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Our Mission

The mission of the Great Lakes Colleges Association is to take actions that will help strengthen and preserve our colleges; and by being 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 Articles

GLCA Receives Mellon Foundation Grant for Faculty Development

GLCA has received a grant of \$600,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to implement a three-year faculty development program focusing on academic leadership, governance, and innovation.

The program, called the GLCA Academic Leadership and Innovation (GALI) Institute, will have three components: (1) Workshops that provide an intensive introduction to elements of academic governance and decision making. (2) Opportunities for follow-up activities among workshop participants and others on individual campuses. (3) An Academic Innovation Fund, providing grants on a competitive basis to groups of two or more faculty members who wish to pursue shared interests – which may pertain either to leadership development and governance or to disciplinary or cross-disciplinary research and teaching.

“The program will provide opportunities for a growing cohort of faculty members to discover a range of factors that inform institutional decisions,” says Rick Detweiler, President of GLCA. “Our hope is that by helping to strengthen the understanding of the governance process, this program can help foster the academic leadership that in turn contributes to more effective decision making at liberal arts colleges.”

Faculty members who participated in a pilot version of this program earlier this year found it to be a valuable experience that increased their understanding of governance and leadership on their own and other campuses (see *The Beacon*, March 6, 2006; Volume 3, Issue 6). The positive response to the pilot was an important factor in the success of GLCA’s subsequent proposal to the Mellon Foundation for the three-year GALI Institute. The program was designed in consultation with GLCA’s chief academic officers. The deans nominate participants from their own campuses and share in program costs by paying the travel and lodging of their faculty nominees.

The next GALI Institute workshop will convene November 10-12, 2006 in Ann Arbor. Information about the Academic Innovation Fund will be available in early 2007. For more information about the GALI Institute, contact Greg Wegner at GLCA: wegner@glca.org.



2006 participants

Call for Submissions

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of *The Beacon* is November 12, 2006. 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.

GLCA Staff Volunteers for NPR Fund Drive

We may even have some possibilities for GLCA programs getting local play on the air as a result of talking with him (Station Manager).

Marcia Hancock

It was an interesting experience, very different from what we do here on a day to day basis. The people on the phone were committed to keeping public radio on the air and very pleasant to talk to. And it was nice to finally get to know our "downstairs neighbors."

Maryann Walker

GLCA staff members walked down two flights of stairs and took over the pledge phones at Michigan Radio on a quiet October Wednesday morning. National Public Radio (NPR) has affiliate stations across the country. The NPR affiliate station in Ann Arbor is owned and operated by the University of Michigan; identified as Michigan Radio with the local call letters WUOM. The broadcast station is located in the same office building as the GLCA office and twice a year has its fund raising drive.

This most recent fund drive lasted a week and solicited pledges from new and returning members, took place the week of October 13-20. The GLCA staff volunteered this year by answering six phones during a four-hour period. Each hour of the drive, the station

established a designated "break goal" that represents a specific pledged dollar amount needed for that hour. During one segment worked by GLCA, the goal was met and actually doubled!! This was the first time anyone could remember that happening.

GLCA staff members also made their own pledges and submitted a *New Member Challenge* that offered to match new member pledges dollar-for-dollar up to a designated amount. The challenge was issued the morning of October 19, and was completely met within 35 minutes. The staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will likely make a tradition of volunteering in future fund drives.

I was impressed by the enthusiasm of the callers and how much they enjoy the programming offered through Michigan Public Radio. One woman who lives in an apartment building in Ohio explained that she can only pick up the station in her car but is a devoted listener!

Sheryl White

Noteworthy News

Addressing the Challenges Facing American Undergraduate Education

In an open letter to their members, the American Council on Education (ACE), American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), Association of American Universities (AAU), National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), and National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), several Associations have carefully evaluated and announced their growing concerns facing undergraduate education. Their evaluation is based on a multiyear study and a series of reports.

Some of the challenges identified are:

- Expanding college access to low-income and minority students
- Keeping college affordable
- Improving learning by utilizing

new knowledge and instructional techniques

- Preparing secondary students for higher education
- Increasing accountability for educational outcomes
- Internationalizing the student experience
- Increasing opportunities for life-long education and workforce training

These challenges primarily affect undergraduate education. There are other critical challenges that face higher education in regards to research and graduate level education.

Addressing the Challenges Facing American Undergraduate Education (continued)

What should not change are the fundamental aspects of higher education. These are the most basic goals of an undergraduate education which are the ability to think, write, and speak clearly; to reason critically; to solve problems; to work collaboratively; to acquire field-specific knowledge; and to acquire the judgment, analytic capacity, and independence of thought to support a continued, self-driven, lifelong learning and engaged citizenship. These must endure!

However, how the goals are achieved should change or evolve accordingly. This is necessary to ensure that the nation has the highly educated citizenry and skilled workforce capable of operating effectively in the complex and increasingly competitive global environment.

For the complete article, go to <http://www.naicu.edu/>

News About GLCA Member Schools

Antioch College

The Fulbright Program recently announced the complete list of colleges and universities that produced the most 2006-2007 U.S. Fulbright Fellows.

Antioch College is listed in the Chronicle of Higher Education as one of the top producers of Fulbright Awards for U.S. student and named three Fulbright Fellows for 2006-2007. The three recipients are April Angle, Benjamin Koehler, and Viktor Raul Maco. "During my time at Antioch College I have been passionately involved in languages and I am fascinated by language and especially by new language acquisition theories and the teaching methods that ensue," said April Angle who is teaching English in Taiwan. "Fulbright, to me, represents hard work and achievement."

As a Fulbright scholar, Ben Koehler is studying the Muslim community that comprises 15% of the city of Malmö, Sweden. Ben is exploring the ways in which second generation Muslim Swedes navigate between the dual arenas of Swedish secularism and transnational Islam. His project includes two major forms of data: archived data and data more directly collected in the form of interviews. His study and research will be carried out in affiliation with Malmö University's school of International Migration and Ethnic Relations (IMER).

Viktor Maco is a teaching assistant in Taiwan. "Culturally, Taiwan is rich in Chinese tradition as well as Japanese and American influence, and I hope that my exposure to the culture will give me an understanding of this unique melting pot of the east," says Viktor. "Although I am aware that the teaching assistant position will be primarily one of helping students in the classroom, I hope to be able to develop a strong bond with the students as each person has a unique manner in assimilating information and in order to teach well, one must be aware of these subtleties."

Under this program, almost 1,300 American students in over 100 different fields of study have been offered grants to study, teach English, and conduct research in over 120 countries throughout the world beginning this fall. Of the grantees, 40 were also recipients of a new supplemental Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award, through which they can study to become fluent in languages deemed "critical" under the National Security Language Initiative.

Antioch College (continued)

Students receiving awards for this academic year applied through 532 different colleges or universities.

For additional information on Antioch College, visit: www.antioch-college.edu

For more information on Fulbright Programs, visit: www.fulbrightonline.org/us.

DePauw University

DePauw University is named to the inaugural President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, a new federal program designed to recognize colleges and universities for their commitment to student service and to increase public awareness of the impact that college students have on their local communities. The program is co-sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. It is presented in cooperation with Campus Compact, a national coalition of nearly 1,000 college and university presidents.

The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll is designed to recognize the broad commitment to community service by institutions of higher education, including the level of student engagement as well as institutional support, such as service-learning courses, community service coordinating offices, and exemplary service projects. In its first year, the program placed a special emphasis on volunteer service performed by college students in the wake of last year's devastating hurricanes.

DePauw learned of its award as a group of nine students from the University were spending their fall break aiding victims of Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast.

"Institutions of higher education have a long tradition of service to their communities," says David Eisner, CEO of the Corporation for

National and Community Service, which oversees Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. "When colleges organize effective community service programs, they do so not only to meet the needs of the communities that surround them, but to improve the academic and civic lives of their students, faculty, and staff. The Honor Roll is a great way to recognize the year-round civic contributions of our colleges and universities and to promote effective community service programs and practices."

"More than ever before young people are answering the call to serve; actively seeking out ways to improve the communities in which they live," adds Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, who will be in Greencastle for DePauw Discourse 2006. "This new program highlights the important role our colleges and universities play in not only equipping students to succeed in the workforce but also preparing and encouraging them to make a difference in the lives of others."

Approximately 70% of DePauw students engage in community service projects. According to UCLA's annual survey of 260,000 college freshmen, two out of three (66.3 percent) students entering college in 2005 said it is essential or very important to help others who are in difficulty. That is the highest this figure has been in the past 25 years, and an increase of 3.9 percentage points over the 2004 rate.

Kenyon College

For the third year in a row, Kenyon has been recognized as a top producer of winners of the J. William Fulbright Fellowship. Fulbright grant winners spend a year abroad to undertake self-designed programs that foster global outreach and international understanding.

Nine students and two alumni won the prestigious fellowships for 2006-07, placing Kenyon on a list of national baccalaureate institutions designated as top producers of Fulbright awards, which was published in the October 20, 2006, edition of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Only four colleges produced more. And of the colleges with the most Fulbright

winners, Kenyon had one of the highest ratios of winners to total applicants - nine out of only fifteen, for 60 percent.

A twelfth student, Amy Ream '06, has been certified as an alternate to teach English in South Korea. Alternates receive a grant if a principal candidate declines the offer of a grant or if funds become available for additional grants.

The winners will spend a year teaching or pursuing research in eight countries, across four continents. Last year, six Kenyon students won Fulbright Grants.

Oberlin College

For his senior honors project last year, titled *An Information Theoretic Framework for Eukaryotic Gradient Sensing*, double-degree student Joseph Kimmel '06 developed a new way of applying mathematics and computer science to a problem in neuroscience.

Under the tutelage of Richard Salter, professor and chair of Oberlin's computer science program, and Peter Thomas, assistant professor of mathematics, Kimmel's project morphed into a paper co-authored by all three. The group submitted the paper for presentation at the 20th Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems, a prestigious venue for mathematical neuroscientists. It was accepted.

"Work by undergraduates is rarely accepted for the conference, which rigorously reviews submissions," Salter says. "The acceptance rate for all papers this year was only around 25 percent. The paper is also an example of interdisciplinary efforts the College so strongly encourages and values."

Kimmel, who majored in computer science in the College and composition in the Conservatory, is pursuing graduate work in computational neuroscience this fall at the University of Chicago. His close working relationship with

Salter and Thomas was invaluable. "I learned a lot about the overhead that goes along with being a research scientist: grant writing, balancing, multiple collaborations and committees, and lots of back-and-forth with funding agencies like the NSF," he says. "Besides exploring mathematics, biology, and computer science, there was a lot of joking around and enjoying ourselves. I really feel like we became friends."

The project, he says, put him far ahead of the curve in graduate school. "It takes most of a year to launch a research project, develop it, and progress enough to produce publishable results. Doing the honors project enabled me to accomplish something that students one and even two years ahead of me have yet to do."

"But that's half the point of going to a school like Oberlin, isn't it?" he adds. "Where you're not competing with grad students for access to lab spots and faculty time? The other half is to have fun."

Kimmel will head to Vancouver in December for the conference, where he expects to meet leading scientists and participate in tutorials in a range of subjects, including neuroscience, learning algorithms and theory, bioinformatics, image processing, and data mining.

GLCA Faculty News

Faculty Recognitions

Antioch College – Pat Mische, The Lloyd Professor of Peace Studies and World Law, was one of the presenters at the 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference at the United Nations in New York.

Denison University—Lynn Scott Cochrane, Director of Libraries, was selected to receive a Fulbright Senior Specialist Project in Thailand where she will serve at a consortium of four university libraries during January-March 2007.

DePauw University— David Gellman, Professor of History, authored “*Emancipating New York: The Politics of Slavery and Freedom, 1777-1827.*” Available now, published by Louisiana State University Press.

Kalamazoo College—David Barclay, History, was named the 2006-07 Berlin Prize Winner by the American Academy in Berlin. Barclay will be in residence January-June, 2007.

Jim Langeland, Biology, presented a paper at the Founding Meeting of the European Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology in Prague, The Czech Republic earlier this year.

Andy Mozina, English, authored “*The Women Were Leaving the Men*” which will be published by Wayne State University Press, June 2007.

Kenyon College—Maria del Carmen Parafita-Couto, Spanish, recently published “*The Left is Actually So Right*” in CD Proceedings of the Discourse—Prosody Interface Symposium at Aix-en-Provence.

Judy Smith, English, was announced the winner of the Native Writers’ Circle of the American’s First Book Award for her novel “*Yellowbird.*”

Wabash College—Joy Castro, English & Department Chair, presented a paper at the 27th Annual LaFollette Lecture on October 20th.

The College of Wooster—The following faculty and students were research presenters at this years Geological Society of America’s (GSA) 118th Annual Meeting. In teams, they prepared and presented their research on a variety of topics.

- Robert Varga, Professor of Geology
- Andrew Horst, Senior
- Jade Star Lackey, Visiting Professor of Geology
- Kamilla Fellah, Junior
- Robert Nowak, Sophomore
- Mark Wilson, Professor of Geology & Natural Resources
- Cordelia Dennison-Budak, Senior
- Jeffrey Bowen, Recent Graduate
- Greg Wiles, Associate Professor of Geology
- Eva Lyon, Senior
- Nathan Malcomb, Senior

Congratulations to everyone!

Please send faculty accomplishments to Charla White at white@glca.org

NITLE Calendar of Events 2007

January 7-9: Copyright and Digital Materials Symposium - Explore the issues of intellectual property and copyright as they relate to the development and sharing of digital resources. Honnold/Mudd Library, Claremont, CA.

March 11-13: Managing Digital Collections: A symposium on technical and organizational interoperability - Examine strategies and tools for creating, managing, and integrating digital collections successfully on the liberal arts campus. Smith College, Northampton, MA.

March 26-28: Instructional Technology Leaders Conference "Are you at the forefront of your campus's instructional technology scene?" Come explore your constituents' IT strategies and hear from national leaders. DePauw University, Greencastle, IN.

April 12-15: New Music and Media Seminar - For those interested in generating collaborations that focus on the integration of the creative process into the curriculum and may lead to inter-campus teaching opportunities in music and art/video. Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO.

April 27-29: Teaching with Media Resources in Middle Eastern and Asian Studies - Explore image-rich resources for teaching about the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia, and address pedagogical issues in the use of images in teaching while learning about ArtStor's net Islam collection, ArchNet's Indian and Southeast Asian materials, REALIA, Ideas, and Flickr.

Please contact your campus liaison (see http://www.nitle.org/index.php/nitle/about_nitle/liasons) to discuss your options for participating in these opportunities. Nomination deadlines for events are listed online at <http://www.nitle.org/index.php/nitle/opportunities>.

Interested in bringing a professional development workshop to your campus? NITLE's Workshop to Go program allows you to do just that. More information on Workshop to Go offerings can be found at <http://www.nitle.org/index.php/nitle/opportunities/wtg>.

To request a Workshop To Go at your campus, please contact your campus liaison at:

http://www.nitle.org/index.php/nitle/about_nitle/liasons).

Announcements

GLCA is proud to announce the launching of it's new website! On Wednesday, October 11th GLCA's new website went live!

Please be patient as we populate it with upcoming news and events. Please contact Derek

Vaughan at Vaughan@glca.org if you discover any issues or concerns.

More on our website next month!

GLCA Events Calendar

Date	Meeting	Location
10/31-11/2/2006	Philadelphia Center Review	Philadelphia, PA
11/2-4/2006	Border Studies Advisory Meeting	El Paso, TX
11/3-4/2006	Women's Studies Meeting	Wooster
11/10-12/2006	GLCA, Academic Leadership and Innovation Institute	Ann Arbor, MI
11/16-17/2006	Deans' Council Meeting	DePauw
12/1-2/2006	Academic Council	Ann Arbor, MI
12/14-15/2006	Board of Directors Meeting	Columbus, OH
4/11-13/2007	Deans' Council/GLCA Board Meeting	Kalamazoo

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
www.glca.org

Editor: Charla White

Contributors:
Ken Owen, DePauw
Lynda Sirk, Antioch
Derek Vaughan, GLCA
Greg Wegner, GLCA
Jennifer Whitman, NITLE

Your feedback, suggestions, and submissions are always appreciated.

Charla White
white@glca.org
