



The Beacon

Great Lakes Colleges Association

This newsletter is available on-line at www.glca.org

April 2008

Volume 5, Issue 6

Albion • Antioch • Denison • DePauw • Earlham • Hope • Kalamazoo • Kenyon • Oberlin • Ohio Wesleyan • Wabash • Wooster

In This Issue

Feature Article	1
<i>Reciprocal Benefit</i>	1
<i>GLCA Wins Grant</i>	3
Updates	4
<i>GLCA Presidents'</i>	
<i>Diversity Summit</i>	4
News GLCA Schools	5
Albion	5
Denison	5
DePauw	6
Earlham	7
Hope	8
Kalamazoo	9
Oberlin	10
Green News	10
Kalamazoo	10
Oberlin	11
Faculty News	12

Our Mission

The mission of the Great Lakes Colleges Association is to take actions that will help strengthen and preserve our colleges; and be a leading force on behalf of education in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences. Rich in tradition, GLCA will continue to enhance our colleges by leading as new areas of opportunity and challenge emerge.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Reciprocal Benefit: A Visit to The American University in Cairo

Imagine being able to design a college from the ground up – making fundamental decisions about programs, staff, and facilities on a campus built in an entirely new location. Last fall the directors of athletics from two of GLCA's member colleges – Dr. Larry Scheiderer of Denison, and Dr. Keith Beckett of Wooster – experienced something of this kind when they were invited by the American University in Cairo (AUC) to provide consultation to the University as it undertakes a wholesale move from metropolitan Cairo to a location some 40 miles to the east, in a desert suburb of New Cairo, Egypt. They wanted to better understand the role of sports in a liberal arts education.

AUC was founded in 1919 as an American-style institution liberal arts committed to providing a broad foundation of education in the liberal arts and sciences. It currently enrolls 3,900 undergraduate and 1,000 graduate students. Faced with a rapid growth of demand for higher education and limited options for growth in the city, AUC is building an entirely new campus on 260 acres in its New Cairo location with a capacity to educate 7,000 students. Among other things, moving the campus to a less congested suburban setting makes it possible for AUC to offer expanded athletics facilities and programs.

GLCA is working to develop a program, called the Jeffersonian Alliance, to make possible visits of this kind in response to par-

ticular needs or opportunities that arise between its member colleges in the U.S. and American-style higher education institutions overseas that offer a liberal arts curriculum. Through the past two years GLCA has developed initial relationships with several such institutions in Europe and the Middle East. AUC's President, David Arnold, had contacted Rick Detweiler, President of GLCA, to ask if he could recommend athletics directors from American liberal arts colleges to provide insights and considerations in developing expanded programs and facilities. Following some inquiries and arrangements, Larry Scheiderer and Keith Beckett boarded a series of flights together from Ohio to Cairo and AUC.

In the course of their flight, Scheiderer and Beckett voiced some anxieties about what expectations their Egyptian hosts might have, and whether their American experience could be truly helpful to AUC officials in working through considerations of staffing, facilities, and programming on a new campus. Both came to feel much more at ease after meeting their hosts. From their first exchanges with officials of the University, they realized that the experience of being guests would be rewarding while providing opportunities for reciprocal learning between themselves and their Egyptian counterparts. Mohamed Taher Ragab, the acting sports director of AUC, was a principal liaison to the two athletics directors from Ohio. They felt a sense of camaraderie with him almost immediately.

Call for Submissions

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of *The Beacon* is September 9, 2008. Please send submissions electronically as e-mail text or attachments to Charla White, Editor at white@glca.org. Submissions may be edited for length. Feedback and comments are always welcome.

Reciprocal Benefit: A Visit to The American University in Cairo *continued*

“Mohamed began telling us stories of things he encounters as athletics director,” said Scheiderer. “Keith and I perceived very soon that we knew exactly where the stories were going, and the kinds of challenges they posed. We came to feel a close sense of rapport with Mohamed and his colleagues from the very start of our visit.”



Keith Beckett, The College of Wooster

Beckett and Scheiderer found that they were able to speak candidly about difficult issues and conflicts that can arise in the context of an athletic event – or in the more general environment of an academic community. Mohamed Taher Ragab had observed that episodes occasionally occur on the playing court or field that have an international cast and reflect differences in culture among athletes. Having arrived in Cairo shortly after a racial incident at Denison Scheiderer was able to discuss openly the Denison experience and the steps toward healing that his campus was taking.



Larry Scheiderer, Denison University

In the course of their visit Beckett and Scheiderer observed many commonalities in the role of athletics in the U.S. and Egypt. Egyptian students pursue athletics with a passion equaling that of students in the U.S. In both nations, athletics provides important opportunities for students to set and achieve goals. The enthusiasm that students bring to athletic achievement can often be seen in other areas of their lives; many athletes exhibit an active engagement in service to the community as well as a strong commitment to family. Egyptian students who play sports understand their participation in sports or recreation as one part of their educational growth and development. A female student who was an accomplished squash player had observed, “Playing this sport is a commitment for me, but it’s not a priority over academics.”

At the same time, Scheiderer and Beckett observed differences in culture that distinguished the Egyptian context from that of liberal arts colleges in the U.S. Scheiderer said that “It took Keith and me some time to figure out their athletic model.”

Colleges in the U.S. participate in college- or

university-based athletic conferences or leagues that result in well-established seasons and standards of reference for given sports. These kinds of intercollegiate organizations are not present to the same degree in Egypt. Athletic competition tends to occur in more of a “home club” environment; the University’s athletics teams compete with the teams of other clubs in the Cairo region. Many also play in their club teams while attending the University. This circumstance may create uncertainty in athletic events on campus; some players may not be present for an AUC basketball game, for example, because it conflicts with a game they are playing with their home town club.

In a variety of ways, the rhythms of AUC’s athletic and recreational programs correspond to national and cultural norms. One of the highlights of the athletic season is the Ramadan Open Tournaments, conducted during a season of the Islamic year in which Muslims fast from dawn to sunset. After sunset, students of the University gather with their families to break the fast and celebrate. As a result, athletic events generally do not begin until nearly midnight during Ramadan. This circumstance has created unusual patterns of staffing and facilities usage in the AUC’s downtown Cairo location; as the campus and its athletics facilities relocate to a setting more distant from the Cairo family homes of many students, additional challenges will likely occur.

“We have a mindset of how we do things, and the scheduling of athletic events is always a challenge,” said Beckett. “Seeing the cultural context of those general challenges helped us to see issues of our own colleges in a broader perspective.”

Both Beckett and Scheiderer observed that in some respects, the tenor of AUC’s athletics program recalled an earlier era of athletics in the U.S., one that regarded sports contests more informally as activities that benefit students and contribute generally to their academic and social development through college. In the past three decades, intercollegiate athletics has become increasingly specialized in the U.S.

Colleges in the U.S. participate in college- or

Reciprocal Benefit: A Visit to The American University in Cairo *continued*

“Twenty-five or thirty years ago,” observed Beckett, “it was not uncommon for the head football coach to serve also as the assistant basketball coach during the off season.” Scheiderer added, “The thinking in that time was that a general knowledge of coaching would make it possible to coach students in any sport, regardless of the specific experience one might have had in that sport.” Today a coach of intercollegiate sports in the U.S. focuses on a single sport and spends the off-season primarily engaged in a college’s recruitment effort, seeking to attract the most promising scholar-athletes to the institution. While the pressure on AUC’s coaches seems generally less intense, it is possible to observe signs of movement in the direction that intercollegiate sports have taken in the U.S. One of AUC’s most accomplished swimmers had said to their American visitors, “If we want to be truly competitive, our coach will need to work hard during the off-season to recruit a strong team.”

Both recount the experience of visiting AUC as one that helped them see the setting and circumstance of their own programs in a broader perspective. Beckett observed, “The experience gave me a strong sense of appre-

ciation for the range of opportunities that our students have in the U.S. Sometimes we take for granted the things we have before us; I came away with a heightened respect for what our coaches and physical education faculty in these U.S. colleges are able to do.”

They were struck by the hospitality of their hosts, the excitement they showed in having them as guests, and the interest they took in the advice that Beckett and Scheiderer could give as athletics directors of colleges in the U.S. The two Americans were able to give helpful advice on staffing needs, facilities usage and maintenance, event scheduling, as well as in the qualifications and process for hiring a new athletics director. Reflecting on their experience, it was clear that these athletics directors from Wooster and Denison had learned as much as they taught.

“Whatever your facilities are like,” says Scheiderer, “you can still put a program together that meets the athletics and recreational needs of students. The experience reinforced that what we do in athletics is common throughout the world, it just takes place in a different cultural context.”



American University
in Cairo



GLCA Wins Grant from Teagle to Develop and Test Alternative Pedagogies

GLCA has received a grant of \$150,000 from the Teagle Foundation to create a Pathways to Learning Collegium – a project to design, implement, and assess the impact of alternative pedagogies in undergraduate education as derived from some of the most salient research on human learning through the past decade. The project will consider empirical research findings about learning from the literatures of neuroscience/neuropsychology, cognitive psychology, and social/cultural psychology to identify new or different approaches to pedagogy that could be applied to collegiate instruction.

Working with faculty members from across its member colleges, this collegium will develop and implement selected new pedagogies in

courses taught in more than one curricular area (e.g., natural sciences, social sciences, humanities). The project will assess the impact of these pedagogies on appropriate components of learning – not just factual content but, to the degree possible, on the broader skills of analysis, critical thinking, and expression.

In addition to gauging the impact of these research-based pedagogies within the sequence of a given course, the project will consider the longer-range effect on student learning through assessments undertaken a year or more after students’ experience of an alternative pedagogical module.

Members of the initial project team who par-

GLCA Wins Grant from Teagle to Develop and Test Alternative Pedagogies *Continued*

participated in the development of GLCA’s proposal to Teagle include: Harry Bahrck, Ohio Wesleyan (Psychology); Dave Berque, DePauw (Computer Science); Jean Blacker, Kenyon (Comparative Literature/French); Terri Bonebright, DePauw (Psychology); Preston Bost, Wabash (Psychology); Gary Gillund, Wooster (Psychology); Bob Grossman, Kalamazoo (Psychology); Lynda Hall, Ohio Wesleyan (Psychology); Isabel Jaen-Portillo, Wabash (Spanish) Stephen Morillo, Wabash (History); Kerry Pannell, DePauw (Economics); Paul Sotherland, Kalamazoo (Biology); Claudia Thompson, Wooster (Psychology); Scott Vanderstoep, Hope (Psychology); and Rick Warner, Wabash (History).

The GLCA Pathways to Learning Collegium invites the participation of faculty members who have an interest in developing and gauging the impact of new approaches to learning; through the summer a white paper will be developed outlining key principles of learning the project will emphasize and inviting proposals from faculty members interested in introducing alternative pedagogies in portions of a given class.

For more information about the Pathways to Learning Collegium, contact Greg Wegner at GLCA: wegner@glca.org.

UPDATES

GLCA Presidents’ Diversity Summit: “Challenging Our Assumptions” Successfully Convened

Participants at the Presidents’ Diversity Summit -Toledo, Ohio



On April 9, 2008 presidentially led teams from GLCA colleges convened for an informal reception and dinner that served as the kick-off to the one and a half day 2008 Presidents’ Diversity Summit. The culmination of more than two years of planning by GLCA staff and the Board, “Challenging Our Assumptions” featured four powerful presenters who adeptly challenged collective assumptions around diversity, equity, social justice, multiculturalism, and affirmative action as they intersect and / or collide with higher education in the tradition of the liberal arts.

Kujawa-Holbrook, “*Anti-Racist Multiculturalism: Models of Transformation*”, Mr. Tim Wise, “*Beyond Diversity: Challenging Racism in an Age of Backlash*”, and Mr. John Payton, who situated the work of diversity within the framework of social justice in general and in a democratic purview in particular. A student leadership session addressing the interlocking complexities of basic assumptions about race, class, ethnicity, and voice, was conducted by Dr. Sheryl L. Barnes.

Summit presenters and their respective topics included: Dr. Manning Marable, “*Diversity and Democracy in American Education: Making Multiculturalism Work*”, Rev. Dr. Sheryl

Institutional, as well as consortium-wide, ‘next steps’ will be articulated following the compilation of information from each campus and a formal summary narrative of the event.



NEWS ABOUT GLCA MEMBER SCHOOLS

Albion Students Receives Michigan Campus Compact Award

Seven Albion students received the Michigan Campus Compact Award for their dedication to community service. Lisa Anderson received the Commitment to Service Award; and Autumn Charnley, Pete Holland, Angel Ingram, Rachel Lippert, Katharine Van De Putte, and Meaghan Walters received the Heart and Soul Award for investing significant

time, effort and personal commitment through service.

“The Albion students honored by the Michigan Campus Compact embody the spirit of service learning that is a hallmark of the Albion experience,” said Albion president, Donna Randall.

Denison Makes Education Affordable and Student Successes

Denison Makes Education Affordable

For the last 14 years, Denison University has been doing what Harvard and Yale are saying they will do for the first time this fall—aggressively holding down costs for as many incoming students as possible.

“We have long believed that part of our job is to do what we can to make Denison affordable for the students we admit,” says Perry Robinson, vice president and director of admissions. “We’re pleased that some of the larger universities have decided to come on board—but we’ve been doing this for a long time, and we’re stepping up our efforts.”

Denison is one of the few undergraduate liberal arts colleges to have substantial endowment resources, enabling the college to practice “need-blind” admissions. This means that Denison admits the best-qualified students without knowledge of or regard for their family finances.

The costs of operating a top-tier educational program with a 10 to 1 student-faculty ratio and a residential campus are substantial. But Denison’s endowment, valued at nearly \$700 million, provides resources that, when coupled with Annual Fund gifts from alumni and friends, cover 33 percent of the college’s annual operating expenses.

“Denison’s endowment resources are the consequence of generous alumni support compounded by a long-term record of good stewardship,” says President Dale Knobel. “Rather than hoarding the endowment’s income, Denison invests in its student body, substantially

reducing costs for the larger number of students. As a result, students and their families carry less financial burden.”

Denison currently guarantees meeting 100 percent of need for those who are Pell Grant eligible and/or their parent’s earned income is less than \$40,000 or they are the first generation of their family to attend college. Ten percent of Denison’s student population is from families meeting this criteria. Nearly a quarter of Denison students are from families with income of \$60,000 or less.

Denison rewards students with records of academic excellence. “The practice of awarding merit scholarships makes it possible, in many cases, for exceptional students from middle income families to pursue their preference for a selective liberal arts college over a lower-tuition large state university, which may not be their first choice,” says Nancy Hoover, director of financial aid.

By meeting the first dollar of need with grants rather than debt, and by rewarding academic excellence, the college ensures that only 49 percent of Denison students graduate with any debt at all and of those students, the average amount borrowed by graduation is \$14,657.

These numbers place Denison among other highly selective schools committed to accessibility and affordability. On Kiplinger’s “100 Best Values in Private Colleges” list, Denison was the only Ohio school listed among the 20 institutions nationally with the lowest average debt following graduation.

Denison Makes Education Affordable and Student Successes

Continued



Student Jen Verela, Political Science Professor Jim Pletcher, and Student Lauren Kendall

Denison Student is Force Behind Hope Initiatives Southern African (HISA)

Lauren Kendall, Senior, was the driving force behind raising more than \$1800 for Hope Initiatives Southern African (HISA). An international studies major at Denison, Kendall spent a semester in Namibia. Her experience in Namibia galvanized her passion to be of service because poverty is a reality for most of the population. She plans to join the Peace Corps following graduation.

Kendall says the money will be “a catalyst to encourage people to take charge of their own lives.”

Paper Selected for Prestigious Presentation

Denison Student Beza Ayalew, a Ronald E.

McNair Scholar at the University of Akron, has had her paper, “The Effect of Latrine Sanitation on Maternal and Infant Mortality in Ethiopia” accepted for presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meetings in Boston in August.

“I am pleased that a number of our students are able to enjoy independent research opportunities at universities around the country in addition to the robust undergraduate research programs that we have at Denison. I am delighted that the University of Akron has been such a good partner and that Denison students have had such positive experiences with you. For many of these young people, this experience will certainly pave the way to graduate school,” stated President Dale Knobel.

DePauw Faculty and Students Win Awards and Scholarships

Faculty Win InfoTubey Award

Two members of the DePauw University libraries staff -- Brooke Cox, visual resource librarian; and Jessica Bozeman, graduate intern for the Visual Resource Center -- are recipients of a 2008 "InfoTubey Award." The pair were honored in Washington, D.C., at the Computers in Libraries conference. Cox and Caroline Gilson, assistant director of libraries and coordinator of the Science Library, were on hand to accept the award.



Caroline Gilson, Brooke Cox

InfoTubey awards are presented by **Information Today** to recognize excellence in library-related productions which are posted on **YouTube**. The InfoTubies were awarded to the top five productions that demonstrated creativity, humor, and sincerity in marketing a library or library services or enhancing the library's value.

DePauw's winning entry highlighted the resources and services of the Visual Resource Center. The award-winning videos depict the Center and Google in a series of conversations, modeled after Apple's "Get a Mac" advertisements.

Cox, Bozeman, and Gilson worked together during the FITS Summer Workshop in May 2007 to create promotional videos for DePauw's branch libraries. In total seven videos were produced highlighting the VRC, the Prevo Science Library and the Music Library.

Computers in Libraries is an annual technology conference and exhibition for librarians and information professionals.

Students Win Goldwater Scholarships

Alexander Breitingger and Nicole Stone (juniors) and Kathleen Mittendorf (sophomore) of DePauw received the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships, the premier undergraduate award of its type in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. DePauw and Hope College are the only two liberal arts colleges in America to have as many as three scholarship winners.

The Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,035 mathematics, science, and engineering stu-

DePauw Faculty and Students Win Awards and Scholarships Continued

dents who were nominated by the faculties of the colleges and universities nationwide.

Goldwater Scholars have very impressive academic qualifications that have garnered the

attention of prestigious post-graduate fellowship programs including the Rhodes Scholarships, Marshall Awards and numerous other distinguished fellowships.

Earlham Students Receive Davis Peace Project Award



Ishmail Sheriff Daoh, Dan Mahle, Syed Mafiz "Onik" Kamal and Jamie Utt are among the winners of the Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace competition. Earlham will fund a peace project devised by Safia Ansari (second from right).

"If a child knows how to use a gun before going to school, and thousands of such children exist in Sierra Leone, then the future peace of the nation is very fragile," Kamal says. "I believe these children need to be helped and their creative skill development should be encouraged. This is a small attempt toward that process."

"I realized that they could really use my help," Ansari says. "I needed to help the youth find peace by involving them in a peace building activity as an alternative to their harmful habits."

Fruit trees, art and music will be used by five Earlham students to promote peace this summer thanks to winning \$10,000 funding for their initiatives.

Two of the projects, one proposed by seniors Dan Mahle and Jamie Utt and another proposed by first-year students Syed Mafiz "Onik" Kamal and Ishmail Sheriff Daoh, are among winners of the Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace competition, while senior Spanish major Safia Ansari's project was selected for funding by Earlham President Doug Bennett.

The Projects for Peace program is in its second year and honors philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis, who launched the initiative on her 100th birthday to encourage motivated youth to create and implement their ideas for building peace throughout the world.

Mahle and Utt's project, "Change from Within: A Verbal Vehicle for Peace and Youth Empowerment" is a speaking and performance tour that will be presented at schools, conferences, camps and other venues throughout the summer. Their tour already has five engagements including stops in the state of Washington and Washington, D.C.

"The name of this project reflects our belief that the changes we want to see in the world must begin from within each of us," says Mahle.

Kamal and Daoh will work in Daoh's hometown of Freetown, Sierra Leone, this summer to establish an art school for former child soldiers.

Their project is entitled "Arts for Peace" and partners with iEARN, a non-governmental organization working with the reintegration of child combatants in Sierra Leone. iEARN will provide the room for the art school, which will be furnished with paint, brushes, easels and canvases that are purchased with grant money.

Safia Ansari of Bloomington, Ind., was chosen by President Bennett to receive funding for her reforestation project, "Planting the Seeds of Peace for the Youth of Posoltega."

Posoltega is a town in Nicaragua that was regarded as a paradise with abundant fruit trees prior to 1998, when Hurricane Mitch struck killing more than 2,500 people and causing more than \$5 billion in damages. Mudslides from the hurricane, deforestation and destructive pesticides have created a bare landscape. Ansari has been involved in Posoltega during three service trips while in high school as part of the Bloomington-Posoltega Sister Cities program.

Since the hurricane, families have been forced to use what little money they have to repair their homes with none left over to send the children to school, Ansari says. This has created a feeling of hopelessness for the youth, and many have resorted to living destructive lives. Nearly 75 percent of teens there abuse alcohol and 60 percent take drugs, she reports.

Ansari aims to give the youth hope by involving them in planting 500 fruit trees in areas destroyed by the mudslides. Planting the trees will provide multiple benefits by engaging the youth in a healthful activity, helping reforest areas with little or no vegetation, providing a nutritious food source, and providing an income from selling the surplus fruit.

Earlham Students Receive Davis Peace Project Award *Continued*

Ansari will also organize four team-building workshops around the topic of reforestation and community service.

Davis Projects for Peace invited students from schools participating in the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program to submit plans for grassroots projects for peace,

to be implemented during the summer of 2008. A competition for the funding took place on 81 of the 88 campuses in the UWC Scholars Program, which provides grants to select American colleges and universities in support of students from all over the world who have completed their pre-university studies at UWC schools.

Hope Students Win Awards

Alumni Photo Contest

Hope College senior Tarin Coulas of Lansing has won first place in this year's annual Alumni Photo Contest sponsored by the AustraLearn study-abroad program.

The contest received more than 350 submissions from students throughout the United States and Canada who had studied in Australia, New Zealand or the South Pacific through AustraLearn. Coulas won for her photograph "Sheep Traffic Jam," which shows a lone car surrounded by a throng of sheep crossing the road. As the winner she is recognized on the AustraLearn Web site, which shows the photograph, and will also receive additional prize-related materials from the program.

Coulas spent the spring of 2007 studying at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. She photographed the road-crossing scene in February of that year on South Island, New Zealand, on a highway between Milford Sound and Te Anau.



Winning photo by
Tarin Coulas

"I think it does a very good job of summing up Kiwi lifestyle - it is so laid back - you don't get stuck in traffic jams, but rather sheep jams," she said. "We ended up having to wait for about 45 minutes to let all of the sheep come through! It was an experience!!"

The winning photos in the contest were chosen by Kerala Goodkin, editor and chief of "Glimpse Magazine." Of Coulas's photo, Goodkin noted, "On message and composition - this photographer is the clear winner. The choice to focus the image around the point at which the flock meets the horizon rather than around the vehicle brilliantly represents a key cultural element of New Zealand Culture - the

sheep to human ratio. The composition of the photo, with a dominant sky and distant horizon line adds to the viewer's ability to perceive the absurdity of this situation. The shadows of the sheep cast by the setting sun, when combined with the striping of the highway in the foreground, creates a brilliant series of right angles that draw the eye deeper into the photo."

Three Hope College juniors have received prestigious Goldwater Scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year of which only 321 were awarded nationwide.

The three recipients, all of whom are chemistry majors at the college, are Kristin Dittenhafer of Midland; Jonathan Moerdyk of Paris; and Amy Speelman of Darien, Ill.

The Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,035 mathematics, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide.

"Amy, Kristin and Jon are outstanding students who are well-deserving of this phenomenal recognition. As participants in collaborative faculty-student research here at the college, they have been not only outstanding learners but also active contributors to the process of discovery," said Dr. Moses Lee, dean for the natural and applied sciences and a professor of chemistry at Hope. "These awards are highly competitive, and this level of recognition exemplifies the incredible education that we provide for our students at Hope."

Hope Students Win Awards *Continued*

National Geographic Film and PSA Contest

A film by Hope College junior Tyler Depke of Grayslake, Ill., has placed second nationally in the first annual "Preserve Our Planet" College Film and PSA Contest held by National Geographic Channel (NGC). Depke is a geology major who is minoring in chemistry and environmental science. His activities at Hope also include the college's Environmental Issues Group.

Depke received a \$1,500 prize during an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 8-9, when he viewed the world premiere of the NGC film "Human Footprint" during the annual global gathering of National Geographic Explorers.

Depke directed, edited and produced the film "STOP! Think Green and Save," which follows Hope junior Jake Gilliland of Round Lake, Ill., as he demonstrates simple ways to conserve energy as he goes through his daily routine. Topics include conserving water

while brushing one's teeth; turning down the thermostat at night and dressing warmly; using cold water while doing laundry; using natural light during the day; choosing not to heat-dry dishes when using the dishwasher; and installing high-energy light bulbs.

Depke's stop-motion film, which is slightly less than five minutes long, is made entirely from still images and includes no dialogue. A sequence that shows Gilliland sleeping features a real night's sleep chronicled using a timer. Coins, articles of clothing and utensils move on their own to spell out in written form the messages that the film first demonstrates.

The National Geographic Channel contest solicited college student films and PSAs that highlighted existing efforts to preserve the planet, highlighted what people should be doing to preserve the planet, showcased consequences of not preserving the planet or incorporated the theme "What you do counts" in a creative way.

Kalamazoo Offers B.A. in Business

Kalamazoo announced that students pursuing business careers will be able to do so with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business. College faculty recently voted unanimously to add a business major to the catalog for the 2008-2009 academic year beginning in September.

The College will continue to offer a major in Economics, along with a minor in Economics and a minor in Business. Students may also earn a minor in International Economics and Business.

"The Department of Economics and Business, along with many of our students and alumni, have looked forward to the addition of a business major and minor," said Patrik Hultberg, associate professor and chair of the department of economics and business. "It's an excellent fit with our liberal arts mandate and our commitment to prepare students for careers in a global economy."

The College also offers several programs that bridge the liberal arts educational experience

and the business world that students will encounter upon graduation.

The Center for Career Development (CCD) helps students with career exploration, preparation and placement, and helps employers tap the Kalamazoo College talent pool. In collaboration with the Department of Economics and Business, CCD hosts "Business Boot Camps" that bring Kalamazoo alumni from the world of business back to campus to sharpen students' job search skills and instruct them on what to expect when entering the workforce.

The Kalamazoo College Business Guild fosters shared experiences and networking opportunities for students, alumni, and others around business topics. On April 11-12, the Business Guild hosted a panel discussion and lecture on entrepreneurship during which returning alumni advised students on how to turn good ideas into viable businesses.

Oberlin Students Win Awards

Goldwater Scholar

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program has named junior Nathaniel Meyer a Goldwater Scholar for 2008-09. Meyer is a double major in environmental studies and biology. Meyer is also a recipient of a Stern Science Scholarship, a CDC chemistry achievement award, and a biology teaching assistant at Oberlin and the co-founder of the Green EDGE Fund.



Nathaniel Meyer,
Goldwater Scholar
2008-09

Meyer's interests, combined with his strong academic record, his research experiences and his intention to pursue graduate study made him a strong candidate. Meyer's career goals are to conduct meaningful research in stream ecology in a third world country and use his findings to educate the communities on how best to maintain water quality for public health and the health of the ecosystem.

Thomas J. Watson Fellowship

Daniel Gessner, senior, has earned the prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship for a year of travel and independent study. Oberlin has a legacy of winning at least one Watson grant each year since the program began in 1968.

The Watson Fellowship selects people likely to lead or innovate in the future and give them extraordinary independence in pursuing their interests. They must have passion, creativity, and a feasible plan.

Harry S. Truman Scholar

Helen Hare, Oberlin junior with an economics major and career goals in public service has been named a 2008 Truman Scholar.

The Truman Scholarship provides financial assistance to those pursuing graduate degrees in government or public services fields. Hare plans to pursue a master's and JD in public policy, and apply for an entry-level position in the Department of Education in the Connecticut Attorney General's Office.

Five Seniors Make Public Debut

Five graduating seniors in Oberlin's Creative Writing Program read from their work in a town/gown event sponsored by the Oberlin Public Library, the Oberlin College Creative Writing Program, and the Oberlin Writers' Group (OWG).

Oberlin poets Alexander Darr and Cecilia Galarraga, fiction writers Kara Carosino and Maya Silver, and nonfiction writer and poet, Greta Schroeder were the seniors selected.

Oberlin's creative writing program numbers among its graduates artists such as Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Franz Wright, MacArthur grant-winning poet Thylia Moss, Thisbe Nissen, who won Iowa's John Simmons Short Fiction Award, and Flannery O'Connor Award-winner Wendy Brenner.



Helen Hare,
Truman Scholar

GREEN NEWS

Kalamazoo Wins Title "RecycleMania Grand Champion"

RecycleMania wrapped up its 2008 competition with 58.6 million pounds of recyclables and organics recovered from 400 colleges and universities across the U.S. For the 2008 competition, schools were divided into two divisions, those participating across their entire campus (Whole Campus Division) and those competing with only a subsection (Partial Campus Division). Within each division, schools chose to participate in any of eight categories. Schools that participate in both the Per Capita Classic, which recognizes the insti-

tution with the largest amount of recyclables per person, and the Waste Minimization competition, which recognizes the institution with the lowest amount of waste per person, can earn the title of RecycleMania Grand Champion. This year, **Kalamazoo College (MI) achieved a recycling rate of 58.93 percent and was crowned the RecycleMania Grand Champion in the Whole Campus Division** for excelling in source reduction, waste prevention and recycling.

GREEN NEWS

Oberlin Hosts First *Ecolympics* and Pioneers with Energy Orbs

Ecolympics

Through April 26, Oberlin will celebrate the College's deep commitment to climate neutrality with a three-week environmentally minded competition. Building on the success of Oberlin's annual Dorm Energy Competition and organized in part by students in the environmental studies course, *Ecolympics* is an energy and waste reduction campaign held among the College's dorms.

The campaign will include raffles, talks, tours, and a free screening of Leonardo DiCaprio's documentary on global warming, **The 11th Hour**.

Coinciding with the *Ecolympics*, pulsing glass orbs were installed in the lobbies of six dorms during spring break, greeting returning students with the newest and most colorful feature of the Campus Resource Monitoring System. These peculiar devices, called Energy Orbs, change colors in response to a dorm's energy use.

A team of students and faculty members introduced the orbs to coincide with *Ecolympics*, an environmentally minded contest aimed at reducing energy and waste in residence halls.

The orbs are the latest feature of the Campus Resource Monitoring System, a website in which students can view consumption trends and compare their use with other dorms. The site also displays the environmental and economic costs of electricity in meaningful ways, such as the rates of greenhouse gas emissions, gallons of gas, miles driven, and dollars spent.

Because electricity is invisible, the orbs are an innovative breakthrough. Like a crystal ball, they make electricity visible by translating basic consumption information into a spectrum of colors, says John Peterson, associate professor of environmental studies and Biology.

Sophomore engineering student Adam Hull, who works on the computing and technology

side of the monitoring system, and a team of students adapted the Energy Orbs from a commercial product known as an Ambient Orb, a frosted glass desktop device that glows different colors to display real-time stock market information. The orb can be configured wirelessly to track individual stocks, personal portfolios, or any other "ambient information." It's a way of alleviating "information overload" by moving data off a computer screen and into our present environment.

With sophomore Alex Totoiu and junior Michael Brooks, Hull modified both the hardware and the software to convert the orbs into energy tracking displays. They also built the Plexiglas boxes that encase the orbs, which are currently installed in Fairchild, Talcott, Langston, Dascomb, Lord/Saunders, and Asia House.

At the low end, when a dorm is consuming half its normal electricity use, the orb glows green. It shifts to yellow when consumption reaches a typical rate, and then bright red when electricity use doubles. Petersen says he doesn't know of other colleges or universities using the orb technology, making Oberlin a pioneer in adapting them for energy use.

"At a minimum, we hope the orbs will help people be more aware of their energy use," says Hull, of Westerville, Ohio, who is applying to Caltech and Columbia University engineering schools to complete his 3-2 engineering degree. "At least it will be on their minds. By making that connection, they'll still occasionally remember that they're using energy — that energy is a resource and we're using it all the time. We want to get that in people's heads and provide some useful feedback when the orbs change color."

Electrical use in the dorms that have orbs will be compared with those that don't, says Petersen. If the results are positive, the College may install orbs in more buildings.



Energy Orbs at Oberlin

GLCA FACULTY NEWS

DePauw—Neal Abraham, executive vice president, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, was named ‘Citizen of the Year’ and honored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) at its annual Freedom Fund Dinner.

Susan Dewey, Research Associate, authored both “Making Miss India Miss World: Constructing Gender, Power, and the Nation in Post-liberalization India” published by Syracuse University Press; and “Hollow Bodies: Institutional Responses to Sex Trafficking in Armenia, Bosnia, and India” published by Kumarian Press.

Vanessa Dickerson, English, authored “Dark Victorians,” recently published by University of Illinois Press.

Jay Hosler, Biology, Authored “Optical Allusions” published by Active Synapse Comics.

Edward Myers, Anthropology, presented at a conference honoring the late Andrew Gunder Frank at the University of Pittsburgh. His presentation was titled “Critical Social Science.”

Scott Wilkerson co-authored “Geotours Workbook” published by W.W. Norton & Company.

Hope—Charles Aschbrenner, Music; David Jensen, Director of Libraries; Roberta Kraft, Music, and Nancy Sonneveldt Miller are retiring. Their years of combined service total 142 years.

Barry Bandstra, Religion, authored “Genesis 1-11: A Handbook on the Hebrew Text,” recently published by Baylor University Press of Waco, Texas.

Jack Holmes, Political Science, presented a paper co-authored with Hope junior Gretchen Keillor and participated in a panel discussion during the 49th annual convention of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA.

Debra Swanson, Sociology, named recipient of the 2008 “John F. Schnabel Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award” by the North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) for excellence in some activity enhancing the teaching of Sociology for the NCSA.

Kenyon—Royal Rhodes, Religion, gave two talks on the topic of Christian ecumenism at St. Thomas Church in New York City to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

David Suggs, Anthropology, and Glenn McNair, History, were recipients of the Trustee Teaching Excellence Awards.

Wabash—Tobey Herzog, English, authored “Writing Vietnam, Writing Life” published in March by University of Iowa Press.

In Memoriam ...

Our hearts go out to the families of those students who passed away this year.

We say good-bye to a dear friend who was instrumental in the lives of students, faculty, friends, and their families: Peter Cline, History, Earlham College, 1942-2008, 32 years of service.

We come to the close of another year. GLCA staff wish the faculty, staff, and students of each of our member colleges well as they continue their journey this summer.

We'll see you in September!



The Great Lakes Colleges
Association

535 W. William, Suite 301
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
U.S.A.

TEL. 734.661.2350
FAX. 734.661.2349

Editor: Charla White

Contributors:

Jake Weber, Albion
Ken Owen, DePauw
Mark Blackmon, Earlham
Vincent Briley, Denison
Ginny Sharkey, Denison
Tom Renner, Hope
Jeff Palmer, Kalamazoo
Betty Gabrielli, Oberlin
Amanda Naggy, Oberlin
Scott Wargo, Oberlin
Greg Wegner, GLCA
Sheryl Barnes, GLCA

Your feedback, suggestions, and
submissions are always appreciated.

Charla White