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Muhlenberg



A Global View

Students, Faculty and Alumni
Explore the World Around Them

Winter
2017

Muhlenberg

THE MAGAZINE

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The ability to travel widely is a lure for many alumni who live and work outside of the United States, including London-based Jake Floyd '10, pictured in Hong Kong with his wife Gemma. Read more about alumni abroad on page 8.

Cover: Ana Negron '17, Melissa Mayol '17, Abigail Lazofsky '17 and Jacqueline Jones '17 (L to R) overlook one of the main study sites on the Abangares River that provides drinking water to the community of Las Juntas—the focus of the group's studies on community sustainability during their 2016 MILA trip to Costa Rica.

Credit: Joseph Elliott, professor of art.

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In this edition,

we attach a wider lens to our thrice-yearly look at Muhlenberg, spotlighting the College's reach all over the globe. We take a look at international programs for students and professors, expatriate alumni, memories of trips past, the ever-diversifying student body and lots of other global connections.

We begin with two perspectives on that confusing term known as “globalization” by President John Williams and political science professor Mohsin Hashim P’19. The term has become a political football, but Williams and Hashim help us understand how we are all globally connected in one way or another and what globalization means for Muhlenberg.



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Political science professor Mohsin Hashim examines how we can be better global citizens.

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Many factors draw Muhlenberg grads to lives and careers outside the U.S.

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Biology professor Rich Niesenbaum and his students have been studying in Costa Rica for two decades.

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Students studying abroad report that the experience has a profound impact on them.

On a 2016 MILA trip, Muhlenberg students and faculty worked with hip-hop artists in Dakar, Senegal, to film a video for their upcoming album. Their music is part of a larger movement called “Y en a marre” (Fed Up) that works for political and social change among the youth in Senegal.



The Case for a Global Education

Globalization is the fancy, modern name for the ancient process by which people in one place obtain goods or services produced by other people located in a far-off place, usually a different nation. Researchers at the Metropolitan Museum of Art remind us that: “Long-distance trade played a major role in the cultural, religious and artistic exchanges that took place between the major centers of civilization in Europe and Asia during antiquity. The trade routes served principally to transfer raw materials, foodstuffs and luxury goods from areas with surpluses to others where they were in short supply.”

According to the World Bank, between 1960 and 2015, world exports, expressed as a percentage of GDP, grew substantially, indicating the growing impact of globalization (see graph).

Between 1960 and 2015, with the creation of intermodal transportation, commercial airlines and the Internet, and with various “free-trade” treaties such as the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), U.S. exports as a percentage of GDP have increased dramatically, from 5 percent to 12.6 percent. Other countries are even more dependent on the rest of the world than the U.S. For example, over the same period, Belgium’s exports have grown from 37.8 percent to 84.4 percent of GDP and China’s from 4.3 percent to 22.4 percent.

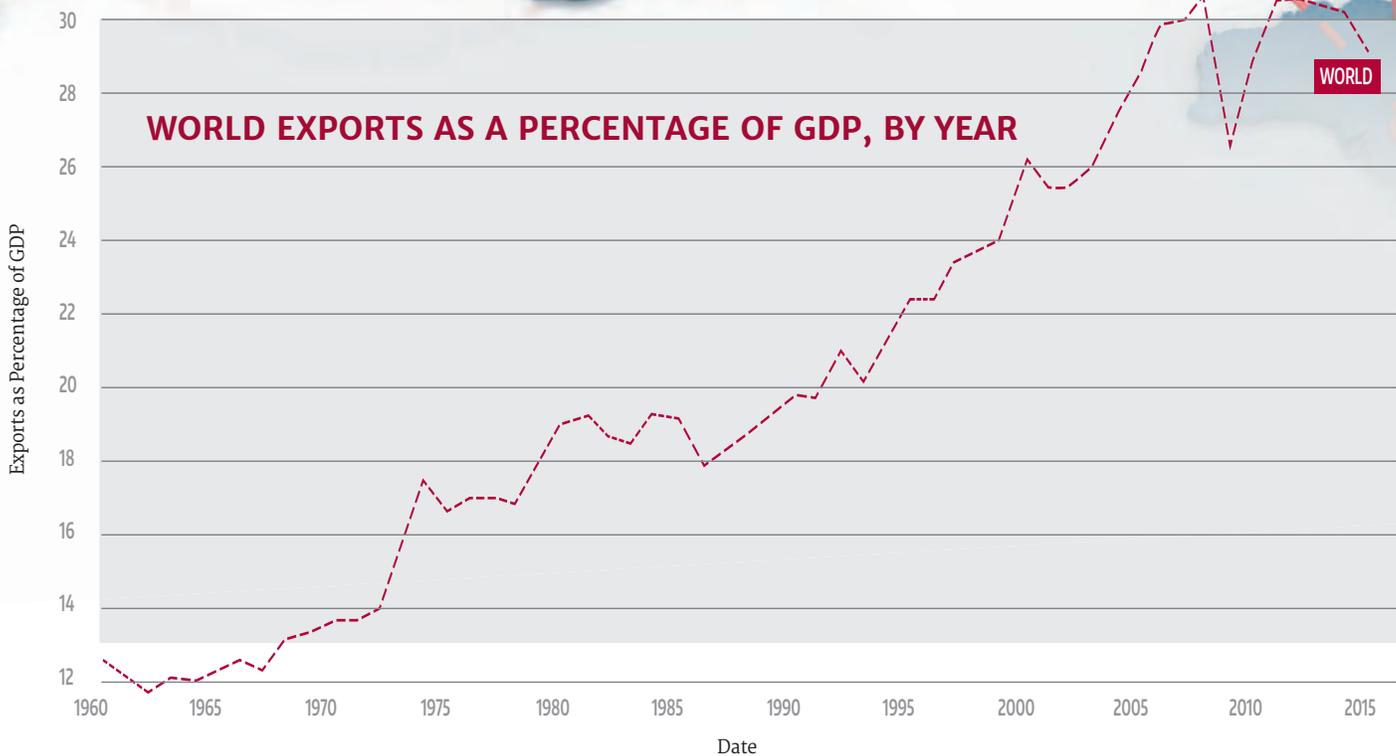
But there are challenges associated with globalization. As trade shifts economic activity from one place to another, some regions suffer dislocation. For example, the steel industry in the U.S. prospered during and after World War II, while the steel industries in Germany and Japan lay devastated by Allied bombardment. By the 1970s, however, foreign plants were rebuilt using a more modern technology called “continuous casting,” which produced steel more efficiently. Demand shifted over time to these lower-cost competitors, leading to

the ultimate bankruptcy and closing of Bethlehem Steel – and to massive unemployment in the Lehigh Valley.

Since the mid-1990s, global communications—satellite TV and the World Wide Web—have been a major enabler of globalization. News and information that once took weeks to travel around the world is now available everywhere instantaneously. Many U.S. companies have outsourced their customer service functions to call centers in India and the Philippines, among other places, resulting in the shifting of white-collar jobs. Countless industries are being transformed as lower-cost, albeit highly skilled workers around the globe are taking over tasks once reserved for higher-paid workers in the U.S. and other highly developed economies.

Of course, globalization is about far more than economics. It is also a tremendous driver of social and cultural transformations reflected in fashion, food, music and entertainment. Globalization is also an environmental concept, as carbon emissions anywhere on Earth have global consequences. The overall point is that the world is growing ever more interconnected each year.

So, why is all of this important for Muhlenberg College? First, more than a few of our alumni and their families and neighbors have suffered through economic dislocations associated with the demise of steelmaking and other manufacturing industries in and around the Lehigh Valley. But looking forward we must also realize that our current and future students will inherit a world in which a domestically-focused education will be inadequate. This is one reason we continue to have a language requirement and why we place so much emphasis on global education. In recent years, more than 50 percent of Muhlenberg students have studied abroad prior to graduation. Furthermore, we draw students



from all regions of the U.S. and from all over the world, including China, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea and Vietnam, among others. International students represent 3-5 percent of our most recently admitted classes. Their presence enriches the educational experience of all our students.

As you would expect, having more international students on campus has led us to make some adjustments. For one, international students often need storage space in ways not needed by students from homes within a 200-mile radius of campus.

While we take great care to screen applicants for English proficiency, different levels of fluency can pose challenges at times for our faculty. Thus, Muhlenberg has moved forward with international student recruitment a bit more cautiously than have some other colleges but with no less determination to do so successfully, the goal being to provide a richer learning environment for all our students.

Like it or not, the globalization genie is out of the bottle and here to stay. Muhlenberg College is committed to preparing all our students for a global future, and you will see

us develop even more global partnerships and engagements in the years ahead. These are exciting times and globalization offers an exciting future. Muhlenberg is taking its place on the global stage, and I hope you are as excited about that as I am.

John I. Williams, Jr.
President, Muhlenberg College



Understanding Globalization

By Mohsin Hashim, Professor of Political Science

There is much passion surrounding the issue of globalization, but not much understanding. Globalization is a multidimensional process that manifests itself across economic, political, social and cultural dimensions. These are not linear processes that can be understood in isolation from each other.

Pro-globalization forces argue that globalization integrates markets, political systems and cultures in beneficial ways for most, if not all, participants. Conversely, anti-globalization forces rally around the negative impact of increased interdependence among states and markets, calling out negative distributive and environmental outcomes as well as human and cultural rights abuses.

When commentators define globalization as increased economic interdependence among states and actors in the global arena, we need to understand how those bonds are formed and informed in political, social and cultural realms. Economic integration is propelled not just by revolutions in communication and transportation infrastructures, but also by powerful states and international organizations that promote deregulation, liberal trade, privatization and increased capital mobility. The latter, often called “hot money,” is the result of global deregulation that has allowed capital, a portion of it speculative, to move in and out of countries at a rapid rate, causing shocks in smaller economies.

It is inarguable that the promotion of an international free market and free trade regime is based on political and ideological decisions that reflect the preferences of elites in the developed countries. Many in the developing world feel that the rules of free markets and trade are imposed upon them without

regard to their economic preferences and cultural history. In fact, critics have labeled the neoliberal policies of rapid market liberalization as the “Washington Consensus,” the United States being the largest donor and agenda-setter of both the World Bank and International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

But remember that globalization affects not only those Brazilian workers who have been made redundant by privatized, state-owned enterprises, but also the textile and steelworkers in our own country. Both bemoan the good old days of economic security that were sacrificed in the name of economic efficiency. More frighteningly, so does a rising group of right-wing populists, visible in both the United States and Europe, who have tapped into a sense of loss and dislocation. They fear that the gains of economic liberalization are being garnered disproportionately by the wealthy magnates of financial capital, and that their jobs are being outsourced to low-wage regions.

Critics of American domestic and foreign policy passionately argue that the globalization we have promoted has created an unjust and unstable world. They point to our misadventures related to democracy promotion, state-building and war on terror, which have alienated both allies and foes. Many have called into question our moral authority to lead the world, given our overseas follies. And our aspirations to serve as a model liberal democratic and capitalist system have been undermined by unequal and racialized socioeconomic, political and criminal justice systems that we have created and sustained at home. America’s power in the global arena, instead of being reinforced by the end of the Cold War, is being contested by



diverse actors, ranging from Russia to ISIS. Domestically, the taint of socioeconomic and racial injustice is undermining America's legitimizing myths.

But instead of recoiling and rejecting globalization, we need to seriously consider how it can be better managed. Precisely when many Americans are feeling vulnerable to criticism from overseas and domestic actors, we need to recognize that our moral, economic and carbon footprints extend beyond our national boundaries.

We need national and international coalitions to seriously consider the possibility of regulating markets in ways that benefit working peoples across the globe. Global markets clearly need a regulatory framework that is crafted not behind closed doors but out in the open where it can be designed to service the economic interests of all, not just the select few. National and transnational civil society

organizations need to mobilize around serious discussions designed to create a more just and sustainable order that invests in the human condition and dignity. It is the moment when we have to decide whether we will continue to hide behind provincial mindsets or truly engage as global citizens.



Mohsin Hashim is a professor of political science at Muhlenberg College. He researches post-Soviet Russian political and economic transitions. His life and studies have spanned three continents, and he remains fluent in Russian and Bengali. Hashim earned his Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University. He also holds a Master's degree in economics from Moscow State University.



Mohsin Hashim with colleagues on a faculty trip to Bangladesh he organized with fellow political science professor Jack Gambino. Photo courtesy of Jack Gambino.

Susanne Thompson '91

In retrospect, the most surprising thing about Susanne Thompson's four years at Muhlenberg is that she stayed in one place. The '91 graduate came to campus fresh off a four-month stay in what she describes as a "teeny-tiny" French village near the Swiss Alps, and, after her post-college career as an educator took off, she has rarely stopped traversing the globe.

"It's funny, but I don't remember even thinking about an exchange program while I was here," says Thompson, who is now the Head of School Partnerships in the United Kingdom for Discovery Education, a leading provider of digital content and professional development for grades kindergarten through 12th. "That idea of student travel wasn't as prevalent back then and, anyway, I was really involved in campus life as a resident advisor and a tour guide. I had a job and I loved my classes."

Thompson, who was born in Virginia and raised in Bloomsburg, Pa., took an across-the-curriculum group of courses that earned her a degree in humanities (no longer a major at 'Berg) and a certain way of looking at the world.

"Muhlenberg did a beautiful job of laying the groundwork to a liberal arts way of thinking," says Thompson. "That means an openness to opportunities, innovative thinking, being deeply respectful to other cultures and being receptive to other ideas."

She singled out professor Daniel Wilson (still in the history department), Ludwig Schlecht (an emeritus professor of philosophy) and the late Ann Wonsiewicz, who was a professor of education. "All of them played significant roles in shaping my thinking," says Thompson. "They showed me the importance of having expertise in your particular subject matter driven by research and data. I used that skill throughout my professional career."

She first used it domestically as an elementary teacher and eventually as an administrator, rising to the position of superintendent in the Northwestern Lehigh School District. It was there she was noticed by an executive at Discovery, which partners with a variety of

local and state-wide districts as well as like-minded organizations around the country to provide students and teachers with tools that accelerate academic achievement.

Thompson signed on and subsequently held a variety of positions at Discovery, traveling widely and gradually working her way into the sales and marketing part of the business.

"We eventually acquired a digital content company in the U.K., and we were struggling to find the right person to bring brand awareness and passion," says Thompson, who has managed to stay Muhlenberg-active as a former Alumni Board member, member of the *Circle of 1948* and a MuhlNet volunteer. "That turned out to be me."

She travels back and forth between the U.K. and Discovery's offices in Silver Spring, Md., but business also takes her from time to time to Canada, Mexico, China and even Egypt, where Discovery is involved in an educational partnership green-lit by president Abdel Fattah el-Sisi. And in her spare time?

Well, she travels, of course. She and her husband, Mark, an architect with the Washington, D.C.-based Paralyzed Veterans Association, and sons Joshua and Jacob globetrot here and there, sometimes separately, sometimes together.

Any lessons learned from being a sometime expatriate?

"Well, when we come back home, the first thing we're reminded of is how privileged we are," says Thompson. "Yes, the negative political climate is suddenly quite stunning and depressing. But the other part of it is that we can yell about it and raise our fists and have open debate and not worry about repercussions. That's not the case in some of the places I've been."

Thompson is a long way from finished, but already sees a retirement scenario not much different, in fact, from the life she's been living.

"I think retirement will be working or writing or teaching all over, living in certain places, maybe six months here, six months there, six months back in the States," says Thompson. "We absolutely love it, and it has enriched our lives in important ways. My ashes will probably be spread all over the globe."



Susanne Thompson visiting the Great Sphinx of Giza in Egypt

Reflections of the Dublin Director

By David Tafler, Professor of Media & Communication



Muhlenberg College offers a semester-long study abroad at Dublin City University (DCU) located in Dublin, Republic of Ireland. The program is specially designed for students majoring in media & communication and film studies, but is open to all students meeting program requirements. David Tafler served as Dublin Director and traveled with Muhlenberg students in Spring 2016.

I asked **Alyssa Kratz '17**, Dublin Program student in Spring 2016, to share her reflections of arrival day in Dublin:

Though arrival day in Dublin was going to be arduous, what with jet lag and transitioning from what seemed to be one world to another, knowing that a Muhlenberg faculty member was waiting on the other side of the Atlantic to direct us through our first hours in Ireland was a comforting thought. Sure enough, when the 12 of us arrived after the seven-hour plane ride from Newark Airport, we found that having a resident director with us those first few hours was definitely beneficial.

Once we arrived at DCU, Dr. Tafler, the faculty's Dublin Director, walked with us to the Omniplex, the Irish version of the mall, to purchase bedding, mobile phones and other necessities that didn't fit in our bags. We were exhausted and thought only of crashing, but keeping on the move and following an itinerary was the best strategy. What felt like the longest day of my life ended with a group dinner at a nearby pub, Hedigan's, where we were introduced to Steven Knowton, one of the DCU's media and communication faculty members, who gave us an overview of DCU protocols and procedures. After dinner, we took cabs back to the DCU campus for a very good night's sleep, happy that we had had a friendly face to guide us.

Following up on Alyssa's description of arrival day, the Dublin Director continues to serve as a global bridge for the students in the program, bringing some small trace of the recognizable frame of Muhlenberg College in Allentown to the world of Dublin City University in the capital of Ireland. The Dublin Director helps students to contextualize their different world experience, which includes: articulating the meaning of living in a foreign country, the significance of living in this familiar yet different foreign country, helping to define the Republic of Ireland's relationship

to the United Kingdom, to the European Union, to the world at large.

The Dublin Director also serves as a comfortable sounding board for students to express their ideas and feelings without the overseas constraints of protocol and politeness when reflecting on their learning and cultural experiences.

The Dublin Director acts as an informal ambassador between Muhlenberg and DCU, more specifically between our department of media & communication and DCU's School of Communication. Over the course of the residency, the Dublin Director establishes bonds with a number of colleagues, participating as a contributor to the (teaching staff seminar (overseas faculty are labeled "teaching staff"). With an assigned office, the Dublin Director maintains his or her ongoing presence at DCU and continues numerous professional conversations with colleagues. At the same time, the Dublin Director remains an active member of the Muhlenberg faculty.

The Dublin Director teaches one of the three DCU courses or "modules" in which students matriculate as part of the program. During spring 2016, the Muhlenberg course "Community Media" focused on grassroots media in Ireland. The different concepts of community between Ireland and the students' home environments and the respective differences in media experience(s) provide a platform for exploring cultural, political and economic/social differences.

Early in the semester, the class visited NEAR MEDIA, a community media radio and television service in a predominantly working-class neighborhood of Dublin. Traveling across the northern tier of the city, the class arrived at the studio of NEAR FM in the early afternoon. Students met with staff to discuss the objectives of community media in Ireland, the fiscal demands, the social mission and the organization's auxiliary training programs.

After retiring to a pub for dinner, students returned to NEAR MEDIA for an evening forum featuring the candidates from the district running for the Dáil Éireann, the lower house of the Irish parliament. As it turns out, that district proved one of the more hotly fought with ballot counting lasting three days in the preferential voting system.

Following up on the NEAR MEDIA trip, students visited, via Skype, Northern Visions, a community-based operation situated in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Differences in the respective operations revealed differences in motivating philosophy, as well as reflecting the more subtle differences between the north and the south. Later, a representative of the Irish Red Cross visited the class to discuss their community outreach efforts.

As an instructor resident in Ireland, the Dublin Director lives the experience with the students: of the Irish election and of the national commemoration (in 2016 Ireland celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising, the insurrection that many credit as the spearhead of Irish independence). Insights gained by the Dublin Director's enhanced experiences, such as visiting the site of ballot counting, contributed to the shared impressions. The Dublin Director provides a sounding board for students integrating their experience with the larger campus and extended city. Early on, the Dublin Director helps students become acquainted with their new surroundings, but as students become more grounded and begin internships, they are increasingly independent and become real residents of Ireland, not simply students studying in Ireland.

David Tafler's research chronicles some of the earliest innovative applications of interactive video technology. His work focuses on viewer-participant experience in an evolving media culture environment. Recently, that cultural focus has shifted to the Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara people of the central desert of Australia and the evolution of their 50,000 year old culture in the electronic age. His courses focus on the convergence of multimedia, television, audio and telephone technologies.

ALUMNI ABROAD

MANY FACTORS DRAW MUHLENBERG GRADS TO LIVES AND CAREERS OUTSIDE THE U.S.

Have you ever dreamed of cooking in Paris? Banking in Switzerland? Executing business deals in Hong Kong, London, Egypt or Mexico? Muhlenberg grads have done all that and much more.

Some took to the road right after graduation, while others changed their lives years after establishing themselves in the United States.

What they share is the feeling that living and working abroad has enriched their lives.

Here are some of their stories.

The Chinese New Year's party that was celebrated last January at the Hong Kong offices of White & Case, a large multinational law firm, could've been decorated in cardinal and grey. For there, raising a glass to prosperity and each other, were three Muhlenberg graduates who had somehow found their way together in partnership so far away from where they started.

"A photographer took a picture of Eric, Sharon and me talking at the reception," says **Art Scavone '81**, the firm's global head of Energy, Infrastructure and Project Finance. "When I saw the picture it suddenly hit me. What are the odds that three alums who were five years apart at Muhlenberg would wind up 35 years later as partners at the same law firm having drinks in Hong Kong?"

But there they were, a long way from home. Eric is **Eric Berg '78**, White & Case's head of Asia-Pacific and global head of banking, and Sharon is **Sharon Hartline '82**, who is the office executive partner in Hong Kong and specializes in advising clients about investments focused on the Asian region. Berg and Hartline are working together in Asia, while the New York-based Scavone is in and out and all over the place. He and Berg, in fact, just returned from Australia, where they were working together to establish new White & Case offices in Sydney and Melbourne.

Berg and Scavone knew each other at Muhlenberg and later served together on the Board of Trustees. Berg was a lacrosse co-captain and Scavone co-captained the football team. Hartline had a sports career of her own: She and roommate Tammy (Johnson) O'Shaughnessy co-founded the 'Berg's women's lacrosse club in 1981, back when women played with wooden sticks strung with leather and deer gut. "The guys were already playing with aluminum sticks and deeper pockets," quips Hartline.

Hartline never met either of her fellow grads until they began working at the same firm. Though Hartline took Chinese history and a Korean political science course at Muhlenberg—she first got interested in China after reading Pearl S. Buck's "The Good Earth"—none took a trip abroad as students. "The furthest I traveled from the tri-state area in college," says Scavone, "were the trips we took to Johns Hopkins for football my freshman and junior years."

Berg did a lot of traveling for the firm but was based in New York City for most of his career. He stayed close to Muhlenberg, which is to be expected, after all, for a man named Berg. Besides being a Trustee, he headed up the search committee that recommended the hiring of John Williams as president.



Art Scavone '81, Sharon Hartline '82 and Eric Berg '78 in the Hong Kong offices of White & Case.

"It's an adjustment moving to Asia, no doubt about that," says Berg, 59, one of White & Case's heavy hitters who has handled some of the firm's biggest deals. "But when it was presented to me it seemed like an exciting opportunity and a way to broaden my horizons. My reading list has changed and so have my traveling habits. My wife [Claudia] and I are getting to a lot of Asian countries. It's a way to keep learning, which is a great thing.

"I don't speak any of the Asian languages where our offices are located, and, with the occasional use of interpreters, I'm able to get by with English. But I definitely encourage Muhlenberg students to take advantage of study-abroad opportunities and learn as much as they can about other cultures and languages."

Hartline is the most seasoned internationalist among them, having been in Asia for White & Case for 25 years. She was first centered in Hong Kong but throughout the 1990s worked in several Asia countries and is now back to speaking what she calls "baby Mandarin."

As for Scavone, he does so much traveling here, there and everywhere that it's a wonder that any language is his first. In 1987, as a third-year associate, he agreed to work in the firm's Tokyo office. "I said yes, put on my jacket, went to a bookstore and bought an atlas to find out exactly where I had just agreed to move to," he says with a laugh. "Now my projects group has 290 lawyers spread out in 17 different countries, and I spend a lot of time traveling to those offices." He was recently involved in an energy project that required him to visit clients in Moscow, London, Paris, Rome, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul.

The sojourn abroad of **Jake Floyd '10** began, as so many have, because he had trouble finding work. And it found fruit, as so many others have, because of a girl.

"When I graduated in the spring of 2010," says Floyd, a defensive end and Academic All-American while at Muhlenberg, "the global economic crisis made it difficult to get a good job." So he used the services of the Career Center to enroll in a program called the Mountbatten Institute, which sent him for financial and business studies to London and Bangkok.

Meanwhile, a British woman named Gemma Jephcott was participating in a parallel program that brings graduates of British and European schools to New York City. They met when the programs converged in Bangkok, where the Mountbatten products completed their course work and dissertations to earn MBAs in International Business.

They were still apart when in December of 2011 Jephcott went back to London to work for Bloomberg and Floyd took a job in New York City at a small financial consulting firm. Eighteen months of a transatlantic relationship was enough, and in July of 2013 Floyd moved back to London to get married.

"To be honest, the reason we picked London over New York at that time was that Gemma liked her job more than I liked my job," says Floyd. "I've been living in London ever since and have been working at Ernst & Young in the valuation segment of transaction advisory services."

Living abroad took some adjustments, particularly for a rugged defensive end. "Smaller food portions, calling soccer 'football' and warm beer were among the

It's a good thing atlas info can now be accessed via laptop.

They all miss the predictable things about the U.S.—food, friends, access to a wide range of television shows, etc. And for Scavone, who boards and re-boards airplanes like most of us go in and out of our front door, the travel can get wearisome. "I look forward to the days when I can spend more time at home and less time outside the United States," says Scavone.

But they all have gotten much from living and working abroad, the freshness of experience, the opening up of new avenues. Hartline even discovered that "it's much, much easier to be a working career woman in Hong Kong than it is in the United States." Most Hong Kong families, not just rich ones, are able to hire live-in domestic helpers, largely because the government has an immigration program for domestic helpers. That helped her raise her two children and keep a high-level job that required a constantly packed suitcase.

Berg has enjoyed his time in Hong Kong so much, in fact, that he isn't sure when he'll move back.

"I was living the typical lawyer's life in Glen Ridge, N.J., suburban existence, raising four kids, commuting into the city," says Berg. "I had opportunities to relocate internationally when I was younger, but I thought it would be the end of the world if you moved your kids away from their familiar sports and schools and friends.

"But I found out that it wasn't the end of the world. It was only a new beginning."



Jake Floyd '10 with classmate Evan Orosz in London.

things I had to get used to," says Floyd. "But now London is an amazing place to live and work. It is a truly global and dynamic city that sits at the center of the financial world.

"We also love that we can travel so easily, be it weekend trips to Spain and Italy or direct flights to Africa and Southeast Asia. And of course there's favorable vacation allowance over here."

Floyd also seems to enjoy being the lone American in frequent water-cooler and pub conversations. "The topics I get quizzed about the most are gun control and Donald Trump, both of which my British friends and colleagues find truly baffling," says Floyd.

"I can make an argument for the gun issue as being their fault since the Second Amendment stems from the period of British occupation. But I find it much more difficult to rationalize Trump."

A finance major and double minor in political science and entrepreneurial studies at 'Berg, Floyd said he was inspired by an investment and portfolios class taught by Martin Alonzo '78, an adjunct in economics. "He was a real advocate of the Mountbatten program and pushed me to participate in the Bangkok portion, which was optional. It turned out to be a great decision because that's where I met my wife."

Which led to his job, his transatlantic life and now his likely return to the States. Harvey Floyd was born to Gemma and Jake in September, and that might cause an uprooting. "Our plan had always been to raise our kids in the United States," says Floyd. "Where we'll land is yet to be determined. But we'll never forget the time we had over here."



Jed Reiff '10 with Ian Dworkin on a trip to FIFA headquarters in Zurich.

For many Americans living abroad, the experience is temporary, and they live with an eye to coming back home. For **Jed Reiff '10**, who is living and working in Switzerland, he is home. He was born and raised in Zurich, so his four years at Muhlenberg actually represented his version of international study.

“My parents moved to Zurich before I was born, but the rest of the family lives in the tri-state area, which is how I found out about Muhlenberg,” says Reiff. “I always felt like my four years at Muhlenberg were my ‘trip abroad.’ In retrospect, though, I wish I had taken a semester away because everyone I knew had such a great experience.”

Reiff, who majored in economics and international studies, did take a trip to Bangladesh in 2009, which he called “an absolute eye-opener.” He credits political science professors Christopher Herrick, Mohsin Hashim P'19 and Jack Gambino with giving him an international perspective, albeit from a reverse angle. “My Muhlenberg experience definitely helped shape the person I am today,” says Reiff. “The professors really helped me understand international events, politics and history. Traveling and experiencing different cultures and wonders are my passions.”

When he first returned to Switzerland after graduation, Reiff, a placekicker/punter for the Mules for three seasons, worked for FIFA (Federation International de Football Association), the governing body of soccer worldwide. While there, he completed his master's degree in international studies (his thesis was on soccer hooliganism), and he now works in tax operations for Credit Suisse with a goal of working in international relations, “whatever that might be.”

Growing up in Switzerland gave Reiff a different view of the United States from the get-go, so he is not necessarily always the choice to explain American culture to his friends.

“A lot of people abroad are very critical of the States, but they also love to go there on vacation and are captivated by American culture,” says Reiff. “The buzz is especially critical now given the current political and cultural tension, but having lived there helps me understand that it is not so black and white as always portrayed.

“I still have family and a lot of friends in the U.S., and I miss them a lot, so I have thought about going back a couple of times. But in the end I just like it too much in Zurich. Maybe one day, but who knows? I'm lucky enough to be able to visit New York and my friends about once a year, so I still consider the U.S. a second home.”

During an innovative and accomplished 35-year career in food, **Linda Letcher '81**, who graduated with a degree in chemistry, has tasted/developed/quality-controlled/ marketed a wide variety of products—Kool-Aid, juice boxes, pudding cups, mac-and-cheese, Jell-O, salad dressing and cheesecake cups (cheesecake cups?)—among them. “You name it,” says Letcher, “we worked on it.”

But after years of working on what are considered quintessentially American products in the United States, an assignment she accepted six years ago transpired in a very non-American locale.

“My boss called and said, ‘Linda, there’s a job working in biscuit,’” recalled Letcher, who was working in Chicago for General Foods at the time but looking forward to moving back east. “I said, ‘Great, I’m coming back to New Jersey.’ And he said, ‘Well, the job is in Paris.’”

“Hmm,” Letcher told him, “that is much further east than I thought.”

With some initial reluctance, Letcher accepted a position with the unusual title of Director of Biscuit. “I was never a person who thought I would love to have an international experience,” says Letcher, who came to Muhlenberg from Pottsville, Pa. “But this was interesting. I had been working in the States all these years, so I looked at it as having a French adventure. Two years would go by fast, and then I’d come back.”

Two years, however, turned into three, which turned into four-and-a-half. She finally returned on March 12, 2016, the day her temporary work visa expired. She is still working in product innovation for Mondelez International, a spinoff of Kraft, which had itself been incorporated with General Foods.

Letcher never claims that everything went rosily in Paris. There were hurdles to clear about the language (“I couldn’t count to 10 when I got there”), the monetary system, the computer keyboard, the driver’s license requirements (“I’ll never complain about the DMV after that”) and the management style, with French bosses being more controlling, and Letcher favoring a more cooperative style. Plus there’s this: “Americans only see why things will work,” says Letcher, “while French people only see why things won’t work.”

But figuring things out was part of the deal and part of the magic, says Letcher. She is working, after all, in areas of food that didn’t even exist a couple decades ago, though classes at 'Berg are now exploring the topic. Her work in food chemistry compliments the classes taught by Keri Colabroy, an associate professor chemistry who was profiled in the Summer 2016 issue of this magazine.

“You do these experiences to learn about yourself and continue your own personal growth,” says Letcher, “and also to learn a lot about the country you are going to. But what I never expected is that I learned so much about the United States. There are so many things we take for granted or just assume that it is the same way everywhere in the world. It’s not.

“We all know that the French have their ways about them. And that is not to say that they are rude. They just aren’t American. You have to earn a smile in France. You start to understand those differences at a deeper level, so when you come home you can see how convenient our lives are, how nice we are to each other.”

These days Letcher does much of her work out of her home in Lower Macungie Township. But she’ll always have Paris. For real—she’s keeping an apartment that faces the Eiffel Tower.

“I have an American life, and I have a French life,” says Letcher. “I need to go back to prove to myself that Paris is still as real as when I lived there. I’m sure I’ll keep going back many times.”

Nora Stark '10 has traveled a long way to find herself. Originally from Rockville, Md., she was uncertain about a career path when Patti Mittelman, then the director of Muhlenberg's Hillel chapter, suggested she participate in Masa Israel, which offers a variety of work programs/internships/study opportunities for Jewish young adults from 18 to 30.

"I had studied psychology at Muhlenberg and was unsure of what I wanted to do," says Stark. "So a six-month internship in Israel sounded appealing."

"Masa" means journey in Hebrew. Six years later Stark is still in Tel Aviv and still on the journey.

Stark began work with graduate students in the child psychology department of Tel Aviv University but eventually wanted to do more in the field. She got her wish, working with refugees in south Tel Aviv and an autistic children's kindergarten in Rishon L'Tzion, a suburb outside of the city.

"It was exactly what I wanted to do at that time, but, honestly, it was really difficult day after day," says Stark. "I had an internship that called for 25 to 30 hours a week, but I was working 10 hours a day."

Stark had also taken writing courses at Muhlenberg and eventually found a position doing marketing, event planning and social media at Tel Aviv-based Taptica, a marketing and branding company with offices in New York, San Francisco, Beijing and Seoul.

She also met Tamir Cohen, who a year ago became her husband. She has dual citizenship and for now the couple plans to stay in Israel.

"My parents miss me, but Skype really helps; they've been able to visit, and I'm in the States from time to time," says Stark, who worked for several weeks in October out of Taptica's San Francisco office. "I feel fortunate that my current role in marketing lets me combine my interests of psychology, communication and writing.

"One of the things I loved about Muhlenberg was how it created a sense of community. I've been able to do the same thing here. Right now I feel like I'm a citizen of two places, and the journey continues."



Nora Stark '10 and husband Tamir in Tel Aviv

Until 2014, **Mark Dewalt '76** wasn't exactly a world traveler—his international visitations started and stopped with Canada. But he's making up for lost time. He and his wife Carolyn are currently in Shanghai, his fourth trip to China in two years, to teach English at the Far East School.

"Shanghai is a very vibrant city with a nice mix of old and modern," says Dewalt, who majored in social sciences at 'Berg. "People are friendly, and the students are great to work with. There are also six other international teachers here, all from New Zealand, and we also enjoy getting to know more about their country from them."

On his first three trips, Dewalt, who is an emeritus professor of education at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C., would stay for two- and three-week visits while he supervised students on five-week internships. He's now retired, and this teaching commitment for him and his wife, a retired school principal, lasts until June of 2017.

Dewalt says he knows "only about six words in Mandarin," but it hasn't been a problem. "The school really wants us to only speak English in the classroom, and most students in China know some English," says Dewalt. "Plus, most restaurants here have menus with pictures so we have not needed Chinese so far. And we've been invited to several Chinese homes for dinner which has been a great honor for us."

Dewalt's professorial specialties were Lincoln and—local alert—Amish culture. Do those topics come up regularly in conversation?

"There is great interest about the Amish in Japan," says Dewalt. "Less so here, although the Chinese do have questions once in a while about the Amish. There is less interest in Lincoln."

The tools for living and working internationally, Dewalt says, were provided at 'Berg.

"Dr. Frank McVeigh [sociology] prepared me with the needed research skills to conduct research, teach and be interested in the world and other cultures. I was very fortunate to take Dr. [Arvids] Ziedonis for Russian literature. I like history and being in China is, in a way, living history.

"Muhlenberg prepared me to be whatever I chose to be. I learned essential research and writing skills that prepared me to pursue advanced degrees, write books, think in a creative manner, care for the environment and teach."

And will this late-to-the-suitcases teacher continue his traveling?

"Well, after next June, who knows?" says Dewalt. "You never know what opportunity will present itself."



Mark Dewalt '76 with a fellow teacher at the Far East School in Shanghai

*...they all have gotten much from living and working abroad,
the freshness of experience, the opening up of new avenues.*



COSTA RICAN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Biology professor Rich Niesenbaum has been taking students to study in Costa Rica for nearly two decades. His course became the basis for the Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad (MILA) program.

Rich Niesenbaum isn't subtle about his passion. Plants sprout from every corner of his office. A greenhouse on the floor above his Shankweiler building office houses tilapia and the tomatoes fertilized with the fishes' waste. He's frequently seen around campus wearing the "Muhlenberg Green Team" T-shirts earned each move-in day by faculty and students who collect cardboard for recycling. Even his sustainability-themed Twitter handle @SusSolutions makes it clear that living green is his life's big focus.

For nearly two decades, Niesenbaum has extended that passion beyond the classroom experience through community-based learning in Costa Rica. Students meet throughout the semester before departing to Latin America as a group two weeks following the end of classes each spring. What began as a single course has served as the template for MILA programs.

In many ways, Niesenbaum and Costa Rica seem like a natural fit. After all, this is the country that has generated 100 percent of its electricity through renewable sources, casting aside a reliance on fossil fuels for the last 120 days. Where else would a biology professor bring students interested in sustainability and ecology?

But Costa Rica wasn't always a guaranteed destination for Muhlenberg students.

Seventeen years ago, Niesenbaum began exploring the possibility of a sustainability-centered study abroad experience for his Muhlenberg students. After filling his class, the planned excursion to Guatemala was cancelled when instability led to concerns about student safety. Niesenbaum had to shift direction fast, and Costa Rica, where he had conducted research as a graduate student, met all the requirements.

That first year, Niesenbaum worked with an agent to





make connections with the town of Las Juntas, home to only a few thousand people. Almost immediately, he knew Muhlenberg had found something special.

But when the agent discontinued the relationship after just one year, Niesenbaum had to quickly take the reins. He flew down and soon had members of the community expressing an interest in working with him and the College directly. What started as a solid working relationship has since grown into a partnership where Niesenbaum and his students are welcomed as family.

“There’s something very special about this community that makes me want to keep going back, and the students feel it immediately. I think it’s truly a unique program in that it closely connects students to a community. So if a biology student is working on the ecology and biodiversity of the river that runs through the town or with the forest that surrounds it, we can connect them with members of the community that have expertise in those areas.”

Each Costa Rica MILA group is co-taught by another Muhlenberg faculty member that brings an interdisciplinary approach that Niesenbaum finds invaluable to the learning process. He’s collaborated with professors in Spanish and sociology as well as Joseph Elliott, professor of art, and Marten Edwards, professor of biology and an expert on insects. This spring Jack Gambino, Muhlenberg College professor of political science and co-director of philosophy & political thought, will co-teach the program with Niesenbaum for the first time. This will provide a unique opportunity to have students in biology and political science collaboratively examine the ecology and policy of specific issues such as water quality, forest health and agriculture.

The groups are always tight-knit, both by design and necessity. Students and faculty are immersed within the Las Juntas community and spend time on activities that enrich the lives of the residents while offering them opportunities for growth. These activities have included teaching English in elementary schools, supporting the efforts of a women’s cooperative in processing recyclables and painting a community mural. Individual research projects have included everything from measuring contaminants in a stream from which the town obtains its drinking water to producing a documentary that highlights the connection between the people of this town and the natural environment on which they depend.

Niesenbaum works hard to dispel the notion

A key component of the trip is conducting work and research that has the potential to serve the population of Las Juntas but more importantly offers students learning experiences that simply cannot happen in a classroom. Just don’t call it community service.

“We like to call these experiences ‘community-based learning’ or ‘community-based research.’ A lot of students—and we work very hard on this—may start out thinking that they’re the budding experts there to ‘find the solution to the problem,’” says Niesenbaum. “We quickly watch them realize, ‘No, the solutions are already there. Your job is to learn about those solutions from the members of the community who have been grappling with these issues for years.’”

It’s a departure from the traditional ‘service’ model, where one group is seen as benefactors to another. Muhlenberg students realize that their community partnership is one of mutual appreciation, one where they often gain as much or more than they give. It’s a mindset that students like **Drew Swedberg '17** have found invigorating.

At six feet two inches, Swedberg towered over the school children of Las Juntas. So when he began working on his documentary film, he quite literally got on their level.

He made sure to shoot from the height and perspective of the elementary school boys and girls. Before long, the filmmaker was soon showing curious students how to operate the camera, how to take light readings, how to start and stop a recording. They learned quickly.

One day as he finished a quick game of soccer with some of the children, he turned around to see a handful of kids behind him, waiting patiently with all of his camera gear in hand. Swedberg had found himself a volunteer production crew.

It was clear from the start that Muhlenberg’s history with the community had established a great deal of trust and respect, but he still felt compelled to build rapport before bringing out his camera each day.

“Establishing that trust meant showing our intentions were right,” said Swedberg. “We were there to actually engage with the community, not just exploit it,” a trap, he believes, is all too easy to encounter during documentary work.

“Being conscious and recognizing that exploitation is a possible pitfall of documenting is huge. There’s a huge difference between ‘putting in the hours’ and going in with open ears and open eyes, listening to what these communities have to say and responding to that.”

As a film studies major, Swedberg has had plenty of opportunities at Muhlenberg to hone his craft. But he wanted this experience to be more than just work he could point to and be proud of. The people of Las Juntas made their voices heard in his work, and he was there to help document the conversation.

“I think considering documentaries as objective is silly,” he says. “Everything—the angles you choose, the compositions you make—it all has an impact. But I made a conscious decision to enter this project without an ending in mind. This was the children’s story; it doesn’t have my narrative voice. It’s a story of the people of Las Juntas.”

As he collected more and more footage, the story of this community began to emerge. During a school assembly, he listened in awe as anthem after anthem was belted out by dozens of tiny voices.

“There had to be nearly a dozen songs,” Swedberg remembers. “There was a song for Las Juntas, a song for Guanacaste province, a song for Costa Rica, a song for this and that. There was an enormous amount of pride, not only pride in being Costa Rican, but pride in the town, the community, the history of that community. The children had a very distinct sense of who they were.”

It was clear the students treasured their identity, and the community’s education system was key to supporting and promoting those values. In a way, he realized, the teachers were continuing the conversation of sustainability. After all—children are one of the most precious natural resources.

Swedberg doesn’t speak Spanish, although he did pick up a few words and phrases during his short time in Costa Rica. But even without a shared language, he found that communication with the children of Las Juntas was easy. It echoed similar experiences during his work with schoolchildren in Allentown, his home state of New Hampshire and a previous study abroad trip to the Czech Republic.

“They’re all kids. That never changes. They all have the same wants, the same needs. People are too quick to forget that, to distance themselves and ignore what we have in common.”



that study abroad is a vacation. While the flora, fauna and culture are indeed breathtaking, his students know from the start that the work will be challenging.

“There’s no doubt that many Muhlenberg students have certain benefits and privileges. But there’s also a humbleness about them. Many have not really traveled a lot, and some of my students have never been out of the country before—and certainly not to Latin America. As a result they may have a lot of pre-conceived notions, but these serve as opportunities for learning.”

Students live in the Las Juntas community for two weeks, eating meals prepared in host-families’ homes and working closely with everyone from scientists to politicians, farmers, grandmothers and school children. The engagement is present in each moment of every day, and the impact on his students is often immediate.

Participants begin to acknowledge and appreciate difference. And some even begin idealizing aspects of life in Las Juntas that are hard to find back home. It’s not unusual or unexpected when a student comments to Niesenbaum that they would switch places in an instant. That idealization leads to teachable moments, where the professor and student take opportunities to challenge perception and world views.

“I look back on my own study abroad experience with Sea Education Association’s ocean education program, a program we now partner with at Muhlenberg, and I think of

that as truly transformative. I grew this beard on this program,” he says through laughter, patting the dark whiskers known throughout campus. “It even physically changed who I am! When I was invited back to the same program as a professor, I had to wonder – ‘how many people get to relive a transformative moment?’”

It’s the transformation that remains Niesenbaum’s primary goal for the students engaged in his MILA course. He knows that for some, this may be their only opportunity to study abroad in college. For others, Costa Rica opens a gateway to global education and awareness.

“There is some criticism of short-term study abroad from some people who don’t like it. We hear things like, ‘How can you do in two weeks what we do in a semester or year?’ And they’re right. We can’t do everything, but we can do a lot,” he says.

And he has proof. Articles published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The Journal of Studies of International Education* by Niesenbaum and his colleague Tammy Lewis, former associate professor of sociology, highlighted several benefits of the short-term study abroad model.

“We found that one: we had students who, if they didn’t have a short-term study abroad experience, would not have gone abroad at all; and two: they were more likely to go abroad afterwards as a result of our experience,” says Niesenbaum. “For example, **Krista McGuire ’00**, now an assistant professor of

biological sciences at Barnard College, Columbia University, completed her Ph.D. work in Latin America. Her experience in Costa Rica introduced her to tropical ecology, and she is now an expert sharing knowledge with students of her own. I think of this MILA program not as a substitute for a larger global experience, but rather an entry into it.”

This winter, with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Niesenbaum led a faculty trip to Las Juntas for those who haven’t yet led a study abroad experience of their own. That experience, made possible through the foundation’s Achieving Muhlenberg’s Civic and Global Mission grant, was co-led by Niesenbaum’s long-time collaborator Joseph Elliott. They worked to broaden the perspective of colleagues looking to incorporate global education into each of their disciplines and curricula. Along the way, he saw excitement and exhaustion in the eyes of peers who never realized the opportunities and challenges of such a compact learning environment. As a teacher himself, Niesenbaum knows from experience how valuable new experiences and perspectives can be in pedagogy.

And at the conclusion of the faculty visit, he repeated the toast delivered each year at the last communal dinner before Muhlenberg packs up to return to campus. He raised his glass and offered his thanks: “To the town of Las Juntas—you are our professor, and we are all grateful to have been your students.”

There and Back Again

Muhlenberg Students Find Semesters Abroad Transformational

In our ever-shrinking and increasingly interdependent world, the opportunity to study abroad represents one significant way our students may better prepare themselves to face the global challenges of their futures.

Study abroad has long been a popular and life-changing experience for students. More than 52 percent of graduates from the Class of 2016 studied abroad, and recently between 250 and 300 students study abroad each year.

Muhlenberg encourages students in all disciplines to study overseas at quality institutions. Muhlenberg supports four discipline-specific study abroad opportunities. The London Theatre Program at Goldsmiths College, University of London, and the program for accounting, business, economics and finance majors at the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands are offered during the fall semester. A program for media & communication and film studies majors in Dublin, Ireland, and a dance program in Arezzo, Italy, are both offered during the spring semester.

Read on to find out more about how a recent semester (or more) abroad impacted some of our students.

EMILY NELSON '17

Biology major, Studio Art minor

The School for Field Studies: Marine Resource Studies • South Caicos
Spring 2016

Why did you want to study off-campus, and how did you choose your program?

I wanted to experience field-based learning and research. SFS provided an amazing opportunity for students to become involved in the local community and explore the surrounding marine environment.



What was the most impactful experience of your time off-campus?

As a student of biology, I was fascinated to learn about organisms in the classroom, and then have the ability to walk outside and observe them in their natural habitat. It was also extremely impactful to recognize the changes in marine ecosystems that have resulted from climate change, pollution and increased tourism.

JORDAN BOCK COCOSE '17

Psychology major

Florence University of the Arts • Florence, Italy • Spring 2016

How did your time abroad have an impact on your academic or career goals?

For me, the experience was really about self-growth and making me who I am today. Being abroad has made me more mature and more confident in myself. That's something you're not taught in a classroom.

Do you have a favorite moment or anecdote from your time off-campus?

I traveled to Greece during spring break, and that was life-changing. We took five ferries and two buses just to get to Santorini, but the water and the experience was something special. Being able to spend once-in-a-lifetime moments with people I had recently met was something I'll never forget.



DARYLL HEIBERGER '17

Studio Art major, Art History minor

Florence University of the Arts

Florence, Italy • Spring 2016

Why did you want to study off-campus, and how did you choose your program?

Going abroad has always been in my plan. I felt that by junior year, I was ready to test all that I had learned so far at Muhlenberg. I chose to study in Florence because of my love for art and art history. Florence is a small, walkable and homey city, which I found matched the friendly environment of Muhlenberg. The program also allowed me to pursue multiple interests, like at Muhlenberg.

How did your time abroad have an impact on your academic or career goals?

I was able to see how an education can be made up of much more than essays and exams. Now, I see how important it is to truly immerse yourself in the educational experience. Every experience is a learning opportunity. Because I am entering the creative world either in fashion or art, my time abroad also showed me how different aspects of the world influence one another and, more importantly, how they can influence a person. I got a firsthand look as to how people, places and cultures come together to create something much larger and much more spectacular.



EMMA FICHTNER '17

Dance major with a performance concentration
SEA Semester: Conservation to Colonization
in the Caribbean • Multiple Caribbean Nations
Spring 2016

What was the most impactful experience of your time off-campus?

Learning what it means to be a leader and part of a team. On the ship we were broken up into rotating Watch Groups so not every student had to be crewing the ship 24/7. Our group faced many challenges together. When one group member didn't know what to do, we all helped figure it out. As a leader I had to be there for everyone and put the group before myself.

How did your time abroad have an impact on your academic or career goals?

I became much more driven and determined to get my work done well before deadlines. I originally wanted to pursue my dreams of being a dancer for the rest of my life. Now I want to dance but also try to find a time to join the Coast Guard. My captain was a member of the Coast Guard before starting at SEA Semester. He was a great captain and teacher, and his stories and passion for the Coast Guard made me extremely interested.

SARAH MITCHLER '17

Theatre and Music major
IES Vienna • Vienna, Austria • Spring 2016
Accademia dell'Arte • Arezzo, Italy • Fall 2016

Why did you want to study off-campus, and how did you choose your programs?

Studying abroad was never in question. I just didn't know where I'd go. By the time I was applying for IES Vienna, I had fallen in love with the Accademia dell'Arte and Italy. I couldn't choose because I knew that the training I would receive at both programs would be top notch and hard to get anywhere else, so I decided not to decide! Having two separate experiences was instrumental for me, because I gained different life skills and confidence from each semester.

How did your time abroad have an impact on your academic or career goals?

In Vienna I learned that, though I love classical music, it isn't something I want to devote my life to. At the Accademia dell'Arte, however, I immediately found the spark that I had been looking for. About midway through the semester, I began making plans to return. I submitted an application for the position of their student life coordinator (currently held by Muhlenberg alumna Kristen Wendt) which is available for the summer after I graduate. I also plan to apply to Accademia dell'Arte's MFA program in the near future.



VICTORIA MARSALA '17

Media & Communication and Psychology major
Dublin City University • Dublin, Republic of Ireland • Spring 2016

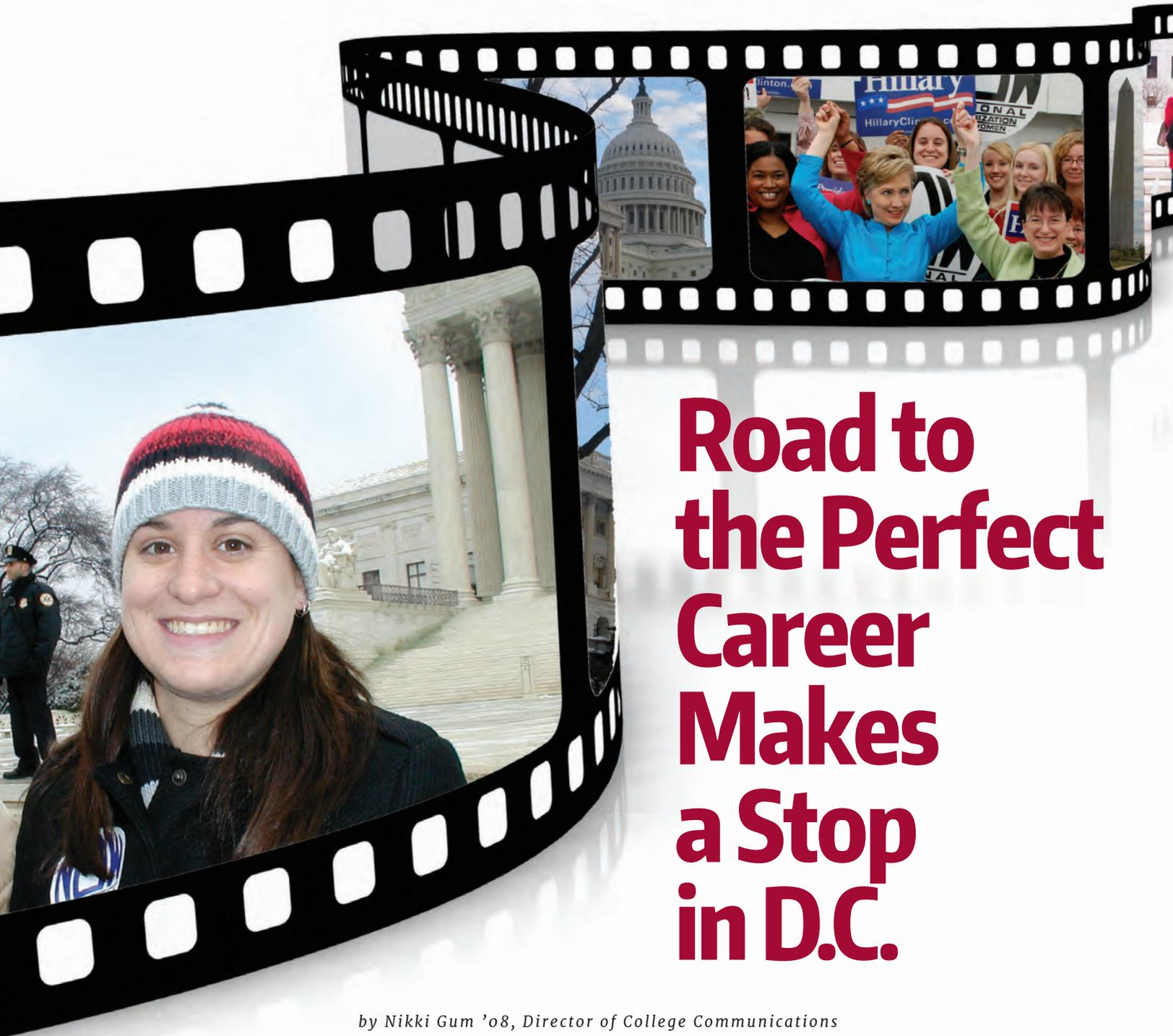
Why did you want to study off-campus, and how did you choose your program?

There were many facets of the Dublin program that appealed to me as a communications major. I liked the sound of the Dublin program because I would be able to complete so many of my communications courses while also completing an internship for credit.



How did your time abroad have an impact on your academic or career goals?

My time abroad definitely solidified what I want to do with my major. Taking communication courses and interning for the Irish Academy of Public Relations showed me that I still want to go into public relations. It also taught me that I would rather do public relations in a creative field.



Road to the Perfect Career Makes a Stop in D.C.

by Nikki Gum '08, Director of College Communications

How the Lutheran College Washington Semester prepared me for life after Muhlenberg

Editor's note: This article was written by Muhlenberg magazine editor Nikki Gum '08 about her experiences with the Lutheran College Washington Semester.

If not for an opportunity to study in Washington, D.C., through the Lutheran College Washington Semester (LCWS), my life and career would look very different.

The semester spent in D.C. was an eye-opening experience for a girl who grew up in a tiny town in rural Pennsylvania...one who felt like she was moving to the "big city" when she arrived in Allentown as a first-year student.

I knew early on in my collegiate career that I wanted to take advantage of one of Muhlenberg's many opportunities to study off-campus. While I was a bit jealous of my friends who were heading to glamorous places like Maastricht and Seville, as a double major in political science and media & communication with an interest in American government and media, I knew D.C. was the right place for me.



And so, during the spring of my junior year, I found myself living in an LCWS apartment in Rosslyn, Va.—just across the river from D.C.—discovering inside-the-beltway truths like you will choose a restaurant based on how far it is from a Metro stop, the weight of groceries carried on your arm increases exponentially for each block you walk and abiding by crosswalk symbols is mostly optional.

In addition to my urban education, I was excited to take advantage of all the LCWS had to offer. The program was structured so that students attended an internship four days a week, and on Wednesdays, the entire LCWS group (students from the 13 Lutheran-affiliated member schools) took field trips to D.C. area attractions and organizations. In the evenings, we had the opportunity to take two classes in the LCWS offices according to our interests.

At the time, I was still figuring out how I wanted to combine my academic interests, so when I was offered an internship at the National Organization for Women (NOW), I was eager to learn more about the world of nonprofits. My internship included a number of responsibilities, including work on an oral history project, direct mail campaigns and much more.

The best part of the internship, however, was the fact that NOW interns were encouraged to attend events of interest in the D.C. area. In the months I was there, I attended a number of rallies, a Democratic Party breakfast with elected officials and an event that was a small part of a significant moment in our nation's history—the first time a female candidate was a major player in a presidential primary.

I wasn't just in the crowd the day NOW endorsed Hillary Clinton during her first presidential bid...I was standing directly behind the then-senator as she read remarks

at the historic Sewall-Belmont House, the former home of the National Woman's Party. It was a thrilling experience for a fledgling politico.

I had an unforgettable semester in D.C. In the end, my time with LCWS did three things for me.

Firstly, it began my love affair with Washington, D.C. and showed me that this country girl could not only live in a big city but thrive in one. LCWS introduced me to the nation's capital in a comfortable way. I had the support of LCWS staff, internship mentors and peers who were in a similar position as I got to know the city. Without that experience, I doubt I would have had the courage to pick up and move to D.C. after graduating in 2008—which is exactly what I did—spending the first two years of my career in the Capitol Hill office of Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. as a staff assistant and later in his press office.

The second thing I learned was more about what I wanted to do with my career. Nonprofit work was rewarding—but not without its challenges. While in D.C., the communications side of my scholarly and career interests developed, and I knew that I wanted to (at least initially) pursue a career in both government and the media.

Lastly, that one decision, to study in D.C., had a profound impact on me personally. I met some of my best friends as a result. I would have never met three of the people who later stood beside me on my wedding day if not for my D.C. odyssey. One of them was a fellow NOW intern with a desk just steps from mine, another was a fellow LCWS student from Susquehanna University who shared a cubicle with a 'Berg buddy of mine at their internship and the third became a lifelong friend as we answered constituent calls side-by-side a year later in Senator Casey's office.

In some ways, I may have been the typical LCWS student: I had an interest in American

government, and I knew I wanted to work in D.C. But what I've found—both during my time with LCWS and since—is that LCWS offers unmatched opportunities for students in a number of disciplines.

My time in D.C. opened a lot of doors for me personally and professionally. Within months of graduation, I was doing exactly what I wanted—working in my home state senator's D.C. office. I quickly moved to his press office, and if I had stayed in D.C. a few more years, I'm sure I could have obtained my dream job at the time of graduation: press secretary in a governmental office.

But, as we all know, seasons change, and with them, my career aspirations. After a few wonderful years in D.C., I longed for the familiarity of Pennsylvania—always my home—and new professional challenges. The rest, as they say, is history. After Senator Casey's office, I ended up doing communications and marketing work at Gettysburg College, the Centennial Conference rival of my alma mater. I discovered a new passion in higher education. Five years after starting at Gettysburg, my career led me home once again, to my current role at Muhlenberg.

Can I definitively say that I wouldn't be where I am today without that semester in D.C.? Probably not. But it sure seems like that was one of the many stars that aligned along the way to get me exactly where I'm supposed to be.



Nikki (Rhoads) Gum '08 has been director of college communications at Muhlenberg since the summer of 2015. As part of her role, she edits Muhlenberg magazine, produces web content and works on media relations.

A THRIVING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Number of international students on campus has grown by leaps and bounds over last two decades

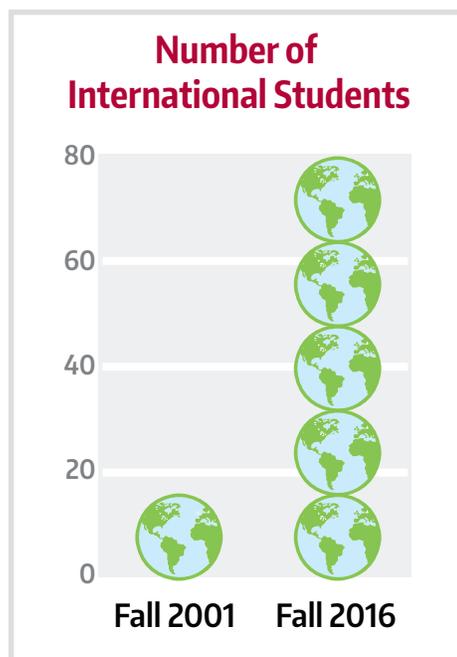


Kim Nguyen '07 often has the opportunity to catch up with alumni abroad while on her recruiting trips. She and Oliver Pimley '14 are pictured together in Tokyo, Japan.

Each year, Muhlenberg's student body continues to grow in richness of geographic diversity and cultural experience. Within the past two decades, the College's international student population has grown from just 12 students in the 2001-02 school year to 81 in the current 2016-17 year.

We sat down with **Kim Nguyen '07**, director of international recruitment & support, to get a sense for how Muhlenberg is embracing a global mindset when it comes to recruiting and welcome the world's brightest and most-promising students.

Muhlenberg has seen an increase in the percentage of international students in the past few years. Can you give us a summary



of Muhlenberg's international recruiting efforts and where we may expect Muhlenberg to visit next?

This fall we expanded our recruitment efforts. We are traveling to the U.K. and India but also expanding our efforts across Southeast Asia. In addition to our travels to China and Vietnam, we are casting a wider net and traveling to South Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand. We are focused on increasing our international students on campus while also diversifying the countries in which these students are coming from.

Muhlenberg has seen a number of student events and activities that celebrate the culture of our international students. Can you comment on how events like the Lunar New Year celebration both honor our students and serve to enrich the domestic student experience?

Campus cultural celebrations provide wonderful opportunities for celebrating and honoring the traditions of our international students while enriching the domestic student experience. Our international students are eager to share the traditions of their countries with our community. Additionally, for some international students, they are missing their country's biggest holiday for the first time while they are studying in the U.S. By coming to the U.S., these students have accepted that they left behind their country with its delicious foods and festivities; however, we use these cultural celebrations as a chance to bring their countries and their rich traditions to Muhlenberg.

We've seen a number of schools—Kings Academy in Jordan comes to mind—that

continue to send students to Muhlenberg year after year. Can you share your thoughts on how experiences like these extend Muhlenberg's reputation internationally?

We love seeing students from the same high schools matriculate at Muhlenberg. It is an indication to us that our students are enjoying their time at Muhlenberg and spreading the word overseas.

Tell us about your relationship with some of Muhlenberg's international students—they seem to have really found a home and built some strong connections with staff, faculty and other students here on campus.

Having the opportunity to meet these students through their college search process and watch them grow and thrive throughout their time at Muhlenberg is absolutely the most rewarding part of my job. These students are remarkably independent, courageous and adventurous. It is a true pleasure to advise them through their college search process, assist in their transition to Muhlenberg (when they first arrive to campus) and to mentor and empower them throughout their time at Muhlenberg. I have watched these students become leaders, role models and young adults. I could not be more proud of each and every one of these students and eager to see what's to come in their Muhlenberg careers and as they move on as Muhlenberg alumni. I am grateful to the entire Muhlenberg community for joining me in welcoming international students to our campus. In such a short time we have seen our global footprint expand and the many ways in which these students are contributing to our campus.



ALUMNI TRAVEL

MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

In the Footsteps of Luther

*The 500th Anniversary of
the Reformation
May 23 - June 3, 2017*



Cruise the Face of Europe

*Amsterdam to Budapest
September 22 - October 7, 2017*

Cuba

*People, Culture, Art
February 2018*



Visit muhlenbergconnect.com for details.



Flipping the Career Fair: Muhlenberg's Career Road Trips Bring Students to Industry

Student enthusiasm for the first Career Road Trip was electric; nearly 80 available spots were filled in less than two days, meaning Muhlenberg needed two chartered buses to make the visit to New York City possible.

After departing Muhlenberg's campus early in the morning, students hopped off for an afternoon industry visit and tour, many of which were conducted by Muhlenberg alumni. Students had opportunities to see first-hand the operations at Standard & Poor's, Deloitte, NBCUniversal, MTV, the Broadway League, the National Arts Club and the office of U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney.

"When we bring students to these sites, they see first-hand industries or career paths," says Tom Dowd, executive director of career services at Muhlenberg College. "The connections that happen there really force students to get out of their comfort zone, so when they're at a company or organization they have to jump in, network, listen and ask questions."

A few weeks later, Muhlenberg students once again queued in the lobby of Seegers

Union an hour before classes began for their peers. This time, the group departed for Washington, D.C., where students once again met with alumni in journalism, law, public health and international policy research.

Students expanded their network through alumni connections at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a public policy research institution dedicated to analysis and policy impact; The Atlantic Media Group; PATH, an international global health nonprofit; the Lutheran College Washington Semester, a program with a long collaboration with Muhlenberg through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and a visit with **Karl Bordeau '75**, a partner with Beveridge & Diamond, one of the nation's premiere environmental and natural resource law firms.

It was important to Dowd that the sites had either an alumni host or a strong alumni connection; it was essential that students see both the successes and passions of their fellow Mules, and it gave alumni an opportunity to network and connect with the current generation of Muhlenberg scholars.

The time alumni dedicated to the day left an impact on students; many have already reached out to those they see as potential mentors.

Another focus was revisiting the many paths alumni explored to get to their careers today. Students quickly learned that a path to a dream job isn't always linear, and that their majors enhance, but never limit, the possibilities of a liberal arts program.

At the end of each evening, students engaged in a networking reception with both the alumni who hosted their events as well as alumni residing in the larger New York City and Washington D.C. communities.

"Events like this are a great way for alumni to talk about their journey, the value of their time at Muhlenberg and how it has prepared them in their careers," says Ryan Smolko, associate director of student engagement and transition and the creator of the Career Road Trip concept at Muhlenberg. "Our hope is that students see how a Muhlenberg education positions them in a variety of different ways for success post graduation."

New Copyright Law Course Offered in Collaboration with Harvard Law School

It's not every day that an undergraduate student has the opportunity to take a course offered in collaboration with Harvard Law School. Starting in January, that is precisely the opportunity that will be available to a number of Muhlenberg students.

During the spring semester, Kelly Cannon, Trexler Library's outreach and scholarly communication librarian, will teach Special Topics: CopyrightX for the first time.

The course will blend online resources with campus discussions in a look "under the hood" of copyright, examining U.S. copyright law from theoretical and doctrinal perspectives. Considerable time will be spent on the fairness, personhood and welfare theories of copyright that have shaped and continue to shape U.S. copyright law.

Cannon will teach this course at Muhlenberg in an innovative collaboration with William Fisher, the WilmerHale Professor of Intellectual Property Law at Harvard Law School and faculty director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society. Course content will include roughly 90 minutes per week of online lectures by Fisher for CopyrightX, a course he teaches at Harvard Law School, readings from selected court cases pertaining to copyright that are also part of the



Noa Boonin '19 is among the first group of students that will take CopyrightX.

CopyrightX course and a 90 minutes per week in-person discussion session with Cannon.

"We wanted to take the foundation of what's being taught at Harvard and make it a Muhlenberg course," said Cannon. "The way we've done that is by adding in-class writing assignments and small group work to develop critical thinking about the law. I wanted to add those elements to make the information even more accessible to our students."

The Muhlenberg offering of CopyrightX is the first time that the course has been adapted by a U.S. institution and the first time it has been aimed at undergraduate students.

HILLEL HOUSE HAS A NEW NAME The Leffell Center for Jewish Student Life



The Leffell family poses with Rabbi Melissa Simon (far left) and President John I. Williams, Jr. (far right) at the naming ceremony.

Neighbors, faith and community leaders and Muhlenberg alumni, students, faculty and staff, gathered for a Nov. 13 naming ceremony that recognized a gift for the Center made by Lisa and Michael Leffell P'10, P'13.

The Leffell family's generous gift was pledged in 2008, just before the former Hillel House underwent major renovations to become the facility that it is today. The family chose to remain anonymous at the time, as Benjamin '10 and Adam '13 Leffell were still studying on campus.

Now that Benjamin (a religion studies major, with minors in Jewish studies and history) and Adam (an English major and Jewish studies minor) have graduated, the Leffells were formally recognized this fall for their transformational gift.

"While we have a deep love of Judaism, that was not the driving force behind our initial connection to Hillel. It was the community...that drew us in and kept us involved," said Benjamin and Adam Leffell in remarks at the naming. "Hillel was a place we went to grow as people and as Jews."

The Leffell Center for Jewish Student Life was transformed into the facility it is today in 2010. The Center was designed to serve the needs of an active Jewish student body that represents over 28 percent of all students and a vibrant Hillel community.

The building includes a Shabbat Dining Room with seating for over 300, a dedicated sanctuary, an institutional kosher kitchen, student and staff office spaces and a student lounge. The space is available to all Muhlenberg students, regardless of faith tradition.



The Fall 2016 production of *Pirates of Penzance* was put on by the #1 theatre program in the country, according to *The Princeton Review*. Credit: Ken Ek

Muhlenberg College Named No. 1 College Theatre Program by The Princeton Review

The theatre program at Muhlenberg College is the nation's best for undergraduate education, according to *The Princeton Review*. The education services company featured the school in the 2017 edition of its flagship college guide, "The Best 381 Colleges."

"Muhlenberg is a place where someone can pursue theatre and chemistry, play a varsity sport and lead a volunteer organization, work individually with a professor and befriend a dining services worker," wrote one student in response to *The Princeton Review's* annual survey.

The student was summing up the all-around excellence for which Muhlenberg strives, and it's no surprise theatre was cited. For the second time in four years, *The Princeton Review* has named Muhlenberg's theatre program the best in the country. The guide, which each year profiles the top 15 percent among all 2,500 four-year colleges in the U.S., previously awarded Muhlenberg the distinction in 2012.

In addition to its top theatre ranking, Muhlenberg again earned distinction for campus dining. The review ranked it 16th in the country for "Best Campus Food." Other high marks for Muhlenberg's campus life rankings included a quality of life rating of 91 and a fire safety rating of 96, with both metrics measured on a 99-point scale.

Muhlenberg College Announces Agreement with Boston University School of Public Health

Muhlenberg recently announced an agreement with the Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) that will enable its outstanding students to pursue early acceptance to the BUSPH master's program in public health, one of the top graduate programs for public health in the country.

The collaborative "Select Scholars Program" will allow Muhlenberg students who are public health majors or minors in good academic and social standing and who meet specific academic criteria to apply to the BUSPH program as juniors. Muhlenberg faculty members will then review applications and make recommendations. Once recommended, students will apply to the BUSPH master's program through normal channels, albeit a full year earlier than peers at other undergraduate institutions.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our top students in public health," said Chrysan Cronin, director of Muhlenberg's public health major. "By completing the graduate application process during their



Chrysan Cronin, director of the public health major, works with students.

junior year, these students will be well-positioned to move into the next phase of their education, and eventually their careers."

Muhlenberg is the first undergraduate institution to partner with the BUSPH for such a program.

Kaine 2 Campus: Vice Presidential Candidate Tim Kaine Speaks at Muhlenberg

Hundreds packed into the Seegers Union Event Space on October 26 for a rally that was headlined by Vice Presidential candidate Senator Tim Kaine. The event, announced only a few days prior, was hosted by College Democrats.

Students, faculty, staff and community members lined up hours before the doors opened, eager to attend the event, which was open to the public, less than two weeks before a historic Election Day.

The rally included appearances by other elected officials including U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. and State Representative Mike Schlossberg '05. Megan Lafayette '17, a leader in the College Democrats organization, also spoke.

Kaine adapted his remarks to suit his audience—filled mostly with college students—and spent a lot of time speaking about his and Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's plans to make college more affordable.



*U.S. Senator and Vice Presidential candidate
Tim Kaine speaks at Muhlenberg.*

MUHLENBERG MOMENTS

Detainee Defense Talk

David Frakt, the only defense counsel to successfully defend a Guantanamo Bay detainee, reflected on his experiences during the Sept. 27 Woodrow Wilson Fellow Public Lecture, held in coordination with the Center for Ethics.

Standard & Poor's Affirms A+ Rating

S&P's Ratings Services affirmed its A+ rating, with a stable outlook, on Lehigh County General Purpose Authority, Pa.'s college revenue bonds, issued for Muhlenberg. S&P cited the College's strong management, strategic planning and cost control, among other factors.

War & Peacebuilding: 2016-17 CFE Theme

The Center for Ethics will host events throughout the academic year related to its 2016-17 theme, "War & Peacebuilding." Up-to-date information on events is available online at Muhlenberg.edu/cfe.

FUNDING Opportunities Abroad



One of Muhlenberg's priorities over the last few years has been to ensure that talented and deserving students take advantage of the many opportunities offered as part of a liberal arts education, which includes study abroad.

Studying internationally represents a significant means by which students can better prepare themselves to face the challenges of the future. Besides assisting students in developing global awareness beyond the traditional classroom, employers and graduate schools value global educational experiences.

Despite the benefits of global education, many Muhlenberg students are not able to take advantage of this opportunity. Given this reality, several individuals have established endowed funds in support of global education.

Dr. David H. Much Professor of Biology Fund for Study Abroad

Dr. Much served from 1981 until his passing in May 2014 as a professor of biology. Dr. Much taught various courses including microbiology, immunology and perhaps his favorite course: Concepts of Biology: Bubonic Plague to AIDS. He loved academia, but also had a penchant for traveling; hence his widow, Jane, created the scholarship as the first anniversary of his death approached in May 2015. The scholarship serves as a memorial to two of Dr. Much's greatest joys – Muhlenberg and traveling.

Dr. David P. Amdur Fund for Study Abroad

Nicholas and Margaret Amdur established this fund to honor their son, who served as an assistant professor of economics at Muhlenberg from 2010 through 2014. Dr. Amdur also was co-director of the Political Economy and Public Policy program. In creating the scholarship, his parents recognized the importance of study abroad in the academic and personal growth of Muhlenberg students. The fund was created, in part, to expand these opportunities for students with financial need.

Ann E. and Martin H. Getz Study Abroad Fund

International travel was a great joy for Ann and Martin Getz. Christopher M. '04, P'09 and wife Bonnie Getz P'09 wanted to honor that legacy with this scholarship. Ann and Martin recognized the value in visiting historical and cultural sites worldwide and were often accompanied on those trips by Muhlenberg alumni and faculty. When creating the fund Christopher and Bonnie noted the scholarship "will provide opportunities for students to travel abroad and experience personal growth through learning and awareness, while enjoying the immense variety of cultures found in our world."

Davin N. Peterson '98 Scholarship

Marta Peterson P'98 established this fund in memory of her son Davin Peterson '98, who was killed in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, September 11, 2001. Davin recognized the importance of studying abroad in the academic and personal growth of Muhlenberg students, according to Mrs. Peterson. "Davin believed that studying abroad gave a person more tolerance and acceptance of people and their way of life."

Helm Study Abroad Fund

This scholarship was created to honor the 11th President of the school, President Peyton (Randy) Helm, upon his retirement. The fund includes gifts by Trustees, Observers, Parents Council and Alumni Board members, among others. "I know from my own undergraduate education—when I did archaeological fieldwork in Israel—and from the experiences of Muhlenberg students, that study abroad is one of the most powerful and transformative learning experiences there is," says Helm.

*Interested in supporting educational experiences?
Visit muhlenberg.edu/makeagift or call 1-800-859-2243.*

From Bangladesh to Costa Rica and unique places in between, students had life-changing experiences that were made possible by generous donors. Muhlenberg students who study abroad and encounter people from other cultures report greater levels of comfort, satisfaction, confidence and sensitivity about the world around them. Below are excerpts from Muhlenberg students who have traveled across the globe as part of the Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad program.

“

The entire trip made me realize how little we really need to be happy. American society teaches us that the more we have the happier we'll be, but the people we interacted with exuded such joy. They were not happy because of how little they had, but in spite of how little they had...The experience made me realize how much we take for granted. We take for granted the availability of food in the United States. Some of the people we met only had one or two meals a day, but here we can pop into the grocery store and within reason, get anything we want.”

Mia Becker '18
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
BANGLADESH



“FOR SOMEONE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING AN ART HISTORY DOUBLE-MAJOR, VISITING A COUNTRY SUCH AS GREECE, A VERITABLE TREASURE TROVE OF ANTIQUITY AND CULTURAL EVOLUTION, WAS AN IMMENSELY VALUABLE EXPERIENCE. AS AN ACTING MAJOR, A POWERFUL AND SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN MY LIFE WAS VISITING THE BIRTHPLACE OF THEATRE AND THE BIRTHPLACE OF WHAT WOULD COME TO BE KNOWN AS THE TONY AWARDS.”

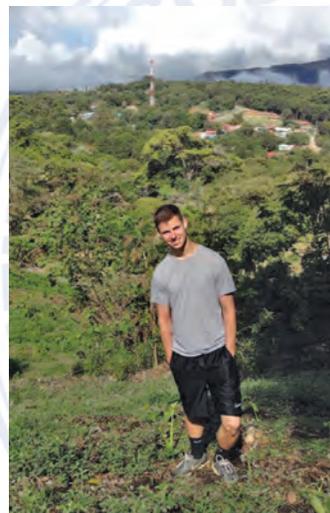
Nicholas Rosolino '18
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
GREECE

“My trip to Costa Rica focused on community engagement and the completion of an individual research project. My project was conducted at the local museum and hiking area, known as the Ecomuseo. My group at the museum was in charge of cleaning the artifacts that represented the historical past of Las Juntas...From this trip, I learned the importance of travel. It allows for learning in a much different way than the classroom.”

Claudia Theriault '17
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
COSTA RICA

“In addition to the immense beauty of Costa Rica, I found the cultural differences very interesting and rewarding. Upon arrival, I immediately noticed the friendliness of the locals. They were willing to help and speak slowly if we were not fluent in Spanish. The culture of the town of Las Juntas was very different than Allentown and my hometown in South New Jersey. It was a very small town that had almost everything you could need within walking distance.”

Nicholas Ellen '17
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
COSTA RICA



“This trip was the experience of a lifetime and one I will appreciate for the rest of my life. I developed a research project to investigate how the preservation of folk dance from the Guanacaste region created economic opportunities and connected to sustainability. I also worked in the San Jorge elementary school assisting in teaching English, which was one of the favorite parts of the trip...The trip expanded my boundaries and pushed me outside my comfort zone, whether it was speaking a second language, trying a new food or jumping off a cliff into a waterfall.”

Shaelyn Casey '17
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
COSTA RICA

“DURING THE SECOND WEEKEND, MY ENTIRE CLASS AND I TRAVELED TO VENICE, WHERE WE VISITED THE WORLD-RENOWNED ART EXHIBITION, THE BIENNALE, SHOPPED FOR MURANO GLASS AND EACH PRESENTED OUR FAVORITE PIECE OF WRITING FROM THE TWO-WEEK TRIP FOR OUR “FINAL PERFORMANCES.” LIVING IN THE MOUNTAINS FOR TWO WEEKS INSPIRED MY OWN WRITING. LEARNING THROUGH EZRA POUND'S WORK AND FROM THE IDEAS OF MY PEERS WAS AN EXPERIENCE INCOMPARABLE TO ANY OTHER. I LEFT THE TRIP WITH A HEIGHTENED SENSE OF CREATIVE WRITING AND THE MOTIVATION TO PRACTICE WRITING IN MY DAILY LIFE.”

Samantha Gelbert '17
STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE:
ITALY

Athletes *Abroad*

Many athletes are among the high percentage of Muhlenberg students who spend a semester abroad.

Athletes usually travel in the opposite semester from when their team's season is (fall athletes go in the spring, spring athletes in the fall), although a handful give up a season of competition for the opportunity to study abroad.

Athletes returning from a semester abroad are welcomed back to their teams, armed with a fresh perspective from their experiences overseas. It's not uncommon for athletes returning from abroad to be elected team captains despite missing their sport's non-traditional season.

Here is a sampling of Mules who spent a semester abroad in recent years.



NICK FARMER '15
> MEN'S LACROSSE

St. Petersburg, Russia • Fall 2013

After nearly three weeks in St. Petersburg, I was able to successfully figure out how to get home and even order a cup of coffee in the morning. Living in Russia, even in the most welcoming city in the country, was a daily challenge. If I hadn't known that every day would be a linguistic mess, I would have had a miserable time. Instead, having locals laugh at me while attempting the most menial of tasks was entertaining and easily used as fuel to continue learning.

Exercising in public seems to be taboo, so I found myself running and working out in an overpriced gym on the bank of the Neva River, which runs through the center of town. Being away from Fall Ball at Muhlenberg, I looked for a lacrosse club in the area to keep my game up. I managed to find one of only two clubs in the entire country and practiced with them. Practices wouldn't go on long; it already started to feel like winter there!





ERIN PACHTER '18
> WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Florence, Italy • Fall 2016

I wasn't sure I wanted to go abroad, because I am bad with change, but I am so glad I decided to go. Since I am a studio art major, this was the perfect place to study abroad because there is so much art and history in this city. It was such an amazing experience. You meet so many new people and see so many great sites, and it's something I will never forget.

Even as a student-athlete, going abroad is definitely doable and I would definitely recommend it to everyone; you just have to have the motivation to have a good time and also stay in shape.



AMELIA SHELLEY '18
> SOFTBALL

Salamanca, Spain • Fall 2016

I've wanted to go abroad ever since I can remember, and I've always wanted to study in Spain. I knew that living here in Spain for a semester during my time in college is an opportunity I would probably never have again, so studying abroad was never something that I might do; it was always something that I knew I would do. Even though I was in Spain, I still worked just as hard for softball as I would at school. One of my friends there was actually on the Gettysburg lacrosse team, so we went to the gym together to do lifts just like we normally would at school. We also took spin classes to get our cardio workouts in.

My favorite trip was something called the Camino de Santiago, which is a hike that spans throughout Europe and ends in Santiago de Compostela in the northwest of Spain. Over five days, some friends and I hiked 100km, which is about 62mi, through all kinds of weather, from Saria to Santiago de Compostela. It was a very tiring journey, but an incredible experience that I would highly recommend to anyone.



DREW SWEDBERG '17
> MEN'S BASKETBALL

Prague, The Czech Republic • Fall 2015

As a film studies major, I applied to FAMU, the Film and Television School of Academy of Performing Arts, which is universally considered one of the premiere film schools and the university where one of the most important film movements in the history of cinema began in the 1960s.

Things I saw while traveling through Eastern Europe reminded me that no matter where we go, kids are kids and humans are humans. Since I was also in the middle of everything going on in Europe with the refugee crisis, I became very aware of how harmful it is when we allow ourselves to forget these things.

I am incredibly thankful to the school for this amazing opportunity and for the ease at which I, as a student-athlete, was able to make this experience happen with the support that I did. I am truly blessed to have this community to lean on and for what was a dream semester for someone who hopes to someday be a filmmaker.

Read more about Swedberg on page 14.





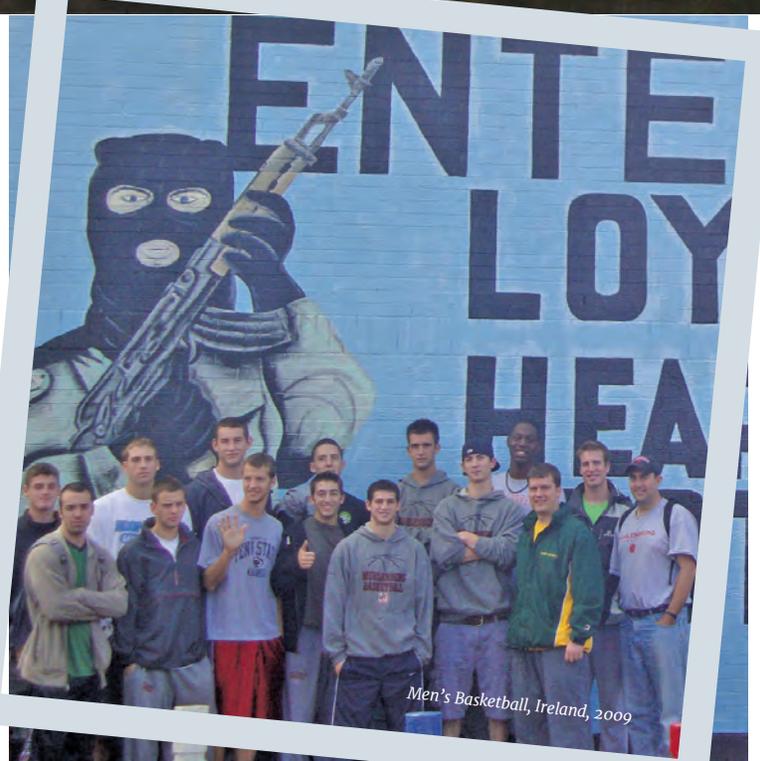
Field Hockey, Belgium, 2013

Mules Across the Map

ATHLETIC TEAMS COMPETE AROUND THE WORLD

Overseas travel by Muhlenberg athletic teams is a tradition that goes back more than 20 years. NCAA rules permit college teams to travel abroad in the summer once every three years, and the Mules have taken full advantage of their opportunities to go on these once-in-a-lifetime journeys. While overseas, Muhlenberg teams combine sightseeing and cultural exchange with competition against local teams.

For the winter and spring teams, summer trips are a chance for the players to bond with one another and build team chemistry. But for fall teams who take their trips immediately prior to the start of preseason camp, an international trip can serve as a sort of extended preseason and have a direct impact on their fortunes. A great example is the 2016 field hockey team, which won a school-record 15 games and earned a spot in the national rankings after traveling to Argentina.



Men's Basketball, Ireland, 2009



Women's Basketball, Austria, 2007

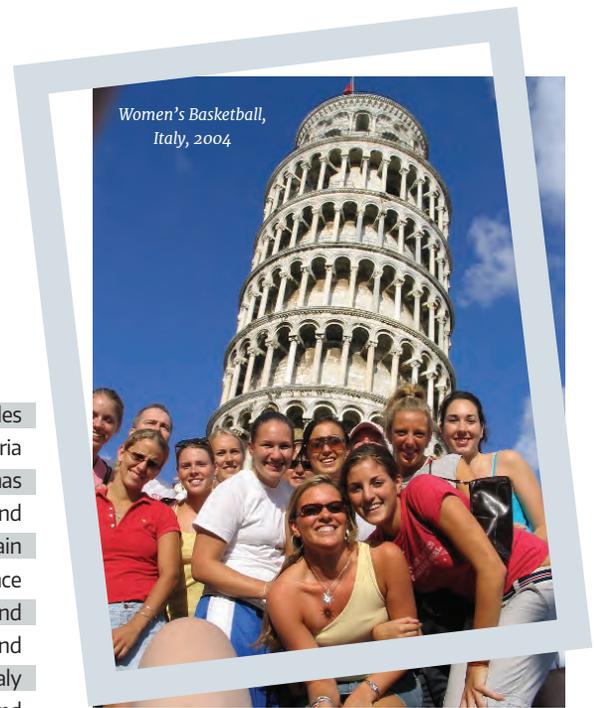


Field Hockey, Argentina, 2007

“

The goodbyes at the baggage carousel were heartfelt, because the whole team, our parents and our entire group in general had become much closer after all of our Italian adventures ... It was a wonderful and worthwhile experience.”

– Alexandra Chili, women’s basketball, 2010



OVERSEAS TRIPS BY MUHLENBERG TEAMS

August 1994	men’s basketball	British Isles
August 1997	men’s basketball	Germany/Austria
January 1998	women’s basketball	Bahamas
August 2000	men’s soccer	Scotland/England
August 2000	men’s basketball	Spain
August 2001	women’s basketball	France
August 2003	men’s and women’s soccer	Scotland/England
August 2003	men’s basketball	Ireland
August 2004	women’s basketball	Italy
May 2006	men’s and women’s golf	Ireland
July 2006	men’s basketball	Italy/Switzerland
August 2006	women’s soccer	Italy/Germany/Netherlands
August 2006	men’s soccer	Scotland
July 2007	women’s basketball	Germany/Austria
August 2007	field hockey	Argentina
August 2008	men’s lacrosse	Ireland/England
August 2009	men’s basketball	Ireland
August 2009	men’s soccer	Germany/Austria
August 2010	women’s basketball	Italy
August 2010	field hockey	Barbados
August 2011	women’s soccer	Barbados
August 2012	men’s lacrosse	British Columbia
August 2012	men’s soccer	Spain
December 2012	men’s basketball	Puerto Rico
August 2013	women’s basketball	Europe
August 2013	field hockey	Germany/Netherlands/Belgium
August 2015	men’s soccer	Germany/Netherlands/Belgium
August 2015	men’s basketball	Spain
August 2016	field hockey	Argentina
August 2016	women’s basketball	England



Women’s Soccer, Barbados, 2011

Men’s Soccer, Netherlands, 2015



Muletin Board

Record-breaking participation for MULEMENTUM 2016

Thanks to the 2400+ donors who helped make Muhlenberg's annual day of giving a success on Nov. 16!

Muhlenberg Women's Weekend

June 9-11, 2017



Alumnae gather for a weekend of education, fun and inspiration to live, learn and lead.

Commencement 2017

Join us to celebrate the Class of 2017 during Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 21.

Another Successful THAW!

The fourth annual Toast Heard Around the World was held on Jan. 12. More than 650 people registered for 91 official events, spanning 27 states, 17 countries and all 7 continents! Thanks to all THAW participants for raising a glass to Muhlenberg! Save the date for next year's THAW: January 18, 2018.

muhlenbergconnect.com/thaw

M Alumni Weekend

REUNION & HOMECOMING 2017

September 15-17, 2017

Rediscover the Red Doors

Come back to campus for Homecoming and to celebrate Reunion for classes ending in 2 and 7!

muhlenbergconnect.com/comehome

Class Notes

Your fellow Mules would love to know what you are up to! **Let us know if you got married or engaged, had a baby, got together with 'Berg classmates, got promoted or retired, celebrated a milestone birthday and more.**

Class Notes can be submitted to the Office of Alumni Affairs by mail at 2400 Chew St. Allentown, Pa. 18104, by email to bergalum@muhlenberg.edu or by posting on MuhlenbergConnect.com.

Deadlines for submission:

Spring issue: March 15, 2017 · Summer issue: May 26, 2017

Class Notes received after the deadline will be placed in the next issue of *Muhlenberg* magazine.

Volunteer Summit

April 22, 2017

Join us to learn how you can best contribute your time and talents to Muhlenberg. The summit is open to active, new and prospective volunteers.

Find out more on muhlenbergconnect.com/volsummit

Book issue corrections: Our apologies for the misspelling of Dr. John Reed on page 6. We also mis-worded a line in Barbara Crossette's biography on page 4. She was among the few first classes to graduate women, but she was not in the first, which was the Class of 1961. Thanks to those who pointed out the errors.

CLASS NOTES

1949

William D. Miers, CFC
wdmiers@hotmail.com

1951

Theodore C. Argeson, CFC
tca51mberg@yahoo.com

1952

Harold S. Weiss, CFC
weisshama@verizon.net

1953

Joseph H. Jorda, CFC
jjorda1010@aol.com

1954

Frank R. Cutko was recently elected to the Essex Community College (Baltimore) Athletic Hall of Fame. Frank was an associate professor of physical education at Essex from 1969 to 1996. He coached baseball and softball compiling over 360 wins with a better than .750 winning percentage in 12 years of coaching. Cutko and his wife Barbara reside in Baltimore, Md. Their daughter, Valerie, is an actress in London. Their son, Hondo, is an ecologist for the state of Maine.

1956

Richard G. Miller, Jr., CFC
rg.miller@comcast.net

Rev. Richard G. Miller shared the following message: Still basking in the afterglow of our 50th reunion ten years ago, three members of the class returned for the 60th: **Vince Stravino, Dave Godshall** and **Dick Miller**. Previous greetings were received from **Werner Weinreich** and **Tony Saddler**. Dave and his wife, Barbara, remain active as residents of Luther Crest in Allentown. Dick continues to express his long-standing musical interests as organist at the Lutheran Community in Telford and in various local choral groups. He is also the co-mentor of a theological study group in a local Episcopal Church. **Richard Merrick** is now living in Findlay, Ohio, where he is sharing his gifts of leadership at the local Presbyterian Church. He retired as a pastor of the United Church of Christ about 15 years ago.

1957

Wolfgang W. Koenig, CFC
wkoenig1@cox.net

1958

Owen D. Faut, CFC
ofaut@frontier.com

1959

Lee A. Kreidler, CFC
leebar@ptd.net

1960

Edward M. Davis, Jr., CFC
eddavis@ptd.net

1961

Richard L. Foley, CFC
rlfoley4@verizon.net

Members of the Class of 1961 who attended their 55th Reunion enjoyed a fantastic stand-alone celebratory dinner. • The **Rev. Richard W. Horn** was elected and consecrated as Missionary Bishop in the Lutheran Church – International, a Confessional and liturgical Lutheran church body. The consecration took place in Lyons, N.Y., on July 27, 2016. His responsibilities include the outreach and expansion of ministries and oversight of chaplaincies in the LC–I. Bishop Horn is the second Muhlenberg graduate to become a bishop of the Lutheran Church – International, joining Bishop **Aubrey N. Bougher '65**.

1962

Duane G. Sonneborn, Jr., CFC
duanesonneborn@comcast.net

1964

Patricia (Dickinson) Hoffman, CFC
pathoffman@rcn.com

1965

John E. Trainer, Jr., CFC
jetrainz@gmail.com

1966

Timothy A. Romig, CFC
explrs3311@comcast.net

1967

David J. Nowack, CFC
dlnowack@ptd.net

1968

W. Russell Koerwer, CFC
wrkoerwer@aol.com

1969

Richard Gross, M.D. was awarded the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine's Professors' Award for Excellence in Teaching

for Part-Time Faculty in May. The award was presented by the dean at the medical school graduation. Richard is an associate professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins.

1970

Glenn S. Kratzer, CFC
gkratzer@gmail.com

Diane R. (Schmidt) Ladley, CFC
dianeladley@verizon.net

Rob Loeffler M.D. worked with Doctors Without Borders as the orthopedic trauma surgeon in a war trauma hospital for Syrian refugees on the Syrian-Jordanian border for three months.

1971

Mary Daye Hohman, CFC
mdhohman@gmail.com

Robert Kimmerle has retired from the communications office at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., after 29 years. For his last 10 years on the job he was director of community relations. He is doing freelance work and enjoying family time, tennis, learning Spanish and playing in blues bands at local clubs. • **Stephen Rockower** has been in the D.C. area since 1975 after graduating from Temple Medical with **Steve Goldman, Ray Adams** and others. He is a busy orthopedic surgeon there, still practicing in Rockville, Md. He has been active in Medical Society affair and has twice been president of his local Montgomery County (Md.) Medical Society. In September, he was sworn in as President of MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society. He also serves on the state's delegation to the AMA.

1972

Eric C. Shafer, CFC
ericshafer@hotmail.com

1973

Jeffrey R. Dundon, CFC
jeffreydundon73@gmail.com

Jonathan Dale recently retired from 35 years as a computer software engineer, and is re-inventing himself as a luthier, making mostly ukuleles, some parlor guitars and a number of banjos. Those interested in his work can view it at jupiteruke.com. • The Society for Vascular Surgery is pleased to announce the election of its new president; **Dr. Ronald M. Fairman** was recently announced as the newly elected president of the Society for Vascular Surgery. He is chief of vascular

CLASS NOTES

surgery and endovascular therapy at the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Medicine. Last April, he was also elected as one of 33 new members at the American Philosophical Society's Annual Spring Meeting in Philadelphia.

1974

Betsy (Caplan) MacCarthy, CFC
thebfm@yahoo.com

In September of last year, **Richard "Hank" Geissler Jr.** retired from Stanford Healthcare, Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine, after being employed for 41 years as a lab manager in anatomic pathology with three separate organizations. He now resides in central Kentucky, having moved to be close to his two children and their families. There is time in his life now to enjoy travel with his wife Paula, enjoy the company of their extended family, wade streams and rivers in search of bright salmonids with a fly rod and seek ways to make contributions in his community.

1975

Robert Djergaian was recently appointed physician executive director at Banner University Medical Center – Rehabilitation Institute and clinical assistant professor at University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix.

1976

Gregory J. Fox, CFC
gfox@mmwr.com

Thomas B. Hadzor, CFC
T.hadzor@duke.edu

Stephen J. Hart, CFC
hartstephen212@gmail.com

Carolyn Ikeda, CFC
csikeda76@yahoo.com

Stephen Purcell, D.O. was awarded Pennsylvania's 2016 Dermatologist of the Year Award, presented by the Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology. This honor is given to those who have made significant contributions to the specialty of dermatology, as well as to the leadership and/or educational programs of the Academy. • **Dr. Diane H. Sonnenwald** recently won the Association for Information Science & Technology's prestigious Watson Davis award. She is an emerita professor of information and library studies at the University College Dublin in Ireland. The award was established in 1975 to recognize the individual member who has

illustrated continuous dedicated service to the association through active participation in and support of ASIS&T programs, chapters, special interest groups, committees and publications.

1977

Steven M. Eisenhauer, CFC
steve@congruencewines.com

Susan C. (Ettelman) Eisenhauer, CFC
eisenhauer.sc@gmail.com

1978

Donna M. (Bradley) Tyson, CFC
Dbtyson@gmail.com

Aladar Gyimesi, Andrew Bausch, Kurt Phillips, James Hirschberg, Jeffrey Jones and Kurt Althouse got together for the New York Jets' opening game of 2016. The Jets lost, but the six Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers enjoyed the day.

1979

Rudy A. Favocci, Jr., CFC
rudyfavo@yahoo.com

1980

Kim Barth Kembel, CFC
kim.kembel@tufts.edu

Rick Lucas shared that on August 23, 2016, three Muhlenberg representatives summited Mt. Elbrus in the Caucasus region of southern Russia. They included himself, **Edward Tracy '91** and **Joshua Lucas '18**. The three had trained for months prior in preparation for the climb. Elbrus is the highest summit in Europe. Ed, Rick and Joshua have summited another of the Seven Summits, Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, in recent years. They plan to attempt to climb the highest mountain in South America, Aconcagua, in late 2017.

1981

Joan C. Triano, CFC
jtriano@aol.com

Timothy Austin married Fernanda A. Austin on June 20, 2015.

1982

Marion E. Glick, CFC
82marion@gmail.com

Tambria (Johnson) O'Shaughnessy, CFC
wtoshau@verizon.net

William J. O'Shaughnessy, Jr., CFC
wjos1024@gmail.com

The New Jersey State Museum (Trenton) mounted a mid-career retrospective of **David**

Ambrose's work, "Repairing Beauty." The museum notes: "Throughout his career, Mr. Ambrose has been exploring elements found in or on architectural facades, interiors or floor plans in his richly colored, intensely worked, paintings on hand-stitched lace or pierced paper." Dave led a gallery walk of 75 pieces followed by the opening reception in September. • **Andrea Clearfield**, who has composed more than 125 works for orchestra, chorus, chamber ensemble, dance and multimedia collaborations, exploring themes such as ancient cultures, freedom, religion and technology, was granted a Pew Fellowship Award. Pew Fellowships provide awards of \$75,000 each. • During 2016, **Andreas Teich** wrote the hymn interpretation column for "The Hymn," the journal of the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada. In addition, he authored three biographies which are included in the Cambridge Dictionary of Hymnology.

1983

Tammy L. Bormann, CFC
tlbormann@comcast.net

Jeane M. Coyle, president and CEO of Penn Community Bank, has been appointed to serve on the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council (CDIAC). CDIAC is a 12-member council composed of representatives from commercial banks, thrift institutions and credit unions.

1984

Michelle (Rein) Pressman, CFC
mjpressman@comcast.net

1985

Carolyn (Ricca) Parelli, CFC
csparelli@gmail.com

1986

Paul M. Hurd, Jr., CFC
pmhref@rcn.com

Colin Keel was appointed as the Queenstown Airport's chief executive this past May. Keel is a lawyer who has considerable experience in the aviation industry. His first main order of business is creating a master plan ensuring the airport's development over the next thirty years. • **Lee S. Marcus, M.D.** and **Tracy Ottinger Marcus '87** proudly announce the marriage of their daughter, Jessica Quinne, to Andrew David Beck on June 18 in Bolton Landing, N.Y. on Lake George. Lee and Tracy live in Somers, N.Y., and Lee is president and founder of Preventive Cardiology of New York

in Manhattan, while Tracy is a practicing counselor. They celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary on the same day as their daughter's nuptials.

1987

Eileen (Collins) Neri, CFC
ecneri@verizon.net

Debra Walker is an entrepreneur and marketer of Fortune 500 brands who recently created an invention called Bibo Barmaid, which allows you to create perfectly blended cocktails.

1988

Venard Scott Koerwer, CFC
skoerwer@me.com

1989

Jeff Evans Vaughan, CFC
jv@voncom.com

1990

Sharon I. Mahn, CFC
sharonmahn10@gmail.com

Ramy B. (Shalotsky) Sharp, CFC
ramysharp@aol.com

Brian Cusato was named associate dean at Centre College, effective July 1. Cusato served as an associate professor of psychology and behavioral neuroscience. He was the division chair of the science and mathematics

programs and the campus contact for the Brown Fellows Program.

1991

Christopher Parkes, CFC
cparkes@concepthiii.com

Suzanne Rosenblith has been named associate dean for undergraduate programs in Clemson's College of Education.

1992

Trina A. Poretta, CFC
ranalli8@comcast.net

Lisa (Johnson) Traugott was thrilled to be chosen as an original cast member of WWE star John Cena's FOX reality TV show "American Grit." Her team, led by Purple Heart recipient Noah Galloway, won. Her memoir, "She's Losing It!" was called "The best New Year/New You" book by the Statesman Social and chronicles how Lisa lost 50 lbs. at age 38 by entering a bodybuilding bikini competition, and changed her life in the process. Lisa has also written a children's book, "Mind Your Manners Minnie Monster," which won a Mom's Choice Award. She is a fitness blogger at ShesLosingIt.com and has appeared on "Good Day Austin," "Bikini.com," "Great Day Houston," and countless online magazines and podcasts. Her transformation story will be in the August 24 edition of "Muscle & Fitness Hers."

1993

Jill M. Poretta, CFC
jporetta@cozen.com

1994

Bret G. Kobler, CFC
bret.kobler@gmail.com

Jennifer Salvatori completed her second master's degree in August 2016, a master of arts in education/administration and supervision. She is employed as the director of a K-Grade 8 public charter school and adjunct faculty member for the University of Phoenix. She lives in Arizona with husband Jeff and their three daughters Abigail, Madeline and McKenna.

1996

Mikel D. Daniels, CFC
drmdaniels@wetreatfeet.com

Melissa G. Daniels, CFC
mrs1daniels@yahoo.com

Dr. Mikel Daniels shared that his son, Elliot, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah with several Muhlenberg alumni in attendance: **Dr. Charles Peters '94, Dr. Daniel Fischman '94, Melissa Daniels '96, Scott Beratan '93 and David Rattien '96.**

C O N V E R S A T I O N S

*Many thanks to those of you who wrote in with responses to the book issue!
We always love hearing from alumni who enjoy reading Muhlenberg magazine.*

Amanda Surovy Mertz '99 was one of the alumni who wrote in, saying "I loved reading Dr. Bloom's insights about reading and books and their importance in the liberal arts education. Seeing that Dr. Rosenwasser (my favorite professor!) and Dr. Stephen are still a part of the English department and continue their success with Writing Analytically made me smile. The highlighting of some of the items in the archives and Special Collections was eye-opening. I would have never suspected that Trexler Library held so many wonderful pieces of history right under my nose while I was working at the circulation desk as student worker for three years. The only thing that I would say was missing from this fantastic issue is a photograph of Muhlenberg students curled up on the black leather chairs and couches on one of the library Reading Terraces."

Elizabeth Davis Cox '84 added, "I want to commend you all on a very unique and interesting summer issue. It was very entertaining and enlightening; I particularly enjoyed the singular focus on books and look forward to future issues!"

We also heard from a number of alumni authors who we didn't have the opportunity to feature:

Margaret Gonzalez '62 – author of two French textbooks for elementary students

Richard J. Gross, M.D. '69 – thrice published medical textbook "Medical Consultation: The Internist on Surgical, Obstetrical, and Psychiatric Services"

Richard E. Krieger, M.D. '74 – author of three published novels

Chris Moore '65 – author of three books, most recently "Solitude: A Neglected Path to God"

Jack Reber '67 – author of three historical fiction novels for 9-12 year-olds

Juliet Saba '01 – author of "Bernie and the Smelly Cheese Balls"

Congrats on your great work!



Members of the Class of 1961 who attended their 55th Reunion enjoyed a fantastic stand-alone celebratory dinner.



Wesley, son of Casey Cohen '05 and Adam Cohen '06



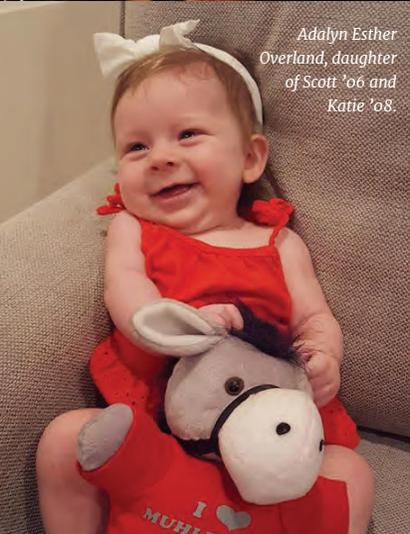
Alumni at the wedding of Noelle Tate '05 and Karl Hammerle



Lisa (Johnson) Traugott '92 was chosen as an original cast member of WWE star John Cena's FOX reality TV show American Grit.



Class of 1978 Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers Ali Gyimesi, Andy Bausch, Kurt Phillips, Jim Hirschberg, Jeff Jones, Kurt Althouse attended the New York Jets' opening game of 2016.



Adalyn Esther Overland, daughter of Scott '06 and Katie '08.



Rick Lucas '80, Ed Tracy '91 and Joshua Lucas '18 summited Mt. Elbrus in the Caucasus region of southern Russia in August.



Luke Christopher, son of Class of 2004 couple Rita D. (Shafer) and Adam Miller, with big sister Rita E.



Alumni in attendance at the wedding of Cara Scharf '07 and William Trevethick '07



Logan Joseph was born to Steven Strauss '97 on June 23, 2016.



Alumni at the Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Daniels, son of Dr. Mikel Daniels '96



Jessica Hart '03 and husband Shaun with their newest addition, Siena, and big sister, Zara



Alumni at the wedding of Ben Katz '09 and Liz (Gaffney) Katz '10



Alumni at the wedding of Samantha (Molchany) Fisher '11

CLASS NOTES

1997

Courtenay (Cooper) Hall, CFC
Courtenay@bellanyc.com

Shannon Gary has accepted the role of associate vice provost/dean of students at the University of San Francisco and plans to relocate to San Francisco in February 2017. While he will be stepping down from the Alumni Board, he plans to remain an active alumnus on the West Coast. • **Steven Strauss'** son Logan Joseph was born on June 23, 2016.

1998

Joshua A. Lindland, CFC
joshua.lindland@gmail.com

Tom Zanders has been named medical director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit at St. Luke's University Hospital, Bethlehem.

1999

Matthew R. Sordoni, CFC
matthewsordoni@sordoni.com

2000

Drew J. Bitterman, CFC
drewbitterman@gmail.com

Erin Burke recently received the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) national recognition of 40 under 40 leaders in the transportation demand management (TDM) industry. This distinction recognizes a diverse group of a diverse group of individuals who range from digital start-ups and big name companies, who make transit options more accessible, to city and regional transportation officials most effectively increasing the use of commuter benefits and rideshare across the country. Erin manages the Philadelphia region's commuter benefit program, RideECO, helping 500+ employers and their 15,000+ employees enroll in commuter benefits. She is the in-house expert at Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission on everything transit benefit-related, and staff rely on her to keep up with related news and legislation. • **Steven Grossman** received the Spotlight Award from Autism Speaks at their Fashion Gala at Warner Brothers Studios in September. Many celebrities were in attendance and *Zumanity* by Cirque du Soleil performed. Steven previously served on advisory committees for Make a Wish and City of Hope but started focusing solely on Autism Speaks when he found out his older son was on the spectrum. It's a very personal cause to him, and he's always believed in

using his voice, contacts and relationships for a greater purpose than entertainment.

2001

Christopher A. Lee, CFC
christopher_a_lee@hotmail.com

2002

Adam Marles, CFC
amarles@phoebe.org

2003

Laura A. Garland, CFC
laura.a.garland@gmail.com

Jessica Hart and husband Shaun are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Siena, on July 26, 2015. She joined big sister, Zara, who is now 4.

2004

Robyn M. Duda, CFC
robymduda@gmail.com

Ariel Factor Birdoff married Adam Phillip Rothstein on May 15, 2016, at The Royalton Mansion in Roslyn Heights, N.Y. Alumni in attendance included **Melissa Falk Remite**, **Brian Remite '02**, **Annabelle Meunier** and **Drew Hedges**. • Class of 2004 couple **Rita D. (Shafer)** and **Adam Miller** are overjoyed to announce the birth of their son, Luke Christopher. Luke was born on August 11, 2016 at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown. He weighed 8lbs, 3oz and was 21 inches at birth. Their daughter Rita E. is proud to be a big sister! • **Dr. Robert Uniszkiwicz** published his first book, "The Bucket List Chronicles," this past July. Inspired by his wife, he tries many new things, ridding himself of his inhibitions. The book recounts his experiences of what happens when he pushes himself outside his comfort zone and shows us what can happen when we dare to try something new.

2005

Chelsea Gomez Starkowski, CFC
CHELSEAGOMEZ@allstate.com

Casey Cohen and **Adam Cohen '06** were married on September 1, 2013 in Washington D.C., with more than a dozen alumni in attendance. Adam is an oral maxillofacial surgery resident at Allegheny General Hospital. The couple welcomed their first son, Wesley, in January 2016. • **Chelsea Gomez Starkowski**, husband Tony and big brother Anthony welcomed Theodore Andrew (Teddy) on September 6, 2016. • **Noelle Tate** married Karl Hammerle on August 20, 2016, in East Brunswick, N.J. at The Place on the Lake.

Alumni in attendance included Noelle's classmates **John Corgan**, **Christie Pearsall**, **Lydia Brubaker**, **Christine (Nicolosi) Camarda**, **Rebecca Lindsey** and **Dr. Katie Burdett**, as well as **Scott Gill '04** and **Michael Tate '10**. • **Lauren Wiesner M.D.** serves as director of emergency preparedness for MedStar Washington Hospital Center's Emergency Department. She works with the emergency preparedness team to educate physicians and medical students on emergency preparedness plans. She also participates in city-wide emergency preparedness drills and other initiatives with the D.C. Emergency Healthcare Coalition, a partner with the D.C. Department of Health. This is in addition to Lauren's primary duties as an attending physician in the emergency department and an assistant professor of clinical emergency medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. Lauren is also a fellow in the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Academy of Emergency Medicine, and a diplomat of the American Board of Emergency Medicine. She is a member of the Society of Simulation in Healthcare and the Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors.

2006

Elizabeth R. (Hamilton) Marrero, CFC
elizabethmarrero@gmail.com

In our last issue, we shared the good news that **Melissa DeFrain Levendusky** married husband Scott in July 2015. In this issue, we are delighted to share a photo of alumni in attendance at their wedding. • **Scott** and **Katie Overland '08** are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Adalyn Esther Overland. Addie was born June 24, 2016 at 8:29pm in Washington, D.C.

2007

Jason M. Bonder, CFC
jmbonder@gmail.com

Courtney (Roosa) Marsallo, CFC
courtney.marsallo@gmail.com

Jessica Reuther Mulhern participated in the Albert Einstein Distinguished Education Fellowship Program, which provides a unique opportunity for accomplished K-12 STEM educators to apply their extensive classroom knowledge and experience to their host offices to inform federal STEM education efforts. She served her fellowship in the U.S. House of Representatives in the Office of John Sarbanes (Maryland 3rd District). Jessica

taught high school biology at Wilde Lake High School in Columbia, Md. As an Einstein Fellow, Jessica supported Congressman Sarbanes' efforts to explore expanding the adoption of youth apprenticeship programs in the United States. Jessica returned to the Howard County Public School System for the 2016–2017 school year, teaching biology at Howard High School. • **Patricia Read's** baby boy was one of the attendees at a "Berg at the Beach" event. • **Cara Scharf** and **William Trevethick** were married on September 3, 2016 in Philadelphia. Alumni in attendance included **Daniel Xenophon Guy '08**, **Allison Stevens '07**, **Elizabeth Schmitt '07**, **Megan Prima '07**, **Blaine McFeeley '08**, **Lauren Shetler '07**, **Timothy Seeley '07**, **David Chesny '07**, **Stephen Rothwell '07**, **John Dyer '07** and former track coach Welles Lobb. • Friends **Diana Skowronski**, **Allie Borucki**, **Kristin Zieser**, **Hilary (Marinchak) Fowler**, **Kaitlyn (Rossetti) Toto**, **Steve Toto**, **Julia (Lamborn) Altenburger**, **Amanda (Brown) Linick**, **Pat Moyle**, **Lauren (Whitehead) Moyle**, **Mike Gawel '08** and **Holly (Kolesnik) Gawel** vacationed together in the Outer Banks, N.C.

2008

Kristel R. Dow, CFC
kristeldow@gmail.com

Allie C. Schnall, CFC
allison.schnall@gmail.com

More than 20 alumni celebrated the wedding of **Chris Vinci** in October.

2009

Brittany A. (Barton) Bloss, CFC
brittanyabarton@gmail.com

Ben Katz and **Liz (Gaffney) Katz '10** were married in New Hope, Penn. on November 22, 2015. Alumni present at the wedding were **Kristen Peacock '10**, **Rob McCrann '09**, **Rachel Jakubowicz '12**, **Brad Zatcoff '09**, **Danielle Tadros Kopicko '08**, **Rachael Fiori '10**, **Suzi Moczydlowski '09**, **Amanda Tompkins '10**, **Meghan Wilson Frost '10**, **Kendra James '07**, **Kyle Hamilton '09** and **Tim Ness '09**. • **Sara Mazes** left her job last year as the assistant manager of the Hyatt Regency Resort on Maui and made a solo backpacking trip around the world. She returned to her home in New York City after over 10 months of travel and discovery and is finishing up a certificate course in floral design at the New York Botanical Gardens. She is freelancing and has started her own business as a floral designer for weddings and events. She is happy to hear from anyone,

and please contact her (smaze3@gmail.com) if you are planning an event and need flowers/floral arrangements.

2010

Jessica Davis, CFC
jessdavis1@gmail.com

Jonathan Falk, CFC
jfalk715@gmail.com

Alysea McDonald, CFC
alysea.mcdonald@gmail.com

Laura Prigoff McDaniel wed Michael McDaniel in a small ceremony in Playa del Carmen, Mexico on December 4, 2016. Surrounded by family and close friends, they celebrated their marriage on a beautiful beach during a perfect day. • **Meghan Wilson** and **Jonathan Frost** were married on June 20, 2015 in Cheshire, Conn. The couple was honored to have Muhlenberg alumni **Erin Wilson '13** (Meghan's sister) as their Maid of Honor and **Thomas Bertorelli '10** as a groomsman. The couple celebrated their marriage with alumni **Eric Thompson '10**, **Christy Alvord '11**, **Elizabeth Gaffney '10**, **Amanda Tompkins '10**, **Denise Ozer '10**, **Michele Sasso '10**, **Steph Rowan '11**, **Elia Wright '10**, **Robert McCrann '09** and **Benjamin Katz '09**, as well as biology professor Dr. Paul Meier. • **Nick Minnich** and **Karissa (McCarthy) Minnich '12** got married at the Muhlenberg Chapel on June 11, 2016. • **Patrick Fligge** and **Jillian Bevacqua '11** got married on June 25, 2016 at Muhlenberg with many alumni, parents and staff in attendance.

2011

Catherine S. Schwartz, CFC
c.schwartz89@gmail.com

Alumni recently gathered to celebrate the wedding of **Samantha (Molchany) Fisher**. Those in attendance included fellow members of the Class of 2011 **Lauren Weinhofer**, **Maura Golebiowski**, **Sarah Fye**, **Kerri Cossean**, **Kali Kambourglos** and **Imani Williams**, as well as **Kelcie Molchany '15** and **Anthony Molchany '91**, **P'11**, **P'15**.

2012

Lisa M. Peterson, CFC
lisapetey27@gmail.com

Alumni gathered in celebration for the wedding of **Mary Ann Blumenthal** and **Jordan Blumenthal**. Those in attendance included **Monica Mandell '84**, **Rebecca Ritter '12**, **Kelsey Elmer '12**, **Lisa Peterson '12**, **Angela Napoletano '12**,

Max Blumenthal '16, **Paige Franco '15**, **Kristen Wehrle '12** and **Margaret Hare '12**.

2013

Nina E. Pongratz, CFC
nepongratz@gmail.com

Nashalys K. Rodriguez, CFC
nashkrod@gmail.com

Jacob Glass was selected as one of the 2016 Switzer Fellows by the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in public policy at Harvard's Kenney School of Government. The Switzer Foundation awarded 20 Fellowships for emerging environmental leaders who are in pursuit of graduate degrees and dedicated to creating positive environmental change in their careers. Jacob will work at the cross-section of land management, public policy and strategic communications to create innovative partnerships for the sustainable use of public lands.

2014

Gabrielle Aboodi, CFC
gabrielleaboodi@gmail.com

Michael R. Schramm, CFC
mrschramm@protonmail.com

Katy Mitton, assistant women's basketball coach, shared that on November 4, Muhlenberg women's basketball alumnae came to cheer on the Mules as they took on Fordham University in an exhibition game. Those who were there to cheer, and show their support were **Colleen Caldwell '14**, **Erin Laney '14**, **Morgan Duggan '14**, **Laura Gregory '15**, **Alita Zabrecky '13**, **Alex Berlin '11** and **Kim Mui '12**.

2015

Holly M. Hynson, CFC
holly.hynson2@gmail.com

2016

Sarah A. Cromwell, CFC
scrom94@gmail.com

On July 22, alumni **Mariah Dalton** and **Marie DiNorcia**, along with **Eileen Veghte '15**, **Joseph Spiotta '13**, **Wesley MacBeth '14**, **Jennifer Apple '12**, **Carly Friedlander '06**, **Erica Cenci '06**, **George Psomas '05**, **Phil Haas '05**, **Mia Scarpa '04**, **Sarah Hutchison '04**, **Dana Iannuzzi '03** and **Adam Kemmerer '02** were part of a performance by the Fishbowl Collective at The Laurie Beechman Theatre in New York City.

More than 20 alumni celebrated the wedding of Chris Vinci '08 in October.



Alumni at the wedding of Nick Minnich '10 and Karissa (McCarthy) Minnich '12



A group of Class of 2007 friends vacationed together on the Outer Banks, N.C.



Alumni at the wedding of Meghan Wilson '10 and Jonathan Frost



The son of Patricia Read '07 was one of the attendees at a 'Berg at the Beach event.

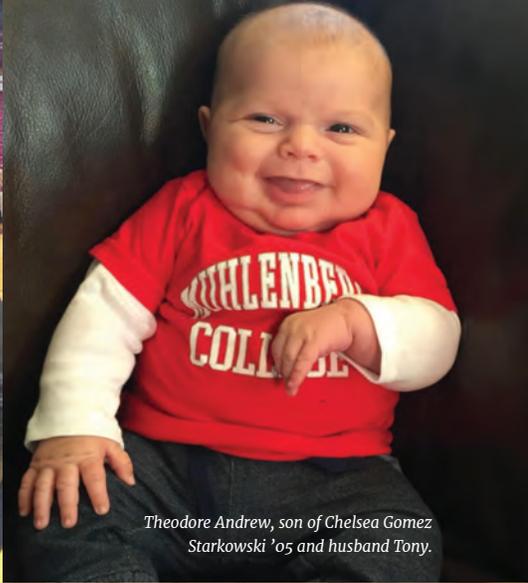


Alumni at the July 2015 wedding of Melissa DeFrain Levendusky '06 and husband Scott

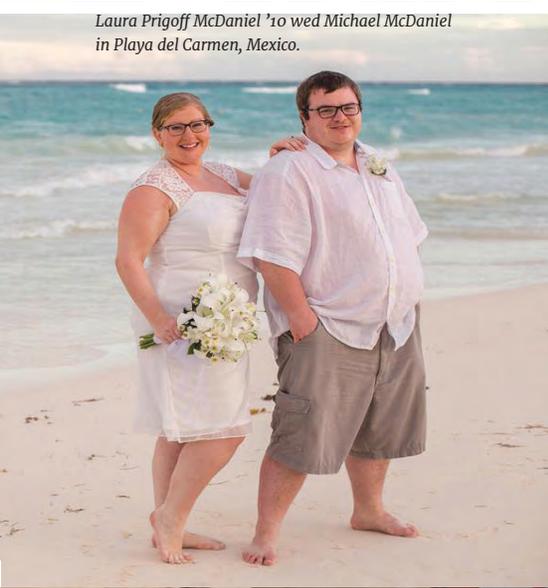




In November, Muhlenberg women's basketball alumnae cheered on the Mules as they took on Fordham University in an exhibition game.



Theodore Andrew, son of Chelsea Gomez Starkowski '05 and husband Tony.



Laura Prigoff McDaniel '10 wed Michael McDaniel in Playa del Carmen, Mexico.



Alumni at the wedding of Class of 2012 couple Mary Ann and Jordan Blumenthal.



Alumni, parents and staff at the wedding of Patrick Fligge '10 and Jillian Bevacqua '11

IN MEMORIAM

1938

Alfred D. Wert died on December 25, 1999 at the age of 86. He last resided in New Tripoli, Lehigh County.

1942

Dr. Milton N. Donin died October 10, 2016. He is survived by his children, David and wife Lynn Roessler, Eric, Carol and husband Gary Butler; his grandchildren; and his companion Debbie Coplin. • **William V. Feller** passed away on September 22, 2016.

1943

Dr. Alan McCulloch, a retired dentist, died July 7, 2016. Survivors include his wife of 33 years, the former Eleanor Joan Fleischhauer; four daughters, Dana Fleischhauer, Jo Fleischhauer, Amy Wertheim and Mary; a son, William; and six grandchildren. • **Dr. Charles W. Schiffert** passed away on October 6, 2016.

1946

Theodore "Ted" George Halkias died November 16, 2015. He was the loving husband of the late Irene (Grgurinovic) Halkias for 59 years. He is lovingly remembered by his sons, George S. Halkias and his wife Toni; Theodore N. Halkias and his wife Monica; five granddaughters; a great-grandson; and his sister, Mary Purdy. He was preceded in death by his brother Nondas and sister Rose Basile.

1948

Harold W. Bell died on August 4, 2016. He was predeceased by his wife, Elaine Ponn Bell and his son, William Harold Bell. He is survived by his sister, Mary Lou Davis and his daughters, Betsy Ward, Cynthia Andrews and husband David and Keryn Piersa and husband James. He is also survived by several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. • **Dr. John C. Kirschman** died on July 5, 2016. Survivors include his daughters, Mary Lane, Jane Kirschman '80 and Donna Kirschman '81; sister-in-law, Mary Franklin; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Lt. Col. Donald L. Kuhnsman died July 15, 2016. Survivors include his wife, Catharine; son, Keith; daughters, Melanie and Liane; and six grandchildren. His brother, Orrin, preceded him in death.

1949

William James Raines, Sr. passed away peacefully on October 16, 2016. William served

in the U.S. Air Force from 1945 to 1991; he was a pilot in the 339th Fighter Group in World War II. William is survived by his wife Theodora Raines; two sons, William A. Raines and Richard J. Raines, husband of Cheryl Ore; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, John J. Raines. • **Paul V. Smith** passed away October 2, 2016. Survivors include his wife, Patricia; children from his first marriage, Paul Michael Smith and wife Mary, Timothy Smith, Patricia Smith-Daley and Tracy Hodges and husband Kevin; stepsons Dr. Robert Townsend and wife Lori and Chancellor Lee and wife Sarah; and three grandchildren. **Edward I. Spencer**, 89, of West Orange, N.J., passed away on October 1, 2014. Surviving are his beloved wife, Fredda; devoted daughters, Ellen Larson and Robin Spencer; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1950

Frank S. Duda passed away on Tuesday October 18, 2016. Frank was married to Mary (Prebula) who passed away in 1999. Surviving Frank is his son Thomas and wife Elsie and their son Ryan. • **Arthur W. Batten** died August 25, 2016. His wife, the former Kay Burschel, died in 2009. He is survived by a son, Bradley Batten and wife Nancy; a daughter-in-law, Dr. Kristine Batten; a sister, Gwladys Stanley; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by a son, Dr. George Batten. • **Charles "Chuck" M. Giering** passed away September 12, 2016. He was the husband of Nancy Parker Giering for 62 years, father of Peggy Hrolenck, wife of Paul, and grandfather of Brian. He is also survived by three nieces and three nephews but preceded in death by his daughter Molly and brothers Lynnwood and Gary. • **William F. Hausman** passed away on October 13. Bill is survived by his two sons, Philip Hausman and Eric Hausman, grandson Brett Hausman and Bill's longtime companion Betty Driscoll. • **William Noga** passed away on February 11, 2015. He grew up in Allentown and truly loved being a part of the Muhlenberg community. He is survived by his son, Greg Noga.

1951

Richard J. Klingborg passed away on July 28, 2016 at his home. Along with his loving wife Sterna, he is survived by his four sons: Keith and wife Cindy; Kevin and wife Beth; Kerry and wife Judy; and Rev. Kenneth. He also had six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving are his brother Roger Klingborg and twelve nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by sister Emma Kolowitz,

first wife Dorothy (Wetherhold) Klingborg and daughter-in-law C. Susan Klingborg.

• **Carmine A. Licursi** passed away on November 16, 2016. He was the beloved father of Lauren Licursi and Donna Craig with husband George, and dear brother of, Maria "Connie" Passero. • **James W. Poulos** died on July 16, 2016. • **Joseph E. Rath** passed away on June 28, 2016.

1952

John "Jack" E. Hall passed away September 3, 2016. He was the husband of Mary Ann (Krasley) Hall for the last 59 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his nephews Arden J. Aldridge and Robert Latshaw and his nieces Sandra Walter, Sharon Knoeffler, Deborah Kellog and Martha Jane Kalko. He was predeceased by his sisters Marian E. Markley and Beatrice "Betty" Latshaw.

• **Samuel Knochs, Jr.** passed away on August 15, 2016 with his only son by his side. He was preceded in death by his spouse of 49 years, Lily, and is survived by his son Samuel, daughter-in-law Anita, granddaughter Mara and two nephews. • **Karl F. Neuweiler** died July 25, 2016. He was the loving husband of the late Loraine (Krasley) Neuweiler. He is survived by his longtime companion, Clara Fellows; sons Terry Neuweiler and wife Rose and Jeff Neuweiler and wife Julie; daughters Patricia Branley and husband Patrick and Lori Horan and husband Joseph; his companion Clara's children Maria Mithani and husband Nassar and Maureen Melograno and companion Michael Slinger; 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and his loving dog, Bella. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his son, Frederick Neuweiler and granddaughter Audrey Neuweiler. • **Donald G. Schimmel** died July 24, 2016. He is survived by his loving wife, Marion T. (Tate) Schimmel; son Paul M. Schimmel, husband of Michelle Franciose; and his two daughters JeanAnn, wife of Timothy Early and Vicki Austin. Donald enjoyed his four grandsons and his three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Susan G. Mohr and several nieces and nephews.

1953

William H. Buchenhorst passed away on December 23, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Eckardt) Buchenhorst; his daughters, Eleanor Buchenhorst, Jean Buchenhorst and husband Patrick Bost, Louise and Mark Davis, Emily Buchenhorst; and his beloved granddaughter Agnes Rose Buchenhorst. He was a new step-grandfather to Mars and

Cassia Davis and was also survived by his sister, Maryann with husband Jack Dougherty.

• **Robert Peter Honochick** died October 1, 2016. Bob is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Becky; sons Peter, Joe and wife Mary Jo, Chris and wife Christy, and Nick and wife Virginia; sister Patricia Allen; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren (with a fifth expected at his passing). Bob was preceded in death by a son, Michael, in 1992.

• **Dr. Salvator M. Imperiale** passed away peacefully August 9, 2016. Surviving are his children, Michael Imperiale, Kristen Imperiale Goldberg and Thomas Imperiale; four grandchildren; his sister, Thelma Frontani; and nieces and nephews.

1954

Dr. Donald Bausch Kopenhaver passed away on October 1, 2016. He was widowed by wife Joyce A. McCafferty Kopenhaver. Survivors include sons Mark E., Stephen J. and Michael D. Kopenhaver; daughters Lynn Kopenhaver and Jill E. Mittl; and 12 grandchildren.

1955

Peter P. Ascione passed away peacefully at his home on September 20, 2016. He is survived by his loving wife, Elaine Damis Ascione, three children, ten grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, brother Frank Ascione and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Ralph.

• **Norman F. Houser** passed away on July 27, 2016. He was the beloved husband of Joyce Kolb Houser, father of Kenneth L. Houser and wife Nancy and grandfather of Allison and Kara Houser. He was preceded in death by a son, Keith Houser, and a sister, Louise M. Houser. Norman is also survived by his brother Clinton Houser and his wife and several nieces and nephews. • **James R. Wix** passed away on August 31, 2016. Surviving are his children: Sharon D. Sanderson and husband William, Ronald E. Wix, Cindy W. Mory and husband Charles, James M. Wix and wife Gail and Sonya J. Wix; three grandchildren; his brother Richard H. Wix and wife Theresa; nieces and nephews; and was eagerly expecting his first great-grandchild at the time of his death.

1956

Edgar W. Kern died August 27, 2016. He was the husband of the late Agnes D. (Fisher) Kern. Survivors include his daughters Lisa Kern and Patty Kern-Gross and husband Alan; sisters Carolyn Mantz, Geraldine Wesoloski and Gloria Kern; and granddaughter, Lauren Gross. • **John F. Klein** passed away on July 15,

2016. • **Donald J. Young** died October 10, 2016. He was the husband of Delourse J. "Jeanne" (Illsley). In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children: D. Mark Young and wife Kathy, Sherry Burke and husband Marty, Douglas J. Young and wife Elaine M.; nine grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and sister Janet Hodgkins and husband David. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter Patricia, his twin sister Marjorie Fenstermacher and brother Herbert Young.

1957

Jon F. LaFaver died November 17, 2016 at his home. He is survived by his wife Janeen (Jan) Smith LaFaver 'P84; daughter Karen L. Galle '84 and husband Todd; son Mark J. LaFaver; two grandchildren, Benjamin M. Galle '14 and Jillian G. Galle; and two cousins. • **Dr. Karl F. Schimmel** passed away on August 17, 2015. He was a loving husband of Patricia (Palmer) for 53 years; father of Kurt with wife Nan, Kathryn, Anne with husband Wilfredo and Father Eric (CSC); grandfather of six; and great-grandfather of four, the youngest who was expected to arrive after his death.

1959

Kenneth S. Mealing passed away on October 30, 2016. He was married to Carolyn Smith '62.

1960

John F. Toth passed away. He was the husband of Dorothy; father of Mike, Frank with wife Mary, Margaret and John P.; and brother of Olga Riola. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

1961

Paul J. Barnett passed away on September 25, 2016. He was the beloved husband of Maureen (Kilcommons) P'88 and the loving and devoted father of Michael '88, Jennifer Kennedy with husband Kevin and the late Paul Jr. His grandchildren, Sean and Ryan, also adored him. • **Eric R. Seibert** died September 18, 2016 at his home. He is survived by his daughter Carolyn Rutherford and husband Mark, son Eric P. Seibert and three granddaughters. • **Kristina Toffer Von Rosenvinge** passed away peacefully on September 22, 2016. She is survived by her devoted husband of 50 years, Tycho von Rosenvinge; her three children, Hille von Rosenvinge Sheppard, Tycho von Rosenvinge and Erik von Rosenvinge, and their respective spouses, Christian Sheppard, Alison von Rosenvinge and Betty Chou; six grandchildren; and her three siblings, Hans Toffer '59, Taimi

Toffer Anderson '60 and Annika Toffer Weber '65.

1962

Doris A. (Gangwer) Rohr passed away July 13, 2016. Surviving in addition to her husband Walter are three daughters, Lisa A. Fadden, Patti A. Murphy '88 and her husband Tom and Diane M. Cotter and her husband Michael; a son, David A. Rohr and his wife Leslie; and ten grandchildren. • **Frederick A. Thoms** died on October 30, 2016. In addition to his wife of 53 years, Dottie '65, he is survived by three children, Fred Jr. and wife Katy, Gail Kozeliski and husband Brian and Laura Thoms; and five grandchildren.

1963

Kathryn P. Haddad passed peacefully on October 9, 2016. Survivors include daughters Maia Abramson of and Gabrielle Martino; son Benjamin Abramson; three granddaughters; brothers George Haddad and Joseph Haddad; and sister Patricia Dervish. • **Richard E. Hoats** died on October 12, 2016. He is survived by sons, Timothy A. and Scott R. Hoats; daughter, Kelli A. Kostick and son-in-law Michael; grandchildren; sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann and Peter Fink; and a niece and nephew. • **Margaret (Koch) Kistler** died on August 17, 2016. Survivors include son Brian Kistler; daughters Amy Kistler and husband David Knopp and Sharon Kistler Cox; granddaughter Lauren Cox; and sisters Marianne Evans and Eileen, wife of Richard Stinson.

1964

Alan Randolph Heinlein died October 4, 2016. In addition to his wife, Lucinda D. Murray, Randy is survived by his sister, Janet L. Kane; and two nephews and one niece.

1965

Lawrence A. Nielson passed away on July 24, 2016.

1967

Gordon K. Long passed away on October 18, 2016. Gordon is survived by sisters Jane K. Miller and husband David and Susan K. Montgomery and husband Robert; brothers Donald K. Long and wife Diane and Bryan K. Long and wife Mary; and his ex-wife, MiHyon Han. • **Harry N. McCoy** died peacefully surrounded by his family on July 30. He was the husband of Judy (Headrick) McCoy '68. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Todd McCoy; a daughter, Debra Noble and her

IN MEMORIAM

husband Zachary; a brother, John McCoy and his wife Lorrie; a sister, Judy Fletcher; three grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

1969

William C. Roeger died on October 30, 2016. He was the beloved husband of 46 years to Ellen R. (Ball) Roeger. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons William C. "Rocky" Roeger, III and wife Kelly, Matthew B. Roeger and wife Deanna and four grandchildren.

• **Jane M. (Rhodes) Roselund** passed away on July 17, 2016. She was the wife of Theodore A. Roselund, Jr. Along with her husband, she is survived by her children Theodore A. Roselund III and his wife Sybil Eng and Hillary Roselund and her husband Andrew Fotsch; her sister Susan E. Rhodes Sorrenti and her husband Mario; her brother David M. Rhodes and his wife Lynn; and four grandchildren.

1971

Catherine L. Feldman Baumer passed away on May 9, 2016. • **Michael R. Sweeney** died July 31, 2016. Survivors include his loving wife of 45 years Elaine Kopecky Sweeney; children Lauren and Michael J. Sweeney with wife Laya; sister Mary Ware with husband Larry; and granddaughter Aurora Elaine Sweeney.

1972

John E. McKeigue (McKeigue) III passed away on August 25, 2016. He was the loving father of Gregory and Aliza McKeigue; brother of Joseph, Kevin and the late Margaret "Meg" McKeigue; and son of the late Dr. John "Jack" and Margaret "Peg" McKeigue.

1973

Robert Mitchell, Jr. passed away January 24, 2016. Bob was a good friend of many of his classmates and fellow pastors.

1976

Joan M. Popovich passed away on September 19, 2016.

1977

Dr. Kevin E. Shafer passed away on August 22, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Kathleen (Master). Also surviving are daughter Kara Sauers with husband Jeremy and Kylie Fetterolf with husband Cody; step-daughter Patricia Golla with husband Scott; step-son Scott Kubovsak; and six grandchildren.

1980

Christopher Paul Gardner passed away November 12, 2016. He was a loving husband to Laura '81, and devoted father to children Sara '09, Emily and William. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Hugh Gardner, and is survived by his mother Ruth, sister Susan, wife Laura, children, and numerous nieces, nephews and siblings-in-law, including Valerie Geissler '87. • **Susan Lynne Mitchell** died October 21, 2016. She was the beloved and dedicated foster mother to the late Rob Stevens. In addition to her mother, she is survived by a sister Kathleen Davies and husband Gary; two brothers James R. Mitchell and Thomas L. Mitchell and wife Cynthia; five nephews; four nieces; and numerous loving and supporting friends.

1984

Nicholas J. Leno, or 'Big Nick' to his family and many friends, passed away on October 20, 2016. Surviving are his parents Nicholas M. Leno and Nancy Collarile; siblings Ralph, Theresa, Joseph, Maria, Nicole and Noelle Leno; their families; and many friends, golf buddies and acquaintances.

1991

Jennifer Stulberger Feinberg died unexpectedly on November 7, 2016. Jenn was a devoted and loving mother to her three sons, Jack, Josh and Jesse. She is also survived by her mother, Audrey Stulberger, and her brother, Adam Stulberger. She was predeceased by her father, Dr. Eugene Stulberger. • **Dr. Eugene Abraham Stulberger** passed away on July 19, 2014. He was married and loved by his surviving wife of 48 years, Audrey Katz Stulberger. He was beloved by his children, Adam and wife Lisa, and Jennifer Feinberg '91; seven grandchildren; brother Peter; and sister Peggy Stotter.

1999

John Howard Knapp passed away on October 6, 2016. A devoted and dedicated son, he is survived by his parents John and Maria Barbieri Knapp; brothers Michael Knapp and wife Allison and James Knapp and wife Debbie; sister Catherine DelVecchio and husband Dan; and one nephew and three nieces. • **Dennis W. Zehner, Sr.** passed away on October 1, 2016. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Barbara (Numbers) Zehner; son, Dennis W. Zehner, Jr.; cousins; nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents; his brother, Frank and his sister, Evelyn.

2006

Catherine "Cait" E. Hughes passed away on July 13, 2016. Survivors include her devoted parents, John V. and Joan (McDonald) Hughes; her brothers, Sean V. Hughes and William McDonald; her "Irish brother" Colm Hamil; and several cousins, aunts and uncles.

2007

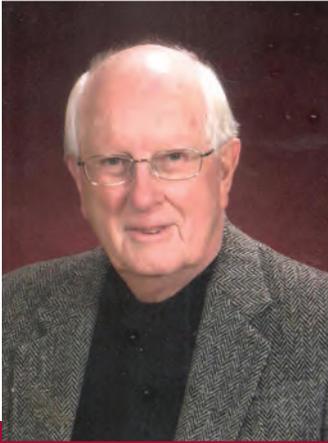
Casey Helen Joyce died on October 25, 2016. She is survived by her mother, Agnes; her father, Joseph; her brother, Daniel; her grandmothers, Helen Naletko and Dorothy Ketterer; her niece, Katelyn; and her nephew, Nicholas.

2015

Alessandra LoConte was a sophomore, majoring in psychology and dance, at the time of her diagnosis of Ewings Sarcoma. She was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority and, in the summer of 2012, a participant in the LVAIC program in Sevilla, Spain. Throughout her fierce two-and-a-half-year struggle, Ali inspired many with her courage, as well as her characteristic sass and sense of humor. A talented writer, Ali started a blog about her experiences as a Ewings and bone marrow transplant survivor (fightcancerbeautifully.com), in the hopes of inspiring other young adults with cancer. The LoConte family is most appreciative of the support they've received from the greater Muhlenberg community, especially the sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma. Ali is survived by her parents, John LoConte and Deana Washburn, and her siblings, Geneva and Devon.

2016

Jamie Arden Oliva died at her home on November 24, 2016. She is survived by her father and mother, James and Kyle Oliva; her two sisters, Kelsey and Kirsten; her grandmother, Dorothy Babish, and her husband Don; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.



Reflections on Four Decades of Study Abroad

By Nelvin Vos, Emeritus Professor of English

One of the most meaningful experiences for Muhlenberg faculty and students has long been forming small groups to study abroad—interactions that create deep bonds fostered through the unpredictable ups and downs of an international trip. And though study abroad was not front-of-mind for faculty, administration and students five decades ago, that is when the spirit of travel first took hold at Muhlenberg.

The pioneers were Professors Arvids Ziedonis and Albert Kipa, who led students on summer trips to Russia and neighboring countries, which was quite an experience in those Cold War days. Around that time professors were invited to submit proposals for off-campus courses that would take place in January, when the college had traditionally closed to save on high campus heating costs. During these “Jan-terms,” Dr. Ed Baldrige led tours of Civil War battlefields and Dr. Carl Oplinger traveled with students to explore wildlife in Georgia and the Everglades. Oplinger later taught a Marine ecology course for students at the world-famous Bermuda Biological Station from 1979 to 2004.

My proposal, which I first made in 1976, was “Theatre in Britain,” a 21-day, 15-play orgy of experience, what would now be called “an immersion course.” As I have frequently said, “One can read novels and poetry anytime anywhere, but drama requires one to go where it’s happening.” We left soon after Christmas and spent New Year’s Eve on London’s Trafalgar Square where one year a young man grabbed my beret, a custom I found out later of liberating headgear at that place at midnight.

I limited the number of students to 15 so

that it was a more intimate group. For about \$900, a student got tuition, airfare, lodging, theatre tickets, London Tube and British Rail passes—everything but lunches and personal expenses. Planning now would be much simpler with all information on the Internet; I relied on newspapers and an occasional expensive phone call.

The London plays ranged from West End productions (we saw Diana Rigg and John Gielgud at the National Theatre) to Fringe (similar to our off-Broadway), as well as pub plays at noon in those very British settings. We took British Rail to Canterbury after reading T.S. Eliot’s play, *Murder in the Cathedral*, to Stratford for Shakespeare plays, to Coventry to see an experimental production of *Antigone* set in a small totally white space. In these cities, I arranged bed-and-breakfasts for lodging. Students would return to the group excited about meeting new acquaintances.

Discussion sessions took place before and after the plays in the breakfast room of the Montague Hotel where we stayed, inexpensively and conveniently located near the British Museum. A young London drama writer, Benedict Nightingale, came over to share his thoughts with the students. He later became a long-time New York Times critic.

I arranged our group dinners at a variety of locations: Indian cuisine, theatre restaurants as well as typical British fare. One choice was a Henry VIII restaurant (no silverware) in which the students nominated me as the representative from our table to compete in downing a yard of ale in a long glass tube. I didn’t win.

Built into the three weeks was an

independent study. Two or three students had to propose a journey of four days. Several, for example, went to Scotland, others to castles in Wales, and two walked Hadrian’s Wall.

Each student kept a journal and wrote short papers on the plays. A planning session at our home prior to leaving set the tone and we started to know one another. Afterwards, we had a gathering at our home to share photos and memories.

And memories there were. And are. Last year, one of the groups held a reunion brunch during Homecoming and eagerly shared stories and even several scrapbooks made about the experience of 40 years ago.

A decade later when I served as vice president and dean of the college in the late ’80s and early ’90s, study abroad had expanded. Dr. Christopher Herrick was appointed to coordinate the various opportunities. Some of the new initiatives included Theater at Goldsmiths, the University of London, and economics at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. Several exchange programs of faculty and students also began, one being with Charles University in Prague, an institution founded in 1348, a mere 500 years before Muhlenberg. I went to sign the agreement in an impressive ceremony at the university soon after the Velvet Revolution in that country.

The horizons of education at Muhlenberg have continued to grow, and today the college offers a wealth of opportunities in global education to broaden and deepen the understanding of other nations and cultures. Such experiences also encourage the travelers to see one’s own country in new ways.

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