Learning without Boundaries
May term courses take students around the globe
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History, biology, French, lifetime fitness, vocal music, and tourism—courses on these subjects are taught every term at Transylvania. But this year’s May term travel courses saw professors organizing educational opportunities that approached these topics in innovative ways and transcended the average classroom experience.

Students who signed on for these adventures in learning found themselves listening to lectures in locales ranging from a vineyard in rural France to the ruins of ancient Greece. Some came within a few feet of lava from an active volcano, while others attended the St. Petersburg ballet or spent the night in one of Louisville’s historic landmarks.

These experiences not only enhanced the students’ understanding of their various subject matters, but also created memories that will undoubtedly last for years to come.

Choir serenades audiences while touring in Russia, Finland, Estonia, Sweden

When Americans visit Europe, they typically go to England, France, or Spain. That’s why Transylvania choir members were surprised when Gary Anderson, music professor and director of choral ensembles, announced the destinations for their May term 2003 tour: Sweden, Estonia, Finland, and Russia.

“I was kind of disappointed when Dr. Anderson first gave us the itinerary,” admits junior choir member Rachel Meier, “but now I love those countries and would like to live in some of them.”

Anderson had good reasons for choosing each location.

“These are countries where choral music is taken more seriously than nearly anywhere else in the world, so I knew we would have receptive audiences,” he said. “I also thought the students would find these areas interesting, and they probably wouldn’t choose to go there on their own.”

Anderson had spent part of a sabbatical leave in Sweden and studied its music. He was fascinated by Finland’s geographic beauty, Russia’s historical heritage, and Estonia’s political climate as it relates to choral music.

“In the late 1980s, Estonia wanted to separate from the Soviet Union, but could not muster an army,” Anderson explained. “Instead, they created a human chain across the country and sang previously banned patriotic songs to the point where they made a strong statement and rallied the people to seek independence.”

So May 11-21, 2003, found 45 students and sponsors in parts of the world that most of them had never dreamed of visiting. In addition to the experience of performing for audiences that have high expectations and truly appreciate choral music, the Transy group had plenty of free time to explore. And what they found was often eye-opening.

“I had a few preconceptions from the mass media and movies, but a lot of those changed during the trip,” said first-year student Greg Repass, from Lexington. “In Russia, especially, there is a huge schism between the extravagant houses and churches on one side and the horribly rundown apartment buildings on the other. The poverty was more striking than anything I’ve seen in America. It opened my eyes to the situations of other people in the world.”

Musical challenge

Preparation for the trip began early in
the school year, but the choir learned about half of its concert program during the first two weeks of May term. It was particularly challenging because they sang a cappella in seven different languages—the native languages of each of the four countries visited plus Latin, German, and English.

“A cappella performance is more difficult than singing with instrumental accompaniment because the singers have to hold the tune against each other,” said Anderson.

To help with pronunciation, Anderson invited people who live in the Lexington area and are native speakers of the languages to campus during rehearsals.

“It was painstaking, going syllable by syllable, but we learned the words pretty quickly,” said Meier. “And when we performed on the trip, people understood what we were singing in their language, so that was rewarding.”

Rehearsal sessions before the trip also unified the choir and took their music to a higher level, according to Repass.

“We had sung together all year, but during May term the music became completely ingrained in us,” he said. “It was more than just notes and words. The different sections of the choir merged into one body to produce gorgeous music.”

Making memories

Both Meier and Repass consider the concert in Stockholm their favorite memory from the tour.

“We were in St. Jacobs, which is a huge, beautiful church dating to 1604,” said Repass. “It was our last concert. We had a big audience—not just tourists who had happened upon the concert—and the composer of two or our selections was present.”

“You don’t get to sing for a composer very often, so it was nerve-racking,” said Meier. “But the choir was really focused and the people in the audience were so into the performance that they were crying in the middle of songs. It was very emotional.”

The composer, Eskil Hemberg, whom Anderson had met during his sabbatical, joined the choir for dinner after the concert.

An international chorus

Another highlight was the exchange concert with the women’s choir at St. Petersburg University, College of Arts and Culture.

“During our singing, the women were enthusiastic with shouts of ‘bravo’ and we felt very good,” said Anderson. “Then they sang, and I have never heard an undergraduate women’s chorus of this caliber. We were thrilled with their animation and joy in presentation.”

The two choirs then joined voices in an anthem by the Russian composer Rachmaninoff.

“It truly gave us goose bumps,” said Anderson.

The experience also challenged him to encourage his choir members to be more expressive physically when they sing.

“American choirs have the idea that when they’re singing serious music they have to stand and look very formal,” said Anderson. “Because of this experience, I’m over that. When your body is free to move, your muscles relax and you sing better. It’s not distracting movement, but the body can be in tune with the phrasing of the music, and the facial expressions can be more animated.”

Other adventures

There were many other adventures, including attending the St. Petersburg ballet, which was another of Meier’s best memories.

“If you’re going to the ballet, you need to see a Russian one, so about 15 of us decided to go,” she said. “We had a few mishaps along the way, like our bus stalling out, but the theater was beautiful, we ended up having box seats, and the dancers were excellent. When we left, it was pouring down rain and we had to ride the subway and find our way to the hotel. I couldn’t think of a better way to spend an evening.”

Repass especially enjoyed exploring the cities on foot, either alone or with a small group of choir members.

“We could have used public transportation, but you get the feel of the city by walking through it,” he said. “It was great to have that independence. I was completely out of my comfort zone, so it forced me to be assertive and responsible. I think I came away a stronger person.”

Meier, an accounting major from Edinburgh, Ky., found herself looking for accounting firms as she explored the cities on the tour.

“The accounting firms were in prominent places, and a lot of them were the big name firms that we have in the U.S.,” she said. “I took pictures of them. It showed me that I could go to work over there if I want to. It opened many possibilities that I hadn’t even thought about.”

Cycling tour makes the French connection a reality

Competitors in the Tour de France travel more than 2,000 miles in just 20 days of riding. Their journey requires them to navigate challenging, mountain terrain and push their bodies to the limit in pursuit of their goal. While Transy’s Tour de France was not nearly as strenuous, it did demand a great deal from students who took the May term course. A typical day included bike riding through the French countryside for about 30 miles, stopping to learn about points of interest, completing reading and writing assignments, recording the day’s events in journals, and participating in class.

“I give the students a lot of credit because they cycled hard and had a lot of different experiences during the day, but we still got back and had our class,” said physical education and exercise science professor Sharon Brown, who taught the course with French professor Brian Arganbright.

Two disciplines, one course

Arganbright got the idea for this travel course from two colleagues, one who was writing his dissertation on the cultural history of the bicycle and another who takes several students on a cycling trip to France each summer. Arganbright then approached Brown about organizing the course, knowing she shared his interest in biking.

“The class seemed to come together logically for both disciplines—focusing on the Tour de France and the different regions of France and on fitness and nutrition necessary for this type of cycling,” he said. “Paris is no longer the center of attention for the Tour de France; it’s the regions. I thought it would be interesting to choose one of those regions, go there, and learn about the local history and culture while cycling through and learning how to be better cyclists and take care of our health on a strenuous trip like this.”

Brown was equally enthusiastic about designing the course, and they worked
together to develop a curriculum that would offer students the broadest learning experience possible.

Interest in the course was greater than anticipated with 17 students signing on. Since Arganbright and Brown wanted one skilled faculty or staff cyclist per six students, they decided to invite Public Relations Director Sarah Emmons to join the trip.

Because few of the students had been on extended bike trips, they were encouraged to take part in three training rides in Lexington.

“That was a reality check on how well they were doing on their training,” Brown said. “It gave them an idea about pacing. We wanted them to know what it felt like to ride 20 or 30 miles.”

The logistics of the bike ride were arranged by a Minnesota-based company, which provided bikes, maps, and picnic lunches, made hotel arrangements, and followed the group in a van transporting their luggage. Transy’s Tour de France wound through the Languedoc region, historically known for its independence and its connection to the medieval Christian religion known as Catharism.

**Stopping to smell the roses**

Traveling by bike made it easy for the group or just a few of the riders to stop and appreciate the scenery or interact with the local people.

“We could all ride at our own pace and look at things and take pictures,” said Ashley Porta, a sophomore English major from Munster, Ind. Porta said one of her most memorable experiences occurred when she and fellow student Ashley Duncan paused to appreciate their surroundings.

“We stopped and took off our shoes and played around in the Obe River in the middle of all these mountains,” Porta said. “It was the kind of thing where you can just stop and look around and realize how huge the world is and how much possibility there is out there.”

Evan Mussetter, a first-year student from Ashland, Ky., said he was impressed by the city of Carcassonne, the largest fortified city in Europe and the inspiration for the Disneyland castle. An avid cyclist, Mussetter also enjoyed visiting cities on the Tour de France route.

“It’s one thing to watch it on TV and quite another to be there,” Mussetter said.

Arganbright recalled encountering a vineyard owner who gave the group a tour of his estate and allowed them to have their picnic lunch there. The farmer also educated them on how the hostilities between the French and American governments were affecting the wine industry.

The international tension that was mounting in the weeks before the trip made some class members apprehensive about traveling to France, but their fears proved to be unfounded.

“Before I left, some close family friends told me to be careful over there,” Mussetter said. “But where we were would be like coming to my hometown. We met country people who were very laid back. Even in Paris, people were very receptive and warm. They were not happy with our administration, but that didn’t change the way that they felt about us or we felt about them.”

Exploring towns and visiting bakeries and markets to buy food gave students a valuable opportunity to practice speaking French. Mussetter, who took three years of French in high school, was excited by the chance, but even novice speakers benefited from the immersion.

“I barely knew any French, and just trying to communicate with people taught me so much about the culture and their lifestyle,” Porta said. “The people in bakeries were so patient when I couldn’t figure out how to pronounce something.”

At the end of a long day of cycling and exploring, the Transy group would meet at the hotel where they were staying for the night to have class, rest, and eat dinner—a custom that differed greatly from what some of them were familiar with.

“I loved dinner. We wouldn’t go until seven o’clock and it would last at least three hours,” Porta said. “A huge staple of their culture is this meal. Everyone would talk and all the courses would come out separately.

“Sometimes in America, I think restaurants just want to give you the check and have you leave so they can get someone else in that spot. In France, they had one family per table per night. They weren’t in any hurry for you to leave and asked if you wanted to stay longer.”

**A ‘fit’ting end**

When the 15-day trip came to a close, students returned to Kentucky with a sense of French culture and history that no textbook could have provided and a markedly improved physical fitness level.

Fitness tests conducted before and after the course showed that almost every participant jumped three categories higher in cardiovascular fitness.

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*Ashley Duncan, left, Ashley Porta, and Jonathon Hall take a break from cycling during Transy’s Tour de France. Students and professors rode an average of 30 miles a day during the 15-day trip.*
“That says a lot about their commitment to training,” Brown said. “The cardiovascular fitness gains were far greater than we see in a regular semester, and that’s not surprising given the high demands of the activities we asked these students to do.”

Both Brown and Arganbright said they would like to conduct another course like this in the future. Brown even envisions combining lifetime fitness with other disciplines.

“Maybe for biology credit they could hike in the mountains,” she said. “Maybe all our May term lifetime fitness classes should be integrated with another discipline, because it was so rewarding for the students.”

Hawaii offers unique learning experiences on every shore

Junior Joe Meranda fully expected to see great biological diversity during the May term travel course Tropical Ecology, which visited several Hawaiian islands, renowned for their lush and exotic flora and fauna. Still, there were some surprises along the way that made the experience even more memorable than he anticipated.

“One day, we got to see a pod of about 150 dolphins,” he said. “That was really cool.” The school of spinner dolphins were jumping in the air alongside the boat taking the group out for snorkeling.

Outside of the planned itinerary and subject matter, it was those unexpected encounters—which often became teaching moments—that made this travel course special for the 14 students and two professors on the trip.

Biology professor James Wagner said that staying flexible and open to those moments made him a more effective teacher and increased the students’ enjoyment of the course. One example of this occurred when the group was wading at low tide out to an island sanctuary for nesting birds. It involved the answer to the question, “Why, no matter where you stand on an island, are waves crashing in on the shore?”

“The students were wrestling with this question when we came to a small island where you could see exactly how the waves hit and then wrapped around the island, crashing right at our feet,” said Wagner. “That’s how it is on these trips. The day just unfolds, and sometimes it’s kind of free flowing. You look around and say, ‘Oh, look! This is what we’ve got and this is what I can tell you about it.’”

A great natural laboratory

Because of its overwhelming diversity, Hawaii is hard to beat as a natural laboratory for the study of tropical animals and plants, said Wagner.

“Hawaii has an incredibly high percentage of unique terrestrial species, including over 1,000 species of native plants, 135 endemic species of birds, at least 5,000 insect species, plus some really cool spiders,” he said.

When you add the fact that the islands of Hawaii also make up a fascinating geological and ecological tableau, their allure for this particular course was irresistible.

“What I wanted to do—and this course turned out better than I could have imagined—was to create a course that connected biology with geology and ecology so students could see the big picture,” said Wagner.

“Hawaii is kind of like a natural experiment,” he continued. “Each island was formed at a different time, so as you move from island to island you can go back in geological time. You get a really nice sense of the kinds of ecological and evolutionary processes—diversity, adaptation—that went on.”

Chemistry professor Carl Heltzel added the final touch to the course—insights into the history and culture of Hawaii that he has gleaned over the years while doing research in the islands, living there for two years while doing post-doctoral work, and taking his own May term course there.

“Carl did a nice job of giving us a historical perspective on the colonization of the islands by Polynesians and the later arrival of Europeans and Americans,” said Wagner. Visits to such sites as the Polynesian Cultural Center and the Bishop Museum reinforced this aspect of the course.

Better than a lava lamp

At one point, Heltzel helped make sure the group saw the lava flow on Kilauea, the most active volcano in the world, at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

“At the visitors center, they told us no lava was flowing that day, but we got a guide who took us around to the other side where the action was,” said Heltzel. “Even he had just about given up when a student said she could see where it was about to break through, and then just amazing amounts of lava came pouring out. It was 2100 degrees. We were right next to it, putting sticks in it.”

The lava flow was definitely a favorite with students.

“We basically saw a river of lava com-
ing out of the volcano, about four feet wide, and it was just amazing,” said junior Sara Chowdhury, a biology major from Louisville. “It was so hot that we had to leave for awhile and climb up on some rocks so we could breathe. It was one of the coolest things we did.”

Chowdhury was also impressed with Hawaii in general, and its people in particular.

“Hawaii was actually more beautiful than I thought it would be. I’d never seen water so blue. When we came in contact with natives, they were very proud of their culture. It sounds corny, but they’re very proud of their ‘aloha’ spirit. They were friendly, open, and sharing.”

Before leaving for Hawaii, the students had 10 days of classroom work and an exam that prepared them to appreciate not only the natural features of the islands, but also their heritage. During the trip, they kept journals and took notes and pictures to use in preparing academic posters when they returned to campus. Poster subjects included trees and ferns, above-ground root systems, vines and how they grow, and the canopy structure of a tropical forest.

The travel aspect of the course was a big hit with Chowdhury.

“It takes the course to a completely different level, because there’s only so much you can learn in a classroom. We learned how islands are formed, then we saw it first-hand. We learned about ecological processes the businesses went through to get the product to work.”

Roth, a business administration major, was intrigued to learn about the various types of tourists, such as people who want adventure or people who are interested in historical sites.

“It was neat to figure out the tourist’s mind and psychology…the different types of people out there and what they’re searching for,” said Ann King, a junior business administration major from Lebanon, Ky. “It was cool to see all the stuff firsthand, and to see all the processes the businesses went through to get the product to work.”

Poynter said integrating travel into the course worked well because students saw the concepts they had learned from lectures and textbooks being applied to real world situations.

“We actually got to see everything that went on with these places and had extensive overviews of the hotels, distilleries, and recreational sites,” said Ann King, a junior business administration major from Lebanon, Ky. “It was cool to see all the stuff firsthand, and to see all the processes the businesses went through to get the product to work.”

Poynter guided Roth and 15 other students to a variety of well-known tourist destinations across Kentucky, giving them the opportunity to learn from the professionals who manage these attractions and providing behind-the-scenes glimpses of what it takes to draw in tourists and keep them happy. The group met with representatives from the Kentucky Department of Travel in Frankfort, Louisville Slugger Museum, Belle of Louisville, Greater Louisville Chamber of Commerce, Mammoth Cave Hotel, DuPont Mansion and Lynn’s Paradise Café in Louisville, Maker’s Mark Distillery, Keeneland, Applebee’s Park in Lexington, and My Old Kentucky Home.

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“It was neat to figure out the tourist’s mind and psychology, as far as the different types of people out there and what they’re searching for,” he said. “If I ever do decide to have a hotel or restaurant, I’ll know how to specifically target the clientele with marketing and advertising.”

The stop at My Old Kentucky Home in Bardstown was especially helpful because it addressed the topic of heritage tourism, a vital component of Kentucky’s tourism industry, and because manager Alice Heaton was able to offer such a valuable perspective, Poynter said. Heaton explained that even an attraction as well known as My Old Kentucky Home does not have a built-in clientele, and she constantly has to develop ways to bring new visitors in and get previous visitors to return.

“Students got to see that no matter what, you’ve got to keep looking forward and be proactive as a manager, or otherwise you’ll be in trouble,” Poynter said. “When there’s nothing new for your customer to come back to, they won’t bother because there are so many options now.”

Students wrestle with ideas about ancient Greece

When professors and students talk about “wrestling” with ideas, everyone understands it’s a figurative expression—unless you took the May term travel course The Ancient Polis, which visited Greece.

For a brief moment at the ruins of Plato’s Academy in Athens, philosophy professor Peter Fosl and junior Billy Redmon offered a literal take on the expression when they grappled in the grass where an ancient gymnasium likely stood, to the delight of the other students and history professor Frank Russell.

“Dr. Fosl and I had both wrestled in high school,” said Redmon, a history major from Louisville, “but I don’t think people knew that about Dr. Fosl, and they figured I was going to kill him.” In fact, Redmon won the one-minute match with a pin, but not before a good effort from Fosl.

The impromptu athletics were appropriate in that setting, said Fosl.

“Plato was a wrestler—his real name was Aristocles and Plato is actually a nickname that means roughly ‘broad-shouldered.’ And, of course, the value the ancient Greeks placed on physical fitness and athletic achievement is well documented and includes the Olympic competition that was the inspiration for the modern Olympics.

Contemplating the good life

The wrestling match was a lighthearted moment in a rigorously academic experience that saw the students and professors follow a demanding schedule of readings and site visits to ancient ruins and museums throughout Greece. The trip was designed to shed light on the question of what constitutes the “good life,” how the Greeks through the ancient polis, or city-
The Athenian Acropolis looms in the background.

state, attempted to realize it, and what implications their ideas may have for the modern world.

Russell provided the historical and archaeological expertise, while Fosl selected the texts that added philosophical understanding of the sites and events. Often, the two disciplines were combined by reading from the texts or giving performances from literary works at appropriate sites.

“We did a bit of Aeschylus’s *Furies* on the Areopagus, where the play was set,” said Fosl. “We discussed Plato’s *Republic* in the ruins of his Academy, reenacted the trial of Socrates on the Athenian agora, and listened to Brad Sullivan (’03) deliver *Pericles’s Funeral Oration* on the Pnyx.”

For Russell, the chance to have students learn Greek history at the place that history was made was priceless.

“One of the hardest things to do is to make ideas and events that are 2,500 years dead come alive again,” he said. “Being on site is a delight to the instructor in terms of explaining things.”

One such teaching moment for Russell occurred in Theopolis, a site in central Greece where a small force of Spartans fought to the death against an overwhelmingly large force of invading Persians.

“They died for liberty, even though it was a flawed concept of liberty because they were slave owners,” Russell said. “They were utterly devoted to their cause, believing it was better to die than to exist in another form of government. The site conveys the value of what polis meant to these people. Listening to this story, some of our students were in tears.”

**Students speak out**

A key learning component for the students was the requirement that each give a site presentation. One student explored the modern participation of women in the Olympics and gave her presentation at Olympia. Another compared two of Plato’s works and presented the findings in Sparta.

Junior Lesley Wellington, a mathematics major from Flowood, Miss., created her own text for her presentation by conducting daily interviews with Greeks she met along the way.

“I did a kind of anthropological study by asking them how much they knew about their ancient history and how much it affects their lives,” she said. “I made my presentation at Delphi. It surprised me how few of them had thought out any of the knowledge of their history, but those who had, had very adamant feelings.”

Sophomore Jonathan Clark, a mathematics and drama double major from Bardstown, Ky., gave his presentation on Dionysian cults and their relationship to the mythology of Dionysos, the ancient Greek god of wine and revelry. He presented it at an archaeological museum in Thessaloniki.

“I gave my presentation right in front of a gold wine-making vessel from about 300 B.C.,” said Clark. “It was very intricately decorated with a panorama wrapping around it of Dionysos, women, and satyrs. Some of the images were disturbing, but beautiful at the same time.”

An added attraction for this travel course was the presence of drama professor Tim Soulis, who was on sabbatical leave and decided to join the group to further his studies on Greek theater.

“We were at a huge theater one time when Dr. Soulis got up and delivered a monologue from the center of the stage area,” said Clark. “He would whisper, or drop a coin on a small marble slab in the center of the stage, and you could hear it from wherever you were in the theater. And every theater had a fantastic view.”

**Strong sense of community**

An essential feature of the polis that was very evident during the trip is the agora, a generic term in ancient Greece for gathering place. This was usually located in the center of the city and was the site of political and commercial activity.

“I think the good life for the ancient Greeks was defined a lot by the community,” said Wellington. “The architectural elements of the agora—the temples, shops, government buildings, theaters—would demonstrate what was important to the citizens.”

In modern Greece, the agora has come to mean marketplace, also a feature of many of the cities visited by the Transy group.

“The Greeks still have this idea of a general meeting area where people in the community can talk to one another,” said Clark. “We stayed in Litochoro for three days, a small town where every night people would come out into the town square and mingle or have dinner. I really enjoyed this, being able to go to a café and enjoy the conversation. This is something I would like to bring back to American culture, to build a stronger sense of community.”

Rachel Hedden takes a break on the Areopagus, where students did a site presentation from Aeschylus’s *Furies*. The Athenian Acropolis looks in the background.
Each May, Transylvania seniors don their caps and gowns and accept their diplomas, beaming with pride and eager for their futures to begin.

“At graduation, everyone had so much momentum,” Matt Bricken ’02 recalled. “We were all going to law school or grad school or had a job lined up.”

But the path to happiness and success is rarely a straight line. Life—especially in the first year after college—usually contains many twists and turns.

“To me, your life changes more in that first year out of school than a lot of other transition years,” said Sally Francisco ’02. “You age three years in that first year.”

With those hectic 12 months still fresh in their minds, Hill, Francisco, and five other members of the class of 2002 reflected on the surprises, frustrations, accomplishments, disappointments, beginnings, and farewells they’ve experienced since leaving Transylvania.

Facing the unknown

One of the first steps political science major Matt Bricken took into the real world greatly resembled The Real World reality show on MTV. The Lexington native relocated to Washington, D.C., and moved into a house with several people he’d never met before.

Bricken didn’t have the chance to scout the city for a place to live before it was time for him to begin classes in the political management program at The George Washington University, so he answered an ad in the newspaper for a room in a group house and made arrangements with his future roommates over the phone.

“One person was from New York, one from Iowa, and another from New Jersey,” Bricken said. “We were all from different backgrounds, but we were all young people facing the world. It could have been a lot worse.”

In addition to coping with the different personalities of his new roommates, Bricken had to adjust to the noticeably higher cost of living. His room in Washington cost just $200 less than the monthly rent for an entire house he and some friends had shared in Lexington. With greater financial demands, finding work was a top priority, but Bricken endured a frustrating search.

“I found a lot of internships that would have been happy to have me, but they were all unpaid,” he said.

After eight weeks of looking and living off bread and bologna, Bricken accepted a job at a real estate firm. The work was far removed from the political world and the commute was a grueling hour and 15 minutes, but Bricken made do until something better came along. He eventually landed a paid internship with the public affairs firm Blakey & Agnew, handling media research, drafting proposals, and writing press releases.

Today, Bricken is in a new apartment, rooming with someone he knew from Lexington, and earning a paycheck as a volunteer coordinator for the Dick Gephardt presidential campaign, a job that fits perfectly with his studies.

“This is going to be the best experience for me, doing this campaign management program at night and being involved in a presidential campaign during the day,” he said. “The people I’ll meet and the contacts I’ll make across Democratic circles in D.C. and the country will be invaluable.”

Bricken said studying abroad in London helped him cope with the uncertainties of moving to a new city, and his Transy course load left him better prepared for the demands of graduate school than some of his classmates are.

“In one of the first classes I had, one of the students just couldn’t believe the amount of reading and homework,” Bricken said. “It was maybe more than I had at Transy, but it was comparable. This is graduate school, so it’s supposed to be harder.”

Events unfold as planned

Sally Francisco majored in business administration with an emphasis in hospitality management, hoping to have a career in event planning. Today, she’s exactly where she wanted to be. In April, Francisco was promoted to event planner with the National Tour Association (NTA), an organization managed by Host Communications in Lexington.

“Sometimes you
McGuire’s only goal was to live in and experience a city completely different from where he grew up. “I love Lexington; I love Kentucky, but this is the age of my life to do something like this,” he said.

His first few weeks in California did not leave him wanting for adventure. As soon as he reached the city, his car died. Waiting for it to be repaired, he and two acquaintances who’d also just arrived drove around in an ’86 hatchback Camaro, searching for jobs and a place to live. A chance encounter with a fellow Kentuckian got McGuire a job at a hotel, but his car woes continued. A mechanic wrecked the vehicle during a test drive, so McGuire coped with rental cars and loaners from the garage until the damage was repaired.

McGuire worked at the hotel and refereed high school volleyball before getting a job in the gift shop at the Old Globe Theater in Balboa Park. Working at the nationally renowned venue, McGuire ran into people like Jack O’Brien, the theater’s artistic director and winner of the 2003 Tony Award for best directing for the Broadway musical *Hairspray*.

“I was rubbing elbows with the right people even if I didn’t have the right job,” he said.

McGuire moved up to selling tickets in the box office and was offered a position as house manager, but he decided it was time to exit stage left. “I’d had enough of San Diego, so I packed up,” he said. “I could probably have stayed at that theater the rest of my life and worked my way up the ranks. There were several people there who had done that, but I decided it would be more fun for me to keep moving.”

He spent the summer of 2003 in Colorado, living in a tent and taking photographs for a whitewater rafting company. Now, he’s returned to California, this time to Los Angeles.

“I don’t plan on staying anywhere longer than a year,” he said. “At some point, I’m going to totally run out of money, or get married, or get a really great job opportunity that I can’t pass up. Until then, I’d love to just keep moving around and learn from different people in different parts of the country and the world.”

**An offer she couldn’t refuse**

At the end of her senior year, biology major and Martin, Ky., native Monica Majmundar faced a tough decision: attend a medical school in her home state or move to Atlanta and study medicine at Emory University. While she occasionally misses the comforts that living close to home would have afforded, Majmundar can list more than a few reasons why Emory and Atlanta were right for her.

“I needed to live in a big city once so I’d know if I wanted to go back to a small town or stay in the big city for the rest of my life,” Majmundar said.

The traffic is “insane,” Majmundar said, but the city is fascinating. Events ranging from art festivals to free concerts are constantly available, and the city’s diverse population has allowed Majmundar to learn more about her cultural heritage.

“Atlanta has a huge Indian community,” she said. “This is the first time that I have had really close Indian friends, so I’m learning more about my community, my language, and my cooking.”

From an educational standpoint, Emory was the right choice because of its reputation and partnership with Grady Memorial Hospital. Majmundar said training at Grady—the primary hospital for the Atlanta metropolitan area—will expose her to a wide range of people and medical conditions.

The school itself has been very nurturing during her first year, Majmundar said. Social chairs regularly organize activities, and students are encouraged to take time out for themselves. Even with this support, the classes have been extremely taxing.

“I knew it was going to be hard, but I didn’t understand how much information we were going to be expected to learn in a short amount of time,” she said. “You have to learn a new studying style, because not everything that worked in undergrad is going to work for you in medical school.”

Plunging into her second year, Majmundar is excited to be spending some time in the hospital doing cardiovascular,
pulmonary, neuromuscular, and skeletal exams. The experience has been invigorating, but also a little intimidating.

“When you go into a patient’s room, they think you’re a doctor. They think you know everything about medicine, and you have to remind them that you’re just a second year medical student trying to learn to be a good doctor. A great deal of responsibility comes with wearing a white coat.”

A year of reflection and experience

Transylvania philosophy graduate Dion Hill has some advice for students who received their diplomas in 2003: “Don’t get stressed if things aren’t fitting into your timetable. Be open-minded and embrace the challenges that come your way.”

These are the lessons Hill has gleaned from a year filled with working, traveling, and enjoying his post-college status.

Just after graduation, Hill conducted research on predatory lending, an extension of an internship with the Lexington Human Rights Commission that he’d completed as part of his sociology minor during his last term at Transy. When the commission couldn’t find funding for Hill to continue, he waited tables and took other short-term jobs to help pay his portion of the rent for the apartment he shares with two roommates.

“It was kind of fun because I’d never been independent before,” he said. “It was really rewarding and taught me a lot of responsibility.”

Hill spent his free time catching up with family and friends. He toured Chicago for a week and visited his mother in Vine Grove, Ky., to get some home cooking and reassurance.

“I tried my hardest not to worry about the next step, especially because the job market is not so great,” he said. “I was really rewarding and taught me a lot of responsibility.”

Hill spent his free time catching up with family and friends. He toured Chicago for a week and visited his mother in Vine Grove, Ky., to get some home cooking and reassurance.

“Being at Transy helped make me a stronger me,” he said. “When I got out of school, I felt prepared to tackle anything, whether it be a job or graduate school, even if it’s just dealing with people and responsibilities. I’m stoked and pysched and ready. Whatever comes my way, I feel like I can handle it.”

Starting a new life together

Having been in JROTC and ROTC, Lance Garner knew his future would involve the U.S. Air Force. He didn’t anticipate, however, that he’d be heading to Ramstein Air Base in Germany just one month after graduation.

“I never expected to be shipped off immediately to an overseas location,” he said. “It’s fairly unusual for a first assignment, but I love it.”

A computer science major at Transylvania, Garner is now a second lieutenant in charge of all aspects of communications and information flow for his unit, which supports 18 squadrons throughout Europe and Southwest Asia.

Finding a house and car and making the transition to living in another country was tough, Garner said, but things greatly improved after he and fellow 2002 grad Avery Edwards married in November 2002 and she joined him in Germany. While she was thrilled to be reunited with Lance, Avery also faced some challenges.

“The initial move to Germany was definitely hard since I had lived in Lexington all my life up until then, and suddenly I had to adjust to a totally foreign culture,” she said. “I had to start from scratch, making new friends and finding a new job, which was really hard.”

Because she spoke very little German, Avery had to limit her job search to the base, where there’s a great deal of competition from local workers and other spouses. She eventually found work at Willi Geck, a store selling kitchenware, collectibles, and crystal, and she planned to substitute teach in the fall of 2003. Neither position is what she pictured herself doing with her business administration degree, but it hasn’t dampened her enthusiasm toward the overall experience.

“It really is great living in Germany. I know we are lucky to have such an oppor-
tunity,” she said. “We’ve done a little bit of traveling, and plan on doing a lot more in the future, and have adjusted well to the German culture.”

Avery is confident her job prospects will improve when they return to the U.S. They expect to be sent to Dayton, Ohio, in 2005, where Lance will earn his master’s degree at the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Both Lance and Avery said their Transy years helped them gain the confidence and independence that was critical in their adjustment to their new life.

“Transy gave me the time and experience I needed to mature and grow as a person,” Lance said. “I was an RA for two years and this was especially beneficial as I was immediately placed into a leadership role when I received my commission in the Air Force.”

While they acknowledge that military life may be difficult at times, Lance and Avery said this initial year has left them more optimistic than ever before.

“Although I’d like to find a better job, my main goal in life is to simply be happy, travel, and have a family,” Avery said. “Right now, I feel like I’m on the right track to accomplishing all of these.”

Alumni 101

Whether you’ve been out of college for one year or 50, we want you to stay connected with Transylvania. Here’s how:

- **Keep us posted** on where you are and what you’re doing. Mail or e-mail updates to the Alumni Office (alumni@transy.edu) or visit the recently redesigned Transylvania Web site at www.transy.edu.

- **Come and visit**. Although alumni are always welcome, Alumni Weekend presents unparalleled opportunities to reconnect with friends and classmates. The 2004 Alumni Weekend is set for April 23-25.

- **Attend alumni events** in your area. If you live in the Lexington, Louisville, or Cincinnati vicinities and would like to get involved with the alumni chapters in those areas, contact Natasa Pajic, assistant director of alumni programs, at (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8213.
It isn’t hard for biology professor Peter Sherman to list the differences between his classes at Transylvania and the ones he taught at Sultan Qaboos University in Oman during the 2002-03 academic year.

For starters, his students in Oman dressed in modest, traditional garb as mandated by their Islamic faith. The women were required to sit in the back of the classroom so they would not distract the men, who were prohibited from entering the room until Sherman arrived.

The curriculum was rigid, and Sherman couldn’t deviate because the tests were standardized. He found his students were excellent at memorization, able to quote whole passages out of textbooks, but struggled to apply the information to other situations.

Encountering these differences and facing the challenges that some of them presented gave Sherman a new perspective.

“I feel like it was a great chance to reflect on my teaching (at Transylvania),” he said. “It reinvigorated my thinking about different courses.”

Sherman’s residency at Qaboos was made possible by the Fulbright Scholars Program. He and his wife, University of Louisville biology professor Perri Eason, both received Fulbright awards to teach and conduct field research in Oman.

Dragonflies and ghost crabs were the focus of the research. With bodies of water limited by the desert climate, dragonfly populations are extremely dense, causing interesting mating strategies. Instead of establishing and defending their own territory, some males will simply sneak into the territory of another while he’s away fighting. This sly tactic is usually not that successful, Sherman found, because the females preferred the stronger male.

To study ghost crabs, Sherman and Eason waded through waist high water to find an isolated beach that provided a safe home for thousands of the creatures. They observed how the crabs found food by keying in on one of their own species. Late in the day, the crabs would come out and wander aimlessly until one of them stumbled onto a dead fish or other food source. Once the first crab started eating, another crab would notice, then another, until soon all the crabs on the beach were racing to claim their portion.

A longtime student of animal behavior, Sherman said this was his first foray into the world of insects and crabs. Oman proved to be an excellent place to conduct a year of research.

“The people were just incredibly welcoming,” he said. “When we explored the country on the weekends, they were always waving and inviting us in for coffee and dates.”

Oman is in the midst of a renaissance, Sherman said. Since coming to power about 30 years ago, the country’s current sultan has made great strides to improve his people’s quality of life. One of his initiatives was to open the university where Sherman taught.

In his efforts to encourage his Omani students to analyze as much as they memorized, Sherman thought of new ways to improve his Transy classes.

“I’m trying to approach my classes now, especially the intro classes, in a way that will get students to think more critically,” he said.

Through lab sessions, Sherman plans to engage his students in discussions about controversial biology issues, such as stem cell research and biotechnology.

“There’s a tendency to be comfortable with what you’ve grown up knowing or learning,” he said. “I don’t want to change that necessarily. I would like for them to realize the complexities of the issues and know why some people feel this way while other people feel differently.”
Elizabeth Moody Wagner ‘37 was on a training flight near Danville, Ky., in her small, single-engine airplane on a summer morning in 1943 when her engine suddenly stopped. The plane had no self-starter—you started it by having someone stand in front of the plane and spin the propeller, obviously not an option at 3,000 feet.

Landing without power—a “dead-stick” landing in aviation parlance—had been part of her pilot training, but Wagner didn’t relish the idea of putting that skill to use so soon.

“I first tried flying as fast as I could straight down,” she recalled, a maneuver that sometimes spins the prop fast enough to restart the engine. No luck.

So, she pulled the plane back up and began to scour the landscape for a farmer’s field or a deserted road. Keeping the aircraft in a steady, silent, slowly descending glide, she set it safely down in a farmer’s field and walked away from a potential disaster with no damage to herself, the cadet she was instructing, or the aircraft.

It takes courage and good nerves to land a powerless airplane, attributes that Wagner has never lacked. They got her into an experimental pilot training program during World War II that made her one of the relatively few women aviators of her day and served her well as she helped to train male cadets for service overseas.

A dashing appearance

Wagner, a member of the Transylvania Board of Trustees since 1981, lives in Lexington with her second husband, Arlyn O. Wagner. At 87, her resemblance to the dashing young woman in a flight suit from so many years ago is remarkably strong, as are her disposition and her memories of those adventurous times.

When the federal government created the Civilian Pilot Training Program in 1942, Wagner was eager to sign on. Her first husband, Nat Hall, had purchased a small airplane that they kept in a barn on Lexington’s Nicholasville Road in open countryside that is now the site of a K-Mart store. His flat feet kept him out of the Army, so he wanted to become a flight instructor.

“As long as we had a plane, I thought I ought to learn to fly,” said Wagner.

Wagner was accepted into the CPT program and took her initial training at Transylvania. Transy, like many colleges and universities across the country, was giving up some of its residence hall and classroom facilities for military training and educational purposes.

After her Transy schooling in ground courses such as navigation, meteorology, and mechanics, Wagner’s adventure really began. In the fall of 1942 she was accepted into a highly selective experimental training program created by the Tennessee Bureau of Aeronautics to see if 10 hand-picked women could make capable instructors for male Army and Navy cadets. Six of the trainee slots went to Tennessee women, while Wagner was one of four out-of-staters chosen from 220 applicants.

This was all in the context of a nation suddenly at war after Pearl Harbor, when men were enlisting or being called up through selective service for the war effort, and women were asked to do a variety of jobs previously handled mostly by men.

The need in aviation was great—the military wanted to train approximately 200,000 men to be pilots in a very short time.

Wagner proved to be an able pilot with a knack for instructing. She graduated from the 12-week flight instructor training program in Nashville in February 1943, but not before having her scariest adventure in an airplane.

“One had been out too long one afternoon flying around Nashville and got lost—I just could not find that little old...
airport on the Gillespie River,” Wagner recalled. “The airfield had no lights—we weren’t supposed to be flying at night. It was almost dark when I finally found it. They were all glad to see me get back in. That’s the most scared I’ve ever been.”

Wagner was given an 18-month assignment to train air cadets stationed at Centre College in Danville, flying out of Junction City Airport.

“I had 10 students and we taught six hours a day, even on weekends a lot of times,” she said.

Yet another nerve-racking experience awaited her during this instructor’s stint. She was teaching a cadet how to pull out of a spin when he “froze” on the stick. She was seated in front of the cadet, using tandem controls that were mechanically linked.

“I had a terrible time. I had to unbuckle in the middle of a spin and turn around and hit him to get him to let go of the stick. It was the grace of God that got him off of it. It was very scary.”

A life of adventure

Wagner’s life already had a fair amount of adventure in it long before her war-time flying experiences. She was born in India to Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) missionary parents and was educated in a private school in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains close to Nepal. She grew up speaking Hindustani and accompanied her father and brothers on big-game hunting trips. Before her eighteenth birthday she had been around the world two-and-a-half times.

She came to Transylvania in 1934, signed on for pre-med, and graduated cum laude three years later, taking courses year-round while many of her classmates took the summer off.

“My parents were in India and I had no place to go,” she said. “It was a month by ship from New York to Bombay, so I couldn’t possibly go home for the summer.”

Nat Hall, a banker she had met through her part-time job at the YWCA cafeteria, proposed to her during her senior year, proposed to her during her senior year, and they were married on her Transy graduation day—May 31, 1937.

“In February he asked me to marry him, and I said, ‘I wouldn’t marry you a day before I graduate.’ He went down and had the rings engraved with my graduation date, so we had to get married that afternoon. I graduated at 10 in the morning and got married at 3 in the afternoon.”

After her war-time adventures, she taught flying at Lexington’s Cool Meadows airport on Newtown Pike, the predecessor to Bluegrass Field. She continued as a flight instructor until 1956, though the birth of her two sons—Nat Berry Hall Jr. in 1949 and Ewing M. Hall in 1951—prompted her to spend more time raising her family.

Hall died in 1956. In 1958 she married Arlyn Wagner, a widower and (now retired) executive with Brock-McVey Electrical Supply Company.

Over the years, Wagner became involved in a plethora of civic activities and organizations, including United Way of the Bluegrass, Girl Scouts, the International Book Program, the Florence Crittenton Home, Planned Parenthood, and the Living Arts and Science Center, among others.

A long-time member of the Junior League of Lexington, Wagner was instrumental in acquiring the Bodley-Bullock House in Gratz Park for the league’s headquarters. She is a past president (twice) of the Bluegrass Trust for Historic Preservation, which honored her with its John Wesley Hunt Award in 1991.

Transylvania awarded her the Morrison Medallion, which is given to alums for outstanding service to the University, in 1981. In 1992 she received the Lexington Optimist Cup award.

One of the ways Wagner stays active is by volunteering as a docent at the Hunt-Morgan House, explaining the history of the antebellum home in Gratz Park. She also attends Transy board and committee meetings. “I enjoy that because it lets me keep up on what’s going on at Transy.”

She has kept in touch over the years with a number of her classmates, who still know her as Moody, her maiden name.

“When somebody calls and asks for Moody, I know it’s Transylvania.”
Ron Whitson '67 will forever be linked with the great tradition of men’s basketball at Transylvania, serving as the top assistant coach for 27 seasons and helping the Pioneers achieve some of their most glorious moments on the hardwood.

But when Whitson died suddenly of an apparent heart attack on August 23 at age 58, leaving the Transylvania community devastated at the loss of a loyal and beloved colleague, his role as a teacher, mentor, and friend to countless Transy students over the years was deemed just as important by those mourning his untimely passing.

“Coach Whitson was my mentor from the time I first stepped on campus and had a class with him until the Sunday in August that I heard of his death,” said Heather Adams-Blair ’95, a Transy exercise science major and varsity basketball player, and now professor of exercise and sport science at Eastern Kentucky University. “Even after leaving Transy, while working on my master’s and doctorate, we kept in contact and he continued to counsel me.”

Spanish professor Veronica Dean-Thacker, who wrote a letter of support for Whitson that helped him achieve a Bingham Award for Excellence in Teaching, visited his class and came away extremely impressed.

“Ron was a very dynamic teacher in the classroom,” she said. “He taught his students as individuals. It was as if all that experience as a coach who has to watch the performance of each player was brought into the classroom.”

Whitson’s association with Transylvania spanned four decades, beginning in 1963 when he arrived on campus as a second team All-State basketball player from Harrison County High School in Cynthia, Ky. He graduated from Transylvania with a double major and honors in biology and physical education, and was listed in Who’s Who Among Students in America’s Colleges and Universities.

During his stellar Transy basketball career, he led the Pioneers to the NAIA national tournament as a sophomore and finished 14th on the school’s all-time scoring list with 1,534 points. In 1999 he was named to the Pioneer Hall of Fame.

“Ronnie was one of the key players on our NAIA tournament team,” said Nolan Barger ’67, a teammate of Whitson’s and retired long-time boys basketball coach at Tates Creek High School in Lexington. “He had a mature personality even at that age and showed integrity, honesty, and a no-nonsense approach to basketball. He commanded respect from everyone on the team.”

After coaching in the high school ranks for several years and earning an M.A. in secondary education from the University of Kentucky, Whitson answered a call in 1974 from then Transy head coach Lee Rose to return to his alma mater as the top assistant. When Rose left the next year for the University of North Carolina–Charlotte, Don Lane was named head coach, and Whitson began a 26-season relationship with Lane as his top assistant that would define his coaching career.

“If I were writing a textbook on coaching, Ron Whitson would be my first example,” said Lane. “From a technical standpoint, he was the best scout at any level I have ever known. He could break a team down and prepare an excellent game plan. He was a tireless worker, and his organizational skills were just tremendous. His loyalty to Transylvania was unsurpassed.”

Whitson was known to his players as a very demanding coach on the floor, but that was only part of his persona.

“Coach Whitson was someone you could always turn to with any problem you may have had, and he would be right there for you and try to help you through it,” said Chris Huffman ’94, a former player and now principal of Metcalfe County High School in Edmonton, Ky. “He expected his players to give their best, and he always gave us his best. He had the respect of every individual who went through that program.”

Dean-Thacker saw similar characteristics in Whitson’s relationship with the faculty and other members of the Transy community.

“Ron was always looking for the good in his colleagues,” recalled Dean-Thacker. “He was a very positive person, very supportive, and always had a kind word for everyone. That joy in his smile and in his eyes was the real thing—it was there in his heart.”

Whitson retired from coaching in 2001, continued as a tenured professor and program director for physical education, then was named athletics director in January. In 2001 he received a Distinguished Service Award from the University.

Speaking before a large crowd at Whitson’s funeral service in Haggin Auditorium, President Charles L. Shearer summed up the loss felt by the Transy community.

“Ron left this place and us better because of his many contributions and the way in which he enriched our lives. We have lost a teacher, coach, administrator, adviser, father, husband, brother, and friend. He touched all of us, and for that we can be grateful.”

Among his survivors are his wife, Barbara, and two grown children, Lynn ’92 and Michael.
Vocation involves much more than just picking a major and finding a job. It’s a life-altering quest to discover your calling, author and educator Parker Palmer told the crowd in Haggin Auditorium during the fall convocation address September 7.

“Vocation is that place where your deep gladness meets the world’s deep hunger,” Palmer said, quoting fellow author Frederick Buechner. Throughout his lecture and in the question and answer session that followed, Palmer discussed the pitfalls of choosing a path based on outside influences instead of personal intuition. For instance, many people pursue a career thinking only of the potential paycheck, Palmer said. They go to school with the goal of learning skills that will allow them to fit a “slot” in the professional world, an ill-advised course in this modern economy.

“The job market is a very fluid, complex, and confusing place,” Palmer said. “A headline in the paper as recently as 48 hours ago said 100,000 jobs lost in the last six months will never return. If all you do is try to fit your skill set to a slot in some institution, by the time you get there the slot will be gone.”

Other people make the mistake of trying to meet some desperate need in the world, regardless of whether they are suited for that type of work.

“I’ve known people who have harmed themselves trying to start their vocational quest to meet the world’s many needs rather than their own giftedness,” he said.

To help students avoid the wrong course, Palmer laid out a plan for finding the “true self” through quiet introspection and interaction with a select community of friends. Even then, Parker warned, pursuing a calling requires a great deal of courage, particularly if the vocation is not as esteemed as some.

“We have trouble listening to the inner voice because we know at some level it’s going to say things that we don’t want to hear—things that would put us at odds with powerful voices and expectations outside of ourselves, including our family and friends,” Palmer said.

Education professor Amy Maupin, who worked with Palmer over the summer at a Courage to Teach retreat based on Palmer’s book of the same name, said the message he delivered to Transylvania students was empowering.

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“Most of them agreed that it was refreshing to hear that they were not being marginalized—that their inner voices and goals to be something that may not be attractive to society are still valid,” she said. “It was especially good for education majors who are planning to take jobs with little salary and declining respect.”

Senior education major Erin Clapp found confidence in Palmer’s message.

“I felt reassured by the fact that I can have a lasting effect on the world while doing something that I really love: teaching,” Clapp said. “I believe, like Palmer, that more people need to look for their true selves and make the world a more honest and stable place.”

Sophomore Steve Pratt said he was impressed by Palmer’s assertion that humans are not just raw material waiting to be molded, but are in fact born with a shape and a nature.

“It provided some insights about my own convictions and my own beliefs,” Pratt said.

During Palmer’s visit, which was sponsored by the Lilly Project at Transylvania, he held a faculty seminar and had dinner with students, staff, and faculty members on campus.

Associate Dean of Students Michael Covert, who led a discussion of Courage to Teach prior to the lecture and seminar, said Palmer offered valuable insights for faculty and staff members as well as students.

“He’s very down to earth and very easy to listen to. He just shares what he’s learned along the way without portraying himself as an expert,” Covert said. “He was really able to tie in the whole sense of vocation and living intentionally and how that can translate into a liberal arts education.”

Meade joins development office

Cara Meade is Transylvania’s new director of development, succeeding Kara Little Covert ’90, who accepted a position as Eastern Kentucky University’s director of regional advancement in June.

Prior to coming to Transy, Meade was the director of development at Midway College. She earned a bachelor’s degree in communications from the University of Kentucky, and is currently working on a master’s degree in educational policy and evaluation at UK.
Students take journey of remembrance and hope

Standing in the guard tower of the former Nazi concentration camp of Birkenau and looking out over row after row of what remains of prisoners’ barracks, junior Amanda Kerley was hit with the enormity of the Holocaust in a visceral way that no classroom lecture could prepare her for.

“You can read the accounts of survivors and see the numbers on paper, but it’s not the same until you’ve actually been there and seen it for yourself,” she said.

Kerley was one of four Transylvania students who traveled to Poland in May as part of The March of Remembrance and Hope, a student program of March of the Living International and sponsored by the Center for the Study of Jewish Heroism, both headquartered in Tel Aviv, Israel. Religion professor Paul Jones and history professor Ken Slepyan accompanied the group.

For senior Craig Strand, one such place was Auschwitz. “We walked through the shower area and into the gas chamber. It just hit you hard. I don’t think there was a dry eye in the room—it broke everybody down.”

“Being there creates a possibility for understanding it on an emotional and psychological level, for getting a tactile experience of what the Holocaust was all about. It’s easy to abstract the Holocaust, but seeing exactly what people were doing to other people in these specific places gives the students a perception of just how large, how awful this, or any other genocide, is,” said Kerley.

For senior Craig Strand, one such place was Auschwitz. “We walked through the shower area and into the gas chamber. It just hit you hard. I don’t think there was a dry eye in the room—it broke everybody down.”

As shocking as the remembrance part of the trip was, the emphasis on hope for the future acted to counterbalance the trip’s grimness. Some of the more inspiring words came from the Holocaust survivors who accompanied the group.

“For me, the hope of the trip is that everyone who participated will now have an experience they will keep with them for the rest of their lives and will affect the person they someday become.”
Summer research gives students a head start

Eight Transylvania students got a head start on possible careers in bio-medical research when they took part in an eight-week summer program funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

The students, all of whom had just completed their first year at Transy, spent full days in Brown Science Center working on research projects that included topics such as fingerprinting DNA, fusion proteins, and bioinformatics. They also visited research facilities at universities that are potential graduate school destinations, including Emory University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

“These students learned a variety of bio-medical research techniques and ideas about possible careers in the field,” said biology professor Peggy Palombi, who coordinated the NIH grant proposal and the summer program.

Biology professor Kathleen Jagger assisted Palombi with the program, which gave the students a more realistic research experience than what is possible in the laboratory portion of an academic course.

“This program allowed the students to look at an experiment from the beginning, to work through the timing and the decisions,” said Jagger. “They could repeat the experiment if it didn’t work, and get a sense of the troubleshooting that goes on in a real lab.”

After collaborating on all of the projects, each student produced a poster to explain one of the experiments and its results. During the last week of the project, they displayed their posters in Brown Science Center and gave oral presentations on them.

Laura Edgington’s poster showed how scientists induce the production of a fusion protein within an organism, in this case the bacteria e coli.

“This process allows you to study the purpose of a protein within an organism,” she said. “There are thousands of proteins in human bodies that we don’t understand yet.”

Edgington felt she benefited greatly from the research experience.

“It was good to be exposed to different kinds of lab techniques so that when we actually look for a job in research, we’ll have this experience to draw on. Coming into this, I was thinking about medical school, but now I think research might be the route for me. I enjoy the science part of it.”

Laura Wells created a poster about interactions between antigens and antibodies. Testing for the presence of the HIV virus would be one application of this process.

“I had never done any research like this before,” she said. “We got to run gels and work with DNA and proteins. It was a nice experience and made me better prepared for the fall semester.”

Bioinformatics—using computers to store, analyze, and share bio-medical research—was the subject of Zack Edens’ poster. To enliven the appearance of his poster and suggest the idea of virtual reality, he used some code imagery similar to that in the movie The Matrix.

“Bioinformatics relates to the movie in that biology can live within the simulation of a computer just as people live within a simulation of life in The Matrix,” he said.

Edens especially appreciated the opportunity to visit potential graduate schools, as well as the Centers for Disease Control.

“Getting to travel to Atlanta, Chapel Hill, Cincinnati, and Louisville, we could see different kinds of labs and make connections with people there that I can actually share data and collaborate with. The museum in the CDC in Atlanta showed how polio was the SARS of its day and how gradually, they have found a way to control or eradicate every problem that’s arisen.”

Brett Lomenick’s poster dealt with genes from four different species—a pig, chicken, cow, and e coli—and how a comparison experiment can lead to an understanding of the evolutionary history of the species, or their biologeny.

Lomenick, an environmental studies major, said visiting the research universities this early in his Transy career was a great advantage.

“Getting to talk with the researchers there was great, and also meeting with people who are on their admissions committees and know what they look for in applications was very helpful, especially considering that North Carolina and Emory are among the top schools in the country.”

Palombi hopes that the summer experience will pay dividends for all of the students, especially as they ponder their selection of a major and their future after Transy.

“We’ll be following these students over the next five-to-seven years to see if doing this had any impact on their career choices,” she said.
New major in anthropology proving popular with students

Transylvania’s newest major—anthropology—is proving to be very popular with students, and that suits anthropology professor Barbara LoMonaco just fine.

“This is our first year to offer anthropology as a major, and we already have 11 students who have selected it,” said LoMonaco. “We also have about 20 minors and about 20 more who are doing the combined sociology/anthropology major. So there is quite a bit of interest in the subject at Transy.”

Junior Colene Eiridge is among the first Transy students to sign on as an anthropology major.

“I took a cultural anthropology class my first semester and it was just overwhelming,” she said. “I fell in love with it. I like the fact that you study so many different cultures.”

David L. Shannon, interim vice president and dean of the college, put the decision to create a major in anthropology into a broader context.

“Anthropology is a field that is growing in popularity at many colleges and universities, and I am pleased we are able to offer it to our students,” he said. “Because it introduces students to diverse cultures, it is an especially appropriate field of study for a liberal arts college.”

Anthropology is defined as the comparative, cross-cultural study of human experience and behavior. It is typically divided into four subfields: cultural anthropology, archaeology, physical anthropology, and linguistics. Transy’s program will focus primarily on cultural anthropology—LoMonaco’s specialty—and archaeology, where anthropology professor Chris Begley ’88 has special expertise.

With LoMonaco’s research activities in Italy and South America and Begley’s in Honduras, anthropology students can look forward to travel courses and field work.

“I’ve traveled with students to Italy and South America on several occasions and plan to return with them,” said LoMonaco. “These trips have been very successful.”

Begley’s work in Honduras, where he plans to involve students, has included a focus on tourism in relation to archaeology.

“I have spoken with people from the Honduras Institute of Tourism about sustainable tourism related to archaeology in the parts of the country where I work,” he said. “It can be an instrument of economic development.”

Anthropology majors often continue their studies in graduate school, or use the B.A. degree to work in fields such as archaeology, international development work, or social work.

“I anticipate the study of anthropology will flourish and become one of our most popular majors,” said Shannon.

Parents Council helps support Transy library

Sharri Greer ’75 calls today’s college students the “millennium generation.”

“Research shows that they are family oriented and like having family involved in their lives, and one of the best ways to get involved is by supporting the Parents Council’s effort to enhance the Transy library,” said Greer, who with her husband, Lee ’80, serves as co-president of the Transylvania Parents Council.

In October, members of the Parents Council and other volunteers called parents of alumni and parents and grandparents of current students in an effort to raise $90,000 from 1,200 donors.

“We focus on the library because every student benefits from it,” said Sharri Greer. “Last year we received pledges from a record 1,187 donors, and we’re looking forward to an even more successful campaign this year.”

The cost of library resources is staggering. For example, a five-volume reference work was purchased last year for $850 and renewal of a single subscription to an academic periodical cost more than $900, according to Library Director Susan Brown. Private donations help keep the library’s holdings up-to-date.

The 34 members of the Parents Council also serve as ambassadors for Transylvania, help recruit new students, and help the Career Development Center identify internships and job opportunities for students and graduates. Dolores Roberson, director of parent programs, coordinates the group.

Like some of their American counterparts, Carol Bailie and Ciarin McGinley say their interest in the arts sometimes makes them feel like part of a very small minority in their hometown.

But for three weeks this summer, Bailie, McGinley, and three other students from Ireland felt like the majority as they joined more than 220 students from Kentucky for the 2003 Governor’s School for the Arts held on Transylvania’s campus.

GSA offers high school juniors and seniors in-depth instruction in artistic disciplines such as creative writing, dance, drama, musical theater, and visual art.

Frank X Walker, executive director of GSA, led a team to Northern Ireland in September 2002 to help local artists and educators establish a program similar to GSA. To help them further understand the curriculum, Walker invited five students and two administrators to the Kentucky session. This marked the first time international students have taken part in Kentucky’s GSA, and Walker said the impact was even stronger than anticipated.

“In the surveys we’re getting back, almost every student has mentioned in detail that having a chance to interact with students from another part of the world really made their experience even richer.”

Bailie and McGinley said they enjoyed learning more about American culture while improving in their respective disciplines.

“It’s brilliant how much my poetry has been strengthened here,” McGinley said.

Bailie said she now feels more confident that she can pursue a career in the arts.

“It opened me up a lot more to the opportunities in theater,” she said. “I can actually see a future in theater now.”

Another first for this year’s GSA was the addition of an architecture and historic preservation concentration.

“The new program had a two-pronged goal: to teach students what architecture is in the broader sense and to give them hands-on opportunities to design and build three-dimensional spaces,” Walker said.

No matter how GSA grows and changes over the next five years, Transy will play a role in its continued success. The University has been selected to host the program until 2008, the longest commitment GSA has ever made to any school.

“It’s the perfect relationship,” Walker said. “We’re elated to know we’re going to have a home at Transy for the next five summers, and hopefully even longer.”
Martha Ojeda often heard poems by Nicomedes Santa Cruz recited at holiday celebrations, but it wasn’t until years later when Ojeda was in the U.S. taking a graduate course on Afro-Hispanic writers that she learned who Santa Cruz was and the impact he had on Peruvian culture.

Now, the Transylvania French and Spanish professor wants to share her knowledge with other scholars through her first book, *Nicomedes Santa Cruz: Ecos de Africa en Peru* (Echoes of Africa in Peru).

The study of Afro-Hispanic literature is a burgeoning field. Writers of African ancestry who deal with the black experience in the Hispanic world have often been eclipsed by writers whose works reflect the European influence, Ojeda said.

“I would like for this book to awaken interest in Nicomedes Santa Cruz specifically and Afro-Hispanic literature in general,” she said. “The main purpose is to make Nicomedes Santa Cruz known as a poet and legitimize his work. He has been known in Peru mostly as a folklorist, while his poetry has been dismissed as popular poetry.”

Ojeda received grants from Transylvania’s David and Betty Jones Fund for Faculty Development and Kenan Fund for Faculty and Student Enrichment to complete her research on Santa Cruz in Peru. Her book, which was written and published in Spanish, takes a critical look at Santa Cruz’s poetry in the context of Peruvian culture. It explores his role in the restoration of the African legacy in Peru, and analyzes the satire, humor, and irony in his poems.

“His mastery of multiple poetic forms and his ability to work with the language is quite impressive, and I don’t think it had been studied properly or in depth,” said Ojeda.

Now that the book is finished, Ojeda plans to turn her attention to translating a testimonial written by Delia Zamudio, a black Peruvian woman, and completing research for a second book on Santa Cruz in English for the University of Missouri Press’s Afro-Romance Writer Series. Ojeda attended a six-week National Endowment for the Humanities seminar on Afro-Hispanic Writers and the Canon at the University of Missouri last summer.
Transylvania alumni solidified their reputation as one of the nation’s most loyal and generous alumni groups with another stellar showing in the 2004 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s America’s Best Colleges.

Transylvania alumni climbed to eighth place among the 217 national liberal arts colleges in participation, or the percentage of alumni who made a gift in the 2000-01 and 2001-02 fiscal years. Transy ranked 11th in last year’s survey.

“The fact that more than half of our alumni support the school every year is a remarkable achievement and a strong indicator of their satisfaction with the education they received here,” said Mark Blankenship ’81, interim vice president for alumni and development. “Colleagues at other colleges and universities always ask how we do it. I tell them Transylvania alumni are very proud of their alma mater and want everyone to know it. They are the ones who make this kind of national recognition happen.”

Most alumni give annually to The Transylvania Fund to help provide student scholarships, according to Cara Meade, director of development. However, other important areas that receive support through The Transylvania Fund are new and existing academic programs, faculty salaries, student learning opportunities, and technology enhancements.

“It think of The Transylvania Fund as the heart that supplies the lifeblood for the work that takes place here,” Meade said. “It’s a good metaphor to describe the fund’s fundamental importance to Transy’s ongoing strength and success. We depend on our alumni and others for regular financial support so that we may continue meeting the mission of educating our students.”

Transylvania Women’s Club stays true to its mission of helping students

It’s had some ups and downs, but one thing has been consistent throughout the Transylvania Women’s Club’s 88-year history: service to the University.

When a group of 10 women organized the club in 1915, one of their goals was to advance student welfare. Today, students are still a major focus of the club’s activities, as is confirmed by the scholarships it provides to two Transy students each year, as well as other contributions to University programs.

But much of the TWC history had been lost until club members Mary Ruth Clark and Carla Smith-Moorman ’91 began compiling and organizing membership books, meeting minutes, newspaper articles, photos, and other records into a set of binders. Smith-Moorman presented a summary at a recent club meeting.

“I started the history project several years ago because members were asking about the club’s past and there were no ready answers,” said Clark.

She gathered information from the Transy library’s archives, but soon hit a dead end. Smith-Moorman, a history major, became fascinated by the project and started working with Clark.

“We developed a questionnaire for members, handed out disposable cameras, bought sign-in books to record attendance at meetings, and started saving material from officers,” said Smith-Moorman. “Then in early 2002, these mythical binders of club records that I had been told about reappeared, and someone left a bunch of pictures and notes on my doorstep. So for about a year, my basement was a dedicated TWC archive.”

The history reveals that TWC members have done everything from helping with landscaping to making props and costumes for drama productions to bringing noted speakers such as Ellen Goodman and Shirley Chisholm to campus. After being very active from the 1940s to the late 1960s, the club experienced a decline in the 1970s and nearly disbanded in 1994. Fortunately, Gayle Greer ’58 emerged as a new and energetic leader in 1996, and the club is again on the upswing.

Membership, which now stands at 108, is open to any woman associated with or interested in the University. The $15 annual dues go toward the scholarship fund and other club programs. Membership co-chairs are Janice Boyd ’58, who can be reached at (859) 277-2058, and psychology professor Meg Upchurch, (859) 233-8252 or mupchurch@transy.edu.

Smith-Moorman says the history project is ongoing and welcomes contributions. She can be reached at (859) 219-1638 or cmoorman@fasigtipton.com.
A record enrollment of 1,134 students has the Transylvania campus bustling this fall, the result of an excellent retention rate and an entering class of 311 new students.

“We have had two consecutive years of high retention rates—91.4 percent last year and 91.2 percent this year—and that has been instrumental in achieving our strong enrollment,” said President Charles L. Shearer.

Enrollment has increased steadily since 1994-95, when it stood at 871. Shearer said he expects enrollment to level off at or slightly below the current level.

“We are delighted that our enrollment has increased at the rate it has over the past decade,” he said. “Transylvania’s enrollment is right where it needs to be. We are at capacity.”

Admissions director Sarah Coen said this year’s entering class has strong academic credentials, with an average ACT score of 26 and an SAT of 1200, both well above the national average. Their average high school GPA is 3.6 and 50 percent of them were in the top 10 percent of their class. Their numbers include 36 Governor’s Scholars, seven National Merit Scholars, three Governor’s School for the Arts graduates, 24 valedictorians, and nine salutatorians.

They are also diverse, with more African Americans and Hispanics than in last year’s entering class.

“Members of this class are very interested in community service,” added Coen. “They have also experienced research activities in high school and look forward to the excellent opportunities Transy offers for both faculty-directed student research and collaborations with faculty members on their own research projects.”

Coen said Transy’s alumni are playing an increasing role in the University’s recruitment successes.

“Our fee-waived applications were up to 66 for this incoming class, which means that 21 percent of the entering class received an application form from an alum,” she said. “Our alumni do a great job of referring prospective students to us.”

The Pioneer Alumni Recruitment Team (PART) plays a key role in this effort, according to Coen. She encourages alumni to refer prospective students or request fee-waived applications by contacting her at (800) 872-6798 or (859) 233-8242, or by e-mail at scoen@transy.edu.

Transy’s new Web site has something for everyone

Whether you’re an alum, a parent, a current student, a prospective student, a friend, or a member of the news media, Transylvania’s new Web site can provide all the information you need about the University. Best of all, it’s in a modern, attractive format that’s easier than ever to navigate.

The new site was launched in September after more than six months of research and development, including input from all areas of the University.

There are special sections for three major constituencies: alumni, prospective students, and parents. Other new features include a site map and a “Transy People” section that profiles current students, graduates, and faculty members.

Visit our site at www.transy.edu, and send comments to Web site developer Mariana Shochat at mshochat@transy.edu.
Charles W. Bare, Miami, has been elected first vice president and chaplain for the 75th Infantry Division Association, a World War II U.S. Army unit, which met in September for the 59th consecutive year.

Lawrence I. Schreck, Monroe Township, N.J., lost his wife, Bobbie, on April 24, 2003.

Joseph C. Graves, Lexington, was inducted into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame in July for his efforts to integrate downtown movie theaters in the early 1960s.

Jo-Nelle Desmond Long and Walter D. Long '50 live in Allendale, N.J. Their three children and two grandchildren live nearby.

Terry L. Cummins, New Albany, Ind., trekked to the Advance Base Camp of K2, the second highest mountain in the world, and published his first book.

Anne England Mulder, Grand Rapids, Mich., was awarded an honorary doctorate from Grand Valley State University to commemorate her lifelong contributions to education.

William Chris Hobgood, Olney, Md., public witness coordinator for Disciples Home Mission and former regional minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Capital Area, has been nominated to serve a 21-month term as general minister and president of the Christian Church (DOC) in the United States and Canada.

This photo was published at the beginning of the 1949 Crimson yearbook under the headline, “Here it is! Your 1949 Crimson.” We have no idea who these students are, but we’re hoping you might recognize yourself or a classmate and fill us in. If we can get definite identifications, we’ll run the photo in a later issue of Transylvania magazine with a full caption.
‘62  Dorothy Couch Watson, Tullahoma, Tenn., volunteer coordinator for Partners for Healing, was named Tullahoma’s Volunteer of the Year by the local Kiwanis Club at its annual Fourth of July celebration.

C. Edward Weisheimer, Shaker Heights, Ohio, and his wife, Ann, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October.

‘63  C. Thomas Ashley and Linda Ramsey Ashley have returned to Kentucky to be closer to their grandchildren. They will continue to manage their businesses, Pivotal USA and Biblio- tec, from their home in Richmond.

Carolyn Thompson Barnett McMurdo, Lexington, is retired from teaching and works at a Lexington flower shop. She and her husband, Bruce I. McMurdo ’65, have two sons and four grandchildren.

‘64  Sue Hufford O’Malley, Mt. Eden, Ky., a licensed marriage and family therapist in Shelbyville, welcomed her first grandchild, Tyler, in 2002.

‘69  Peter G. Cheney, New York City, was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree in January by the University of the South (Sewanee).

Steve Monhollen, Canton, Mo., was appointed director of field education at Lexington Theological Seminary in July. He will coordinate the placement of seminarians in student pastorates in central Kentucky, southern Indiana, and southern Ohio, and will work with approximately 35 local ministers who serve as field education supervisors.

William M. “Skip” Redmond, Lexington, has become part owner of the Delori Candle Company of Mt. Sterling, a manufacturer of soy candles, scented stuffed animals, and potpourri. Delori products are sold in 25 retail locations in five states and on-line at www.deloricandle.com. Skip will be marketing and developing new retail outlets.

‘70  N. Stanley McDougal, Hot Springs, Ark., is the senior pastor at First Christian Church in Hot Springs.

‘71  Susan Shadbourne Call and her husband, Don C. Call, live in Fishers, Ind. They met at their 35th high school reunion in Louisville and married in June. Sue now has two new daughters, a son, a son-in-law, and a one-year-old grandson.

Candice Caine Zaluski, Lexington, has been appointed secretary of the Kentucky Library Association and is serving on the advisory board for the Lexington Public Library.

‘72  William Hutchings Jr., Birmingham, Ala., professor of English at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, has received the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Distinction in Literary Scholarship, one of the state’s highest academic honors.

‘74  Janet L. McGregor, McLean, Va., has been named president and CEO of Lockheed Martin Investment Management Company.

‘75  David P. “Bear” Marthey, Jonesboro, Ark., asks for prayers for his grandson, John Preston Marthey, who was born in March with a serious congenital heart condition necessitating three surgical procedures.

‘77  Sallylyn Doherty Williams, Lexington, has been named assistant vice president of First Security Bank in Lexington.

‘79  Blake R. Burchett and Rebecca Heffner Burchett, Prestonsburg, Ky., have three children. Their son, Andrew, is a first-year student at Transylvania.

‘80  Katherine E. Betts, Chattanooga, Tenn., was named director of alumni for the Girls’ Preparatory School in Chattanooga in 2002.

‘82  Chris W. Grobels, Oakland Park, Fla., has been appointed accounting manager for GFA International of Florida, which specializes in environmental, geotechnical, and inspection services as well as structural design and material testing.

‘83  Monica Stinson, Louisville, a staff nurse in open heart recovery at Baptist Hospital East, traveled to Zimbabwe, Africa, last year through Southeast Christian Church. She worked in a field hospital, helping the staff care for patients. Since returning, she has kept in contact with the hospital staff through e-mail and has sent supplies. Monica is also an active volunteer at Blue Lick Elementary School.

‘88  Barbara J. Bowers, Paducah, Ky., is an ophthalmologist associated with The Ophthalmology Group in Paducah.

Todd E. Coleman, Lexington, is director of internal audit for the Kentucky Retirement Systems office in Frankfort, Ky., which serves over 250,000 state and local government employees and retirees.

Jennifer Day Shaw, Trinity, N.C., has been named dean of students at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
To many people, the fabled Principality of Monaco evokes glamorous images of princes and princesses, fabulously wealthy people in evening gowns and tuxedos, glittering hotels and exciting casinos, all in a setting on the French Riviera that seems more suited to a fairy tale than to real life.

Some, however, experience this exotic location with no more than another day at the office on their minds. Such is the workday experience of Donald Manasse ’71, an attorney in private practice whose business card—Donald M. Manasse Law Office—carries one of the world’s toniest addresses.

“Those of us who live here in Monaco—the working stiffs—get a little blasé about it, but the reality is that there’s a whole other group of people here who are not working and have very big boats and all the other accoutrements of great wealth,” said Manasse.

Monaco’s outsized reputation dwarfs its diminutive size—a mere 485 acres, into which is packed one of the world’s great concentrations of wealth, including 53 banks,

and Manasse, who has offices in both Monaco and nearby Nice, also pleads cases in many parts of France.

One of his most interesting cases began several years ago when he helped defend an American nurse who was eventually convicted of arson leading to the death of his employer, a very wealthy Monaco banker. A fire the nurse had set in a wastebasket, in a misguided scheme to look like a hero to his employer, spread to the banker’s posh penthouse apartment atop his Monaco bank building, eventually killing the banker by asphyxiation and leaving a blackened hulk where the penthouse once stood. The legal proceedings that followed were sensational in every sense of the word.

“There was a lot of international press attention in the case, a lot of pressure, and some very good lawyers on all sides of the field, so it was a very interesting situation,” said Manasse.

When he’s not practicing law, Manasse spends time on a favorite avocation, sail boating and sailboat racing. He’s well enough known in international racing circles to have been selected to serve on the five-member arbitration panel for the XXXI America’s Cup, won by the European team last fall in New Zealand. He also just completed an eight-year term as vice-chairman of the International J24 Class Association, an organization for owners of J24 class (24-foot) sailboats.

“I began sail boating when I met my first wife, who was a sailor,” said Manasse. “We sailed on Lake George, where I still have a home. I’m involved in racing here in Monaco and own a J24 class sailboat.”

Setting up shop in Monaco wasn’t as much of a stretch for Manasse as it might have been for some. He was born in Milan, Italy, of American parents and was raised and educated there. He came to Transylvania when he was 15 years old and graduated at 19 with a degree in political science.

“My parents had friends in Kentucky and my brother (Robert Manasse ’70) had already come to Transy,” he said. “My mother thought it would be a nice protected place to send a youngster during the turbulence of the 1960s.”

One of the highlights of his Transy years was a junior year abroad at the Institute for American Universities in Aix, France. A strong proponent of study abroad, he now serves on the board of that institute as well as the affiliated The Marchutz School for studio art.

After leaving Transy and working for two years in Milan, expecting every day to be drafted into the American military (it never happened), Manasse returned to the states and earned an M.A. in journalism from the University of Missouri before earning his law degree from the New York Law School in 1977.

Manasse and his first wife of 17 years, Kathryn Kluver, came to Monaco in 1979. He worked in his family’s trading business while building a law practice, and he and Kathryn had two sons, Patrick and Colin. Kathryn, also a lawyer, died in 1994, and Manasse has since remarried. He and Dilla Reynolds welcomed Benjamin Fritz into the world in 2001 and were expecting their second child in October.

Donald Manasse ’71 and two of his sons, Patrick (left) and Colin, take a break while on a ski trip. Manasse and his second wife, Dilla Reynolds, welcomed Benjamin Fritz into the world in 2001 and were expecting their second child in October.

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Manasse keeps in touch with several of his Transy classmates and retains nice memories of his years on campus.

“The important thing about my Transy years were the great friendships that were made, and how it helped me learn about the U.S.—although I was an American, I knew very little about the country. And a town that I remember very fondly, which is Lexington.”

-William A. Bowden
Transylvania art professor emerita and sculptor Louise Calvin was an inspiration to many students during her Transy teaching career (1969-81). Following her death in March 2002, three of those students collaborated with her husband to preserve her extensive collection of personal sculptures and plan a traveling exhibition of her work.

First stop for the exhibition was Transylvania’s Morlan Gallery, which hosted Teacher Inspires: Louise Calvin and her Students from September 12-October 17. The three students also exhibited their own work and attended a Lexington Gallery Hop event on September 19 to describe how Calvin influenced their decisions to become artists.

“I learned much from this dynamic woman, who showed me how to see through her perceptive eyes,” said Donna Glassford ’78, director of cultural enrichment for the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville. “She helped me see what I could become, and launched me toward a career in the arts, encouraging me along throughout the years.”

Margaret Pike Cronin ’76, director, Whistler House Museum of Art in Lowell, Mass., recalled how Calvin took a hands-on approach to her sculpture classes.

“When we didn’t get it, she would watch until she couldn’t stand it any longer and spring from her chair, chisel and mallet in hand, to come and fix what was not right. I still hear her voice telling me how to sculpt an eye, and I hear her very valuable advice on friendship and life.”

Douglas Baker ’75 remembered Calvin as a professor whose interest in her students went beyond the classroom.

“She didn’t maintain a wall between student and teacher,” he recalled. “She was interested enough to get involved with us on a personal level. Visiting her house and seeing all her sculpture had a big impact on me. She enjoyed our company, as we enjoyed hers.”

Baker has kept up an interest in sculpture, though it’s not his vocation. After an engineering career with Louisville Gas & Electric, he and his family moved to Seattle, where he devotes time to parenting and other pursuits.

“Sculpting is a personal thing for me—I’m making them just for my pleasure,” he said. “I think I may have a kind of subconscious effort going on here to replicate the magical quality that Mrs. Calvin had in her house.”

Calvin, born in 1914, earned a bachelor’s degree from Randolph-Macon College and a master’s from Yale University. She taught high school in her native North Carolina during World War II, when she first became involved in planning student festivities and pageants and began to discover her interest in three-dimensional displays, artistic work in general, and eventually sculpture.

After her work began to be noticed, Transylvania offered her a teaching position in sculpture and art design. While at Transy, she exhibited her work in several shows, often in Morlan Gallery. She retired from the faculty in 1981.

As a sculptor, Calvin worked primarily in wood. Art professor Dan Selter, who came to Transylvania in 1975, recalled her unusual abilities in that medium.

“Louise had a wonderful gift for analyzing a piece of wood and imagining what was in it. She worked with the existing shape and brought out some kind of figurative form. She had a knack for that, and taught her students that same skill.”

Selter said that it was Calvin who created the introductory course in art, now listed as Survey of Visual Art: Ideas and Techniques.

“She wanted some way to introduce the general student to the studio aspect of art,” he said. “After taking that course, they are a little less intimidated and may come back to take studio courses. It’s been a very important course in the development of the art program.”

Calvin should also receive credit for the idea of using the old Fayette School Building as an art facility for Transy, said Selter. The University purchased the building in 1999, moved the studio art program there, and is now completing renovations that include new windows and expanded parking.

Selter’s most vivid memory of Calvin comes from her presence in the studio, working on her own art and teaching her students.

“Here was this strong-willed woman in there, wielding hammer and chisel, knocking that wood around. She was a powerful role model, especially for the women students, offering by her example a passion for art and showing the sweat that’s involved in producing it.”

Donna Glassford ’78, Douglas Baker ’75, and Margaret Pike Cronin ’76 at the Morlan Gallery during the Lexington Gallery Hop.
‘89 **Timothy S. Chase**, Frankfort, Ky., has been appointed director of publications for the Office of Continuing Legal Education at the University of Kentucky College of Law. Since graduating from Transy, Tim has been a trumpet player, a soldier, a librarian, a computer consultant, and a small business owner. He is a member of the Ohio bar and is working toward building a part-time practice in mediation and Christian conciliation.

**Billie Jo Hall**, a client adviser with PNC Advisors in Lexington, and **Gayle Bicknell ‘88** of Reston, Va., spent six weeks in 2002 teaching English at Changsha University in Changsha, China. They volunteered through a program at Lexington Community College, where Billie Jo has been a part-time instructor in the business/marketing department for the last seven years. In addition to teaching, Billie Jo and Gayle toured five cities on mainland China and spent time in Hong Kong.

**Neil W. Lerner**, Davidson, N.C., has been promoted to associate professor of music at Davidson College. An essay he wrote for *Musical Quarterly* of Copland and film music received honorable mention in a competition for best essay in film studies given by the Society for Cinema and Media Studies.

**Amy Clark Medina**, Murray, Ky., is working toward certification in English as a second language at Murray State University. She teaches part-time and stays at home with her two sons, Daniel, 4, and David, 2.

‘90 **J. Todd Clark**, Lexington, owns and operates a real estate investment and management company in Lexington specializing in commercial properties. He and his wife, Marcia, have two daughters, Jula Reagan, 4, and Anna Riley, 1.

**Kara Little Covert**, Georgetown, Ky., is director of regional advancement at Eastern Kentucky University.

‘91 **Sarah Ball Johnson**, Springfield, Ky., was selected by the International Republican Institute as an international election observer for the April 12, 2003, National Assembly elections in Nigeria.

**Todd M. Hobbs**, Jeffersontown, Ky., has opened Family Diabetes Care in Louisville, his solo medical practice specializing in diabetes care for all ages. He and his wife, Tonya, welcomed a third son, Dawson, to their family in February.

‘92 **James N. Dickerson**, Cape Coral, Fla., is the art director/Web developer for Image Marketing Associates, an advertising agency in Naples, Fla.

**James L. Nisbet**, Winchester, Ky., is a realtor specializing in residential and investment properties at Coldwell Banker McMahan in Lexington.

**B. Erik Smith**, Rochester, N.Y., is a candidate for a master’s degree in furniture design/woodworking at Rochester Institute of Technology’s School of American Craft.

‘94 **Christopher T. Anderson**, Columbus, Ohio, is the farm coordinator of an ecology center owned by Dominican nuns. He enjoys rock climbing, hiking, gardening, and soul work.

**Monte E. McQuinn and Dominique D. Mobley-McQuinn ‘98**, Lexington, are the owners of Beaumont Courtyard Bar & Grille in the Beaumont Shoppes in Lexington.

**Stephanie Walsh Parker**, Brandenburg, Ky., has left her full-time teaching position to spend more time with her two children, Emily, 3, and Jack, 1.

‘95 **Michelle Gaines Bennett**, Lexington, completed her residency in pediatrics at the University of South Carolina in June 2002 and passed her pediatrics licensing exam. She is now a pediatrician at Pediatric & Adolescent Associates in Lexington.

**Elizabeth S. Homan**, Ellicott City, Md., is the media relations director for Montgomery College in Rockville, Md.

**Cathryn Richardson Rehmeyer**, Stanton, Ky., is pursuing a doctorate in plant pathology at the University of Kentucky and has received a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship to support her graduate work for the next three years. Her e-mail address is cjrehmeyer@uky.edu.

‘96 **Chanda Abney Allen** and her husband, Edward, moved to Houston in March, where they both work as engineers for the ExxonMobil refinery in Baytown, Texas. She can be reached at her new e-mail address, chandajo@sbcglobal.net.

‘97 **Heather A. Arnett**, Brookline, Mass., received her doctorate in neurobiology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in May 2002 and is a research fellow at Harvard Medical School and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. She was recently awarded a grant from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to study populations of stem cells in the brain.

**Chrisy Boblitt Evans**, Louisville, has been appointed information technology audit consultant of Brown-Forman Corporation in Louisville.

**Eckenhoff receives healthcare award**

Edward A. Eckenhoff ‘66 received the National Healthcare Award from B’nai B’rith International at a dinner in his honor, held in Washington, D.C., in June.

Eckenhoff, founder, president, and CEO of the National Rehabilitation Network (NRN), headquartered in the nation’s capital, was cited by B’nai B’rith for his “distinguished character, dedicated leadership, and outstanding civic involvement.” Himself a paraplegic, Eckenhoff has guided the growth of the NRN into an internationally recognized treatment, research, teaching, and technological center for rehabilitative medicine and science.

‘99 Ed Eckenhoff ‘66 is shown at the 2002 Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education awards banquet.
Tour the Canadian Rockies

The alumni office is offering a nine-day Canadian Rockies train and motorcoach tour through British Columbia and Alberta August 1-9, 2004, for all interested alumni.

The tour begins in beautiful Vancouver, B.C., where alumni will board the Rocky Mountaineer train for a ride through coastal forests, river canyons, and mountains to Kamloops and Jasper. Other highlights include Lake Louise, the Columbia Icefields, Banff, Moraine Lake, and Calgary.

The tour price of $2,899 (twin) or $3,799 (single) includes round trip air from Lexington, all accommodations, and 14 meals. An option is the deluxe Goldleaf service ($459), which features an assigned seat in the Bi-Level Dome Coach and dinner in Kamloops.

A Travel Night will be held on campus February 3 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the trip and answer questions. For reservations, more information, or a day-to-day itinerary, contact Natasa Pajic ’96, assistant director of alumni programs, at (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8213.

Board, award recommendations sought

Alumni are encouraged to submit recommendations for several awards that will be presented during Alumni Weekend 2004 and for new members of the Alumni Executive Board.

Recommendations are sought for the Pioneer Hall of Fame, Morrison Medallion, and distinguished achievement and service awards. The Hall of Fame recognizes former athletes, coaches, and others who have made outstanding contributions to Transylvania athletics, while the Morrison Medallion is given to an alumnus or alumna for outstanding service to the University. Achievement and service awards honor professional excellence and service to Transylvania.

Those recommended for the Alumni Executive Board should have a record of support and service to the University and be willing to serve a three-year term. New members are nominated by the board and elected at the annual meeting during Alumni Weekend.

For recommendation forms, contact the Alumni Office or submit recommendations to Mark Blankenship ’81, interim vice president for alumni and development, by e-mail at mblankenship@transy.edu.

Reunion class Web sites created


The sites can be viewed at www.transyreunions.com. Many of the sites include a photo of reunion committee members during a planning meeting. Click on your class year, then sign in to the guestbook and leave a message for your classmates. A number of alums have already done so, bringing classmates up-to-date on their lives and talking about the upcoming reunion. Alumni Weekend 2004 is set for April 23-25.

Old Morrison lithographs available

Alums looking for a striking addition to their artworks can purchase a full-color lithograph of Old Morrison and benefit the Transylvania Alumni Fund at the same time.

The lithograph is offered in four versions—the lithograph only, a framed version, a framed reverse-shadow box, and a framed version with room for a Transylvania diploma. The limited edition prints are signed by the artist and range in price from $69 to $199. Transylvania will receive a portion of the sale of each lithograph.

To order on the Internet, visit the Transy homepage at www.transy.edu, choose “For Alumni,” then “Transy Shopping” and “Diploma Frames.”

To contact the Alumni Office:
Phone: (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8275 ■ Fax: (859) 233-8797
E-mail: alumni@transy.edu ■ Web: www.transy.edu
Mail: 300 North Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508
Mary Ann Miranda, Lexington, has received her J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School and is a law clerk for Joseph M. Hood, U. S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky. For her wedding to Kristian Klene, Ruby O. Basham ’97 served as maid of honor and Lori A. Fennel ’97 was a reader during the ceremony.

Anne Hutcherson Martin, Lexington, has been named to the board of the Center for Women, Children and Families.

Hope Tipton, Baltimore, is director of Project Heal, a legal and medical service for low-income families, for the Harriet Lane Pediatric Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Brandon S. Cottrell has received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee at Memphis and is a resident in surgery at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Catherine Nunn Edelen, Lexington, has been elected vice chair for programming for the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Melanie Parrish Emmert, Lexington, has graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and is a resident in pediatrics at the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Women and Children in Orlando, Fla.

Shelley Rightmyer Gover, Danville, Ky., is pursuing a master’s degree in nursing at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing.

Shane E. White, Jackson, Miss., received his MBA from Millsaps College in May. He is director of admissions operations for Millsaps, handles sports information for the college, and coaches cheerleading.

Stephanie Silverhorn Brooks has completed a three-year enlistment with the U.S. Army as a medical laboratory specialist in Wuerzburg, Germany.

Kelly E. Hoskins, Birmingham, Ala., graduated from Tulane Medical School in May and is a resident in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Alabama Hospital.

Patricia Cheese Johnson, Woodstock, Ga., an account manager in Atlanta, was selected for Lexmark International’s Achiever’s Club held in San Francisco. She received a Diamond Performance Award for 2002 and was recognized as Account Manager of the Year for the high quota category in retail/manufacturing.

Whitney McCubbin Meredith, Elizabeth-town, Ky., is an attorney in the Commonwealth’s attorney for Hardin County.

Matthew L. Sublette, Louisville, has graduated from the University of Louisville School of Medicine and is a first-year resident at Wake Forest University in the obstetrics and gynecology department.

Jack Tsai has received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee at Memphis and is a resident in emergency medicine at Long Island Jewish Hospital in Long Island, N.Y.

Natalie Ellen Hurt, Louisville, has graduated from the University of Kentucky law school and is an associate attorney at Atherton & Associates in Louisville.

Rachel D. Settles, Chesapeake, Va., is a law clerk and attorney assistant for Titus Law Group in Virginia. She is also enrolled part-time in Regent University School of Law.

Rebecca G. Williams, Henderson, Ky., a teacher at Bryan Station High School in Lexington, has been awarded a James Madison Fellowship, which supports the further study of American history by teachers of American history, government, and social studies in the nation’s secondary schools.

Elizabeth A. Harrell, Louisville, has received a master’s in exercise physiology from the University of Kentucky and is a fitness specialist at Baptist Hospital East Milestone Wellness Center.

Sean C. McNichol, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal in September for meritorious performance of duty during Operation Iraqi Freedom. This marked the first time since World War II that the Bronze Star was presented to soldiers from the 32nd Signal Battalion. Sean has been deployed in the Middle East for several months, but expects to return to his regular duty station in Germany in early 2004.

Susan K. Richter, Lexington, Va., is in her second year of law school at Washington & Lee University School of Law. During the summer, she worked as an intern at Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. Friends may contact her at richters@wlu.edu.

Mary Katherine Fields Routt, Lexington, is a teacher at Breckinridge Elementary in Lexington. Her husband, Chad W. Routt ’00, is a market manager of Sherwin-Williams.

Shawn Thomas Scott, Lexington, is pursuing a master’s degree in French at the University of Cincinnati.

FeLisa Wilson, Richmond, Ky., is an admissions counselor at Eastern Kentucky University.

Erin Monfort Hansen, Fort Wayne, Ind., and her husband, Dirk, celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary on July 13.

Katherine R. Lobe, Lexington, is a market research associate for the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Erin E. McMahon, Union, Ky., is the sales coordinator for the Marriott’s Residence Inn at Hamburg Place in Lexington.

Marriages

Susan Lee Shadburne ’71 and Don C. Call, June 7, 2003
Paige Renee Gernst ’90 and Gordon Lamar Martin, May 17, 2003
Mignon Lallande Brousseau ’95 and Erik Christopher Drake, September 28, 2002
Lofton L. Durham ’95 and Nancy Patrick Young ’96, July 3, 2003
Cathryn Joy Richardson ’95 and John Rehmeyer, May 31, 2003
Chanda Jo Abney ’96 and Edward Franklin Allen Jr., May 17, 2003
Donna Hammer ’96 and Michael Beiting, April 12, 2003
Christopher T. Smedley ’96 and Margaret Elizabeth Tucker ’98, July 13, 2002
Mary Ann Miranda ’97 and Kristian B. Klene, November 30, 2002
Andrew L. Sparks ’97 and Whitney Elizabeth Franz ’99, October 5, 2002
Kimberly Ann Woosley ’97 and Luis Pedro Poitevin, June 14, 2003
Allison Joy Huck ’98 and Gary Howe, April 12, 2003
Shelley Renee Rightmyer ’98 and Barton F. Gover, November 2, 2002
Theresa Marie Zawacki ’98 and Benjamin Raymond Senninger ’98, August 16, 2003
Whitney Elizabeth McCubbin ’99 and Andrew Meredith, December 28, 2002
Molly Claire Dean ’01 and Wayne Stevens, June 14, 2003
Sarah Elizabeth Monarch ’01 and Jason Adams, May 17, 2003
Erin Elizabeth Moran ’01 and James Tyler Sutton, August 23, 2003
Chad W. Routt ’01 and Mary Katherine Fields ’01, June 22, 2002
Stephanie Anne Burdick ’02 and Daniel Joseph Shepherd ’02, June 21, 2003
Lindsay Rae McWilliams ’02 and Thomas Lecland Workman, August 23, 2003
Megan Elizabeth Statom ’02 and Brian Whitmer, June 7, 2003
Jennifer Vee Vandiver ’02 and James David Campbell, July 19, 2003
Sarah Lyn Stewart ’03 and Nicholas M. Holland ’01, June 5, 2003

Births

Sheila Huff Baker ’87 and Merritt Baker, a daughter, Sharon Carol Baker, April 30, 2003
Alumni who want to be assured of their first choice for accommodations should plan ahead for Alumni Weekend 2004, set for April 23-25.

That weekend is an especially busy one for Lexington because of the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, an international equestrian event that will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park, attracting many visitors to the city. For an up-to-date listing of hotels with special rates for Alumni Weekend, plus additional reunion information, visit www.transy.edu and click on “For Alumni.”

Lots of fun events are being planned for Alumni Weekend, beginning with golf and racing at Keeneland on Friday and ending with Sunday morning’s chapel service in Old Morrison Chapel.

Among other highlights are the Pioneer Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony Friday evening, the Alumni Celebration Luncheon on Saturday, and class reunion receptions/dinners and the Coronation Ball Saturday evening. The Marriott Griffin Gate will be the site of reunion receptions and many of the dinners.


Alumni will receive an invitation and detailed schedule in the mail in late winter.

Patricia Fedewa Kreke ’88 and Joseph Kreke, a daughter, Elisabeth Atwell Kreke, October 29, 2002
James E. Brown ’91 and Kathy Brown, a daughter, Lucy Elizabeth Brown, June 30, 2003
Juelet “Julie” Florence Knight ’91 and Thomas Knight, a son, Bailey James Knight, October 15, 2002
James L. Nisbet ’92 and Kelley Nisbet, a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Nisbet, December 3, 2002
Haley Ammon Taylor ’92 and Kyle E. Taylor, a daughter, Katherine Grace Taylor, June 30, 2003
Shannan Mccubbin Tracy ’92 and Brett Tracy, a son, Tucker James Tracy, March 2, 2002
Eimer K. Whitaker ’92 and Briget Whitaker, a daughter, Allison Kate Whitaker, May 29, 2003
Jennifer Burkhead Baker ’93 and Jason Baker, a daughter, Delaney Grace Baker, April 25, 2003
J. Scott Lenox ’93 and Ashley Faust Lenox, a daughter, Madeline Elizabeth Lenox, January 21, 2003
Tracy Davis Croley ’94 and Andrew Croley, a daughter, Alicyn Cari Croley, August 15, 2002
Elizabeth Harvey Matson ’94 and Michael Matson, a daughter, Alexandra Raye Matson, August 9, 2003
Jason D. Morgan ’94 and Emilee Sims Morgan ’95, a daughter, Madison Ann Morgan, May 29, 2003
Melissa Taylor Pascua ’94 and Jerome Pascua, a daughter, Sophia Therese Pascua, July 13, 2002
Shannon G. Ralph ’94 and Ruanita Pierce, a son, Lucas Matthew Pierce-Ralph, January 16, 2003
Erwin Roberts ’94 and Pheli Roberts, a daughter, Emeri Jo Roberts, April 19, 2003
Jay G. Tate ’94 and Courtney Broaddus Tate ’95, a daughter, Madison Creal Tate, April 24, 2002
Elizabeth C. Woodford ’96 and J. E. B. Pinney, a daughter, Abbott Catesby Pinney, May 20, 2003
Whitney Cassity-Caywood ’97 and Jason B. Caywood ’97, a son, Aiden Everett Caywood, April 9, 2003
Courtney Taylor Grumley ’97 and J. Bryan Grumley ’97, a daughter, Faith Elizabeth Grumley, April 14, 2003
Kristin Lando Parker ’97 and Rodney Parker ’99, a son, Brodie Christopher Parker, March 21, 2003
Carla Flanders Woessner ’97 and Ray Blevins, a son, Jacob Ray Blevins, September 3, 2003
Stephanie Silverhorn Brooks ’99 and Joseph Brooks, a daughter, Sydney Berit Brooks, January 21, 2003

Obituaries

Only alumni survivors are listed.

Mary Dale Robinson ’27, Lexington, died May 29, 2003. She was a member and former deaconess at Central Christian Church, a member of the Ida Harsion Circle, a life member of the Woman’s Club of Central Kentucky and Spindletop Club, a former member of the Lexington Country Club, and had been active in Meals on Wheels. Among her survivors is her grandson Brian C. Wood ’94.

Ruth Dowd ’28, Cynthiana, Ky., died May 31, 2003. She was a graduate of Bowling Green Business University, a retired employee of Persinger’s Hardware in Williamson, W.Va., and a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Cynthiana.

Clemmie Jamison Hall ’29, Stamping Ground, Ky., died August 28, 2003. She had retired from the City of Stamping Ground after 25 years of service. She was a member of the Stamping Ground Christian Church, where she taught Sunday school for over 20 years, and was a charter member of the Stamping Ground Women’s Club.

Charles Fred Taylor ’31, Oxford, Miss., died September 14, 2003. He was a retired high school principal and coach, insurance executive, and cattle rancher. He was a former president of the Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association and member of the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum Hall of Fame. At Transy, he was president of Lampas, a leadership and academic honorary, president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, and Mr. Pioneer his senior year. He lettered three years in football and basketball, and was named to the Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2000. He was a former class agent and former member of the Alumni Executive Board and Alumni Fund Committee. In 2003 he was recognized and honored as an outstanding citizen of Mississippi by U.S. Senator Trent Lott at the May 13 session of the Senate.

James Justin Grieves ’34, Fullerton, Calif., died June 14, 2003. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and remained part of the Air Force Reserve until the 1960s. He worked for the Union Oil Company of California for more than 30 years before his retirement. Ed Linberg ’57 conducted the graveside service for Grieves.

Jimmie Ellen Barr Barton ’35, Carlisle, Ky., died April 30, 2003. She earned a master’s degree from the University of Kentucky and taught high school until her retirement in 1981. She was a member of the Retired Teachers Association, Robert Barr Society, First Christian Church, Nicholas County Historical Society, American Legion Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Morgan’s Men Association, Order of the Confederate Rose, and the Jemima Johnson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Among her survivors are her son James B. Barton ’65 and her niece Betty E. Caywood ’56.

Leslie Lyall Kingsbury ’37, Fishers, Ind., died April 2, 2003. He was a retired college professor, having earned his Ph.D. from Edinburgh University, and did interim ministry work throughout his life.

Nettie McCullough Johnston Waldrop ’39, Houston, died June 7, 2003. In addition to being a Transylvania graduate, she attended Birmingham Southern University and completed her master’s degree at the College of William and Mary. She and her husband of 56 years, Rev. Robert Milton Johnston, who died in 1991, served at churches in New Bern, N.C.; Louisville; Tullahoma, Tenn.; Memphis; and Hopewell, Va., where they resided for more than 30 years. An elementary school teacher, she retired as a remedial reading specialist from the Hopewell Public Schools. After her marriage to Earl W. Waldrop ’39 in 1992, the couple resided in Fort Worth, Tex., where he had been senior vice-chancellor of Texas Christian University. Earl Waldrop preceded her in death in 2001. An active community member, she belonged to the John Randolph Hospital Guild and the Women’s Club.

Minnie Riddle Ragland ’37, Rockledge, Fla., died May 24, 2003. She had been a fitter/seamstress and salesperson, but predominantly worked as a homemaker. She enjoyed writing, traveling, sewing, and playing the piano. She was a life member of the Dayton Music Club, National Federation of Music Clubs, Florida and Ohio Federation of Music Clubs, Delta Omicron National Music Fraternity, Space Coast Writer’s Guild, and Scribblers of Brevard.

Betty Brown Johnson ’38, Westerville, Ohio, died October 13, 2002. She was a retired Warren County, Ky., school teacher and a member of the Delineator and Twentieth Century literary clubs.

Edith Fay Barton ’40, Nicholasville, Ky., died August 16, 2003. She was a medical records employee with Eastern State Hospital for 29 years before her retirement and was a 70-year member of the Porter Memorial Baptist Church.

E. Ray Phelps ’40, Roswell, N. M., died August 3 in Midland, Mich. Gordon Carson held multiple degrees from the Case Institute of Technology and Yale University. He had a distinguished career as a professional engineer, educator, and university administrator, serving at the Case Institute of Technology, The Ohio State University, Albion College, the Michigan Molecular Institute, and Northwood University. He was the founder and owner of Whitfield Robert Associates, a construction management company, and held several patents. Carson was a member of many honorary and professional societies, the author of numerous professional papers, and a contributing editor of engineering textbooks. He served on the boards of several public and non-profit organizations, was a 32nd Degree Mason, and was listed in Who’s Who in America. He taught adult Sunday school classes for more than 65 years, most recently at the First United Methodist Church in Midland.

Carson and his wife, Beth, who died in 1998, became acquainted with Transylvania through their friendship with President and Mrs. Charles L. Shearer. For more than 20 years, the Carsons generously supported the University. The funds and annuities given to Transylvania by the Carsons have been combined to establish the Gordon B. and Beth L. Carson Endowment for Scholarships.

“Gordon was a mentor and friend to me from more than 30 years,” President Shearer said. “He was a tireless advocate of higher education, and we are grateful he shared both his wisdom and his resources with Transylvania.”

Gordon B. Carson
1911-2003

Gordon Caros, a long-time supporter of Transylvania University and higher education in general, died August 3 in Midland, Mich. Carson was a member of many honorary and professional societies, the author of numerous professional papers, and a contributing editor of engineering textbooks. He served on the boards of several public and non-profit organizations, was a 32nd Degree Mason, and was listed in Who’s Who in America. He taught adult Sunday school classes for more than 65 years, most recently at the First United Methodist Church in Midland.

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FALL 2003 33
Retired psychology professor Travis Rawlings dies

Travis Dean Rawlings, a Transylvania professor emeritus who helped shape the University’s psychology program during his 25-year tenure, died August 7, 2003.

A native of Bath County, Ky., Rawlings earned his undergraduate degree from Kentucky Wesleyan College in 1947 and his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Kentucky in 1956. He served as director of guidance, academic dean, and professor of psychology at Midway Junior College and Pinkerton High School before coming to Transylvania in 1965.

At Transy, Rawlings teamed with fellow psychologist Richard Honey to offer students the widest possible variety of engaging psychology courses. Rawlings was an enthusiastic, animated lecturer whose courses in experimental and child psychology became some of the most popular on campus.

Former colleagues remember Rawlings’ dry sense of humor, calm nature, quiet friendship, and intense commitment to classroom teaching.

“He was somewhat laid back and casual, but at the same time he was quite demanding as a professor,” said retired anthropology professor Cara Richards. “He expected people to master the material. I never heard a story about him being lax or any student complain he was unfair or unkind. He was always very accessible.”

Rawlings retired in 1990 to spend more time with his children and their families and to further pursue his passion for antiques. He and his wife, Jo, owned an antiques business for almost 40 years. He was a well-respected dealer, specializing in the restoration of early American furniture, and some of the pieces he restored were featured in Antiques Magazine.

Rawlings is survived by his wife and four children, Jane Rawlings Perry ’78, Julie Rawlings Watson ’82, Paul Rawlings ’74, and Gregory Rawlings ’70.

March 16, 2003. He earned a law degree from the University of Oklahoma and practiced in New Mexico. He was instrumental in organizing the Roswell Symphony. He incorporated the organization, served as its third president, and held a place on the board for many years. He enjoyed music, traveling, and reading.

Lucille Barnes ’41, Lexington, died May 2, 2003. She was a loan secretary with Bank One for more than 40 years before her retirement and was a member of Crossroads Christian Church.

Maude Webb Wilson ’42, North Fort Myers, Fla., died July 17, 2003. At Transylvania, she was a member of Phi Mu. She was a homemaker, a Kentucky Colonel, and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Eastern Star. Among her survivors is her husband, Gordon H. Wilson ’41.

Robert H. Chambers ’50, Tulsa, Okla., died May 18, 2003. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After graduating from Transylvania, he studied geology at Southern Methodist University. He worked as a geologist for Phillips Petroleum, Northern Natural Gas, Dyco Petroleum, Warren American Oil, and as an independent consultant. His work focused primarily on domestic oil and gas exploration and production, but he also performed geological research and mapping in the Middle East. He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Tulsa and Amarillo Geological Societies, Holy Family Cathedral, Knights of Columbus, and Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Among his survivors is his wife, Constance Ballmann Chambers ’48.

Timothy B. Foley Jr. ’50, Lexington, died April 18, 2003. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, was the retired president of Foley Development Company, and was a member of Cathedral of Christ the King.

Rex B. Martin ’51, Lexington, died August 4, 2003. At Transylvania, he played center on the basketball team and was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity. He briefly owned and operated coal mines in Floyd County before returning to Lexington and founding Rex B. Martin Construction and Land Development Company. During his career, which spanned more than four decades, he owned many businesses in allied areas of the building and construction industry.

William W. Tinsley ’51, Watertown, N.Y., died February 2, 2003. At Transylvania, he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi. He earned a master’s degree from Hartford Seminary and retired from the New York Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

Nina May Boswell ’51, Brownstown, Ind., died April 12, 2003. A graduate of New York University, she worked as a secretary for the National Council of Churches and the College of the Bible. For two years in the 1960s, she was the dean of women at Transylvania. She then returned to New York and worked for Church Women United until 1977, when she moved to Indiana. She worked at the Hoosier Christian Village Nursing Home until her retirement in 1982. She was a member of Brownstown United Methodist Church.


Sarah Wiley Stephens ’62, Paris, Ky., died May 6, 2003. At Transylvania, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. She earned her master’s degree from the University of Kentucky, was an English teacher at Bourbon County High School for 22 years, and retired as dean of students at Sayre School in 2001. Among her survivors is her aunt, Jane Clay Bailey ’43.

Samuel H. Johnson ’63, Clarksville, Tenn., died March 3, 2003. At Transylvania, he played basketball, baseball, and intramural sports. He served as treasurer of Kappa Alpha fraternity and received the P.E. Award.

Charles E. Moore Jr. ’63, Linden, N.J., died April 4, 1994. At Transylvania, he played basketball and baseball and was a member of Circle K.

Mildred Pulling Schryer ’68, Lexington, died July 1, 2003. She served as a U.S. Army nurse in France during World War II. She was a longtime member of Park United Methodist church and a retired nurse for the VA Medical Center. She enjoyed traveling, gardening, and cooking.

Scott T. Sutton ’71, Darien, Ct., died December 20, 2002.

Obituaries in Transylvania are based on information available in alumni office files and from newspaper obituaries. Please send information concerning alumni deaths to the attention of Elaine Valentine in the Transylvania Alumni Office, 300 North Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508-1787. Newspaper obituaries with complete listings of survivors are preferred.
"THE CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PROGRAM fits right in with my estate plan. The return on my annuity agreements with Transylvania is greater than any other kind of investment I could get, and I'm assured of a set return for the rest of my life. I can count on a quarterly income that has very little taxation, and if I don't need the income, I can reinvest the return. The income is guaranteed for life, and that makes it attractive.

"It's good to know that the remainder of my annuities will support Transylvania. I came to Transylvania in the middle of the depression and couldn't have afforded to go to college without the scholarships I received. It was pretty hard living, but Transylvania prepared me well for graduate school and my career as a research chemist. Transylvania gave me the opportunity to major in chemistry, but be very involved in the music that has been a backbone of my life."

Maximize your investment
A charitable gift annuity can maximize your investment by providing a fixed rate of return based on your age and guaranteed by Transylvania for your lifetime. You can establish an annuity for as little as $5,000, and you'll receive an immediate tax deduction for the gift portion of the contract. Part of your dividend is tax free, which further increases your rate of return. Best of all, you'll continue supporting Transylvania students beyond your lifetime.

For more information, contact the development office at (800) 487-2679 or (859) 281-3692.

Current gift annuity rates

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"You can’t lose with a gift annuity."
—Russ Conklin '38
Students and professors took part in a re-creation of the Trial of Socrates (399 B.C.) in September that, unlike the original trial that resulted in a guilty verdict and a sentence of death, saw the Greek philosopher acquitted of the charges against him. Philosophy professor Peter Fosl, right, portrays Socrates while history professor Frank Russell takes the role of Meletus, a poet who accused Socrates of refusing to recognize the gods recognized by the state of Athens and of corrupting the youth. The event highlighted some of the texts students are exploring in Foundations of the Liberal Arts.  

*Photo by Joseph Rey Au*