“It’s really a tremendous honor for the players,” says Mr. Odell. And it’s an honor for him to help tell their stories.

“What is both challenging and rewarding about my job is the element that makes a small story become a larger one—one that resonates far beyond the baseball diamond,” he says. “The opportunity to weave these stories into the museum’s narrative, it’s just fantastic.” —**Melissa Nyman**

 For more information about the Baseball Hall of Fame, visit [baseballhall.org](http://baseballhall.org).

## BUSINESS

# Building Big Business From ‘Tinsel & Twine’

**With creativity, long hours, and antlers, if need be, alumnae behind NYC design firm are making a name for themselves.**

A typical day for the much buzzed about, Brooklyn-based event design shop Tinsel & Twine is anything but typical, says communications director Erica Taylor, BA ’06. That’s because the company creates a signature style for each client and event, from floral styling to custom stationery and signage, to lighting installation, prop coordination, and event planning.

But creativity comes naturally to the GW trio behind Tinsel & Twine, which, in addition to Ms. Taylor, includes production director Liz Castelli, BS ’05, and creative director Adette Contreras, BBA ’06.

The women were brought together as students through the GW Vibes, a student-run a cappella group. Ms. Contreras and Ms. Taylor had been singing with the group for a year when they recruited Ms. Castelli.

Their years at GW kept them close and they stayed in touch after graduation. When they all found themselves living in New York City, they often got together after work.

During one such gathering in 2010, they chatted about their careers and discovered that each longed for that creative spark they had shared at GW. Ms. Castelli had recently gotten married and shared that the experience made her want to create unique and beautiful events for a living. And thus,

Tinsel & Twine was born.

Three years later, the business has quickly become a creative powerhouse, drawing attention from the likes of *Daily Candy*, *Refinery29*, and *New York Magazine*.

The company now operates out of a studio in Brooklyn’s hip Dumbo neighborhood, where the three women meet with clients and assemble their designs.

“The reason we’re really clicking with people is because we’re untraditional,” explains Ms. Taylor. “We had one client who was really into taxidermy. So one day we were all running around looking for preserved animals and antlers. On the other hand, we also have corporate clients. It’s really important to be flexible.”

What also helps the business thrive is the strong bond shared by Ms. Castelli, Ms. Contreras, and Ms. Taylor.

“I’m very lucky that I work with two of my best friends,” says Ms. Taylor. “Even when we’re working crazy hours, it feels like play.”

The women hope to hire two additional full-time staff members in the next few years as they continue to grow.

With a long list of fans and admirers, Ms. Taylor says the founding partners are often approached for career advice from aspiring entrepreneurs—many of them young women.

“There’s really a level of encouragement in seeing other women pursuing similar dreams,” she says. “We hope women—especially women of color—will look to us for inspiration. I always tell people that if they have any kernel of interest in owning a business, they should pursue it.”

“There’s no guidebook to being an entrepreneur,” Ms. Taylor says. “But I can’t imagine doing anything else!” —**Melissa Nyman**

 For more about Tinsel & Twine, visit [cargocollective.com/tinseltwine](http://cargocollective.com/tinseltwine).



FROM LEFT Adette Contreras, Liz Castelli, and Erica Taylor are the founding partners of NYC’s Tinsel & Twine.



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**From San Diego to Boston, from South Florida to Seattle, GW alumni have held or are planning service events in their communities this year. ... We want to hear your story.**

**FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

## Fellow Colonials:

“Deeds, not words.” That was the motto by which George Washington encouraged people to live. Alumni know that service to the community has long been an integral part of life at GW, and that passion continues on campus today.

It is no surprise then that countless alumni—in Washington, D.C., across the country, and around the globe—are involved in community service activities. A goal of the Alumni Association is to increase alumni engagement in community service, and as part of that we partner with the excellent staff in the Office of Alumni Relations to create service opportunities for GW alumni.

From San Diego to Boston, from South Florida to Seattle, GW alumni have held or are planning service events in their communities this year.

On March 22 the Alumni Association was involved simultaneously in service days in three cities. Fourteen alumni volunteered at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, assembling food packages for low-income seniors, women with infants, and children in their community. In New York City, 30 young alumni worked in two groups: one revitalizing the Col. Young Playground in Harlem, and another working with CityMeals-on-Wheels to deliver hot meals on foot to the homebound, elderly, and vulnerable. In D.C., a group of 45 alumni, students, and staff joined together for the second annual Student-Alumni Day of Service, working at four sites selected by our Colonial Ambassadors. Colonials organized supplies for residents at Carpenter’s Shelter, a large homeless shelter; cleaned up the grounds at the D.C. Ronald McDonald House, which provides a home away from home for families whose children are in D.C. to obtain medical treatment; worked with special-needs youth at KEEN Greater D.C.; and constructed physical education equipment at John Tyler Elementary School. And more civic engagement events are planned this year.

There are also many inspiring stories of individual alumni service. We recently learned about a 2005 CCAS alumna who, as a junior, agreed to get her cheek swabbed and have her name placed on the registry for bone marrow and stem cell donations. She later donated bone marrow to a man she’d never met—and saved his life. And a 1993 CCAS alumnus helped create the nonprofit Urban Ed Academy in San Francisco, which works with elementary students of color to help eliminate the achievement gap in education.

These examples are emblematic of the difference that countless GW alumni are making all over the world. Many of you provide service in your communities, acting in groups or individually. We want to hear your story. Please send it to us at [cable@gwu.edu](mailto:cable@gwu.edu).

Service to others strengthens our communities and our character. Does it make a difference? Just imagine a world in which no one performed community service. At the birth of our nation, George Washington had it right: Deeds matter.

Best Regards,



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





Jean-Marc Gorelick (center) meets Secretary of State John Kerry in Afghanistan.

## INT'L AFFAIRS

# Serving His Country by Aiding Another

Changing the world is just part of the job for Jean-Marc Gorelick, MA '09. Mr. Gorelick is serving as a U.S. Agency for International Development foreign service officer in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, where he is a senior elections adviser.

USAID foreign service officers are responsible for developing and managing foreign assistance programs that encompass everything from economic growth to agriculture to public health and governance.

*GW Magazine* spoke with Mr. Gorelick about his current tour and his path to the foreign service.

**GW:** What is the goal of your current tour in Afghanistan?

**JMG:** Our mission here is to support Afghan-led inclusive, credible, and transparent presidential and provincial elections slated for May 5. Afghanistan stands at a crucial crossroads in its history. A peaceful transfer of power from one elected leader to another is critical for securing the country's democratic future.

**GW:** When did you know you wanted to pursue this career path?

**JMG:** In 2003, when I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, in West Africa, I gained a deep appreciation for overseas work. I loved representing America abroad and working with people from a culture very different

from my own. However, it wasn't until I met Ambassador Charles Twining that I considered a career in the foreign service. Ambassador Twining encouraged me to pursue this path at a time when I knew very little about this line of work. In Togo, he was consistently energetic, intelligent, perceptive, adventurous, and always curious. I thought to myself: If this is what the life of an FSO is like, count me in.

**GW:** What do you love most about your work as a foreign service officer?

**JMG:** If you love to learn, this is the perfect job. Each country poses its own unique set of challenges and opportunities. The foreign service is truly a career for professional and personal growth. As soon as you master one set of skills, you move on to the next assignment for an entirely new experience. But most importantly, your work makes a difference in people's lives. USAID carries out U.S. foreign policy by promoting broad-scale human progress at the same time as it expands stable, free societies, creates markets and trade partners for the United States, and fosters goodwill abroad.

**GW:** How did your time at GW influence your career path?

**JMG:** As a student in the Elliott School's International Development Studies program, I had the opportunity to participate in a capstone project in the field. Four of us [from the program] conducted an impact assessment of an international development project implemented by CARE in northern Uganda. This exercise enabled us to apply our classroom learning to the field. Conducting extensive fieldwork and research in a challenging environment was exciting. This experience reaffirmed my commitment to pursuing an overseas career in international development.

In addition, I remain grateful to GW for allowing me to work while I pursued my master's. I didn't have to hit the pause button on my career, and I was able to enhance what I learned at GW with what I learned in the workplace.

**GW:** What advice do you have for aspiring foreign service officers?

**JMG:** I think for both State [Department] and USAID FSOs, you need specialized skills in whatever cone or backstop you are seeking. However there are fundamental qualities needed to succeed in this career: flexibility, resourcefulness, intellectual curiosity, and an ability to thrive in difficult environments. —**Melissa Nyman**

## CELEBRATIONS

# Around the World, Alumni Celebrate George's Birthday

Hundreds of GW alumni and friends once again honored their university's namesake with camaraderie, panache, and fun at dozens of George's Birthday Bash celebrations this year in cities across the globe, held on or around George Washington's Feb. 22 birthday.

This year 54 birthday parties—30 domestic and 24 international—marked the fifth year of the event, which was started by the San Antonio Alumni Club in 2010. The following year, celebrations took place nationally, and the next year, internationally.

Events vary by city, with alumni who help plan the celebrations giving them each a signature twist. Past birthday bashes have included costumes, buff and blue attire, Mexican cuisine, wine tastings, and group renditions of Buff and Blue fight songs.

"George's Birthday Bash is a fun GW tradition that we celebrated as students and continues to bring together our community as alumni," says Nikki Rappaport, BA '09, chair of the Young Alumni Network. "Not only does it give friends a chance to reconnect locally, but it's exciting to see GW's namesake being celebrated nationally and globally."



FROM LEFT Richard Livingstone, BA '12; Melissa Ventre, BA '10; Precious Crystal Brooks, BA '12; Nikki Rappaport, BA '09; Kate Hornyan, BA '09, MPA '12; Steve Roche, BA '06, MA '08; Adam Murphy, BA '11; and Andrea Mazzone, BA '08, enjoy George's Birthday Bash at Molly Malone's in Washington, D.C.





## FANDOM

## Alumni Raise High During A-10 Basketball Tourney in NYC

As the GW men's basketball team took to the court in March to vie in the Atlantic 10 Championship tournament, thousands of alumni, parents, and friends were there at New York City's Barclays Center to support them.

Even before the Colonials' first game, in which they beat the University of Massachusetts 85-77, hundreds of alumni gathered to show their spirit at a pregame party in the Barclays Center's 40/40 Club, which overlooks the sights and sounds of Brooklyn. Also on hand for the fun were GW President Steven Knapp, Director of Athletics and Recreation Patrick Nero, Colonials head coach Mike Lonergan, and co-chair of the GW Athletics Advisory Board

Michelle Rubin, BA '91.

"I'm so glad to support the team tonight," said Emily Weinger, BA '08. "I still feel connected to GW, and it's great to be here with so many other Colonials!"

Fellow alumna Erin Lamb, BA '06, echoed Ms. Weinger's sentiments.

Ms. Lamb, who lives in Philadelphia, said she makes a point to attend games whenever she can, and traveled to D.C. earlier in the season to see the BB&T Classic. When she can't make it in person, she gathers with alumni to watch on TV.

"It's great because it helps me stay connected to GW," Ms. Lamb said, "but I've also been able to reconnect with other alums that I otherwise wouldn't see."

While some Colonials alumni were veteran gamegoers, others were attending their first game as part of the alumni community.

"You have people coming from different cities, which really makes it a great alumni event," said Alexander Gumer, BBA '10. "I'd love to see more events like this!"



**Ahead of GW's opening game in the A-10 tournament, hundreds of alumni gathered at a pregame party in the Barclays Center's 40/40 Club. Thousands of alumni, parents, and friends backed the team as they beat the University of Massachusetts. Though the Colonials lost in the semifinals, the fervor set the stage for GW's appearance in the NCAA tournament later in March.**

## REUNIONS

# Still Going Strong

I never meant to land Asa Strong, BA '77, in the doghouse with his wife, Mary, when I concluded my essay for *GW Magazine's* summer 2001 issue with something he said: "I'm upset because I know that I'm not going to have this much fun again until next year."

At that time, we were eight years into what had become an annual reunion of a group of 15 friends who had first met at Thurston and Mitchell Hall as sophomores in the mid-1970s. I'm an exception, having transferred to GW as a junior.

Now, 13 years later, the reunion is still going strong—I wish I could say the same for our hair and waistlines.

We're still known by our college nicknames: Stork, Pooks, Uly, Mr. Happy, Warnie, Arno, Hulks, Coner; about half of us live in the Washington and Baltimore areas, the other half travels to D.C. from New York, Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis, Wyoming, and elsewhere.

Since the last essay ran, much has changed: not only our career shifts, but also those of our "young adult" children. We've all managed to stay relatively healthy, with the exception of Mark Bleiweis, BBA '77, our classmate who passed away from pancreatic cancer in 2004. Captain Bli, a gentle, quick-witted soul who lived in McLean, Va., worked the hardest to make our reunion an annual tradition. He is sorely missed.

The odds were that there would be a few success stories among us, but no one could have predicted that Captain Bli's college roommate—Sen. Mark Warner, BA '77, or "Warnie" as we call him—would become the 69th governor of Virginia. That monumental event occurred a few months after my first essay appeared and, for the next several years, Mark hosted the event at the governor's mansion in Richmond. Not too shabby.

Now we're back in our more familiar routine in Washington, where Mark's star



**Back on campus in 2013: (BOTTOM FROM LEFT) Scott Johnson; Asa Strong, BA '77; Jeff Holcomb, BA '77; Alan Cohn, BA '77; Rick Morris, BA '77; and Larry Arnowitz, BBA '77; (TOP FROM LEFT) Charlie Turner, BS '78; Dan Uslander, BA '77; Scott Pakula, BA '76; Mark Warner, BA '77; Brad Stevens, BA '76, MFA '79; Bill Glovin, BA '77; and Jerry Matt, BA '77**

now shines as a U.S. senator. Our reunion's itinerary always begins with hugs and cocktails at a hotel bar near the Foggy Bottom Campus. We then head to a place where we can sit around a long circular or rectangular table and easily schmooze over dinner. This year we moved to Nopa Kitchen+Bar after three straight years at the City Tavern Club in Georgetown. Wherever we end up, though, the laughter, merriment, and recycled stories abound.

Saturday always begins with a late morning friendly but competitive basketball game at GW's Lerner Health & Wellness Center, a long way from where we once played pickup games as students: the bubble-like Tin Tabernacle, a shrine for hoops aficionados. (Its center circle now hangs mostly unnoticed at the Smith Center.)

About five years ago our full-court run evolved into a half-court jog. Even at age 60, though, some things never change: Warnie's elbows are just as sharp as they were when we competed in an elective, no-credit basketball course, and Pooks (Scott Pakula, BA '76), Stork (Brad Stevens, BA '76, MFA '79), and Charlie Turner, BS '78—all around 6-foot-5—still dominate.

Our reunion is also built around sitting in the cheap seats behind the basket of a GW men's basketball game. We are all

long-devoted fans; this year's game, a 66-58 victory against George Mason University, was particularly meaningful in the team's successful effort to capture an at-large bid to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. We were thrilled.

"What holds together 15 guys who met in the 1970s but have since spread across the world with diverse lives—from running a homeless shelter to being governor of a state; from advising world leaders about the U.S. economy to delivering vehicles for a car dealership; from writing magazine articles to painting great leaders who inspire millions?" Gary Friend, BBA '77, MBA '79, asked me at our Friday night dinner. "Fifteen people with seemingly nothing in common except one very important thing: GWU."

— **Bill Glovin, BA '77**



*Bill Glovin, aka Gloveman, is editor of the online neuroscience journal *Cerebrum* in New York City.*

**What's your reunion story? Let us know at [magazine@gwu.edu](mailto:magazine@gwu.edu).**



# CLASS NOTES

**60s**  
& EARLIER

**Larry Laubscher Sr., BS '52, JD '55**, writes, "I am still enjoying the practice of patent law (on a reduced workload basis, of course) in my satellite office in scenic St. George, Utah. Life is good in the Wild West."

**Claudia Chapline, BA '53**, has published her sixth book of poetry, *Bird Watch* (Red Comma Editions, 2014). Ten percent of sales will be donated to Point Blue Conservation Science. To learn more about Ms. Chapline and her work, please visit [claudiachapline.wordpress.com](http://claudiachapline.wordpress.com).

**E.A. (Bud) Wareham 3rd, BS '53**, is a consulting engineer with his own firm, E.A. Wareham 3rd, and is licensed to practice electrical engineering system design in Florida, Virginia, and Maryland. He has been the recipient of numerous professional and technical awards. When he has time to relax, he enjoys reading books on his Kindle and walking his shih tzu.

**James R. Owens, BS '56**, is retired and lives in Bethesda, Md., with summers at Bethany Beach, Del. He and his wife, Anne, have 19 grandchildren. He writes, "When in town, I play golf with my really old Sig Ep brothers, followed by happy hour. Life is good."

**Gustavo (Gus) A. Mellander, BA '59, MA '60, PhD '66**, has been advised by Villanova University library that over 250 of his articles on higher education have been cataloged and digitized. They are available to the public via the Internet. Dr. Mellander was a university dean for nearly 15 years and a college president for 20 years.

**Vincent DeVita, MD '61, HON '84**, was made an honorary life member of the American Cancer Society by the ACS Board of Directors. Dr. DeVita is finishing his term as the society's president. He also was named a fellow of the American Association for Cancer Research Academy, class of 2014, for his scientific contributions, which have led to significant innovation and progress against cancer.

**Robert M. Senior, MD '61**,

a longtime faculty member at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, was awarded the Daniel P. Schuster Award for Distinguished Work in Clinical and Translational Science in January. Dr. Senior, the Dorothy R. and Hubert C. Moog Professor of Pulmonary Diseases in Medicine and professor of cell biology and physiology, is internationally known for his research on the cellular mechanisms of lung remodeling and matrix cell biology.

**Charles Adkins, MS '63, DSc '69**, retired from the CIA in 2001 as a senior scientist. Since retirement, he has consulted for government agencies, including the National Reconnaissance Office. During his career, Dr. Adkins worked in the fields of aerodynamics; the design, stability, and control of unmanned aerial vehicles; acoustics; and digital signal processing. He holds both the Distinguished Intelligence Medal and the Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal awarded by the CIA.

**Fred L. Brown, MBA '66**, was inducted into *Modern Healthcare's* "Health Care Hall of Fame." The recognition program is a partnership between *Modern Healthcare* and the American College of Healthcare Executives, and honors outstanding contributions to the health care industry.

**Howard Eisner, DSc '66**, published his seventh book, *Topics in Systems* (Mercury Learning and Information, 2013). He retired from GW in 2013 as professor emeritus of engineering management and distinguished research professor after 24 years in academia and an earlier 30 years as a research engineer and executive in the industry. He is a life fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a fellow of the International Council on Systems Engineering and the New York Academy of Sciences.

**70s**

**Marc Albert, BA '70, JD '73**, a partner in Stinson Leonard Street

LLP's Washington, D.C. office, has been appointed to the board of The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum. Mr. Albert will serve as co-chair of the museum's board, along with Bruce P. Baganz, president of The Textile Museum board of trustees. GW President Steven Knapp appointed Mr. Albert to the board, which includes art and museum collection experts, art historians, and other professionals.

**Bill Krist, BA '70**, is the author of *Globalization and America's Trade Agreements* (Johns Hopkins Press, 2013), which provides a historic context for, and reviews the theoretical framework of, the United States' complex trade agreements of the past 25 years.

**John S. Viccellio, MS '71**, is a contributing writer for *Carolina Gardener* magazine and has a new e-book, *Guess What's in My Garden!*, available for iPhone, iPad, Kindle, and Nook.

**Adrian Mallin, BA '74**, published *Mother Love Now and After I'm Gone* in March 2013.

**Manuel (Manny) Berman, MS '75**, has been named president and chief operating officer of Tuality Healthcare, a two-hospital health care organization serving Hillsboro, Forest Grove, and the western suburbs of Portland, Ore. He was appointed to his new position by the Tuality Healthcare board of directors.

**William Brittle, MS '75**, has retired from a long and successful career at Bechtel Corp. and continues to share his expertise as regional governor for the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is a structural engineer with extensive experience in construction, environmental engineering, sustainable design, and transportation.

**Barbara Taylor, MA '76**, has published *High Point* (Arcadia Publishing, 2013), part of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series. "Images of America" chronicles the history of small towns and downtowns across the country, as told by local authors.

**Sean Walsh, BS '76**, has been appointed a member of the advisory board of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at GW's School of Engineering and Applied Science. He also is participating in the new GW Athletics Career Mentoring

Program as a mentor to a current GW student-athlete.

**James W. Eyer, MBA '78**, is the 2014 chair of the American Hospital Association's constituency section for psychiatric and substance abuse services. During his one-year term, he will work with the AHA to improve the quality, efficiency, and delivery of psychiatric and substance abuse services.

**Sultan Barq, MS '79**, resides in Pakistan and conducts business in various sectors, including engineering, agriculture, trade, manufacturing, and telecommunications. He is currently considering investment options in the United States.

**Pamela Fishman, MBA '79**, joined The Rozansky Group as a real estate consultant in Bethesda, Md. She also spends time as a hospice volunteer in Montgomery County, Md., and as a cycle and Pilates instructor.

**80s**

**William H. Longyard, BA '80**, published his fifth book, *Learning the English Wheel* (Wolfgang Publications, 2014), which teaches readers the traditional British method of coachbuilding fine automobile bodies using a "wheeling machine."

**Ronald Zelnick, BS '80**, will be the next president of the Palm Beach County Medical Society in West Palm Beach, Fla. The Palm Beach County Medical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to maintaining the highest professional and ethical standards of the medical profession, advocating for the interests of physicians and their patients, and collaborating with others to improve community health.

**Marguerite Mudd Walter, BS '81**, received her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary in May 2013. The Master of Divinity is a three-year graduate degree that is the basic professional degree for ministry.

**Rich Zahradnik, BA '82**, will publish the crime novel *Last Words* (Camel Press, 2014) in November.

**Elliott Kugel, MS '83**, was named one of the "Top 1,000 Advisors in America" by *Barron's*. He also was ranked 15th in the state of New Jersey in the same survey. Mr. Elliott is a managing director of investments at Merrill Lynch in Bridgewater, N.J., and resides in Skillman, N.J.

**Walter (Walt) Mebane, BS '83, MS '91**, works at the U.S. Navy's Naval Sea Systems Command in the Surface Ship Design Group, combatant and mine warfare ships division. He is senior ship design manager for the DDG 51 Flight III program.

**Ian Michel, BA '83**, launched Intersect Advisers, a business advisory and government relations firm based out of West Conshohocken, Pa.

**Tom Paradiso, MS '83**, has run TJP Healthcare Communications, a medical advertising company in San Francisco, for over 15 years. The company specializes in educational and promotional materials for patients and health care professionals, and focuses on medical device companies throughout the world.

**Marion Woodfork Simmons, BA '83**, received the 2013 Caroline Historical Society Award in recognition of her efforts to research, document, promote, and preserve the history of Caroline County, Va. She is the owner of Woodfork Genealogy LLC in Burtonsville, Md., whose mission is to empower people to preserve their family and community history.

**Christopher Wiernicki, MS '83**, received the Vice Admiral "Jerry" Land Medal, given by the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers for outstanding accomplishment in the marine field, in November 2013.

**Kathy Harmon-Luber, CERT '84**, is an artist and musician in Idyllwild, Calif. She recently was profiled by the *Idyllwild Town Crier* and had a piece of art accepted into an art auction.

**David Glodstein, BA '85**, earned a Doctor of Business Administration from Northcentral University in October 2013. His dissertation title is "Examining the Relationship Between Emotional Intelligence of Accountants and Job Satisfaction." Dr. Glodstein is an assistant professor of accounting in the Department of Accounting, Taxation & Business Law of the School of Business at the State University of New York, College at Old Westbury. He is also a CPA and CFE and consults in the field of forensic accounting.

**Ken Albala, BA '86**, is the author of *Grow Food, Cook Food, Share Food: Perspectives on Eating*

*from the Past and a Preliminary Agenda for the Future* (Oregon State University Press, 2013). The book is both a practical food history lesson and an editorial on packaged convenience foods. Mr. Albala is also a professor of history at the University of the Pacific and author of 16 other books.

**Col. Kirk S. Karver, MA '86**, was named the U.S. senior defense official and defense attaché to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay in August 2013.

**Steven Feldman, BA '87, MS '93**, has been named executive director of the Human Animal Bond Research Initiative Foundation. An experienced association executive and public policy advocate with more than 20 years in the field, Mr. Feldman has worked in many related areas, including wildlife conservation, animal welfare, health care, and education.

**Rebecca (Racosky) Taylor, BA '87**, received the Women in Manufacturing STEP Ahead Award from the Manufacturing Institute, the 501(c)(3) affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers. The award celebrates the outstanding science, technology, engineering, and production contributions of women in the manufacturing sector.

**Don Jacobovitz, MS '88**, was recently named among the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year by the American Public Works Association. The APWA annually recognizes 10 national leaders to this list. Mr. Jacobovitz is the public works director of Putnam County, Fla.

**Gary S. Lesser, BA '89**, an attorney with Lesser, Lesser, Landy and Smith, has been named to the 2014 Florida Super Lawyers list.

**90s** **Joshua W. Elvove, MS '90**, was president of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers for 2013. Mr. Elvove is a licensed professional engineer in four states and a certified safety professional. He has more than 32 years of overall fire protection and life safety experience with the federal government and the private sector.

**Daniel M. Korn, BS '91**, is director of training at Credible Inc. Credible provides enterprise SaaS solutions for behavioral health care providers.

**Gulu Gambhir, MS '92, DSc '98**, is chief technology officer of

Leidos, a national security, health and engineering solutions company.

**Laurence Grayer, BBA '92**, is senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of DynCorp International, a multibillion-dollar global aviation, logistics, training, and supply chain company. In his new role, Mr. Grayer leads, manages, and directs the legal affairs of the entire corporation.

**Linda Fisher Thornton, MA '94**, is the author of *7 Lenses: Learning the Principles and Practices of Ethical Leadership* (Leading in Context LLC, 2013). She is CEO of Leading in Context LLC and has been developing leaders for over 25 years. Trust Across America named her one of the 2013 Top 100 Thought Leaders in Trustworthy Business Behavior. Her book site is [leadingincontext.com/7Lenses](http://leadingincontext.com/7Lenses).

**Frank Eldridge Anderson, BA '95**, is the co-author with Ghada Ahmed of *Jimi Wifl and the Train of Time* (Trafford Publishing, 2013), the first in a series of educational adventures aimed at children. Mr. Anderson is a co-author, writer, entertainer, ex-Naval officer, philanthropist, and founder of the E.LLORENZ brand.

**K. Denise Rucker Krepp, BA '95**, testified before the Department of Defense's Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel in January 2014. Ms. Krepp is a former U.S. Coast Guard legal officer and former chief counsel at the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration.

**Robert Middleton, MS '95**, is a senior federal employee with the Department of Homeland Security. He participated this year in a four-week Leadership for a Democratic Society course at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va.

**Heather Patenaude, BA '95**, was promoted to director of financial aid at Simmons College in Boston in November 2013. Ms. Patenaude's career in financial aid began at GW as a student employee. She continued working in financial aid after graduation, working both at the main campus and at the Mount Vernon Campus. She was in the student services office at Boston College before moving to Simmons College in 2003.

**Chuck Silverston, BA '95**, principal at Prudential Unlimited Realty, was named to Boston's

Top 20 December 2013 list of top suburban real estate agents in Massachusetts. The list is based on monthly closed residential sales volume within each geographic region. Mr. Silverston began his career in real estate almost 10 years ago, having previously run a sales department for a real estate magazine and worked in the restaurant business.

**Yahia Lababidi, BA '96**, an Egyptian-American poet, has published *Barely There* (Resource Publications, 2013), described as "a collection of short poems, touching on the life of the spirit and, to a large extent, inspired by the constraints of Twitter." He also was featured in a segment on NPR, where he was asked to read "An Artist's Story of the Arab Spring," a poem from *Barely There*. Mr. Lababidi is a Pushcart Prize-nominated poet whose work has been translated into nearly a dozen languages. He is the author of four other books.

**Martha Chicoski, BA '97**, is president-elect of the State Bar of New Mexico Board of Bar Commissioners for 2014. She has a wide range of litigation experience in both civil and criminal law and is the founder of Chicoski Law Firm LLC. Other bar service includes the New Mexico Women's Bar Association and Young Lawyers Division. She was honored in 2012 as one of *N.M. Business Weekly's* "40 Under Forty."

**Sasha Paillet Koff, BS '97**, is senior director of quality management systems for Johnson & Johnson. Her husband, **Matthew Koff, BS '97**, is an assistant scientist at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, where he uses MRI in the evaluation of musculoskeletal diseases. He recently received an RO1 grant from the National Institutes of Health to use MRI as a biomarker for adverse local tissue reaction in individuals with total hip replacements. They live in New Jersey with their two children, who, they write, "have demonstrated a propensity to take everything and anything apart to examine how it works. We aren't positive, but we think we may have two engineers on our hands!"

**Stacey Young, MBA '97, MS '00**, launched the educational nonprofit Saving Our Communities at Risk Through Educational Services (SOCARTES.org) in December 2012. He also is the author of several books.



**Chris Atkinson, BA '98, MPA '00**, recently published his first book, *Toward Resilient Communities: Examining the Impacts of Local Governments in Disasters* (Routledge, 2013). The book examines how local government institutions affect pre- and post-disaster community and business resilience. Utilizing both survey methods and interviews, Dr. Atkinson analyzes disasters in New Orleans, Los Angeles, Palm Beach County, Fla., and Minot, N.D. Dr. Atkinson received his PhD from Florida Atlantic University, where he has also taught courses in the School of Public Administration.

**Shejal Desai Carpenter, BBA '98, and Asha Aravindakshan, BBA '02**, are bringing a sustainable clean water solution to more than 200 villagers in Orissa, India, through their "Get Moving. Get Thirsty. Get Charitable." fundraising campaign for charity: water ([www.charitywater.org](http://www.charitywater.org)). They were inspired to conduct the campaign following a GWSB Conversations on Creative Leadership series event featuring charity: water's Director of Digital Paull Young. The original goal to raise \$7,000 in donations was surpassed within three weeks.

**William "Bill" Riley Jr., BA '98**, was appointed to the City of Miami Civil Service Board. The mission of the five-member board is to ensure that city employees in the classified service are hired, promoted, and retained based upon merit and not political patronage. Mr. Riley is a shareholder with GrayRobinson in Miami. His practice focuses on representing developers and construction lenders seeking development approvals.

**Rebecca Bratter, BA '00**, was a finalist for Lifestyle Media Group's Up & Comer Award, which showcases the dedication of South Florida professionals to their occupation and their community. Ms. Bratter is a shareholder in the litigation group at Greenspoon Marder Law's Cypress Creek, Fla., office. She also is the founder of Kids Can, a charitable organization that works with children ages 3 to 9 to empower them to give back to their community.

**Megan Moreno, MD '00**, published *Sex, Drugs 'n Facebook: A Parent's Toolkit for Promoting Healthy Internet Use* (Hunter House

Publishers, 2013), a guide to raising "cybersensible" kids. Dr. Moreno and her adolescent health research team have received a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institute of Health to investigate social media and adolescent behavior.

**Melvina Noel, EdD '00**, was twice interviewed in 2013 on NPR by Michel Martin, host of *Tell Me More*. The conversations, about helping students thrive in college, were based on Dr. Noel's book, *How to Thrive in College* (Outskirts Press, 2011). Dr. Noel has also received her certification to teach yoga and now teaches yoga to children for YoKid, a nonprofit that provides instruction for kids and teens.

**Ronald Sasiela, MS '00**, has been named a certified food specialist by the Institute of Food Technologists. Mr. Sasiela, one of the first to be awarded this designation, has worked for more than 45 years in his field, has co-authored industry reference books, and is a co-inventor on patents. He also has served as the research and development director for two large food corporations.

**Emily V. Driscoll, BA '02**, has created two new environmental films, which were shown at the Princeton Environmental Film Festival in February. The two films are entitled *SHELLSHOCKED: Saving Oysters to Save Ourselves* and *Invisible Ocean: Plankton and Plastic*.

**Malcolm Kirwan, MS '02**, received the Modern-Day Technology Leader Award at the 2014 Black Engineer of the Year Awards for his technical achievements and leadership. Mr. Kirwan is an employee of the MITRE Corp., a nonprofit that operates research and development centers sponsored by the federal government.

**Hollie Stephenson, BA '02**, along with **Laura Mirsch, BA '07**, participated in the first International Women's Collaboration Brew Day in March. Currently both brewers at Stone Brewing Co. in Escondido, Calif., Ms. Stephenson and Ms. Mirsch were guest brewers at Mike Hess Brewing in San Diego. Proceeds from sales of the beer during the event were donated toward scholarships for women attending brewing programs.

**Uchechi Wosu, MD '02, MPH '02**, published *Straight Talk from the Doctor* (AuthorHouse, 2014), a guide to healthy lifestyle changes. Dr. Wosu is a general

internist.

**Michael P. Akin, BA '03, MBA '07**, was appointed chairman of the Greater Washington Urban League board of directors. He is the president and founder of Reingold LINK, a D.C.-based strategic communications and community engagement firm.

**Abdulaziz Alhargan, DSc '03**, is CEO at Kentune Consultancy.

**Jay Campbell, BBA '03, MS '03**, an attorney at Adams and Reese LLP, is partner in charge of the firm's Memphis, Tenn., office. He is ranked among Mid-South Rising Stars in Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities and Corporate Finance, and is a member of the Leadership Memphis Executive Class of 2014.

**Marietta Gregg, BA '03**, is director of marketing at Patience Brewster Inc., an artist-driven company making handmade products globally. She will now manage all major products on the company's planning calendar from her Cambridge, Mass., office.

**Sivya S. Leventhal, BA '04**, and her husband, Keith, welcomed their first child, Elliot William Leventhal, on Nov. 14, 2013.

**L. Trenton Marsh, MA '04**, was named the winner of New York University's 8th Annual MLK Oratorical Contest for his original speech, "The Courage to Dream." Mr. Marsh is a PhD student studying social psychology and urban education at NYU, where he has a full scholarship. He is on educational leave of absence from IBM Corp., where he serves as a managing business consultant.

**Bill Butler, MBA '05**, was promoted to managing director at Citigroup Inc. Mr. Butler works for Citi's Private Bank, both in the Silicon Valley, Calif., and San Francisco offices.

**Holly Clarke Gardner, MS '05**, had her second child, James Christopher Clarke Gardner, on June 15, 2013. She lives in Panama City Beach, Fla., with her husband, Chris, and daughter, Charlotte, and runs a studio specializing in commercial/editorial photography and documentary wedding photography. She also has been working as an environmental science professor, from which she is currently taking time off to focus on her family and business.

**Dan LeClair, BA '05**, is director of planned and leadership giving at Kimball Union Academy

in Meriden, N.H. He is also a recent addition to GW's Heritage Society. He was proud to represent GW on April 26 as a presidential delegate to the ceremonial inauguration and installation of Mariko Silver as the 10th president of Bennington College.

**Avi Rasowsky, BA '05, and Heather (Kaufman) Rasowsky, BS '06**, welcomed their second son, Cyrus Levin Rasowsky, weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces, on Dec. 23, 2013, in Chicago. Ms. Rasowsky was an exercise science major and competed on the gymnastics team while at GW. Mr. Rasowsky was a speech and hearing science major and a pitcher on GW's baseball team.

**Ian Schenkman, BBA '05**, married Lauren Vingiano, BA '06, in Boston in November 2013. The wedding was attended by numerous fellow Colonials, including **Joseph Zagorski, MD '74; Brian Corbman, BBA '99; Jonathan Tuteur, BBA '99; Lorne Beitler, BBA '05; Nicole Blank, BA '05; Chase Jacobson, BBA '05; Gidon Margolin, BBA '05; Jose Mogollon, BBA '05; Daniel Rieger, BBA '05; Noah Schechtman, BBA '05; Danya Ellman, BA '06, MA '12; Julia Friedman, BA '06; Andrew Goodman, BBA '06; Alex Horowitz, BBA '06; Michelle Krieger, BS '06; Bryn Lansdowne, BA '06; Janeane Menaldino, BBA '06; Robert Palumbo, BBA '06; Joseph Ramkhelawan, BBA '06; Mollie Van Horn, BA '06; and Daniel Witkin, BBA '06**. Mr. Schenkman and Ms. Vingiano met in 2004 while attending GW.

**Shyaam Sundhar Rajamadam Srinivasan, MS '05, CERT '05**, worked in the computer security field for several years and currently works at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

**Jon Tollefson, BA '05, MA '08**, is running to succeed retiring state Rep. John Benson in Minnesota House District 44B. Mr. Tollefson, a native of Minnetonka, Minn., was a foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department in Nigeria, Mexico, and Washington, D.C., for five years before moving back to Minnesota. He currently works at the Minnesota High Tech Association as a technology advocate, and is a member of both the GW Alumni Association Board of Directors and the GW LGBT

Alumni Association Board.

**Jerah R. Cordova, BA '06**, was elected mayor of Belen, N.M., in March. Belen is part of the middle Rio Grande region of Albuquerque. Mr. Cordova, the youngest Belen mayor ever elected, will serve a four-year term.

**Scott Holtz, BA '06**, opened Prestia|Holtz PA, a law firm in West Palm Beach, Fla. The firm focuses on criminal defense, personal injury, and real estate/foreclosure cases. Mr. Holtz has been practicing since 2009. Before starting the firm, he was a prosecutor in Miami and worked in civil litigation.

**Shweta Mulcare, BS '06**, recently received the Technology Rising Star award for her technical achievements and leadership at the 2013 Women of Color STEM Conference this past October. The annual event, hosted by *Women of Color* magazine and sponsored by Career Communications Group Inc., recognizes multicultural women throughout the United States who excel in technical careers. Ms. Mulcare, a PhD candidate at GW, is an employee of the MITRE Corp., a not-for-profit organization that operates research and development centers sponsored by the federal government.

**Hamed M. Shamma, PhD '07**, has been promoted to associate professor and named the BP Endowed Chair at the American University in Cairo. He is currently working with various corporations in the oil and gas, telecommunications, and pharmaceutical industries on finding ways to improve and better manage their reputations.

**Oliver Truong, BA '07**, is the co-founder of Balance: The GW Ballet Group, which celebrated its 10th anniversary on Saturday, March 29 at the Hand Chapel on GW's Mount Vernon Campus. Hand Chapel was the site of Balance's very first performance. From a cast of 11 in 2004, Balance has grown to a membership of over 100. Today, Balance performs not only on campus but also in the community.

**Evan Weisman, MBA '07**, director of development at First Potomac Realty Trust in Washington, D.C., along with his team, recently received LEED Platinum Certification for 440 First Street, NW. The project is only the ninth LEED CS Platinum certified building in Washington, D.C. The LEED Platinum designation

recognizes a building's sustainable design and construction practices, which increase profitability while reducing a building's negative environmental impact.

**Jason Zimmerman, BA '07**, was selected to serve on the Central Florida Young Professionals Advisory Council. Mr. Zimmerman is an associate in the Orlando office of GrayRobinson.

**Adam Bink, MA '08**, was named campaign director for UltraViolet ([wearultraviolet.org](http://wearultraviolet.org)), a nonprofit fighting for women's rights with 550,000 members in every state and congressional district.

**Andrew Costanzo, MA '08**, received the 2013 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award for Investigating Where We Live, a program he developed at the National Building Museum, where he is manager of teen programs. Chosen from a pool of more than 350 nominations and 50 finalists, Investigating Where We Live is one of only 12 after-school and out-of-school programs across the country to receive the award, which is the highest honor such programs can receive in the United States. First lady Michelle Obama presented the award on Nov. 22 at the White House.

**Katherine E. Hall, MA '08**, a member of the U.S. Foreign Service, has been serving as the cultural affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis, Tunisia, since March 2013. Her work focuses on the promotion of understanding and strong ties between the people of the United States and Tunisia through a variety of cultural, educational, and professional programs and exchange opportunities. Ms. Hall's next diplomatic post will be at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City in 2015.

**Jay Kaplan, BS '08, MS '09**, is the co-founder of Synack, a company that provides vulnerability assessments and penetration testing. Synack's proprietary technology allows companies to safely engage leading global security researchers to test their systems in highly efficient virtual private testing environments.

**Robert Luke, MS '08, MA '12**, joined the higher education practice of executive search firm Witt/Kiefer as a New England-based associate. He will assist in identifying presidents, chancellors, provosts, deans, and vice presidents on behalf of public and private colleges and

universities. Mr. Luke most recently served as the special assistant to the Office of the Provost at GW.

**Maureen (Molly) Moss, BA '08**, has joined Faegre Baker Daniels LLP in Indianapolis. Ms. Moss is an associate with the construction and real estate litigation group in the downtown Indianapolis office. Prior to joining FaegreBD, she was an associate at Riley Bennett & Egloff in Indianapolis. While there she advised clients in medical malpractice, worker's compensation, and construction matters.

**Megan Whittemore, BA '08, MS '10**, was named to PR News Group's "2013 PR People to Watch" list. Ms. Whittemore, who is press secretary for House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, BA '85, was recognized in the "Corporations & Associations" category.

**Ann Gaffey, MS '09**, an adjunct faculty member at GW, will serve on the board of directors of the National Perinatal Information Center/Quality Analytic Services, a nonprofit organization in Providence, R.I. Ms. Gaffey, who is senior vice president of healthcare risk management and patient safety for the professional liability division at Sedgwick Claims Management Services Inc., is a frequent speaker on topics related to risk reduction and management strategies in health care.

**Nuzhat (Nuzi) Haneef, PhD '09**, is currently working for Dell Services on an IT contract with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. She can be found on LinkedIn.

**Hal Nesbitt, MBA '09**, was named director of marketing and information services for the American Society of Nephrology in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Alexandra, welcomed twin boys in January 2014.

**Sydney Savion, EdD '09**, published *Bliss: Unleashing Happiness in Your Mind, Body and Spirit* (Stillpoint Media, 2013). *Bliss* "captures a practical approach for marching towards a magnified emotional state of joy, fulfillment, and happiness in your daily life."

**Ian Balina, BS '10, MS '12**, began his career at Deloitte as a consultant in 2013 and now works at IBM as an IT specialist. **Mike Copps, MBA '10**, was honored as one of the "Forty Under

40" by the Association Forum of Chicagoland and USAAE. Mr. Copps is a senior manager of the Healthcare & Scientific Industry Practice at SmithBucklin and serves as executive director of the National Association of Healthcare Access Management and the Healthcare Industry Supply Chain Institute.

**Alex Florescu, BS '10, MS '11**, has been working at Yahoo in London since the spring of 2013.

**Alessandra DeSarno Kelly, BS '10**, was married on Oct. 19, 2013. She and her husband are building a new house and moving to North Carolina. She currently works at UBS Investment Bank in IT infrastructure services.

**Lt. Cmdr. Zeita Merchant, MPA '10**, the executive officer of the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Safety Unit Texas City, in Texas, was presented the Professional Achievement—Government award at the 2014 Black Engineer of the Year Awards STEM Global Competitiveness Conference. The conference, which took place in February in Washington, D.C., is hosted by *US Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine, the Council of Engineering Deans of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Lockheed Martin Corp.

**Cheryl Walton, BA '11**, has been awarded a Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarship to Malaysia for an English teaching assistantship. She departed in early January to begin her service. During her time at GW, Ms. Walton was involved with several student organizations and also volunteered in the D.C. community. Upon graduating from GW, she interned with the Department of Defense as a congressional liaison.

**Douglas Hess, PhD '12**, an assistant professor at Grinnell College, received a discretionary grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York to study effective, low-cost strategies for states to better implement the National Voter Registration Act. Dr. Hess will work alongside two colleagues from the University of Maryland and the University of Notre Dame, as well as with Grinnell College students. The grant began in March and will last for 18 months.

**Christian Benz, BA '14**, kicked off 2014 by climbing to the summit of Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro. He showed his GW

10s



pride by displaying the school flag along the climbing route and at the summit. He writes, "The climb was as exhilarating as it was exhausting but well worth it in the end."



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

EMAIL [magazine@gwu.edu](mailto:magazine@gwu.edu)  
MAIL *Alumni News Section*  
*GW Magazine*  
2121 Eye Street, NW  
Suite 501  
Washington, DC 20052

## IN MEMORIAM

### Stuart H. Martel, MD '45

June 9, 2013  
Fullerton, Calif.

### Richard Fick Purcell, AA '47, BA '48

Aug. 13, 2013  
Marco Island, Fla.

### Harold Mesriow, AA '52, BA '54, LLB '57

Dec. 24, 2013  
Washington, D.C.

### Margaret Ann Davidson Merritt, AA '53

Jan. 29, 2014  
Richmond, Va.

### Michael Kammen, AA '56, BA '58

Nov. 29, 2014  
Ithaca, N.Y.

### Allan R. Plumley Jr., BA '59, JD '62,

Dec. 26, 2013  
Arlington, Va.

### Ralph G. Jorgensen, BA '60, LLB '62

Dec. 12, 2013  
Tabor City, N.C.

### Helen Wolle, MA '61, EdD '79

Dec. 9, 2013  
Newport News, Va.

### Marshall Levitan, BS '64, MS '73

March 7, 2014

Burke, Va.

### George McClary, PhD '69

Sept. 12, 2013  
Richmond, Va.

### James Reichman, MA '72

Aug. 1, 2013  
Stone Mountain, Ga.

### Heidi R. Moore, MA '91

July 27, 2013  
Arlington, Va.

### Timothy Swain Ruch, MBA '09

Dec. 25, 2013  
Alexandria, Va.

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UPCOMING SHOWS BY GW PROFESSORS AND ALUMNI

# ARTISTS' QUARTER



**Requiem in White, Paris, 2002, acrylic on linen, 67" x 43-1/4", Estate Collection**

## In Memoriam

**Arthur Hall Smith, MFA '79** was honored this spring with a memorial exhibition at GW's Luther W. Brady Art Gallery. An artist and educator, Mr. Smith joined GW's Department of Fine Arts and Art History in 1974 and inspired many students, including Holly Trostle Brigham, MA '94, who dedicated her recent exhibition at GW to his memory. (See Artists' Quarter, *GW Magazine* Spring 2014.) Mr. Smith retired in 1997 and moved to Paris, where he died last year.

The painting *Requiem in White* (left) portrays Mr. Smith's elegiac recollection of the varying shapes of paper floating through the air, caught in wind gusts, against a smoke-filled sky on Sept. 11, 2001.

**Sherry Zvares Sanabria, BA '59**, a longtime contributor to Artists' Quarter, died March 3 in Falls Church, Va. Ms. Sanabria's paintings focused on the emotional resonance of empty spaces, including slave quarters, German concentration camps, and decaying rooms at Ellis Island.

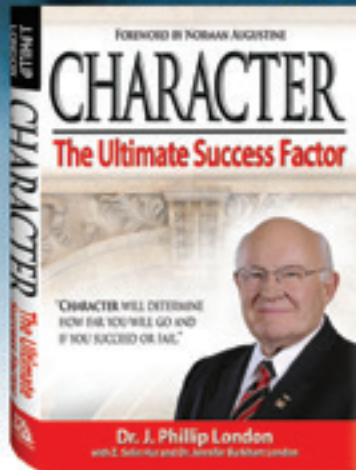


**Sherry Zvares Sanabria with her painting, St. Elizabeths Chairs.**



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**Dr. Jack London**, CACI Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board and a 1971 alumnus of The George Washington University, shares his over 40 years of character-driven leadership experience in his new book, *Character: The Ultimate Success Factor*. **He urges everyone – especially those in leadership, role model, and mentoring positions – to make a commitment to character and to raise the bar on our expectations of integrity and ethical behavior.**

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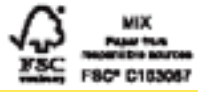


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