Lab renovations transforming Brown Science
President Shearer announces retirement
Honor Roll of Giving
A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CHARLES L. SHEARER

Dear Friends:

It is with mixed emotions that I tell you I have decided to retire from the presidency of Transylvania, effective June 30, 2010. After 27 years at the helm of Kentucky’s first college, I feel the time is right to hand over the reins of leadership to a new president.

As you may imagine, I have weighed this decision very carefully. During my three decades of service to Transylvania—which include my first four years as vice president for finance—I have always put the best interests of the university first and foremost. In that context, I believe a new president, carefully chosen and eminently qualified, will carry on the work that I and many others have so diligently tended all these years.

As I look back over the years of my presidency, I take great pride and satisfaction in the university’s progress. Transylvania today enjoys historically high enrollments, academically talented and dedicated faculty members and students, an outstanding administration and staff, the best group of board members I have ever had the privilege to work with, and widespread support from alumni, parents, and friends.

While I have taken a leadership role in the affairs of the university, it’s an obvious truth that credit for our accomplishments goes to everyone who has been a part of Transylvania over these years. Time and again, the Transylvania community has shown an uncommon devotion to furthering the interests of this historic institution. Many of you are among those who have answered the call to serve this university. I am so grateful for all of that hard work and support, without which my presidency would not have been possible.

When the next eight months have come and gone, and I leave this office to walk down the front steps of Old Morrison for the final time as your president, you can be sure that I will be taking a large part of the university with me. Transylvania will always hold a special place in my heart, as will each of you.

Best wishes,

Charles L. Shearer
President

Look for an in-depth article about the historic tenure of President Charles L. Shearer, the university’s longest-serving president, in a future issue of Transylvania University magazine.
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Biology professor Sarah Bray observes junior Sydney Ryan and first-year student Daniel Ficker in a newly renovated Brown Science Center laboratory. The $9 million project is transforming the 1970 building into a state-of-the-art facility. For a look at how work completed thus far is enhancing the teaching and learning experience for faculty members and students, see article on page 8.

Photo by Joseph Rey Au
Transylvania welcomes four new faculty members

Four professors joined the Transylvania faculty for the 2009-10 academic year.

Carole A. Barnsley, assistant professor of religion, most recently taught at Miami University. She earned her B.A. in religion from Middlebury College, her M.A. in religion from Miami University, and is a Ph.D. candidate in religious studies at Indiana University. Her areas of specialization include Nizari Isma’ilism, Islam in South Asia, and comparative work on Islam, Hinduism, Christianity, and Judaism.

Jared Cole, assistant professor of drama, most recently taught at Wayne State University. He earned his B.A. in music and communications/theater at Greenville College and his M.F.A. in scenic design from Wayne State University. He was set designer for the Hilberry Repertory Theater's production of All my Sons in 2009 and The Compleat Female Stage Beauty, among others, in 2008.

Iva Katzaraska-Miller, assistant professor of psychology, most recently taught at the University of Kansas. She earned her B.A. in psychology, M.A. in social psychology, and Ph.D. in social psychology with a minor in statistics from the University of Kansas. An experimental social psychologist with emphasis on cognitive and cultural learning, her primary research interests lie in the domain of stereotyping and prejudice.

Timothy Polashek, assistant professor of music, was most recently chair of the audio engineering program at Gibbs College. He earned his B.A. in music from Grinnell College, his M.A. in electro-acoustic music from Dartmouth College, and his doctor of musical arts degree in composition from Columbia University. His dissertation was titled, Speakings IV: Composition for 16 Voices.

John R. Hall receives Kentuckian Award

John R. Hall, a member of the Transylvania Board of Trustees, was honored by the Happy Chandler Scholarship Foundation with its 2009 Kentuckian Award during the foundation's Awards of Excellence Gala in July. The award recognizes outstanding service to the Commonwealth.

After joining Ashland Inc. in 1957 as a chemical engineer, Hall became president of the company in 1971. He retired as chief executive officer in 1996 and as chairman of the board a year later. He then became the first chairman of Arch Coal Company, retiring in 1998.

Known for his passionate commitment to education, Hall was a founding member of the Partnership for Kentucky Schools and served on the Council for Postsecondary Education. He was Kentucky state chairman for the U.S. Olympic Committee from 1991-96.

At Transylvania, Hall has been a board member since 1982 and serves on its Executive Committee. His long history of support and service to the University includes capital campaigns, the annual fund, numerous building projects, the William T. Young Scholarship program, and the JGK III Scholarship program. Because of his personal support and that which he garnered for Transylvania through Ashland and its foundation, the John R. Hall Athletic Field was dedicated in his honor in 1996.

225th Anniversary Campaign closing in on June 30, 2010, deadline and $42 million goal

The 225th Anniversary Campaign is nearing its finish line of June 30, 2010, with an outstanding overall success story that still includes two areas where donor support is needed.

Contributors to the campaign have pushed the total to $41 million, just $1 million shy of the $42 million goal. Among notable areas of success are endowed funds for scholarships and the support of endowed chairs. Still needed are the Brown Science Center laboratory renovation project and completion of the goal of new student residence facilities.

“We’ve gratified at the tremendous support we have received thus far,” said Mark Blankenship ’81, acting vice president for development. “Members of our Board of Trustees have demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout this campaign and have helped to inspire alumni, faculty and staff members, friends, and corporations and foundations to increase their giving.”

The $6 million goal for endowed scholarships has been more than doubled, with $14.7 million in contributions. The three endowed chairs have been funded, with one—the Lucille Little Endowed Chair in Theater—already occupied by drama professor Tim Souls. The recent $2.9 million bequest from the estate of Margaret J. Lewis ’37 will fund the other two.

Among other campaign goals already realized are construction of the Glenn Building, the creation of a new Career Development Center suite, renovation of Haupt Plaza, and construction of three new tennis courts and renovation of three others. The Glenn Building, which houses a bookstore and Jazzman’s Café, was supported by a lead gift from the late trustee James F. Glenn.

The first stage of new residence facilities was realized in 2008 with the dedication of the $5.5 million Thomson Residence Hall, supported by a lead gift from trustee Joe Thomson ’66 and his wife, JoAnn. The University is currently studying plans for additional new residential space that would require new funding.

“Thomson Hall has allowed us to offer upper-class students suite-style amenities with more privacy, which is something many students have been used to in their home environment,” said Blankenship.

“Our next stage of student housing will continue that trend and also help us lower the density in our more traditional residence halls.”

The largest single remaining need in the campaign is the $2.5 million required to complete lab renovations in Brown Science Center. Seven of the 11 spaces have been renovated and are in use by faculty and students. (See article on page 8.)

“Everyone who has given to this campaign thus far is helping to ensure the future of this historic institution,” said President Charles L. Shearer. “The many benefits to students and faculty are already having a measurable impact on improving the living and learning environment at Transylvania. We are very optimistic that we will reach all of our remaining goals by June 30.”
Transylvania began classes this fall with a total enrollment of 1,092 students and 297 new students, including 283 first-year students and 14 transfers. The entering class, comprised of students from 12 states, includes 43 Kentucky Governor's Scholars and Governor's School for the Arts participants, and nine National Merit Finalists. There are also four international students in the class, three from Germany and one from Canada.

“While this is a slightly smaller class than we anticipated, we are certainly pleased with many of the characteristics of the group,” said Brad Goan, director of admissions. “Academic quality is strong, we enrolled the largest number of international students in many years, and this is the most racially diverse class, by percentage, in Transy’s history. While we have seen this trend for several years, it is striking how committed these students are to community service, and we are excited to see how that translates to the Transylvania community.”

Norman Wirzba, professor of theology, ecology, and rural life at Duke Divinity School, spoke in Haggin Auditorium on September 13 at Transylvania’s fall convocation. His lecture, “The Grace of Good Food,” continued the theme of this year’s First Engagements Community Book Project choice, Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year in Food Life by Barbara Kingsolver.

Wirzba is interested in the intersection of theology, philosophy, ecology, and agrarian and environmental studies. In particular, he focuses on understanding and promoting practices that will equip both rural and urban communities to be more faithful and responsible members of creation. His current projects focus on eating as a spiritual discipline, theological reflection as informed by place, and agrarianism as a viable and comprehensive cultural force.

His lecture focused on the grace of food as well as the act of saying grace for food, which he believes is a vital practice for the renewal of communities and the created world. “Saying grace introduces us to a new understanding of ourselves,” he said. Wirzba has published The Paradise of God: Renewing Religion in an Ecological Age and Living the Sabbath: Discovering the Rhythms of Rest and Delight. He edited The Essential Agrarian Reader: The Future of Culture, Community, and the Land and The Art of the Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry. He serves as editor for the book series Culture of the Land: A Series in the New Agrarianism, published by the University Press of Kentucky.

Professor of theology and agrarian studies speaks about the grace of food

Welcome Class of 2013

Orientation for the class of 2013 included the serenade on the steps of Old Morrison, during which the men sing to the women and women sing to the men (below). The greet line (bottom), where new and returning students meet, featured a fist bump in lieu of the traditional handshake as a precautionary measure against the possible spread of the H1N1 flu virus. Hand sanitizer was also available at the event.

Photos by Paul Atkinson
Transylvania earns Kentucky’s first EPA ENERGY STAR rating for residence halls

Transylvania’s Thomson Residence Hall has earned the Environmental Protection Agency’s ENERGY STAR rating, the first such recognition for a residence hall in Kentucky.

“Transylvania has made sustainability a campus priority, and the design of energy-efficient Thomson Hall reflects that commitment,” said President Charles L. Shearer. “We worked closely with Sherman Carter Barnhart Architects and CMTA mechanical and electrical engineers to meet our needs in the most efficient manner possible.”

Darrell Banks, physical plant director, said the ENERGY STAR rating is based on three criteria—the building “envelope,” efficiency of the electrical and mechanical systems, and operating efficiency—and is calculated after a full year of measured performance.

“This ensures that Thomson Hall is not only a ‘green’ building as constructed, but that it’s truly energy efficient over time,” Banks said.

Relevant features of the envelope include a roof system and walls with high insulating value, and windows that minimize heat loss while shading the interior from excessive solar heat. A highlight of the building’s first year of operation was the prevention of 130 metric tons of carbon dioxide from polluting the atmosphere when compared with an average dorm of the same size. The building’s efficiency also saved the University $20,330 on utilities for the year.

The three-story, 28,000-square-foot building provides housing for 61 students in 31 suite-style units, meeting and study spaces, lounges, and the 1780 Café.

In addition to its envelope qualities, Thomson Hall’s sustainable features include geothermal heating and air-conditioning, a lighting system that performs 20 percent better than the energy code requirement, showers equipped with low-flow heads, and a blacktopped parking area made of 50 percent recycled material.

“At Transylvania, sustainability is more than an intellectual concept,” Shearer said. “Here, everyone can have a hand at confronting important environmental issues and solving real-world problems through personal involvement.”

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Transylvania appears in Forbes’ college rankings

Transylvania was ranked 75th among private colleges in the United States and 85th overall on the 2009 Forbes’ list of America’s Best Colleges. The rankings are based on criteria such as professor evaluations (www.ratemyprofessors.com), alumni listed in Who’s Who in America, percentage of students who graduate in four years, and the number of students and faculty who have won competitive awards.

Transylvania Treasures wins Gold Award

Transylvania’s publications office received a 2009 Circle of Excellence Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Transylvania Treasures, a thrice yearly newsletter, was named a Gold Award winner—the highest award offered—in the prestigious international competition. The publication is dedicated to showcasing the rare and valuable items in Transylvania’s Special Collections and Moosnick Medical and Science Museum.

Barnes’ movie score released on CD

A CD of the original motion picture soundtrack to Euphoria, composed by Transylvania music professor Larry Barnes, was recently released. The 13 tracks lend thematic and emotional support to the film’s optimistic message of achieving natural highs in life. To purchase a copy, contact Barnes at lbarnes@transy.edu or go to www.cdbaby.com/cd/larrybarnes.

Pioneers lead HCAC institutions in standings for Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup

Transylvania led all Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference institutions with a 69th place finish in the Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup standings for NCAA Division III members after the conclusion of the 2008-09 sports calendar. Transy’s total of 238.5 points in the final standings drew on the strength of three teams in particular, gaining 34 points from women’s golf, 60 points from men’s golf, and 25 points from men’s tennis. The Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup is a joint effort between the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics and USA Today. Points are awarded based on each institution’s NCAA finish in up to 18 sports.
Ray retires as CFO after 26 years

Jerry Ray retired from Transylvania as chief financial officer in June after a 26-year tenure highlighted by excellent oversight of the financial operations of the University and significant changes in the various departments under his managerial control.

“Jerry always looked out for the University’s best interests when it came to our financial position,” said President Charles L. Shearer. “He possesses good management skills that served Transylvania well in many areas, including information technology, human resources, and the physical plant. We will miss his good counsel.”

Among the expenditures that Ray oversaw were investments in technology that transformed campus life in many areas.

“The growth of information technology during my years at Transy is something I played a direct role in and feel very good about,” Ray said. “We installed an underground fiber optic cable in the early ’90s that ran all over the campus and supported many things, including computers, the phone network, and security cameras. That back-bone cable is still vibrant today.”

Ray oversaw the creation of a full-time human resources position, filled today by Jeff Mudrak. He was also responsible for helping bring Darrell Banks (physical plant director), Richard Cook (public safety director), and Jason Whitaker ’97 (IT director) to Transylvania.

“All of the people Jerry helped to bring here are exceptional employees,” said Shearer. “He always had a good perspective on the types of individuals who can best serve the University.”

Over the years, Ray was involved with members of the Board of Trustees in property acquisition that has allowed Transylvania to expand its academic and student life facilities. He also had oversight of the physical plant during an era when major new buildings and athletics fields were added to the campus.

Ray and his wife, Charlotte, are the parents of two Transylvania graduates, Kyle Ray ’03 and Allison Ray Bailey ’05. In his retirement, Ray plans to be a volunteer and perhaps do some financial work.


Library will benefit from challenge grant of $10,000 to boost parents fund

A group of parents of current students and alumni will contribute an additional $10,000 to the parents fund if the fundraising goal of $96,000 is met by the end of the 2009-10 fiscal year. The fund supports the Transylvania library and last year paid for more than one-third of library acquisitions.

“It’s very exciting,” said Lori Burlingham, assistant director of development, who coordinates parent programs. “The $10,000 challenge is in addition to what these parents have already given. Many other parents have also committed to increase their support to help us meet the challenge.”

The parents fund exceeded its goal of $93,000 during 2008-09 by raising a record $100,595, and Burlingham hopes that trend will continue. “We’d love to see the fund exceed the $100,000 mark again this year,” she said.

Gifts to the parents fund for the next three years also will count toward a challenge grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation for library expansion. The grant will be applied toward establishing an endowment for the acquisition of books, periodicals, and on-line resources to support student and faculty study and research. (See page 7.)

The library is a vital resource for Transy students, circulating nearly 9,000 books and periodicals annually. More than 50 databases, 15,000 on-line journals, and 60,000 electronic books expand the library’s holdings beyond the space constraints of the library building and are becoming ever more important. In 2007-08, for example, students and faculty members accessed electronic databases nearly 236,000 times as compared with 54,000 times in 2000-01. Subscriptions to these databases typically cost $2,500 or more per year.

For more information about the parents fund, or to make a contribution, go to www.transy.edu/giving or call Burlingham at (859) 281-3564.

Corrections

Faculty update

An article on page 2 of the summer issue of Transylvania magazine about faculty awards and promotions stated that computer science professor Kenny Moorman ‘91 joined the faculty in 2003. He actually came to Transylvania in 1997.

Theta Investments club

An article on page 18 about Theta Investments stated incorrectly that Tim Collins ’81 was a founding partner of the alumni investment club. Steve Hall ’83 founded the club in 1983.
A major in writing, rhetoric, and communication, and a biochemistry track within the chemistry program are the newest additions to the Transylvania curriculum.

The writing, rhetoric, and communication (WRC) major allows students to explore the many ways in which humans communicate, including the classical rhetoric of ancient Greece, contemporary writing in many varieties, and speech and debate. “A student majoring in writing, rhetoric, and communication is interested in reading, writing, and looking at culture very closely and critically,” said WRC professor Scott Whiddon. “They will be able to take what they learn about audience, purpose, genre, and discourse and apply it to many areas of their careers and lives.”

Gary Deaton, WRC instructor, program director, and director of forensics, said the program’s areas of study are rooted in the classical era of Aristotle, Plato, and Socrates, among others. “The teachers and thinkers of the classical era, in the way they contemplated the world, were the foundation of a liberal arts way of learning,” Deaton said. “A lot of it had to do with how they thought about relationships among people, the ways of moving people to act, and the communication of these messages both orally and in written form.”

Martha Gehringer, WRC instructor and director of the Writing Center, likes the opportunities the new WRC major offers students who have an abiding interest in the written word. “Writing is part of everything students do at Transylvania, but this is the first time we’ve given them the opportunity to make that the primary intention of their four years here,” she said. “For students who truly love to write, this will give their course of studies the attention it deserves.”

Possible outcomes for WRC majors include graduate programs in the three disciplines that might lead to teaching or research careers, professional programs such as law school, or careers as communications or human resources staff members at a variety of companies or organizations. Print and broadcast journalism, along with public relations, are also possible career paths.

Dylan Holland, a senior WRC major, will be among the first group of students to graduate under the new curriculum. He sees his major as a versatile degree that will allow him to pursue an interesting choice of career paths.

“I’ve thought about being a teacher or writer, and those are both still open to me,” he said. “It’s the thing I love most about this major, that there are a lot of ways you can go with it.”

The major also brought him in touch with the forensics program and the Writing Center, both of which have given him highly valued experiences. “I took an Argumentation and Debate class from Gary Deaton and ended up liking it so much that I joined the debate team,” he said. “I enjoy this a lot. We went to the national tournament and did very well.”

Chemistry: biochemistry track gives students the opportunity to combine their interests in biology and chemistry to explore the point at which chemicals interact to create living organisms.

“We’ve always had the courses that a biochemistry track would contain, and now we have grouped them for the students to have as a path,” said chemistry professor and program director Eva Csuhai. “It’s an interdisciplinary course of study. You have biology and you have chemistry—biochemistry is the link between the two.”

Among the outcomes for students in this variation of the chemistry major would be graduate work in biomedical research, along with professional schools and other graduate programs, teaching, and industry. Sydney Blevins, a senior who is following the chemistry: biochemistry track, plans to attend graduate school and earn a Ph.D. in biochemistry or a related field. Her career goal is to do research or teach at the college level. She spent the summer of 2009 at Texas A&M University, working in the biochemistry department with a graduate student on a project that used yeast to study activities at the cellular level.

“I was originally a biology major, but after taking some chemistry classes, I realized I was more interested in the chemistry of how biological systems work,” she said. “I find it fascinating and amazing how molecules interact and eventually control our metabolism, how our blood flows, and how we breathe. I’m excited that future Transy students will have this opportunity to explore both areas and bring them together.”

Editor’s note: Holland and Blevins were able to complete their respective major requirements in the first year of the new programs as a result of having prepared for a special major pattern beginning in their sophomore years.

Transylvania welcomes two visiting professors

Transylvania welcomes two visiting professors in art and writing for the 2008-09 academic year.

Kenan visiting artist Zoe Strecker earned a B.A. in English literature from Grinnell College, where she graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors in 1988, and an M.F.A. in ceramic sculpture from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 1997. Her work includes large-scale public sculptures at sites across the United States.

Strecker’s primary goal as an educator is to demystify technical processes while developing in her students the intellectual tools necessary to make art and to comprehend works of art made by others. “A liberal arts environment provides an ideal setting in which to teach art as a practice and as a subject,” she said. “When anyone engages with significant works of art, our perspectives are expanded in ways that strengthen us.”

Kenan visiting writer Richard Taylor recently retired as professor of English at Kentucky State University. He has won a variety of honors for his extensive publications in both poetry and prose and was Poet Laureate of Kentucky from 1999-2001. As director of Poetry in the Schools for the Kentucky Arts Commission, he serves as poet-in-residence at a dozen public elementary and secondary schools across Kentucky.

Taylor earned a B.A. in English from the University of Kentucky in 1963, an M.A. in English from the University of Louisville in 1964, a J.D. from the University of Louisville School of Law in 1967, and a Ph.D. in English from UK in 1974.

His publications include Rail Splitter (poems), Larkspur Press (2009); Sue Munday: A Novel of the Civil War in Kentucky, University Press of Kentucky, 2006; Stone Eye (poems), Larkspur Press, 2001; and Girty (a novel), Gnomon Press, 1989.

During winter term, he will teach a course in fiction writing set up as a combination seminar and workshop. “I’m looking for motivated and talented student writers who want to try their hand at creativity,” he said.
Transylvania receives $1 million grant from James Graham Brown Foundation

Transylvania has received a $1 million grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation in support of a $6.2 million initiative to expand the University’s library resources. Half of the award is a challenge grant that requires the college to raise the remaining $5.2 million.

“We are very appreciative of the foundation’s board of trustees in making this award,” said President Charles L. Shearer. “Expanding and improving our library resources is essential to the future of Transylvania as a leading liberal arts college, and this generous grant will take us far in that direction.”

The library project is a key component of the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, which was approved by the University’s Board of Trustees in May. The vision is to expand the contemporary holdings of the library while also creating a program to take better advantage of the University’s historic and prestigious holdings in 19th-century documents, scientific artifacts, portraiture, and early books and art.

The Brown Foundation grant will be applied specifically to the establishment of a $2 million endowment for the acquisition of books, periodicals, and on-line resources that will support student and faculty study and research.

“A liberal arts college is measured to a great degree by the quality of the library resources available on its campus,” Shearer said. “Recent faculty hires have added dynamic new areas of study to our curriculum, and more students are undertaking grant-funded research. Our goal is not necessarily to have the largest collection among our benchmark institutions, but to have the best collection to meet the needs of our unique programs.”

The strategic plan envisions adding 30-50,000 physical-copy and on-line books, as well as database, periodical, and reference resources, over the next five years. Ultimately, the collection will grow to about 190,000 physical volumes and another 100,000 books on-line.

The other part of the library initiative involves the often unique and historically significant holdings in Transylvania’s Special Collections and the Moosnick Medical and Science Museum. These items relate to U.S. and scientific history and scholarship in general, but also tell the compelling story of Transylvania’s central role in bringing higher education—especially scientific and medical training—to the Trans-Allegheny West.

The plan envisions an addition to the library that would house a museum/special collections area and a new staff position of historian/archivist. That person would be responsible for increasing the accessibility of the college’s historic holdings to students, researchers, and scholars, including the development of a summer outreach program for high school history and civics teachers.

“Transylvania was at the center of American history during the 19th century,” said Shearer. “In order to make Transylvania a ‘destination’ for those seeking to understand American history and to view our own rich history and vibrant present, we need to combine our historic holdings into a central location or museum.”

For information on supporting the library initiative, contact the development office at (800) 487-2679.
Experiment a Success

Partially completed Brown Science labs renovation project already paying big dividends for students, faculty

BY WILLIAM A. BOWDEN

Seen from outside, the nearly 40-year-old, red-brick Brown Science Center looks much the same as it has since its opening in 1970. But step inside, and the view changes dramatically.

A $9 million, multi-year laboratory renovation project, now more than half complete, is transforming the building into a state-of-the-art facility highlighted by bright, modern, spacious, newly refurnished and furnished labs that are drawing rave reviews from students and professors.

“The contrast between the old and the new is stunning,” said physics professor Jamie Day, whose program’s two first-floor labs were the first to be completed. “Overall, it’s a much better place to teach and learn, and our students are realizing the benefits.”

Seven renovated labs are now in use, with four more scheduled to come on line in the next year or two. Completion of the project will depend on fund-raising, which still needs approximately $2.5 million (see sidebar, page 11).

“This vitally important project is showing good progress, though we still have a significant amount of work to do,” said President Charles L. Shearer. “The University is very appreciative of all the donor support we have received thus far. This is an investment in Transylvania’s future that is paying very visible dividends.”

Exceeding expectations

Impetus for the project came from the need to be up-to-date with equipment and furnishings, such as the new fume hoods installed in a chemistry lab, but also from two significant changes over the past four decades in the way science is taught and learned. Teachers today want to eliminate the disconnect between a classroom explanation of an experiment one day and the lab the next day by combining the two in a teaching-friendly lab space. And today’s students work in far more collaborative ways than their predecessors, which calls for more spacious, flexible labs to accommodate working together in various sized groups. On all counts, the renovated labs are meeting or exceeding expectations.

Biology professor and program director James Wagner points to his Animal Behavior course as a prime example of the way the new labs were designed to work.
The class met in the biology flex lab, so named because of its high degree of flexibility in the way the room can be set up and in its various components, including a separate room in which to keep animals.

“We did a study looking at crayfish aggression—they're very aggressive—using hormone blockers to monitor the shift in behavior,” Wagner said. “We moved the tables from a lecture arrangement to double-table areas for students to work on in small groups. Each group was doing the same experiment, but everyone was doing their own sample, unaware if their specimens had the hormone blocker or a control saline solution.

“So we had this big space where everyone was working at the same exact time, and as they work the experiment and data comes in, we can put it up on the white board and analyze it as a group. All the time, I can walk around and assist them. So it was both a classroom and a working lab, at the same time. For me, it was a perfect example of how we envisioned these rooms to be used.”

Another situation illustrating the versatility of the flex lab was a session where Wagner was teaching scoring behavior—how to observe and record the behavior of animals under study. Using the room’s projector system, he put a camera over a group of crickets and threw the live video to a screen that all could see.

“This was a lecture, since I explained how to score behavior and collect the data using a computer program, and also a lab because they did the observations, recorded the data, and then we analyzed it together. Again, it was a great hybrid of lecture and lab in one session.”

Bethany Hosford, a junior biology major, did an experiment in her Animal Behavior class that looked at the behavior of frogs put on a light/dark cycle, using the rooms adjacent to the flex lab designed for this purpose. “It was only because of the renovations that we have these specialized rooms to put animals in and adjust the light conditions,” she said.

Hosford is also a big fan of the moveable tables found in the flex lab and in some of the others. “We could adjust them to have a bench to work on with you and another person, or connect them for a group of five to work on. We could even

A renovated biology laboratory includes modern furnishings and equipment, moveable tables, exterior windows, and a bright, inviting environment for students and faculty members.
push them all together in a circle to have a discussion over papers we had read.”

**An uplifting environment**

Among the attributes of the renovated labs universally praised by faculty members and students alike is their decor that features brighter colors, improved lighting—including new windows cut into the Upper Street side of the building—and spaciousness created, in some cases, by turning two former smaller labs into one large one. This is especially important because of the many hours students spend in a lab setting.

“I think just the physical environment of our renovated labs makes a 100 percent difference,” said chemistry professor and program director Eva Csuhai. “The fact that there is sunlight in the room and much more space relaxes the students and makes a four-hour lab session much more comfortable. So now, we never really feel that time.”

Blake McCowan, a senior biology major, could not agree more.

“Just walking into these labs, it’s so much brighter and inviting,” he said. “The spaciousness and the way the equipment and furnishings are set up make it much easier to work with another student. The whole atmosphere makes me want to work harder. It’s also more efficient, since there is plenty of space and equipment, which lets us get more experiments done and make better use of the lab.”

One of the most visible upgrades in the organic chemistry lab is the installation of 13 high quality fume hoods where once there were six. Two students have plenty of room to work in a hood, each of which has two complete sets of hookups for gas, air, cold water, and vacuum.

“Most of the serious work is done around the fume hoods,” Csuhai said. “Our first learning experience with them was to learn how good they are. They’re great. We have hardly smelled a chemical since they were installed.”

Having enough room to begin an experiment and have it continue undisturbed over many weeks is a primary benefit for Prya Murad, a junior biology and philosophy double major.

“In my Cell and Molecular Biology class, we do an experiment with live cultures, and my group tested the effect of caffeine on the cells,” Murad said. “So you have these Petri dishes that you have to monitor every few days. It’s really nice to know you can do your own thing and not have to worry about intruding on other peoples’ space.”

Csuhai believes the private space for experiments has several advantages.

“I think the students have a greater sense of ownership of their work, because they have their own space that they are responsible for,” she said. “It was also one of the new ideas we had in planning these labs, that upperclass students could run an experiment that would be in view of the younger students, who could learn from it. And that’s working.”

Murad also appreciates the improvement in the overall ambience of the labs because of the long hours many students spend in that environment.

“There are scheduled hours for labs, but for all practical purposes you wind up spending a lot more time in there,” she said. “Experiments don’t just happen on one day—you may fail with them 20 times, and then finally it might work. So you may come in for a few hours on this day, a few hours on that day.”

Elimination of the high dividers running down the length of benches in the old chemistry labs is a vast improvement for Csuhai as she integrates the lecture, discussion, and lab work into a single room.

“Now we can all see each other through-
out the classroom, so when I go over to explain something to one pair of students, everyone else can observe it,” she said. “It makes the experience much more interactive. Every lab, I have to demonstrate some assembly or technique. If I hold something up in the middle of the room now, 20 students can see it. Before, only four could. It’s a big advantage.”

From abstract to concrete

When Day teaches his physics classes, he too uses the enlarged lab space as both classroom and lab. This was one of the primary goals of the renovation, to create rooms where abstract instruction and concrete experiments can take place in the same space and time.

“Rather than having a one-hour lecture three times a week in a separate room and then a three-hour lab once a week, we now have two-hour sessions on Monday-Wednesday-Friday or three-hour sessions on Tuesday-Thursday, and I do all my teaching and lab work during those periods, in the same greatly expanded room.” Day said. “We jump from the theory, written on the white board with lots of equations and formulas, directly to doing demonstrations and experiments. So instead of telling them on Monday about conservation of energy and maybe it’s Thursday before they get around to actually seeing it, they see it five minutes later.”

Day can scarcely contain his enthusiasm about one new piece of equipment that the renovation project has made possible, a sophisticated optics table that opens up a whole new world of experimentation for his students. The sturdy 8-by-4-foot table rests on large pneumatic shock absorbers that provide an extremely stable platform to work on.

“Our students are using a Mach-Zender interferometer that they built to detect single photons of light,” Day said. “We’re ultimately going to try to make these photons interfere, which is very complicated quantum mechanics. We’re doing experiments now with a precision we’ve never been able to do in the past. Measuring a universal constant, for example. It’s a tricky experiment, and we used to spend weeks on it and get mediocre results. Now we can spend an afternoon on it and get really good results, just because the system is damped so well.”

Thomas Baker, a senior physics major, is using the optics table in partnership with a classmate to do his senior research project, a quantum eraser experiment that studies specific attributes of light in two cases where you know and don’t know the path to its destination.

“If it weren’t for the optics table, it would be impossible to do this experiment with any precision at all,” Baker said. “When you’re dealing with particle physics, you need that very high degree of exactness. This table is located in the smaller physics lab, which is a very impressive space.”

When his classes meet in the larger physics lab, Baker, too, is a fan of the improved ambience of the room. “It’s very visually appealing, there’s lots of storage space, the chairs are comfortable, and it’s very conducive to doing our experiments. During lectures, the sliding white boards are nice for taking notes. You might work a problem, then need to reference it again, so you just slide the board back to reveal it.”

Taking the long view

Even though she will soon complete her Transylvania education, Murad is enthusiastic about what the labs renovation project is doing for the future of her soon-to-be alma mater.

“I think it will be great for Transy, because we already have a very strong pre-health program and good camaraderie in the science programs overall, and this project will combine up-to-date equipment with the really strong teaching we have. We love these labs.”

And though her graduation is nearly two years away, Hosford also takes a longer view than her own Transy days and feels future students will reap great benefits from the renovation project.

“I spent last summer working in the medical research labs at the University of Kentucky, and our labs now compare very favorably with those at UK,” she said. “It’s wonderful for Transy students to be working in such good labs, since it prepares you better for research in graduate or professional school.”

State-of-the-art fume hoods that can easily accommodate two students per hood have helped transform this chemistry lab into a more efficient learning environment.

Donor support still needed to complete labs renovation

The contributions to better learning that the seven renovated laboratories in Brown Science Center are already making to students and faculty members underscore the need to complete fundraising for renovation of the remaining four labs.

Renovation of lab space in the building, which opened in 1970, was originally targeted as a $7 million project, but is now at $9 million due to rising construction costs and expansion of the scope of work. With $6.5 million already raised, the remaining need is $2.5 million.

“This project is critical for Transylvania because of the University’s excellent track record at preparing students in the sciences for careers in medicine, research, teaching, and industry,” said Mark Blankenship ’81, acting vice president for development. “Modern, state-of-the-art facilities, like those in the labs already renovated, are essential to ensure the future success of the science programs.”

Up-to-date lab facilities benefit the entire student population, since every Transy student must complete a general education requirement for a science course with a lab element to be eligible for the B.A. degree.

For information on donor support, contact the development office at (800) 487-2679.
Pat Sullivan ’80 uses his Transylvania science background and Texas MBA to find financial solutions for industry

BY WILLIAM A. BOWDEN

Pat Sullivan ’80 was sitting in an orientation session at ExxonMobil’s Baytown Refinery in Houston in 1987, listening to a chemical engineer explain the basics of the crude oil refining process to a roomful of support staff—accountants, finance and marketing managers, and human resources employees.

The instructor threw up a chemical structure on the board and asked, “Does anyone know what this is?”

Sullivan, who had just joined the company as a financial analyst, answered, “Yes. It’s methylocyclohexene,” surprising the engineer and everyone else in the room. “It kind of blew him away,” Sullivan said, in a recent interview.

It’s this combination of scientific insight and financial acumen—a real bonus in his profession Sullivan says—that has given him the expertise and tools to succeed in a variety of industrial and manufacturing settings over a professional career of almost three decades. It continues to pay dividends in his current position in Dallas as controller at Luminant, Texas’s largest power company.

Transylvania professors key

Sullivan was already serious about science when he arrived at Transylvania in the fall of 1976 with the idea of eventually doing research and teaching in that area. His encounters with several Transy professors confirmed Sullivan’s belief in the college’s excellent reputation in natural sciences and mathematics. These included chemistry professors Monroe Moosnick and Jerry Seebach, biology professors Lila Boyarsky and J. Hill Hamon, and mathematics professor Charles Haggard.

“I was considering several careers at the time,” Sullivan said. “The nice thing about Transylvania, being a liberal arts college, is that, in addition to my natural sciences courses, I was exposed to other disciplines like economics and statistics. I also took some film art, religion, and philosophy courses. It was good to get that varied exposure.”

After graduation with a double major in biology and chemistry, Sullivan enrolled in a physiology and biophysics graduate program at the University of Kentucky. While there, he also taught chemistry and physics at Lexington Catholic High School.

Two years later, Sullivan decided to veer away from academia and set his sights on a business career. He was recruited—by a Transylvania alum in the executive search business—to a sales and marketing management position with a plastics company in Houston. After three years with the company, he enrolled in the MBA program at the University of Texas in Austin.

“I needed to become more familiar with the language of business,” said Sullivan, who graduated summa cum laude and first in his class at Texas. From this point on in his career, finance and accounting became his areas of concentration and expertise.

ExxonMobil comes calling

Sullivan was recruited off the Texas campus by Exxon (now ExxonMobil) and began work in 1987 at Houston’s Baytown Refinery, one of the largest such facilities in the world. He would stay with Exxon for the next seven years, including the final three years at the corporation’s San Francisco refinery.

“I was promoted through five positions...
at Exxon,” Sullivan said. “At Baytown, at what would be a $40 billion business today, I was the light clean products economist, with responsibility for planning our gasoline, kerosene, jet fuel, and chemical feed stocks products. In San Francisco, I was controller for a $10 billion refinery.”

It was at Exxon that the advantage of being an MBA with an undergraduate degree in biology and chemistry really began to pay off for Sullivan. His science background had first served him well in his sales and marketing position with the Houston plastics company, but was now a key factor in his growing success.

“It’s been an excellent combination of knowledge and skills,” he said. “When you’re talking with engineers in the refinery and they can see that you understand things on a molecular level, it gives you immediate respect. Being a senior financial analyst with that kind of scientific insight allowed me to make a lot of contributions in lowering costs and increasing profits.”

As an example of the kind of work he did for Exxon and the contributions he made to the company’s efficiency and profitability, Sullivan mentioned a situation where he recommended a consolidation of product lines.

“We had a very small aviation gasoline business out of the Baytown Refinery that was still leaded at a time when most of the gasoline pool had become unleaded—deleaded we call it,” he said. “We were tying up facilities and pipelines with a leaded product for a very small product line. I convinced management to consolidate manufacture of that product with our sister refinery in Baton Rouge, which was also producing a very small stream. We were able to free up facilities in Baytown, put more deleaded fuel through there, serve broader markets, and still serve the aviation gas business, but in a much more efficient way.”

**Pipelines and donuts**

In 1994, Sullivan was lured away from Exxon by Clark Refining and Marketing, Inc., in St. Louis, where he was vice president and controller of the corporation’s $6 billion refining and supply division. He was responsible for integrating an initial public offering of stock and the acquisition of a Chevron refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, into the company’s financial structure.

Sullivan’s next stop was a start-up company in Dallas, Longhorn Pipeline, where he was chief financial officer for nearly a decade. “I did nine different financings and raised about $700 million during those years,” he said. “It was a great experience, working with a brand new company. I felt I could be CFO of anything I wanted to after that.”

In 2004, Sullivan sold his interest in Longhorn and spent the next three years commuting from his home in Dallas to St. Louis and Chicago, helping a friend he had worked with at Clark to successfully recapitalize his Krispy Kreme Donut franchise business.

Wanting to rejoin a larger company and settle back into one location, Sullivan joined Luminant, his present company (then known as TXU Corporation) in March 2007 as controller of the development and construction business unit. From the company went through a $46 billion leveraged buyout that created Energy Future Holdings, of which Luminant is a wholly owned subsidiary. By December, Sullivan had received another promotion and had in mining and power generation responsibilities added to his controller position.

Luminant is a power generation business with plant and mine operations, wholesale marketing and trading, and construction and development of new power plants, serving industrial, commercial, and residential customers. Coal is the dominant source of its power generation capacities, but the company also has significant gas, nuclear, solar, and wind operations. It’s the 11th largest mining company in the nation.

With fossil fueled electric generation plants the mainstay for power generation by Luminant, and in the U.S. overall, Sullivan has been involved in, and learned a lot about, environmental issues surrounding emissions of such plants.

“We will be installing the best available technology for controlling emissions in our new plants,” he said, “and retrofitting our older plants in a similar way. We are also trying to skew our future incremental power generation away from fossil fuel to nuclear and renewables, such as solar and wind. Each of those sources of generation has its own issues. I think there will always be a healthy mix of fossil, and a growing mix of renewables and nuclear.”

Sullivan’s career to this point reveals a person willing to retool when necessary, take risks when appropriate, and seize opportunities that appear promising.

“I’ve never been afraid to take on a new opportunity,” he said. “I have this insatiable thirst to learn, and I always like to be challenged. I like being in a room with people who are a lot smarter than I am. I learn quite a bit from those situations. At the same time, with my background, my education, and my experience, I’ve made important contributions to the companies I’ve been involved with.”

Sullivan and his wife, Laurie, live in...
This was the impetus behind Freyman’s two-year Bingham-Young Professorship, which concluded at the end of the 2008-09 academic year. The professorship was based on the establishment of the Center for Liberal Education at Transylvania, an endeavor that was ultimately about conversation. There was the national conversation on liberal education that took place at summer seminars hosted by Transylvania, the conversation that took place at seminars and symposia for faculty and staff, the ongoing conversation of the classroom, and the continued conversation about the mission and purpose of Transylvania.

“Jeff’s professorship was built on the extension of the national seminars on liberal education held on Transylvania’s campus each summer,” said William F. Pollard, vice president and dean of the college. “We wanted to create a conference that would attract faculty from liberal arts colleges across the country. We thought it important to sponsor a national conversation about liberal arts education in the twenty-first century. Jeff, along with philosophy professor Ellen Cox and classics professor John Svarlien, have given form and substance to just such an enterprise, bringing to our campus outstanding colleagues from the nation’s best liberal arts colleges.”

He added that the Center for Liberal Education is an umbrella organization that encompasses a range of ideas and activities beyond the national seminar, which has been in place for four years.

In the fall of 2005, Freyman, along with biology professor (and now associate dean of the college) Kathleen Jagger and former religion professor Trina Jones, were invited to give presentations on liberal education at a conference sponsored by the Phi Beta Kappa Society and the American Conference of Academic Deans at George Washington University. In preparation, they invited Transylvania colleagues to join them for a campus seminar.

That seminar, the subsequent conference, and Pollard’s original idea led to the creation of a national liberal education seminar on Transylvania’s campus. Twenty-first Century Liberal Education: A Contested Concept was first held in the summer of 2006 and has become an annual event.

“One thing we try to do in choosing participants is select people who may have impact on their campuses,” Freyman said. “Several have written back to say that they have begun to encourage their own faculty to think along the lines of the seminar and revise their academic requirements.”

With the national seminars a successful model of discussion, Freyman’s professorship included the creation of a series of seminars on the liberal arts for Transy faculty and a staff vocation workshop, What is Liberal Education? Why Does it Matter?, sponsored by the Lilly Project at Transylvania. These seminars had the broad goal of answering the question, “What is liberal education?” and the added purpose of deepening the Transylvania community’s understanding of self and vocation.

Following the format of the national seminar, the faculty seminars and staff vocation workshop had participants read and respond to texts such as Cultivating Humanity by Martha C. Nussbaum and Engaged Learning and the Core Purposes of Liberal Education: Bringing Theory to Practice by Donald W. Harward.

Religion professor Paul Jones said he believes the practical consequences of the seminars will be visible at all levels of the university due to the creation of a shared language and vocabulary for the faculty to engage in its mission of liberal education.

“You cannot address a common issue unless you have a common vocabulary and a common story,” he said. “Jeff has helped the faculty galvanize that necessity.”

This doesn’t mean, however, that everyone is in agreement about how to define liberal education. “In one of the seminars, we each wrote a definition of the liberal arts at the beginning and then again at the end to see how much it had changed,” said psychology professor Melissa Fortner. “Even by the end, there was a wide disparity among the group in how we were defining the liberal arts both in goals and practice,” she said. “And that’s a good thing. We weren’t being invited to conform to a norm, because that would be the antithesis of self-reflection.”

Fortner also sees this dialogue as having practical implications. “In these seminars, we’re really examining what
we do and why we do it,” she said. “As a result, I’ve been more transparent with myself about my motives and goals; I make sure that the practices I use are fulfilling my goals.”

She remembers that in one of the seminars, someone asked the question, “When you’re asked, ‘What do you do?’, how do you respond?” She realized that as a direct result of this discussion about the liberal arts, she had moved from defining herself as a psychologist into defining herself as an educator.

“I started to see myself much less in terms of teaching my discipline and more as teaching a way to figure out the world and figure out the self,” she said. “There is a set of skills that psychology has to offer, but teaching psychology directly is no longer my primary goal. I teach psychology in the service of liberal education, and that really is because of the readings that we did and the discussion we had.”

Freyman said the seminars present a vision of liberal education that is inspiring. “Liberal arts education is the act of inspiring our students to become fully human, to seek to become flourishing,” he said. “We’re not here to train people for specific careers; we’re here to cultivate human beings. A lot of colleagues went into education because they were inspired and they seek to inspire. The problem is, over time, with the routine, you lose that enthusiasm. These seminars rekindle that.”

Fortner said this discussion has also impacted the way she interacts with students. “I’m much more open about why we do what we do,” she said. “Now I can articulate to the students, ‘Here’s the worth in being able to read an article and summarize. There’s a skill here that you are developing.’”

During the professorship, which spanned the 2007-08 and 2008-09 academic years, Freyman invited speakers to campus who were able to give embodiment to the language of the workshops at both small gatherings and public lectures.

- Leading social critic, author, and Paterno Professor in English Literature and Science, Technology, and Society at Pennsylvania State University Michael Berube delivered a lecture titled “The Humanities and the Boundaries of the Human” in October 2008.

- In January 2009, Eva T. H. Brann presented a lecture titled “Dangers to Liberal Education.” Brann is a senior faculty member and former dean of St. John’s College, known for its “great books” in the Western tradition curriculum.

- Well known public intellectual Todd Gitlin presented “The Future of Enlightenment” in February 2009. A professor of journalism and sociology at Columbia University, Gitlin has written widely on the mass media and cultural politics in America.

- In March 2009, Carol Geary Schneider, president of the Association of American Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C., delivered the lecture “Liberal Education and America’s Promise.” The AAC&U is the leading national organization devoted to advancing and strengthening undergraduate liberal education. While on Transy’s campus, she also met with faculty members to discuss the topic “Can Liberal Education Outcomes be Measured?” and discussed liberal education and leadership with student leaders.

“The speakers represented two major camps,” Jones said, “the purists as well as the practical. Each gave the campus the opportunity to hear from someone who is living that particular model of liberal education.”

Freyman’s purpose was not to advocate for one of the camps or the other, but to allow both to be heard. Last fall, Freyman further expanded this conversation to include students when he offered a course on liberal education.

“Many students think of liberal education as political liberalism, and it’s anything but,” Freyman said. “Liberal education has to do with the consideration of all points of view, not one point of view.”

The course was structured much like the faculty seminars with readings on the liberal arts followed by discussion.

Junior Rebecca Goncharoff said that the intense reflection of the course changed her life and the lives of her classmates. “We learned a lot about ourselves and what we were doing,” she said. “Some of the students in that class were seniors, so it definitely affected how they made their decisions after college. I was a sophomore, so it’s given me a lot more purpose while I’m here and more focus about the things I’m doing and the things I should be looking for so that I can get the most out of my education.”

Goncharoff, a political science major, is considering a career in academia after gaining some experience in the work force.

“Liberal education is a lifestyle,” she said. “It’s not just in the classroom. It’s how I interact with people. When I travel and go abroad, how I talk to my family, the books I choose to read—it’s altered everything.”

Although Freyman’s Bingham-Young professorship has officially come to a close, the conversation about the liberal arts at Transylvania goes on. Expanding out of this discussion are programs like First Engagements: A Community Book Project, designed to provide new students with an introduction to academic life at Transylvania through the reading and discussion of a common text.

“It’s not just me,” Freyman said. “Other faculty members are involved in making these seminars happen, and the stuff with legs—like First Engagements—didn’t have anything to do with me. That’s other people picking up the ball.”

The Center for Liberal Education will continue to run the national seminars, and the conversation about liberal education will continue to unfold both on and beyond campus because that is the essence of day-to-day life at Transylvania.

“This discussion made me think about why I would care if anybody learns psy-
Writing a piece on the meaning of liberal education for readers of Transylvania University magazine is like preaching to the choir. Transylvania prides itself on its long tradition of liberal education, and its alumni have been shaped by their experience with it. Yet, recent research has found that even people associated with liberal arts colleges like Transy are often confused about what liberal education means. This includes not only current and past students, but professors and administrators as well. Over half a century ago, a leading educational foundation speculated, “Liberal arts college faculty seldom state clearly what they mean by liberal or general education. Perhaps they do not know.” Maybe the public is confused about liberal education because we in academe are too. It may be time for all of us to pay more attention to what we say we are doing.

In typical academic fashion, let me begin by being difficult. I want to sneak up on what liberal education is by distinguishing it from what it is not. Let’s start with an easy one. The “liberal” in liberal education certainly does not refer to left-wing politics. Liberal education has a very ancient pedigree going back to classical Athens. Preserving the ideals of this 2,500-year-old tradition has, in fact, often been seen as conservative or even reactionary. The word “liberal” (from the Latin *liberare*, meaning “to free”) refers to that education which is appropriate for free human beings. (Back then, freedom meant not being a slave and not having to work, presumably because one owned slaves who did it instead. It means something different today.) Needless to say, these are ideas to which people of various political persuasions could easily subscribe. Even the conservative William F. Buckley Jr. extolled the virtues of such an education in his book *God and Man at Yale*.

A more common misconception is to confuse liberal education with some particular academic setting in which it takes place. I often hear comments to the effect that colleges like Transy offer a liberal education because of their small size, which encourages personal interactions and individual attention. Small classes...
are said to allow students to get to know their professors and fellow students as human beings. Transy is all of these good things, but they are not what makes it a liberal education institution. After all, there are some much larger and more impersonal schools—say, Harvard—that do a pretty good job of liberal education. What’s more, many think that liberal education is best achieved when students engage in off-campus experiences like internships, service-learning activities, or study-abroad programs. So liberal education is not necessarily the same thing as learning in a close-knit community.

**Nor should liberal education be identified with a specific curriculum.** Largely because liberal education got started in the classical world, it was equated with Greek and Latin literature for a very long time. Not until the nineteenth century did educators find this course of studies too narrow. Consequently, a number of modern proponents, wishing nevertheless to maintain the tradition as a fixed canon of almost sacred texts, have identified it with a limited set of Great Books which represent “the best that has been thought and said” throughout the course of Western Civilization from Plato to NATO. But however extensive such a list might be, it still must exclude many important works in the Western tradition, not to mention the numerous other voices that are also part of humanity’s great conversation.

Sensitive to these issues, many educators have come to identify liberal education not with any set of specific works but with a set of specific academic fields of study called the “liberal arts.” These disciplines in the humanities, the arts, the social sciences, and the natural sciences are characterized by what they are not—namely, they are not primarily vocational. Rigorous study in one of these fields, it is thought, constitutes a liberal education. It is, however, sometimes difficult to differentiate vocational courses from nonvocational ones. While acknowledging these ambiguities, the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the foremost national organization dedicated to honoring and promoting the liberal arts, nevertheless concluded, “It is not difficult to distinguish between broad cultivation and technical competence.” I agree, but their claim begs another question. If liberal education is defined by “broad cultivation,” then how does concentrating in any one specific discipline—whether it is part of the liberal arts or not—constitute liberal education? Rather, it is suggested, what is needed is a general education broadly cast across all subject matters. While he was president of Harvard over a century ago, Charles William Eliot took the idea of breadth to its logical (or illogical) conclusion by arguing that if liberal education is about freedom, then we should let students take whatever they want. By the second half of the twentieth century, these various positions reached an uneasy compromise in what is academe’s now widely accepted Trinitarian formula: students spend about one-third of their time fulfilling requirements in their major field, in general education, and in electives. (It is hard to imagine Socrates and Protagoras arguing over the precise number of credit units to be dedicated to each of these three areas with the same passion as do faculty members today.) Many of these conflicting perspectives about the curriculum for liberal education make a good deal of sense. My point here is that, precisely because they do, liberal education should not be defined by any one of them.

So where does all of this leave us in our quest for the holy grail of liberal education? It is not to be found in any specific political orientation or academic setting or subject matter. These things represent mere idols, rather than the true spirit, of liberal education. What makes education liberal is its distinctive purpose. Liberal education aims at the fullest development of the person as a human being. You would think that people don’t need much instruction in being human; it ought to come fairly automatically to them just by being born. But the truth is that being human is rather different from being almost anything else. Who we humans are is not precisely fixed either by our genes or by our environments. As human beings, our lives are, to some important extent anyway, whatever we make of them.

**And while we’re at it, we might as well make the most of our lives.** This has meant different things to different people throughout history. What has remained fairly constant, however, is the idea that whatever the “good life” is, it does not just happen—it requires a bit of effort and guidance. The seventeenth-century French philosophe Fontenelle got it right when he wrote, “We are, to the extent that we know how to be wise, the artisans of our own life.” People make themselves, but not in circumstances of their own choosing. We can’t do much about the limitations imposed on us by physical reality—although God knows we keep trying. The freedom to fashion our lives as we imagine is also limited by our dearth of imagination. It’s the lack of vision thing. Here’s where education comes in.

It helps to know what life has to offer. Vincent Price, the famous 1950s horror movie actor and less famous art connoisseur, once quipped, “People tell me they don’t know much about art but they know what they like. What they should say is that they like
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what they know.” By expanding what students know, liberal education widens their appreciation of life’s alternative possibilities. “Appreciate what?” you might ask. What is it that really matters? Posing that question is the first step in a liberal education. Liberal education is the life-long examination of the big questions in our lives: Who am I? What does it mean to be human? What can humans accomplish? What is freedom? Thus, not the Great Books, but the Great Questions. The questions define a liberal education, not the answers. Answers will often differ from person to person and from one period of time to another, but the questions are those that all humans face. Asking them of ourselves is the mark of our humanity.

“The proper study of mankind is man,” wrote Alexander Pope. Whatever the subject matter, the real objects of study in liberal education are the students themselves. Socrates noted that the unexamined life is not worth living. Self-examination is not just navel-gazing. It is not done for its own sake, but in order to lead a richer life. Of course, we should never confuse enriching one’s life with getting rich. The art of living is not the same as making a living. Of course, we should never confuse enriching one’s life with getting rich. The art of living is not the same as making a living.

Let me give you an illustration. My wife and I visited Rome a few years ago, during which we toured the Vatican, including a stop inside the Sistine Chapel. Decorating its walls and ceiling is a series of frescos painted by Michelangelo that are among the world’s greatest artistic masterpieces. The central vault of the ceiling depicts the iconic “Creation of Adam.” In it, God extends a pointed hand toward Adam, who mirrors his creator by extending his hand back to receive the divine spark. This panel expresses both the divinity of God and the godlike nature of humans, who are created in God’s image. Just as God created human beings, so do humans create masterpieces like the frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. From overhead, Michelangelo calls upon us to appreciate our humanity in all its glory. It is discouraging how many of my fellow tourists were so busy with mundane activities that they failed to notice that inspiring message. Instead they chattered among themselves, flipped through their guidebooks, skimmed their newspapers, plotted their afternoon shopping excursions, followed dutifully behind their tour guides from one end of the chapel to the other—and many never even looked up at the ceiling. Taking the time to look up and out at what life has to offer can make the difference between a tour guide journey through life and a life purposely chosen and richly lived. Long ago, Marcus Aurelius observed that the worth of one’s life is measured by the seriousness of its undertakings. Life is too precious to waste in playing a perpetual game of Trivial Pursuit.

The sad fact is that many people sell their lives short by living only a part of it. Many years ago at a party with my then fellow graduate students and their families, I was introduced to the wife of a colleague. In answer to my question, “So, what do you do?” she replied, “I’m just a housewife.” Over the years, I came to know this woman rather well, and what I discovered was a remarkable human being who could not be defined by any social role. She was so many wonderful things, not just any one thing. Or consider the case of Anna Sam, who worked as a cashier to pay her way through college in her native France. Anna was thoroughly alienated by her menial job until one day, largely to occupy her mind at work, she decided to mentally collect anecdotes for a future book about her experiences as a cashier. Even before ever writing a word, Anna began to see herself and her world with new eyes. She realized that she was not just a cashier; she was a human being who had something profound and witty to say. A run-away best-seller, her subsequent book Tribulations of a Cashier transformed many lives, not just Anna’s. Other cashiers who read the book told her how much it had changed their perceptions of themselves as well. And members of the public related how they had begun to perceive and subsequently treat cashiers differently, like real human beings.

Liberal education is like Anna’s book. It seeks to reveal and unleash our inner human being. Its central lesson is: Ecce Homo (“Behold the Person”). We are all potentially so much more than our conventional selves. And whatever this quality is, we share with our fellow human beings. This insight is not new. Sages and saints have been telling us its truth for a long time. Repeating it here may be unnecessary. In many ways, however, it is a message all the more critical today. We live in a world where technological imperatives, the “creative destruction” of market forces, and the totalizing logic of instrumental rationality reduce human beings to the status of things. In the face of modernity’s dehumanizing
The Rest of the Story

The photo of the Powder Puff football team coached by Al Templeton ’61 that we ran in the spring 2009 Transylvania University magazine (see inset) caught the eye of Bill Arvin ’61, who just happened to be the coach of the opposing team (above). Turns out Templeton’s team consisted of juniors and seniors, while Arvin’s roster was made up of first-year students and sophomores. That game ended in a scoreless tie. “Al and I still reminisce about which team should have won,” Arvin says, who also recalls that his squad was challenged by the University of Kentucky team. “We beat UK, in a game played behind Forrer Hall that drew several thousand fans and made the Lexington newspaper,” Arvin recalls. Pictured above are, front row, from left: Sarah Van Sickles Tobin ’64, Rose Ann McGinnis Stepp ’63, Holly Dearden Yates ’64, Bill Arvin ’61, Pam Vanarsdall Richmond ’64, Sally Meng ’64, Nancy Cunningham ’64; back row: Mary Haylee Scott Hancock ’63, Lou Adams Brown ’63, Sarah Elizabeth Pugh White ’63, Alice Rose Plummer ’63, Jackie Heitzman Ware ’64, Gail Ensign (class year unknown). Photo courtesy of Bill Arvin ’61
Nena Hale Hash, Galax, Va., is busy, healthy, and happy. She and her husband, Kelly, celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on March 21.

Margaret Humbert Knowlton, Hilton Head, S.C., and her husband, Dick, recently took a cruise along the Croatian coast from Athens to Venice, then visited Lake Lugano by train.

John R. Simmons, Sebastopol, Calif., was recognized by his church, the Community Church of Sebastopol UCC, for his years of service with the adult education program.

Autumn J. Stanley, Portola Valley, Calif., has just published her fifth book, Raising More Hell and Fewer Dailias (Lehigh University Press), a biography of nineteenth-century magazine editor and reformer Charlotte Smith. She supported women inventors, lobbied for various bills before Congress, proposed a forerunner of worker’s compensation insurance, and was calling for equal pay for equal work by the 1870s. The book is available from the publisher (www.lehigh.edu/library/lup), Amazon.com, and Associated University Presses (aup440@aol.com).

Richard N. Johnson, Oklahoma City, and his wife are in good health and continue to enjoy spending time with their grandchildren.


James G. Amato, Lexington, an attorney with the law firm McBrayer McGinnis Leslie & Kirkland, was recognized in April by the Fayette County Bar Association with the Henry T. Duncan Award for his high ethical standards in the legal profession, which have made a positive and lifelong contribution to the profession and the community. (He is shown with his son, Steve Amato ‘87, who presented the award.) He and his wife, Bobbye Gayle Bryant Amato ‘58, celebrated 50 years of marriage last summer with a trip to Italy with their daughter, Susan Amato Sorrell ‘81, and her family. Jim and Bobbye Gayle have moved to a new home in Lexington after spending 45 years at their Cooper Drive address.

William E. Davis, Woodland, Calif., was inducted into the University of Kentucky Law School Hall of Fame in 2001 and received the Henry Heyburn Public Service Award in 2000. He was the keynote speaker for the entering freshman class at UK in 2009 at the inaugural CRE Lecture Series. He sold his international consulting business to TetraTech, but remains active in rule of law projects in Palestine, Jordan, Georgia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Chile, Pakistan, and El Salvador.

Nancy Jo Kemper, Lexington, retired in June after 18 years as executive director of the Kentucky Council of Churches, the largest interdenominational association in the state. William P. Watson, Perry Park, Ky., was in the Performing Artist Showcase at the Kentucky State Fair in August as a storyteller.

William F. Reed, Louisville, was inducted into the Henry Clay High School Hall of Fame in May. An award-winning journalist, he has worked for the Lexington Herald-Leader, Louisville Courier-Journal, and Sports Illustrated, and is the author of several books on sports figures and thoroughbred racing.

William H. McDonald, Lexington, was appointed interim executive director of the World Convention of Churches of Christ. He retired in November 2008 after 30 years of ministry in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and served congregations in Midway, Ky., Austin, Tex., Shreveport, La., and Lexington.

Herschel Sparber, Los Angeles, has finished a three-day run in the role of “Big Jule” in the fully staged concert version of Guys and Dolls at the Hollywood Bowl with Jessica Biel, Beau Bridges, Scott Bakula, and others. He was rehearsing in St. Louis for a show with St. Louis Stages in September.

Barry H. Bronson, Lexington, retired from Ashland Inc. in January after 21 years working for its Valvoline division and is a public relations consultant and freelance writer. He is writing his screenplay about musicians at Lexington’s Federal Narcotics Farm in 1965 into a novel titled Jazz Farm. Barry and his wife, Michelle, celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary by visiting Don Manasse ‘71 and Dilla Manasse in Monaco this fall.

Wyatt L. Gragg, Prospect, Ky., has begun sculpting the Kentucky National Guard Boone Center Memorial in Frankfort. The sculpture of Daniel Boone was commissioned in tribute to all guardsmen, lost and living. For details, contact him at wlgragg@aol.com. Gragg and his wife, Mary, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in November.

Robert S. Manasse has returned to the United States after living overseas for over 20 years and will serve as vice president for business development at ENEL North America, Inc., focusing on renewable energy. He and his
When **Cynthia Arnold ‘97** completed her residency in clinical psychology, people told her she couldn’t go straight from school into private practice, but she didn’t let that change her plans. “I did things other people don’t do,” she said. Arnold and her husband, Michael Freddicks, opened New Leaves Holistic Mental Healthcare Clinic in Beaverton, Oregon, in 2004.

Arnold, who graduated from Transylvania with majors in psychology and sociology, earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Pacific Graduate School of Psychology in Palo Alto, Calif. She completed her post-doctoral internship and residency at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital in Portland, Oregon. “I loved being trained in hospitals,” she said. “Because of that, I understand so much better about multi-disciplinary care, but in that model, you have to push people through the system.” And that, Arnold believes, inhibited her from giving the sort of care her patients deserved.

The New Leaves approach includes family, community, spiritual, and medical resources and is based on the idea that every person has the capacity for growth. Combining scientific research with a variety of modalities, Arnold looks at sleep, hygiene, and nutrition, and she’s likely to advise her patients to practice yoga. “I send people to naturopaths probably more often than to typical medical doctors,” she said, reflecting her preference for the use of natural substances in healing as opposed to medicines and drugs.

She explained that typical mental healthcare follows a medical model. In her practice, she respects both the psychological and medical models. “We’re far more clinical than most psychologists,” she said. “We don’t think of what we do as counseling—we want to be mental health surgeons. Our goal is to not see people, and the best way to do that is to give them tools.”

For this approach to work, the patient must be interested in his or her own well-being. “I’m not doing therapy to a person,” she said. “I hear people say, ‘Oh, I saw somebody for two years,’ and that gives me heart failure because that person wasn’t on the journey.”

Arnold sees the journey as discovering the correct environment for her patients. “We’re all different kinds of animals, and if you mess up one animal’s habitat, it gets anxious and depressed. That’s not a problem, it’s a warning sign that’s telling you your environment is wrong and you need to change it.”

The first step, Arnold said, is to learn through science what kind of animal you are. “Then we have to look at you holistically and say, all right, how do we make the best habitat possible for you to make your anxiety and sadness go away?”

Arnold’s views were influenced by one of her Transy teachers, Philip Points ‘57, professor emeritus of religion. “He was directive without being stodgy,” she said. “He wouldn’t allow you to get off topic by hiding behind some belief that you couldn’t back up. He really helped me look at an article and assess it.”

It’s an understanding she carries into her practice today as she considers potential treatments. “There are so many treatments out there, and some don’t work,” she said, “but I won’t discount anything that will make someone feel better.”

This holistic view isn’t the only difference between Arnold and typical psychologists. Most are trained to do either assessment or treatment, but Arnold stayed longer in school so that she could do both. “I can understand people a lot better through testing, but be a true human with them in treating the problem,” she said.

One of her specialties is working with autistic children, and when parents ask her about her approach, she answers, “I speak autism. It’s a language.”

Arnold’s interest in autism was sparked while she was a student at Transy. She volunteered to make calls during the alumni phonathon, and requested to be given a list of psychology alumni to call. “I asked them what they did when they were at Transy to get into grad school,” she said, “and one of them told me she had worked with this amazing mom with an autistic child, and I thought that sounded great. I ended up working with the same mom.”

The two became good friends and organized a non-profit in Lexington—Project Future Hope. “We filled auditoriums,” Arnold said, “teaching families about autism. There was no treatment for autism in Lexington, so families would get together and fly practitioners in.”

Arnold’s work with autism led her to work with children with behavior problems, as well. Because of her knowledge of cognitive and behavior disorders, she now works with the adoption community and volunteers for adoption organizations, teaching families about cognitive development.

Arnold, who also considers her job one of her primary hobbies, said, “I live my passion, and that’s what makes me successful. To be the pivotal person, to change someone’s life, makes me a better person and mom.”

Arnold and her husband have two sons, Knight, 2, and Talon, 5 months.

—LORI-LYN HURLEY
wife, Betsy, live in Boston.

'71 Susan Griffin Smith, Frankfort, Ky., has returned to work full time as director of human resources management for the state’s Tri-Cabinet (Labor, Energy/Environment, and Public Protection) after five years of retirement. She and her husband, Tony, are designing and preparing to build a house in Frankfort.

Edward L. Zuroweste, State College, Pa., was deployed as a special medical consultant to the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Ed, an internationally recognized leader in the field of providing medical care in third world countries, will be developing the preparedness plan for dealing with H1N1 influenza virus in hospitals with limited resources. After developing the plan, he will do field testing at hospitals in Asia and Africa.

'72 Robert G. Hagberg, Buffalo, Minn., has been pursuing a career as a fine artist with oil painting for the past 12 years. His work is nationally recognized and represented in five galleries from Bar Harbor, Maine, to Steamboat Springs, Colo. His art has been juried in several national competitions and in 2006 won first place in landscapes in Artist Magazine’s annual competition. He was named artist in residence in the late 1990s out of a desire to bring Shakespeare to the neighborhoods surrounding historic Old Louisville, and has grown to serve the Commonwealth at large. The festival now works year-round to make Shakespeare accessible to urban and rural communities alike.

The festival's productions serve 7,000 to 12,000 individuals each summer, providing an opportunity to see professional actors and technicians present the works of Shakespeare without social or economic bias. By presenting the productions free of charge, the festival stands by a firm belief that art is for everyone.

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The oldest free independently operating Shakespeare festival in the nation, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival in Louisville, has strong ties to Transylvania and one professor, in particular.

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“Mac was giving a speech at an awards banquet,” said Ziggy Zubric, “and he traced his love of Shakespeare directly to Tay. I was also an English major, and I couldn’t agree more. Tay was instrumental in turning me on to the arts and giving me a true love and appreciation of classic literature.”

Felfle, who recently completed a rebranding project for the organization, was also an English major at Transy, and a fan of Fizdale, with whom she had many classes.

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Cooper heard on NPR’s Morning Edition

William Cooper ’87, professor of pediatrics and preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University’s Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital, was the featured medical expert on a National Public Radio Morning Edition segment on the use of antipsychotic drugs in children that was broadcast on June 9, 2009. The program drew on Cooper’s expertise in the patterns of use of such medicines, their safety, and unexpected adverse effects. The news angle was an impending decision by the Food and Drug Administration on whether to approve for use with children three antipsychotic drugs already being prescribed for adults.

In the program, Cooper is attributed as saying these medications are important tools to help children with serious mental illness problems like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. However, his on-air comments also included a cautionary note: “If these children are starting these medications at very young ages, they’re likely to be on them for many years. So the adverse effects, such as weight gain, increased lipids, increased blood sugar, are likely to have potentially long-term and important side effects for these children.”

Cooper is also attributed as saying that adverse outcomes may be worse in kids than in adults, and that there needs to more study of the side effects in children.

In an interview with Transylvania magazine, Cooper added: “The increasing use of these medicines for reasons that have not been studied, coupled with the fact that we don’t know the risks for many such medicines, places a lot of children at risk, if we’re not careful in how we prescribe them.”

Cooper, a chemistry major and English minor at Transy, was in the second class of Thomas Jefferson (now William T. Young) Scholars. He earned his M.D. and Master of Public Health degrees from Vanderbilt, completed his internship and residencies at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, and a pediatric fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Cooper is also attributed as saying that adverse outcomes may be worse in kids than in adults, and that there needs to more study of the side effects in children.

D. Anthony Blanton, Lexington, was awarded the Harvey H. Hebert Memorial Award by the Delta Sigma Phi Grand Council at its biennial convention. Presented only to those who have been in good standing for at least 10 years, the award was presented for Tony’s creation of the Delta Sigma Phi Leadership Institute in 1993 and for his continuing work with the program.

Earl Patrick Dean, Lexington, a computer programmer working in Kentucky, loves reading and collecting books. He writes mostly science fiction and fantasy stories and is the author of A Tailor Maiden’s Secret published by Wasteland Press.

Troy D. Boyle, Erlanger, Ky., was accepted to Northern Kentucky University’s Chase Law School this fall. A transaction coordinator for Mitsubishi UFJ Lease & Finance, he has a B.A. in law from American Military University.

Carol L. Devine, Versailles, Ky., was ordained into Christian ministry by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in December 2008 and serves as pastor of Republican Christian Church in Cynthia, Ky. Carol lives with her husband, John-Mark Hack ’88, and their three children in Woodford County.

Amy E. Wells and her husband, Mark K. Dolan, live in Oxford, Miss., where they are professors at the University of Mississippi. Amy teaches in the higher education program in the school of education and Mark teaches journalism in the school of journalism.

Stephanie Brown-Newton, Roswell, Ga., released a CD titled Fairytale Life that has reached the top 10 on CRW’s Global INSPO chart. Her debut album is available through Creative Soul Records and her Web site, www.stephanienewton.com.

Christopher E. Cook, Marion, Ky., was named director of operations at Farmers Bank. He is also chairman of the school board for the second year in a row and has served on the board for five years.

Jeffrey C. Hoehler, Somerset, Ky., has practiced law in Monticello, Ky., for the past 10 years. Kala A. Means ’10 worked as an intern in his office this summer.

Jeffery L. VanHook, Mt. Vernon, Ky., continues to serve on the board of directors for the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Renfro Valley. His past community involvement includes service on the local school district board, the county PVA disputes resolution board, and the local tourist commission. Jeff and his wife, Sonya, have two children, Courtlyn, 10, and Jackson, 5.

Tiffany R. Wheeler, Lexington, received a 2009 Albion (Michigan) High School Distinguished Alumni Award. Recipients of the award have excelled in their field of endeavor and contribute to making society a better place in which to live. Tiffany is an assistant professor of education at Transylvania.

Dawn J. Wilson, Louisville, competed in her 4th United States Fencing Federation Summer National fencing tournament in July and returned to the podium as a repeat medalist.

Christopher W. Arnett, Louisville, was awarded the Choice Hotels Humanitarian Award for his continued commitment to corporate social responsibility. Chris represented Transylvania in August at the Kentucky Christian University presidential inauguration.

Donna Smith Pleiman lives in Indianapolis...
with her husband, Darren, and their sons, Anderson and Carson. Donna continues to practice family medicine in the Indianapolis area.

Michael K. Smith, Franklin, Tenn., opened a law practice in Nashville.

'S92 Susan B. Marine, Waltham, Mass., completed her Ph.D. in higher education at Boston College and was promoted to assistant dean of Harvard College.

Shannon G. Tucker, Clarksville, Ind., received her master of public health degree in May from the University of Iowa. In addition to her relief veterinary work, she is a public health volunteer and is studying for her veterinary preventive medicine boards.

Mary Leigh Clay Wilson, Lexington, and her husband, Bryan, a U.S. Marine Corps foreign area officer for the Middle East, are in Cairo, Egypt, for the year.

'S93 Joy Williams Lind, Sioux Falls, S.D., received the Outstanding Faculty Award at the University of Sioux Falls in May. Joy has been an assistant professor of mathematics at USF since August 2008.

Amber Smith Miller, Simpsonville, Ky., still works for Alcon Surgical and now covers the Lexington/Southern Kentucky and West Virginia territories.

Walter "Wally" Powell, Gray, Ky., received his private pilot’s license in April.

'A94 Andrew W. Deener, Shelbyville, Ky., has joined the WHAS11 Cardinal Sports Network’s broadcast team as the play-by-play announcer for the 2009-10 University of Louisville football and basketball seasons.

'B95 Brie Ann Linkenhoker lives in Woodside, Calif., and works for GBN, a consulting firm that helps companies, nonprofits, and governments plan for futures that could be differentially impacted by issues like climate change, urbanization, technology, and globalization. She stays engaged with neuroscience by exploring the ways it is starting to influence areas like law, education, and economics. In their spare time, Brie and her fiancée, Bill, enjoy travel, photography, birding, and ballroom dancing. Brie can be reached at brieann@gmail.com.

W. Paul Olsen and Anna Williams Olsen moved to St. Louis, where Paul is an assistant vice president at the US Bank Community Development Corporation, focusing on the development of affordable housing for low-income residents.

'S97 Erin Weaver McGee was selected as the library media specialist at Ninth District Elementary for Covington Independent Schools. She and her daughter, Emma Cate, 7, live in Cynthiana, Ky.

'S98 Melissa Keach Underwood, Lexington, is office manager of Sperry Van Ness Commercial Real Estate Advisors in Lexington.

Joseph B. Williams and his wife, Taufika Islam Williams ’98, live in Raleigh, N.C. Joseph graduated from the residency program of the department of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, in June and began

Worth Remembering
Alumni Weekend 2010
April 9-11

Years spent in college are truly worth remembering and cherishing, and that’s just what Transylvanians will do April 9-11 during Alumni Weekend 2010. A fun-filled weekend of activities will provide the setting as alumni catch up on all the latest news about classmates and favorite professors.

Please note that this Alumni Weekend is two weeks earlier than usual because of the way the academic calendar falls for 2009-10.

A Friday golf outing and races at Keeneland will kick off the weekend, and a chapel service in Old Morrison Sunday morning will bring the events to a close. Friday also features the popular TGIF Kick-Off Party for all alumni and the Crimson Affair (formerly the T-Day Ball), where Miss Transylvania and Mr. Pioneer will be crowned. Saturday’s Alumni Celebration Luncheon and that evening’s class reunion receptions/dinners are always a highlight of the weekend.


To access the reunion Web site, visit www.transy.edu (select Alumni, News & Events, and Reunions/Alumni Weekend). You can complete the on-line questionnaire, obtain hotel information, and contribute to the class gift.

An invitation with detailed schedule will be mailed to alumni in late winter. Online registration will be available beginning in February. For more information, contact Natasa Pajic ’96, director of alumni programs, at npajic@transy.edu or (800) 487-2679.

Sarah E. Riester, Indianapolis, is working for the Division of Overseas Ministries for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), with congregations who are supporting work around the world.

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Alumni win Kentucky Young Lawyer awards

In recent years, three Transylvania graduates have been named Kentucky’s Outstanding Young Lawyer by the Kentucky Bar Association, an award designed for Kentucky lawyers 40 and younger, or lawyers who have practiced for 10 years or less.

Angela Logan Edwards ’91, a partner with Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP law firm, in Louisville, received the honor this year in recognition of her civic activities, legal accomplishments, and community involvement. Jennifer Moore ’95 was selected in 2005 and Mindy Barfield ’85 in 2002.

“The award is such a wonderful validation that others view my community and professional activities as important and meaningful,” Edwards said. “The work I do in the community and for my profession makes me a better lawyer and a better human being.”

Edwards received her J.D. from the University of Kentucky and practices in the areas of commercial and Employee Retirement Income Security Act litigation. She counsels clients with business disputes and represents employee benefit plans, claims administrators, and employers with benefits issues.

She began her career as a law clerk for the Honorable Jennifer B. Coffman, United States District Court Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, and has chaired her firm’s business litigation practice group. She also serves on the diversity committee of the Louisville Bar Association.

In 2006, Edwards received a Distinguished Service Award from Transylvania for her outstanding service to the University, and she was elected to the University’s Board of Trustees the same year. A member and former president of the Alumni Executive Board, Edwards has been an active member of the Transylvania Alumni Louisville Chapter. Each year, she assists with the University’s fund-raising efforts and is a former member of the Pioneer Alumni Recruitment Team. The Alumni Association presented her a Certificate of Appreciation in 2001.

Kara L. Best-McBride, Lexington, opened a holistic health facility, Bliss Wellness Center, in the Hamburg area of Lexington. After graduate school and a few years teaching yoga and pilates, she is completing her certification to become a Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapist (combining Yoga with modern mind/body psychology).

Shelly C. Ferrell completed his residency in anesthesiology and moved to Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., with his wife, Elizabeth Stafford Ferrell ’03, and children David, 5, Jack, 2, and Kathleen, 3 months.

Nicholas M. Holland joined The Miller Law Firm in Paducah, Ky., after moving from Washington, D.C.

April Sample Matiasek, Chesapeake, Va., is a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, serving as a flight surgeon with the Gladiators of VFA-106 in Virginia.

Matthew A. Stinnett, Lexington, is an attorney with Greenbaum Doll & McDonald. His wife, Tonya E. Jernigan ’05, is working on her master’s in social work at the University of Kentucky while working full-time as a family advocate for Bluegrass Domestic Violence.

Rachael McCartney Benjamin, Brooklyn, N.Y., recently finished her first Southern music tour with The Havens (www.myspace.com/thewavensbrooklyn) and directed the first year of Brooklyn Emerging Artist Rock Camp, a non-profit featuring 55 campers ages 8-15 from various parts of New York City (www.bearockcamp.org).

Colmon Elridge, Lexington, was elected vice president of Young Democrats of America, the largest partisan youth political organization in America, becoming the first vice president of Young Democrats from Kentucky in the 75-year history of the organization. Colmon will serve until the 2011 National Convention.

Abigail Angkaw Goldsmith, San Diego, received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Cincinnati and completed her internship in clinical psychology at the University of California, San Diego/Veterans Affairs Medical Center San Diego in July. She accepted a position at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center San Diego in the PTSD and Stress-Related Disorders Research Program.

Rebecca Huyck Brown, Paducah, Ky., received her Ph.D. in chemistry from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in August and accepted a position at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

Carl N. Frazier, Richmond, Ky., earned his law degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 2007 and practices law at the Lexington office of Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC with several other Transy grads. While at UK Law, Frazier was editor-in-chief of the Kentucky Law Journal.

Emily Prather-Rodgers and her husband, James, live in Berwyn, Ill. Emily is the technical services coordinator at Osterle Library at North Central College in Naperville.

Jimmy R. Vaught, St. Louis, was awarded an assistantship at St. Louis University in its Ph.D. program in philosophy.

Melissa D. Carter, Nashville, received her Ph.D. in chemistry from Vanderbilt University in August. She accepted a postdoctoral research fellowship in biochemistry with the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Bethany C. Cox, Lexington, graduated in...
1999 women’s soccer team reunites to recall school-record 23-1 season

A decade after fashioning one of the greatest seasons by any team in Transylvania’s 130-year sports history, the best memories of members of the 1999 women’s soccer team revolve not around team records or individual statistics, but on the strong bonds of camaraderie and team spirit that continue to this day.

“We were really good friends, and we’re still really good friends today,” said Sarah Kelley Hilvers ’00, who was an NAIA first-team All-American that season. “We did a lot of things off the field together, and that helped in our success, that we were so close.”

Hilvers, along with 14 of her teammates, their families, and their coaches, held a reunion in Lexington September 26 and attended a women’s and men’s soccer doubleheader against Defiance University. They were recognized at halftime of the women’s game and honored at a Graham Cottage alumni reception afterwards.

In only the fifth year of the women’s program at Transy, the 1999 Pioneers won 23 straight games before losing 3-0 to Westmont College in the NAIA national championship game in Miami. It was, and still is, the only time a Transy team in any sport has played in a national title game.

The team’s 23-1 record included 16 shutouts and an aggregate score of 73-11 against all opponents. The overall mark and the 23 straight wins are still all-time records for the program. The Pioneers were led by head coach Parviz Zartoshty ’85, who is now director of athletics.

“It was great seeing that outstanding group of players back together again,” Zartoshty said. “They accomplished a lot in terms of putting the Transy women’s soccer program on the national map.

“We did a lot of things off the field together, and that helped in our success, that we were so close.”

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“It was great seeing that outstanding group of players back together again,” Zartoshty said. “They accomplished a lot in terms of putting the Transy women’s soccer program on the national map. I am very proud of being their coach, and am proud of the way they represented themselves and Transylvania.”

May with her doctorate of medicine with high distinction from the University of Kentucky’s College of Medicine. She was inducted into the medical honorary Alpha Omega Alpha while in medical school, and is completing her residency training at UK in the department of internal medicine.

Jessica R. Hamlet is pursuing her master’s in art history and criticism at Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, N.Y.

Clint W. Jones, Winchester, Ky., completed his master’s degree in philosophy at the University of Kentucky and is beginning his doctoral work.

J. Ryan Turner, Allen, Ky., is a licensed attorney and senior law clerk with Kentucky Supreme Court Deputy Chief Justice Will T. Scott.

Betty Megan Barber, Lexington, graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Law and is working for her father and step-mother in their Mt. Sterling, Ky., law firm of Richardson, Barber, and Williamson.

Kelsey M. Blankenship-Frazees, Lexington, was ordained into the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ministry in August and will serve as associate minister at First Christian Church in London, Ky.

Georgia L. Sims, Nashville, received her J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School in May and is an assistant public defender with the Metropolitan Office of the Public
FILTERING OUT THOSE GOOD MUSIC VIBES

Pat McGuire ’02

Pat McGuire ’02 left Transylvania in an adventure-some state-of-mind. In fact, after graduation he told himself that only three things could keep him in one place for long: running out of money, getting married, or finding a job offer he couldn’t pass up.

The money hasn’t bottomed out. “Though I came close a couple of times,” he admits. He hasn’t gotten married—“Not yet, but I’m an optimist.” The job offer situation, however, is another story.

In June 2007, McGuire became editor-in-chief of FILTER magazine, a 100-plus page upscale quarterly based in Los Angeles and a major player in the music magazine business. He started with the publication in the fall of 2003 as an unpaid marketing intern and part-time reviewer for the magazine’s Web site, after spending his first year out of Transy wandering from South Korea to San Diego to Colorado. So far, at least, the job has been rewarding enough to cause him to unpack his bags and make L.A. his home.

McGuire had worked on the marketing side of the publication for over two years, adding an occasional feature story to his portfolio of reviews, when he was given the opportunity to move into the editorial department. “When my boss called me in and shut the door, I thought I was in trouble,” McGuire says. “But then he offered me the co-editorship, just out of the blue.” A year later, McGuire moved into the top editorial spot. He now has responsibility for the magazine’s overall editorial content, working with a staff of editors, an art director, and a large group of free-lance writers and photographers.

With a degree in drama, plus an English minor, McGuire didn’t arrive at FILTER’s doorstep with either a business/marketing or journalism background. He’s gotten ahead at the organization through initiative, hard work, a love of music, a willingness to learn, and an engaging personality that serves him well in the entertainment scene.

“I think my work ethic and the fact that I get along with people pretty well—they valued those things as much as any writing skill I may have,” he says. “They had trust and faith in me, and gave me the opportunities.”

FILTER magazine—motto: “Good music will prevail”—focuses primarily on up-and-coming bands and the musicians that form them, and the national and international concert and festival scene. The publication’s name comes from wanting to filter out the good bands from the vast multitude of groups now performing.

FILTER’s inclusion of other art and entertainment themes besides music recently gave McGuire the opportunity to interview film director Spike Jonze in his L.A. home for an article about his new movie, Where the Wild Things Are. He also interviewed singer Karen O of the band Yeah Yeah Yeahs, who is heard on the film’s soundtrack.

Even though he’s been settled in Los Angeles for six years now after his initial year of wandering, McGuire scratches his travel itch by attending music festivals in far flung locations, as part of his job. He recently returned from a festival in Poland, where he checked out a number of new bands.

For McGuire, the urge to move on down the road began just after commencement, when his Transy graduation present from his parents was a plane ticket to South Korea. He spent three weeks there with classmates Aaron Turner ’02 and Jonah Park ’02, then headed for San Diego in the fall, where he worked at the Globe Theater in the gift shop and ticket office. McGuire spent the summer of 2003 living in a tent in the middle of Colorado, taking photographs for a whitewater rafting company, before heading for L.A. in the fall.

If that sounds like the peregrinations of someone searching for a role in life, McGuire gladly pleads guilty. His participation in the Transy drama program helped him understand himself, but didn’t lead to a specific career track. Even now, he doesn’t necessarily see his FILTER position as the end of his search. For his openness to trying new things, McGuire gives a lot of credit to Transylvania drama professor Tim Soulsis.

“I learned everything about myself from my years at Transy,” McGuire says, even the fact that he didn’t know exactly what his life path would be. “Dr. Soulsis helped me realize that if you don’t know what you’re going to do, you may as well have a good time doing it. That’s the way I’ve lived my life ever since.”

And even though he’s about as far away from Lexington as one could get and still be in the continental United States, McGuire still feels the tug of his alma mater. He enjoys an extraordinary five straight generations of family heritage at Transylvania that includes his parents, Kevin ’71 and Karen ’73 McGuire, his grandparents, Franklin ’45 and Rachael ’45 McGuire, his great-grandfather, Homer Pharis Gamboe ’18, and his great-great-grandfather, William Smallwood Gamboe 1896.

“The generations of my family give me a very personal connection with Transylvania,” McGuire says. “It was always a place spoken of in my home with reverence and fond memories my whole life. I grew up three blocks from campus, on West Short Street, and took swimming lessons from Jack Ebel (’77) at his all-sports camp as a six-year-old. It was always in the cards for me to go to Transy.”

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Nicholas A. Wood, Flemingsburg, Ky., finished his third season of guiding for Alaska Mountain Guides and the International Wilderness Leadership School in Haines and Skagway, Alaska. An August trip included a climb to the summit of Mt. Rainier and, from October through January, he will conduct guided trips in Tanzania on Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Kelly G. Herbolich, St. Louis, received her M.Ed. in higher education and student affairs from the University of South Carolina and is coordinator of academic support at Saint Louis University.

Elizabeth M. Parker, Morehead, Ky., received her master’s degree in clinical psychology in May from Morehead State University and is a psychologist at Radical Rehab Solutions in Lexington, treating clients with traumatic brain injuries.

Meredith A. Plant, Midway, Ky., was promoted to assistant director of admissions at Midway College. She is entering her third year as a residence director and continues to pursue her master’s degree in college student personnel at the University of Louisville.

Elizabeth M. Poindexter, Lexington, received her master’s degree in public administration in May from Morehead State University.

Alyssa N. Rice, Frankfort, Ky., is attending St. Louis University’s American Jesuit University in Madrid to pursue an M.A. in Spanish. While living with her host family, she hopes to visit other nearby countries like Germany and Italy.

Jordan P. Skeeters of Vine Grove, Ky., graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Francesca D. Pribble, Louisville, was awarded the Kentucky Governor’s Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service in May for her work as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer.

Jeffrey A. Price, Marietta, Ohio, a graduate student majoring in human security and international development at the University of Pittsburgh, received the Stanley Prostrednik Award from the university’s Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Program.

Tyler E. Sanslow, Frankfort, Ky., is participating in the CIEE Teach in Spain program as a language and cultural assistant. He will teach English at an elementary school, C.E.I.P. La Gaviota, in El Puerto de Santa Maria, just outside of Cadiz on the Atlantic coast of Spain, from October 1 to May 31.

Marriages

Margaret Francis Seifert ’66 and Gregory Alan Russell ’71, July 6, 2009

Charles D. Mitchell III ’89 and Kathryn Clancy Hall, April 25, 2009

Amy E. Wells ’89 and Mark K. Dolan, June 20, 2008

Philip J. Anderson II ’90 and Catherine Curry, April 18, 2009

Elizabeth Lynn Hardaway ’93 and Michael Christopher Sjodin, August 22, 2009

Diana Lynn Brown ’95 and Rodney Lewis Kinslow, July 11, 2009

Sarah Cash Desensi ’95 and Steven Armstrong, April 9, 2009

Emily Elizabeth McGuire ’95 and James Edward Skaggs, May 30, 2009

Sarah Jane Kelley ’00 and Greg Hilvers, March 28, 2009

Christy Michelle Cole ’01 and Brian P. Harpring, June 28, 2008

Tracy Michelle Kammerer ’01 and David Wishon, June 12, 2009

Jesse Patrick Waltz ’01 and Jessica Filkins, November 1, 2008

Sean Michael Thompson ’03 and Erin McGuire Thompson, April 25, 2009

Emily Anne Prather ’04 and James David Rodgers, June 12, 2009

Meghan Lynne Kennedy ’05 and Kyle Matthew Melloan ’05, May 30, 2009

Emily Beth Porter ’05 and Frank Van Phillips ’05, July 11, 2009

Serenity Saint Thé ’05 and Mike Wright, May 31, 2008

Rachel Kathryn Heimerdinger ’06 and Joseph Shelby Clements ’05, May 16, 2009

Amelia Anne Martin ’06 and William Hershel
Births

Jeffrey C. Hoehler '90 and Tammy Hoehler, a son, Elijah Martin Hoehler, December 2, 2007, and a daughter, Carrie Katherine Hoehler, May 22, 2009

Donna Smith Pleiman '91 and Darren Pleiman, a son, Carson Riley Pleiman, February 6, 2009

W. Alan Bartley '93 and Kelly Dant, a son, Brewer Bartley, July 6, 2009

Stephen B. Clark '93 and Diana Clark, triplets, Miller Stephen Clark, Isabel Dean Clark, and Charlotte Waters Clark, August 21, 2009

Stephen D. Burchett '94 and Ashley N. Burchett, a daughter, Leanne Grace Burchett, August 29, 2009


Jennifer Lovell Duncan '94 and Eric Duncan, a daughter, Lauren Miller Duncan, May 26, 2009

Christopher H. Huffman '94 and Amber Huffman, a son, Steven Cade Huffman, April 9, 2009

Elmer K. Whitaker '94 and Brigit Whitaker, a daughter, Natalie Page Whitaker, April 22, 2009

Heather R. Adams-Blair '95 and Colby A. Blair '95, a son, Elijah Walker Adams Blair, April 24, 2009

Donna Dirksing Doran '96 and Patrick Doran, a son, Dominic Robert Doran, July 29, 2009

Tonya Breeding Short '96 and David B. Short, a daughter, Reece Brianna Breeding Short, September 12, 2008

Jennifer Griswold Withrow '96 and Chris Withrow, a son, Conner Gabriel Withrow, January 3, 2009

Jennifer Bosies Carlson '97 and Brian S. Carlson, twin sons, Matthew William Carlson and David Andrew Carlson, July 15, 2009

Kirsten Winn Carr '98 and Tom Carr, a son, Oliver Marshall Carr, May 26, 2009

Stephanie Swartz Macy '98 and Brian E. Macy '99, a daughter, Loren Kay Macy, May 25, 2009

R. Eric Mills '98 and Carolea Mills, a daughter, Caroline Louise Mills, June 1, 2009

Christopher M. Tomlin '98 and Laura M. Tomlin, a son, Quentin Christopher Tomlin, July 7, 2009

Elizabeth Norment Bartlett '99 and Marvin Bartlett, a son, Cooper Ellis Bartlett, August 20, 2006, and a daughter, Eliza Rebecca Bartlett, December 20, 2008

Sarah Hartsough Callahan '99 and Hunter Callahan '94, a son, Logan Gregory Callahan, July 31, 2009

Sarah Puckett Cavanah '99 and D. Duncan Cavanah '99, a son, Jack Alexander Cavanah, May 11, 2009

Mindy Block Dicken '00 and Evan K. Dicken '00, a son, Matt Archer Dicken, April 1, 2009

Laura Roberts Jones '00 and Christopher W. Jones '99, a son, Samuel William Jones, August 6, 2009

Melissa McDougal Koger '00 and Matthew E. Koger '00, a daughter, Elise Koger, April 21, 2009

Leslie Morgan Mejia '00 and Pedro Mejia, a daughter, Esperanza Kathryn Mejia, April 28, 2009

Jamie Shewmaker Morrison '00 and Steve Morrison, a daughter, Emmalyn Grace Morrison, January 15, 2009

M. Kevin Staton '00 and Jennifer Staton, a son, Hudson Michael Staton, March 19, 2009
Recommendations sought for awards and Alumni Executive Board

Alumni are encouraged to submit recommendations for several awards that will be presented during Alumni Weekend 2010 and for new members of the Alumni Executive Board.

Recommendations are sought for the Pioneer Hall of Fame, Morrison Medallion, Outstanding Young Alumni Award, 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. The Outstanding Young Alumni Award would in most cases recognize an alumna or alumnus who has been out of school 15 years or less with an extensive record of service and support 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 Natasa Pajic ’96, director of alumni programs, at npajic@transy.edu.

Stay connected to your alma mater

There are lots of ways to stay connected to Transylvania. Make sure your e-mail address is current by contacting Elaine Valentine at alumni@transy.edu. Join CrimsonTies, the alumni on-line community at www.alumni.transy.edu, where you can find out what fellow alumni are doing, sign up for events, and make your Transy donation. If you are on Facebook, be sure to join the official Transylvania University Alumni Association group and become a fan of the official Transylvania University page.

To contact the Alumni Office:

Natasa Pajic ’96, director of alumni programs, npajic@transy.edu
Tracy Stephens Dunn ’90, assistant director of alumni programs, tdunn@transy.edu
Elaine Valentine, administrative assistant, alumni@transy.edu
Phone: (800) 487-2679 or (859) 233-8275 / Fax: (859) 281-3548
Mail: 300 North Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508 / E-mail: alumni@transy.edu / Web: www.transy.edu

Alumni travel in 2010

The alumni office continues to offer alumni opportunities to travel to exciting destinations. An up-to-date list of trips can be found at www.transy.edu (Go to For Alumni, News & Events, Alumni Travel). To request trip brochures, contact Natasa Pajic ’96, director of alumni programs, at (800) 487-2679, npajic@transy.edu.

Transy Golf Classic set for May 26, 2010

Join Transy’s athletics department and the alumni office for the 2010 Transylvania Golf Classic, a four-player scramble set for Wednesday, May 26, at the University Club of Kentucky. Registration and lunch will be at 11 a.m., followed by a noon shotgun start. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information on the tournament or sponsorships, contact Jack Ebel ’77, director of athletics, at (859) 233-8548, jebel@transy.edu, or Mark Blankenship ’81, acting vice president for development, at (859) 233-8402, mblankenship@transy.edu.
Transylvania graduates edit U of L law journal

The University of Louisville Law Review is experiencing a distinctly Transylvania influence this academic year as five Transy graduates hold editing positions on the scholarly journal published by U of L’s Brandeis School of Law.

David Haney ’06 is executive editor, while Guion Johnstone ’05, Jennifer Leong Monarch ’08, Tina Nance ’08, and Whitney True ’07 are editing members of the journal.

Law review membership is an academic honor. Candidates are selected based on review of their first-year appellate brief, analysis of a legal topic, résumé, and cumulative grade point average.

Haney feels the emphasis on writing in his Transylvania courses, along with his work-study job in the publications office, gives him an advantage in his law school course work and in his editing position with the Law Review. He also edited the 2006 Crimson yearbook.

“There is such an emphasis at Transy on quality writing, and I think that helps a lot in law school,” he said. “Working on several projects while in the publications office also gave me background in the process you go through to get something published.”

He also said the Socratic teaching method of question-and-answer used in some of his Transy classes was good preparation for law school.

“Our law professors question us in class, and that reminds me of the philosophy classes I took at Transy. Since I had already been exposed to the Socratic method, it wasn’t as rude an awakening when I got to law school.”

Haney, who is a law clerk for E.ON U.S., an energy company headquartered in Louisville, has found contracts, trusts, and estate planning to be of interest as he completes his final year of law school.

Transylvania graduates serving on the University of Louisville Law Review this year are, from left, David Haney ’06, Guion Johnstone ’05, Jennifer Leong Monarch ’08, Tina Nance ’08, and Whitney True ’07.

Roxanna Hatton Hill ’01 and Matthew Wesley Hill, a daughter, Elise Cassidy Hill, May 15, 2009

Jill Tannehill Mason ’01 and Kyle Mason, a daughter, Riley Rae Mason, April 16, 2009

April Sample Matiasek ’01 and Matthew Matiasek, a daughter, Agnes Jacqueline Matiasek, June 23, 2009

Michelle Lega Mullins ’01 and Joshua Mullins, twin daughters, Jozie Reed Mullins and Kealie Jean Mullins, July 21, 2009

Tamara Bentley Caudill ’02 and David Caudill, a son, Asher Watson Caudill, July 19, 2009

Elizabeth Stafford Ferrell ’03 and Shelly C. Ferrell ’01, a daughter, Kathleen Elise Ferrell, July 30, 2009

Sarah Stewart Holland ’03 and Nicholas M. Holland ’01, a son, Griffin Stewart Holland, May 16, 2009

Greta Hicks Gilbert ’04 and Ryan Gilbert ’04, a daughter, Amelia Davidson Gilbert, May 21, 2009

Erin Melville Lageman ’04 and Andrew Lageman, a son, Elliot Joseph Lageman, February 4, 2009

Amanda Lamping Barb ’05 and Mike Barb, a son, Jacob Isaac Barb, May 5, 2009

Tabatha Turner Boyken ’05 and Hugh Boyken, twins, Lincoln Hugh Boyken and Laney May Boyken, December 22, 2008

Megan Watts Vanoli ’05 and Daniel Ross Vanoli ’06, a son, Luca Alexander Vanoli, August 20, 2009
John F. Harrison, professor of English at Transylvania from 1954-1983, died in August 2009, on his 91st birthday. A native of Liverpool, England, Harrison earned his M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University. He was head of the English program at Transylvania from 1954-64, and in 1964 was named director of the humanities program. A valued faculty member, Harrison was founder and president of Transylvania’s chapter of the American Association of University Professors and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Modern Language Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English. He was also a founding member of Transylvania’s liberal arts honorary, the Holleian Society. His friend and colleague Charles Holmes, who joined the English faculty in 1960 when Harrison was chair, said, “He was a major force on our faculty. John was an excellent administrator—outspoken, with very high standards—but also a demanding, highly respected teacher. It was a pleasure to work with him.”

Gerhard F. “Bappo” Probst, professor of languages and humanities at Transylvania from 1961-1980, died August 4, 2009, at age 82. He was professor emeritus at the Technical University of Berlin and the John F. Kennedy School in Berlin, which he co-founded. He also co-founded the Free University of Berlin. Probst kept in touch with Transylvania and often attended the Alumni Weekend celebration luncheon. His sons Andreas Probst ’80 and Manuel Probst ’81 graduated from Transylvania.

Obituaries

Only alumni survivors are listed.

Mary Cartinhour Hearne ’31, Louisville, died June 2, 2009. At Transylvania, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority. She was a homemaker and a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Ashland, Ky., and Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a Kentucky Colonel.

Mary Kathleen Trover Davis ’34, Louisville, mother of Jane Davis Lollis ’58 and Nancy Davis Vanderburg ’64, died April 19, 2009. She attended Lexington Theological Seminary and was a partner in ministry with her husband at Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) in various communities.


Frank G. Dickey ’39, Lexington, husband of Elizabeth Drymon Dickey ’43 and father of Ann Dickey Haynes ’69, died August 7, 2009. At Transylvania, he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He earned both his master’s degree and Ph.D. in secondary education at the University of Kentucky, and served as a teacher in the Lexington public school system. He entered the armed forces during World War II, attaining the rank of master sergeant. He was the fifth president of the University of Kentucky, presiding during a period when UK launched its medical school and during the construction and opening of the UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital.

Evelyn Thompson Prewitt ’39, Lexington, died May 1, 2009. She was a founding member of Crestwood Christian Church in Lexington, and did volunteer work at Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House.

Evelyn Russell Cary ’42, Greenwood, S.C., died July 18, 2009. At Transylvania, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority. She was a member, elder, and Stephen Minister of Second Presbyterian Church in Louisville, and a member of the Women’s Club of Louisville. During World War II, she served in England, Scotland, and Germany as a volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Ann Haughaboo Chinn ’43, Germantown, Ky., died May 12, 2009. Her poetry appeared in several publications including Pegasus—the magazine of the Kentucky State Poetry Society. She wrote devotions that were published in The Upper Room and The Secret Place.

Beverly L. Beeler ’44, Bardstown, Ky., died May 2, 2009. He was a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps veteran and served in the 458 Bombardment Group as a ball gunner and navigator on a B-24. He was employed by the Army Corps of Engineers at Fort Knox and also served with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He retired from Green Thumb after three years of service as a field operator. He was a member of the American Legion Post 121 and the Oleika Shrine. He was also a Kentucky Colonel and a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).


Walter D. Long Jr. ’50, Allendale, N.J., husband of Jo-Nelle Desmond Long ’52, died February 12, 2009. At Transylvania, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and was self-employed.

Richard C. White ’50, St. Petersburg, Fla., brother of Jeffrey D. White ’63 and uncle of Jeffrey L. White ’70, died June 6, 2009. At Transylvania, he was a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a graduate of Lexington Theological Seminary and the University of Kentucky. He was an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and served as professor of homiletics at Lexington Theological Seminary for nearly three decades.

James M. Hoch ’52, Leesburg, Fla., husband of Mary May Hoch ’52, died May 26, 2009. He was an automotive sales representative for DuPont Co. for 31 years, and a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Ruth Clayton Marcos ’52, Brandon, Fla., sister of Vera Jean Clayton Wiley ’49, died April 14, 2009. At Transylvania, she participated in the a capella choir. She earned a master’s degree from the University of Florida and held a variety of positions in the Marion County, Fla., school district, culminating with her appointment as principal of Evergreen Elementary.

Robert K. Hatchett ’53, Evansville, Ind., brother of Martha Hatchett Williams ’40,
Student photographer shows us what life at Transy is really like

These shots from sophomore Katelynn Ralston, photo editor of *The Rambler* student newspaper, reflect life on campus in the fall of 2009. Clockwise from top left: Tri-Delta celebrates on women’s bid day; first-year student Lyman Stone practices Quidditch, a game adapted from the popular *Harry Potter* novels; sophomores Kennedy Barnes, left, and Tiffany Buchanan serve snow cones at the Student Activities Board booth at the student involvement fair; Delta Sigma Phi celebrates on men’s bid day; senior CeliaFinfrock, left, and junior Brandon Pennington represent the...
Heating it up in Haggin

Tiempo Libre, the Grammy-nominated Cuban band, brought its hot Latin sounds to Haggin Auditorium on October 9 in the third annual installment of the Dorothy J. and Fred K. Smith Concert Series. The seven-member ensemble, all native Cubans, blend traditional rumba, cha-cha-cha, son, and danzon themes with Latin jazz to create a dance-inducing contemporary form known as timba. Many audience members took the cue and were up and dancing for much of the evening. Photo by Joseph Rey Au