



The Grinnell Magazine

Summer 2011

Emily Bergl '97
Live at Lyle's



Campus Cuties

And What to Wear: Chronicling my first Grinnell Year for Seventeen magazine



Photo by Ben Brewer '11

by **Samantha Schwartz '14** from Lawrence, Kan., a member of Grinnell Singers, an Arabic aficionado, and future psychology major.

When I was 13, I had two goals: to go to Yale (just like Rory from *Gilmore Girls*) and to write for a magazine. At 17, I made an overnight visit to Grinnell College and buried my Yale dreams somewhere on Mac Field, having been charmed by the warmest, most genuine people I had met on my college search. And that's saying a lot, considering I applied to 19 colleges!

Three months later, the day before my 18th birthday, I got a call awarding me a one-year job blogging for *Seventeen* magazine. Fourteen other young women and I would be *Seventeen*'s "Freshman 15." We each attend a different college or university, and we each have the challenge of documenting our first year. My second dream had come true sooner than I imagined. Reverting to the 13-year-old version of myself, I jumped up and down in my kitchen until I could no longer feel my legs.

Days later, after some of the excitement had worn off, I felt unsettled. What if my fellow Grinnellians felt working for *Seventeen* was shallow and silly? After all, Grinnell College students read *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *Mother Earth News*, not *Seventeen*, right? While I anxiously awaited seeing "Samantha Schwartz, Grinnell College" in *Seventeen*'s glossy pages, I honestly believed no one at Grinnell would care.

Boy, was I wrong! I purposely avoided talking about my *Seventeen* gig when I arrived at Grinnell, but people already recognized me as "that *Seventeen* girl." No one was judgmental or critical, but many were curious. I felt accepted, but not sought out: Unlike the peers of some of my fellow bloggers, Grinnellians are not fame seekers, and no one talked me up just to get in the magazine. Sometimes, my Grinnell friends' lack of interest has made my job harder, as I've actually had to coax people into interviews and photos.

The challenges have been well worth the rewards since the beginning. My first assignment was to ask a random "campus cutie" about what he looks for in a girlfriend. I interviewed a guy who lives below me and now the girl he was describing is his girlfriend, and the two of them are among my best friends here.

The support I get from Grinnellians reaches beyond campus. When I posted a blog about Grinnell's Winter Waltz and my confusion about what to wear, a Grinnell alumni left a comment suggesting comfy shoes with my formal dress. (After a long night of dancing, I was so grateful!) Through this experience and through working for Grinnell College Phonathon, I've realized that a Grinnellian isn't just a college student; a Grinnellian is someone committed to learning, social responsibility, and compassion without the promise of reward.

The more time I spend at Grinnell, the easier it is to write about. I've begun to realize that even at a college so small, something rare and miraculous happens every day. It's a place where your professor offers to take you out for coffee to discuss a class you're struggling in or are truly fascinated by. It's a place where you can drop your tray in the dining hall and 15 people will come to your aid, affectionately teasing you for being clumsy. (I've experienced this one too many times.) It's a place where knowing the date of the defeat of the Spanish Armada or the name of a spell from Harry Potter are both considered cool. Grinnell lives up to its reputation of being just plain weird — in the best way possible.

The Freshman 15 girls have a Facebook thread where we share personal stories about our college lives. Many of my fellow bloggers are having a more typical college experience. They go to fraternity parties. They enroll in large lecture classes they can easily skip because professors don't know their names. They cheer for their school in an arena packed with thousands of fans. But they aren't all happy. Some have transferred already, and others are just frustrated with their classes and friends.

I, on the other hand, have climbed through a welcoming stranger's room to the rooftop to see the beautiful Iowa moon; I've discussed *Frankenstein* over Chinese takeout in my professor's living room; and I've picnicked under the cottonwood tree on Mac Field with my roommate, with whom I am lucky enough to share both my pretzels and my dreams. That's my college experience, and I wouldn't trade places with anyone.

Read Samatha's blog at:

www.seventeen.com/college/freshman-15/samantha-college-in-the-cornfields

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Mission Statement

The Grinnell Magazine is published quarterly for alumni, students, parents, faculty, and friends of the College by the Office of Communications. The contents of this magazine are selected to stimulate thought and discussion, to demonstrate the range of opinions and activities on the campus and in its broader community, and to provide news about the College and its alumni. Views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official policy of Grinnell College.

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Photo of Emily Bergl '97 by Jim Heemstra



Emily Bergl '97 rehearsing her cabaret "Kidding on the Square" in Lyle's Pub

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Photo by Jim Heemstra

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webextra!

Grinnell Magazine Online Now!

In response to reader requests and starting with the Spring, 2011 issue, we're now making *The Grinnell Magazine* available online in .pdf form at www.grinnell.edu/magazine. As the Grinnell College website continues to develop we hope to have a more interactive e-magazine available. Meanwhile, we hope you find the .pdf version handy!

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... in the early '50s, when
students were truly passive ...

For activism we had
spring panty raids and
couches burning on
the roof of the loggia.

—Allen Harrison '55

LETTERS

Some Bemusement

I read with some bemusement the 17 letters lauding the Winter 2010 issue of *The Grinnell Magazine* on the subject of activism. Was there no one who questioned whether the College's stated primary mission of promoting social justice and its avid sponsorship of campus activism might not be in the best interests of a student who does not plan to obtain an advanced degree or work for the government, and whose objective is to receive an education that will help him or her become a productive participant in the private-sector economy?

I am aware that Grinnell is not alone in heading down this road. The focus of higher education in a number of colleges and universities is increasingly on social issues rather than education. Perhaps I'm just too old. I have experienced too much and recall too much. It is very difficult for my ancient mind to understand why these ideas will result in a better college than the Grinnell I remember.

—Richard L. Overholtzer '51
San Jose, Calif.

Let Me Have at It

The letters that appeared in your Spring 2011 issue relative to student activism, did not, I notice, come from anyone who attended Grinnell in the early '50s, when students were truly passive. Let me have at it for a moment.

One of the first things we were treated to was a speech by the then-president, who espoused the “rotten-apple-spoils-the-barrel” theory. A few of us recognized his speech as a version of the oppressor's myth, but we didn't know how to say so. Later, under a slightly less autocratic regime, the Men's Glee Club was refused permission to sing in the chapel, because the music of *South Pacific* was deemed too racy (“There Is Nothin' like a Dame,” etc.). Then there was chapel, when once a week we were supposed to be good Christians, including those who weren't and didn't want to be. For activism we had spring panty raids and couches burning on the roof of the loggia. The only bright spot I recall was the great [professor of history] **Fred Baumann** weeping when Eisenhower defeated Stevenson.

How I managed to emerge a liberal from all that I'll never know. It wasn't because of Grinnell in the early '50s, but that was a bad time for activism, no doubt. The only person I knew at the time who was brave enough to admit to being a liberal was **Ed Laing '55**. I'm happy to say he's still at it.

—Allen Harrison '55
Pacitas, N.M.

Let's Be Honest

Grinnell had '60s activists as well as Social Gospel people. But the two are polar opposites. The Social Gospel stresses personal morality and working within the system. It explicitly rejects the staples of '60s activism: Marxist economics, class warfare, moral libertarianism, and divisive confrontations.

Let us also be honest about Grinnell's mission. The 1846 mission was to prepare students “for the honorable discharge of the duties of life.” The 2002 mission is to prepare students “to serve the common good.” The first

reflects the founders' belief that the basis of all human institutions is the relationship between man and the Divine; the second, that man's contract with government should be the foundation on which all other relationships are based. The latter is a reversal of the former, and reduces “Grinnell” to Midwest slang for “wants to be Bowdoin.”

—Paul A. Lewis '71
Peoria, Ill.

A Revelation

The article in the Winter 2010 issue about tutorials and their 40-year evolution at Grinnell was a revelation. All I could think of was how totally unprepared for the “outside world” I was when I accepted my diploma. Perhaps I am reading too much into “Tutorials,” but I have a strong feeling that Grinnell grads today will have a strong sense of confidence and adventure in whatever they do.

—Mayfield Marshall, Jr. '52
La Canada, Calif.

Grinnell's Enterprise
and Leadership program
is a white guy's club.
Where are the women and others?

—Mitch Erickson '72

The Hazing Revolt

I guess my classmate **Carroll McKibbin '60** was too preoccupied (understandably so) with being hazed as a prep when he was at Grinnell in the 1950s to remember another side to the story (see his “Alumni Musings” in the Spring 2011 issue). In 1959–60 there was a major campaign against hazing that I organized with the support of many others, including **David Carter '60** and **Jerry Voorhis '60**. This campaign led to abatement in physical hazing and some progress against hazing in general, though the practice was not ended. Later generations of Grinnellians can rue that an otherwise splendid liberal arts college allowed hazing in dorms (so the College did not have the excuse that fraternities have, namely that students “choose” to pledge and hence “volunteer” for hazing). But Grinnellians should also know that bottom-up protests took place, and these protests did lead to an amelioration of hazing, well before it was finally formally banned from the top down.

—Benjamin Barber '60
New York

Seething and Plotting

Reading the essay in the Spring 2011 issue by **Carroll McKibbin '60** set me thinking about my arrival on campus in 1983. The upper-class folk treated us newcomers with implicit, unforced decency. A handful took on the role of informal mentor, but most just went about their business, and we followed their example. I remember them fondly, and hope I left a similar legacy. If McKibbin's variation of the Grinnell experience had been mine, I would probably be seething with resentment and plotting revenge even now.

—Frank Rawland '87
Chicago

Haircuts at Helena's

I enjoyed the tribute to **Helena Percas de Ponseti** in the Spring 2011 issue. Mrs. Ponseti was a very special teacher and person and was also my good friend. As a Spanish major, I had many classes with her.

She would invite me to join her at her parents' home, where

she wanted me to give her a haircut — which I did often.

In my senior year, my fiance and I had a hurry-up wedding because the U.S. Navy gave him orders to leave for a tour of duty in Japan. She excused me from classes and an exam that week and let me make it up after my wedding. That showed her commitment and sincere interest in the lives of her students. We also had a great visit over dinner together when she attended our class reunion several years ago.

Mrs. Ponseti was a delightfully special and warm person — and a good friend. She meant a great deal to me.

—Jane North Norris '56
Marshalltown, Iowa
[For more about the late Professor Percas de Ponseti, see page 40]

Wondrous Good Fortune

For those of you who never had the wondrous good fortune to know **Helena Percas de Ponseti**, my sympathies. She was one of those extraordinary professors

(together with her companion in arms, **Beth Noble**) who was simply “over the top.” Helena and Beth made you feel like you were in the middle of an intellectual journey — I still remember discussions of Cervantes' wordplay. As **Davydd** and **Pilar Greenwood** have already noted, Ponseti was a kind, generous, and intellectually exciting teacher — probably the best I have ever known.

—Will Van Horne '64
Swansea, Mass.

White Guys Club

I heartily endorse the College's effort to “reinvigorate its traditional commitment to train leaders,” and I know the Wilson Program in Enterprise and Leadership well enough to know those involved are dedicated, innovative, and making an impact. Keep up the good work!

But “The Leadership Paradox” (Spring 2011) concept of “leadership in public service and social justice” is limiting. Is there some reason that Grinnell does

*They say that Jesus healed
the deaf, dumb, and blind
during his time on earth.*

*Apparently he should have
made a side trip to Grinnell.*

—A.J. Morey '73

not want to train leaders for the private sector?

My major objection is that the five professors, three journalists, and two alumni mentioned in the article all appear to be men. Further, the pictures indicate Grinnell's enterprise and leadership program is a white guys' club. Where are the women and others?

—Mitch Erickson '72
New Providence, N.J.

Invisible Women

"The Leadership Paradox," Spring 2011, begins promisingly with a mention of women.

However, for the remainder of the article women are invisible. Given that more than 50 percent of the enrollment and alumni are female, and that a considerable percentage of the faculty are female, this omission is surprising.

Perhaps one action the College could take to "reinvigorate its traditional commitment to train leaders in public service

and social justice" is to ensure its women are not invisible but are seen and treated as the leaders they are and can become.

—Linnet C. Harlan '72, class agent
Pacific Grove, Calif.

Paradox a Puzzle

Many of the reasons I attended Grinnell were contained in the creative "threads" on the cover of the Spring 2011 issue of *The Grinnell Magazine*. The treatment of these threads was empty, or at least half-empty, in the story, "The Leadership Paradox."

Grinnell female students and graduates have provided leadership on campus and in government, business, the nonprofit sector, and academia. Why were not the following women anywhere mentioned or profiled?

• **Hallie Flanagan 1911**, tapped by FDR as director of the Works Project Administration theatre project and the very first female Guggenheim fellow

• **Patricia McIlrath '37**, founder and noted director of the Missouri Repertory Theatre, Kansas City's premier professional theatre, for more than 20 years

• **Mary Sue Wilson Coleman '65**, current president of the University of Michigan and former president of the University of Iowa, whose recent capital campaign at Michigan raised more than \$3.2 billion, the most ever for a public university

• **Jodie Levin-Epstein '72**, deputy director of the Center for Law and Social Policy, expert on poverty and workplace issues, especially for the working poor

• **Irma McClaurin '73**, newly appointed and first woman president of Shaw University, the oldest historically black college in the South

• **Keri Hornbuckle '87**, noted professor and author at the University of Iowa; first female department executive officer of civil and environmental engineering

Of course, this is just a small sampling of the many

female Grinnell leaders who have distinguished themselves for more than a century in Iowa, the United States, and the world. From "The Leadership Paradox," we missed this entire segment of graduates ... quite a puzzle.

—Gregory L. Vranicar '72
Overland Park, Kan.

Grinnell has Failed

They say that Jesus healed the deaf, dumb, and blind during his time on Earth. Apparently he should have made a side trip to Grinnell, where the Spring 2011 cover story on leadership at Grinnell features profiles of four white men and a full story about a fifth white man. Seriously! There were no women or minorities of sufficient stature to include in the story? Either Grinnell College has failed in its educational mission for women and minorities or Grinnell College has failed its female and minority alumni and students. I'd say it's the latter. We told you that the Jell-O-shooter

*How interesting the discussion
about activism in the 1960s
and 1970s has been.
It speaks well for Grinnell,
then and now, that the discussion
is candid and unapologetic.*

—Teri White Carns

Head and Shoulders

My husband [James L. Carns '72] is a Grinnell alumnus, and I very much like your magazine. (Of the several alumni magazines we receive, this is head and shoulders above the rest. I read it voluntarily.) How interesting the discussion about activism in the 1960s and 1970s has been. It speaks well for Grinnell, then and now, that the discussion is candid and unapologetic. Thanks very much for such a great magazine.

—Teri White Carns
Anchorage, Alaska

parties were not an anomaly, and we were right. I've always carried a torch for my college, but if Grinnell College cannot do a better job communicating with and about female and minority alumni, my donations to Grinnell will be redirected. If you can't value our lives and our accomplishments, you don't need our money or our time.

—Ann Janine "A.J." Morey '73
Harrisonburg, Va.

Egalitarian Leadership

I was disappointed in your article on leadership equating distaste for authoritarian rule with eschewing hierarchy. Hierarchy is as important a tool for self-organization as it is for top-down rule.

There are Grinnell faculty who have exemplified egalitarian leadership from within hierarchical operating structures. In particular **John Rommereim**, director of Grinnell Singers, **Pip Gordon**, former technical theatre professor, and **Eric Sanning** '89, technical director of the theatre, lead through a combination

of applied expertise, respect and delegation, education, and pure enthusiasm. All provided mentorship in a supervisory role.

The result of a hierarchically managed project can be an uplifting piece of collaborative magic, to which everyone can be proud of contributing. That's a key part of what I learned from superb faculty like Pip Gordon, Eric Sanning, and John Rommereim.

—Anne (Gay) Gray '96
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Remembering Manish

I noticed the passing of **Manish Acharya** '89 in the Spring 2011 issue. I was dismayed and saddened by this news. Manish was one of my first acquaintances and friends at Grinnell. Manish was exuberant, with an infectious laugh — a natural leader. I remember listening intently to his stories in his thick Indian accent and his low chuckle. Then I watched in amazement as that same accent disappeared for one of his stage performances! I will always associate Main Hall

with Manish, as I visited him many times there in his room and took part with him in the dances held in the basement. His passing reminds me of my own journey. We are all here such a short time. I wish his family the strength to remember that young man and rejoice in his unique qualities that touched many lives, including mine.

—Greg Evans '89
Fort Collins, Colo.

Provocative

Finally, I took the time to read the entire *The Grinnell Magazine* (Spring 2011) from beginning to end. Fine issue, and provocative regarding egalitarianism, leadership, idealism, integrated teaching. And a reminder, again, of what a rich place Grinnell College is.

—Berneil Mueller
North Newton, Kan.
[Ms. Mueller was the Instructional Assistant for the Department of Music from 1976–99]

The Grinnell Magazine welcomes letters from readers concerning the contents of the magazine or issues relating to the College. All letters should include the author's name and address. Anonymous letters will be discarded. Letters selected for publication may be edited for length, content, and style. Address correspondence to: The Grinnell Magazine, Office of Communications, Grinnell College, Grinnell IA 50112-1690, or send e-mail to magazine@grinnell.edu.

*Luckily for me,
all the exciting events
that sparked the
Jasmine Revolution
happened over winter break.*

— Meriem Trabelsi '13

CAMPUS NOTES

Revolution, Earthquake, and Tsunami Hit Grinnell

“Luckily for me,” says Tunisian **Meriem Trabelsi '13**, “all the exciting events that sparked the Jasmine Revolution happened during winter break. I saw many protests that we heard little about on the news.”

Back on campus, she described what she saw to **Karen Edwards**, director of international student affairs. Edwards called **Sarah Purcell '92**, director of Grinnell College's Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs,

International Relations, and Human Rights.

Delighted, Purcell “put together a panel in a hurry” to talk about what has since become known as “Egyptian Spring.” On Feb. 3, Trabelsi presented a narrated slideshow of her eyewitness to revolution to a rapt crowd in ARH auditorium. A panel of faculty — **Mervat Youssef**, assistant professor of Arabic and an Egyptian; **Robert Grey**, professor of political science; **Gemma Sala**, assistant professor of political science; **Caleb Elfenbein**, assistant professor of history and religious studies; and **Jan Gross**, Seth Richards Professor in Modern Languages — provided context for Trabelsi's presentation.

Six weeks later, an earthquake and tsunami devastated northern Japan. While the news was still unfolding, **Mark Schneider**, professor of physics, explained to a packed-but-sober crowd in Noyce lecture hall how nuclear fission produces electricity and how radiation behaves. Professors **Wayne**

Moyer and **Tim Werner** of the political science department and **Mariko Shigeta Schimmel**, assistant professor of Japanese, offered their own takes on events before opening the floor to discussion.

Both presentations are examples of how, in addition to bringing speakers to campus, Rosenfield also uses “the rich intellectual community we have here to give people the tools to think about world issues,” says Purcell. “These ‘teach-ins’ tend to be very well attended.”

They're valuable to the presenters as well. “I decided to major in political science when no one in Tunisia felt that would take me anywhere in my life. My family was very skeptical about this choice last year,” Trabelsi says. “Now, I am happy to be one of the few Tunisians who is getting a political education.” And, she might add, sharing that education with an entire campus.





Welcome!

Beth Halloran is the College's new vice-president for development and alumni relations. Recently assistant vice-president for the Office of University Development at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Halloran has more than 10 years experience in fundraising at Michigan. Previously, she worked in development at the Mayo Medical Center. She holds a B.A. in social work from the College of Saint Teresa in Winona, Minn., an M.S.W. from the University of Wisconsin, and an M.B.A. from the University of St. Thomas.

Halloran was selected from a large group of strong candidates. "Beth has demonstrated success in fundraising as a gift officer as well as an operational leader," says President **Raynard S. Kington**. "Her intellectual

ability; passionate commitment to Grinnell's mission; and her ability to build meaningful relationships with members of the faculty, student body, board of trustees, and staff members overwhelmingly qualify her for Grinnell's next vice-president for development and alumni relations. We are very fortunate to have her leadership during this important time in the College's history."

Halloran has long believed that education is the greatest equalizer. "Having the opportunity to join Grinnell College with its rich history of academic excellence and commitment to social change is compelling to me. I look forward to working closely with the entire Grinnell family to secure our future of excellence and deepen the impact Grinnellians make in the communities in which they live their lives," Halloran says. She starts working for the College on July 5, 2011.

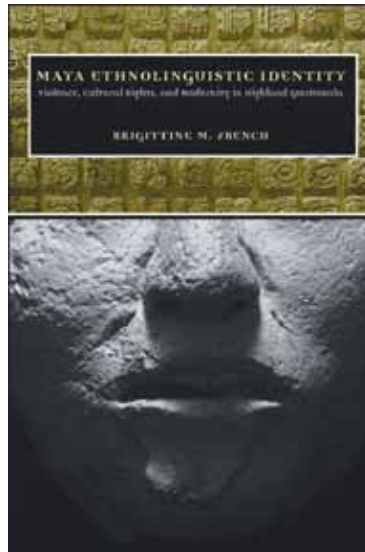
We Are What We Speak

Brigitte French, associate professor of anthropology, takes a close look at just how intrinsic language can be to identity in *Maya Ethnolinguistic Identity: Violence, Cultural Rights, and Modernity in Highland Guatemala*, published last fall by University of Arizona Press.

In Guatemala, 21 indigenous languages spoken by most of the population are only now receiving official recognition. "It was an important struggle in valorizing indigenous people as distinct communities with rights," says French. But official status also creates conflicts over who gets resources to support their language promotion activities.

In Ireland, on the other hand, Irish is an official language — but is only used by a dwindling minority. The official support Irish receives is what the indigenous people of Guatemala want, but it has not ensured the survival of Irish.

That conundrum fascinates French, who first became interested in language politics when, growing up in rural Iowa in



the 1970s, she took Spanish.

"I kept having to explain why I wanted to study a foreign language when people were convinced all I needed to know was English," she says. "That first got me thinking about how national identity gets entwined with language."

"English as the official language is still politically hot," she says. "The questions I'm studying are directly related."

Same-Sex Marriage: Surprising Agreement

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology **Peter Hart-Brinson's** research on same-sex marriage has produced two unexpected findings: a lack of opposition to such marriage among younger, conservative evangelicals who might be expected to oppose it; and agreement among all parties about what marriage is.

Hart-Brinson first took on same-sex marriage as a Ph.D. student and teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "In 2006," he explains, "Wisconsin had a constitutional amendment on the ballot banning same-sex marriage. When a very conservative student newspaper came out against the ban, I decided to look into what made some people oppose a measure I had expected them to support."

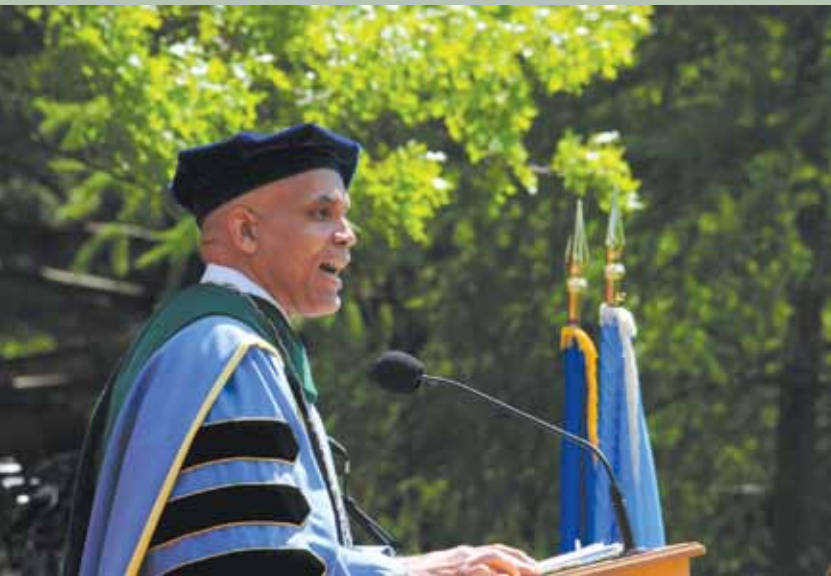
Using in-depth interviews and statistical analysis of public opinion data, Hart-Brinson found that while older conservatives believe homosexuality is a choice that does not warrant legal recognition, "younger people," he says, "are more likely to think

about homosexuality as they do about ethnicity: it's just who you are. We don't discriminate against people because of their ethnic identity; that's just wrong." Most young evangelicals may not believe homosexual activity is morally right, but for them it is politically neutral.

"I call this 'immoral inclusivity,'" Hart-Brinson says. "They don't approve of same-sex marriage, but they don't expect laws against it any more than they would against gambling or drinking."

The other finding is that while political arguments often focus on procreation as a basis for marriage, virtually everybody agrees: Marriage is about sexual attraction and companionship.

That, Hart-Brinson believes, is one reason the debate is so fierce: Everybody agrees that marriage is important, and everybody agrees why.



*“I charge you ... to
walk through those
doors of possibility by acting
with passion and civility
in your communities
and in the world. ... I give
you my warmest wishes
and greatest hopes.”*

— President Raynard S. Kington,
in his charge to the graduates

No Apologies, in the Liberal Arts Tradition

She offered “No Apologies” to the class of 2011. Yet Commencement speaker Anna Quindlen spoke from her own liberal arts background to suggest that members of Grinnell’s class of ’11 assess their lives “in terms of spirit, not salaries;” not cave to status quo; see “I don’t know” as opportunity for discovery; and view “the mess as an engraved invitation to transformation.”

An alumna of Barnard College and chair emerita of that college’s board, parent of two liberal arts graduates, and honorary degree recipient from nearly a dozen selective colleges, Quindlen says, “Nobody does it better [than liberal arts colleges] in terms of the critical mission of higher education, and that’s critical thinking. We’ve lived through and seen effects of creeping preprofessionalism in higher education, coming perilously close to technical school. That’s wrong. We know that people will change careers seven to 10 times. If you bring ability to think critically and

write well, you will flourish in any environment.”

Her address also included the following thoughts:

- “More than any college graduates in recent memory, you have an unparalleled opportunity to remake this country.”
- “The old ways have blown up all by themselves.”
- “Stuff is not salvation.”
- “You will not inherit the McMansion.”
- “We made a grave error in thinking that doing better was mathematical.”
- “The voices of conformity speak so loudly. Don’t listen to them.”
- “No one ever does the right thing from fear, and so many of the wrong things are done in its shadow.”
- “Open your mouths. Speak your piece. Fear not.”
- “Your generation should be the model for my generation. ... You’re more philanthropic,

more tolerant, more balanced and open-minded than any in living history. ... You are well qualified to be and create the next big thing for this nation.”

- “The safe is the enemy of the satisfying.”
- “The status quo ... has completely failed us.”
- “Be brave. ... Bring kindness back to our society.”
- “Certainty is dead. Long live the flying leap!”

Graduates were given copies of Quindlen’s *Short Guide to a Happy Life*. As she was signing one graduate’s book, he told her, “This place changed my life.”

“That makes the entire experience [of speaking at graduation] worthwhile,” says Quindlen.

To view a video of Quindlen’s speech: www.grinnell.edu/offices/confops/commencement/commencement-live-stream

Class of ’11 by the numbers

- Number of graduates: 379
- States represented: 42
- Countries represented: 19
- Double majors: 78
- Major + area of concentration: 69
- Off-campus study: 184
- Completed Mentored Advanced Projects, directed research projects, and independent studies: 150
- Number of such projects and studies completed: 278

“Forty-four years after
he picketed graduation,
the counterculture rascal
was embraced at age 68.”

— Kyle Munson,
Des Moines Register columnist,
on Henry Wilhelm '68's
honorary degree



Commencement 2011 Honorary Degree Recipients



Anna Quindlen

A Doctor of Humane Letters for writing journalism and fiction that advances our understanding of vulnerable children and families in America. She began as a copy girl at the *New York Post* at 18. Named as only the third woman op-ed columnist for *The New York Times* in 1990, she earned a Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 1992 and inspired The Child Welfare League of America's Anna Quindlen Awards for Excellence in Journalism. She was the back-page columnist for *Newsweek*. Always, she reminds us that it is what we are to each other that gives our lives meaning.



David Feldman '71

A Doctor of Humane Letters for his *Imponderables* series of books, including such titles as *Why Do Clocks Run Clockwise?*, *How Does Aspirin Find a Headache?*, and *When Do Fish Sleep?* and his *imponderables.com* website and Malarky bluffing game. Feldman graduated from Grinnell with an independent major in modern literature and studied popular culture in Europe under a Watson Fellowship and at Bowling Green State University. The book series he began in 1987 is a model for conducting research, weighing evidence, and spurring lifelong learning.



Pardis Sabeti

A Doctor of Sciences for her work in genetics. Sabeti was born in Tehran, studied at MIT, Harvard, and Oxford, and now heads Harvard's Sabeti Lab. There, she uses computational methods and genomics to study evolution. To attract women to science, she produced music videos featuring leading Boston-area scientists. She is lead singer and guitarist in the alternative rock band Thousand Days, has been recognized by the National Research Council and L'Oréal as a model for women in science, and was named one of eight "geniuses who will change your life" by CNN.



Henry Wilhelm '68

A Doctor of Sciences for pioneering the preservation of traditional and digital color photographs. A photographer for the infamous 1966 Grinnell yearbook (initially banned by the College but published in 1986), Wilhelm is also an inventor and Guggenheim fellow. Through Wilhelm Imaging Research, founded with his wife, Carol Brower Wilhelm, he consulted with the Museum of Modern Art, filmmaker Martin Scorsese, Corbis, Kodak, Canon, Fuji, and clients worldwide. His book, *The Permanence and Care of Color Photographs*, is a landmark.



It Gets Under Your Skin

A constitutional law class with Rebecca Hamlin, assistant professor of political science, made its mark on political science major **Elisabeth Rennick '11**. “When I started my research on substantive due process rights, I knew that constitutional law was my spark,” says Rennick, who hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in political science. “‘We The People’ is about the power of community,” she adds. “Without community, democracy wouldn’t function.” Her next tattoo? An outline of the state of Iowa — with a laurel leaf in the center.

Quoted: Poet Ilya Kaminsky

What advice would you give to aspiring young writers?

“Read. Read all the time. You must read a minimum of 30 books a semester. If you read a minimum of 30 books of poetry a semester, you’re probably going to be OK. Also, fall in love with your language.... people who say, ‘I have important things to say. I need to write them down’ are probably not going to be great poets. People who say, ‘I love the English language and I want to play with its words for the rest of my life’ are going to be poets.”

Can you expand on the difference between those two?

“Yes. Somebody who says, ‘I have something important to say’ will say it and have nothing else to say. Somebody who says, ‘I love words’ will always have something to do.

So . . . 30 books per semester?

“It’s not that much. Think about it this way ... Put a book by your bed stand and a book in the bathroom — well, you live in a dorm, so that might be hard — but by your bed stand, put a great poet, someone



you really want to read, really want to know everything about: Emily Dickenson, Alan Ginsberg, whoever it is that you really want to read. And change that poet every two months. So you become a master of that great poet.

“In two months, you can really dive into it. And in the bathroom, put a contemporary book. Those books are short, like 40 pages, I would say. And change that book

once a week. And I guarantee you, if you just read half an hour before you go to sleep, and whatever time you spend in the bathroom, you’re going to be reading without even noticing. And make sure you write in your books. Make it a mission to write in your books — underline your favorite lines, imitate your favorite lines, you know? And that way, you’ll be in conversation with great writers.”

Ilya Kaminsky (www.ilyakaminsky.com) is a Russian prose-poet who visited the College in April as a part of Writers@Grinnell, a program that sponsors more than a dozen readings per academic year by noted authors. Called “a terrifyingly good poet” by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Kaminsky immigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union when he was 16 and was granted asylum with his family. He currently teaches poetry and literary translation classes at San Diego State University. His poems are strongly influenced by his Russian background, although he writes in English. His works include *Dancing in Odessa* and *Deaf Republic*, a work in progress. The preceding is based on an interview with **Liz Jang '14** that appeared in the April 8 edition of *Scarlet & Black*, used here with permission.

Faculty Promotions

Three faculty members have been promoted to associate professor with tenure:



Keith R. Brouhle '96, B.A., Grinnell College; M.S., Ph.D., University of Illinois; joined the economics department in 2005. Brouhle uses

new teaching technologies, including interactive “games” and concrete applications to reinforce abstract concepts. He is interested in empirical environmental economics and the influence of voluntary programs on corporate environmental behavior and is a reviewer for eight scholarly journals in economics.



Brittignine French, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., University of Iowa; came to Grinnell in 2003 as a Mellon postdoctoral fellow in linguistic

anthropology. She is interested in the role of language in ideology, nationalism, ethnic identity, and gender expectation. She has worked in Guatemala and Ireland on these issues. Her book, *Maya Ethnolinguistic Identity*, was published in 2010. (For more information, see Page 7).



Lee Emma Running, B.F.A., Pratt Institute; M.S., M.F.A., University of Iowa; joined the studio art faculty in 2005. She teaches drawing, sculpture, and

introduction to the studio. She has shown her drawings and installations nationally and is working on a public art commission for the Grinnell Regional Medical Center. She also is a member of The Moving Crew Artist Collective, a group of international artists who develop collaborative projects that engage ideas of community, movement, and transformation.

When in Rome ...

Do as distinguished American scholars do: Become a fellow of the American Academy in Rome!

That's not an easy charge: Each year for the past century, the Rome Prize has been awarded to a select handful of excellent, early-to-mid career scholars who show potential for further development. Their fields include architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, landscape architecture, literature, musical composition, visual arts, ancient studies, medieval studies, Renaissance and early modern studies, and modern Italian studies. Winners are invited to Rome “to pursue their work in an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and artistic freedom, interdisciplinary exchange, and innovation.”

This year, **Craig Martin '95**, assistant professor of history at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, became the most recent Grinnellian to win the prize — in his case in Renaissance and Early Modern Studies.

“I came to Grinnell to major in science but ended up in classics,”

Martin says. “Then I became fascinated by the way the ancients thought about science.” Martin teaches the history of science; his first book, *Renaissance Meteorology from Pompanazzi to Descartes*, comes out this year. In Rome he will examine how 17th century natural philosophers tried to free themselves from Aristotelian orthodoxies in the sciences and in theology.

John Marciari '93, art historian and curator profiled in the last issue of *The Grinnell Magazine*, was a 1998 fellow in the history of art.

Christopher Parslow '80, was the Samuel H. Kress Fellow in Classical Art and archaeology at the American Academy from 1986 to 1988 (he is now professor of classical studies and archaeology at Wesleyan University). “In those years, many of Rome’s monuments were covered in scaffolding and green tarps, as part of a major program of cleaning and restoration. I climbed the scaffolding in the Sistine Chapel and got nose-to-nose with God creating Adam,” Parslow says.

Especially valuable was his chance to develop professional relations with American and European scholars that still flourish.

Edward Hirsch '72, noted poet, was awarded the prize in literature in 1989 upon nomination by the American Academy of Arts and Letters

William McKibben, former professor of classics at Grinnell, received the Rome prize just as the United States entered World War II and deferred it while he served in the U.S. Navy. He went to Rome in 1951 — a very good year, since the music prize that year went to Aaron Copland and the architecture prize to Louis Kahn. Each year at commencement, McKibben wore the large, beribboned, befurred medallion pinned to the shoulder of his academic robes that marked him as a fellow of the academy.

We suspect there may be more Rome fellows with Grinnell connections out there—if you are one of them, tell us about your experience at magazine@grinnell.edu.

Excellent Libraries

The Grinnell College Libraries celebrated the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award received earlier this year with an outdoor ceremony on Friday, April 29.

The American Library Association cited the student mentoring and information literacy programs, and the “continuous effort to improve, adapt, reshape, and respond to new expectations” provided by Burling Library, Kistle Science Library, and the curriculum library.

“In this information-rich, digital world, the role of libraries in ensuring the transmission of knowledge and culture has never been more important,” says Librarian of the College **Richard Fyffe**. “And preparing students to be critical and responsible agents in this world — work we sometimes call ‘information literacy’ — must be a key goal for liberal education. It is exciting to be part of this change.” The College libraries shared a portion of the award with the town of Grinnell’s Drake Community Library.



A New Preschool

The Grinnell College Preschool Laboratory will have a new home in the 1000 block of Park Street, diagonally across from Grinnell House.

The preschool, directed by **Karen Veerhusen-Langerud**, serves about 50 children annually and holds a five-star rating from the Iowa Department of Human Services. The preschool also serves as a laboratory for about 100 introductory-level Grinnell College psychology students, who observe and interact with the preschoolers during their coursework, and 20–40 upper-level students who conduct developmental psychology research projects there.

The preschool is currently housed in a 1970s-style building at 1207 Park, across from ARH. “Our high-quality preschool program has outgrown this aging facility that was only intended to be temporary when the laboratory moved into it 40 years ago,” says **Marci Sortor**, former vice president for institutional planning. “Both the community children in attendance and the Grinnell students conducting research there need appropriate space and up-to-date facilities that match the quality of the educational program.”

Construction of the new \$1.75 million laboratory began in April this year and will take about eight months to complete.

An Old Stonewall

The Stonewall Resource Center turned 25 on April 15, and on that day the College rededicated the space in Younker basement that serves GLBTQIA students and educates the College community about sexual and gender identity. The ceremony also revived the names of two spaces from the center’s original location: the library is once again named for the late **Betty Gough “Babe” Voertman ’67**, assistant professor emerita of theatre at the College, and **Barbara Lien**, college lecturer and pianist, two women who donated much of the collection. The lounge and meeting area was again named for **Roberta Atwell**, professor emerita of education (see p. 22).

Established in 1986 as the Human/Gay Resource Center, it was renamed the Stonewall Resource Center in 1991 after the 1969 Stonewall riots in Greenwich Village credited with starting the gay rights movement.



The center has changed generations of lives, offering members of the Grinnell community a place to feel accepted or empowered to discover their identity. **Kesho Scott**, associate professor of sociology and American studies, summarized the SRC as “a fierce advocate of underrepresented people at Grinnell. It has also been a model of how to bridge theory and practice and of how students have taken action. Above all, it stands as testimony that these issues are not just personal ones, but also institutional ones.”

The Grinnell Quiz: Student Initiatives

Each semester, voting on student initiatives is held in the first half of the semester. Any student who wishes to submit an initiative is asked to write a description of the initiative and gather 100 signatures in support of placing it on the ballot. To support student initiatives requiring funding, there is a student initiatives fund of approximately \$12,000.

In spring semester 2011, there were 19 proposed initiatives. Here’s a partial list. Guess which passed?

1. Purchase a toaster for Bob’s Underground Café to replace a failed one.
2. Make class booklists available to students at preregistration to promote cost-saving book exchanges.
3. Purchase a foam machine for making bubbles at dances to enhance ambience.
4. Stop automatic delivery of phone books to dorm rooms to save paper.
5. Purchase huge (5 feet to 15 feet in diameter) soccer balls

for playing with on Mac Field on warm days.

6. Tune the residence hall lounge pianos more regularly for less dorm discord.

7. Purchase two more defibrillators, one for the Joe Rosenfield ’25 Center and one for Bucksbaum Center for the Arts, to ensure rapid response to a heart attack at those locations, which host many campus visitors.

8. Purchase laser lights for use at dances to enhance ambience.

9. Create a campus-building accessibility-awareness day.

10. Make late-night coffee and tea available in the campus center during hell week and finals week.

11. Reduce the use of bottled water on campus to save money and the environment.

12. Purchase computerized language-learning programs for Spanish, French, Chinese, and Arabic to supplement existing language study options.

(All passed except 3, 5, and 8.)



It's Never Too Early

Sam Peterson '11, psychology major and neuroscience concentrator, and **Ann Ellis**, professor of psychology, both made early contributions to neuroscience — in the same project.

Ellis' early work in developmental cognitive neuroscience studied infant memory. Peterson was one of 121 participants in the study that led to her first publication. Now, Peterson is Ellis' student.

Neither realized the connection until a conversation between Peterson and **Nancy Rempel-Clower**, associate professor of psychology, who supervised Peterson's Mentored Advanced Project.

"It was pretty cool to realize the connection," says Peterson. "It's another interesting indicator of how small our world is."

"There are all kinds of ways to make contributions to science," Ellis says. "Sam just started early."

Too Soon to Reune?

Ten days after my graduation from Grinnell this past May, I attended my first reunion. I was prepared to do the job I'd been assigned by the Office of Communications—asking reunion-goers for their comments on *The Grinnell Magazine* — mindful that this weekend, the campus was theirs, not mine, and that I should be as unintrusive as possible and respectful of their time. I was prepared, in short, to be invisible.

Every Grinnell student or recent graduate should feel the jolt of a lifetime that I did that weekend. I experienced what I've come to think of as "alumni orientation" — a time as exhilarating, accepting, and communal as was new student orientation.

I quickly found that alumni from all eras were as interested in me and my Grinnell experience as I was in them and their experiences. We talked. We ate. We drank. They were relieved to know that laptop screens had not replaced the faces of classmates and professors as the focus of attention

in class discussions. I was relieved to know that many of even the most accomplished alumni had graduated from Grinnell with their paths unclear.

We always and easily found deep connections, not so much in what we thought but in the way we related to the world. The class of '86, inexplicably, made me an unofficial honorary member, and even smuggled me in to their invitation-only class of '86 dinner.

Talking with them at dinner and later, in dorm rooms they occupied for the weekend, I could easily picture them as students.

Even more startling, they seemed equally able to imagine me as a happy and successful mid-life adult. I began to glimpse myself at their ages, with my curiosity and passion for community and intellectual exchange not only intact, but enhanced.

I came to see alumni, many old enough to be my parents if not my grandparents, as unique kinds of peers; many had decades more life experience, perspective, and



education than I do at this point, but unlike parents, professors, employers, and mentors, they treated me as an equal. They shared advice I could never get anywhere else.

"Just do what you love, over and over again, until somebody notices how good you are at it and starts paying you to do it," says **Bruce Koff '75**. That is easily the best career advice I've ever gotten.

"You're one of us," they told me. They did it so often and so insistently that I believed them.

It was as though I slowly and in some ways reluctantly closed

a door on one intense role as a student — only to discover that an equally wonderful, equally intense role as a lifelong Grinnellian lay on the other side of the door.

I wonder how long it would have taken me to learn that had I not attended reunion too soon. And I wonder if the most valuable reunion of all is the one most graduates never get to attend. As it is, I now have a whole new batch of Grinnellian friends on Facebook, and many generous offers of hospitality, career help, and invitations to future reunions.

— *Mona Ghadiri '11*

What was your initiation into Grinnell's "alumni culture?" When did it occur? Or, did you feel excluded from alumni culture? When, and why? We're planning an article on alumni culture and would love to hear from you at magazine@grinnell.edu.



Preparing Students to Change the World

by Dr. Raynard S. Kington

On May 7, 2011, **Dr. Raynard S. Kington**,
was inaugurated as the 13th president of Grinnell College.
This article is based on excerpts from his inaugural address.

Ceremonies such as this one are about marking a transition point in the long and accomplished journey of this College. Today, we not only stand at the intersection of East and West, North and South, but also at the intersection of Past and Future.

A classic definition of chaos

Grinnell is a microcosm of academic excellence. But it lives within the larger world of higher education. And the higher education social contract between the U.S. government and its citizens is being entirely renegotiated, with long-term, unknown, and potentially devastating impacts on the ability of many to complete their college degrees – and for those who do graduate, on their ability

to obtain a job, rent an apartment, purchase a house, or engage in any activity that might be affected by having a large college loan debt burden.

More strikingly, our nation's ability to address the most complex, challenging problems of tomorrow is severely compromised by the threat of at least several years of flat or reduced budgets for research and training.

The consequences of this recession are not the only factors whipping the world of higher education. There are:

- Demands to demonstrate clearer learning outcomes.
- Greater calls to provide our graduates with “business-ready” skills.
- Challenges from continued blurring of boundaries between academic disciplines – particularly for

institutions that cling to outdated ideas about clearly defined, narrow bodies of knowledge.

- Changing demographics of younger populations, with growing percentages of minorities, especially of Hispanic ethnicity, who will come mostly from K-12 public systems that continue to fail in their efforts to provide a solid education to these students.
- Pervasive access to enormous amounts of information – in ways unthinkable to our parents – that may transform how we teach and learn.
- Technological innovations that have the potential to improve many dimensions of quality for higher education – but show no signs of reducing costs.
- The march of globalization, with larger countries like China and India building their own systems of higher education, largely imitating ours.

In sum, continuous, often-volatile change is occurring at every level of education. And that, I believe, is a classic definition of chaos.

Our obligation to innovate

In the future, private colleges and universities – especially those with resources like Grinnell’s – will be called upon to do more. We may have an even greater obligation to find innovative ways to expand access to disadvantaged students, as public options become less accessible.

I foresee an innovation gap between institutions with and without resources. Some have predicted that financial pressures will promote a period of great innovation in some parts of the public higher-education sector – but I see that kind of innovation in higher education being driven primarily by the goal of reducing costs, with the *hope* of minimizing the impact on quality.

In contrast, private and the smaller number of public colleges and universities with adequate resources must seek to innovate in response to a changing world and to improve the quality of our education. We should be conscious of cost, but not driven by it. The innovation that comes from those two different types of pressures may be quite different.

I also believe that the pursuit of innovation is greatly enriched by diversity at every level. Private colleges and universities must also rededicate themselves to embracing diversity, because disadvantaged young people are the ones most at risk of being denied access to higher education as a result of the changes in the public system.

At Grinnell we cannot merely stand on the sidelines whispering “there but for the grace of God” We must critically assess where we fit into the new world of higher education and become a test bed for innovation. Indeed, we must ensure that today’s chaos is a gift toward clarity and that the social contract we negotiate for tomorrow is one that preserves the equality of opportunity that underpins our nation.



The inauguration ceremony was held on central campus. From top to bottom: **Paula Smith**, vice president for academic affairs, dean of the College, and professor of English, welcomes President Kington on behalf of the College; **David White '90**, chair of the Board of Trustees, confers the presidency; Dr. Kington's parents, Dr. Garfield and Mildred Kington, have a front-row seat; Dr. Kington's spouse, Dr. Peter Daniolos, enjoys the ceremony.



A Day of Service preceded the inaugural festivities. From top to bottom: **Joan Baker '51** works in the Healing Garden at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center; **Todd Armstrong**, professor of Russian, and **Emily Stanfield '12** mulch paths between raised beds in the community garden; **Kristin Lovig**, director of human resources, scrubs baseboards at the Grinnell Arts Center (the former Stewart Library); Kington joins **Chloe Griffen '14** in painting a map of the United States on the playground of Davis Elementary School.

A day of service

I very much wanted to include a strong service component in this inauguration to remind all of us about the call to contribute, in ways large and small, to the broader society.

Today's "Day of Service" commenced early this morning [May 7]. More than 250 students, faculty, staff, and community members signed up for volunteer work at more than 25 sites in our community. I am delighted by that showing and hope that this will be a new tradition at Grinnell!

The Grinnell Prize

The College established the Grinnell College Young Innovator for Social Justice Prize this year as one way to recognize a distinctive part of our history and identity at this time of change in leadership.

The 2011 Grinnell Prize received more than 1,200 nominations from 66 countries of people under the age of 40. Students were involved in every step of the selection process of winnowing the nominations to three winners. The prize honors individuals who have demonstrated leadership in their fields and who showed creativity, commitment, and extraordinary accomplishment in effecting positive social change.

Our nominees spanned a diverse array of social issues, including hunger relief, childhood education, environmental issues, literacy, youth arts, fair housing, violence prevention, immigration, GBLTQA, youth services, hospice care, children's mental health, and global peace, among many others.

From this impressive pool of candidates, three extraordinary Grinnell Prize winners emerged.

- Boris Bulayev, 26, president, and Eric Glustrom, 27, executive director, Educate!, established a remarkable organization to educate and empower the next generation of socially responsible leaders in Africa. In Uganda, they successfully incorporated social entrepreneurship training into the country's national education system. Their curriculum will empower as many as 100,000 diverse high school students across the country to transform their enthusiasm into action.
- Rabbi Melissa Weintraub, 35, co-founder and co-executive director, Encounter, helped establish an educational organization dedicated to providing global leaders from across the religious and political spectrum with face-to-face exposure to Palestinian life. Her bold, transformative approach stresses civility of discourse in a way that can open minds and potentially promote peace.
- James Kofi Annan, 37, executive director, Challenging Heights, is a survivor of child trafficking who established Challenging Heights to provide education

for children who have returned from the worst forms of child labor. With incredible initiative, he rose to become a university graduate and manager at Barclays Bank of Ghana. In April 2007, he resigned from the bank to devote his full-time efforts to promote the mission of Challenging Heights – providing education, health, and advocacy programs for vulnerable children.

Each of these exceptional Grinnell Prize winners pursues positive social change as his or her life's work. They will come to campus in the fall to talk to our students about their work, and we are now working to develop opportunities for students to complete internships with the organizations that will receive the funds. All of the winners are *agitators* – restless individuals incensed about injustice in the world and determined to redress it.

The best investment

I personally believe a liberal arts education represents the best investment students can make in themselves, and the times have never been more relevant for the education we offer. Why? Because a liberal arts education provides its graduates with the vital analytical, problem-solving, and adaptive learning skills needed for a constantly transforming world.

To underscore that point, let me read a wonderfully written section of a report on higher education:

“General education is the sole means by which communities can protect themselves from the ill effects of over-rapid change. For its concern is with what is the same throughout all changes and with the process of change itself and the techniques of taking account of it.”

That passage was written 60 years ago in the Harvard report *General Education in a Free Society*, which actually became a best seller. Six decades later, after an enormous expansion of what we know about our world, we still can only guess, as the report noted, at “what vectors may be needed to describe the spin of our change.” And yet we must prepare our students for the future knowing that it is uncertain, as it has always been and will always be.

I can think of no more gratifying opportunity than to lead this institution at this point in time! ■

To read the address in full or watch it as a video:

www.grinnell.edu/inauguration



Grinnell Prize winners were announced at the ceremony. They include, from top to bottom: Eric Glustrom and Boris Bulayev, Rabbi Melissa Weintraub, and James Kofi Annan.



by Erin Peterson '98

Allison Brinkhorst '11 is a serious, top-notch student, so when she decided to apply for the Truman Scholarship during her junior year, she put the same effort into her application that she always has to her schoolwork. For weeks, she spent hours pulling together an impeccable resumé, a polished project statement, and sterling answers to tough interview questions. But when she started writing

her personal statement, she was stymied. "I tried to present myself as a hard worker by explaining that I never slept in and never watched TV," she says. "I basically described myself as a workaholic."

She had **Doug Cutchins '93**, Grinnell's director of social commitment, and three fellow students look over her statement, and they all told her the same thing: Scrap it. Scholarship committees don't give awards to academic automatons — they look for intelligent, personable students who have a vision for their lives and the world. Brinkhorst started from scratch three times, and it wasn't until she had wrapped up her classes and was relaxing during winter break that she was able to craft a personal statement that was true to who she was: curious, insightful, empathetic — and yes, a very hard worker. "Writing a personal statement helped me realize that I was losing my sense of self amid my schoolwork," she says. "Over the next year or so, I worked on finding and redefining my sense of self."

Many of the 300 students who annually filter through Cutchins' office to get help applying for dozens of available programs initially see applications as a hurdle, not a journey. But the further they dig into the application, the more likely they are to see value in the process itself. "We tell students to write a 20-page paper on 16th-century Dutch architecture, and they run with it," Cutchins says. "But applications ask them, 'Who are you? What motivates

Success by the Numbers

Grinnell students have earned more than 100 national scholarships and fellowships since 1999. Here are just a few of the most notable:

Carnegie Junior Fellowship	3
Fulbright Scholarship	55
Gates Cambridge Scholarship	1
Goldwater Scholarship	14
Mitchell Scholarship	3
Truman Scholarship	3
Rhodes Scholarship	1
Watson Fellowship	17

you? Where are you going, and how are you going to get there?" This is an opportunity to apply the rigorous thinking they do in their classes to their own lives."

Only a tiny percentage of students land Watson, Truman, or Rhodes scholarships. (See "Success by the Numbers," opposite). But they often discover the skills and insight they gain during the application process can be extraordinarily valuable, regardless of the outcome of their applications.

Thinking Big

Applications vary dramatically, but students can devote dozens of hours to assemble the required transcripts, recommendation letters, activity listings, personal statements, and project plans. (See "It Takes *How Long?*" p. 20) They also rigorously prepare for individual and group interviews that typically accompany the process.

Each piece of the application offers its own challenges, says **Kelly Herold**, associate professor of Russian, who frequently helps students apply for scholarships. Perhaps most difficult is thinking long-term. "Students have been thinking in three-month increments since middle school: What classes will I be taking, what job will I be working, what extracurricular activities will I do?" she says. "With most scholarships and fellowships, they have to think about what they would do for a year or more. It requires them to think more holistically."

Jacob Reisberg '10 applied for the Truman Scholarship. Essay questions that asked him to imagine himself a decade in the future seemed absurd when he could barely confirm his plans for the weekend. But he soon saw the question wasn't really about what his daily life would look like in his early 30s. "It was asking, 'What do I care about, why do I care about it, and do I want to make this issue my life?'" he says. "I doubt I would have taken the time to do this if not for the application."

Brinkhorst agrees and adds that the process of pulling together the disparate threads of her life into a coherent package helped her define who she is and what she wants to do. "We were encouraged to have a 'theme' for our application," she says. "When you write down all of your activities and courses and interests, what ties them together? That process alone still guides my future."

Jason Rathod '06, an attorney at a boutique plaintiff-side class-action firm in Washington, D.C., says the hours he spent writing his personal statement paid off in spades. Not only did he get a Watson Fellowship, but he was able to use a version of that personal statement as part of his law school application. He says the process of thinking about his personal story — distilled into a few pages — has guided many of his choices since. "At many law schools, you get shepherded into larger corporate law firms, and a lot of people end up really miserable," he says. "I didn't fall into that trap, because I knew that wasn't who I was. I knew the kinds of things I needed to look for to find fulfilling work."



"When you write down all of your activities and courses and interests, what ties them together? That process still guides my future."

— Allison Brinkhorst '11



*“Every time
you interview,
you get better.”*
— Abby Trout

Diving into Detail

With no shortage of students with fantastic grades, compelling plans, and enthusiastic references, the success or failure of a given application can hinge on the smallest of missteps. Understanding the implicit and explicit rules — from deadlines to interview etiquette — are skills students learn during the application process and apply long after they graduate.

“Everything matters,” says **Mark Levandoski**, associate professor of chemistry and a member of a number of scholarship committees. “When you’re down to a few extraordinary candidates, you’re splitting hairs. Students get tested, and have to perform, in ways that society has established.” He recalls a student who arrived a few minutes late to an interview and, in that moment, torpedoed his chances of becoming a finalist.

Grinnell offers students plenty of chances to master those small-but-critical details. For one of the most rigorous and detailed applications, the Truman Scholarship, Cutchins has developed a series of 15 hour-long meetings that students attend to address everything from how to get good letters of recommendation to practicing interview questions.

Career Development Office counselor **Abby Trout** says she often counsels students on interviewing, typically the source of greatest anxiety. She’s happy to offer her best advice on what to wear, how to greet interviewers, and what students should do with their hands when they talk. But says it’s the hours of practice that help get students where they need to be.

Trout videotapes mock interviews, then breaks them down with students so they can see what they need to do to improve. By the time they’ve done a few practice interviews, most students have eliminated distracting elements — such as playing with their hair or tapping their

It Takes *How* Long?

Applying for fellowships can dozens of hours. Here’s the breakdown for a typical Truman Scholarship application.

Weekly meetings	15 hours
Prenomination application process	2 hours
Biographical information	1 hour
Essay questions on leadership, public service, courses	6 hours
Essay questions on graduate and postgraduate work	4 hours
Policy proposal	8 hours
Personal statement	1 hour
Letters of recommendation requests	2 hours
Reading and editing peers’ work	10 hours
Interviews and preparation	8 hours
TOTAL	57 hours

fingers — and have far more poise and confidence. “The first time you do anything, you’re going to be nervous. You’re going to focus on external things, like whether you’re using your hands too much, looking around too much, or talking loudly enough,” Trout says. “Every time you interview, you get better. You can focus on being yourself and showing who you are to that interviewer.”

Katie Lee ’09 says trying to hone a lifetime of experiences into a concise statement for the scholarship committee consumed her. “My desire for a specific

scholarship opportunity seemed perfectly natural to me because of the life I had lived,” she says. “The incredible challenge was to make sense of this for someone who had never met me and to do it succinctly.” She spent nearly every spare moment thinking about how to frame her life – even during inopportune moments like the middle of a biology exam – and ultimately succeeded. She was offered both a Fulbright Korea English Teaching Assistantship, which she turned down, and a Grinnell Corps Fellowship, which she accepted. She is currently in Nanjing working for the Dipont Education Management group with Chinese students who plan to attend American colleges.

Loss and Gratitude

No matter how successful students have been in their academic careers, the vast majority will be rejected when competing against other exceptionally talented students. The disappointment can be both crushing and instructive.

Reisberg was a finalist for the Truman but didn’t get the final nod. Yet he says the hours spent preparing for and practicing interviews with Grinnell faculty and staff paid off. “When I interviewed for jobs my final semester, I knew what to expect,” he says. “I wasn’t as nervous, and I’m convinced the practice interviews helped me get my current job at the Federal Trade Commission.”

Experiences like Reisberg’s testify to the value of even unsuccessful applications. “It’s not sexy to put out a press release that says ‘Student doesn’t win scholarship, but has major breakthroughs in thinking about what their

life is.’ But to me, that story is just as important,” says Cutchins. Indeed, many students go on to find other ways to fund and pursue the projects they’ve outlined in their applications.

Even those who do win a scholarship come to realize that acceptance was just one of many benefits of the application process, which helped them clarify their goals and put what they’ve learned in context. “Students can use the opportunity to reflect on what it was that got them to that point,” Levandoski says. “It’s a credit to their hard work, but it’s important to realize that there might also have been a little bit of good luck and timing. It’s important, when you’re successful, not to take anything for granted.”

Brinkhorst has done a little of both. She was not selected as a Truman Scholar, but she was chosen for a Grinnell Corps Fellowship. After she graduates she’ll work with Mid-Iowa Community Action in Grinnell. It’s not just a great opportunity for a newly minted graduate, it’s a perfect fit for her larger goals. Perhaps her personal statement says it best: “As I approach the end of my studies at Grinnell College, I have begun to reflect upon my four years here, and I am thankful to realize that the student atmosphere has done what I had hoped: I am growing up to be like the older students whom I looked up to. I have also come to better understand the strengths that I have developed and the privileges I have been given, both of which I can now use to support others.”

Her experience, her skills, and her grades helped her land a spot in the program. But it was the application process that helped her understand exactly what she wanted. ■



Apply Yourself

Students answer some pretty tough application questions. How would you fare on these, adapted from recent applications?

Carnegie Junior Fellowship

What is the best U.S. strategy for defeating terrorism emanating from Pakistan? Write an essay of no more than three typewritten, double-spaced pages.

Fulbright Scholarship

In one typed, single-spaced page, write a narrative that gives a picture of you as an individual. Explain how you came to this point in your life and where you see yourself in the future. Your personal statement can deal with your personal history, family background, influences on your intellectual development, the educational and cultural opportunities to which you have been exposed, and the ways in which these experiences have affected you.

Truman Scholarship

What issues do you hope to engage in the future as an agent of change, and what is your plan to engage these issues in your career? How will you be a change agent?

Watson Fellowship

Develop a creative, feasible, personally significant proposal for a 12-month fellowship year, including a description of the proposed project and details as to how you intend to carry it out. Include information about what it is that prepares you to undertake your project in 1,500 words or fewer.

Practicing Her Principles



Roberta Atwell, professor emerita of education, has helped make Grinnell's practices live up to her principles since 1973.

by Richard Cleaver '74, with additional research by Mona Ghadiri '11

"I don't know what there is to write about," Roberta Atwell says, as we begin our interview.

This is Midwestern modesty. One of the most effective faculty activists, Atwell also is one of the most reticent when it comes to talking about herself. Even during interviews with the expressed purpose of researching information for her own profile – which she reluctantly agreed to – she was deft at turning the conversation to the accomplishments of others. We persisted, however, and what we discovered is a lesson in the efficacy of quiet but persistent advocacy for principles strongly held.

Without Atwell, professor emerita of education since 2002 and the College's affirmative action officer from 1996 to 2000, there would be no Grinnell Ninth Semester Program that leads to teaching certification for Iowa public schools. There would be no major in Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, no Stonewall Resource Center for the GLBTQA community, and no model of affirmative action administration for others to follow.

Atwell, originally from Missouri, received her bachelor's degree from Southwest Missouri State University. She taught in Missouri public schools from 1953 to 1967. Then, with a brand-new Chrysler convertible and a master's degree earned during 10 years of summer study, she drove to Iowa to teach educational psychology at Southwestern Community College in Creston. She enjoyed teaching adults, so returned to the University of Missouri for her Ph.D., followed by a year of teaching at Iowa State University.

When she interviewed at Grinnell in April 1973, "I didn't know anything about liberal arts colleges," she says. "I was a little hesitant to come to a two-person department. I was afraid of being a stepchild."

Grinnell appointed her in short order, unusually, as an associate professor, and Atwell stayed for nearly 30 years. She made sure she was no stepchild, actively improving the College by practicing her principles. Here are a few of those principles, and how they've contributed to the College:

Principle: Future teachers should major in the subjects they want to teach.

Outcome: The Ninth Semester Program

Today, the College's education program description includes this information: "Grinnell College has developed a unique program called the Ninth Semester Program. Following graduation, students return to Grinnell for one additional

semester to do their student teaching." Atwell's explains that before the program, science majors, especially, had difficulty completing their major requirements while also taking the courses and doing the student teaching the state requires for teaching certification. Some students in other majors and students who wished to study abroad also had problems. By having students stay an extra semester to devote their time to fulfilling certification requirements, Atwell broadened the pool of potential teachers and gave students pursuing an Iowa teaching certificate a more robust education.

Other colleges have ninth semester programs, but Grinnell's program is, as far as the College knows, unique in that ninth-semester students do not pay tuition during that semester. Instead, they receive a loan for the cost of that semester. If they teach full-time at an accredited school for three of the five years following their ninth semester, the loan is forgiven.

It's a terrific deal for students. Their teaching-certification classes don't restrict their liberal arts education, they have an entire semester to focus on student teaching without having to take a full load of College classes, and they get what amounts to a free extra semester of education. The teaching profession wins, too, as Grinnell students have a financial incentive to begin their teaching careers.

It's a benefit widely recognized and much appreciated. More than 90 percent of the College's students who obtain licensure do so through the Ninth Semester Program.

"Developing that program is what I've gotten the most satisfaction from," Atwell says.

Principle: Gender and lifestyle issues are worthy of study and support.

Outcomes: A faculty ally, a new major, and a new resource center

Atwell has been a steady and significant supporter of Grinnell's GLBTQA community from the time of her arrival. Her quiet activism started in the classroom.

"I attended a panel in the early '70s in South Lounge, sponsored by the Grinnell College Gay Community, as it was called then. One of my students, **Bruce Koff '75**, was a panelist, and it really opened my eyes. I was so grateful. It reminded me that I had to make clear to my students that they would have GLBTQA students when they taught, and needed to be able to recognize what they go through."

Koff was just as grateful to Atwell. "I wondered,

with some trepidation, what her reaction would be. But she earnestly told me how important that evening had been to her.”

Until the 1990s, she says, most of her GLBTQA activism was in the classroom. “Until there was an influx of other lesbians during that decade, I felt pretty isolated, but after that there were enough for us to provide each other some support. We had great potlucks, which was a far cry from how things were before that.”

But in the 1980s, students approached her asking for help in advocating for the development of a student space for GLBTQA issues. “I was just a hidden consultant, but I told them students would have more of an effect on the administration than would the faculty. I suggested they picket in front of Nollen House,” she says.

The picketing led to meetings with the administration, which led to the establishment of what is now the Stonewall Resource Center, a safe, confidential space for the campus’ gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning and Allies (GLBTQA) community. It provides resources and information about GLBTQA issues and facilitates educational programming and activities on campus. The center celebrated its 25th anniversary and just rededicated a space in Atwell’s name (see related story, Page 12).

Her official support for Stonewall continued literally until the day of her retirement. “I really didn’t want to have a retirement dinner. Why spend all this money to feed people shrimp? It seemed so unnecessary, but the dean wouldn’t let up,” she says. “Finally, I said, ‘OK, if you want to throw me this fancy dinner at Grinnell House, you have to make a donation of however much you spend on this event to the Stonewall Coalition.’ They did it.”

Atwell also believed gender issues deserved formal study as part of the College’s curriculum, and was founding co-chair of the College’s Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies program. GWSS is an interdisciplinary field in which women, men, gender, and sexuality are examined in various cultures and historical periods, with diverse methods of inquiry. It has long been a popular academic area of concentration at Grinnell and recently became an academic major, graduating its first student major in 2010.

Doug Caulkins, former Donald L. Wilson Professor of Enterprise and Leadership, who co-chaired the GWSS program with Atwell during its first year, remembers Atwell as “an outstanding leader, focused and persistent, but with an ironic sense of humor that kept everyone from getting too stressed.” In addition to being co-chair, Atwell taught Introduction to Women’s Studies as an overload course for three years.

Principle: People should be treated fairly.

Outcome: Atwell as Grinnell College’s first affirmative action officer in 1996

Atwell first encountered professional inequity during her 1973 teaching appointment at Iowa State University. She was

discussing her pension plan with a benefits staffer. “I noticed that the payout was smaller than it should have been, and she said to me, without indication she thought it was strange, that it was because women live longer. I hadn’t been consciously feminist before, but that made things really clear. It was the casualness of her acceptance that floored me,” she says.

The affirmative action position was much needed at Grinnell: Atwell “came in with a big group of new faculty that year — about 18, I think — and half were women. But only two of us stayed, **Sheila McCarthy** in Russian and me. Later the number of women faculty dropped even lower. There were a lot of people who didn’t even see that as reason for concern.”

When Atwell submitted her first annual report shortly after taking her post, in the fall of 1996, there had been no affirmative action reporting since 1992. Her work set the standard for her successors, with thorough reports using national figures for comparison, even including statistics on degrees awarded. For years she included the pointed observation, “If departments consistently define their need in the same way, they tend to duplicate themselves.” In her second report she proposed that, “if there is an identified minority candidate in the pool who ranks in the top 10, but not necessarily in the top three, the College should provide funding to bring that person to campus for an interview. By doing so, we may discover that although the individual was not in the top three, they are indeed a good match for Grinnell College.”

“I really enjoyed being affirmative action officer,” she says. “I’m glad I had the opportunity to do this.”

Principle: Retire — but don’t withdraw.

Outcomes: Book, community service

When she achieved senior faculty status in 2000, she spent some time gathering daughters’ stories of their mothers for a book she published in 2002, *Reflections: Filtered Memories About Our Mothers*, a collection of 20 stories of mothers in the Grinnell community. Atwell was young when she lost her own mother. “I was 20 when she died, so I conjured up memories that I had of my mother, with the help of my much older sister, and started writing about her,” she says. “It occurred to me that we rarely, if ever, read stories written by us more ‘common’ people, and that seemed like a real loss to me, as they represented a much larger group of mothers.” As for the experience, she says, “Most of the women who did this were glad to pass their stories down to their children. I learned a great deal about the lives of the women who were writing the stories.”

And what is she doing now? “As little as possible,” she says, grinning. “Bridge. Tennis. Reading. And I’m a board member of the Hawkeye Valley Area Program on Aging.” According to her, someone put her name forward. No wonder! In her role as professor, administrator, and community member, she has shown that values of fairness, equality, service, and scholarship unite each of these roles. In other words, she’s still practicing her principles. ■



Emily Bergl LIVE!

You *can* go home again: the actor returns to campus for cabaret and conversation

by Dan Weeks '80
Photography by Jim Heemstra

Emily Bergl '97 may be Hollywood's most famous Grinnellian actor this side of **Gary Cooper '26** and **Peter Coyote '64**. She played Rachel Lang in the film *The Rage: Carrie 2* (1999), Annie O'Donnell in the ABC television show *Men in Trees* (2006–2008), Beth Young on *Desperate Housewives* (2010–2011) and Tammy Bryant in the TNT drama series *Southland* (2009–present) – not to mention guest roles on *Grey's Anatomy*, *The Good Wife*, *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*, *CSI: Miami*, and *E.R.*

Bergl spent three days on campus last fall – her first extended visit since graduating – to perform her one-woman cabaret *Kidding on the Square* with her music director Scott Lacey.

Her performance in Lyle's Pub, in the basement of the Rosenfield Center, was packed to the rafters as she belted out (and acted out) her often novel interpretation of a repertoire ranging from Fats Waller's "Ain't Misbehavin'" to Madonna's "Material Girl."

She also pretended quite convincingly to simultaneously flirt with President **Raynard S. Kington** ("I

blushed a lot," he later confessed, "and it was a lot of fun!") and his spouse **Dr. Peter Daniolos**, both of whom sat in the front, and to charm the wildly appreciative and warmly affectionate audience with inside jokes and Grinnellian commentary.

Curled up in a Grinnell House couch the morning after her performance, Bergl was clearly delighted with her reception, and a bit relieved. "*Desperate Housewives* is not the most intellectual of TV shows," she said. "I was afraid people would look down upon it – and me."



Bergl also had concerns that Grinnellians may have changed; she'd heard rumors college students were all Facebook and cell phones and test scores and conservatism these days.

Nah.

"People here are as articulate and deeply eccentric as ever," she said after a very long night that included hanging out with Kington, revisiting her former dorm rooms, and partying with students on the roof of the loggia. "But they're better dressed, freer, and less awkward than we were. They're more comfortable with who they are, and they don't seem to feel a pressure to rebel. They're very open. They may well be our next great generation."

Students found a similarly kindred spirit, no less so for her fame, experience, and ability to sing, dance, survive incredibly realistic pratfalls, and do three complete costume changes (each more burlesque than the last) without leaving stage.

At a lunch with theatre students, in a master-class-style discussion, and during casual encounters on campus, Bergl championed the value of the liberal arts while offering a big dose of what-they-don't-teach-you-in-school:

On Grinnell

The wonderful thing about Grinnell is that there's no hierarchy here — I could act during my first semester. There was no paying of dues or others getting precedence. I didn't get the specific training some of my peers had in acting schools, but all the work I did interpreting poetry and literature in general, and reading it out loud, was and is so important.

On breaking in

When I graduated, my resumé had nothing on it, so I listed my Grinnell acting credits under "Roberts Theatre" so it looked like a theatre. But I learned a blank resume is a powerful thing. Every casting director wants to discover that new person. Your youth is a huge asset.

On motivation

There's nothing wrong with grandiose visions, but what are you doing *right now*? I think big dreams can stifle you if you let them distract you from doing the little things that add up to that dream: getting your head shots, getting auditions.

Also, what are you willing to give up? I can't plan my life more than two weeks in advance. I can't go to friends'



weddings, to class reunions; I have to back out of things at the last minute. I've had to give up a lot.

On auditioning

Take charge of your audition. It's your time and your space and your responsibility to make it what you can. If I feel like I'm starting from a bad place, I say, "I'd like to do that again." Don't ask; *tell* them what you want to do. It makes people pay attention.

Sometimes more polished is less interesting. I always try to do one small weird thing.

Never compare yourself to anyone else. You don't know what they're looking for.

Appearances can be deceiving. My first audition, I performed for a bearded, sour-faced guy that looked like Tolstoy. I thought, "Well, I'm never going to audition for him again." I got the job.

Control what you can and step back from the rest. That's what separates people who work from people who don't.

If you're lucky, you'll get one part out of every 15, 25, 50 auditions. That's a good average.

Tune out the voice in your head. You have to be very vigilant *not* to say, "If I get really thin, then I'll get work."

Sometimes, you just have to go and eat a donut.

On rejection

There's an immense amount of rejection, no matter what your level of success. There were a couple guys in my class who were better than I was, and we moved to New York together. When we got there, they still didn't have their [promotional] headshots; they never really went out there. That's what deterred them: fear of rejection.

I started practicing dealing with rejection at Grinnell, when they posted the roles for the plays I tried out for. I did

everything I could to get the part, then I tried to forget about it. I can only control what I do, and I'm only disappointed if there was something else I could have done.

Not everyone's going to like you. You need to start thinking about that now.

On hustling

While you're still in school, figure out what you're going to do for money, and get some experience here doing it so you have some skills. After graduation, I went home to Chicago and temped in offices during the day and waited tables at night to save up enough to go to New York. I made sure I knew Microsoft Office.

In this profession, you've never made it. I'm still hustling – I have an audition on Monday. I'm always thinking, "What's the next job?"

People ask "What role do you want to play?" and I say, "What's auditioning right now?"

On talent management

The so-called experts really don't know any more about managing your career than you do. Take their input, but trust your instincts. *You* know what's best for you. I've had people tell me "You don't need to know the details," and I've had to let them go, because I *do* need to know. The business is me.

On being outrageous

I find it challenging and creatively fulfilling to take outrageous situations and ground them in reality. We don't go to see shows about inconsequence. They all feature outlandish situations and characters. I tend to play eccentric people – I guess since I consider myself quite

eccentric, and because I went to school with eccentrics. And I don't want the eccentric characters I play to be so outlandish that they're alien, that they have no relation to real life. We don't feel affinity for something that's truly alien. The biggest compliments I get are from people that say about my characters, "I was nervous and worried for her." I love my characters, I have great empathy for them, and I want others to also.

On acting

In drama school it's important to make you *not* do your bad habits, but when you act then you have to be able to draw from them. You can smell a recent Julliard graduate, because they Talk. So. Per. Fect. Ly. What we like about people are their quirks.

As an English major, I was too analytical, always taking notes on my character. But I can't play all those things – I need to be instinctual. You have to explore those things, to have a map, but if something takes you in another direction, go there.

I don't believe in camera acting. There are people who are concerned about their light, their good side; I'm concerned about my character and putting forth something interesting.

When I got the *Desperate Housewives* job I knew I'd have a good time, but to my surprise I found it challenging and creatively fulfilling as well. I'm not doing *Hamlet*, but I'm still taking phenomenal situations and grounding them in reality.

What else do I want to do? Acting is enough to fill a lifetime. I did a play for six months, and I was trying to get a laugh on this particular line for six months. You're never finished.

On fame

I'm "fame adjacent." People say "Did I go to high school with you?" They recognize me, but they don't know from where.

Fame is elusive and is not satisfying. You get your first TV show and people ask you when you are going to earn a Golden Globe or an Oscar. They don't ask doctors when they're going to be surgeon general! It's not mean-spirited, but it's not what keeps you going.

On cabaret

It is really important and really frightening to go to college, to graduate, to make your way in the world. You need to continue to have frightening experiences, to create new neurological paths. I wanted to do something that scared me.

In cabaret, you really put yourself out there. I'm damn close to naked, sprawled out on the piano, or throwing myself at the audience. I always felt more comfortable hiding behind these characters, bringing little parts of me to all my characters. This is all me.

It was deeply, deeply frightening. There were a lot of tears shed.





On being a generalist

Some say “I don’t want to do TV,” but it’s very hard to make a living without those roles. I try to work in all three media: movies, theatre, and television; and I bounce between New York and LA. I try not to be the same character every time — I don’t find that interesting. I consider myself a character actor. I think there’s more longevity in that.

I never like anyone to say, “Emily Bergl is X,” because then I want to be Y. That’s the great thing about Grinnell: You don’t have to be one thing. You can get a GWSS [Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies] major *and* be an economist.

Some actors specialize, and that’s fine. I have friends that make a whole career out of crying. I like to do that too, but I don’t want to always be “the victim” or “the wife.” As a woman, a lot of time that’s what’s out there. We don’t really *need* to see more murder and violence sexualized on TV. We have enough of that.

I’m in a profession that tries to typecast people. But playing diverse roles can be a strength; being able to work in different markets as different types of characters can expand your opportunities. That’s the big hurdle, staying employed. Ninety-eight percent of my union’s membership, at any given time, is not working.

I never realized I was a generalist until right now. That’s who Grinnellians are, isn’t it? ■

About that baby

I got into a little bit of trouble recently. After you graduate, you get this class newsletter. At first people send pictures of themselves, and then after a while it’s all pictures of babies. What’s up with all the babies, people? You have a Ph.D. in physics — I want to know what *you’re* doing!

Well, a classmate of mine who is a really talented sound designer and I did a play together. We were talking about the class letter thing and got an idea.

First we were going to get a picture of an alien and send it in and say it was my baby. Then he said, “No, we should tell people *we* had a baby.” He made me get off Facebook for three months; and we sent in an announcement to the newsletter saying we’d had a baby, that I was back working, that we weren’t getting married and it was just a fling and the baby would have my last name.

Well. We not only made the newsletter, but I got an official congratulations from the College and a birth announcement in *The Grinnell Magazine* and people asking me how I was recovering after giving birth. When the truth came out it was a big scandal, and some people were really offended. So, I have to put the rumor to rest. But I still stand by the fact that it was very funny.



Saving Vital Organs

Walter Bradford '68 builds and restores pipe organs, among the most complex of musical instruments. He founded Bradford Organ Co. in Chicago in 1977 and is now reassembling Opus 365, a 27-foot-wide, 24-foot-long organ built by E.M. Skinner in 1922. It has enough differently voiced pipes to mimic an entire symphony orchestra. "There are no violins in a pipe organ," Bradford says. "But there are pipes that make the sound of a violin."

In June 2009, the Opus 365 was purchased from the shuttered and crumbling First Baptist Church in Lewiston, Maine, disassembled over a period of five days, and then driven to the First Covenant Church in Lake Forest, Ill. Bradford, colleague Ben Hiatt, and a team of four other employees have spent the past two years reassembling the organ and its 1,566 pipes to fit into the church, and now it is fully functional.

CLASSNOTES

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



Jane Richardson Bredeson '51

Bredeson majored in English and was active in student government, the humor magazine, and YWCA. She served Connecticut College for 30 years in admission, the president's office, and as acting vice president for development. In 1991, she earned the Connecticut College Medal. The same year, the college started a scholarship bearing her name. She spent more than a decade as a Grinnell class agent and is an Asa Turner Associate.

1954

Arthur A. Dercksen received the Melvin Jones Fellow award, the highest honor in Lionism, from the Clarksville, Ark., Lions Club, winter 2010.

1958

John C. and Jo Ann Leonhardt Orsborn celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, June 4, 2010.

Ruth Taub Puoti and husband Raffaele celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, Feb. 18, 2010, with a trip to Australia with their daughter.

Paul A. and Nancy Egbert Barks '59 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, April 17, 2010. They took a trip to Costa Rica with family, followed by a three-week trip to France with their entire family.

1959

Once upon a Time: Scenes from Childhood – Folktales Revisited, an exhibit of 20 paintings and prints by Nancy Homan Stroup, was featured in the main gallery of the College of Health and Human Services, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, January–March 2011.

1960

Patricia Hanawalt Van Hauen and her husband Clark celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, Jan. 1, 2010, with their immediate family, followed by an extended family reunion.

1961

Joan Kerst Coston was one of nine people honored by the Environmental Volunteers of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, Calif., for 30-plus years of continuous volunteer service, November 2010. She remains an active member of the group and was lead volunteer for three classroom services in May 2011.

Paul Risser, a biologist and university administrator from Norman, Okla., was elected to a four-year term as vice-chair of the Grinnell College Board of Trustees in May.

1962

K. Ann Wright-Parsons was recognized by Northern Illinois University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with the Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award for her contribution to the university community as director of the Anthropology Museum, fall 2010. In January 2011 she retired and moved to Dummerston, Va.

1965

After 37 years, Dr. Ralph R. Pray retired from the practice of internal medicine with The Iowa Clinic and the medical staff at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines, Iowa, December 2010.

"Insect Airport," a photo by James B. Young, won first place in the creative category of the Eyes of Hawaii Camera Club Christmas competition, winter 2010.

Would you like to see your news in Classnotes?

To submit your information, please contact:

Classnotes 866-850-1846
Office of Development
and Alumni Relations
Grinnell College
Grinnell, IA 50112

E-mail: classnotes@grinnell.edu
Website: www.grinnell.edu/alumni

The deadline for the Fall 2011 issue is August 5, 2011.

Bradford grew up in Grinnell and describes his entry into organ-building as if it were the most obvious of career choices. “I happened to know the organist at Grinnell, James Wiley, and it was my senior year, and I didn’t know what to do, and I was married,” he says. “Wiley said, ‘Walter, you grew up on the keyboard. Why don’t you apprentice to be an organ-builder?’”

“So I wrote away to a dozen organ-builders and all 12 granted me an interview. I had just enough money to do one interview, in Chicago,” he says. “I started apprenticing and I found out that I had a talent for woodworking, which is mostly what organ-building is.” After eight years as an apprentice, Bradford started his own company. “There’s almost no way to advertise,” he says. “Some church likes your work, they tell a fellow organist and you get a call.”

Bradford spent 25 years working on a Skinner in the University of Chicago’s Rockefeller Chapel. “There were 27 sets of pipes that had been sold across the country, and part of our job was to get them back,” he says. He had to locate the pipes, then fly to places like Albuquerque, N.M., and Pittsburgh and “pay a fortune” to retrieve them.

He half-jokingly credits the “phenomenal number of Catholic churches in Chicago” with keeping him in business all these years. “We know a lot of the hierarchy in the Catholic church through our jobs,” he says.

Bradford has found success in ensuring that the classic pipe organ stays a relevant musical machine. “This one has already been playing for 80 years,” he says of the Opus 365. “We’re going to play it another 80 years, and I think that’s admirable.”

—by Matt Blake '04, a freelance journalist based in Chicago.

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



Joanne M. Bunge '56

A music education major, Bunge was involved in drama, theatre, choir, women’s glee club, band, cheerleading, and student government. From 1990–95 she was Grinnell’s planned giving director. She spent 17 years as a class agent, served as a class committee member for more than 10 years, and helped lead her class’ 50th reunion. In 1995, she was named volunteer of the year by the town’s Grinnell 2000 Foundation.

1966

Richard J. Tillotson has written a screenplay that was a quarter-finalist for the 2010 Nicholl Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded annually by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which also awards the Oscars.

1967

Arthur P. Arnold received the Daniel S. Lehrman Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology at its July 2010 meeting in Toronto. He is a professor in the department of integrative biology and psychology at University of California-Los Angeles.

Henry “Hank” Balikov, climate-change chair for The Auditing Roundtable, an international professional group, will be responsible for two national conferences in 2012, and “webinars” during the intervening months. He is vice president at Goldman Environmental and heads its Sustainability Practice Group.

1969

Jeanne McConnell Frink was recently nominated by Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell to represent Virginia on the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park advisory commission. The park is located in Virginia’s northern Shenandoah Valley. She also was recently sworn in as vice chairman of the Page County (Va.) Electoral Board.

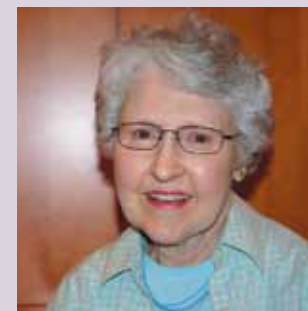
1970

Bruce A. Nissen was interviewed by Joe Crankshaw from TCPALM.com’s “Monday Chat: Unions under assault in Florida,” Feb. 20, 2011.

1971

Shelley D. Smith was named the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s fifth scientist laureate, March 2011. The award is the highest honor the center bestows on researchers. She is professor of pediatrics in the College of Medicine and professor and director of developmental neuroscience at the Munroe Meyer Institute for Genetics and Rehabilitation. She is also director of the M.D./Ph.D. scholars program for the college.

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



Marilyn J. Kelsey '61

Kelsey majored in English and journalism and was involved in the *Scarlet & Black* and Theta Sigma Phi. She earned a master’s in journalism from Indiana University and taught English and journalism at Bloomington South High School for 30 years. She received that school’s Apple Award for teaching excellence in 1994 and was named adviser of the year by the Indiana High School Press Association in 1997. Three newspaper staffs she advised received Pacemaker awards from the National Scholastic Press Association.

Future Talk

“What’s going to happen with the stock market? That’s the number one question I get when people find out I work for *The Futurist*,” says **Cindy Wagner ’78**. “In the 1980s it was, ‘Should I buy a condo?’” Her response: “If you want a condo, buy a condo.”

Wagner has been thinking about the future, professionally, for 30 years, and this spring, she was named editor of *The Futurist*, the bimonthly magazine of the World Future Society.

The Bethesda, Md.-based society is a nonprofit educational and scientific association that investigates how social, economic, and technological developments are shaping the future.

Wagner likes to use the term “futures studies” — in part to differentiate her field from the futurist art movement, but also because the plural “futures” is significant.

“There isn’t one future,” she says. “Obviously there’s only going to be one thing that happens, but there are many possibilities.”

Wagner is not, however, fond of allusions to crystal balls. “Prediction is kind of a hot-button word. I don’t particularly like it.”

Indeed, Wagner probably could not have predicted her own future.

She joined the magazine in 1981 as an editorial assistant, with a fresh master’s in magazine journalism from Syracuse University. She

only had one newspaper clip in hand, but her boss was impressed by her membership in the American Humanist Association, whose liberal philosophy seemed consistent with that of futurists’ work.

Wagner became managing editor in 1992 and now takes the top job from the man who hired her: Ed Cornish, who started the magazine and the society in 1966.

Wagner says it was exciting to learn a field from one of its founders, though she admits she has never fully taken to it.

“I’m a terrible futurist,” she says. “I don’t make plans. I’ve had the same employer since 1981. I’m not big on change.”

One of the reasons she’s stayed is because she has found the varied subject matter intriguing — a reason foreshadowed by her Grinnell experience.

When Wagner entered Grinnell, she thought she would study English and something else. She tried theater, psychology, and religion, and liked them all. In her senior year, she took most of the other introductory courses she had missed.

“I like to say I double-majored in English and Intro to,” says Wagner, adding that the ability to explore different ideas is what makes both Grinnell and *The Futurist* so appealing.

1973

David C. Marsh has been promoted to vice president of research and development at Rand McNally, Skokie, Ill., March 2011. He heads its development of specialized GPS products.

Dr. John C. Pfeffer received the annual John Darroch Memorial Award from the Stanislaus Medical Society of Modesto, Calif., March 2011. The award goes to a physician who exemplifies professionalism, dedication to patient care, and community involvement.

Irma P. McClaurin, second woman president of Shaw University, was speaker at the eighth annual Heritage Banquet of the Shaw University, Rocky Mount/Kelly Brant alumni chapter, Raleigh, N.C., April 2011.

1974

Susan Morrice Thompson retired after 30 years as assistant district attorney for the Ninth Judicial District of North Carolina, March 2011.

1978

David B. Clotfelter and his wife Lisa Pang celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in 2010.

1980 30th Cluster Reunion

Diane C. Gutenkauf won reelection as alderwoman in Elmhurst, Ill., April 2011.

Mark A. Resch joined The Banff Centre as director of digital media research, February 2011. The Banff Centre is an arts, cultural, and educational institution in the heart of Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada.

1983

Russell J. Ganim was interviewed for “Love of languages, cultures guided new UI director,” an article in the *Iowa City Press Citizen* (www.press-citizen.com), April 3, 2011. He becomes director of the University of Iowa’s newly merged division of world languages, literatures, and cultures on July 1, 2011.

1985

Dr. John Bolden was selected as one of the 25 most influential African American doctors in the Chicago area by *Black Health* magazine as a part of Black History Month, March 2, 2011. Throughout February, physicians were

recognized at awards banquets at 16 cities across the country, including Chicago. Dr. Bolden joined the medical staff at Morris Hospital in 2005 and serves as chairman of the Infection Control Committee.

Timothy M. Wareham accepted a position as proposal writer with Cooper Power Systems, Plymouth, Minn., January 2011.

1986 25th Reunion

William B. Strean received one of 10 3M national teaching fellowships from the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, March 2011.

1987

Danielle M. Currier accepted a position of tenure-track professor, teaching gender, sexuality, and sport courses in the sociology department, Randolph College, Lynchburg, Va., beginning August 2011.

1988

Toby J. Ewing accepted a position with the senate governance and finance committee in the California state legislature, February 2011. Toby will work with issues related

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



F. Hudson Miller '80

Miller was an American Studies major, ran the College film series, and reviewed films for the *Scarlet & Black*. He earned an M.F.A. in film from the University of Southern California and has worked as a Hollywood sound editor and sound designer ever since. His credits include *The Hunt*

for *Red October*, *Pearl Harbor*, *Star Trek IV The Undiscovered Country*, *Armageddon*, *Crimson Tide*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, and many other movies. He has won the Motion Pictures Sound Editors Golden Reel Award, two Academy Awards, and had more than a dozen other award nominations.

The Futurist does not make predictions, but it does publish annual trend forecasts and has sometimes been quite prescient.

In 1982, the magazine published an article on something called the “scholar net” which offered an impressive, if limited, vision of how people would one day use the Internet.

In the mid-1990s, it published two articles on national security and terrorism. One said the World Trade Center, which had been bombed in 1993, was still a potential target; a second mentioned the use of civilian aircraft as a weapon.

“We’re not Nostradamus,” Wagner says. “We give clues to what is happening in many different arenas. If you’re paying attention, you can make sense of some of those trends and prepare for some of the impacts.”

As for her, she intends to give people more than just news on the latest iPad.

“We try to help people figure out the tools that they need to scan the environment and find trends that they wouldn’t normally see,” she says. “It’s hard to do an RSS feed on the future.”

– Ben Weyl '07



to governance, budget, and organizational reform in California, including programs to redesign and restructure the state-local relationship for the delivery of health and public safety programs. He previously served as director of the California Research Bureau.

1989

Clinton D. “Clint” Korver, a venture capitalist from Atherton, Calif., was elected to a two-year term as chair

of the Grinnell College Board of Trustees in May.

Walt M. Junker received an award from the Drug Enforcement Administration of Dallas in appreciation for his asset-forfeiture work, which closed two strip clubs and forfeited large sums of cash and property belonging to the La Familia drug gang, October 2010. Also, he was promoted to the white-collar-crime unit in the U.S. attorney’s office in the Northern District of Texas, August 2010.

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



Ellen R. McDonald '81

A political science major, admission tour guide, varsity softball player, and founding member of the women’s group at Grinnell, McDonald graduated in just three years. With a master’s in international affairs, she worked for the United Nations and several nonprofits. In 1997 she co-founded

Mershon and McDonald, a consultancy for philanthropic organizations. She has been a coordinator of the Grinnell Regional Admission Support Program for 15 years, a class committee and Alumni Council member, and a guest instructor with the Wilson Program in Enterprise and Leadership.

1990

Benn H. Tannenbaum accepted the position of head of Sandia National Laboratories’ Washington program office, December 2010. He is also manager in Sandia’s government relations group, a nonresident scholar at the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and an adjunct assistant professor of physics at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Stephen C. Sturgeon was ordained as a vocational deacon in the Episcopal Church, June 2010. He serves at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Logan, Utah. He resigned from his position as manuscript curator at Utah State University to enter a one-year hospital chaplaincy program at St. Mark’s Hospital in Salt Lake City, May 2011.

Laura Ferguson, a family physician from Grinnell, Iowa, was appointed to the selection committee for the 2011 Grinnell College Young Innovator for Social Justice Prize, March 2011. She was also elected to a four-year term as vice-chair of the Grinnell College Board of Trustees in May.

2011 ALUMNI AWARD



Charles E. Gottdiener '86

A psychology major and varsity football player at Grinnell, Gottdiener received an M.B.A. from the University of Philadelphia’s Wharton School, then served many roles in finance, including at Ernst & Young, Dun and Bradstreet, and now as managing director of Providence Equity Partners. In each of his professional roles, he has recruited Grinnell graduates and inspired Grinnell students.



Blogging from Blagoevgrad

The American University of Bulgaria (AUBG) occupies a foreboding concrete and metal box in Blagoevgrad, a city of 75,000 near the country's border with Macedonia. The city is named after the founder of Bulgaria's communist party, and the building was the party's headquarters until the 1989 revolution. It is not exactly where **Mark Trocinski '99**, who grew up in Lewiston, Minn. (population, 1,200), thought he would wind up teaching business law.

AUBG is a liberal-arts college established in 1991 by the U.S. Agency for International Development, a foundation funded by the investor George Soros, and the Bulgarian government. It has about 1,000 students – mostly Bulgarians and other eastern Europeans. Students live on campus and are expected to speak English at all times.

Trocinski majored in economics and political science at Grinnell. He also played football and was captain of the undefeated 1998 Pioneers team that won the Midwest Conference Championship.

"While I was at Grinnell I participated in sports, so I never studied abroad," he says. "One of the great things about a liberal-arts education is the opportunity to explore different interests. The corresponding hazard, I suppose, is becoming aware of things you want to do but can't fit into your schedule."

Photo by Tom Wood '07

1991

David M. Hammond Hollond was promoted to chief investment officer, U.S. Growth Equity – Mid and Small Cap, at American Century Investments, Kansas City, Mo., February 2010.

1994

Sean L. Forman received one of the 2011 Henry Chadwick awards from the Society for American Baseball Research for creating and launching

a premier statistical website, **Baseball-Reference.com**, February 2011.

Jason M. Kimelman-Block was named director of leadership initiatives and rabbi-in-residence for the Jewish Funds for Justice in its Washington, D.C., office, May 2011.

IM Creative, owned and operated by **Scott N. Ihrig**, received the Best Marketing Event award from the American Marketing Association for its "Logistics Live in Chicago" event

for client UPS, March 2011. For the event, IM Creative executed 17 strategically orchestrated "flash mobs" in three locations around Chicago.

1996

The York College Blue Notes, a big band of high school musicians led by **Thomas A. Zlabinger**, was among three finalists in the Charles Mingus High School competition, February 2011. The ensemble, which Zlabinger

organized in 2005, includes student musicians from 14 New York City public schools.

2000

Theodore T. Massey was sworn in as a foreign service officer with the U.S. Department of State, February 2011. He has been assigned to the political section of the U.S. Embassy in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

Sarah Hodges Olivieri completed the assistant directors training program (www.trainingplan.org), March 2011. She is currently a second assistant director in the Directors Guild of America, Los Angeles, working in television and film.

2003

Noe W. Montez has accepted a position as a tenure-track assistant professor of drama and dance at Tufts University, Boston, beginning in the fall of 2011.

2004

W. Eric Blevins received the 2011 Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year award after leading the University of Evansville women's diving team to two second-place

Schwab Alumni Grant winners

Lori Ann Schwab Alumni Grants honor **Lori Ann Schwab '95**, who died in 1994 while an arts student at Grinnell. The grants support nonprofit service organizations and public schools where Grinnell alumni participate. The Schwab alumni grants are open to 1992–1998 Grinnell graduates who work or volunteer in the recipient organizations. This year's winners received \$1,100 each:

Monique Meier Gaido '93 will use her award to increase hands-on, inquiry-based science opportunities through the Great Experiences in Math and Science Center at Turtle Bay Exploration Park in Redding, Calif.

Katya Ricketts Pilling '93 will foster a bike mechanic training program at Sibley Bike Depot, encouraging and educating low-income youth in Seward, Minn., about sustainable transit.

Jennifer Watson '92 will purchase a set of textbooks for a new library, constructed by the Colorado-based nonprofit Pura Vida, for indigenous Mayan children in rural Guatemala.

In 2005 he graduated from the joint J.D./M.B.A. program at the University of Iowa and began working as a lawyer, first in Madison, Wis., and later in Minneapolis. He met his wife, Anne Pillard, while at Iowa.

“Living in a foreign country was a goal that each of us had in the back of our minds,” he says. “One day, I was searching the ads on a website and saw an opening at AUBG. I asked Anne if she wanted to live in Bulgaria, and without hesitation she said ‘Sure.’ Famous last words!”

Anne had already traveled in Europe, though not to Bulgaria. Mark had never left North America. He sent off a curriculum vitae and in May 2010 was invited to Sofia for an interview. When he returned to Minneapolis, a job offer from AUBG was there; a few days later, the university had an emergency opening for an accounting professor. Anne, who has a master’s of accounting in addition to her J.D., was offered that position.

They arrived in Blagoevgrad in August 2010, were given a week of orientation, then plunged into their new jobs as professors.

“This is one of the most challenging and interesting things I’ve done – professionally, culturally, in terms of expanding my personal understanding of the world, of being forced to interact with people that have wildly different attitudes and backgrounds,” Trocinski says.

The decision to accept the job was easy, he says. “We figured, why not? We said we were looking for adventure. How’s this for adventure? We’re living in a foreign country – and not just ‘another’ country – but one that actually feels foreign. Nearly everything is different: The alphabet is Cyrillic, the economy is still developing, and the people are still learning about capitalism.”

For example: “We found a store that had a certain type of cookies that were very tasty, so we bought some,” Trocinski says. “We went back a week later and noticed that the cookies were all gone. We asked the store owner if they would be getting more soon. He replied that they were not going to carry those cookies anymore because as soon as he stocked the shelves, they sold out right away. Instead, he could stock another product that no one would buy for months. So, we still have some work to do on the capitalism front.”

More such stories and other observations about life in Bulgaria can be found in Mark and Anne’s blog: <http://newbulgarians.blogspot.com>.

—by Otto Mayr '82, a freelance journalist based in Berlin.

finishes and one third-place finish at the Missouri Valley Conference meet, February 2011. His sophomore diver, Sadie Wells, was named Missouri Valley Conference Co-Diver of the Year. This is the first time in the history of the Indiana college that someone received either the coach or diver of the year honors.

2005 5th Cluster Reunion

Chad G. Marzen accepted an appointment as an assistant professor of legal studies, department of risk/management, real estate, and legal studies at the College of Business, Florida State University, Tallahassee, March 2011.

2006 5th Cluster Reunion

Christopher A. Forster-Smith is working on his Ph.D. in political science at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, during the 2011–2012 academic year.

Margaret R. Toomey received a 2011 Young Scholars Award from the Southeastern Theatre Conference at its annual conference, March 2011, for her winning paper, “Becoming a Feminist Designer: Troubling the Traditions of Design.”

2007 5th Cluster Reunion

Deisy Del Real received a Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, spring 2011. Fellows are selected on the basis of merit, with an emphasis on creativity, originality, initiative, and sustained accomplishment.

2008

Megan E. Goering accepted a position as a strategist for Google Apps for Google, Mountain View, Calif., February 2011.

Degrees

Anthony D. Weeks '91, M.F.A. in documentary film and video, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif., June 2010.

Brian Peebles Kameoka '94, M.B.A., California State University, Sacramento, August 2010.

Thomas M. Robson '02, Ph.D. in theatre history, theory, and literature, Indiana University-Bloomington, January 2011. He accepted a position as assistant professor of theatre and dance, Millikin University, Decatur, Ill.

Rachel M. Brummel '03, Ph.D. in conservation biology, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, October 2010.

Wall Awards

The Joseph F. Wall Alumni Service Awards honor **Joseph F. Wall '41**, a longtime professor of history at Grinnell who inspired social responsibility in his students. Two awards annually go to alumni of all ages for their nonprofit service projects. This year’s winners each received \$25,000.



Leah Bry '04

will educate low-income young adults in ecology, agriculture, business and finance, marketing, health and nutrition, and sustainability through GreenLeaf, a Denver-based program.



Jefferson Mok '02

will aid Imagine Burundi, a Burundi-produced English-language radio program that aims to create a sustainable public forum to help bridge the divide between post-conflict recovery and peaceful socioeconomic progress in Burundi.



Touch, by **Alexi Zentner '97**, blends magic and mystery in the story of Stephen, a pastor who returns to his childhood home for his mother's funeral. In a boomtown gone bust, Stephen confronts his past losses and wrestles with his family's memory. *People* magazine called it a "breathtaking debut." Zentner won the 2008 Narrative Prize and 2008 O. Henry Prize, and his fiction has been featured in *The Atlantic* and *Tin House*. W.W. Norton & Co., New York, April 2011.

James A. Finnessy '04, master's in computer science, University of Colorado-Boulder, December 2010.

Kelly M. McCarthy '05, Ph.D. in molecular biology and neuroscience, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., May 2011.

Benjamin J. Cantor-Stone '08, master's in cultural heritage management with a minor in museum studies, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, April 2011.

Marriages and Unions

Elizabeth Borders '66 and Klaus Putjenter, April 6, 2010.

Mary Kay Gwynne-Vaughan '66 and Gene Dunmire, July 17, 2010.

Andrew L. Coghill-Behrends '93 and William Coghill-Behrends, Oct. 16, 2010.

J. Matthew Hutchison '97 and **Aleia I. McCord '03**, Dec. 28, 2010. *Claire E. Hutchison '88* attended.

Sharyn M. Routh '01 and **Jaya Bajpai**, Sept. 5, 2010. *Jennifer M. Headley '01* was bridesmaid; *Bridie C. Roberts '01* officiated. Also attending were *Lillian D. Benjamin '01* and *Meredith A. Hellmer '01*.

Allison A. Dolan '04 and **Brian Griffin**, Feb. 12, 2011. Attending were *Tirza M. Costello '04*, *Meghan L. Kirkwood '04*, *Lilliana C. Radoshevich '04*, *Kyle J. Schmidt '04*, and *Jayn L. Bailey '05*.

Freedra L. Brook '07 and **Jesse J. Mulert '07**, March 13, 2011. Attending were *Jacqueline M. Puzetz '06*, *Caroline K. Logan '05*, and *Margaret H. Kim '08*.

Kyle R. Gonnerman '07 and **Erin C. Hennessy '09**, Oct. 30, 2010. They were married in Herrick Chapel, with many Grinnellians attending.

Births and Adoptions

Elana R. Gravitz '91 and **Phil Gonzales**, Feb. 2, 2011, their first child, a daughter, *Mitzi Isadora Gonzales Gravitz*.

Mark B. Pilder '91 and **Jennifer Bluish**, March 19, 2011, their first child, a daughter, *Elliot Margaret Pilder*.

Christian E. Hardigree '92 and **Christopher Brown**, July 2010, their third child, first daughter, *Anderson "Andie" Brown*. Christian is chair, hotel management department, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, July 2010.

Joan D. Johnson '92 and **Edwin Kuo**, Feb. 13, 2011, their first child, a son, *Alexander S. Kuo*.

Anne M. Hoefgen '93 and **Nicholas Chase**, June 17, 2010, their second child, second son, *Theodore Emmett Chase*.

Anne Magruder Oldervoll '93 and **Thomas Oldervoll**, Oct. 5, 2010, their first child, a daughter, *Embla Oldervoll*.

Matthew S. McKinney '95 and **Colleen Carnes**, Dec. 29, 2010, their second child, first daughter, *Lucy Margaret McKinney*.

Emily A. Wickelgren '95 and **Nathaniel Blair**, Jan. 16, 2011, their second child, second daughter, *Theodora Lyn Wickelgren*.

E. Ramsey Williams Unal '97 and **Sheref Unal**, born Dec. 24, 2009, adopted Nov. 4, 2010, their fourth child, first son, *Charles Jin-yeong Unal*.

Megan E. Barry '98 and **Jocelyn C. Luglio '99**, Oct. 22, 2010, their first child, a son, *Benjamin Rowan Luglio*.

Freyja T. Hartzell '98 and **Grant L. Johnston**, Nov. 23, 2010, their first child, a son, *Bjorn Hartzell Johnston*.

Sarah A. Slack '98 and **John B. Porco '04**, May 17, 2010, their second child, second daughter, *Lowell Reese Porco*.

Brian A. Princer '99 and **Carissa Wehrman Princer**, Jan. 27, 2011, their first child, a daughter, *Elsabeth Renee Princer*.

Emily A. Carlson '00 and **Chad Marti**, Jan. 23, 2011, their first child, a son, *Max Mason Marti*.

Aaron W. Severn '00 and **Katie Brindley Severn '00**, May 3, 2010, their first child, a son, *Leo Robert Severn*.

Gina M. Difino '01 and **Patrick W. O'Neil '01**, Jan. 13, 2011, their first child, a son, *Aidan Antonio O'Neil*.

Molly Gallogly Miller '01 and **Timothy J. Miller**, Feb. 12, 2011, their second child, second son, *Kyle Christopher Miller*.

Andrew A. Sherburne '01 and **Elizabeth Graf Sherburne '01**, March 26, 2011, their second child, first son, *Max Graf Sherburne*.

S. Katherine Burdett '02 and **Neelenjan Mukherjee**, Feb. 26, 2011, their first child, a daughter, *Inara May Burdett-Mukherjee*.

Adam R. Smith '02 and **Virginia Smith**, Dec. 10, 2009, their third child, first son, *Holden Smith*.

Rachel M. Brummel '03 and **Joel Fassbinder**, Nov. 9, 2010, their first child, a daughter, *June Maria Fassbinder*. Maternal aunt is *Allison R. Brummel '01*.



Kvetch as Kvetch Can: Jewish Cartoons, by **Kenneth L. Krimstein '80**, brims with Jewish humor, tackling everything from JDate to the High Holy Days. His cartoons have been published in *The New Yorker*, *Punch*, *National Lampoon*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Cosmopolitan*, and on humor websites, including McSweeney's Internet Tendency, Yankee Pot Roast, and Mr. Beller's Neighborhood. Clarkson Potter, New York, October 2010.

Publications, Productions, and Exhibitions

A Space in Time, by **Jenny Jacobson Egan '49**, Llumina Press, Tamarac, Fla., December 2010.

Dirt Paths to Golden Streets: Poems of Immigrant Experiences, by **Merle Fischlowitz '53**, AuthorHouse, Bloomington, Ind., November 2010.

Missing and Alive on the Emerald Coast, by **Thomas M. Campbell '54**, self-published, TMC Publications, December 2010.

"A phone call can do it," a poem by **Lynn DeLargey Gilbert '60**, *Texas Observer*, Austin, Texas, April 2011. Also, "Evening by Lady Bird Lake," *Concho River Review*, San Angelo, Texas, 2010.

Minority Business Success: Refocusing on the American Dream, by **James H. Lowry '61**, Stanford Business Books, Stanford, Calif., February 2011.

"Wind and rain crush grass," a poem by **Dennis D. Maulsby '64**, in the online journal *Four and Twenty* (<http://4and20poetry.com/>), March 2011 issue.

Coming Full Circle: A Voyage on America's Great Loop, by **Bruce A. Armstrong '69** and **Susan Hannaford Armstrong '70**, self-published, ISBN 978-0-615-41003-6, 2011.

"Let Us Eat Fish," by **Ray W. Hilborn '69**, *The New York Times*, op-ed section, April 15, 2011.

The Fence, by **Robert Lee Maril '69**, Texas Tech University Press, Lubbock, March 2011.

The History of the Catholic Church in Latin America: From Conquest to Revolution and Beyond, by **John Fredrick Schwaller '69**, New York University Press, New York, February 2011.

"Poem on the Triangle Fire," by **Alice E. Rogoff '71**, published in *Walking Through a River of Fire: One Hundred Years of Triangle Factory Fire Poems*, C.C. Marimbo Press, Berkeley, Calif., March 2011.

Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior and Animal Behavior, **Michael D. Breed '73** and Janice Moore, editors, Academic Press (Elsevier Science and Technology), September 2010 and February 2011, respectively.

"Piano Trio," by **Glenn S. Vanstrum '74** in *THEMA* literary journal, 22(3):35-51, autumn 2010.

Secret Access: The Vatican, narrated by **James H. Lurie '75**, History Channel special, March 30, 2011.

"New Ransom Decision Opens or Closes Doors?" by **Robert C. Meyer '79**, *American Bankruptcy Institutes Consumer Committee Newsbulletin*, 9(2), April 2011.

"Eighth Sister No More": *The Origins and Evolution of Connecticut College*, by **Paul P. Marthers '82**, *History of Schools and Schooling*, Vol. 56, Peter Lang Publishing, New York, November 2010.

Complex Worlds: Digital Culture, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication, **Anne R. Richards '83** and Adrienne Lamberti, editors, Baywood Publishers, Science and Technology Series, 2011. Richards was named a Fulbright ambassador, one of only 30 Fulbright alumni to have received this honor. She has been admitted to the ranks of Fulbright specialists for 2010-2015 and is seeking a project in the Middle East-North Africa region.



Virgil Thomson: Three Pictures, an audio CD by **Thomas J. Meglioranza '92** (baritone) and the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, captures the creativity and complexity of Virgil Thomson's "A Solemn Music" and "A Joyful Fugue," and "Three Pictures for Orchestra." Called "one of America's finest young baritones" by *New York Newsday*, Meglioranza performs a duet of Kenneth Koch's poetry, as well as awe-inspiring performances of "The Feast of Love" and "Five Songs from William Blake." BMPO, September 2010.

"An Ocean of Light," by **Kyle D. Torke '88**, *Epiphany Magazine* (epiphmag.com), Feb. 3, 2011.

Imaginary Circumstances, a documentary film by **Anthony D. Weeks '91**, June 2010. The film won a CINE Golden Eagle award, was selected for the U.S. Department of State's American Documentary Showcase (a cultural diplomacy program in which American-produced documentary works are screened abroad at U.S. consulates and embassies), and won a student Emmy from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, April 2011. Weeks was interviewed by *MovieMaker* magazine in late 2010 when *Imaginary Circumstances* was screened at the New Filmmakers Los Angeles series.

Read Me Differently, a film by **Sara E. Entine '94**, received a 2010 CINE Golden Eagle Award, and Simmons School of Social Work, Boston, awarded her with the alumni special recognition award, fall 2010. The documentary was scheduled to air on WGBH public television in Boston, spring 2011.

In Memoriam

Some alumni and friends inquire about making a memorial gift. If you would like to do so, please call 866-850-1846.

Alice Lovejoy Hacker '31, Nokomis, Fla., Oct. 26, 2010.

J. Leone King Johnson '31, Tulsa, Okla., Feb. 27, 2010.

Martha Hippee Butler '33, Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 1, 2011.

Mary Perry Crosten '34, Eastsound, Wash., July 14, 2010.

Truly Trousdale Latchaw '35, St. Paul, Minn., May 2, 2010.

Arthur J. McIlrath '35, Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 24, 2010.

Madalyn Hickenlooper Lynn '36, West Des Moines, Iowa, March 23, 2011.

Robertson R. Gannaway '37, Oceanside, Calif., Jan. 2, 2011.

Virginia Wiseman Hurley '38, Taft, Calif., April 5, 2011.

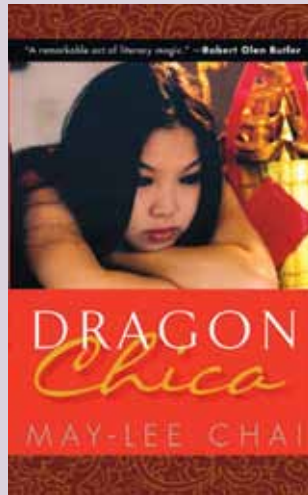
Ernest G. Stauss '38, North Fort Myers, Fla., March 15, 2011.

Adelia Woodward Hayward '39, Clear Lake, Iowa, April 6, 2011. Survivors include her daughter, *Lynne Hayward Bombinski '72*.

Malcolm C. Jensen '40, Asuncion, Paraguay, Feb. 10, 2010. Survivors include his sister, *Valois Jensen Brintnall '50*, and his brother, *Ronald L. Jensen '53*.

Guyla Allbee Smith '40, Minneapolis, Minn., March 28, 2011. Survivors include her son, *Steven A. Smith '71*.

Robert W. Child '42, Hunt, Texas, Jan. 25, 2011.



Dragon Chica, by **May-lee Chai '89**, tells of Nea, an 11-year-old girl who survives the brutal Khmer Rouge and immigrates to the United States. Here, she faces the devastating physical and psychological damage caused by the Khmer Rouge to her family, while also grappling with the hardships of immigrant life. Broken by evocatively unsettling, often agonizing dreams, memories, and myths, Chai's book deftly weaves past and present as Nea struggles to understand her identity. GemmaMedia, Boston, October 2010.

Robert L. Jensen '42, Minnetonka, Minn., Feb. 7, 2011. Survivors include his sister, *Valois Jensen Brintnall '50*, and his brother, *Ronald L. Jensen '53*.

Margaret Redpath Phelps '42, Overland Park, Kan., March 1, 2011. Survivors include her sister, *Patricia Redpath Young '40*.

Frank R. Burns, Jr. '43, St. Louis, March 28, 2011.

Lois Clifton Meacham '43, Grinnell, Iowa, Feb. 6, 2011. Survivors include her daughter, *Connie A. Meacham '75*.

Frederick E. Crowther '45, Springhill, Fla., Sept. 20, 2010.

M. Virginia Jennings Leary '46, South Bend, Ind., Nov. 5, 2010.

Mary Ann Hursh McCoy '46, Plymouth, Minn., Oct. 20, 2010.

Elinor Mueller Schick '46, Green Valley, Ariz., Dec. 11, 2010.

Marguerite Watson Dover '47, La Quinta, Calif., Jan. 28, 2011.

Richard W. Greening '47, Anacortes, Wash., April 3, 2011.

Ralph C. McBride '47, Duluth, Minn., Jan. 13, 2011.

William C. Mott '47, Longboat Key, Fla., April 18, 2011.

George E. Sory '47, Greeley, Colo., Feb. 18, 2011.

Lonabelle "Kappie" Kaplan Spencer '47, Sarasota, Fla., Feb. 2, 2011. Survivors include her brother, *Kennard "Ken" C. Kaplan '54*, her sons, *Gregory M. Spencer '70* and *Gary A. Spencer '72*, and grandson, *Garth A. Spencer '06*.

Charlotte Young Murch '49, Corpus Christi, Texas, March 2, 2011.

Joseph L. Orth '49, Sioux City, Iowa, March 11, 2011. Survivors include his son, *Frank S. Orth '79*.

Charles M. Battles '50, Montezuma, Ind., Aug. 2, 2010.

Sally Barnes Cobb '50, West Des Moines, Iowa, March 18, 2011. Survivors include her sister, *Harriett Barnes Richards '52*.

June Christianson Ebbert '50, Laguna Hills, Calif., Jan. 11, 2011.

William Q. Norelius '50, Denison, Iowa, March 27, 2011. Survivors include his sister, *Mary Norelius Sander '55*, and his daughter, *Kristine B. Norelius '80*.

Mary Bolton Staacke '50, Huntington Beach, Calif., Oct. 23, 2010.

Claire Karstadt '51, Palm Springs, Calif., Feb. 11, 2011.

Marvin G. Krause '51, Tucson, Ariz., March 9, 2011.

Gordon C. Osbrink '51, Des Moines, Iowa, March 27, 2011.

Shirley K. Moore '52, St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 14, 2011.

Eleanor Douglass Soseman '52, Holstein, Iowa, Feb. 27, 2011.

Virginia "Ginny" Burdett Moore '53, Little Compton, R.I., Feb. 23, 2011. Survivors include her husband, *Everett "Tod" L. Moore '51*.

Edgar Strasburger '54, Dallas, Jan. 15, 2011.

Dorothy "Dottie" Fulton Carpenter '55, Des Moines, Iowa, April 2, 2011. Survivors include her husband, *Thomas W. Carpenter '54*.

G. Norman Smith '55, Lincoln, Ill., Jan. 17, 2011.

John L. Musser '56, St. Louis, Jan. 31, 2011. Survivors include his brothers, *Robert C. Musser '62* and *Richard H. Musser '68*.

Grinnell Remembers Professor Emerita Helena Percas de Ponseti

We are saddened by the loss of Grinnell College Professor Emerita Helena Percas de Ponseti, who died Jan. 1, 2011. Ponseti was a graduate of the Institute Maintenon in Paris and of Barnard College in New York. She earned her Ph.D. in Hispanic literature at Columbia University. After teaching at Columbia and at Queens College in New York, she joined the Grinnell faculty in 1948 and became a full professor in 1957. Esteemed as an inspiring teacher and an internationally recognized scholar, Ponseti was named the James Morton Roberts Honor Professor (1961–62) and in 1963 was awarded the Seth Richards Chair of Modern Languages.

Ponseti's research initially focused on Latin American women writers, and she published one of the first major works on this topic, *La poesía femenina argentina (1810–1950)*, in 1958. She established herself as a leading Cervantes scholar with her critically acclaimed books: *Cervantes y su concepto del arte: estudio crítico de algunos aspectos y episodios del Quijote*, in 1975; and *Cervantes the Writer and Painter of Don Quijote*, in 1988. Throughout her career and well into retirement, Ponseti contributed numerous articles on Latin American poetry and prose, Cervantes, and Golden Age literature to leading journals.

She was noted among generations of students at Grinnell for her excellent teaching of language and literature. Her reputation as a scholar resulted in invitations to lecture at many of the world's most renowned institutions of higher learning.

Ponseti chaired the Spanish section of the Modern Language Association and held honored membership in the Cervantes Society, the Hispanic Institute in the United States, the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, the Institute of Hispanic Culture, and other associations. After retiring from active teaching, she continued her scholarship and remained a loyal supporter of the College. In the spring of 2000, she established a \$70,000 endowment that permits the Department of Spanish to recognize the superior achievement of a graduating major through an annual award of \$2,500. Each year the department selects a senior Spanish major with a strong academic record and evidence of a commitment to the study of Hispanic culture. Taken into account are the student's activities outside the classroom; for example, involvement in supporting activities such as lectures and visits by Hispanic authors, participation at the weekly Spanish Table, and membership on the Student Educational Policy Committee.

James H. Osburn '57, Waukegan, Ill., July 6, 2010.

John C. Daehler '58, Newton, Iowa, March 2, 2011.

Edith DeSort McCormick '58, Chicago, Oct. 31, 2010.

S. Eugene Thompson '58, Coralville, Iowa, March 17, 2011. He served Grinnell College as dean of men from 1963 through 1967, then worked in the publications office until 1970.

John C. Welden '58, Iowa Falls, Iowa, March 23, 2011.

David K. Carter '60, Portland, Ore., Jan. 31, 2011. Survivors include his sister, *Susan Carter Ulbricht '64*, and brother-in-law, *Richard J. Ulbricht '62*.

Barbara Bromberg Coats '61, Hampton, Va., Nov. 12, 2010.

Thomas F. Galloway '62, Coon Rapids, Iowa, Aug. 16, 2010.

James R. Thornton '63, Landenberg, Pa., Feb. 11, 2011.

Edward E. Deckert '64, Dubuque, Iowa, March 5, 2011. Survivors include his brother, *George L. Deckert '61*.

F. Kenneth Freedman '64, Anchorage, Alaska, April 30, 2010.

Andrew J. Goldstein '64, Flemington, N.J., Feb. 5, 2011.

Dr. John W. Griffin '64, Cokeysville, Md., April 16, 2011. Survivors include his son, *Christopher T. Griffin '93*.

Larry D. Miller '65, Waterloo, Iowa, Feb. 21, 2011. Survivors include his daughter, *Martha E. Miller '95*.

C. Christie Nute '67, San Diego, March 17, 2011.

Douglas F. Cox '71, Dundas, Minn., March 11, 2011.

Robert L. Frost II '74, Ann Arbor, Mich., March 26, 2011. Survivors include his wife, *Margaret L. Hedstrom '75*.

Warren N. Kubitschek '76, South Bend, Ind., April 3, 2011. Survivors include his wife, *Catherine Glass Kubitschek '77*.

Gayle V. Mozee '76, Santa Cruz, Calif., Sept. 23, 2010.

Michael N. Sugarman '77, San Francisco, Feb. 6, 2011. Survivors include his wife, *Pamela E. Schalk '74*, and his brother-in-law, *James T. Decker '75*.

*The magazine learned at press time that **Shane Bellis Cook '56**, former director of alumni relations, died on June 10, 2011 in Grinnell. Look for a remembrance of Cook in the magazine's fall issue.*

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Visit *The Grinnell Magazine* online at www.grinnell.edu/magazine (click on "Extras") to read about "Unforgettable Grinnellians" – tributes to deceased friends and family, written by their fellow Grinnellians. You can submit your own original tribute to magazine@grinnell.edu.

Our Incoherent Foreign Policy

Alumni Musings

What does President Obama want in Libya? To protect civilians in the name of humanitarianism? To help the rebels “win” the war they clearly cannot win on their own? Or to overthrow Gaddafi with or without the help of the insurgents? And what does any of this have to do with what were just recently our chief priorities – the war on terrorism, the two ground conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan in which the United States is involved, and containing Iran and preventing it from securing weapons of mass destruction?

There are no clear answers to these questions. American policy throughout the region of uprisings, but especially in Libya, looks dangerously incoherent. The U.S. government seems to be tracking the media in their coverage of the Middle East and North Africa, jumping from one uprising to another, without thinking through the consequences of any given policy. We are afflicted with MEADS – Middle Eastern Attention Deficit Syndrome. Yesterday, Egypt; today, Libya; tomorrow Syria ...

The only way the president can get ahead of events is to develop coherent policies based on clear principles and priorities, then apply them consistently throughout the region. I would suggest those policies include the following – ranked here in terms of their importance to our nation’s interests as reflected by American policy before the uprisings:

1. Continue to combat global terrorism and al Qaeda to protect the American homeland from terrorist strikes; and, as part of that goal, prevent weapons of mass destruction from coming into the hands of rogue states and dictators.
2. Focus assets on and succeed in the two ground wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in which, like it or not, we are now engaged and American soldiers’ lives are at risk (supposedly key to the first priority).
3. Contain the influence of Iran in the region, and limit its capacity to aid Hezbollah, Syria, and insurgents elsewhere, and, above all, prevent development of its weapons of mass destruction.
4. Protect Israel and work toward a resolution of the Palestinian crisis, which (prior to the uprisings) held the greatest potential for violence and instability.
5. Secure access to oil and gas assets in the region vital to the American economy and national security.
6. Provide humanitarian support for civilians (such as those working on U.N. and Arab League mandates in Libya) caught in fighting between entrenched governments and insurgents.

7. Work for regime change and democracy, if necessary through direct military support (the French objective).

Here is the irony: From 2001 until very recently, Nos. 1 through 3 were the focus of the media’s attention (and sometimes hysteria) and the government’s policies, while Nos. 4 and 5 were conventional wisdom accepted by everyone. Yet in the course of just six weeks or so, not only have these crucial priorities been almost completely set aside, and the conventional wisdom (4 and 5) neglected, but to the extent we have a policy at all today, it starts and ends with Nos. 6 and 7 – even though 7 could mean a land war in Libya that endangers No. 6. America’s primary interests in combating terrorism and weapons of mass destruction have been not just marginalized, but actually jeopardized by our current incoherent policies.

Applying the same set of priorities to Yemen, Bahrain, Jordan, Syria, and Saudi Arabia would, I suspect, reveal a similar incoherence and counterproductivity in policy. Is the monarch of Bahrain really worth saving just because his country harbors the Fifth Fleet and is a gateway to Saudi Arabia? And isn’t Saudi Arabia, with its Wahhabist support for fundamentalism and terrorism a problem for priority No. 1, though it helps with No. 3 (containing Iran)? Why so indifferent to Syria, an Iranian ally? Isn’t Bashar al-Assad now “killing his own people”? Or is it OK because he wears blue jeans and his wife is featured in *Vogue Magazine*?

If policy is meant to follow principle rather than headlines, the principles must be clear. And the president has to be ready to contradict the attention-deficit-syndrome media and educate the journalists to whom he now seems to be pandering. CNN wants boots on the ground in Benghazi? Sorry, that doesn’t serve American interests. Fox News (owned by Murdoch’s News Corp., whose chief minority stakeholder is Saudi Arabia’s Kingdom Holdings!) likes the special relationship with Riyadh? Too bad, but that doesn’t work for American priorities – unless it’s only about oil, in which case let the president say so.

Protecting innocent civilians and effecting regime change are worthy and important objectives, but they often are in conflict with one another and come at costs that can endanger fundamental national interests. Our nation’s security is the president’s first priority. It’s time to order and state our priorities and allow policy to serve them.



by **Benjamin R. Barber '60**, a distinguished senior fellow at Dēmos and president of CivWorld, Dēmos’ global interdependence initiative. Barber was Walt Whitman Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University for 32 years and then Gershon and Carol Kekst Professor of Civil Society at the University of Maryland. His honors include an honorary doctorate from Grinnell College in 1985. This essay is based on his April 1, 2011, blog in *The Huffington Post*.

For more: www.benjaminbarber.com



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